Trinity Lutheran Church Monroeville, Ohio

"God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of selfdiscipline." 2 Timothy 2:7

| Important 1 | Reminders! |
|-------------|------------|
|-------------|------------|

Red Cross Blood drive at TLC, is Jan 3rd. Please log onto **www.redcrossblood.org**, to schedule your appointment to give blood.

Sewing Group - Wednesday December 4th & December 18th

Christian Ed Mtg - Wednesday December 4^{th} @ $5:30_{pm}$

The Journey - Sunday December 8th 4-7_{pm}

Council Meeting - Wednesday December 11th @ 5:30_{pm}

Youth Christmas Program - Sunday December 15th

Advent Services

Soup @ 6pm ~ Service @ 7pm Wednesday Dec. 4th, 11th, 18th

Christmas Eve Service

December 24th @ 7_{pm}

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Pastor's Letter

A Time to Love

Happy New Year. It is that time again when we await the coming of Christ, the first time and the next time. This is appropriate because Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, has always been, always is, and always will be. "I am who I am" is also "I will be who I will be" (Exodus 3:14; John 14:6;18:6; Revelation 1:17-18; 22:12-13). We await him as he was, as he is and as he will be. He is the same forever. Amen.

And so we await him knowing that we do not know the day he will return Mark 13:32). We await him knowing we want him to catch us loving God and loving our neighbor (Matthew 22:37-40). We do these through obedience to what he taught us (Exodus 20; Deuteronomy 5; John 13:34). We dare not have Christ return when we are disobedient if the woodshed for punishment is existential (Revelation 22:15). But this is all law.

The gospel reminds us that God loves us enough to redeem us from our sins (Isaiah 43:1-25). He loves the whole world so much, in fact, that he sends his only Son, Jesus Christ, to save it (John 3:16-17). The gospel names Jesus as the Word of God (John 1:1-3), and we know that God's Word does not return to him without accomplishing his purpose (Isaiah 55:10-11), the same way God's Word accomplished creation (Genesis 1). So in no uncertain terms we await his Word made flesh, his only Son, to accomplish our redemption, our salvation and life with him forever (Revelation 22):

¹² 'See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. ¹³I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.'

14 Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.
16 'It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the

the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.'





Council

President: Rob Ludwig Vice President: Bret Gfell Treasurer: Sharon Heyman Secretary: Jennifer Miller Christian Ed: Missy Kluding

Youth: Jennifer Miller
Parish Life: Cindy Schuller
Worship/GIFTS Team: Monica

Misson Team: Lorie Pierce Property Team: Bret Gfell, Dan Smith, Gary Underwood

Staff (volunteer & paid)

Volunteer Coordinator & Office Assistant: Tonia Smith MYC Director: Jenn Miller &

Tonia Smith

Tech Guru: Nate Griffith Organist: Andrew Morfier Organist: Julie Roeder Custodian: Jenn Miller Pastor: Rev. Dan Pennington

Phone: 567-333-6451

Email: dan@pastorpennington.org

Trinity Lutheran Church

121 Broad Street PO Box 497

Monroeville, OH 44847

419-465-2480

Facebook Page: Trinity Lutheran Church, Monroeville, Ohio Website: tlcmonroeville.com ¹⁷ The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come.'

And let everyone who hears say, 'Come.'

And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

²⁰ The one who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.'

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen. This new church year, may you await your Lord and Savior with love for him and for your neighbor. Study your bible alone and with others. Worship God, the Father, the + Son and the Holy Spirit. Be baptized in his name if you are not. Make peace with and provide for your neighbor. Let Christ catch you while you love and forgive as he first loved and forgave you. He made you, and he wants you with him forever.

Grace and peace, always,

Pastor Van

Rev. Daniel I. Pennington



At the time this newsletter was printed the November Newsletter from the NALC was not available.

You can always find the newsletter on the bulletin board outside the offices - it will be posted as soon as it becomes available.



Church Council Updates

November Council Meeting Minutes

Date: November 13, 2024

Present: Missy Kluding, Bret Gfell, Cindy Schuller, Rob Ludwig, Pastor Dan, Jennifer Miller,

Sharon Heyman

Absent: Gary Underwood, Monica Nuhfer, Dan Smith, Lorie Pierce

Devotions & Prayer:

Pastor Dan opened with a devotion and prayer.

Treasurer Report & Minutes

The treasurer's report and minutes from September and October were reviewed. Pastor Dan made a motion to accept treasurer's reports and minutes. The motion was seconded by Bret Gfell. Motion carried.

Property and Planning Team: Reporting: Bret

Gary has installed some boards in the attic to create more storage space. This should allow for Journey items to be put away in an organized space and help to clean up other stuff in the attic.

