

Please pray for...

Our Church Family: Week of 12/1/24—Georgia Martelli, 11/14/24—Marie Bingaman, 11/17/24—Carol Dohrmann, 11/10/24—Tom Mount 11/3/24—Dick Vercruysse, Elaine Johnson, Cherie Loomis, wife of Forest Burke



Our friends and relatives: Week of 11/24/24—Sofia Azelton, Tyler Murry, Mary Roberts, Teresa Cornell, John Schwerdtfeger, Crystal Torkaski, Gene Symak, Jeremy Perry, Family of Shirly Zink; 11/17/24—Patricia May, Billy Kerzelis, Ruth Warwick, Yvonne Cambray, Aaron, Noah and Jacob Mendez, Kathy and Ernest Stem, and all veterans living and deceased 11/3/24—Stephanie Kerzelis, Billy Nippers

Ongoing church family, friends and relatives: Lori Allen, Peggy Torgerson, Mary Ann Kraft, Diane Massa, Jackie Walsh, Ed Palmer, Joan Forreidor, Fred Eskuri, Sharon Faulkner, Mary Lou Burke, Carolynn Chamberlain,

Doreen Panyard, Mona Argentini, Larry Thomas, Dietmar and Norma Bennett, Jon Dickey, Margot Simmons, Sean Costa, Don Randolph, Karen Smith, Audrey Stamps, Piper Jandola, Margo Kiepert, Amy Meyer, Annette Morden, Frances Fenwick, Carol Civitella, Judy Stratton

In Hospice care: Becky Burrows, Elaine Dougan, Nancy Ann Eckhart

Please also pray for our Homebound members, Ministry of Faith Preparatory School, Ministry of Valerie's House, Ministry of Tender Hearts, all who serve in the military and their families, all law enforcement officers and first responders.

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

2565 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte, FL
(941)625-5262

Email: office@htlchurch.org

Web address: www.htlchurch.org



Church Staff

Co-Pastors

Pastor Andrea Barrios
pastorandrea@htlchurch.org

Pastor Ken Barrios
pastorken@htlchurch.org

Visitation Pastor
Pastor Carl Fischer

Celebration Worship Leader
Miles Mancini

Organist/Handbell Director
Cecil Buchinger

Chancel Choir Director
Sonja Rozier

Choir Accompanist
Jean Sutton

Office Administrator
Margaret Rose

Finance Secretary
Debbie Nigliccio

Missionary
Rev. Eric Twine, Uganda

Synod Parish Deacons
Marianne Click
Gail Hintz
Steve Wuckert

"Our Mission"



December 8, 2024

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! We are glad YOU are here!

Are You a Visitor or Guest? We welcome you in the name of our risen Savior and we rejoice that you are here today to praise God with us. Please complete a **CONNECTION CARD** in your pew. Either place it in the offering plate or give it to one of our pastors so we can serve you better.

Holy Communion—We believe that Christ is present in this meal freely given to all who are baptized. Please approach the altar as directed. Receive the host and then dip the host (*gluten free wafers are available for the asking*) into either the red wine or the white grape juice and eat, or place the host in your mouth then pick up a cup of either the red wine or the white grape juice and drink. Deposit your empty cup in the basket at the end of the line. All children are invited to come forward for a blessing if they do not normally receive communion. Return to your seat (or pause at the altar) for a time of prayer. If you are unable to come to the altar and would like communion in your pew, please let an usher or a pastor know.



Large Print Service Slide Booklet—do you have trouble seeing the screens? We do have the slides printed in a notebook for those who need it. Please ask an usher by the sanctuary doors for the notebook. Please return the notebook at the end of worship.

Hearing Assistance— We have a limited supply of hearing devices available for use. If you feel you need one, please see the sound booth attendant at the back of the sanctuary.



SUNDAY STAR

TODAY'S SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

9:00am: GREETER: **BULLETINS:** Rosemarie Conklin

Reader: Wayne Marshall

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Dick Duhn, Jo Duhn, Marianne Click, Rev. Carl Fischer

10:45: GREETER: Barbara Moore **BULLETINS:** Lorraine Vida

READER: Jan Hanus **OFFERING:** Richard Schnur

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Scott Deitch, Diana Deitch, Richard Schnur, Jennifer Fischer

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS: Early: Ruth Ann **Late:** Maryrose Risner

SUNDAY FLOWER DELIVERY: Pat Wachter

SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR NEXT MONTH ARE POSTED IN THE NARTHEX

TODAY'S WORSHIP:

Our 9 and 10:45 services are projected on the screens—The congregation responds with the bold, black print.

HYMNS @ 10:45am:

Opening: ELW 239 **Sermon:** ELW 256 **Sending:** ELW 671

Bible Readings: Romans 3:21-31, Matthew 2:1-18

Church Council Members

You can recognize a church council member by their "YELLOW" nametag.

