

THE BEACON

November 12, 2025

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

We welcomed the following new members into our congregational family this past Sunday:

- **Charles Dugger** and **Kay Rice** joined us by Affirmation of Faith. Charles is a plumber at Dugger Plumbing Corporation, and Kay is administrative assistant at Spring Hill Cemetery. They live at 921 Old Trents Ferry Road, Lynchburg, 24503.
- **Janelle** and **John Larkin** joined us by Affirmation of Faith. They are retired and live at 604 Setter Court, Lynch Station, 24571.

FALL SEMINAR - "THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO"

The final session of our Fall Seminar Series is Wednesday, November 12, at 5:30 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall. The theme is *The Bible Tells Me So* with Peter Enns. We begin with a light supper at 5:30 p.m., followed by the video presentation at 6:00 p.m. Please make supper reservations in the narthex or Fellowship Hall. We explore "God Likes Stories" in this final session.

FRIDAY BREAKFAST SERIES

A light breakfast is served at 7:00 a.m., followed by the program from 7:15 - 7:45 a.m.

The Bible With and Without Jesus: How Jews and Christians Read the Same Stories Differently with Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Zvi Brettler



Esteemed Bible scholars Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Brettler take readers on a guided tour of popular stories in the Hebrew scriptures that are referenced in the Christian Testament to explore how Christians, Jews, and scholars read these ancient texts differently. By understanding the depth and variety of reading these passages, we not only enhance our knowledge of each other, but also see more clearly the beauty and power of Scripture itself.



November 14 - Adam and Eve
November 21 - "A Virgin Will Conceive and Bear a Child"

Matins (Morning Prayer) follows at 8:00 a.m.

2026 MINISTRY COMMITMENTS DUE

We are reminded that 2026 Time & Talent and financial pledges are now due. Please return them to the church office, place them in the offering plates, or complete them online at www.holytrinitylynchburg.org. Responses are needed this week so that the Finance Committee and Church Council can finalize the proposed 2026 Spending Plan for presentation at the Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 7.

THOMAS MASS

Our next *Thomas Mass* will be Sunday, November 16, 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

November 16, at 6:00 p.m.

"Mud Nostalgia" & Appalachian Snake Handling

Guest Speaker: Sue Ott Rowlands
President, Randolph College, and Professional Actress

Ott Rowlands will perform excerpts of the play "Mud Nostalgia" which follows a woman through a crisis of faith as she prepares to sing during the services at her church, "a snake-handling" church in the American South. The one-woman play is based on Ott Rowlands' research in the victimization of women in American religious practices, particularly in court cases involving "snake-handling."

We 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.
Supper proceeds support our 2026 Holy Trinity Youth Mission Trip.





TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 16, 2025

The Lessons: Malachi 4:1-2a; Psalm 98; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19
The liturgical color for the Season of Pentecost is green.

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

9:30 A.M. - SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

ADULT EDUCATION
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
(Parlor)

Poverty, By America

Invest in Ending Poverty
Empower the Poor

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

11:45 A.M. - INTERMEDIATE and JUNIOR YOUTH (grades three - eight)

4:30 P.M. - MISSION TRIP YOUTH

5:00 P.M. - THOMAS MASS

6:00 P.M. - THIRD SUNDAY PROGRAM

THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16 - 22

<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>	5:40 P.M.	- HANDBELL CHOIR REHEARSAL
	7:00 P.M.	- FINANCE COMMITTEE
<u>WEDNESDAY,</u>	12:10 P.M.	- SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION
	5:30 P.M.	- WEDNESDAY CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
	7:00 P.M.	- HEAD USHER MEETING
	7:00 P.M.	- ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL
<u>THURSDAY,</u>	9:00 A.M.	- PARISH NURSE in office (until 10:00 a.m.)
	11:00 A.M.	- SERMON DISCUSSION GROUP
<u>FRIDAY,</u>	7:00 A.M.	- BREAKFAST SERIES - <i>The Bible With and Without Jesus</i>
	8:00 A.M.	- MATINS (Morning Prayer)
	9:00 A.M.	- STRENGTH AND BALANCE EXERCISE CLASS
	9:30 A.M.	- CHAIR YOGA CLASS
	11:00 A.M.	- BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP - <i>Miracles and Wonders</i>
<u>SATURDAY,</u>	6:00 P.M.	- YOUTH DEPART FOR <i>LOST & FOUND</i> SYNOD RETREAT
	10:00 A.M.	- HARVEST FOOD FESTIVAL (until 12:00 p.m.)

IN THE CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY

Hospitalized and released is **Martha Goodman**.

CHURCH DIRECTORY CHANGES

- Tom Adams has a new phone number: 434-610-1922.
- Ruth Belcher has a new address: 1320 Enterprise Drive, Summit Assisted Living, #212, 24502.

