



Trinity Lutheran Church  
 401 Fifth Street North  
 Saint Petersburg, FL 33701  
 727-822-3307  
[www.trinitylutheranstpete.org](http://www.trinitylutheranstpete.org)



*Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.*

(1 John 3:2 )

Sunday worship in the month of November seems designed to make us take a step back and consider the bigger picture. It offers us the chance to consider words like "eternity" and "forever."

The first Sunday of the month is All Saints Sunday, when we remember loved ones who have died and celebrate the fact that we are still intimately connected to them. The last Sunday of the month is dedicated to "Christ the King," a recognition that Jesus rules over all things in heaven and on earth.

And on the Sundays in between, the scriptures remind us of God's bigger picture of "life, the universe, and everything"—a picture with which it is easy for us to lose touch in the business of our day-to-day lives.

Is it possible that the things and situations that consume us on a given day might, in the grand scheme of things, be inconsequential? How can we remind ourselves that our sometimes stressful—sometimes boring, sometimes joyful—sometimes painful, day-to-day lives are only a part of our eternal existence with the God who loves us?

Prayer has a way of lifting us out of the world we see and connecting us with the things that are timeless. Prayer is about talking to God and listening to God. It is conversation with God, and there are a number of ways to do it. There are the printed words that we can recite, the glories of nature for which we can give thanks, and the silent longings of our hearts.

We can read a daily devotion that offers a scripture passage, a short commentary, and a prayer. We can read from the book of Psalms and discover prayers for every mood and every situation imaginable. We can start any reading of scripture with a prayer that says, "Lord, speak to me."

We can pray for specific people and situations that weigh on our hearts; we can also pray that we will become aware of God's presence and God's will. We can write out our prayers, or draw them, or turn them into music.

In the best and worst times of your life, it is my prayer that you will be able to lift your gaze from the things happening around you and catch a glimpse of the divine love that will never let go of you.

Your brother in Christ,  
*Pastor Paul*



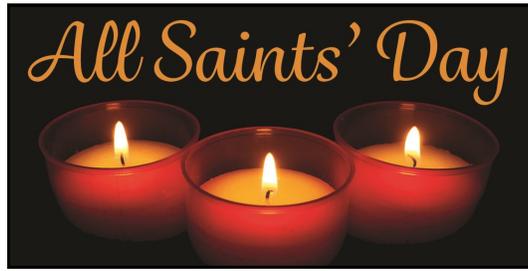
## Trinity Lutheran Church

Paul Gibson, Pastor  
Lynne Tallon, Deacon  
Ron Turner, Organist and  
Director of Music  
Leah Heinicke, Office  
Administrator  
Azur H. Abdić, Facility  
Administrator  
Gayle Nelson, Seminarian

## Council Members

Lisa Johnson, President  
Daryl Stewart, Vice President  
Toni Durilla, Financial Secretary  
Helen Mowrer, Treasurer  
Doug Forcino, Recording  
Secretary  
Bob Burke  
Jan Dorr  
Jen Durilla  
John Hill  
Barb Macomb  
Pastor Paul Gibson

## Notes from the Organ Bench



### *Whew! Already November?*

We begin the Month with the Feast of All Saints, and Andrew Lloyd-Webber's beautiful setting of "Pie Jesu" . We are blessed at Trinity to have sopranos with the voices to do the music justice.

On November 10, we will be singing a contemporary setting of Psalm 98, "Sing to the Lord a New Song."

*We need Volunteers to sing in the choir! Please join us!*

On November 17th, it is the rousing "Soon I will be Done" and on the last Sunday of the month (Christ the King), we will sing John Stainer's "I am Alpha and Omega".

*- Ron Turner  
Organist and Director of Music*

## November 16th at 8pm

Join us for an evening of special music from [The Ibis String Quartet!](#)

Violinists Julie Tollen and Rebecca Zapen, violist Lauren Collier, and cellist Ruth Kern form this group which has performed its unique blend of Classical and Pop music throughout the Tampa Bay Area.



