

HOLY TRINITY

NEWS

OCTOBER 2024

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HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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October 2024

October 2024							November 2024							
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		10	11	12	13	14	15	16
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		17	18	19	20	21	22	23
27	28	29	30	31				24	25	26	27	28	29	30

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sep 29	30	Oct 1 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Thrift Shop	2 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	3 10:30am Bible Study (Adult SS Room) 5:45pm Girl Scouts Troop 301 (GS Room)	4 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	5
6 10:15am Worship Service in 3:00pm Girl Scout Troop 348 (New Girl) 6:00pm Girl Scouts Troop	7 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 7:00pm Boy Scouts Troop 41 (Parish Hall - Scout Room, Larry Arner)	8 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Thrift Shop	9 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	10 10:30am Bible Study (Adult SS Room)	11 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	12
13 10:15am Worship Service in Church and 3:00pm Girl Scout Troop 348 (New Girl Scout Room)	14 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 7:00pm Boy Scouts Troop 41 (Parish Hall - Scout Room, Larry Arner)	15 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Thrift Shop	16 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	17 10:30am Bible Study (Adult SS Room) 5:45pm Girl Scouts Troop 301 (GS Room)	18 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	19
20 10:15am Worship 3:00pm Girl Scout Troop 6:00pm Girl Scouts Troop 6:30pm Church Council	21 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 7:00pm Boy Scouts Troop 41 (Parish Hall - Scout Room, Larry Arner)	22 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Thrift Shop	23 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	24 10:30am Bible Study (Adult SS Room) 7:00pm Camera Club	25 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	26
27 10:15am Worship Service in Church and 3:00pm Girl Scout Troop 348 (New Girl Scout Room)	28 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 7:00pm Boy Scouts Troop 41 (Parish Hall - Scout Room, Larry Arner)	29 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Thrift Shop	30 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	31 10:30am Bible Study (Adult SS Room) 5:45pm Girl Scouts Troop 301 (GS Room)	Nov 1	2

From the Pastor's Desk – October 2024

“The Last, the Least, and the Lost”

³¹ “When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³ and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’ ⁴¹ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?’ ⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life.”

(Matthew 25:31-46 NRSV-U)

Back in the day, the month of October was the time that our Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod and its congregations placed special emphasis on the ministry of service, what was called Social Ministry. Here in the northern part of our Synod, that meant the gathering of collections, both financial and material, for Lutheran Welfare Service and St. Luke Manor and St. Luke Pavilion in Hazleton. At one time, we were allowed to bring offerings of non-perishable food items, even home canned goods, that the homes would use for their residents. That was many, many years ago, before state health regulations declared that no longer acceptable. More recently, Social Ministry Month placed emphasis on our connections to Diakon Lutheran Services (the present reality of what once was LWS & Topton) and Good Shepherd Home. Those ministries, that have become huge corporate enterprises these days, began as the efforts of churches and pastors to serve those in need in the name of Jesus.

The Parable of the Sheep and the Goats in Matthew 25 (given above) is one message of the importance of caring for those in need as we seek to honor and glorify the Lord in the realities of life in this world. As we care for and provide for those who lack the necessities of life that we so often take for granted, we show our love for our Savior and Lord most clearly – **“As you did it for one of the least of these . . . you did it for me,”** Jesus said. Just so, Jesus said, **“Just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.”** Jesus taught that those who follow him must be servants, even as Jesus came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.

There are a number of ways that Holy Trinity and St. Matthew’s exercise ministries of service in our respective communities. Our support for the food pantries at St. John’s (CACPAC) in Palmerton and Trinity in Lehighton are important expressions of our ministry, as is our support for the work of Family Promise of Carbon County.

