

TRINITY TIDINGS

A Congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

October 2024

421 North Main St.

Greenville, SC 29601-2000

864.242.5702

FAX 864.242.6442

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*Most rejoice at the sight of spring, but I have always loved autumn.
Rich, righteous colors, a shedding of weight and submission to a force larger than you.
The revelation of one's true self. Bare and unafraid.
Autumn lets its leaves fall to the ground to nurture the new,
like droplets of nourishing gold,
and finds peace where no peace existed before.
I've always loved Autumn. It's the letting go. Let it go.
Donna Ashworth*

Dear Members of the Trinity Family,

There is something special, something transcendent, something altogether beautiful and magnificent about the season of autumn. Yes, I love all the joys of autumn - visiting an apple orchard, apple cider donuts, colorful leaves, a brisk walk, Reese's peanut butter pumpkins, and absolutely anything with a pumpkin flavor. I love the settling in that happens in the fall, the time to prepare for winter, to look forward to the holidays, to observe the green of summer disappearing and giving way to the radiant colors of autumn.

Perhaps the most meaningful part of the season for me are the leaves. I love watching them transform into brilliant colors and then, seemingly without a care or a worry, let go and fall gracefully to the ground. I am mesmerized by the ease with which they do this. The timing is perfect. There is no clinging to the branch, no fear, no concern about the future, just a simple, easy letting go.

This time of year is a reminder to each of us to let go...to let go of the burdens in our lives, to release our fear and anxiety, to let go of the pain we carry from past hurts and betrayals, to release all the things that no longer serve us, to let go of our mistakes, regrets, and past sins. In the letting go, there is forgiveness...forgiveness we can gift to ourselves and forgiveness that we can offer to others. Let's covenant together to follow the lead of the leaves, to trust God, and gracefully and freely let go.

Peace, love, and joy,



Pastor Susan Crowell

COUNCIL NOTES

At the September meeting of the Congregation Council, the council...

---received a report from the Treasurer noting that expenses for August were \$4,184 below projections;

---learned from the Education Committee that they are assessing need and potential for beginning a Sunday morning faith formation program for children beginning in new year;

--- learned more about the challenges of the current website, the need for a new website, and the current efforts to update information and photos on the current website;

---learned that the Executive Committee is looking into several potential organizations/ facilitators to discern the best one to lead a strategic planning process that would begin in the new year; and

--- appointed Danny Fagala, Greg Hamluk, Deirdre Hixson, Dean Hybl, Lani Wise, and Pastor Crowell to serve on the Nominating Committee to lift up potential new leaders to serve on Congregation Council.

OCTOBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, October 6

Worship at 10:00 am in the Gym

Refreshments and fellowship to follow in the back corner of the Gym

Sunday, October 13

First Fruits Sunday with worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary

Featuring Guest Preacher, The Rev. Jackie Utley

A congregational Celebration meal to follow in the Gym

Sunday, October 20

Worship at 10:00 am in the Gym

New Members will be received during this service.

Special refreshments will be served following worship to celebrate Trinity's newest members.

Sunday, October 27

Reformation Sunday

Worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary

Refreshments and fellowship to follow on the front lawn

GIVING TO TRINITY



Trinity is grateful for all the prayers, contributions, and displays of support from members, friends, and guests. Financial contributions can be placed in the offering plates during worship, mailed to the church, or given electronically by going to trinitylutheran.ws, by scanning the QR code, or texting TLCGIVE to 73256.



MUSIC MINISTRY

Adult Choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:15 pm in the Choir Room on the second floor of the Pence Building. Each Sunday, the choir gathers at 9:30 am in the Choir Room for a brief rehearsal and warm-up. For 10:00 am worship, the choir assembles in the Sanctuary balcony or around the piano in the Gym to support and strengthen congregational singing and to offer special choral music in a wide variety of styles that proclaims, enriches, and interprets the scripture for the day.



