

# THE BEACON

November 29, 2023

## 2024 COMMITMENTS DUE

Thanks for the positive response from those who have returned their 2024 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 Christ's work in the world as we seek "to care actively in the name of Jesus Christ." We are reminded that our 2024 Time and Talent forms and financial pledges are due. ***Our mission and ministry spending plan cannot be finalized until pledges are returned. Every pledge is extremely important!*** May we give prayerful consideration to our response for God's many blessings and make our 2024 commitments as soon as possible. Anyone who has not received a 2024 packet is asked to contact the church office. Thanks to all who make our mission and ministry possible through their generosity and sacrificial giving.

## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, December 3

in-person meeting following both worship services

Our presence is extremely important as we elect five members of Church Council, adopt a 2024 Spending Plan, and vote on the new constitution and incorporation.

- 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, constitution, and incorporation, 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, constitution, and incorporation, 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 6 issue of ***The Beacon***.

**All confirmed members are eligible to vote. Please make every effort to be present.**

## SERVANT OUTREACH PROJECT

Our December outreach project supports the **YWCA Domestic Violence Prevention Center**. Needed are personal hygiene items including soap, shampoo, deodorant, and lotions for Center residents. The Center provides a safe haven for women and children who have been victims of domestic violence. Counseling, education, and support services are also provided for the entire family. Please place hygiene items in the outreach basket in the narthex.

## 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 14, 2024, for contributions toward 2023 pledges. Please keep in mind that contributions must be received or postmarked by December 31 for 2023 tax purposes. We continue to meet new opportunities for mission and ministry and each person's gifts are very important.

### MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP

Wednesdays,  
December 6, 13, and 20

12:10 p.m.  
Service of Holy Communion

5:30 p.m.  
Evening Devotions released on YouTube



### GERMAN LANGUAGE ADVENT SERVICE

The Second Sunday in Advent  
Sunday, December 10, at 3:00 p.m.  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Join us for lessons, hymns, and special music.  
Pastor Roberts will lead the service.

A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

## ADVENT OFFERINGS

Our special Advent offerings are used for the broader work of the Lutheran Church through the Virginia Synod. Hundreds of young people, including our own from Holy Trinity, gather at Eagle Eyrie each year for synodical youth events. During these weekends, the youth experience an intentional Christian community and celebrate Christ in their midst. Our Advent offerings help make these events possible. We are asked to use the special Advent offering envelopes included in our envelope packets or to give through the online portal available on our website by selecting the Seasonal Special Offerings fund.



# FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 3, 2023

The Lessons: Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37  
The liturgical color for Advent is blue.

8:30 A.M. - SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION and ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
9:30 A.M. - SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

ADULT EDUCATION  
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP  
(Parlor)

*I Can Do No Other: The Church's New Here We Stand Moment*  
Here They Stood

10:30 A.M. - SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION with LIVESTREAM  
and ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
4:00 P.M. - HOLY TRINITY YOUTH

### THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 3 - 9

MONDAY,	9:15 A.M.	- STRENGTH AND BALANCE EXERCISE CLASS
	9:50 A.M.	- CHAIR YOGA CLASS
TUESDAY,	6:00 P.M.	- YOUTH BIBLE STUDY & DINNER - <i>Searching for Answers</i> (Youth House)
	5:40 P.M.	- HANDBELL CHOIR REHEARSAL
WEDNESDAY,	7:00 P.M.	- CHURCH COUNCIL
	12:10 P.M.	- SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION
	5:30 P.M.	- EVENING DEVOTIONS (via YouTube)
THURSDAY,	7:00 P.M.	- ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL
	9:00 A.M.	- PARISH NURSE in office (until 10:00 a.m.)
	9:15 A.M.	- STRENGTH AND BALANCE EXERCISE CLASS
FRIDAY,	9:50 A.M.	- CHAIR YOGA CLASS

### IN THE CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY

Hospitalized and released is **Doris Gallagher**. . . Congratulations to **Larson Wile** who will celebrate his 105<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 6. His address is 4753 Patterson School Road, Bonne Terre, MO 63628. . . Congratulations to **Meghan** and **Rett Neiman** on the birth of Emilia Anne. Proud grandparents are **Andrea** and **Wade Neiman**.

MARY ELLEN LIGHTLE  
1925 - 2023

Our sympathy to her family.



### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS (in-town members and students)

1 - Ted Garman Susan Smith	2 - Cheryl Betz Sherry Coker	3 - Andrew Mahland Sean Wiger	5 - Larson Wile Jeff Schneider	10 - Abraham Elam Tommy Tester Karen Kenny Justin Weidner Tripper Witt	11 - David Gillis Debra Serio Dane Thompson	12 - Eddie Grubbs 14 - Patrick Barber 15 - Cynthia Gwin 17 - Carolyn Johns	20 - Dana Almond Jim Catel 21 - Mary Taylor 22 - Carla Fedeler 25 - Tim Wiger 26 - Sara Greene 28 - Elizabeth Harrington Karl Koenig Michael Overfelt 29 - Moira Rafferty 30 - Jackie Almond Rod Camden Liz Kent

### 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 \$16.00 per plant. Poinsettias may be picked up following the 11:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve.