In addition, there is one more way in which we assist those in need, one that flies under the radar and, so, might have escaped your knowledge. Each congregation has what is called a Pastor’s Discretionary Fund, a fund that enables me, at my discretion, to provide help to individuals and families as specific needs arise and come to my attention. At Holy Trinity, the Fund is actually included in the annual budget, something that is not done at St. Matthew’s. At St. Matthew’s, we have designated Joyful Noise offerings for this purpose. In either case, there is a pool of money that can be used for members of the church who have needs or for members of the community who spontaneously walk through our doors or make a phone call looking for help. There are requests that can be met with a grocery store gift card or a filled gas tank, at other times it is assistance with a significant rent or utility bill because unforeseen circumstances have made payment impossible for the individual or family. What is very often needed on our part is that this fund be replenished so that we have the resources available to provide the help in the moment when it is needed. May I be so bold as to ask your assistance in this? Many of you have stepped up in months and years past so that these funds have been available. I know that you do care for your neighbors in need and are willing to do what you can. In this month when we have, in years gone by, emphasized the church’s servant ministry I put this challenge to you. Will you help me, help us be ready when these unexpected, unanticipated needs come knocking on our door?

Thank you for your faithfulness. Thank you for your love for the Lord and for your neighbors. Blessings to you and peace in the Jesus, the One who came to serve.

Your Partner in Service,
Pastor Mike



A Celebration of Harvest – Sunday, October 13

Our congregations will celebrate Harvest Sunday in worship on October 13. A celebration of Harvest Home was a part of most rural and small community churches every fall season, either in September or October. Often those celebrations included donations reflecting our harvests as a part of the emphasis on Social Ministry in October. I distinctly remember delivering home canned goods to the Hazleton homes after Harvest Home Sundays back in the 90s, when such items could still be donated.

This month, we hope that you will help us in two ways, perhaps three:

1. Help us decorate the church – We're looking for pumpkins, mums, and other fall items (even baskets of apples) that will make our worship space reflect the season of harvest. We already have a source for corn stalks lined up.
2. Help us gather a significant collection of non-perishable food items for our community food pantries – CACPAC in Palmerton and Trinity Food Pantry in Lehigh. St. Matthew's Sunday School has a drive going that is requesting items connected with a traditional Thanksgiving feast (stuffing mix, gravy, canned pumpkin and sweet potatoes/yams, applesauce, boxed potatoes, cranberry sauce – no glass containers please). Such items would be good for both communities' food pantries. Let's fill the box at St. Matthew's and the grocery cart at Holy Trinity. These collected items will also be a part of the decoration of the church on October 13.
3. In these days when not everyone lives on a farm or has a vegetable garden, our income/paycheck is still a form of harvest. In lieu of food items, or in addition to the above food gathering, donations for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund could well be understood as sharing a portion of our harvest. Those gifts will be greatly appreciated and will assist our ministries.



**HOLY TRINITY ACTION
MINISTRY**

THRIFT SHOP:

Tues. 9am-12:30pm



- October 23 Jessica Merkel
- October 25 Rachael Dickson
- October 25 Mackenzie Spalding
- October 26 Megan Heal
- October 26 Jacqueline Ivancich
- October 26 Angelique Tindula
- October 27 Danielle Mertz
- October 29 Mark Bloss
- October 29 Ginny Frost
- October 30 Leah Danielson
- October 30 Evan LaRose
- October 30 Thomas Schmidt
- October 31 Lois Siemasko

[NOTE: If we have omitted your birthday or anniversary, please let us know.]

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS 9AM-1PM

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- | | | |
|------------|------------------------|----------|
| October 12 | Aaron & Nicole Pryce | 11 years |
| October 22 | Scott & Kelly Heinrich | 41 years |
| October 24 | Robert & Lori Zellers | 43 years |



COUNCIL MEMBERS

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Terry Holland | President |
| Jon Kistler | Vice-President |
| Karen Talamantes | Secretary |
| Larry Arner | Treasurer |
| Jim Miller | Asst. Treasurer |
| Steve Berger | |
| Gerry Dorshimer | |
| Scott Heinrich | |
| Krissy Keblish | |
| Ron Keblish | |
| Eric Reif | |
| Ray Talamantes | |



BIRTHDAY WISHES!

