

# HIGHLIGHTS

THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE *of* HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 2023

**DLM Boxes: Filled with food,  
hope, and God's love**

*Cover photo by Darlene Katz*

# ARTS @ HOLY TRINITY

— 40th Anniversary —

**FREE  
Concert!**

*Four decades of  
bringing music to  
the community.*



## Miguel Espinoza Fusion

**Sunday  
October 8  
4 p.m.**

Miguel Espinoza Fusion, the collective beating heart of world-class, award-winning musicians Miguel Espinoza (guitar), Dianne Betkowski (cello), and Randy Hoepker (bass), with guest artist David Hinojosa (percussion) invites the listener into a rich and colorful symposium of musical traditions. Firm roots in flamenco, classical, and jazz are woven through with North African rhythms, Celtic whimsy, and Brazilian expressions for a sound that is transformative, vibrant, and deeply emotive.

**WATCH THE LIVE STREAM**

[artsholytrinity.org](http://artsholytrinity.org)

**ATTEND IN-PERSON**

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Doors open 30 minutes prior. For details, visit [artsholytrinity.org](http://artsholytrinity.org).

Funding for the 2023-2024 Arts @ Holy Trinity provided in part by



**HOLY TRINITY  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

[artsholytrinity.org](http://artsholytrinity.org)



**Ohio Arts  
COUNCIL**



# Discernment

*“If people can’t see what God is doing, they stumble all over themselves; but when they attend to what he reveals, they are most blessed.” (Proverbs 29:18)*



*Pastor Becki Verbridge*

Where have we been? What have we done? Where are we now? Where are we going? What is God calling us to do in this time and place given who we are now, what we have to work with, and the needs of our neighbors? What kind of pastoral leader do we need to help us take our next step in ministry?

These are the kinds of questions congregations wrestle with during the discernment phase of the interim period between called pastors. They are questions that need answered before a Call Committee can draft a Ministry Site Profile (MSP). The MSP is the document congregations use to describe themselves to prospective pastors, who are in the midst of discerning where God is calling them to be.

You will remember that our Church Council contracted with Pastor Nathan Swenson-Reinhold of GSB Consulting, to serve as our consultant during this discernment phase. For the past eight months, he has guided a team of congregational leaders using: a congregational survey, a community demographics study, a day-long retreat with other church leaders, and more than a dozen meetings undergirded by devotion and prayer, to create a lens through which we could look closely at our congregation’s internal and external contexts as we reestablished our mission, reaffirmed our values, and developed strategic priorities to move us forward in ministry.

What follows on the next page is a recrafting of our mission statement, a values statement to connect our past and present, and the strategic priorities that are essential as we move into the next few years of our congregational life together. Pastor Nathan Swenson-Reinhold will continue working with us as we move forward with implementing these priorities.

Appreciation is extended to John Guran, Linda Vowles, Lesli Eisenhart, Val Clark, Rachel Núñez, Bob Keener, Amanda Archbold, and John Stefanik for the time and energy they have invested in the work of discernment during this interim period. There is no doubt that Holy Trinity will be blessed by their ongoing commitment to Christ and our church! †

Blessings!

*Pastor Becki*



## Calling New Members!

Holy Trinity will be receiving new members during the 9:30 a.m. worship service on Reformation Sunday, October 29, 2023. Anyone interested in formalizing their relationship with the congregation is asked to contact Annmarie Demko, our Parish Secretary, at [ademko@holytrinityakron.org](mailto:ademko@holytrinityakron.org). An information session will be held Sunday, October 15, 2023 in the church office following the worship service.



# Mission & Vision

## Mission Statement

*Connect people to Jesus through love and the Word of God.*

## Values Statement

- **CONNECTING:** *We feel a strong connection to our legacy of faith, discipleship, and service within this community.*
- **SERVING:** *We are committed to serving others through the ministries of the congregation, our community partnerships, and our music and arts programs.*
- **FOLLOWING:** *We value communal worship, intentional intergenerational faith formation, and fellowship.*
- **INVITING:** *We invite and welcome all to grow and serve with us.*

## Strategic Priorities

- Energize Our Connection with Those Not Here Yet.
  - **Impact:** *So that we faithfully energize the involvement of those inside the church and outside the church with the mission that has been entrusted to us.*
  - Intentionally integrate Invite Welcome Connect into every aspect of HTLC's Ministry.
  - Champions: Bob Keener, John Stefanik, and Sandy DeLuca
- Energize Our Congregation's Connections to God and One Another Through Worship and Ministry.
  - **Impact:** *So that we are more joyful in fellowship, more excited in relationship, and more faithful in discipleship and service.*
  - Identify spiritual gifts/strengths of members to support service within and through HTLC.
  - Champions: Linda Vowles, Lesli Eisenhart, Amanda Archbold, and Rachel Núñez
- Streamline Governance to Facilitate/Support HTLC's Mission and Ministry
  - **Impact:** *So that we more efficiently utilize talent, simplify meetings, and streamline decision-making, allowing for emphasis of worship, education, and outreach.*
  - Champions: John Guran, Valerie Clark, Lorin Sickafoose, and Pastor Becki Verbridge +



## Finance Update

Dear Holy Trinity Family,

I trust that you all enjoyed a wonderful summer and are ready for what Ohio does best - Fall colors!