The quartet has been featured in "Sound Bites" as part of the ARTS46/4 initiative and premiered "Three Dementians," by St. Pete's own Tom Sivak, at Creative Pinellas' Festivale 50. It has also performed regularly at Creative Soul Studio and Classical Revolution St. Petersburg, and appeared live in the studio on WFLA News Channel 8's "Daytime." On Saturday, Nov. 16, at 8:00 p.m., at Trinity Lutheran Church in downtown St. Pete, Ibis will play, among others, selections by Beethoven, Dvorak, Mozart and Scott Joplin, arrangements from "Carmen" and "La Boheme," and a surprise pop tune or two.

Proceeds from the concert pay for the restoration of Trinity's historic pipe organ and support the music ministries of the church.

[Click Here](#) to purchase tickets in advance on our EventBrite page!

Full Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ibis-string-quartet-at-trinity-lutheran-church-tickets-77879781523>



Back in Lent, sixteen people made a commitment to practice an ancient form of prayer that is now called “centering prayer.” It means sitting in silence for about twenty minutes and quieting the constant barrage of thoughts and images that are bouncing around in your brain.

It is described as “centering,” because it establishes a connection with the deepest and most stable part of us. It is “prayer” because it is done in the belief that God can speak directly to our soul in ways that our brain will never capture. It is done with the understanding that we are drawn closer to God whenever and however we pray.

If you’d like to know more about centering prayer, or if you’re already doing it, come to a meeting during fellowship time on Sunday, November 17. Pastor Paul will present the biblical foundation of this form of prayer and provide some ways of exploring it!

**CENTERING PRAYER -  
There’s an app for that!**

Just search for “Centering Prayer” on Google Play or Apple’s App Store!



Sun, Nov 3rd 2:00am

Daylight Saving Time Ends!

Remember to turn your clock back  
or you will be an hour early for church!

Sat, Nov 9th 9:00am

Congregational Breakfast

Sat, Nov 16th 8:00pm

Ibis String Quartet Concert  
*The Coliseum has said we can use their  
parking lot, so invite lots of people!*

Sun, Nov 17th 11:30am

Centering Prayer Class

Mon, Nov 18th 6:00pm

Church Council Meeting

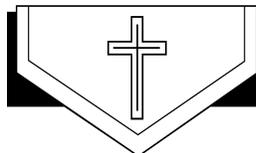
Sun, Nov 24th 11:00am

WELCA Bake Sale

Mon, Nov 25th 7:00pm

Community Thanksgiving Service

**A Note From  
Altar & Guild**



Thank You to  
**Violet Prepost**,  
who donated  
communion wine  
in loving memory  
of her husband,  
Laszlo!



## “WE PRAY FOR THE CHURCH...”

During worship every Sunday, the Prayers of the People begin with a statement that we pray “for the church and for the world.” But how often do we actually pray for this church, for Trinity Lutheran Church in St. Petersburg, Florida?

This isn’t being said out of alarm or concern. Things are going very well in this congregation. Sunday worship attendance is up; new people are joining us; there’s greater participation in projects and activities.

But, if we believe that there is a reason why this church was planted in this community more than 100 years ago and if we believe that God has a plan and a purpose for us to be here today—doesn’t it make sense for each of us to set aside some time, so that God can reveal that plan and purpose to us?

Every member and friend of this congregation is being asked to make a commitment to pray for this church, once a day, every day. Your prayer can be as simple as saying the words, “God, please bless my church.” But you’re promising to say those words once a day.

Your once-a-day prayer could be more specific and intentional. You could write down the things about this church for which you are particularly grateful and ask God to continue to make those things possible. You

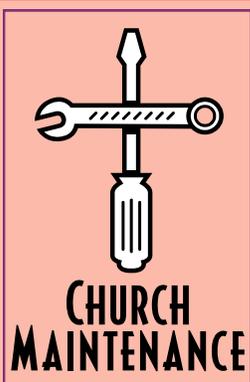


could pray for specific individuals and programs. You could seek to know what God’s hopes and dreams are for this congregation and for our community.