President—Theda Bunker, Vice-President—Phil Deel,
Secretary—Jeanne Gaston, Treasurer—Shawn Hernandez.

At large: Beau Beaudine, Mike Felt, Richard Schnur, Sandi Witzke

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WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday—Dec. 9

9:00a—Food Pantry
1pm—Women's Bible Study

Tuesday—Dec. 10

10:00—Bible Study
1:00p—Dorca's Circle

Wednesday—Dec. 11

9:00a—Food Pantry
6:30p—Chancel Choir

Thursday - Dec. 12

9:00a—Quilters
11:00a—Joyful Ringers
6:30p—Trinity's Praise

Friday—Dec. 13

Office Closed
5:00p—Christmas Dinner

Saturday -Dec. 14

Office Closed

Sunday - Dec. 15

9:00a—Celebration Worship
9:15a—Let's Talk
9:45a—Sunday School
10:45a—Traditional Worship

Our Financial Stewardship

Donations YTD: Actual donations compared to plan. Each week is a cumulative total. (000s)

OCT Actual \$487.5

Needed \$483.7

Over/(Under) \$ 3.8

ACTUAL NET YTD:

OCT 24 \$3.0

15 year Mortgage

as of 1/1/24 \$293.4

as of 10/31/24 \$212.7

YTD reduction \$80.7



Today's altar flowers are presented by

Janet Nuse in remembrance of

Kenneth Nuse Sr.

On his heavenly birthday

And by

Bill and Jill DiGirolanio

To the Glory of God!



*The communion wine is
presented by*

Hal and Joyce Jandola

In honor of

Noah John's and Emma Elisabeth's

First Holy Communion



THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

Dec. 8— Dennis Race
Dec. 9— Steven Donaldson
Dec. 11— Marion Geary-Smejkal
Dec. 13— Rev. Ken Barrios
Shalon Wild
Dec. 14— Jenny Versnik



THIS WEEK'S ANNIVERSARIES

Dec. 14— Jan and Chris Lippitt 33 yrs!

In-person Attendance

December 1, 2024— 310

Last year 2023— 323

Advent's Holy Light Congregational Part

10:45 Advent Candle Lighting

JOEL RANEY



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Thank you for your generosity for this year's
Angel Tree!



Council Highlights from November 2024

MOTION to accept the minutes from October as corrected was unanimously carried. Nominating committee made their recommendations for Mission Endowment Fund (MEF) and Council for 2025. **Finance** Year to date through October, donations are above spending, which includes Fellowship. This is \$22,301 above last year. Year to date, envelope and mortgage offerings above last year, plate offerings are down. Total income is up \$32,290 compared to last year (7.1% increase). Through October, our expenses are \$17,277 below our 2024 spending plan but above last year (3.2% increase). Finance committee reviewed the proposed 2025 spending plan and recommended to council to approve it. **MOTION** was passed to approve the 2025 Spending Plan. **Property** Gutters will be started December 2nd. Plumbers assessed flooding issue in courtyard and felt sump pump might not be good alternative if there is a power outage. More research will be done. New Business: **MOTION** was passed to increase the salary for Pastor Carl Fischer (which is paid out of MEF). Pastor Ken provided Council updated membership information (added 33 new members, removed 52 and confirmed member number is 435 and non-confirmed, 44). **MOTION** was passed to accept membership change. **Correspondences** Appreciation letters were received from Blind Spot, Helen Kline, Cross Roads, Harry Chapin Food Bank, Jesus Loves You ministry, Gateway Ctr. Acknowledgments to the congregation for their generosity on ongoing support. **Next meeting** 12/18/2024.

I have long believed that the way to know a spiritual sense is know it in our real life. I think the best way to understand about God and peace is to know about peace in our everyday lives.

Source: *The World According to Mr. Rogers* p. 178



Pastors' Christmas Gift



With Christmas coming quickly, you are probably thinking about giving a token of appreciation to our wonderful Pastors. If you would care to do so, we will be giving them a gift in the form of a check from the entire Congregation. We need to have this donation **no later than Dec.15th**. Please use the yellow pew envelopes and mark it "**Pastors Gift.**"

Council Highlights from Fall Congregational Meeting 2024

Quorum was confirmed having 60 voting members. Comments from Council President indicated that our finances were sound. She thanked our pastors, deacons, music ministry, and the congregation. Nominating committee chair announced the nominee for 2025 council (Jeanne Gaston, Mandy Knollenberg, Lisa Mohr and Jan Schroeder) and Mission Endowment Fund (Mike Geil and Julie Arnez). **MOTION** carried. Treasurer presented the 2025 proposed Spending Plan, an approximate 2% increase of 2024 Spending Plan. **MOTION** to approve the 2025 Spending Plan passed. Closing prayer was led by Pastor Ken.

Dorcas Circle

Tuesday, December 10

1:00 pm

New
Members
Class

New Member Class

Monday, January 6, 2025

at 6:30 PM

We need COUNTERS!