A motion was made to accept the quote from Miller's Landscape for snow removal. Motion seconded and carried.

The Church Renovation committee has been meeting and is almost ready to present a final quote. Discussion was had about what some of the estimated costs will be as well as what all is included in the those costs.

Mission Team:

Nothing to report.

Gifts & Worship Team:

Nothing to report

Christian Education Team: Reporting: Missy

Christmas program will be held on Dec 15th during church, kids are starting to practice now. Mystery friends will be starting on Nov 17th. Sunday school teachers will be getting together to make gifts for kids.

Snacks were taken down to the school for Parent/Teacher Conferences.

Braxton Isaacs was the attendance basket winner for October.

Sending out a mini newsletter to families of youth.

Carl Swanbeck is purchasing and donating a set of boom whackers to use for music during Sunday School. Looking for someone that would be willing to help with this.



Church Council Updates

Parish Life: Reporting: Cindy

Soup Supper will begin in December before Midweek Service. Soup at 6, Service at 7. Signup sheets will be going around.

Will be doing cookies, hot chocolate and coffee during the Journey. Sign-up sheet for cookies will be going around.

Had a baptism on November 10th.

Potluck will be held in January during the Year in Review meeting.

Pastor's Report:

Visits were put off due to illness, but still checked in with those via phone.

Jerry Neuburger would like to participate more within the Church, he is interested in hosting a Bible Study and possible visits with people. Pastor dan asked if any would be opposed to this - all members of council were in favor as long as he follows the beliefs of TLC and the NALC.

Confirmation class is going well, have great participation from the kids.

Old Business:

Pastor Dan gave a quick update on the progress of updating the Treasurers Report layout for Sharon's use and ease of view for council to see all accounts.

New Business:

Advent Services will be held on Dec 4, 11, 18. Soup at 6_{pm} , Service at 7_{pm} .

Possibility of having a Christmas Eve Service at the Nuhfer Barn. Discussion was had on this, and Pastor Dan will follow up with the Nuhfer's.

The keyboard will need to be moved upstairs before Advent Season starts. Discussion was had on getting rid of the piano that is currently upstairs and putting the keyboard up there.

Sharon shared the Budget for 2025.

Pastor Dan made motion for the following budget committee members: Rob Ludwig, Jim Thill, Julie Roeder. Missy seconded the motion, motion carried.

A budget committee meeting was scheduled for November 17th.

Council members that will be going off are: Monica Nuhfer, Bret Gfell.

Motion to Adjourn made by: Bret Seconded by: Jennifer Miller

We prayed the Lord's Prayer and said, "Good Night." Respectfully submitted by: Jennifer Miller, Secretary.



Church Council Updates

November Special Council Meeting Minutes

Date: November 24, 2024

Present: Lorie Pierce, Jennifer Miller, Rob Ludwig, Monica Nuhfer, Cindy Schuller, Dan

Smith, Pastor Dan, Bret Gfell, Missy Kluding

Absent: Gary Underwood

This meeting was called to approve the 2025 Budget, nominations for new council members, and discussion and approval to procedure with Sanctuary Renovation.

A motion was made by Lorie to accept the 2025 Budget, seconded by Cindy. No further discussion, motion carried.

A motion was made by Bret to add Jeff Little, Ken Underwood as new council members, seconded by Lorie. Motion carried.

Bret proposed to bring the Sanctuary update to the congregation for approval. The proposal includes new carpet, cushions, paint, altar update and move. Estimated to be \$30,000 and would like to ask for 10% contingency for price increases. There was discussion on moving the computer/camera. There was more discussion on moving electric keyboard. Pastor Dan made motion to disassemble piano and give to NALC Disaster Response and put keyboard in its place, motion seconded by Bret, motion carried.

It was agreed to bring proposal to congregation for approval of Sanctuary update.

Motion to Adjourn made by: Rob

Seconded by: Monica

We prayed the Lord's Prayer and said, "Good Night." Respectfully submitted by: Jennifer Miller, Secretary.



NALC / MIDWESTERN AREA NEWS & UPDATES

you can also find this information posted on the bulletin boards outside the offices



MIDWESTERN AREA NEWSLETTER

November 2024



Latest and Greatest News!

Pastors and Congregations

Welcome. Pastor Khrystle Sullivan accepted the call to Emmanuel, Rochester MN, Iowa. She was installed on October 26 by Iowa MD Dean Pastor Christopher Staley.

Anniversary. Blessings to Pastor Norman Dew as he celebrates 30 years of ordination at Peace, Connersville, IN, Sunday, November 17th at 10:30a worship.

Support of Mission Congregations!