If you’re part of the congregation’s “centering prayer” team, you’re already praying for this church every day. This invitation is for those members and friends who are seeking a different way to contribute to the well-being of the congregation.

Decide when you will pray for this church every day; choose the time of day when you will do this—early in the morning, before things get too crazy; during a meal; while on a break at work; in the evening, as you reflect on your day.

Choose your time, make your commitment, and stick with it. Explore different ways of praying for the church, in order to keep things interesting, or find a way that works for you and keep doing it. Look for the chart that we’ve posted that asks at what time of day you’re praying for the church and write your name in the appropriate space. The centering prayer team can post their prayer times, as well. That way, everyone will know who else is praying “alongside” them at a particular time.



Don’t know whom to tell when you see something that needs to be repaired, replaced, or otherwise spruced up?

We have a new email box specifically for receiving facility maintenance requests!

Send your concern to:  
[Facilities@TrinityLutheranStPete.org](mailto:Facilities@TrinityLutheranStPete.org)

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## Sinners and Saints

As sinners we may not be able to change the world, but as saints we may be able to change our communities.

As sinners we may not be able to change our communities, but as saints we may be able to change our neighborhoods.

As sinners we may not be able to change our neighborhoods, but as saints we may be able to change our homes.

As sinners we may not be able to change our homes, but as saints we may be able to change ourselves.

As sinners we may not be able to change ourselves, but as saints we may offer ourselves up to the grace of God and experience nothing less than a changed world.

—*Homiletics Magazine*

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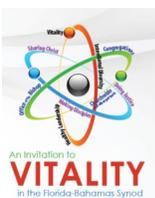
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## FROM OUR DEACON

Greetings to my Trinity family,

The Reformation, which began over 500 years ago, led to many changes in the Christian community. Martin Luther, through his scripture readings, learned that God's grace is for all His children and good works cannot obtain it; grace is a gift from God. When Luther debated the things he wrote in his 95 Theses, it was not meant to begin a new denomination, but to make changes within the Catholic church. Luther's 95 Theses created innovations that included putting the Bible and church liturgy into local languages so the people could understand what was read or said, giving a church local control, allowing priests to marry, the belief that we are justified by faith (trust in God) alone, and not by our works, and the idea that a "priesthood of all believers" is created through baptism. These changes were debated and fought for by Luther and his followers.

The Lutheran church continues to make changes in procedure but not in the basic theology that is taught. During my lifetime, I have seen the ordination of women as pastors, the laity becoming more involved in assisting during worship, the support of the ordination of LGBT individuals as pastors and also their right to marry, more advocacy for justice for the marginalized, and the recent declaration of our denomination as a sanctuary body.



Here at Trinity, we are beginning a synod program called "Vitality." It is another opportunity for us to reform, and learn, and grow. The Florida-Bahamas Synod notes that "Congregational vitality is an intentional and informed process by which congregations can creatively pursue the future that God has planned for them. This process begins with an ancient prayer practice by which to encounter God's Dreams for our immediate future."

Rob Carlson, the Director for Evangelical Mission in our part of the synod describes this form of prayer as "one of the most intimate and expressive prayer styles. Jesus practiced it routinely and taught it to His first disciples. Through this prayer style our souls become one with God's—reflecting God's image and likeness—and we find ourselves progressing 'in Christ.' This deep prayer style helps us to 'know' God rather than simply to 'know about' God. It also provides courage we might never have known that we possessed, so as to work the miraculous with God."

Khader el-Yateem, the other DEM in our synod writes that "Vitality helps us to claim our identity as disciples of Christ and to be strong witnesses to His mighty acts. Vitality fills us with energy, hope, joy, peace, and the realization of our living the Lord's dreams and intentions for our lives. It is an invitation to be spiritual difference makers."

