

THE BEACON

January 8, 2025

SERMON DISCUSSION GROUP

The next Sermon Discussion Group will meet Thursday, January 9, at 11:00 a.m., in the Parlor. We will discuss several recent sermons, copies of which will be provided in advance. Please make reservations in the narthex or contact the church office to receive the reading material.

YEAR-END GIFTS

We are encouraged to meet in full our planned offerings for 2024 and make additional contributions according to our many blessings as we strive to meet our challenge level of giving (an extra dollar per week or fifty-two dollars per year). Our church financial records remain open through Sunday, January 12, 2025, for contributions toward 2024 pledges. Please keep in mind that contributions had to be received or postmarked by December 31 for 2024 tax purposes. We continue to meet new opportunities for mission and ministry and each person's gifts are very important.

PARISH NURSE EDUCATION SERIES

Sunday, January 12, from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall

How Do Substance Use Disorders Develop?

Speaker: Amy Rugh, MEd, LPC, Centra Behavioral Health

Substances such as opioid medications, tranquilizers, alcohol, and nicotine change the way we feel. They elevate the mood, produce relaxation, and relieve pain. They produce these effects by acting on the brain. What are the mechanisms by which these effects occur? How does dependence on substances develop? How can our substance use behaviors, including the use of narcotic pain relievers, influence the development of substance use problems? Is development of dependence possible after even short-term use? Is it possible to develop dependence on activities as well as on substances? What effect does the stigmatization of substance use disorders have? These and other physical and psychological dependency issues will be addressed by our speakers.



Please make reservations in the narthex or Fellowship Hall.

CONNECTING WITH GOD STUDY RESUMES

"An Enneagram Study: Learning to See Yourself as God Sees You" is the theme of our Monday Evening Connecting with God series that has resumed on Mondays, from 7:00 - 8:15 p.m., via Zoom. The Winter Term focuses on "Transformation from False Self to True Self." The sessions will be led by The Reverend Becky Cloud. Please contact the church office to receive the link.

CLASSES RESCHEDULED

- The next session of the **Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study** has been rescheduled for Tuesday, January 14, at 1:00 p.m., in the Parlor. We are exploring The Gospel according to Luke and the theme of the next class is "Let God Be God!"
- The next session of **Table Talk** has been rescheduled for Tuesday, January 14, from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m., in the Parlor. *Signs of Belonging: Luther's Marks of the Church and Christian Life* is our theme this year and the next class explores "Holy Communion: The Table Where We Belong." Books are available for purchase in the church office for \$9.00.

WEDNESDAY CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Our monthly Wednesday Children's Ministry will be held January 15, from 5:30 - 6:45 p.m.

A light supper and a variety of learning and creative activities are provided for children from age three through grade five.

NEW VIDEO DISCUSSION TO BEGIN

The Thursday Discussion Group begins the "Living the Questions" series Thursday, January 16, from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., in the Parlor. These presentations feature acclaimed scholars and theologians who strive to create an environment in which participants can interact with one another in exploring what's next for Christianity.



HOLY TRINITY BLOOMOBILE

Saturday, January 18, from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767)
or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter HTLC to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save time by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and history questions on the day of your appointment.

Give blood. Help save lives.



THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 12, 2025

The Lessons: Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
The liturgical color for The Baptism of Our Lord is white.

8:30 A.M. - SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION and HOME COMMUNION

9:30 A.M. - SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

ADULT EDUCATION
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
(Parlor)

The Heart of Christianity

Jesus: The Heart of God

10:30 A.M. - SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION with LIVESTREAM and HOME COMMUNION

12:00 P.M. - SENIOR YOUTH (grades nine - twelve)

2:00 P.M. - PARISH NURSE EDUCATION PROGRAM

4:00 P.M. - JUNIOR YOUTH (grades six - eight)

6:00 P.M. - CONFIRMATION CLASS

THE WEEK OF JANUARY 12 - 18

<u>MONDAY,</u>	9:00 A.M.	- STRENGTH AND BALANCE EXERCISE CLASS
	9:30 A.M.	- CHAIR YOGA CLASS
<u>TUESDAY,</u>	7:00 P.M.	- CONNECTING WITH GOD - <i>An Enneagram Study</i> (via Zoom)
	1:00 P.M.	- BIBLE STUDY - <i>The Gospel According to Luke</i>
<u>WEDNESDAY,</u>	5:40 P.M.	- HANDBELL CHOIR REHEARSAL
	7:00 P.M.	- TABLE TALK - <i>Signs of Belonging</i>
	10:00 A.M.	- WOMEN'S SEWING GROUP
<u>THURSDAY,</u>	12:10 P.M.	- SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION
	5:30 P.M.	- WEDNESDAY CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
	7:00 P.M.	- ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL
<u>FRIDAY,</u>	9:00 A.M.	- PARISH NURSE in office (until 10:00 a.m.)
	11:00 A.M.	- DISCUSSION GROUP - <i>Living the Questions</i>
<u>SATURDAY,</u>	9:00 A.M.	- STRENGTH AND BALANCE EXERCISE CLASS
	9:30 A.M.	- CHAIR YOGA CLASS
	11:00 A.M.	- BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP - <i>Jesus' Alternative Plan</i>
	9:00 A.M.	- RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE (until 2:00 p.m.)

