



HOLY TRINITY

LUTHERAN CHURCH

650 240th St. North Liberty, IA 52317

Vol. 16, No. 11

November 2024

SIXTEEN YOUTH AFFIRM THEIR BAPTISMS ON CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

October 27 was a full Sunday at Holy Trinity and featured the confirmation of sixteen students!

Affirming their baptisms were:

Emily Ming-Li Andrew

Elsie Marie Bisgard

Logan William Brunkhorst

Max Matthew Estill

Gabriel Siva Ganesh

Emmalyn Grace Hibbard

Caydren James Manary

Maisie Christine Martinez

Tate Dawson Rettig

William Matthew Seberger

Millie Sherlene Severino-Shiguango

Tessa Carolina Stille

Wyatt Alan Trettin

Colton Joseph Troutman

Jake Scott Weiler

Stevie Rose Wilmoth



THANKFULNESS WALL



In the spirit of thankfulness, we invite you to contribute to our “Thankfulness Wall” located between the front doors and the welcome station. There will be paper leaves available for you to write down someone or something you are thankful for.

You can put your finished leaf on our paper tree. Look for that opportunity starting November 10th.

LAST “NEXT STEPS” SERIES OF THE YEAR OFFERED ON SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER

If you are seeking a place to call your spiritual home, build healthy relationships with

others seeking to grow in their faith, or simply want to know more about Holy Trinity and how best to get connected here, please consider being part of this month’s last “Next Steps” series of the year!



Starting Nov. 3rd, Pastor Tim will be facilitating discussion over the basic values of the congregation and other topics, including those of your own choosing, on three consecutive Sunday mornings after worship, simultaneously with Sunday School, 10:15-11:30am in Room 5. At the series conclusion, those who choose to do so will be formally received into membership at a subsequent Sunday service when all can be present. If you’d like to be a part, please contact Pastor Tim at tim@holytrinityNL.org, and we’ll look forward to sharing the experience with you! All are certainly welcome and invited – including children!

TP PARTY!

The Youth Group is planning a TP Party! The North Liberty Community Pantry has toilet paper listed as its #2 need (pun intended?) for donations. Please consider helping out by dropping off any toilet paper donations to the church by Wednesday, November 20th.

STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS CELEBRATES “GROWING AS COMMUNITY: INSIDE & OUT”

Growing as Community



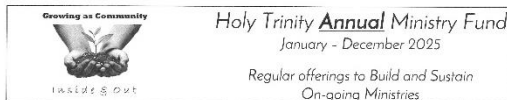
Inside & Out

Our fall stewardship program officially kicked off on Oct. 20th, but we’ll have plenty of “growing” opportunities throughout the month as we welcome guest preachers and speakers and mark the many ways in which the people of Holy Trinity make a great

difference within our community and our world! Together, we look forward to “Growing our Community: Inside & Out!”

COMMITMENT SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 17TH

Help us to make ministry both possible and fruitful in 2025 by returning your “Faith Promise” card on Commitment Sunday 11/17! Cards will be



I/we commit to increase our support of Christ's ministry in and through Holy Trinity this year. Yes No:

I/we intend to make give this offering on this schedule:

\$ _____ Annually (Please indicate anticipated date of gift if known: _____)

\$ _____ Monthly for 12 months beginning Jan. 2025 (_____ x 12 = _____)

\$ _____ Weekly for 52 weeks beginning Jan. 2025 (_____ x 52 = _____)

Name(s): _____ (Day Phone) _____

E-mail(s): _____

Check here if you want additional information about an electronic giving option.

Check here if you want additional information about using a brokerage account.

Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much. - Luke 16:10

It is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. - 1 Corinthians 4:2

You may file your faith promise securely on the church website holytrinitynl.org/makesafithpromise (or click on More, then Give, then Make a Faith Promise).

distributed starting on Nov. 3rd; we ask that you pray over what would be a faithful response from your household in 2025. We are already aware of expenses increasing at least 6% in the new year; it is imperative that we all put our best feet forward to sustain the vital work that Holy Trinity makes possible! If you have any questions or confusion, please make a point to call the office or Pastor Tim!