Martin Luther called music the “Servant of the Gospel,” and the goal as singers is to offer music that draws our minds, bodies, emotions, and imaginations to experience God’s word more deeply. Everyone with a love of singing is invited to join this community of musical mission partners. There are no auditions. If interested in singing with the group please e-mail Pastor Parham at jcparham@trinitylutheran.ws or 864-242-5702.

Handbell Choir rehearses Wednesday evenings in the Handbell Rehearsal Room on the second floor of the Pence Building from 6:00 to 6:55 pm. Ringing handbells is a unique and especially satisfying kind of precisely coordinated human community. The group is in effect a single percussion instrument with many hands, hearts, and minds. If interested in this unique kind of musical community, please contact Pastor Parham at the email above.

Trinity’s worship life greatly benefits from the gifts of our congregational instrumentalists. If new to the community and feel drawn to share your instrumental gifts in worship, please contact Pastor Parham at the email above.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT ORCHESTRA

Pastor Parham is already beginning to assemble the instrumental ensemble that will play for Trinity’s December 15 Christmas Pageant. Trinity instrumentalists, this is a fun, low-stress opportunity with minimal time-commitment to make music together in worship. This ensemble leads the many Advent/Christmas carols for the Pageant. Pastor Parham provides instrumental parts tailored for every instrument and skill level. If interested or just curious, please contact Pastor Parham at the email address or phone number above for more information.

PRAYING FOR POSSIBILITIES

Praying for Possibilities is a program at Trinity dedicated to praying for the ministries of the congregation. Members and friends of the congregation are invited to sign up for a specific week during the year when they are encouraged to pray through the written prayers one time during the course of the assigned week. This ministry requires a small commitment of time with the possibility of tremendous blessing. To ask questions about the ministry or to sign up to participate, please reach out to Beth Bennett-Hill at bethbhnc@yahoo.com or 704-307-0521 or to Terry Morgan at tfmorgan101@gmail.com or 864-230-6252.

October Prayer Volunteers

October 6 - 12
Chris Sullivan

October 13 - 19
Chris Sullivan

October 20 - 26
Bonnie Farmer

October 27 - November 2
Lisa Rehm

September 2024 marks the one year anniversary of TLC's Praying for Possibilities ministry. This ministry began with 52 participants, each committing to pray through a set of pre-written prayers during their one designated week of the year. Many volunteers have noted that the experience has been meaningful, enhanced personal prayer lives, and resulted in more intentional prayer for Trinity throughout the year. Several individuals have requested to be more involved in the ministry so the original model has been modified to offer more opportunities. Participants for 2025 may choose to be assigned for one week, 2 weeks, 4 weeks, or monthly assignments. The result of this change will be to have multiple participants praying each week as will be reflected in the Tidings and weekly bulletin assignments for Praying for Possibilities.

As this ministry begins a second year, participants are invited to gather for a brief time on Sunday, October 6 at 11:30 am in Room 11 to share experiences and ideas for the future. The gathering will last no longer than 30 minutes.

All new and current volunteers are encouraged to participate in this second year of Praying for Possibilities.



First Fruits

to labor, love, and give

*As saints of old their first-fruits brought
of vineyard, flock, and field
to God, the giver of all good,
the source of bounteous yield;
so we today our first fruits bring:
the wealth of this good land,
of farm and market, shop and home,
of mind and heart and hand.*

We are called to give our First Fruits of time, talent, and treasure back to God. As faithful stewards, we continue to experience the bounty of these First Fruits lived out in ministry here at Trinity. Please join the Stewardship Committee in discerning how God is calling us to best give your First Fruits in service to God and neighbor.

First Fruits Sunday

Commitments of time, talent, and treasure will be given back to God and celebrated with a community meal following worship. The Rev. Jackie Utley will be our guest preacher.

Please mark your calendars.