Please return no later than **Sunday, December 10.**

Given by \_\_\_\_\_ Number of plants \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor/Memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
(please circle)

Payment of \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed. (\$16.00 per plant)

CHILDREN’S and YOUTH MINISTRIES – DECEMBER 3 - 9

Sunday, December 3      9:30 a.m.   -   Sunday Church School (age three - grade five)

   4:00 p.m.   -   Holy Trinity Youth - Youth Service Project

   We will be Christmas shopping for children in need.  
   Drop off (4:00 p.m.) and pick up (7:00 p.m.) at Target.  
   We will shop and also have dinner near the store.



Monday, December 4      6:00 p.m.   -   Youth Bible Study & Dinner (Youth House)

CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINEES

The following have been nominated for Church Council by the Nominating Committee. The election will take place as a part of the Annual Congregational Meeting to be held Sunday, December 3, following both worship services. **We are asked to vote for five persons.** Those elected will be serving with the following Church Council members: Class of 2024: **Jeff Fleck, Nancy Hall, Robert Howell, Deb Serio, and Teresa Weinmeister**; and, Class of 2025: **Edith Beck, Cindy Kauppi, Eric Kenny, Wade Neiman, and Lucy Slagle.**

The ballot order of the nominees was determined by a random drawing.



**BETTY BLEVINS** has been a member of Holy Trinity since 2022. She is a member of the Campus Ministry Committee and Youth Committee, is a home communion minister and care list visitor, helps with special mailings, provides transportation to church events and medical appointments, and serves as a greeter. She is an active participant in our adult Christian education ministry and helps with hygiene bags. She assists with a number of youth ministry programs, including weekly meetings, mission events, outreach projects, and Synod youth events. Betty is a licensed professional counselor (semi-retired), married to Bob, and they are the parents of an adult child.



**BARBARA GARMAN** has been a member of Holy Trinity since 1970 and is a member of Church Council eligible for reelection. She is chair of the Youth Committee, assisting with a number of activities including mission events, outreach projects, Synod youth events, and Holy Trinity Senior Youth Group trips to Germany. She is a member of the Campus Ministry Committee, and is an active participant in our adult Christian education ministry. She assists with a variety of fellowship events and receptions, and has co-hosted our annual Oktoberfest for many years. She serves as an assisting minister, lector, and communion assistant. She assists with lawn care, transportation, and has been a presenter in our Parish Nurse Education Series, member of the Evangelism Committee, and Adult Choir. Barb is married to Ted, and they are the parents of two adult children. She is retired.



**CHRISTINE BRENNIAN** has been a member of Holy Trinity since 2012. She is a member of the Adult Choir, assists with newsletter and bulletin folding and special mailings, and is an active participant in our adult Christian education ministry. She also assists with the Food Pantry and hygiene bags, has helped with various fellowship events (coffee hours and receptions), with Program Development Fund events (*Café Dennis*), and has served as a greeter. Christine is retired, and the parent of two adult children.



**SUSAN ROYER** has been a member of Holy Trinity since 1968 and is a member of Church Council eligible for reelection. She serves as a greeter, usher, and lector, and assists with lawn care and the Holy Trinity Bloodmobile. She has assisted with Program Development Fund special events, Habitat for Humanity projects, our Christian education ministry, and dinners at The Gateway. Susan is a teacher at New Vistas School in Lynchburg.



**CAROL BARCLAY** has been a member of Holy Trinity since 1986. She is a member of the Adult Choir, the Altar Guild, an usher, and serves in the Food Pantry and as an office assistant. She is a newsletter folder, and assists with food preparation, setup, and cleanup for fellowship events and memorial service receptions. In the past, she has assisted with hygiene bags, bulletin folding, and youth ministry activities with our German sister congregation. Carol is retired, married to Ken, and they are the parents of two adult children.



**JOE FEDELER** has been a member of Holy Trinity since 1993 and is a member of Church Council eligible for reelection. He serves as co-secretary of the congregation, chair of the Usher Association, and co-captain of Usher Team 4 (10:30 service). He is a member of the Campus Ministry Committee and Property Committee. He assists with a variety of fellowship events, including food preparation and coffee hour, as well as Program Development Fund special events such as Oktoberfest and Brunswick Stew. He also assists with the Holy Trinity Bloodmobile. In the past, he has worked on Habitat for Humanity projects, Madrigal Dinners, sung in the Adult Choir, and played trumpet. He is vice president of NovaTech. Joe is married to Carla, and they are the parents of two adult children.



**TODD LEAP** has been a member of Holy Trinity since January 2023. He serves as a bulletin folder; assists with Kids’ Haven dinners, the Food Pantry, and Lynchburg Grows outreach ministries; and, participates in our children’s ministry program with daughter Amelia. He has also served on the Holy Trinity Finance Committee Long Range Planning Task Group. Todd is an investor/self-employed, married to Mark Little, and they are the parents of one child.

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*