I wanted to provide you with a brief update on our finances year-to-date. The full treasurers' report is available, along with the Council minutes, in the office and Annmarie can secure a copy for you as well. Please call the church office.

We are slightly ahead with our pledged contributions year-to-date having received \$150,911 against the budget of \$147,208. We thank you all for your commitment and are looking forward to sharing our new Stewardship Campaign with you.

We are behind in the non-pledge amount. We have received \$62,574 against the budget of \$84,785. We used last year's non-pledged income here, and we are hoping that we can close this gap in the last quarter of this year. Historically we receive additional contributions for the holidays, and we pray that will continue.

Our August expenses were under at \$43,617 against the budget of \$45,036 for a difference of \$1,419 under budget. With the combined loss of non-pledged income and overage in expenses, we are over our year-to-date expenses by \$23,432.

We have looked at the savings from the vacant Director of Music Ministries position, and with the addition of substitute organists and the new interim Choir Director, we are still expecting a savings of \$4,250 for four months, totaling \$17,000.

Should you have any questions or would like any clarification, please don't hesitate to contact me directly. †

Peace in Christ,  
Lesli Eisenhart, Treasurer

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, October 29, 11 a.m.

Attend in person or online  
In Person – Sanctuary  
Online – Zoom Meeting

The congregation will be presented with the 2024 draft budget and vote to elect members to Council and the Nominating Committee.

*NOTE: See candidates photos and bios on pages 12-16.*

For Council, you will elect four (4) to each serve a two-year term commencing January 2024 through December 2026.

For Nominating Committee, you will elect three (3) to serve a one-year term in calendar year 2024.

### To Participate via Zoom

Beginning October 1, you can register on the church's website, [holytrinityakron.org](http://holytrinityakron.org) under the Events tab. Once registered, the Zoom Meeting link will be sent to you along with a meeting reminder.

### IMPORTANT!

Each individual household member must register and must login to the Congregation Meeting separately in order to cast a vote. If this is your first time using Zoom, you will need to download it to your computer or mobile device.

*NOTE: Registering through the church's website is the only way you can receive the Zoom access link. †*

# FAITH FORMATION

## FAITH 5

### Faith5 Fridays @ 9 a.m. via Zoom

We check-in with each other and **SHARE** our prayer concerns, **READ** a scripture passage or poem, **TALK** about it and how we can apply it to our lives, **PRAY** for our concerns, each other, and Holy Trinity, and end our time with a **BLESSING** for the day ahead. Our time together lasts between 20-30 minutes. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with people as we encourage one another and pray together! Because it is a Zoom meeting, you can invite friends and family that live locally or out of the area. All are welcome! For Zoom information, contact Rachel Nunez at [rnunez@holyltrinityakron.org](mailto:rnunez@holyltrinityakron.org) or call/text (330) 634-6597. †

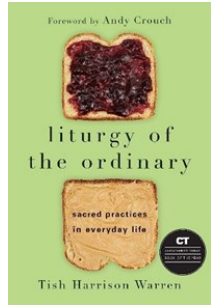


## Women's Bible Study

### Saturday, October 21 @ 9 a.m.

Home of Linda Vowles, 6089 S. Oval Road, Clinton

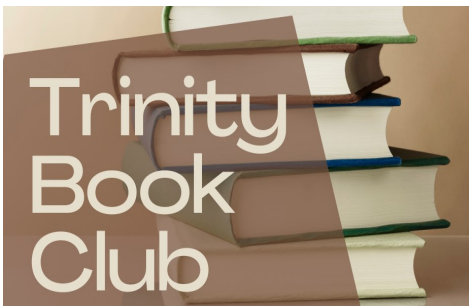
We continue our study of the book "Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in Everyday Life" by Tish Harrison Warren. Books are available in the church office. We will discuss chapters nine and ten at this meeting. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Rachel Núñez, Director of Faith Formation. Call/Text (330) 634-6597 or email [rnunez@holyltrinityakron.org](mailto:rnunez@holyltrinityakron.org). †



### Saturday, October 21, 9 a.m.

Main Office Meeting Area, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Bring a friend and enjoy time together as we study, talk, and pray! Donuts and coffee provided. Tom Baumgardner & Jack Harig serve as facilitators. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at (330) 376-5154. †



### Sunday, October 22, around 11 a.m.

after worship in Room 202

All are welcome to join us as we discuss *Before the Coffee Gets Cold* by Toshikazu Kawaguchi. Join the conversation! All are welcome ... bring a bag lunch if you like. Questions? Contact Amy Indorf or Diane Chambers for more information. †



## Morning Devotions

Join us for Morning Devotions via Facebook LIVE each Wednesday at 9 a.m. to focus on God and what He has in store for your life. †



## Food & Fellowship at Akron Family Restaurant

We meet after worship at the Akron Family Restaurant the last Sunday each month at around 11 a.m. *NOTE: There will be no gathering in October due to the Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting.*

Mark **Sunday, November 26** on your calendar and plan to join us, and be sure to come hungry!! And while you're at it, invite someone to come with you. It's always great fun to meet new people!

