

THE BEACON

November 19, 2025

2026 COMMITMENTS DUE



Thanks for the positive response from those who have returned their 2026 time, talent, and financial pledges to date. Our gifts are tangible ways of thanking God for our many blessings. They support the Church's mission of carrying on God's work in the world as we seek "to care actively in the name of Jesus Christ." We are reminded that our 2026 Time and Talent forms and financial pledges are due. ***Every pledge is extremely important!*** May we give prayerful consideration to our response for God's many blessings and make our 2026 commitments as soon as possible. **PLEASE NOTE:** You may make your pledge directly on our website, www.holytrinitylynchburg.org, by clicking the Pledge Now button at the bottom of the Home page. You are also able to set up recurring payments on the Home page of the website if you would like to make regular automatic payments from your checking account or credit card toward the fulfillment of your pledge. Anyone who has not received a 2026 packet is asked to contact the church office. Thanks to all who make our mission and ministry possible through their generosity and sacrificial giving.

SERMON DISCUSSION GROUP

The next Sermon Discussion Group will meet Thursday, November 20, at 11:00 a.m., in the Parlor. We will discuss several previous Sunday 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.

FRIDAY BREAKFAST SERIES

Our Friday Breakfast Series concludes its Fall session of *The Bible With and Without Jesus: How Jews and Christians Read the Same Stories Differently*, with Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Zvi Brettler, on November 21, in the Fellowship Hall. A light breakfast is served at 7:00 a.m., followed by the program from 7:15 - 7:45 a.m. The November 21 session is "A Virgin Will Conceive and Bear a Child." Matins (Morning Prayer) follows at 8:00 a.m.

YOUTH TO ATTEND SYNOD EVENT

Lost & Found, the Virginia Synod retreat for youth in grades seven and eight, will be held at Eagle Eyrie this weekend. Holy Trinity youth attending are **Liam Martin**, **Andrew Percival**, and **Lucy Wolfe**. **Barb Garman** and **Susan Williams** are serving as chaperones for the weekend. Prayers are requested for a meaningful time of fellowship, learning, fun, and faith formation.

HARVEST FOOD FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Holy Trinity Brunswick Stew plus delicious homemade foods

strawberry, cherry, raspberry, and peach jams; wine syrup;
walnut rosemary bread; sourdough bread; assorted desserts;
alpha-gal friendly chocolate chip cookies; poppy seed bread;
beer bread; chocolate caramel cookies;
white chicken chili; pork barbeque; assorted soups; and more!



Plan to shop early for the best selection.

Invite your friends and neighbors to stock their freezers with ready-to-eat foods made by Holy Trinity's great cooks.



THANKSGIVING DAY

INTERFAITH SERVICE OF UNITY AND REFLECTION

Thursday, November 27, at 9:30 a.m.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

*We look forward to worshipping with our neighbors from
Agudath Sholom Synagogue, Centenary United Methodist Church, Church of the Covenant,
First Christian Church, Peakland Baptist Church, Peakland United Methodist Church,
Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church, the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lynchburg,
and the World Community (Muslim).*

The Reverend M. Anghaarad Teague Dees, pastor of Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church, will deliver the sermon.

The monetary offering is designated for the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank.

Worshippers are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items for the Rivermont Area Emergency Food Pantry.



CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

November 23, 2025

The Lessons: Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 46; Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43
The liturgical color for Christ the King is white.

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

9:30 A.M. - SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

ADULT EDUCATION
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
(Parlor)

Poverty, By America

Tear Down the Walls
EPILOGUE

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

The Handbell Choir prelude will begin at 10:20 a.m.

12:00 P.M. - YOUTH RETURN FROM LOST & FOUND SYNOD RETREAT

THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23 - 29

<u>MONDAY,</u>	9:00 A.M.	- STRENGTH AND BALANCE EXERCISE CLASS
	9:30 A.M.	- CHAIR YOGA CLASS
	7:00 P.M.	- CONNECTING WITH GOD - <i>Know God - Know Self</i> (via Zoom)
<u>TUESDAY,</u>	9:00 A.M.	- PARISH NURSE in office (until 10:00 a.m.)
	1:00 P.M.	- BIBLE STUDY - <i>Romans</i>
	7:00 P.M.	- ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL
<u>WEDNESDAY,</u>	12:10 P.M.	- SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION
<u>THURSDAY,</u>	9:30 A.M.	- THANKSGIVING DAY INTERFAITH SERVICE OF UNITY AND REFLECTION at Holy Trinity
<u>FRIDAY,</u>		- CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

IN THE CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY

Congratulations to **Andrew Barney** and **Gia Gervase** upon their marriage last Saturday in Albemarle County; and, to **Keegan Beebe** (grandson of Wilma and Les Beebe) and **Samantha Bacon** upon their marriage in October.

