



**HOLY TRINITY
LUTHERAN**

MANSFIELD, OH

**Biblical.
Missional.
Compassionate.**

October 2026

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust.
Psalm 25:1-2a



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

What do you do when life goes sideways? Where do you turn when everything feels overwhelming?

I once read that every human being goes through a crisis about every six months. Reading through the psalms, it seems more frequent for David. He seems to experience a crisis just about every day. How about you? How often would you say you go through a crisis, a time of decision making that becomes a turning point for your life?

David was in charge of an entire country, and before that was hunted down by King Saul, so he has a valid excuse for having a crisis nearly every day. You may, too. I have been having a lot of turning point and life transition conversations lately; all related to housing and caregiving. Decisions need to be made. Some immediately. Some in the near, but not too distant, future. Where will you live during your last season of life? How will you spend this time? Will you be in the Mansfield area or will you have to make a major move to be closer to family, so they are more accessible to advocate for you and make sure your needs are provided? Do you want to stay in your current home as long as possible, or is it time to make the transition to an apartment or even assisted living?

These decisions are not a crisis until they must be made suddenly and quickly. My prayer is that you have been having these conversations with your family members and have a plan in place that covers potential circumstances.

The first sentence of Psalm 25 is a deeply personal reflection on God. David recognizes that his entire life is owed to God, and therefore he lifts up his soul to Him. He entrusts God with all of himself. He is not relying partially on God and partially on his own strength, he is relying on God.

Clearly, we do not have all the answers to all the crises we face. The good news is that, while we may not have all the answers, there is one who does, and that same person wants to have a relationship with us. So, I ask you again:

(continued on next page)

- Where do you turn when life is out of control?
- Where do you turn when there are no clear answers?
- Where do you place your trust to find the answers to life's biggest questions?
- Where does God "fit" into the answers?

Do we trust, like David, that God holds the answers to the "way" we ought to live? To the "paths" that we might pursue? And do we trust that those paths, ancient and trod by many of our ancestors, hold the promise, not just of life after death, but to everlasting life, a life lived with God both in this life and the life to come?

Your Sister in Christ,

Pastor Kathy

Pastor's Report Highlights

- Upcoming Vacation: Friday, November 27 through Friday, December 4
- Updating description of Office Admin position and cleaning up church office of things we have not touched in a long time
- Getting ready for annual Generosity Discernment campaign

Thank You to ...

- ❖ Dave Erwin, Dave Remy, Connie Zappone, Tristan Curvin, and Justin & Lynn Justin Marotta for contributing to the restoration of our chapel.
- ❖ Ben Morrison for filling in for Rachael Spellman as our bell choir director.

The Outreach Ministry thanks you for your generous donations to the Foster Care Placement Bags and to the ARC Empowerment Center.

These are continuing projects so the baskets will remain in the Narthex for collecting items. Additional purchases will be made with contributions you have made through the Outreach Envelope.

You can continue to donate items from the wish list. Together, we can help bring comfort and care to children and families during a critical transition.

Amazon Wishlist <http://bit.ly/49N0sMc>



Explanation of Offering Envelopes

The **October Special Offering** envelope supports *Water Mission*, a North American Lutheran Church (NALC) ministry partner. *Water Mission* provides solutions for those who live in communities around the world that lack safe water and sanitation and those who are suffering as a result of a disaster or emergency situation.

Water Mission believes that the global water crisis can be solved, and they take a comprehensive approach to combating the crisis with water, sanitation and hygiene solutions in 56 countries and have over 350 staff members working around the world in permanent country programs. They design customized solutions for each community they serve, and they partner with the recipients throughout the process. A successful project results in more time for work and education, improved health, and increased productivity for the community. Visit www.watermission.org to learn more.

Called to Generosity

Called to Generosity is the theme for this year's Generosity Discernment campaign. Generosity is deeply embedded in the Christian faith, reflecting God's character and the teachings of Jesus Christ. It is not merely an act of giving but a reflection of the transformation of our hearts that occurs as we read God's Word and allow the Holy Spirit to work in, through, and among us. The call to generosity is God's desire for God's people to mirror His love and compassion. It is a call to live out our faith through acts of kindness, sharing, and selflessness, thereby advancing God's kingdom and demonstrating His love to the world.

Holy Trinity's annual Generosity Discernment mailing will be delivered to your mailboxes early October. Please prayerfully consider your contributions of Time, Talent, Treasure, and Testimony for 2027. Then, **return your completed Time & Ability Sheet and Generosity Pledge Card by Reformation Sunday, October 25th when we will celebrate Generosity Sunday**. These documents can be placed in the offering plates during worship or dropped off in the church office any time before or on October 25th.