Sunday, October 13 **NEW DATE!**

Worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary
Catered Lunch at 11:30 am in the Gym



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Adults of all ages are invited to come and enjoy coffee and conversation at 9:00 am in Rooms 12 and 13 of the Activities Building as the group discusses current issues using the *Brewed Theology* series. This discussion based series looks at a variety of topics through the lens of the Christian faith and Lutheran theology. Teachers will vary and topics will include immigration, fake news, divided times, money, wealth and generosity, and the church and politics. The class ends in time for worship each Sunday.

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

Youth in grades 6 though 12 are invited to stay after worship once a month for *Lunch and Learn*, a time for fellowship building and faith formation lessons and activities. This group will not meet in October. The group will meet after worship on Sunday November 10.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Children are invited to leave worship after the children's sermon to hear the scripture reading in ways more appropriate to them. Using the lectionary stories heard in worship each Sunday, the children sing and listen to the scripture or a related book and enjoy an activity related to the theme of the day. They return to worship in time to share the peace and participate in the family meal of Holy Communion.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Trinity will receive new members on Sunday, October 20 during worship at 10:00 am in the Gym. If interested in becoming a part of this community of faith on this date, please reach out to Pastor Susan Crowell at sjcrowell@trinitylutheran.ws. There is a place for you in the Trinity family!

STORM UPDATE

As many begin the long work of recovery from Hurricane Helene, we encourage you to continue to pray for all who are struggling and suffering as a result of this storm. If you want to help, we invite you to consider making donations to restock the shelves of Trinity's food pantry as most of the items have been shared with local school children in need as well as our neighbors at Towers East. Financial contributions can also be made to Lutheran Disaster Relief by giving to Trinity and marking the contribution *Storm Relief*. Please continue to pray for peace, healing, hope, and relief for all who are struggling in the aftermath of this storm.

GOAL JUSTICE MINISTRY ANNOUNCES HOUSE MEETINGS AT TRINITY

GOAL is excited to begin the third cycle of justice work this fall with congregational House Meetings. While the work on affordable housing and mental health continues to be important and ongoing, fresh perspectives are needed as GOAL discerns the community issues that are currently negatively impacting those on the margins. Help us continue to work to make Greenville a more just and equitable place for all by participating in one of the House Meetings to share your stories, passions, and concerns. House meetings will last about 90 minutes and will be an opportunity to build relationships with other Trinity members as justice concerns are shared. All events are held at Trinity, unless otherwise noted. Please make arrangements to attend one of the following:

Monday, October 7 at 5:30 pm, hosted by Margaret Roth in Rooms 12 and 13 in the Activities Building
CHILDCARE IS PROVIDED at this House Meeting.
Please reach out to Margaret at rothmargaret@icloud.com or 864-918-2922 to register.

Wednesday, October 9 at 11:30 am, hosted by Pastor Crowell and Patrick Preacher in Rooms 12 and 13 in the Activities Building. A light lunch will be provided.
Please reach out to Patrick Preacher at pdp preacher@trinitylutheran.ws or 864-483-2590 to register.

Thursday, October 24 at 6:30 pm, hosted by Tori Hilbourn in Rooms 12 and 13 in the Activities Building.
Please reach out to Tori at toribice99@gmail.com or 843-250-2705 to register.

Sunday, October 27 at 5:00 pm, hosted by Angie McCormack in Rooms 12 and 13 in the Activities Building.
Please reach out to Angie at ahmccormack@trinitylutheran.ws or 864-630-4026 to register.

CELEBRATING A NEW BABY AT TRINITY



Please join the Trinity Family
for a celebration in honor of



Chris, Leah, and Addy Sommerville

as they anticipate the arrival of a baby boy

Sunday, November 10, 2024

following worship in the Gym

To celebrate the Sommerville family at this special time in their lives,
please consider bringing disposable diapers and baby wipes
that will be donated to a local women's shelter in their honor.

OCTOBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
		1
<p>TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 6</p> <p>9:00 FAITH FORMATION 9:30 SECOND SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE GYM AND LIVE-STREAM REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW</p> <p>11:30 LUNCH AND NEW MEMBER CLASS</p>	<p>7</p> <p>5:30 GOAL HOUSE MEETING</p>	<p>8</p> <p>1</p>
<p>TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 13</p> <p>9:00 FAITH FORMATION 10:00 FIRST FRUITS WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY AND LIVE-STREAM CELEBRATION LUNCHEON TO FOLLOW IN THE GYM</p> <p>1:30 CONGREGATION COUNCIL</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 20</p> <p>9:00 FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE GYM AND LIVE-STREAM RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW</p> <p>11:30 YOUTH MINISTRY 11:30 OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH</p> <p>3:00 HISTORY READING GROUP</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>REFORMATION SUNDAY 27</p> <p>9:00 FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY AND LIVE-STREAM REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW</p> <p>11:30 CHILDRENS MINISTRY</p> <p>5:00 GOAL HOUSE MEETING</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

2

3

4

5

6:00 HANDBELL CHOIR
7:00 ADULT CHOIR

9

10

11

12

6:30 AM MEN'S REFLECTION AND
FELLOWSHIP GROUP
11:30 GOAL HOUSE MEETING

6:00 HANDBELL CHOIR
7:00 ADULT CHOIR

16

17

18

19

11:30 WELCOME TABLE

6:00 HANDBELL CHOIR
7:00 ADULT CHOIR

5:00 FALL FESTIVAL
7:00 BOOK GROUP

6:00 YOUNG ADULT GROUP

23

24

25

26

6:00 HANDBELL CHOIR
7:00 ADULT CHOIR

6:30 GOAL HOUSE MEETING

30

31

SECOND SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE

Thanks to all who continue to contribute to the Food Pantry. In addition to regular items, the pantry is in special need of canned meats, toilet paper, and canned vegetables. All are encouraged to bring donations to worship. A volunteer will be stationed at the Red Canopy Door from 9:30 to 10:00 am on the second Sunday of each month to assist in unloading donations. Upcoming date is October 13. The following items are most needed: dried beans (16 oz), peanut butter (16 oz), cereal, canned fruit, rice (2 lb bag), pasta sauce, canned meat, canned vegetables, and toilet paper. Our neighbors especially love canned fruit! Your support and love is greatly appreciated. If interested in volunteering to collect items during the Sunday Food Drives, please contact Patrick Preacher at pdp preacher@trinitylutheran.ws



BOOK GROUP

The Trinity Book Group, which is open to all readers, meets in the Parlor on the third Thursday every other month at 7:00 pm to discuss books of all genres. The next meeting will be Thursday, October 17. The group will discuss the book *Stories for Punjabi Widows* by Balli Kaur Jaswai. Other book selections for the year include:



December 19: *The Echo of Old Books* by Barbara Davis

February 20, 2025: *North Woods* by Daniel Mason

OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH



All adults are invited to enjoy lunch together after worship on Sunday, October 20 at *Willy Taco*, 217 Laurens Road, Greenville. Mary Brown and Suzanne Rudisill will be hosting the event. If interested in joining the group for lunch, please call or text Mary at 864-991-1882 or Suzanne at 864-905-4119 so that a space can be reserved for you.

TRINITY NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you find joy in spending time with young children? If so, perhaps you would find volunteering in Trinity's Nursery to be a meaningful way to serve. Trinity is becoming more diverse each time we gather for worship, and that means our Nursery is experiencing growth as well. There is also a need to open the Nursery more often, such as during special worship services and events. Please contact the Church Office if you are interested in this rewarding opportunity to spend time with God's smallest and youngest children.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

In an effort to stay connected, please consider extending birthday greetings to the following members. If you would like the church to know your birthdate please contact the Church Office to submit this information through Realm.