- | | |
|------------|-------------------|
| October 02 | Layla Abel |
| October 02 | Larry Arner |
| October 03 | Jakson Ring |
| October 04 | Brenda Kraftician |
| October 04 | Sarah Salter |
| October 05 | Joshua Reif |
| October 07 | Douglas Ruch |
| October 09 | Lily Dickson |
| October 12 | Pamela Kleintop |
| October 13 | Susan Arner |
| October 17 | Nicole Jahelka |
| October 17 | Joshua Merkel |
| October 19 | Connor James |
| October 19 | Sidney Kraftician |
| October 21 | Donald Berger |
| October 21 | Katelynn Ring |

FINANCIAL PERSONNEL

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Larry Arner | Treasurer |
| Carol Heffelfinger | Financial Sec. |

COUNCIL MEETING

October 20 6:30pm

FINANCE & ATTENDANCE

Aug. Monthly Envelope Offering:	\$ 4,636
Aug. St. Matthews Pastoral Service	\$ 3,300
Aug. Additional Income	\$ 1,062
Aug. Monthly Expenses:	\$ 12,832
Attendance:	
August 04, 2024	25
August 11, 2024	25
August 18, 2024	48
August 25, 2024	34



WORSHIP SCHEDULE 10:15 AM

OCTOBER 06, 2024 COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: Rich Hyer
Ushers: Kelly & Scott Heinrich
Altar Guild: Deb Hansut & Gerry Dorshimer
Flowers: The Sosik Family – IMO Loved Ones
Communion Bread: Sosik Family – IMO Loved Ones
Times News / Website: Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

OCTOBER 13, 2024 COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: Deb Hansut
Ushers: Ron Keblish w/Taylor, Terry Holland
Altar Guild: Deb Hansut & Gerry Dorshimer
Flowers: Larry & Susan Arner
Bulletins: Larry & Susan Arner
Communion Bread: Sosik Family – IMO Loved Ones
Times News / Website: Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

OCTOBER 20, 2024 COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: Krissy Keblish
Ushers: Carol Heffelfinger & Loren LaRose
Altar Guild: Deb Hansut & Gerry Dorshimer
Flowers: Steve & Deb Hansut – IMO Loved Ones
Communion Bread: Morris & Suzanne Bloomfield
Times News / Website: Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

OCTOBER 27, 2024 COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: Larry Arner
Ushers: Rich & Jeanette Hyer
Altar Guild: Deb Hansut & Gerry Dorshimer
Flowers: Ron & Krissy Keblish
Communion Bread: Morris & Suzanne Bloomfield
Times News / Website: Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Mike will have a children's sermon on the second Sunday of each month.



Bible Study

Mondays 1:30 PM - 3 PM at St. Matthew's
 Thursdays 10:30 AM - Noon at Holy Trinity

HOME VISITS

Home visits and shut-in visits are being planned. If anyone would like to receive communion from Pastor Mike, please call the office @ 610-826-2524.





CHURCH BAZAAR

We are busy bees that continue to buzz around! We have finished another successful festival run and now we turn our attention to the Church Bazaar.

BAZAAR NEEDS:

-DONATIONS; Cash and/or gift cards for the raffle ticket. If you would like to sponsor a gift certificate, please see Larry or Sue Arner.

-WHITE ELEPHANT SALE; Remember, your junk may be someone else's treasure! Handcrafted items: we know our congregation is loaded with many talented folks, so consider donating something handmade. Craft table sewing, knitting, crocheting, jewelry making & painted items are just a few examples.

-BROWN BAG RAFFLE; Donations of new or handcrafted items. When you're shopping, consider picking up clearance items or passing along unwanted gifts that you will never use.

-BAKERS & VOLUNTEERS; As the date draws closer, we will need all hands-on deck to prepare. We will have a bake sale. Our talented bakers will prepare their most popular items for others to purchase & enjoy.