We gather in the restaurant's back room for time spent in fellowship with one another. Meet new folks, learn new things and make lasting memories. We have had nearly 40 people come the last couple of months, and there's plenty of room for more! †



## Fall Table Talk Series

### Wednesdays @ 7 p.m. via Zoom

Join us on Wednesday evenings as we share devotions and discussion around The Welcome Table fall series "Rooted."

*Over the next few weeks, as we are finding ways to root ourselves into this season of life, our writers will share stories of ways they find rootedness in their own lives. Through their reflections, they will open us to the gifts that come when we allow ourselves to be grounded in community, to be at peace surrounded by our beautiful world, and to be held by God's deep, abiding love. We hope the stories shared in our Rooted Series will inspire you to see the variety of ways we can experience rootedness, and will remind you of the many ways in which we are all connected and rooted together! †*

Subscribe at: <https://www.thewelcometable.co/subscribe>

### Saturday, Oct. 14 @ 9 a.m.

Cascade Valley Metro Park  
Overlook Trail  
354 Sackett Avenue  
Akron 44313



We will gather near the trail head for a brief devotion and then hike this trail together or you may go at your own pace. After 30 minutes, we rejoin each other for a prayer & blessing. Please wear appropriate clothing and shoes for the weather. If you have any questions, please call/text Rachel Núñez, Director of Faith Formation at (330) 634-6597. †



## Tuesday on the Trail with Rachel

### October 10 @ 10 a.m.

F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm  
1828 Smith Rd., Akron 44313

Join Rachel Núñez, Director of Faith Formation at the F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm Visitor Center for a time of devotion and sharing around God's Creation. Following our devotion together, you are welcome to explore the nature center, take a short hike, or simply sit on the patio area and watch the birds and other wildlife. †

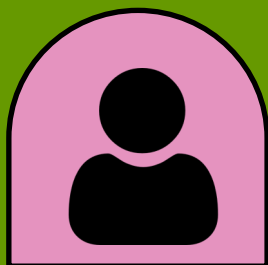
# DLM by the Numbers

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, DLM Food & Resources has continued to operate and provide food boxes, personal care items along with cleaning supplies, and laundry items to those families involved with Project RISE and others who are in need. Clothing is given to those who inquire.

During the month of September, DLM served the following ...



222 Families



721 Individuals



369 Children



# DLM

FOOD AND RESOURCES



*Diane Chambers prepares to sort bags of potatoes.*

## Boxes of Food & Hope

Every month, DLM Food & Resources fills hundreds of boxes with food, personal care items, and hope. Each box is carefully packed with perishable and non-perishable food items. Each box provides a family with hope ... hope that situations are going to change.

For some families, a box of food is enough to see them through and for others, it's all they have to feed their children. This ministry and the important work it's doing is critical in helping to meet the basic needs of families throughout the community.

Is there any reason why you can't serve with a ministry that is making a difference in people's lives? Volunteers are always needed to help in a variety of ways!! Please contact Stefan Katz, Director of DLM Operations at (234) 334-4700 or at [skatz@holyltrinityakron.org](mailto:skatz@holyltrinityakron.org). †



*Manny Núñez and Stefan Katz move a skid of food down the hallway.*



*Amy Indorf helps pack the food boxes.*






*"Hello, DLM Food & Resources, how many I help you?" Pictured (from l): Amy Indorf, Diane Chambers, Don Parsisson, Rachel Núñez and Jacquie Wert.*



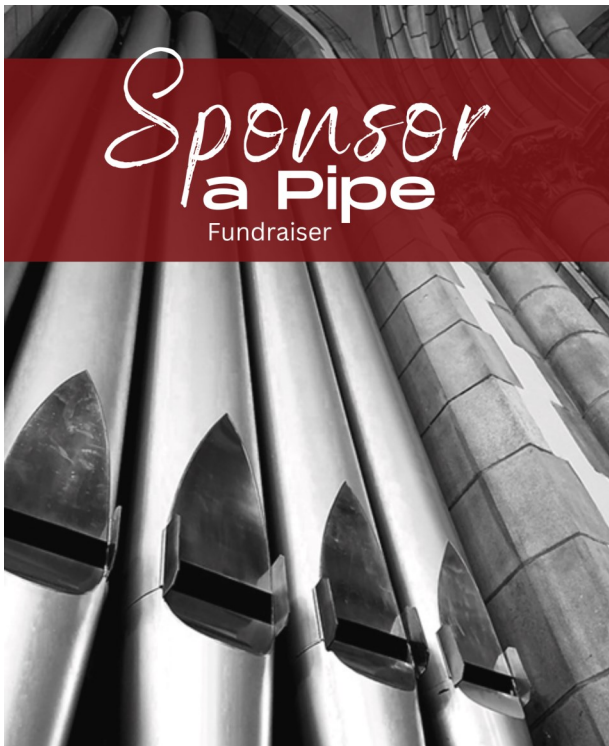
*Packing food boxes are (pictured left): Diane Chambers, Amy Indorf and Don Parsisson; (pictured above): Rachel Núñez and Jacquie Wert.*





There certainly is a lot of love here at Holy Trinity!! And it is evident each month through your support of the Love Offering. The Outreach & Social Concerns Ministry Team is charged with identifying the various organizations and programs to receive this monthly 'love support.' And it is very much appreciated.