During this "Budget Development" time of year, make sure to consider partnering with a Young Mission Congregation or New Start Worshiping community in the Midwestern Area. Contact Pastor Jess for more information,

midwesternaab@thenalc.org

Faith Landing, Davison, MI Trinity, St. Charles, MN Mission in Christ, Strawberry Point, IA First Grace, Osage, IA

Disaster Warehouse, Caldwell, Ohio

Six Ohio congregations gathered to assemble flood buckets and stuff a truck for Disaster Relief, October 26th.



New NALC Mailing Address

2113 Harwood RD STE 309, PMB 409. Bedford, TX 76021-4703

2025 NALC Clergy Retreat January 28-30

"Generous Confessionalism". Holiday Inn San Antonio Riverwalk, San Antonio TX. See details and registration at: https://thenalc.org/clergy-retreat-2025/

Retreats and Studies

These are provided in case your MD doesn't have a retreat, or if you'd just like to get away from your area and enjoy the environs of other wonderful places.

Retreat for Council Members, Jan 11, 2025 time and location TBD

The SW Ohio Mission District is sponsering this retreat and invites any in the Midwestern Area to attend. For more information or to Register, email Pr. Mark Daniels, markluth91@gmail.com

Society of the Holy Trinity Retreat, Feb 24-

26, 2025 St. Augustine House Lutheran Monastery, 3316 Drahner Rd., Oxford MI. www.staugustineshouse.org

Contact Pastor Norman Drew for more information and to register;

normandrew@gmail.com

Discussion will be on the nature Byzantine Christology, the full scandalous nature of Christ being fully God and Fully Man and a bit of Luther as a Chalcedonian theologian.

Michigan MD pastors and lay leaders via zoom, generally the second Saturday of each month at 10a. Pericope devotion followed by sharing of faith journey and concerns for prayer. Contact Pr. Abbott at

*Full newsletter available on the bulletin board outside the offices



NORTH CENTRAL OHIO MISSON DISTRICT NEWS & UPDATES

you can also find this information posted on the bulletin boards outside the offices

From: Katherine Pennington <penningtonkm@gmail.com>Sent: Sunday, November 3, 2024 at 01:26:17 PM EST

Subject: All Church Councils Retreat

Dear Congregations of North Central Ohio Mission District,

The Southwest Mission District is offering a great opportunity for your church councils. Please consider attending.

All Ohio Mission Region NALC congregations are invited to join the Southwest Ohio Mission District for an All Church Councils Retreat on Saturday, January 11th at Grace Lutheran, Springfield. This retreat will be informative and refreshing for your councils as they begin a new year. The day will include a breakout time for church councils to get their January meetings in on that day. Further details and registration information are forthcoming.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Kathy Pennington

Dean, North Central Ohio Mission District, NALC

Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2024 5:11 PM

To: undisclosed-recipients:

Subject: Lutheran Congregational Support Network

Dear Pastors and Congregations of the NALC North Central Ohio Mission District,

Bishop John Bradosky has asked for deans to share the following message with those in our mission districts. Please share this with your family and friends who are members (especially if they are congregational leaders) of ELCA congregations. However, try NOT to share it with ELCA Bishops and synodical staff until after November 26th. We want them to be surprised and overwhelmed.

This request comes to us from the Lutheran Congregational Support Network. The Goal of this process is simply to provide current and accurate information to as many faithful people in the ELCA who are willing to receive it, investigate it and decide for themselves the best course of action. This is a matter of loving our neighbor. By signing up at the link you will be put on a distrolist that will provide further information on November 26th.

Several key points:

- 1. Go to the website and subscribe by providing your information. https://mailchi.mp/f24b14632a56/subscribe-to-lcsn
- 2. Know that the website is not yet active so there is no content
- 3. On the Tuesday before Thanksgiving it will become active and you will receive information.
- 4. The goal is for every person who receives the content to post it on every social media account they have; including Facebook, Linked in, Twitter or X, Messenger, Instagram, YouTube, etc.
- 5. They can post it with a simple message like "Out of love and care for others I want you to be aware of this important information..."
- 6. You can also send it out to other people through your own email list.
- 7. When you receive the information November 26th, repost it on your social media accounts.
- 8. Repost the information every two or three days through the 15th of December.
- 9. The success of this initiative depends on the number of people who are willing to accept this challenge. It is the only way for the information to "go viral."