JACQUELINE WOLBRUECK ALMOND

1963 - 2025

Our sympathy to her family.

A memorial service will be held at Holy Trinity
on Saturday, November 22, at 3:00 p.m.

TALMADGE KEITH GREENWAY

(husband of Holy Trinity member Tyra Greenway)
1938 - 2025

Our sympathy to his family.

A memorial service will be held at Holy Trinity
on Saturday, December 13, at 11:00 a.m.

PARISH NURSE SCHEDULE

Parish Nurse Gail Midkiff will be in the office Tuesday, November 25, instead of Thursday, November 27.
She returns to her Thursday schedule December 4.

THANK YOU

Thank you to **ALL** who provided donations for the dinner before the Third Sunday Program. The youth made and served dinner as a fundraiser for their mission trip to Wilmington, NC, in June 2026. A total of \$333.00 was received.

SERVANT OUTREACH PROJECT

Our November outreach project is a canned food drive for the Rivermont Area Emergency Food Pantry. Grocery bags, complete with an attached suggested shopping list, are available in the narthex. We are asked to please fill and return the bags during the month of November. Monetary contributions are also encouraged. Special envelopes are available on the narthex desk.

YOUTH SPONSOR BLANKET DRIVE

The cold weather is here and there are **MANY** who are in need of warmth. Our Holy Trinity Youth are requesting blankets which they will distribute to those in need. All sizes and types of blankets are requested; the warmer the better! New and very gently used (and clean) blankets will be accepted. Please place donations in Susan's office (across from the church office) by December 21.



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Those who are unable to be present for the Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 7, are asked to request an absentee ballot by contacting the church office.

CHILDREN’S and YOUTH MINISTRIES – THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23 - 29

Sunday, November 23 9:30 a.m. - Sunday Church School (grades one - five)
12:00 p.m. - Youth return from Virginia Synod *Lost & Found* Youth Retreat

THANKSGIVING OFFERINGS

Our special Thanksgiving offerings are designated for the broader mission and ministry of Holy Trinity Church through our partnership with the Virginia Synod.

- **DID YOU KNOW** that grounded in the ancient message of Scripture and in the historic confessions of the Church, our Lutheran seminaries in this country have prepared men and women for ordained and lay ministry for 199 years?
- **DID YOU KNOW** that enCircle (formerly Lutheran Family Services of Virginia) ministers to thousands of persons each year, many of whom are emotionally, physically, and sexually abused and in need of a helping hand?
- **DID YOU KNOW** that the GraceInside Virginia prison ministry provides chaplains who provide weekly worship services and pastoral care for thousands of prisoners in our state prisons and juvenile institutions?
- **DID YOU KNOW** that the mission of Virginia Lutheran Homes is to serve the needs of the aging by providing low cost housing in New Market and a continuing care retirement community and rehabilitation center in Roanoke?
- **DID YOU KNOW** that in the past year over 100,000 lives were touched with the Gospel in word and deed through the agencies and institutions supported by our Virginia Synod?
- **DID YOU KNOW** that we at Holy Trinity participate in these extended ministries through our benevolence offerings?

We are encouraged to be generous in our support of the far-reaching ministries of our church. Please use the special Thanksgiving offering envelope included in our envelope packets or go to the online giving portal available on our website or through the My Vanco app on your smart phone and select Seasonal Special Offerings Fund.

ADVENT WREATH MAKING



All are invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall Sunday, November 30, at 9:30 a.m., as we make Advent wreaths for our homes. Families are asked to attend together so that older hands may assist those who are younger. Wreath-making materials will be provided and a free will offering is requested. Those who have straw wreath forms from previous years are asked to bring them for reuse.