**In August, you gave \$1120.15 to benefit South Street Ministries.** Founded in 1997, South Street Ministries is committed to the physical, socio-economic, and spiritual well-being of the South Akron and Summit Lake neighborhoods. They do this by reaching across racial, economic, cultural, and religious barriers to offer programming, ministry, and outreach to the residents for the enrichment of the community. The Outreach & Social Concerns Ministry Team thanks everyone for giving generously to support this important community partner. †



*Sponsor*  
a Pipe  
Fundraiser

Arts @ Holy Trinity is celebrating its 40th Anniversary! Over the past four decades, this annual concert series has presented a wide range of musical styles and talents, attracting nationally/internationally renowned, award nominated/winning performance artists ... all free of charge.

The 4,551-pipe organ has been the focal instrument for most concerts held over the past 40 years. To ensure this magnificent instrument will continue to inspire and uplift both audiences and organists for another 40 years, we invite you to 'Sponsor a Pipe' with a donation of \$40 per pipe or 'Sponsor an Octave of Pipes' with a donation of \$480 per octave. There are 4,551 organ pipes, so you are invited to sponsor as many as you like!

You may give securely online by visiting [artsholytrinity.org](http://artsholytrinity.org). Checks made payable to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church can be mailed to the church. Please note 'Sponsor a Pipe' in the memo line. A station will be set up in the Chapel Lounge on Sunday morning after worship to receive donations. All donors will be listed in concert programs.

All donations received will support the Arts @ Holy Trinity Concert Series and the ongoing maintenance of the organ. Thank you for your generous support! †



## Arts @ Holy Trinity is celebrates its 40th Anniversary

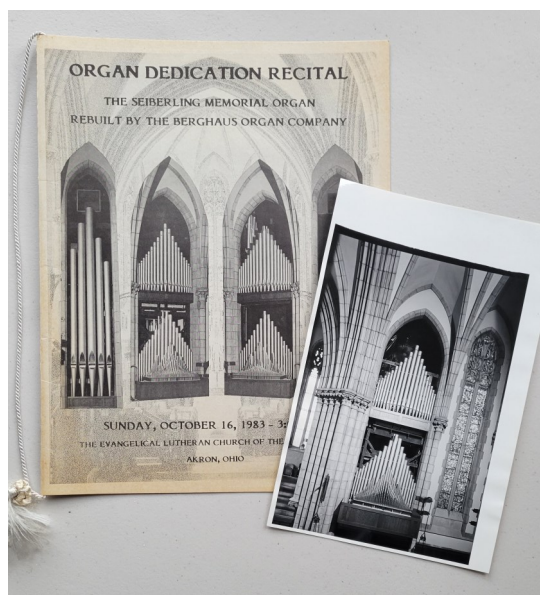
For four decades, Arts @ Holy Trinity has presented a wide range of musical styles and talents, attracting nationally and internationally renowned, award-winning, and award-nominated performing artists. In the past seven seasons, Arts @ Holy Trinity has provided learning opportunities that inspire, captivate, and transform students of all ages.

To commemorate this milestone, we are hosting a few **Special Anniversary Events** throughout the concert season. Join us in celebrating 40 years of Arts @ Holy Trinity as we make a difference in your life and transport the lives around you to new heights. †

### '40 Years of Music' Exhibition

*On display now through June 2024 in the Chapel Lounge*

View photographs, programs, and other historic items showcasing amazing organ and instrumental music that has been enjoyed by audiences for 40 years.



*One of the items featured in the '40 Years of Music' exhibition is this program from the very first concert, titled Organ Dedication Recital, held Sunday, October 16, 1983. Be sure to stop by the Chapel Lounge to view this special exhibit!*

# ARTS @ HOLY TRINITY

— 40th Anniversary —

**FREE  
Concert!**

*Four decades of  
bringing music to  
the community.*



## Peter Sykes, Organist

**Sunday  
November 19  
4 p.m.**

Multi-award winner Peter Sykes is a member of the organ department faculty at the University of Michigan, a core faculty member and principal instructor of harpsichord at the Historical Performance Department of the Juilliard School in New York City, and teaches organ and harpsichord at Boston University. He performs extensively in recital and has made ten solo recordings of organ and harpsichord repertoire ranging from Buxtehude, Couperin and Bach to Reger and Hindemith and his acclaimed organ transcription of Holst's "The Planets."

This Concert is co-sponsored by the Akron Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

**WATCH THE LIVE STREAM**

[artsholytrinity.org](http://artsholytrinity.org)

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Doors open 30 minutes prior. For details, visit [artsholytrinity.org](http://artsholytrinity.org).