Kathleen Anderson - October 25
Ann Berlam - October 30
Connie Blackstone - October 19
Keith Block - October 28
Randy Brown - October 27
Bonnie Farmer - October 20
Del Harewood - October 26
Frank Hawkins - October 7
Lindsay Hawkins - October 20
Chris Lawrence - October 8
Lane Lewis - October 16
Josephine McMullen - October 29
Brandy Merritt - October 16
Heidie Miller - October 25
Thatcher Moose - October 28
Mary Mueller - October 3

Merry Mulcahy - October 3
Dean Nix - October 13
Caroline Otten - October 6
John Otten - October 10
EmmieMae Peden - October 2
David Potts - October 18
Jeff Rehm - October 1
Donna Robinson - October 5
Harper Roth - October 20
Jerry Salley - October 31
Sheryl Schirmer - October 3
Chris Sorenson - October 20
Lexi Thomas-Harewood - October 19
Benjamin Wessinger - October 29
Terry Willis - October 28



NURSERY FOR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP



A nursery hosted by a member of the Trinity staff, Beth Oswald, as well as a small group of rotating adult volunteers who have been trained in Trinity's Child Protection Policy is available each Sunday morning beginning at 9:45 am to care for infants and toddlers who would prefer enjoying play time instead of attending 10:00 worship. The nursery is located on the first floor of the Pence Building. Please reach out to a greeter or usher if you need assistance.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Women's Bible Study



and Fellowship Group

The Women's Bible Study Group meets monthly for fellowship and Bible study. The group usually meets on the first Tuesday of each month. All women are invited to attend the next meeting on October 1 at 10:30 am in Rooms 12 and 13. The group is discussing the book *Falling Upward: Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life* by Richard Rohr. Contact Terry Morgan at tfmorgan101@gmail.com for additional information.

MEN'S REFLECTION AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Men's Fellowship

A Reflection and Fellowship Group for men meets on the second Wednesday of the month from 6:30 am to 7:30 am in the Church Parlor. Calvin Harmon leads and facilitates this group with the intent of providing a brave, safe space for mutual sharing and encouragement. The morning includes a light breakfast as well as time for devotions and prayer. Upcoming dates include October 9, November 13, and December 11.

HISTORY READING GROUP

Please join the Trinity Lutheran Church History Reading Group to discuss selected topics based on historical nonfiction books. The group will meet Sunday, October 20 at 3:00 pm in Rooms 12 and 13 to discuss *Manhunt* by James L. Swanson. New comers are always welcome. Contact David Hill at jdhillnc50@gmail.com or 704-307-0520 or Don Todd at dk todd47@gmail.com or 803-517-8129 for more information. Participation via Zoom will be available.

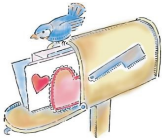
THE WELCOME TABLE

The Welcome Table is so grateful to be partnering with Feed & Seed Company of Greenville and Project Host to continue serving and connecting with our neighbors. On Wednesday, October 16, the Welcome Table lunch will be served at 11:30 am in the Multipurpose Room. If you are not a regular attendee of the Welcome Table, this is a great day to try out this fun and fulfilling ministry. All are always welcome to attend! Please contact Patrick Preacher at pdp preacher@trinitylutheran.ws with any questions or if you would like to volunteer.



TLC4TLC

TLC4TLC is for anyone who would like to write notes and cards for members who are ill, grieving, or unable to attend worship, as well as for those who are celebrating joys. Interested participants may contact Debbie Farstad at deb fars@att.net.



NEW SMALL GROUP FOR YOUNG ADULTS

All Young Adults (in their 20's and 30's ish) and children are invited to a Fall-themed Backyard Fun Gathering

at the home of Lara and Chris Wannemacher
Friday, October 18
6:00 to 8:00 pm

Everyone is invited to bring an appetizer to share.
Soft drinks will be provided.

Please reach out to Lara Wannemacher at larawannemacher@gmail.com to RSVP and to access the address.