An online faith promise form will soon be posted on the More link, then Give page of the church website: www.holytrinitynl.org.

NOVEMBER 3RD — THE END OF DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

PUMPKIN VOTING THANK YOU



Thank you to everyone who voted in our pumpkin decorating contest. Over 50 individuals and families gave donations for our neighbors in the North Liberty area. The winning pumpkin is... drum roll please... Bob! Congrats to the members of Tim's confirmation small group on winning the Golden Pumpkin Trophy!

PRAYER KITS

The prayer kits are here! Starting on November 3rd, you are invited to check-out a prayer kit for a week at a time. Think of it as a "mini-library." This resource is available to all Holy Trinity members, whether you are an individual, couple, or family. Each kit comes in a sturdy plastic tub that includes: instructions to guide your prayer, Bible stories, reflection questions, prayer resources, optional activities, a hand-painted cross, and an LED candle. Each kit has materials adapted for different age levels and people praying in a group or those praying individually. The materials, stories, and themes of these kits will change throughout the year. For this season, there are two themes: *Water, Earth, Wind, and Fire* and *Angels and Miracles*.

ADVENT SMALL GROUP

Join us this Advent season for a three-week small group centered around "The Weary World Rejoices" devotional by Kate Bowler. This informal and welcoming group for adults will meet on Wednesdays, December 4th, 11th, and 18th from 6:30-8:00 pm. Over the three weeks, we will focus on God's promises of truth, compassion, restoration, and justice. We will worship together with our WYN youth and then split up for small group conversation. Please email Tim Stammeyer at stammeyer@holytrinitynl.org to sign-up.

INTERGENERATIONAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

This isn't your typical Christmas Pageant! Be part of the brand new Christmas play—*A (Mostly) True Christmas Story*. This year, the grandkids tell the story of Christmas instead of the grandparents. The only problem is they don't get all the details right! Their comical mistakes act out on stage as everyone learns that maybe Christmas isn't in the little details but the good news of Jesus. There are parts for all ages preschool through adult. Tim Stammeyer will bring his theatre experience to direct. Rehearsals are November 24th, December 1st, and December 8th after worship from 10:15-11:00. The program will be held during our 9:00 a.m. worship service on December 15th. We will decide on parts at our first rehearsal. Plan to join us!

BREAD MAKING FOR ADVENT

In Bethlehem, the City of Bread, Jesus, the Bread of Life, was born. This advent, we invite you to enter into the joyful mystery of the season by sharing your baking with our community. On Sunday, December 8th, you are invited to bring in a sweet or savory bread to be shared after worship. We extend a special invitation to include those among us who benefit from gluten-free options or other dietary needs. We will have a short devotional all can use to be mindful of God's presence when you are baking by yourself or with others. More details to come later in November!



JOHNSON COUNTY INTERFAITH “FAITH IN ACTION” FUNDRAISER IS COMING OUR WAY ON NOVEMBER 20TH!

Once again, an annual interfaith event to inspire new efforts in empowerment and advocacy will take place at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20th, at the Unitarian Universalist campus in Coralville. Registration was technically due on Nov. 1st, but if you'd still like to participate, please contact Pastor Tim. \$50 registration supports memorable catering from Tabooleh, RoyceAnn Porter, Charlotte's and more! Hope you can come!

JOIN US FOR A FRESH SERIES OF ADULT FORUMS THIS MONTH!

Rich conversations and insights occur each Sunday at 10:15 in Room 4! We begin the month on Nov. 3rd with Pastor Ron Schardt discussing how God is portrayed as generously giving while humanity is portrayed as ungrateful and arrogant as he concludes a two-week session on “Patterns that Recur in Scripture and in Our Lives.” The month’s topics continue on Nov. 10th with William Eddy sharing his story “My Journey with Meditation.” Then, on Nov. 17th with Tim Stammeyer sharing his story. The Sunday School / Forum hour on Nov. 24th will be reserved for rehearsing our awesome upcoming inter-generational Christmas program, creatively written by our own Program Coordinator! Whether you come for one or come for all, grab a coffee and join in!

MANY THANKS TO ...

... **Kathy Stickney** for her willingness to facilitate yet another fruitful Bible study series this fall!