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**Ohio Arts  
COUNCIL**



# LEADERSHIP

## Candidates for Council & Nominating Committee

### Candidates for Church Council



*Mike Ameling*

*Diane Chambers*

*Frederica Cohen*

*John Guran*

*Laurel Heath*



*Kevin Heckel*

*Amy Indorf*

*Bob Keener*

*Hannah Miller*

*Lorin Sickafosse*

### Candidates for Nominating Committee



*Joanne Aller*

*Marsha Asente*

*Sandy DeLuca*

*Deb Ickes*

*LJ Kimble*

*Gregg Loesch*

## Mike Ameling

The strongest influence of my Christian faith is undoubtedly my up-bringing. I was raised in North Carolina, Minnesota, and finally in Ohio. My father was a Methodist minister for 19 years. My mother (born and raised in North Dakota) was also a Methodist. Her father was a founding trustee of the Methodist church in Arthur, N.D. Naturally we went to church every Sunday.

After graduating high school in Akron, I left Ohio for college, and then to the west coast in my first job, the navy. In total I was absent from Ohio for 19 years. Family connections brought me back from California. In those 19 years I rarely went to church, but I always thought about it. My Sundays did not feel quite right.

My introduction to Trinity occurred when coming home for vacations and holidays. My mother Josephine had started attending Trinity in the 80's. I fondly remember Pastor Jan Walker and Interim Pastor Maurice Gold. When I moved back to Ohio in 1995 I joined within a few months.

I served one term on council some 20 years ago – I believe it was 1999-2000. At that time council had 24 members. This seems unbelievable now. Later, from 2006 to 2017 I served on the Endowment Committee, the Property Team, and as an usher. When I gained ownership of a machine shop in 2017, I had to reduce my involvement due to my work schedule, but still was always present Sunday mornings. I sold my interest in that machine shop in 2021, getting rid of the long commute, however I still work full-time in manufacturing.

In my life of faith there is no single moment I can cite when 'a lightbulb of belief' flashed on. As a youth I accepted what I learned as a child. Later as an adult I decided God must exist, and therefore had a desire to learn as much as possible. The New Covenant given to us by Jesus Christ is the best offer ever made to mankind, and indeed the only offer of lasting value.

I have been a member of Trinity for 28 years. In the past Trinity has met all my needs and desires. I love the theology, the liturgy, the sacred music, the architecture, etc. Having said this, I am open to change – in fact I am a strong advocate for it. All of us are aware of the changes in the practice and status of religion in western society in recent decades. This, plus the changes Akron has experienced in the last 50-60 years, mean we cannot continue doing things in the future as we have in the past. Trinity will have to be re-invented, and we must change our expectations and desires to accomplish this. We will not be alone in this journey – the practice of traditional Christianity is changing across the country, and indeed the entire developed world. Perhaps Christianity in the 21<sup>st</sup> century will become less of an institution, and more like a movement, as it was in the early centuries. Together we will have to find a way for Holy Trinity to play a role in the future. †

## Diane Chambers

My faith informs who I am and what I do, both as a participant in worship, Bible studies, and Faith 5 and as a disciple/servant. I am a life-long Lutheran, raised by faithful parents and grandparents and their friends. I never doubted their commitment to Jesus and to their church. Their faith directed their lives, and they taught me through example what it was to live a Christian life. They read to us from our children's Bible. They showed us how to follow along in worship even as we were just learning to read. I still remember Mom teaching us the Lord's Prayer. We were expected also to participate in congregational life. Just as importantly, I saw how they treated family, friends, and strangers. Their generosity still impresses me.

Faith was in the air we breathed. After Confirmation, I carried on, participating in youth group and worship. My Confirmation Bible verse was Psalm 23:1—the Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want. It has guided me through my life. By the time I was an adult, doing church and believing in the Trinity were so much a part of my life that I continued on. Since I love learning, challenging myself to keep examining my faith was obvious to me. Gradually, the Holy Spirit became a strong, guiding influence.

When we moved to Akron in 1997, I began attending Holy Trinity and joined in 1998. In the early years, most of my activities were limited to Sundays, including reader and communion assistant, and what is now the Faith Formation team. Eventually, I joined Women's Bible Study and formed the Holy Trinity Book Club with Amy Indorf. I served on Council during the transition to its smaller size. During Covid, I participated in the Faith 5 Friday check-in, something I still do today, and Zoom Bible studies. After all these years, I still serve on Faith Formation and now Social Concerns, and I volunteer when I can for Robinson CLC and DLM. I know because of Jesus and his teachings, my faith needs to be active. He calls all of us to discipleship and service. †

## Frederica Cohen

Worship and Music have been intertwined in my life since fifth grade. Fifth grade was when we could join Junior Choir at Epiphany Lutheran in Toledo, Ohio. Since that time, I've never looked back and found music was the way I chose to serve the church where I happened to be attending. I'm a lifelong Lutheran who is formally trained and deeply passionate about music. Music is my avenue to best serve my church and connect my faith with others. As you well know, at Holy Trinity I am active in the music groups but I also am currently chair of Worship and Music and on Council, and served in other roles as well within the church. †

## John Guran

John is retired from Charter Communications where he most recently worked in the Denver, CO, network engineering offices. He moved from Denver to Copley in August of 2021 and transferred his

*Continued on next page ...*

membership back to Holy Trinity where he was previously a member from 1975-2013. He has served as Council President for the last 18 months.