Talk to me or to Pastor Paul if you want to know more about Vitality or about the Centering Prayer practice that supports it. I pray we will accept the invitation to dream God's dream for Trinity. May the vision of Martin Luther guide us as we continue our journey as disciples of Jesus.

Blessings,  
*Lynne Tallon, Parish Synod Deacon*

## CHANGING CLIMATE

As stewards of creation, Christians need to be informed about the issue of global climate change and we need to consider taking action against it.

On Sunday, November 24, Bill Marshall, a volunteer with Citizens Climate Lobby, will be with us during and after worship to talk about ways that we, as individuals and as a congregation, can help to implement a solution to climate change.

CCL has introduced legislation that has support from both parties. If approved, it will reduce carbon emissions by 40% and create jobs for 2.1 million people. Mr. Marshall will share information about this legislation.

CCL is a national, nonpartisan, grassroots, not for profit organization with over 150,000 volunteers from all across the USA dedicated to implementing a solution to address climate change. You can find more information about them at their website: [www.citizensclimatelobby.org](http://www.citizensclimatelobby.org)



**Citizens' Climate Lobby**

## COLD NIGHT SHELTER

Again this Winter, Trinity is planning to be part of a network of churches and other organizations in Pinellas County that operate as shelters for homeless people when the low temperature at night is expected to be 40 degrees or lower. The shelter will be located in Redeemer Hall (3<sup>rd</sup> floor fellowship hall) and is equipped to welcome 30 guests each night that it is open. In addition to a warm, safe place to sleep for the night, we will offer an evening meal and breakfast to our guests.



In order to operate the shelter safely and efficiently, we need volunteers for this ministry. Volunteer jobs include preparing and serving the meals, checking guests in at night and out in the morning, staffing the shelter during the night (on one of three different four hour shifts), and cleaning up after the guests leave in the morning. The time commitment for any of these jobs is generally no more than 4.5 hours.

If you are interested in volunteering for this ministry or if you think you might be interested, but aren't sure whether it is right for you, please attend an organizational meeting on Saturday, 2 November 2019 in Redeemer Hall at 10 am.

**Contact Doug Forcino** at 301-606-5469 if you have questions or would like to volunteer or contribute to the shelter ministry in another way. Thank you.

## NOVEMBER 16

If you are able to provide some light refreshments for the reception to follow the Ibis String Quartet concert on the evening of Saturday, Nov 16th, you are encouraged to do so!

Contact Leah Heinicke or Gretchen Frederick if you have any questions, but any contributions will be gratefully accepted!

Remember, this is an evening concert, so the reception will likely start at 9pm or later. We are not looking for anything heavy!

## RECEPTION

*Following Concert*



## ON-LINE GIVING

Have you ever forgotten to bring your checkbook to church? Or maybe you thought you had more cash on hand than you did. When you use digital giving, you can ensure that your tithe is automatically transferred to the church, saving yourself time and trouble.

# GIVE PLUS<sup>+</sup>

You are probably already aware that we offer the option of online giving using Vanco's GivePlus+ App. But did you know that switching to online giving has benefits for both you and the church?

### Benefits for You:

1. Convenience—give from anywhere using a computer, tablet, or smartphone.
2. No need to find a check or stop by the ATM.
3. Use your checking/savings account or your debit/credit card.\*
4. Simplify your budgeting—schedule gifts to occur automatically each week, or whenever you are paid.
5. Give to one or more funds at any time.

### Benefits for the Church:

1. Reduces administrative work allowing more time to focus on the ministry.
2. Helps streamline receivables.
3. Increases stewardship by providing members and guests easier ways to give.
4. More regular and predictable giving makes planning easier.

\* Did you know? When you give from your Checking/Savings account, your full donation is received by the church. When you give by Credit Card, the merchant services fee of 3-4% that is charged on all transactions reduces the amount of your gift.



Speaking of giving, for those of you who are holdouts for the traditional giving option (cash or checks placed in the offering plate each week), we are preparing to order our boxes of offering envelopes for 2020.