IN THE CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY

Hospitalized and released is **Sue Gillis**. . . Congratulations to **Annette Stock** and **Michael Buxton** who were married December 22, 2024, in Georgetown, District of Columbia. Proud parents are **Jim** and **Carol Stock**.

SEWING GROUP RESCHEDULED

The Women's Sewing Group will meet Wednesday, January 15, at 10:00 a.m., in the Community Room.

2024 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Contribution statements for 2024 have been mailed. We are asked to please review the statements for accuracy, contact **Parish Administrator Carol Dee Robertson** with any questions, and file the statements with other financial and tax records. Anyone needing a corrected or replacement statement is asked to contact the church office before January 31.

SERVANT OUTREACH PROJECT

Our January outreach project is a school supply drive for enCircle's new Lynchburg Minnick School that opened in downtown Lynchburg last August. The enCircle (formerly Lutheran Family Services of Virginia) Minnick Schools help students ages five to twenty-two who have experienced challenges in public schools reach their academic, behavioral, vocational, and developmental goals. Minnick Schools are licensed by the Virginia Department of Education as private day schools and now serve students in the Bristol, Grundy, Harrisonburg, Lynchburg, Roanoke, Wytheville, and Wise regions. The following supplies are needed: pencils, notebooks, crayons, construction paper, inexpensive calculators, glue sticks, hand sanitizer, paper towels, and facial tissues. Please place items in the narthex outreach basket.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The 2025 Altar Flower Calendar is available on the hallway bulletin board next to the church office. Flowers are needed for **January 19, January 26, February 2, February 9, and February 23**. The cost of altar flowers is \$90 per week for two vases. Payment for altar flowers is requested *before the selected date* and should be made payable to *Holy Trinity*. There are no delivery fees or sales tax. Please contact the church office with any altar flower questions you may have.



CHILDREN'S and YOUTH MINISTRIES – THE WEEK OF JANUARY 12 - 18



- Sunday, January 12**
- 9:30 a.m. - Sunday Church School (age three - grade five)
 - 12:00 p.m. - Senior Youth (grades nine - twelve)
Progressive Lunch
Meet at the Youth House
We'll head to one restaurant for appetizers, another for the main course, and another for dessert.
 - 4:00 p.m. - Junior Youth (grades six - eight; Youth House)
Game On!
Join us for games, devotions, and snacks
 - 6:00 p.m. - Confirmation Class (grades six - eight)
- Wednesday, January 15**
- 5:30 p.m. - Children's Ministry (age three - grade five)

CANDLE TRIBUTES

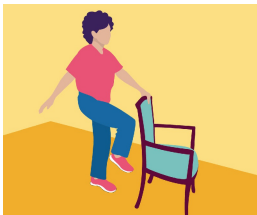
The 2025 Candle Calendar is available on the hallway bulletin board next to the church office. Candle sponsors are needed **February 9, February 16, March 9, March 16, March 23, and March 30**. The cost is \$20 per week, with checks made payable to *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church*. Please note "Candle Fund" on the memo line. Please contact the church office with any questions.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

We are reminded that regular use of offering envelopes assists the financial secretaries with their record keeping. Those who give electronically are reminded of the special offering envelopes throughout the year. All are encouraged to use the \$5.00 initial offering envelope to help defray the cost of the envelopes.

KICK OFF A HEALTHY NEW YEAR AND JOIN THE FUN!

We are currently offering two exercise classes twice weekly on Monday and Friday mornings. Each class is led by Christine Euhus, a registered yoga teacher through Yoga Alliance and an instructor at the YMCA for over ten years.



Strength and Balance class meets from 9:00 - 9:30 a.m. and focuses on strengthening the body core and improving balance and overall well-being.

Chair Yoga class meets from 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. and focuses on practicing a gentle form of yoga done sitting in a chair or standing using the chair for support. Everyone is welcome, but it is especially appropriate for those with limited mobility. Benefits of yoga include improved flexibility, better concentration, increased strength, and reduced joint pain.

The cost for either Strength and Balance OR Chair Yoga is \$20.00 per month.
The combined cost for both classes is \$35.00 per month.

Join one or both of these enthusiastic groups and begin improving your strength, balance, and flexibility AND enjoy the fellowship and support of your fellow exercisers!

BRUNSWICK STEW FOR SALE

There is still Holy Trinity Brunswick Stew available. The cost is \$10 per quart. Proceeds support our Program Development Fund. Please pay in the church office.