Your response provides vital information that will enable our congregation's leadership to effectively plan how we will carry out our mission and ministry in 2027. Our Finance Committee and Council use the information provided on the Generosity Pledge Card to help establish our budget guidelines for 2027. We, the congregation, will review and approve this budget on Sunday, December 6th. Our committee chairs use the Time & Ability Sheets to invite you to be an active servant in Holy Trinity's mission and ministry.

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As we become more mindful of the many ways we are blessed with life, love, resources and more, we also face the need to be more generous. Generosity is the fitting response to God's overwhelming love!

Chart of Percentage Giving

Use this chart to find out what percentage of your annual income you give in offerings per week:

Annual Income	Weekly Giving (in Dollars)					
	12%	10%	8%	6%	4%	2%
\$ 5,200	12.00	10.00	8.00	6.00	4.00	2.00
\$ 6,500	15.00	12.50	10.00	7.50	5.00	2.50
\$ 7,800	18.00	15.00	12.00	9.00	6.00	3.00
\$ 9,100	21.00	17.50	14.00	10.50	7.00	3.50
\$ 10,400	24.00	20.00	16.00	12.00	8.00	4.00
\$ 11,700	27.00	22.50	18.00	13.50	9.00	4.50
\$ 13,000	30.00	25.00	20.00	15.00	10.00	5.00
\$ 14,300	33.00	27.50	22.00	16.50	11.00	5.50
\$ 15,600	36.00	30.00	24.00	18.00	12.00	6.00
\$ 18,200	42.00	35.00	28.00	21.00	14.00	7.00
\$ 20,800	48.00	40.00	32.00	24.00	16.00	8.00
\$ 23,400	54.00	45.00	36.00	27.00	18.00	9.00
\$ 26,000	60.00	50.00	40.00	30.00	20.00	10.00
\$ 28,600	66.00	55.00	44.00	33.00	22.00	11.00
\$ 31,200	72.00	60.00	48.00	36.00	24.00	12.00
\$ 36,400	84.00	70.00	56.00	42.00	28.00	14.00
\$ 41,600	96.00	80.00	64.00	48.00	32.00	16.00
\$ 46,800	108.00	90.00	72.00	54.00	36.00	18.00
\$ 52,000	120.00	100.00	80.00	60.00	40.00	20.00
\$ 65,000	150.00	125.00	100.00	75.00	50.00	25.00
\$ 78,000	180.00	150.00	120.00	90.00	60.00	30.00
\$ 91,000	210.00	175.00	140.00	105.00	70.00	35.00
\$104,000	240.00	200.00	160.00	120.00	80.00	40.00
\$117,000	270.00	225.00	180.00	135.00	90.00	45.00
\$130,000	300.00	250.00	200.00	150.00	100.00	50.00

Additional Flood Buckets

Bonnie Elias, Rick Schultz, Roger Steude, Dave Erwin, Carol Bertholf, Elaine Bishop, Mary Steude, Jean Erwin, Linda Boltman, Ruth Schindler and Sue Hendrickson packed an additional 50 Flood Buckets, which were delivered to Calwell on Saturday, September 26th. This means that in 2026 we have given 100 buckets to NALC Disaster Response. Thank you for your contributions!



It's amazing how this comes together here at Holy Trinity, not necessarily in this order:

- We have a disaster.
- Mary Bates from NALC Disaster Response lets us know about it.
- You folks respond with your donations.
- Because of the urgency and short turn-around time for this emergency relief, Dave Erwin took on the shopping for the flood buckets.
- Don Karger bought a whole bunch of used pickle buckets.
- Dave Erwin spent a good amount of time cleaning out the pickle brine residue.

- These folks packed the buckets on Thursday.
- Don and Pastor Kathy took them on Saturday down to Caldwell from where NALC Disaster Response could distribute them.



Marriage and Sexuality Study and Conversation

Holy Trinity is one of fifteen NALC congregations across the continent asked to pilot a study and discussion on Marriage and Sexuality. This study is based on a teaching document recently written by the NALC Commission on Theology and Doctrine. Once this commission receives our feedback, they will edit the document and produce videos for congregational use.

Starting on Sunday, September 27th through October Pastor Kathy will facilitate discussion in the Chapel following worship. Topics to be discussed include, but not limited to, The Nature and Purpose of Marriage, The Place of Marriage in Scripture and Society, A Theology of Sexual Desire, and Specific Challenges of the Church in Contemporary Society.

This study is really about living out our Christian identity and vocation, whether we are married or single. Everyone will be able to add valuable insights to the conversation.

Women's Ordination Conversation

Once the Marriage and Sexuality conversation is completed, Pastor Kathy will lead us in conversation regarding Women's Ordination. This is a topic that has recently been debated in several denominations including The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, The Southern Baptist Convention, and among Evangelicals. It is an opportune time for us to be reminded of why our denomination, The North American Lutheran Church, allows women to be ordained for Word and Sacrament ministry, namely, the scriptural and historical support behind the decision. A specific date(s) for this conversation will be announced in the bulletin.