QUEER - LED WORSHIP/HOMECOMING



Queer-led Worship will celebrate Homecoming on Thursday, November 14 at 6:30 pm in the Gym. Please note the date change. There will be no Queer-led Worship on the first Thursday of November. This special service will celebrate the beginning of the fourth year for this one-of-a-kind worship service. Worshippers will be invited to gather for a meal in the Multi-purpose Room hosted by the Love Wins group following worship.

LOVE WINS FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Love Wins will gather to celebrate fall together by sponsoring and assisting with the Fall Festival on Thursday, October 17 from 5:30 - 7:00 pm. Contact Angie McCormack at 864-630-4026 or ahmccormack@trinitylutheran.ws with questions or for more information.



CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Trinity youth and families will travel to Denver Downs on Sunday, October 20 to enjoy the corn maze, pumpkin picking, and so much more. Youth need to travel with their families. The group will leave following worship. More details to come.

Trinity Children will gather on Sunday, October 27 following worship to enjoy some time at McPherson Park. The group will walk together to the park for lunch and games. Children must be accompanied by a parent or caring adult.

PRESCHOOL PLAY GROUP AND LUNCH

All pre-school children (infant to K4) and their siblings and families are invited to a play day and lunch on Sunday, November 17 at 11:30 am following worship in the children's classroom on the first floor of the Pence Building. Children will enjoy a story and song as well as time on the playground or gym as weather allows. A simple meal will be provided for children, siblings, and adults. To register for this event, please reach out to Patrick Preacher at pdpreacher@trinitylutheran.ws or Pastor Crowell at sjcrowell@trinitylutheran.ws.

FALL FESTIVAL



The Trinity Fall festival will be held on Thursday, October 17 from 5:30 to 7:00 pm on the front lawn. Join our Trinity family and neighbors for a hotdog meal, s'mores, games, activities, and more. Costumes are welcome.

WITHIN THE TRINITY FAMILY . . .

Baptisms

Javier Ursus Hager, son of Angie and Emily Hager on September 22

Death

the mother of Brad Waters

Hospital Patients

Ida Blalock - Discharged

Eliza Stockman - 234, Prisma Health Greer

ATTENDANCE FOR SEPTEMBER

Sundays	9/1	9/8	9/15	9/22	9/29
Online devices	539	498	497	685	Worship
In Person	<u>128</u>	<u>159</u>	<u>165</u>	<u>177</u>	canceled
	667	657	662	862	due to storm

Queer-Led Worship 9/5 30 in person, 518 online devices

OFFERING SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER

	<u>SEPTEMBER</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Needed for Budget	\$ 93,834	\$ 844,504
Given to Budget	<u>\$ 83,319</u>	<u>\$ 811,964</u>
Difference	\$ (10,515)	\$ (32,540)
Given to World Hunger	\$ 140	\$ 12,314

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
421 North Main Street
Greenville, SC 29601-2090

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CHURCH STAFF

Susan J. Crowell
Senior Pastor
sjcrowell@trinitylutheran.ws

James C. Parham, III
Associate Pastor
for Worship and Music
jcparham@trinitylutheran.ws

Amy R. Brown, Deacon
Director of
Educational Ministries
arbrown@trinitylutheran.ws

Patrick D. Preacher
Queer and Justice Ministry
Coordinator
Pastoral Intern
pdp preacher@trinitylutheran.ws

Angie H. McCormack
Youth and Children's Ministry
Coordinator
ahmccormack@trinitylutheran.ws

Kay M. Cook
Office Manager
kmcook@trinitylutheran.ws

Henry W. Wilcox
Accountant and
Digital Media Manager
hwwilcox@trinitylutheran.ws

Karen M. Craig
Administrative Assistant
kmcraig@trinitylutheran.ws

Roy L. Cook
Facility Manager
rlcook@trinitylutheran.ws

Beth C. Oswald
Nursery Attendant