

#### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

#### A SIGN THAT THE END TIMES ARE NEAR?

I was saddened to hear the news that Israel was attacked. Not only with rockets (a seemingly normal occurrence), but terrorists invaded towns near the border and either took people hostage or murdered them. At the time I am writing this, there were 600 dead and thousands wounded. Israel, then, declared war. A day or so after this I was flipping through some news articles and saw, "Is this war a sign of the end times?" The answer is both yes and no.

If we are talking about this sign as a confirmation that we are currently in the End Times, then the answer is yes. In Acts 2:17-21, Peter explains that the OT prophecy in Joel was being fulfilled during Pentecost and the time of the church. It is here where the church is to be active in sharing the Gospel until the coming of our Lord Jesus. It is in these times where all seals, trumpets, and bowls from the book of Revelation are being sent on an unbelieving world. So, Israel along with the war in Ukraine and every other calamity is confirming for us that we are in fact smack dab in the middle of the End Times. What should this do for the church? Embolden us. We need not fear anything...that includes satan. Focus us. We shouldn't be concerned about a building or our preferences but rather ensure the lost know Jesus through our proclamation in word and deed. Unite us. WE are the church. All of us!!

If we are talking about this sign as a marker that the end time is approaching, then the answer is no. What do most people do when they are waiting for a particular thing to happen? They get impatient. They get complacent. And when you think about the average Christian that may have limited knowledge of Scripture...they get fearful. As I've said in the past, fear sells. How many books have been written that have sold millions on false teaching concerning the End Times? More important question, how many Christians buy these books because they either want answers that are not in Scripture or they are afraid of what is to come?

Here's why I answer the way I do. The reason Scripture speaks of these things ahead of time is threefold. First, Jesus in Matthew 24 gives these reasons, See that no one leads you astray, do not alarmed, and stay awake. So, they are happening because they need to. This is God's will. Second, these things are a testimony to the One who prophecies them. We can be assured that not only in the tragedies and crisis that happen, but because Jesus also says that He is coming soon. Finally, we are taught not to be anxious or even fearful in life. The church will always be here because it's God's will. It is also true that the church will be in mission until the 2nd coming regardless of the times. And nothing...nothing should cause us to lose focus.

Please be careful. Granted, tragedy is never a good thing yet we know that these things are going to continue to happen until that day when Jesus returns. Focus there. Amen!



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Best Wishes and God's Blessings to the Following:

- 3 John W. Ryan
- 3 Nancy Malik
- 3 Tracy Ritzenthaler
  - 4 Nick Rivers
  - 6 Alex Ingham
  - 7 Nathan Micillo
- 13 Jeanette Jacobs
- 18 Tyler McManus
  - 23 Keith Walls
- 24 Rodney Boatman
  - 27 Emily Oswald
  - 30 Kevin Oswald



## NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations and God's Blessings to:

4 - Ralph & Kyria Perrotta 5 - Alonzo & Jeanette Jacobs

#### THANK YOU!

Evan Hart donated to the Church two dehumidifiers that were in his grandmother Marilynn's home. Many thanks to the Hart and Cubitt families.



#### TRINITY YOUTH GROUP

The group enjoyed bowling at Spencerport Bowl this last month. We had a fun time followed by dinner at the church and a chance to visit and do some devotional study. We look forward to a service project in October that includes raking some leaves in the neighborhood. In November, the youth will be serving up a great spaghetti dinner on November 4th . Please come join us and invite your neighbors and friends. What a wonderful way to share our church community with others.

Our youth at Trinity are amazing kids! If you get a chance to visit with these young adults, please take the time. They are always up to some activity in their lives and if you ask them about it you might even learn something new!

#### SPAGHETTI DINNER

Trinity's Youth Group is having a Spaghetti Dinner Saturday, November 4 th from 5-8:00PM. This event is to raise money for them to attend the 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering held on July 19-23, 2025 in New Orleans. Tickets are \$10 for Adults/\$5 for children (3 and under are free) and can be purchased at the door. Come for some fellowship and a great dinner to help support our youth as they grow in their faith. No reservations are needed, but take-out will be made available.

## DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS NOV. 5TH

So be sure to turn your clocks back 1 hour when going to bed on Saturday evening, November 4th.

# THANKSGIVING EVE COME AND WORSHIP

Communion service Wednesday, November 22nd 7:00 PM Give Thanks To The Lord

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

Sunday school is in full swing with our elementary grades as well as confirmation. We started our year with the topic of 'Growing With Jesus'. The students will be working on things for our homebound members and plan to have them ready for delivery before Thanksgiving. We will ask for people to deliver them when they are completed.





#### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Because of the Thanksgiving holiday this month our schedule is a little different. We will meet at church at 10:00am on the following two Wednesdays in November.