He holds undergraduate degrees from Cornell University and the University of Akron and a law degree from the University of Akron. He is a professional engineer and a licensed attorney. Although retired from corporate life, John has been providing pro bono mediation services in eviction cases in the Akron Municipal Court. He has also been serving as a court-appointed special advocate/guardian ad litem (CASA/GAL) for the Summit County Juvenile Court since December 2021.

In his former congregations in Littleton, CO, and Durham, NC, John sang in their choirs and most recently served as Council President of St. Philip in Littleton during a term that included calling a new Senior Pastor after the retirement of the pastor who had served for 17 years. At Holy Trinity, in addition to choir participation, John has served as Congregation Council President, Treasurer and Chair of several ministries including Music, Worship, Education, and Evangelism. In his younger years, he and his wife served as Jr/Sr High Sunday School teachers and youth leaders.

John is widowed since 2008 and has an adult daughter and son who are married and raising four grandchildren in Richmond, VA, and Greensboro, NC.

John stays active with the sports of bicycling, hiking, tennis, golf, water and snow skiing, and running. He enjoys traveling, reading and playing contract bridge. †

## Laurel Heath

My name is Laurel Oberdorfer Heath, and I've been a member of Holy Trinity since November 2021. I grew up in the Lutheran Church as the daughter of The Late Rev. Luther Oberdorfer and Holy Trinity member Betty Oberdorfer. I watched and learned from the struggles my father faced dealing with declining membership and other issues with the church. I look forward to helping Holy Trinity through the call process, future growth and stability, and outreach.

I currently serve Holy Trinity as the grant writer (through December). I formerly served as the substitute Parish Secretary and counted offering each week. Due to my schedule, I attend church virtually each Sunday morning and attend in person as I can. I stay nurtured through the great Bible Studies and devotions.

I live in Uniontown with my husband, Ken, a dog, and two cats. In July, Mom (Betty) joined our household. I own Heath Business Solutions, where I work as a virtual administrative assistant and virtual non-profit administrative and fundraising specialist, and Lizelu Designs, which features printables and my photography. I am a proud member of the Canton Chamber of Commerce and Kiwanis (Belden Village), where I serve as the Membership Chair.

I am a Titanic and a Holocaust historian. Other hobbies and

interests include following the IndyCar series, reading, photography, gardening, swimming, travel, needlecrafts, painting, puzzles and so much more. I also babysit a very active almost five-year-old, Hope, a few days each week.

Fun fact: I am a shareholder of the Green Bay Packers football team!

## Kevin Heckel

Hello, Angela and I take pride that our boys are the fifth generation of our family to be members of Holy Trinity. I married into two great families over 17 years ago, the Calvins and yours at Holy Trinity although I had officially joined HTLC prior to our wedding as I began attending as we dated. I have developed a deep passion for our membership, our traditions and our future together.

I enjoy the opportunity to serve our community; specifically at Holy Trinity, I currently serve as Property Team lead. I have also served in various other capacities over the years including Council President (3 years), Vice President, communion assistant, endowment committee chair, stewardship campaign, Every Other Month club member, greeter, laborer and cook at various functions.

I am a proud Ohioan having graduated from Ohio University in 1994 with a Bachelor of Business Administration (majors: Accounting, Management Information System and Business Pre-Law). I am a Managing Director at Deloitte and have enjoyed more than 25 years serving in our Cyber Security consultancy. As mentioned above, I am the proud father of Adam, Ryan and Joseph. We are raising them to continue not only our personal family traditions, but those of the church as well.

If elected, I commit to a personal focus on working to attract and retain more families and maintain fiscal viability. I look forward to the journey for us all and I look forward to welcoming those yet to join us.

## Amy Indorf

I was baptized at Faith Lutheran Church in Massillon and nurtured there in the Christian faith primarily by my mother and the church family that congregation represented for me. I started attending Trinity in the mid 1990s, becoming a member in 1998, and the church has been an integral part of my life and spiritual development since then. I have participated in the life of the congregation in a variety of ways: previously serving on church council, being a longstanding member of the Faith Formation team as well as co-coordinator of the Trinity Book Club, member of Trinity Bell Choir, Women's Bible Study, and serving as a reader and communion assistant. Additionally, with the support and encouragement of the congregation I completed a Master of Theological Studies degree, with a degree concentration in ethics, at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in 2003.

I have been able to nurture my relationship with God by engaging in a multitude of the worship, faith formation, service,

fellowship, and leadership activities that are abundant at Trinity and then also using those experiences to enrich my personal prayer and reflection activities.

All of that in total helps to inform my approach to any leadership activity at Trinity, including church council. I have also been blessed to have met and married my husband Rich Williams at Trinity. †

## **Bob Keener**

As many of you know, my family has a long history at Holy Trinity. When, eighteen years ago, I felt something lacking in my life and discovered that it was the need to worship and thank God for his blessings, I resisted returning to our church, but the beauty of our sanctuary led me here one Sunday morning. Of course, the roof of the sanctuary was being repaired so the service was held in the Fellowship Hall! But, people were welcoming and, on Easter Sunday of 2006, I filled out the card in the pew asking to join our church. I came for the sanctuary, but stayed for the people of our congregation, a wonderful group whose faith and friendship have made my life much more meaningful and strengthened my faith in our Lord.