THANK YOU

Thanks to the **Holy Trinity Youth** for making hygiene bags for the Rivermont Area Emergency Food Pantry.

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.

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.

LARGE PRINT WORSHIP NOTEBOOK MISSING

One of our large print worship notebooks is missing. Please return it to the narthex when found.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

Lutheran Disaster Response is working with various partners to provide immediate relief – such as water, food, clothing, gift cards, tarps, and other needs – to those impacted by Hurricane Melissa. In addition to prayers, monetary gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response are used in full (100 percent) to assist those directly impacted, providing help and hope for those who have experienced the death of loved ones, lost homes or businesses, or who have been otherwise affected by this disaster. Please make checks payable to *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church* and indicate “Hurricane Response.”

CHILDREN'S and YOUTH MINISTRIES – THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16 - 22

Sunday, November 16	9:30 a.m. - Sunday Church School (grades one - five)
	11:45 a.m. - Intermediate and Junior Youth (grades three - five; at Youth House)
	<i>“Thankfulness”</i> <i>What are we thankful for and what should we do with our thanks?</i> <i>Join us for games, crafts, and discussion. Lunch will be provided.</i> 4:30 p.m. - Mission Trip Youth <i>Join us in the kitchen as we prepare and serve the Third Sunday Program supper.</i>
Wednesday, November 19	5:30 p.m. - Children’s Ministry (age three - grade five)
Friday, November 21	6:00 p.m. - Youth Depart for Virginia Synod <i>Lost & Found</i> Youth Retreat (grades seven & eight; return Sunday at noon)

2026 TIME and TALENT and FINANCIAL NEEDS

It takes the time and talents of hundreds of people to carry out Holy Trinity’s mission and ministry each year. As we prayerfully consider our commitments for the coming year, may we keep in mind these specific needs:

- Adult Choir members
 - Altar Guild members
 - Beacon folders
 - coffee hour servers
 - communion assistants
- greeters
 - lectors
 - home communion ministers
 - office assistants
 - ushers

Our mission and ministries are also dependent on our financial contributions as we strive “to care actively in the name of Jesus Christ.” **MAKE A PLEDGE** to increase our outreach in the Lynchburg area and through the Virginia Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, as well as support congregational staffing and operations.



- Please prayerfully consider the following for 2026:
- ❖ an increase in giving by \$10.00 per week; or,
 - ❖ an increase in giving by 1% of income as a step toward the biblical tithe of 10%; or,
 - ❖ move beyond 10% for those already tithing; or,
 - ❖ make an extraordinary and/or legacy gift to support current and future ministries.

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.

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.



WEDNESDAY CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

Our monthly Wednesday Children’s Ministry will be held November 19, 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.

HEAD USHER MEETING

The Head Ushers will meet Wednesday, November 19, at 7:00 p.m., in the Parlor. Please notify the church office if you are unable to attend.

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.



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,
and the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lynchburg.*

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.

THANKSGIVING OFFERINGS

Our special Thanksgiving offerings are used for the broader work of the Lutheran Church through the Virginia Synod. Among those served by those ministries are the sick, the aged, prisoners, families in trouble, college students, people with developmental challenges, inner-city youth, candidates for ministry, people in need of counseling, and many others. We, through our gifts, become the hands of Christ through Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp and Retreat Center, GraceInside Virginia Prison Ministry, enCircle (Lutheran Family Services), Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Virginia Lutheran Homes, Roanoke College, and National Lutheran Communities and Services. We are proud of the broad mission outreach of our Church and are challenged to give it our generous support. Thanksgiving offerings may be made using the special Thanksgiving offering envelope included in our envelope packets or through the online giving portal available on our website by selecting the Seasonal Special Offerings fund.

2026 ALTAR FLOWERS and CANDLE DEDICATIONS

The 2026 Altar Flower Calendar will be available on the hallway bulletin board next to the church office beginning Sunday, November 16. 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 will also be available on the hallway bulletin board next to the church office beginning Sunday, November 16. 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.

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.

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.

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.

HARVEST FOOD FESTIVAL

Our Harvest Food Festival will be held Saturday, November 22, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. This popular Program Development Fund event features our famous Brunswick Stew and assorted homemade soups, chili, stew, barbecue, casseroles, assorted jellies and butters, and baked goods. We need everyone's help to prepare and donate foods. There is much demand for foods that may be frozen easily for later enjoyment. Quart food containers are available at the church. Food items that cannot be put into individual containers should be brought in disposable aluminum pans.



NAME(S): _____

- ☐ I will donate _____ casserole(s)/soups(s) Type(s): _____
- ☐ I will donate _____ baked goods. Type(s): _____
- ☐ I will donate _____

Please return this form to the church office as soon as possible.

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