November 8th – Eileen leads November 15th – Ellie leads Please join us and bring a friend!

#### CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS NEEDED

We are currently in need of a Vice President and a Council Secretary for the church council. The council meets on the 2nd Monday of the month, beginning at 7pm. The V.P. is responsible for facilitating the meetings, and the Secretary is responsible for taking notes at the meeting and submitting them to the church administrative assistant for posting in the monthly newsletter. If you are interested in filling one of these positions, please contact Cathy DeConinck.

#### CHRISTMAS EVENT

Stay tuned for more information about a fun multi-generational event celebrating all things Christmas! We are hoping to have cookie decorating, singing our favorite Christmas songs, and lots of festive snacks and community time.

### NEXT TRIUNE - DEC.

The deadline to get information in for the upcoming December Triune is Friday, November 17th. Any announcements sent later than that may not make the printing of the December Triune!

# HAPPY THANKSGIVING FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT TRINITY CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL!

It's hard to believe first 2 months of school are over with; we are having so much fun playing, learning, and getting to know each other.

Our 3-year-old class is doing a wonderful job learning their colors. We will finish learning our colors at the end of November. Our 4-year-old class is working hard learning their letters, writing their names, and cutting with scissors. We have also started learning numbers, each week we will focus on a number along with the letter of the week.



In October, the Spencerport Fire Department visited our 4-year-old class. We learned about Fire Safety and all tools that the firemen use. We even got to sit in the fire truck. Our 4-year-old class also went on a field trip at Partyka Family Farm. We went on a wagon ride to pick out a special pumpkin, had a yummy snack, and had lots of fun playing at the farm. It was a great day filled spent time together with the kids and their special grown-ups that came with them. The month ended with our Halloween Party. We played lots of Halloween themed games and had a delicious Halloween snack. The kids were so cute in their costumes.

November will be a busy month. We are looking forward to learning about and celebrating Thanksgiving with the kids. We will also start getting ready for our Christmas program and making decorations for the Christmas tree at McDonald's. Christmas will be here before we know it!

We have so much to be thankful for this November and all throughout the year. We wish everyone a very happy and healthy Thanksgiving!

-Jodi Blank, Laurie Butts, Yvette Casserino & Jamie LaFave



# SPENCERPORT ECUMENICAL FOOD SHELF

Sharing Our Blessings
"For it's in giving that we receive."

First, we would like to thank everyone who so generously gave food in October when the Food Shelf was in crisis. It was amazing to see the amount of food and personal care items that were donated!

In November, SEFS has always reached out to our clients with a Thanksgiving food basket. For many years our Trinity Congregation has donated canned fruits and vegetables, and given frozen turkeys to this Thanksgiving

program. We are being asked again to donate food as well as 5 frozen turkeys. If you are able to donate a turkey, please let one of us know. Your food donations can be left in the basket by the parking lot door.

Many thanks for continuing to support the Spencerport Ecumenical Food Shelf from your SEFS Trinity Reps, Carlynn Gebhardt and Madeleine Antonio. If you or someone you know is in need, please call for assistance at 585-397-0290 Monday - Friday between 9am and 5pm.

# WEDNESDAY EVENING ADVENT SERVICES

Advent services will be held on Wednesday Evenings at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary on the following dates:

November 29 – 'The Burning Bush'
December 6 – 'The Cloud in the Tabernacle'
December 13 – 'The Call of Gideon'
Come and Worship with us!



Trinity is having services this Advent season and Pastor Steve's Message will be centered on "Symbols of Salvation". When we think of the prophecies of the birth of Christ, we often have particular verses in mind. But every account in Holy Scripture testifies about Jesus. He is the embodiment of the Scriptures. The Old Testament is not just a historical record. It is the active, Spirit-filled Word of God. From the very beginning of creation, the ways God interacts with His people give us living symbols that foreshadow and foretell Jesus' advent among us in flesh.



#### **MITFS**

Although many grants were submitted to the LWML for consideration in the 2023-2024 time period, only 24 could be chosen. During the next two years, one mission will be featured each month. The money is distributed as collected to all 24 grantees. We collect your donations to the Mites Grants on the first Sunday of each month. Please consider donating your loose change. October's featured mission is the Orphan Grain Train. The following tells you about their service project. "Orphan Grain Train (OGT) has carried out the mission of the Lord for thirty years by providing humanitarian service. They work

through the church so the Gospel always accompanies their service. They have assisted orphans, carried out domestic disaster relief, gathered, sorted, packed, and distributed food, clothing, medical supplies, equipment, and educational materials for those experiencing poverty in the U.S. and internationally. The original facility in Norfolk, Nebraska, is outdated and lacking adequate space to carry out their expanding work. They need to build an additional facility to increase their mission capacity and increase the safety level for volunteers. With an increased work area, larger groups of volunteers can work on donations received and the output of mercy meals can double to 10,000,000 meals annually. This grant will help OGT complete their building project."