... **Deb DuBois and Amy Jones** for pinch-hitting at Club 56 on 10/23!

... **Holly Becker and Annika Hauan** for hosting our Confirmation Reception

... **Clayton Ludvigson and Steve Roland** for organizing our upcoming Cornhole tournament!

... **Stu Berns** for his ingenious creation of a “stair sled” to handle safely getting our Christmas trees down from the attic!

... **Tom Ogilvie, Ryan Bobst, Casey Gaylord, Mark Pries, Eric Weiler, Frank Johnson, and Ken Morse** for sharing their stewardship perspectives with us through the course of our Fall Emphasis!

... **WYN Parents** who have volunteered in one capacity or another to help make ministry possible!

... **All** who helped make all of our contributions to “God’s Work/Our Hands” a success last month!

... **All** who have volunteered to keep our outdoor plants watered and beautiful all summer!

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

- **Our democracy and election workers** as Voting Day nears.
- **Chad and Angela Whittle**, who celebrated the baptism of their daughter, Lucy, on Oct. 6th.
- **Steve Ganesh**, grieving the recent loss of his sister in England, to cancer
- The people of **Haiti** and **Myanmar** amidst the absence of functioning governments.
- the people of **Ukraine**, and for a swift and just conclusion to the conflict there.
- the people of **Gaza, Palestinian territories, Israel, Lebanon, and Iran** amid renewed conflict, growing famine, and increasing desperation.
- **Laurel Hibbard, Ken Morse, Melissa Duroe** (friend of Mike and Sonda Uitermarkt), **Emy Charlebois** (sister of Clay Peterson), **Bob Cronbaugh** (husband of Sandy Cronbaugh) and **Matt Baumann** (son of Sue Baumann) - (each living with cancer)
- **Marie Empey, Emma Stammeyer, and Lisa Smith**, all recovering from recent surgery.
- **Vada Ambler** (Kent's mother) rehabilitating after a recent fall and broken hip.
- **Diane Gerdes** (Lois Ludvigson's sister) who suffered a recent stroke.
- **JoAnn Robertson**, step-mother of Amanda Robertson, living with Parkinson's disease.
- **Don Hellem**, father of Dan Hellem, living with several chronic health issues at present.
- **Emily Seabaugh**, sister of Matt Seberger, recently diagnosed with a rare neuro-muscular disease.
- **Harold Meyer** (husband of Twilla Meyer), at Crestview in West Branch.
- **Probasco Family** as they mourn the death of a friend's child.

TRUNK OR TREAT

Thank you to all who made our Trunk or Treat event fun and memorable! The event was a meaningful way to create a safe space for our young people to experience the love of Jesus. We had 30 trunks, over 225 young people attended the event, along with many more caregivers. We can't wait until next year!

DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

... a single headset microphone costs \$350 and the accompanying cable is another \$60?

... A new law in Australia enshrines a worker's "right to disconnect"—to ignore communication from a job outside work hours. The law doesn't prohibit employers from reaching out during off-hours, but it protects workers who choose not to respond to them or anyone else who is contacting them about work. More than a dozen countries have enacted some version of the law, starting with France in 2017. In the US, a San Francisco assemblyman proposed similar legislation earlier this year, but the bill was criticized by business groups and shelved in committee (*NPR, August 26*).

... Since the Supreme Court overturned *Roe vs. Wade* in 2022, one study estimates that there have been 65,000 pregnancies resulting from rape in states that ban abortion. It is unknown just how many exceptions were actually allowed. (*The Society for Family Planning, NPR, Oct. 26*)

... The Supreme Court is skeptical that the 1970 Clean Air Act was passed with any real understanding of the effects of climate change, but a new historical study says otherwise. According to researchers, scientists knew by the late 1960s that "greenhouse gases, derived from fossil fuel combustion, could alter the global climate with potentially serious and deleterious ensuing effects." This has important implications for the scope of the EPA's authority under the Clean Air Act, especially in light of the "major questions doctrine" articulated by the Court in the 2022 case *West Virginia v. EPA*. The controversial doctrine limits the authority of federal agencies to make decisions on matters of national political or economic significance (*Ecology Law Quarterly, August 21*)