Given the increased focus we hope to place on online giving as well as the desire to reduce the budgetary impact of purchasing these offering envelopes, we have decided to reduce the number of envelope boxes we're ordering to 50.

The envelope sets will be provided at a cost of \$5 each, and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis when they arrive.



Thanks to the eagle eyes of Janet Crim and Gayle Nelson, who caught items in last month's newsletter that were not up to their high standards of grammar and punctuation, the Organ Repair Fund is receiving a check for \$200 this month.

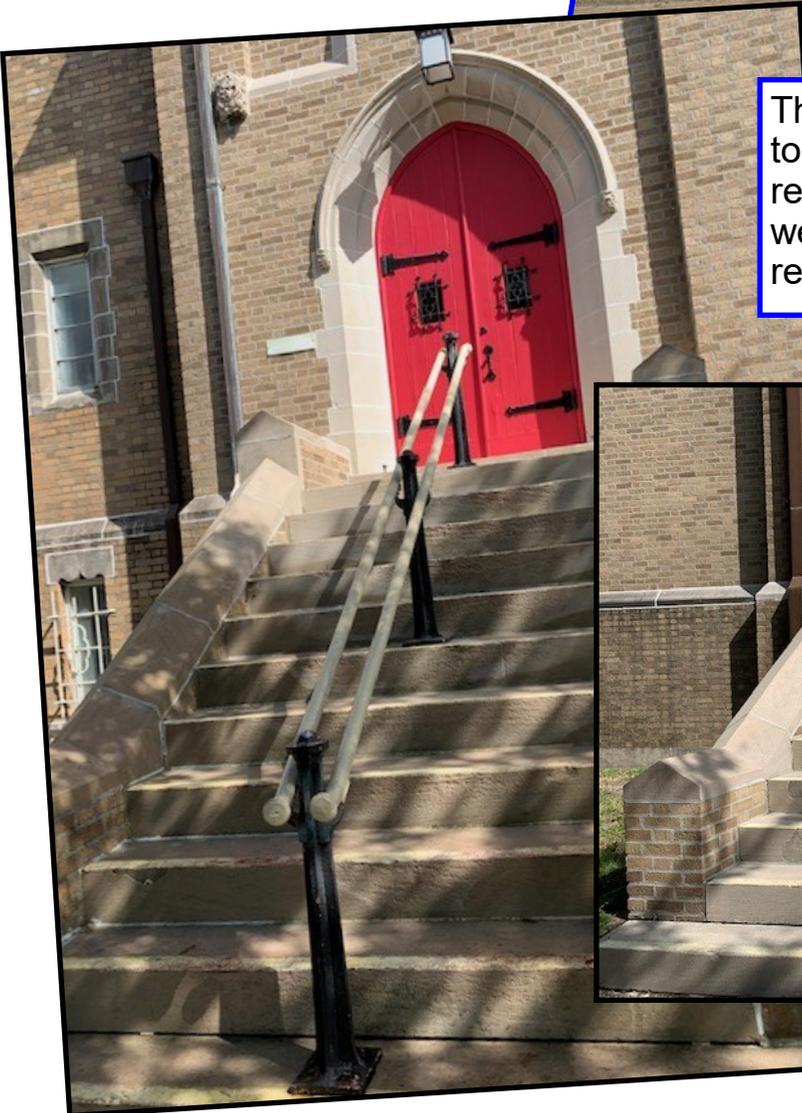
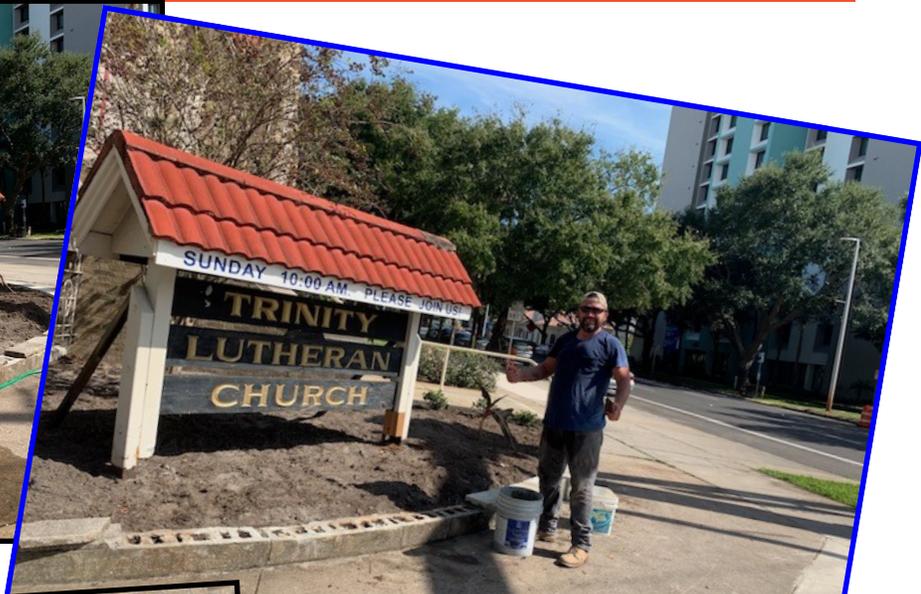
Any errors spotted this month will benefit the Special Music Fund, ensuring that even through our failings, we can provide a more beautiful Christmas Eve service for everyone!