Thank you for their willingness to help. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Kathy Pennington

Mobile: 715-554-4658

Dean, North Central Ohio Mission District, NALC

*More information can be found on the bulletin board outside the offices



TLC Youth Happenings

The Confirmation Class recently sent some care packages to some of our youth that are away at college

October Attendance Basket Winner



Braxton Isaacs



Thank you to my <u>Trinity Lutheran Church</u>, <u>Monroeville</u>, <u>Ohio</u> family for thinking of me and sending me this wonderful care package. You don't know how happy this made me. I'm so grateful to have a church family that thinks of me even when I'm living across the country



Miss you all xx

Anna



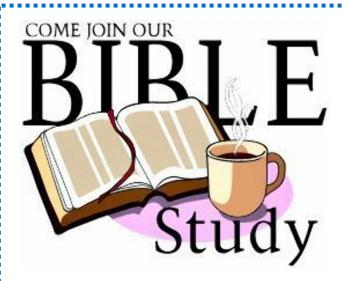
Sunday School



Collecting during the month of December







What: Book of Matthew

Where: Jerry Neuberger's House

Bring your Bible!!!

Contact Jerry for details



Scan the QR code to access the 2024 Advent Devotional Readings Printed copies are available in the office





We will be adopting a family from the Giving Tree in partnership with Monroeville Local Schools.

See Jennifer or Tonia if you would like to help shop for the family.











Scan this QR code to view the information from the Lutheran Congregational Support Network from page 7.



TLC Prayer List

Keep the following in your continued prayers

Juanita Wingate, Betty Moltz, Ila, Natalee Newland, Olivia, Tyler Palmer, Chase Battillene, Leslie Warnke, Deb Underwood, Don Weltlin, Rich Schwan, Chase Rapp, Steve, Glenn Nixon, Heather, Raymond Fries, Bob, Jean Scheid, Hazel Miller, Wyatt Simon, Alice Laser, Lori Kochenberg, Sue Schwan, Michelle Urbine, Ruth Leonard, Judy Haughawout, Travis Seip, Judy Schafer, Tom Kennedy, Tom Zimmerman, Carol Ward, Jim Graffice, Meg Dean, Amy, Josh & LeAnn Pearson, Lou, Liz, Susan Snyder, Jackson Hedrick, Debbie, Natalie Humphries, Kathy, Maryann Sellers, Evan Benfer, Donna Ward, Bob, Gary Underwood, John Myers, Paula Trimble, Jake Finch, Joan Sisk, Chelsea, and Kathy.

Military Personnel: Anna Little, Owen Roeder, Jeff Schuller



December Worship Assistants

| Date | Lector | Greeter | Acolyte |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------|
| December 1 | Angie Swanbeck | Rob & Debbie Ludwig | |
| December 8 | Jeff Reineck | Jim & Ramona Thill | |
| December 15 | Candi Kinn | Jim & Ramona Thill | |
| December 22 | Jeff Reineck | | |
| December 29 | Paula Underwood | | |

Altar Workers for December: Darlene White

December Coffee Hosts

December 1 Cindy Schuller

December 8 Ludwig's

December 15 Bob & Sue Underwood

December 22 Steve & Donna Colvin

December 29 Carolyn Adelman



November Offering

November 3 \$4412

November 10 \$1464

November 17 \$2998

November 24 \$1894

November Online Giving \$112

We need \$2477 each week to make our budget. Thank you for continuing to faithfully support the Lord's work.

We are **behind by \$4282.51** for the year so far. Please remember your gifts when you are away. Our ministry depends on your generosity.

You can give to the Lord's work here at TLC by scanning the QR code or going to:

https://giving.servantkeeper.com/tlc-monroeville





| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Æ | Sat |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Ava Hicks B-day Congregational Mtg | 2 | 3 Jan Weltlin B-day Rachelle Corbin B-day | 4 Steven Heyman B-day Trisha Patterson B-day Tori Boies Baptismal Anniv. Sewing Group Christan Ed Mtg. | ខ | 6 Jon & Julie Roeder Anniv | 7 |
| 8 Bret Gfell B-day Ben & Lindsey Gfell Anniv. The Journey 4-7pm | 9 Jeff & Cindy Schuller Anniv. | 10 | 11 Council Meeting Advent Service | 12 Todd Lillo B-day | 13 | 4 |
| 15 Sunday School Christmas Program | 16 Aiden Schafer B-day | 17 Arlene Anderson B-day Jeff Reineck B-day Jennifer Miller B-day Avery Kluding Baptismal Anniv. | 18 Sharon Heyman B-day Sewing Group Advent Service | 19 Alec Schafer B-day Clay Krueger B-day Elizabeth Wurster B-day Rich & Nancy Gfell Anniv. | 20 Beth Claus B-day Beth Smith B-day Tom White Baptismal Anniv. | 21 Kinsley Griffith B-day |
| 22 | 23 | 24 Jill Thill B-day Aiden Myers, Brittni Myers, Cole Myers, Jarrett Beard, and Riley Beard Baptismal Anniv. Christmas Eve Service- 7pm | 25 Christmas Day | 26 | 27 Tanner Smith B-day | 28 Tom Sutter B-day |
| 29 | 30 | 31 New Year's Eve | | | | |