Rev. Alliyah Blakeley, ordained by Bishop Dan Selbo August, 2021.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

BOOKS, COFFEE & DESSERT BOOK CLUB 2026

The book club will meet **Thursday, October 1, at 1:30 p.m. in the home of Carol Bertholf**, to discuss the book, ***What the Mountains Remember* by Joy Callaway**. This book tells the story of the lush mystery of the mountains, the dauntless resolve of a woman, and the art of building something that will last for generations. If you would like to know more about the book club, contact Linda Fleming at 419-756-4929.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>BOOK</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>HOST</u>
NOV 5	<i>First Lie Wins</i>	Ashley Elston	Karen Ticknor
DEC 3	<i>The Paper Bag Christmas</i>	Kevin Alan Milne	Linda Fleming

October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

Pastor Appreciation Month is a heartfelt occasion to recognize and thank pastors for their dedication, leadership, and spiritual guidance. It's a time for congregations to express gratitude for the support and inspiration pastors provide, often through words of encouragement, gifts, or special services. Pastors play a vital role in fostering community, offering counsel, and leading worship, making a significant impact on the lives of their congregants. This month is all about showing appreciation for their tireless efforts and unwavering commitment to their faith and community.

It is by God's grace that we have a pastor who loves the Lord with her heart, soul & mind and serves her congregation with compassion and integrity!

Take time this month to show your appreciation, love & support to Pastor Kathy! May we strive to be a blessing to her in more ways than she has already been and continues to be a blessing to us!

P.S. – Thanks to Debbie Taylor for putting this together before she left. --Pr. Dan





Journeymen Event Wednesday-09/16/26

Beverly Tatro, LSW/LTC Ombudsman Program Director from the Area Agency on Aging, provided an excellent presentation for our last Journeymen event on what everyone should consider when choosing a Nursing Home Facility.

Prayer List

Our prayer list is updated weekly. If you have an update to the prayer list, please be sure to let Pastor Kathy know as soon as possible.

Comfort Makers

Our quilting group, Comfort makers, is a busy, productive group. Their time & talent contributes to some of the most beautiful, comforting quilts that are sent all around the world. Comfort Makers meet the second Wednesday of the month.

Food Collection

Food collection continues every Sunday. Donated food will be taken to the designated agency after the Third Sunday of each month.

NALC Weekly Updates

Subscribe to receive weekly updates from the North American Lutheran Church (NALC). This is how you learn what is happening in the NALC. The emails usually arrive on Friday afternoons.

Subscribe at... thenalc.org/en-us/connect/

Holy Carers

Holy Carers - please continue to communicate with your shut-ins and visit them when you can. Cards, notes, and phone calls are greatly appreciated. Quarterly devotionals and printed newsletters are available to take to your folks!



10/2 – Nancy Pasheilich
10/7 – Brianna Carmack
10/10 – Jeff Fehr
10/14 – Roger Steude
Tom Riester
10/15 – Marilyn Zuber

10/16 – Shirley Robinson
10/25 – Caralee Fehr
10/26 – Pat Brook
10/29 – Ginny Brandt
10/31 – Maryann Backman

Committee & Group Meetings

Council – 6:30pm 2nd Tuesday of month
Finance Committee – 2:00pm 3rd Wednesday of month
Outreach Committee – 4:00pm 3rd Tuesday of month
Parish Education – 9:00am 1st Sunday of month
Property Committee – 6:00pm 1st Tuesday of month
Worship & Music Committee – 11:30am 2nd Thursday of the month
Comfort Makers Quilt Group – 10am 2nd Wednesday of month

Reminder about Building Use

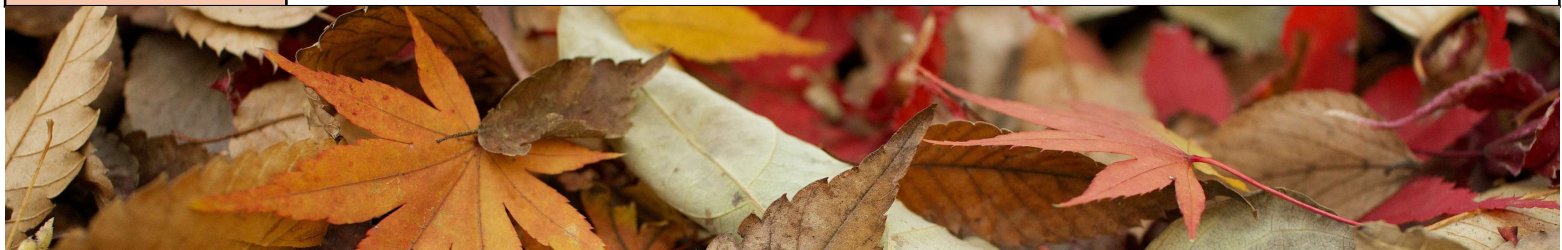
If you want to use building space for a meeting, activity or event, fill out and submit a YELLOW reservation form to the Church Office. You will find them in the literature rack in the Narthex. We will confirm your reservation when we have reviewed your request and add it to the church calendar.