## Beautification Committee

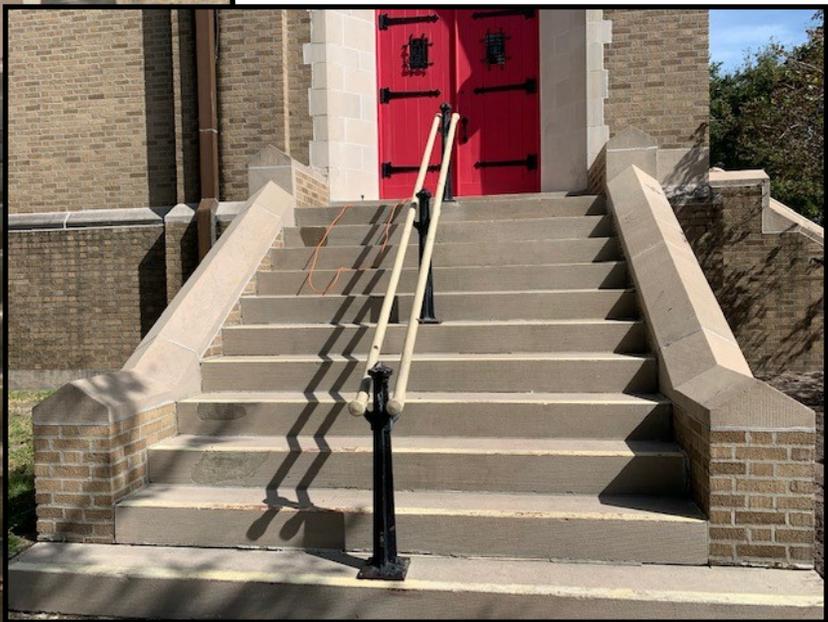


Have you notice the improvements being made to the exterior of our buildings? The stairs and some of the walls have been pressure-washed; the corner sign has had repairs done and has been painted; the stone wall edging the corner has been repaired, and the planting area it encloses has also seen improvements!

Take a look at the following pages for some of the remarkable progress pictures. And give a big SHOUT OUT to Alan Camp and Jeanette Mulcahy who, along with neighborhood volunteers, Dave, Rocco, and Ray took "Yikes" to "Yea!"



This is Dave, who was kind enough to put new stone caps on the retaining wall. What a guy! We weeded, power washed and we are ready to plant and paint the sign.





Rocco and Ray, two guys with some skills who happened along!



“Yikes!”



“Yea!”