As we embark upon the mission of Invite Welcome Connect, I believe that the future of Holy Trinity is bright and want to assist in providing for future generations what our predecessors so generously and blessedly left for us. †

## **Hannah Miller**

I was honored when I was approached to run for church council. Since my time began at Holy Trinity in September of 2019, I have served in several ways. I have been Soprano section leader of the choir, in bell choir, drum circle, and have volunteered with Arts at Holy Trinity and DLM. I'm looking forward to the opportunity of serving the church in another leadership role. As one could assume with these experiences; music is a huge part of my life and faith journey. In fact, it is where my faith journey began.

I did not grow up in a family that went to church. My mom did offer some spiritual guidance and sent me to a few years of Catholic schooling, but largely let my siblings and I experience faith through exploring many different churches with friends and family. This often led me into Catholic churches as their music programs were robust and called to my heart as a classical musician. Once I was at Kent State University, I started going through the Catholic process of Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults to become an official member. This is something I eventually resigned from as I didn't feel completely welcomed by the community in the end, and felt that God could not truly be here. I continued to go to and work for multiple churches in the area, but never found that sense of belonging I anticipated feeling. During that time I described myself as "spiritual, but not religious". I felt a strong connection to God through music and

continued to follow that calling which eventually led me to Holy Trinity. I found Holy Trinity through a Facebook ad for Soprano section leader (coming to God through Facebook? Who would have believed that?!). Soon, I found myself nose deep in the welcoming environment at Holy Trinity. I was continuously surprised at my experience as previously found harsh judgment in church communities for where I was in my faith journey. This sense of welcome only grew as I felt able to have open and honest conversations with both church leaders and members. This led to the decision of baptizing my daughter, Judith (Juju), in May 2022 and later becoming an official member of the congregation later that Fall.

As I have pondered my journey, I have discovered that it is not all that atypical for many in my generation. Many families are not raising their children in one particular faith, if any. This has become evident as we gather on Sunday mornings and often do not hear the patter of little, excited feet running to a pew. I believe that my journey can show what a deep sense of welcome can do for a young family, and hope to help to extend this welcome to more families that have a story similar to mine by sharing these experiences on church council.

*More about me:* I have been married for 3 years to my wonderful husband, Matthew, and we have a beautiful 2-year old daughter, Juju. I am also a fur mom of 4 cats: Mia, Maximilian, Mordecai and Mumford. I work as a non-injury auto claims adjuster at Nationwide and work from home. I am a graduate of Kent State University where I studied music, political science, and education. My free time is spent with my family, often exploring the outdoors. †

## **Lorin Sickafosse**

My neighbor in 1978, Pastor Frank Efird, invited our family to join Holy Trinity. Since then I have chaired several ministries and served as president of Congregation Council. I've retired from a career of designing and programming industrial computer applications.

I currently am a member of the Property Team and the Constitution Committee. I also help to maintain the Holy Trinity computer network and am a backup operator for the livestream system.

I share the "Christ in Our Home" daily scripture/text on a phone call with my girlfriend. She reads the scripture and then I read the text. Usually a discussion follows about how well we think the text relates to the scripture. †

## **Joanne Aller**

I was born into the Lutheran Church. I was baptized, attended school (K-8), confirmed and was married at Zion Lutheran Church in Akron. Singing in a choir was mandatory in school. I continued throughout high school and as an adult with my husband, Duane, when we transferred to Holy Trinity in the early

*Continued on next page ...*

1980s.

I retired from The University of Akron after working six years as Departmental Secretary in the Marketing Department, College of Business; then 22 years with the UA Police Department where I retired as a sergeant. Then enjoyed over 20 years of wintering in Florida with Duane.

I have always enjoyed giving my time and resources to youth, food pantries, Family Promise, etc. I have been a member of the Holy Trinity Time Tithers (TTTs) for nearly 20 years, worked with the Altar Guild, and continue to help with and serve communion. The church is my second family, and I will continue to serve where I can. †

### **Marsha Asente**

Marsha Asente has been a member of Holy Trinity since birth and has served the church in various ways. A member of church council, the altar guild, as a reader and Sunday School teacher, confirmation teacher in the past and serves now on the Personnel Committee. She lives with her husband John in Cuyahoga Falls. She is a retired APS classroom teacher and in retirement she enjoys time spent with her children and grandchildren. †

### **Sandy DeLuca**

My first time coming to Holy Trinity was for a business meeting with Linda Vowles, then the Director of Gift-Based Ministries. After our meeting, I mentioned that my son and I were looking for a church and asked to see the Sanctuary. When I entered the space, my first impression was, 'how can anyone see in here, it's way too dark!' It would be another 18 months before we would return to Holy Trinity. That was in 2009, and we've been a part of this congregation ever since.