2026 ALTAR FLOWERS and CANDLE DEDICATIONS

The 2026 Altar Flower Calendar is now available on the hallway bulletin board next to the church office. Please note that no dates are reserved from previous years. The cost of altar flowers is \$100 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.



The 2026 Candle Calendar is also available on the hallway bulletin board next to the church office. All are reminded of the opportunity to dedicate the candles used in worship each week to the glory of God in memory or in honor of loved ones or in celebration of special events (birthdays, baptismal anniversaries, wedding anniversaries, etc.). The tribute dedication is printed in the Sunday worship bulletins along with the altar flower dedication. Included are the altar candles, the sanctuary lamp, and candles for the *Globusleuchter*. 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.

HOLIDAY COOKIE EXCHANGE

Friday, December 5, at 6:00 p.m.
in the Fellowship Hall



Join us for a fun evening for everyone. All are invited!
To participate in the cookie exchange, please bring three dozen cookies, a container for the exchanged cookies, an appetizer of your choice, and a beverage. There will be other refreshments as well. Please contact April Whalen for additional information.

Please make reservations in the Narthex or Fellowship Hall.

TRIBUTE FUND

Those who would like to make a holiday contribution in lieu of Christmas cards, presents, etc., are reminded of our TRIBUTE FUND. Those honored are sent a card announcing that a gift has been given in their name and proceeds support our social ministry outreach. Please contact the church office for additional information.

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.



NEW BOOK DISCUSSION TO BEGIN

Our Sunday Morning Book Discussion Group begins its exploration of *I’ve Got Questions: The Spiritual Practice of Having It Out With God* by Erin Hicks Moon on December 7. Books will be available for purchase in the church office for \$21.00 each.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, December 7

in-person meeting following both worship services

(The inclement weather date is Sunday, December 14.)

Our presence is extremely important as we elect six members of Church Council
(five three-year terms and one one-year term)
and adopt a 2026 Spending Plan

- The annual meeting will be called to order at the conclusion of an abbreviated 8:30 a.m. worship service. After balloting for Church Council and voting on the Spending Plan, the meeting will be recessed.
- The meeting will be reconvened at the conclusion of the 10:30 a.m. service. After balloting for Church Council and voting on the Spending Plan, the meeting will be adjourned. The ballots will then be counted and nominees notified of the results that afternoon. The election results will be published in the December 10 issue of *The Beacon*.

Please contact the church office to receive an absentee ballot.

All confirmed members are eligible to vote. Please make every effort to be present or cast an absentee ballot.

GERMAN LANGUAGE ADVENT SERVICE

The Second Sunday in Advent
Sunday, December 7, at 3:00 p.m.

Join us for lessons, hymns, and special music.
Pastor Roberts will lead the service.
A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

(in-town members and students)

1 - Ted Garman
Susan Smith
2 - Cheryl Betz
3 - Sherry Coker
5 - Andrew Mahland
Sean Wiger

9 - Jeff Schneider
10 - Tommy Tester
Karen Kenny
Justin Weidner
Tripper Witt
11 - David Gillis
Debra Serio
12 - Eddie Grubbs
14 - Patrick Barber
Tracy Martin
15 - Cynthia Gwin

17 - Carolyn Johns
20 - Dana Almond
Jim Catel
21 - Mary Taylor
22 - Carla Fedeler
25 - Tim Wiger
28 - Elizabeth Harrington
Karl Koenig
Michael Overfelt
29 - Moira Rafferty
30 - Rod Camden

FOOD ASSISTANCE

Members and friends of Holy Trinity are reminded that the Rivermont Area Emergency Food Pantry is a resource for those who may be impacted by the current nutrition assistance crisis. Please contact the church office if you have a need for food.

YEAR-END GIFTS

We are encouraged to meet in full our planned offerings for this year 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 11, 2026, for contributions toward 2025 pledges.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

We will again decorate our chancel and sanctuary with poinsettias this Christmas. Poinsettias may be given in memory or honor of individuals. The cost is \$18.00 per plant. Poinsettias may be picked up following the 11:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve.



Please return no later than Sunday, December 14.

Given by _____ Number of plants _____

In Honor/Memory of _____
(please circle)

Payment of _____ is enclosed. (\$18.00 per plant)

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@holytrinitylynchburg.org

www.holytrinitylynchburg.org