We need counters to count the offerings from Sunday services. You would volunteer for one month at a time, usually four times per year.

Counters count on Monday mornings. Please contact either: the office (office@htlchurch.org), Marianne Click, Connie Wuckert or Debbie Nigliaccio.



Sunday School Children

Are invited to the Pastors' House
to celebrate

*Happy Birthday Jesus
Party*

Friday, December 20, 2024 @
5:30pm



*Ordination of the
Reverend Julie
Jackson*



*Thank
you*

Thank you so much for your generous donations and support for CARE. We raised \$1400 and collected 230 books!

Thank you so much for making my Confirmation project a success. You have helped to make a difference in the lives of many women and children!

Nadia Dubbaneh

Christmas Eve Worship — December 24th

4:00pm - Family Service ~ Music by Trinity's Praise

7:00pm - Candlelight Service - Traditional Worship

****SUNDAY, DEC. 29— 10am —New Year's Worship****



Trinity's Bistro



Church Family Christmas Dinner

Friday, December 13, 2024

MENU

ROAST TURKEY *with Dressing*

BAKED HAM *with Sherry Chutney*

SIDES

SWEET POTATO CASSEROLE

PINEAPPLE STUFFING

MASHED POTATOES WITH GRAVY

VEGETABLE DU JOUR

COLE SLAW

Cranberry Relish

CHEF MARK'S DESSERT *"A CHRISTMAS SURPRISE"*

Signup for Dinner and get **Reservation Voucher(s)** on Sunday,
November 24th, December 1st and December 8th

Doors open at 5:00pm

Free Will offering—BYOB (wine or beer)



New FLOWER and COMMUNION WINE

Signup Sheets are available for 2025

In the Narthex next to the coffee bar.



Our Holy Trinity elves are putting together some Christmas Cheer gift packages for our home-bound members. Here are some ways you can help!



**** Bake cookies!** We need the fresh baked cookies on Sunday, December 15th...bring them to worship with you and drop them off at the cookie table in the narthex.

**** Delivery—**We need folks to deliver the gifts of cheer on **Monday the Dec. 16th, Tuesday the 17th or Wednesday the 18th.** If you are Interested please email the church office (office@htlchurch.org) or call us (941-625-5262) and we will add you to the list. **Remember items will be ready for delivery on MONDAY DEC. 16th.**

ONE MORE THING!

**** Monetary donations** - If you would like to donate to help pay for the homebound flower arrangements for Christmas, you can make a donation using the yellow pew envelopes—mark it

"Christmas Cheer"



**BLOOD PRESSURE
checks in the
Narthex between
Services today.**



With Christmas fast approaching please consider purchasing gift cards from our church available in the Narthex every Sunday. All proceeds go directly towards paying down our mortgage. Additionally, there are several hundred other gift cards available that you can special order and receive the following Sunday!



“HOLY CHOW!”

Holy Chow dinner groups are soon to be formed again. Wonderful friendships and great fun have definitely been the outcome so far, which is super! All is geared as an informal way to have a meal in your own home with other church members. The emphasis is on fun and fellowship, so you don't have to be a great cook to participate! In fact, your group of 6-8 can be as creative or simple as they choose in the 3-4 times that they meet. Sign up is easy. **Complete the sign up card** (at Ministry Center in the narthex) **or email your name and contact info to the church office**



**I have cat like
reflexes. If I
hear a noise, I
keep napping!**

*Carroll County
Veterinary Clinic*

**POINSETTIA ORDER FORM
FOR CHRISTMAS EVE**

THIS FORM WILL BE IN THE NARTHEX

on the Worship Sign Up Board.

Please enclose cash or check (made payable to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church) with this form, in a yellow envelope located in the church pews. Please put the envelope in the offering plate or mail/drop it off at the church office (M-T 8:30-12pm). **Orders due by December 15, 2023**



“To appreciate Christmas to the full, one must know how it feels to be deprived of its blessings.” *Carlos P. Romulo*



**“Sometimes the
best Christmas present is
remembering what you’ve
already got.”** *Cathy Guisewite*



PAINTING CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS!

Enjoy an afternoon painting Christmas ornaments with

Paint & Palette.

December. 16th @ 2pm

Please register in the Narthex with name and email.
Payment of \$35 will be due by December 8th.

Let's celebrate together!

December Bingo! Tonight!

Let's play some BINGO tonight @ 6:30pm . Bring a snack to share. There will be a 50/50 bingo game (1 card for \$5; 3 cards for \$10) Proceeds from the 50/50 game to be donated to Lutheran Services of Florida.



Women's December Luncheon

Will be meeting at **Skillet's** (24123 Peachland Blvd) **Wednesday, December 18th at 11:45.** *If you want to participate in a white elephant Christmas exchange, bring a gift (no more than \$10-15) to the restaurant.*

Sign up sheet will be in the Narthex.