11/05 Doug & Kim Forcino



11/03 Anon - "Angel Award"  
 11/10 Ruth Wilson  
 11/17 Leah Heinicke  
 11/24 Anon - "Angel Award"



11/01 Jeanne Oakley  
 11/10 Paris Smith  
 11/19 Anne Ruhl  
 11/20 Abraham Barlee  
 11/25 Danny Burtless  
 11/28 Alexanda Barlee

**Sign up to sponsor altar flowers (\$35) on a Sunday that has special significance to you.**

1. Sign up on any open Sunday (see the chart in the Van Horne Fellowship Hall or call the office).
2. Drop your check in the offering plate with a memo indicating "Altar Flowers." (Or pay [online!](#))

You will even get to take the flowers home after that service!

**Note: All Altar Flowers through the end of 2019 have been sponsored. There is a new Flower Chart on the bulletin board in the Van Horne Fellowship Hall for 2020. Sign up now while you still have a chance!**

## NOVEMBER SERVERS

	Nov 3	Nov 10	Nov 17	Nov 24
<b>Acolyte</b>	Alan Due	Alan Due	Doug Forcino	Phil Rearick
<b>Assisting Ministers</b>	Lynne Tallon	Alan Due	Doug Forcino	Lynne Tallon
<b>Lector</b>	Charlie Hahn	J.D. Cerna	Craig Mowrer	Amanda Moffitt
<b>Ushers</b>	Vanneita Anderson Violet Prepost Charlie Hahn Betty Napolitano Rebecca Reitz	Jen Durilla Tyra Humphrey Toni Durilla Matthew Reitz Rebecca Reitz	Vanneita Anderson Bert Bertoluzzi Pat Kapfhammer Violet Prepost Rebecca Reitz	Leah Heinicke Pat Kapfhammer Tyra Humphrey Helen Mowrer Rebecca Reitz
<b>Greeters</b>	Vanneita Anderson Violet Prepost	Jen Durilla Tyra Humphrey	Vanneita Anderson Bert Bertoluzzi	Leah Heinicke Pat Kapfhammer

# November 2019 Trinity Lutheran Church Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Church office hours: Mon -Thurs 9am - 3pm</b>					1 9:30a-12:30p TLC Pantry	2  <i>Coliseum using parking lot from Noon-4pm</i>
3 8:30a Choir Rehrsl 9am Bible Study 10am Worship  	4	5	6 8:15a Men's BF 5:45p Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30p Suppertime Study	7	8 9:30a-12:30p Food Pantry  <b>WELCA—Lake Yale Retreat</b>	9 9am Congregational Breakfast  <i>Coliseum using parking lot from 6:00p-11:00p</i>
10 8:30a Choir Rehrsl 9am Bible Study 10am Worship  <b>WELCA—Lake Yale</b>	11  <b>VETERAN'S DAY (Office Closed)</b>	12  <i>Coliseum using parking lot from 7:00a-9:00am</i>	13 8:15a Men's BF 5:45p Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30p Suppertime Study	14	15 9:30a-12:30p Food Pantry	16  <i>Coliseum using parking lot from 10:00am—5:00pm</i>  8pm Ibis String Quartet Concert <b>Coliseum Lot Avail</b>
17 8:30a Choir Rehrsl 9am Bible Study 10am Worship 11:30am Centering Prayer  <i>Coliseum using parking lot from Noon—5:00pm</i>	18  6pm Council Meeting	19	20 8:15a Men's BF 5:45p Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30p Suppertime Study  Deadline for Newsletter Items	21	22 9:30a-12:30p Food Pantry	23
24 8:30a Choir Rehrsl 9am Bible Study 10am Worship 11am WELCA Bake Sale 11:30am Climate Talk	25  7pm Community Thanksgiving Service	26	27 8:15a Men's BF 5:45p Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30p Suppertime Study	28  <b>THANKSGIVING</b>	29  <i>Coliseum using parking lot from 10am—5:00pm</i> <b>(Office Closed)</b>	30  <i>Coliseum using parking lot from 10am—5:00pm</i>