# HOME BOUND **MEMBERS**

Remember our home bound members. Give them a call on the phone or send a card. Above all, remember to keep them in your prayers:

- Marie Feldmann
- Tom Troxell
- Bill Craw
- Marnie Ryan
- Doris Clement
- Dorothy Ayers
- Waltraud Maisel Glenn Neumann
  - Cathy Craw
  - Henrika Menge

# **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Communicating through prayer with God is essential for every christian. If you are in need of any prayer we encourage you to contact us with a request. As these prayer request are sent out to our members we also hope you keep us up to date so we may know that the Lord has answered. trinitylutheran191@gmail.com

## TRUSTEES' REPORT OCTOBER 20, 2023

The Church boiler is scheduled to be cleaned and inspected by Hawn Heating on October 25th. This is done yearly and is under contract.

#### Items for Discussion by the Council (Oct. 9th)

- As discussed at last Council meeting, should a fall cleanup be scheduled? How best to organize this?
- Also discussed at the last Council meeting was descaling of the Church's sewer pipe? An estimate of the cost for this was \$2,000 to \$3,000. It is highly recommended that we get this done to avoid any future floods downstairs.
- The availability of funds to cover minor repairs and upkeep at the Church should be discussed.
- · A renewal contract from Cedar Creek Lawncare has been received. The cost for the yearly contract is \$4,100 and is a \$250 dollar increase over last year. This contract was signed on October 10th. Snow plowing will be done November 1st through March 31st. Plowing will be done when snow accumulations reach 2 inches. The property is to be cleared by 7 am.

#### STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY - TENTATIVE

November 12 is Trinity's designated Stewardship Sunday and we will again be using the Time's Talents Survey to show the congregation how everyone can help and offer their assistance in the many things Trinity needs to help our church grow! You will be receiving a letter in the mail with a Time's Talents form attached for you to fill out and return to the church. This will also be emailed and forms will also be available at the church.

**SERVING SCHEDULE** Please check your dates carefully and arrange for a substitute if you cannot serve when scheduled.

|   |  | TRADITIONAL                              | SERVICE 9:00AM  |   |  |
|---|--|--|---|---|--|
|   | November 5<br>9:00AM<br>Communion<br>Worship Service | November 12<br>9:00AM<br>Worship Service | November 19<br>9:00AM<br>Communion<br>Worship Service | November 22 Thanksgiving Eve 7:00PM Communion Worship Service | November 26<br>9:00AM<br>Worship Service |
| ACOLYTES                                    | Ryan Ingham  | Elizabeth Hammond                        | Julie Hammond   | Lily Ingham   | Victor Castricone                        |
| USHERS                                      | Ron Lillie<br>Lily Ingham                            | John <u>Gentzke</u><br>Ryan Ingham       | Mike Mayer<br>Bob DeVantier                           | Chris Reigle<br>Mitch Frey                                    | Brian Miller<br>Lily Ingham              |
| LECTORS                                     | Chrissy Hammond                                      | Sally Steele                             | Carol Ernsthausen                                     | Sally Steele  | Craig Coon                               |
| ELDERS                                      | Bev Lillie<br>Craig Coon                             |  | Brian Miller<br>Eileen Bruton                         | Craig Oswald<br>Joe Lagas                                     |  |
| COUNTERS                                    |  | Mitch Frey<br>Kim Rivers                 |   |   | Tim Bruton<br>Mark Gebhardt              |
| ADULT BIBLE<br>STUDY (ABS)<br>COFFEE SET UP | Sally & John<br>Steele                               | Joanne Coon                              | Craig & Sue<br>Oswald                                 |   | Joe & Whitney Lagas                      |
| ALTAR GUILD                                 |  |  | Chrissy Hammond                                       |   |  |
|   |  | CONTEMPORARY                             | SERVICE 11:00AM                                       |   |  |
|   |  | worshipers :                             | serve as needed                                       |   |  |

# **COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

OCTOBER 9, 2023

Members present: R. Boatman, C. DeConinck, Pastor Steve, C. Reigle D. Rayter, and C. Oswald Craig Oswald opened with prayer. Minutes read and discussed. Motion approved.

Treasurer Report: C. Reigle Financial Report: none

#### Pastor Steve's Report:

• The Fall Convention will be held on October 23 – 25 at State College in Pennsylvania. Pastor stated the Fall Convention is mandatory and will be out of the office these days and will return on Thursday, October 26.