***Please send all monetary donations to the church office.**

****All items for the bazaar can be dropped off at the thrift shop during their regular hours.**

**November 2nd
9am-2pm**

Many Gift Cards and Prizes

Crafts, Jewelry
Lunch Bag Raffle
Bake Sale

Food
Raffle Tickets
White Elephant

ITEMS NEEDED:

- Gift Cards
- New Items for the Bag Raffle
- White Elephant Items for the Sale Tables



MOLASSES TONGUE COOKIES & APPLE DUMPLING ORDERS

OUR BAKING STAFF WILL BE PREORDERING MOLASSES TONGUE COOKIES AND APPLE DUMPLINGS FOR THE BAZAAR. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PREORDER, PLEASE

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE @610-826-2524 OR htlcoppa@ptd.net

PREORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM OCTOBER 1 TO OCTOBER 15. ANY REMAINING WILL BE SOLD AT THE BAZAAR ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE BASIS.

**MOLASSES TONGUE COOKIES: \$12 DOZEN, \$6 HALF-DOZEN

**APPLE DUMPLINGS: \$6 EACH



How can we say ‘Thank You’: Wanishita

Native American elders Fritz and Pat Bower led much of the Corn Harvest Festival services this Grandparents’ Day weekend at Zion Spies Lutheran Church. But this started months ago, on Earth Day Fritz and Pat Bower met me with the service they had originally crafted for their congregation (initially at Reformation, Reiffton. They are now members of St. Mark’s, Birdsboro and have held this service there).

Picture this 4-year-old who sits in the front every week and eagerly reached for the bells... across the aisle, from a woman in her 70’s who had never been in the building before. Both danced to the hymn. The Bowers in their full regalia of Lenape and Cherokee traditional dress met the 67-year-old man with Down syndrome exuding his ever-present reverent spirit as he and his cousin, carried to the altar, the abalone shell full of copal incense which bore the sins and burdens of the congregation; to be burnt while confession and forgiveness were proclaimed... “let our prayers rise before you as incense...” (Psalm 141:2).



How can we say ‘Thank you’ to God for this abundant harvest of produce and community?
“Wanishi Kishelēmienk,
we thank you, Creator”.

(In the Unami language of the Lenape)

Our congregation had practiced in choir, and worship to get accustomed to a service led in English but with phrasing familiar to Native Americans and, using the First Nations Version of Scripture. Worship included families from Scouts and Day Camp. The stew for the Harvest Festival Feast was made in part from 3-sisters-crops (corn, beans, squash) that Day Camp grew.



The rest of the pot-luck was as diverse as the body of Christ: pickled-beet eggs, wild rice, , and ... popcorn! “You can’t have a Corn Harvest Festival without corn”. Kids made colorful corn cobs from fuzzy-sticks while learning about the varieties of native species. We partnered with Widoktadwen; committed “to promoting the visibility of Native Americans ...through community education, leadership, and activism.” Rev. Bruce Osterhout found Widoktadwen last fall, as we met with the Council to introduce a concept called 6261, as a possible way to re-invigorate our under-used buildings & acres of forest, while serving our

community in need of healing from flooding which closed a school, pandemic and rural/urban strains. Now, a year later we share church building space and programming as we work together to build Community (the literal meaning of Widoktadwen in Bodewadmimwen, the Potawatomi language) and the Way of Jesus. How can we possibly say enough thank you’s & “Wanishita” to God for these abundant gifts? We will keep planting, tending, and caring for God’s growth.



Graphic & translations courtesy of Fritz & Pat Bower

Na yukwe nē guski kēski luwen. (This now is all I have to say.)

Kishelēmukonk kēmīlēl wēlānkuntēwakān, (The Creator bless you and give you peace,)

XahēliKshikāna (Fritz Bower)

Submitted by: Fritz & Pat Bower, Amanda Funk, and Rev. Rebecca Knox

CONGREGATION FINANCE WORKSHOP



November 9

9:00am to 12:00pm

Hybrid Workshop: Lutheran Center (2354 Grove Rd, Allentown) & Zoom

The NEPA Synod Finance Committee is organizing a complimentary workshop for congregation finance leaders. Registration details will be available soon through the synod's weekly e-news and website. The workshop will also be recorded and made accessible afterward.