THOMAS MASS

Our next *Thomas Mass* will be Sunday, January 19, at 5:00 p.m. This service of Holy Communion is in the context of a meditative liturgy which has its roots in the Finnish Lutheran tradition. Included in this worship experience is the opportunity for informal movement between various stations for meditation and prayer. Join us for this service, especially if work, sports, or travel schedules prevent your participation on Sunday morning.

THIRD SUNDAY PROGRAM

January 19, at 6:00 p.m.

Centra Health: An Overview of a Regional Nonprofit Healthcare System

Guest Speaker: Richard Tugman
CEO, Centra Health



Centra Health CEO Richard Tugman will share his insights on evolutions in healthcare, the needs and challenges for Central Virginia based on input from patients and other key stakeholders, and how Centra is investing in modernization and improvements to better care for you and your families today, and well into the future.

We will begin with a light supper at 6:00 p.m., followed by the program at 6:30 p.m.

Please make reservations in the narthex or Fellowship Hall.

DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS

We are reminded of daily devotional materials that are available in the narthex, Fellowship Hall, or on our website.

- January Daily Bible Readings and Prayer Ventures are available on the narthex desk and also on our website.
- *Christ in our Home* is a devotional booklet for adults which features a daily Bible reading, reflection, and prayer concern. This resource is available in the narthex and Fellowship Hall in both regular and LARGE PRINT editions.



PASTOR'S INFORMATION CLASS

Sunday, January 26
2:00 - 4:00 p.m., in the Parlor

This class is designed for those who would like to learn more about Martin Luther and the Lutheran Church. Join us for an overview of Lutheran Church history, theology, liturgy, the church year, ecclesiology, and life at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Please speak with Pastor Roberts for additional information.

INTERNATIONAL DINNER

Sunday, January 26, at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for an evening of great congregational fellowship and delicious food!

Dust off the cookbooks and prepare a dish – or purchase prepared food – for this smorgasbord of international cuisines. Participants are asked to bring appetizers, salads, entrees, breads, and desserts representative of other countries. You may also bring beverages of your choice. Punch will be provided.

Please make reservations in the narthex or Fellowship Hall.



THANK YOU

- Thanks to **Carla Fedeler** and **Lucy Slagle**, coordinators; and, to **ALL** who provided food and/or assisted with the memorial service reception last weekend.
- *Dear Holy Trinity Family,*
On behalf of my family and me, I want to extend our heartfelt gratitude for the love, care, and support you showed during Bill Belcher's illness and passing. Your visits, prayers, and countless acts of kindness brought comfort not only to my dad but also to all of us during this difficult time.
We are especially thankful for the beautiful memorial service and reception. Your thoughtful care made it a fitting tribute to his life and legacy, and your compassion was a true reflection of God's love and grace.
Thank you for surrounding us with such unwavering support and for being a source of strength. We feel truly blessed to be part of such a compassionate and loving church family.

*With deepest appreciation,
Deb Serio*

HOLY TRINITY OFFICE and STAFF EMAIL ADDRESSES

All are asked to **update email address books** and **contact lists** to reflect the following addresses for staff and parish-related inquiries:

office@holyltrinitylynchburg.org	-	emails intended for Carol Dee Robertson or for general office and administrative matters
dennis@holyltrinitylynchburg.org	-	emails specifically intended for Pastor Roberts
susan@holyltrinitylynchburg.org	-	emails intended for Susan Williams and all inquiries regarding youth and children's events
greene1204@comcast.net	-	emails intended for Organist-Choirmaster Bill Greene
luther.church@icloud.com	-	emails intended for Parish Nurse Gail Midkiff



MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION

each Wednesday, from 12:10 - 12:30 p.m.

Join us for a time of spiritual nourishment as we gather for quiet reflection, prayer, the Word, and the Meal.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

We are reminded of the following information in the event of inclement winter weather.

- * Please call the church office for the latest schedule information. Any changes or cancellations will be available on the church voice mail system and at www.holytrinitylynchburg.org.
- * Weekday education activities at Holy Trinity are canceled any day that Lynchburg City Schools are closed because of the weather. Music rehearsals may be held if road conditions improve later in the day. Participants in music groups will be notified if a rehearsal will be held.
- * Sunday cancellations will be determined by 7:00 a.m. that morning. The information will be shared by email, placed on the church voice mail system, at www.holytrinitylynchburg.org, and communicated to Lynchburg/Roanoke television stations. Please consult the "Closings" listings on the television station web sites.

Ministers: *The People of Holy Trinity*

Organist-Choirmaster: *J. William Greene*

Parish Nurse: *Gail Midkiff*

Parish Administrator: *Carol Dee Robertson*

Director of Youth and Campus Ministries: *Susan H. Williams*

Pastor: *Dennis S. Roberts*

Church Office: *434-384-8441*

email: *office@holyltrinitylynchburg.org*

www.holytrinitylynchburg.org