#### Elders Report: C. Oswald

- No head elder announced yet. All elders will rotate attending monthly council meetings
- Six-week trial period for adding liturgy to the 9AM Traditional service and following setting 4 in the hymnal.
- Adult Bible Study at 10AM going very well and is lead by Craig Coon and well attended
- November 22nd is Thanksgiving Eve and a 7PM communion service will take place
- December 24th is the 4th Sunday in Advent and also Christmas Eve. Was recommended that there would be only one morning service at 9AM (Advent) and one service at 7PM (Christmas Eve)
- Coffee/Fellowship Hour is at 10AM between the two services and is held downstairs in the Mary Martha Hall. Those needing assistance getting downstairs may use the lift.
- Additional volunteers are needed for the congregation care committee, ushers, acolytes, counters, technicians, and special event planners. These jobs cannot continue to be done by the same few; the burden has become too heavy. The Time and Talents Survey will be reimplemented, and everyone is highly encouraged to complete and return the form. Stewardship Sunday TBD and will be announced soon.

Outreach Report: Kim Rivers was absent, but we talked about these upcoming plans.

- Fund Raiser for youth group: Spaghetti Dinner, November 4, 5-8PM tickets are available to purchase after the services on Sundays and also will be available at the door
- Trunk or Treat: Saturday, October 28, 5:30 8:00PM. Emily Oswald is organizing this.

#### Other ideas to Grow Trinity

- Adult Bowling Party
- 'Meet & Greet' nights and inviting new families from the Preschool and Community to Trinity
- Inviting Guest Speakers to share their talents and inviting the Preschool Families and Community
- Offering a 'Craft Night' for all to participate
- These events would have dessert & coffee available

#### Trustee Report: R. Boatman

- Church boiler inspection by Hawn Heating on October 25
- Fall cleanup How best to organize this?
- Availability of funds to cover minor repairs/upkeep at the Church should be discussed.
- Renewal contract from Cedar Creek Lawncare received. Snow plowing will be done November 1 -March 31. Plowing will be done when snow accumulations reach 2 inches. The property is to be cleared by 7AM.

#### Old Business:

- Fall Cleanup
- Sewer Pipe descaling

#### **New Business:**

- funds to cover minor repairs and upkeep at the Church to be discussed
- Time & Talents Survey to be reinstated/Stewardship Sunday

Next meeting, November 13, 2023 at 7:00PM Meeting closed with prayer and adjourned at 8:22 p.m. Respectfully Submitted by: Debra Rayter

# NOVEMBER 2023

| NUS  | NOM                               | TUE   | WED   | THU                        | FRI                              | SAT  |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
|  |                                   |   | e e   | 2 6:30pm Elders<br>Meeting | м                                | 4. 5:00pm Youth<br>Group Spaghetti<br>Dinner             |
| 9:00am Traditional<br>10:00am ABS,SS<br>11:00am Contemp.<br>2:00pm RDC Rehearsal                             | 6<br>6:00pm Leadership<br>Meeting | 7<br>Election<br>1:00pm Quilting<br>7:00pm Bell Choir | 8<br>10:00am Women's<br>Bible Study                   | 0                          | 10                               | Veteran's Day<br>8:15am Men's Bible<br>Study & Breakfast |
| 12<br>Stewardship Sunday<br>9:00am Traditional<br>10:00am ABS,SS<br>11:00am Contemp.<br>2:00pm RDC Rehearsal | 13<br>7:00pm Council<br>Meeting   | 14.<br>7:00pm Bell Choir<br>Rehearsal                 | 15<br>10:00am Women's<br>Bible Study                  | 16                         | 17<br>Triune Article<br>Deadline | 8  |
| 9:00am Traditional<br>10:00am ABS,SS<br>11:00am Contemp.<br>2:00pm RDC Rehearsal                             | 20                                | 21<br>1:00pm Quilting<br>7:00pm Bell Choir            | 22<br>7:00pm Thanksgiving<br>Eve Communion<br>Service | 23<br>Thanksgiving Day     | 24                               | 25   |
| 26<br>9:00am Traditional<br>10:00am ABS,SS<br>11:00am Contemp.   | 27                                | 28<br>7:00pm Bell Choir<br>Rehearsal                  | 29<br>7:00pm 1st Advent<br>Service                    | 30                         |                                  |  |
|  |                                   |   |   |                            |                                  |  |



191 Nichols St. Spencerport, NY 14559

#### **Schedule of Sunday Service:**

Traditional Worship Service at 9:00AM Sunday School, Confirmation & Adult Bible Study 10:00AM Contemporary Worship Service 11:00AM (both services live streamed on youtube)

Pastor: Steve Shrum Cell Phone: (216) 551-1334

Email: pastorsteve4464@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Susan M. Oswald

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