Church members are NOT required to pay any fees for building use. Payment to the sexton is suggested, and a donation to the building fund may also be made.

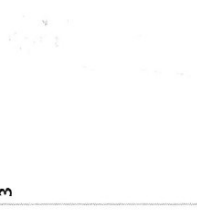
It is important to provide as many details as you can, prior to your event. **Change requests during the week prior to your event cannot be guaranteed.**

IN CHRIST'S SERVICE SCHEDULE

	October 4	October 11	October 18	October 25
HEAD USHER	Mark Smith	Jim Fleming		
DOOR GREETER	Jerry Fraifogl			
WELCOME TABLE	Karen Ticknor			
USHERS	Dave Ramey	Tom Sweet	Bonnie Elias	Barb Wendland
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Karl & Lori Them			
LECTORS	Carol Bertholf	Always Butz	Nancy Collier	Linda Collins
CANTORS	Rick Schultz	Karl Them	Bonnie Elias	Becky Schultz
AV TECH	Bryan Smith	Linda Collins	Zedd Butz	Kathy Glessner
ADULT ED FACILITATOR	Pastor Kathy	Pastor Kathy	Pastor Kathy	Pastor Kathy
SNOW REMOVAL	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
COUNTERS	Dick & Nancy Collier			
ALTAR GUILD	Carol Fry			



October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10:00am - 11:00am Adult Bible Study 12:00pm - 1:00pm Choir Practice 1:30pm - 3:30pm Book Club 6:00pm - 7:00pm Ballroom Lessons 7:00pm - 8:00pm Applesseeds 2nd Free Lesson	2 Office Closed	3 
4 8:45am - 9:45am Al-Anon 10:00am - 11:00am Worship Service 11:15am - 12:15pm Adult Ed	5 9:00am - 10:30am Journeywomen Gathering 6:30pm - 8:00pm Cub Scouts	6 5:15pm - 6:15pm Bells Practice 6:00pm - 7:00pm Property Committee Meeting 7:00pm - 9:00pm Scouts	7	8 11:30am - 12:00pm Worship & Music Meeting 12:00pm - 1:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm - 7:00pm Ballroom Lessons 7:00pm - 8:00pm Applesseeds Square Dancing	9 Office Closed	10 6:00pm - 7:59pm Appleseeds Club Dance
11 8:45am - 9:45am Al-Anon 10:00am - 11:00am Worship Service 11:15am - 12:15pm Adult Ed	12 Columbus Day 6:30pm - 8:00pm Cub Scouts	13 5:15pm - 6:15pm Bells Practice 6:30pm - 7:30pm Council Meeting 7:00pm - 9:00pm Scouts	14 10:00am - 11:00am Comfort Makers Quilters 6:30pm - 7:30pm Pet Loss Grief Group	15 10:00am - 11:00am Adult Bible Study 12:00pm - 1:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm - 7:00pm Ballroom Lessons 7:00pm - 8:00pm Applesseeds Square Dancing	16 Office Closed	17
18 8:45am - 9:45am Al-Anon 10:00am - 11:00am Worship Service 11:15am - 12:15pm Adult Ed	19 6:30pm - 8:00pm Cub Scouts	20 4:00pm - 5:00pm Outreach Meeting 5:15pm - 6:15pm Bells Practice 7:00pm - 9:00pm Scouts	21 2:00pm - 3:00pm Finance Meeting	22 10:00am - 11:00am Adult Bible Study 12:00pm - 1:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm - 7:00pm Ballroom Lessons 7:00pm - 8:00pm Applesseeds Square Dancing	23 Office Closed	24
25 8:45am - 9:45am Al-Anon 10:00am - 11:00am Worship Service 11:15am - 12:15pm Adult Ed	26 6:30pm - 8:00pm Cub Scouts	27 1:00pm - 3:00pm Cards Club 5:15pm - 6:15pm Bells Practice 7:00pm - 9:00pm Scouts	28	29 10:00am - 11:00am Adult Bible Study 12:00pm - 1:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm - 7:00pm Ballroom Lessons 7:00pm - 8:00pm Applesseeds Square Dancing	30 Office Closed	31 



Always Reforming
Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he
is a new creation. ~ 2 Corinthians 5:17



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

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PH: 419-756-7547

www.HolyTrinityMansfield.org

Office Hours: Mon-Thu 9:30am-12:30pm

To Be and To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