My abilities to lead others were formed during high school while I was in Luther League. I believed I could do a lot of good in a leadership role within this group. After all, I was organized and had many ideas. Eventually I was elected President and as they say, the rest is history. This experience helped me to form the foundation of my servant leadership skills and talents and grow and nurture them into what they are today. Of course, they continue to develop as I deepen my relationship with the Lord. Since coming to Holy Trinity, I have served in several leadership roles: Council member, Secretary, Vice President, and President, as well as directing several of the church's milestone anniversary celebrations. I currently serve as chair of the new Invite Welcome Connect Ministry Team, and I am on staff as the Communications Coordinator.

I was born and raised in a Lutheran Church and frequently attended worship, Sunday School, and youth

activities. But it wasn't until I became a parent in my 30's that I really grounded my faith and belief in the Lord. Being a part of the Holy Trinity family has helped me to discover what it means to 'be a child of God' and to lead by example by loving and serving others. And that's how I plan to serve if elected to the Nominating Committee. †

### **LJ Kimble**

Hello! I'm Lesley Jane King Kimble ("LJ") and I've been nominated for the 2024 Nominating Committee. I served on this committee a few years ago and enjoyed the task of finding good leaders for our congregation. If elected I'll be calling on a lot of you to step up and help Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (HTLC) grow.

A bit about myself ...

Growing up I was active in Christ United Methodist Church in Scottsdale, PA. I moved to Akron in 1972 to teach in Akron Public Schools and became a member of Park United Methodist Church in Kenmore. However, when I married my husband, Rick, I started attending HTLC and later became a member. We raised our two daughters here at HTLC. Over the 45+ years I've been a member I've participated in a variety of activities and various ministries, including what is now known as the Faith Formation Team and their activities, Women's Bible Study, the Meditation and Memorial Garden Committee, and the card ministry.

The online sessions HTLC started during Covid for worship, fellowship, and faith formation have been very instrumental in growing my faith these last few years. I continue to enjoy these online offerings, especially when I travel out of state to visit my daughters and their families.

I believe we are at an important point in the history of Holy Trinity, and hope we can all work together to create an environment which will continue to connect all people to Jesus. Thank you for considering me to serve on the nominating committee. †

### **Gregg Loesch**

My grandparents and parents were Trinity members. I was baptized here at Trinity, but raised at Redeemer in the Falls, returned to Trinity in 1974 and have worshiped here ever since. Grandma Loesch was a close friend of Ruth Simon, both of whom set examples of good Lutheran lifestyles that inspired me to follow.

I currently serve as President of the Trinity Ushers Association and Chair of the Outreach & Social Concerns team ministry. In the past I have been on Church Council, a few Council Nominating Committees and a pastoral call committee, and have taught Sunday School.

I retired from the Akron Water Department in 2022 and have been busy with family, my clubs, Trinity, and taking a trip or two. Also I love to cook, walk the dog, fix things around the house, and help friends and people. †

*See page 5 for details about the Congregational Meeting.*





## Phases of Transition

### Phase 1: Saying Farewell

- Pastor/Deacon announces resignation or retirement
- Bishop meets with Congregation Council
- Plans for transitional leadership
- Conclusion of Pastor/Deacon's ministry

### Phase 2: Exploring God's Call

- Discernment of Mission & Vision: Who are we—and what is God calling us to?
- Consensus on Mission & Vision
- Identify staffing needed to engage Mission & Vision

### Phase 3: Entering the Call Process

- Form a Call Committee
- Assistant to the Bishop meets with Congregation Council & Call Committee
- Prepare the Ministry Site Profile
- Interview preparation
- Receive and interview candidates

### Phase 4: Primary Candidate

- Call Committee recommends candidate to the Congregational Council
- Congregation Council engages with recommended candidate and negotiates compensation
- Meet –n–Greet for candidate and congregation
- Congregation meeting with call vote

### Phase 5: Welcoming & Celebrating

- Determine timeline for rostered minister's move and start date
- Facilitate rostered minister's move
- Schedule installation service with Conference Dean †

# Call Process Q&A Session

Holy Trinity welcomed Pastor Mitch Phillips, Assistant to the Bishop for the NE Ohio Synod, on September 10 for a Q&A Session about the Call Process. He prefaced his comments by stating, "This is the Holy Spirit's process, so plan to make room and take your time."

To give us an idea of the need, Pastor Mitch shared that as of the end of August across the ELCA, there are 585 congregations ready to interview candidates. That number can be nearly tripled for the # congregations that are in some other phase of the process. On the flip side, there are 358 pastors open to call. Over the last five years, there have been approximately 600 retirements across the ELCA. In 2022, there were 100 graduates from Seminary.

Locally in the NE Ohio Synod, 55% of the 151 congregations have called pastors; 17% will never call a pastor; and 26% are in some phase of the process. Currently there are 14 congregations with completed Site Profiles; four that are wanting full-time called pastors; and the remaining churches wanting part-time called pastors.

Where is Holy Trinity in this process? We are in Phase 2. This is primarily the discerning phase, answering the question ... who is God calling us to be for our community? We also need to determine our Mission and Vision and how they shall be staffed for engagement.

Once Phase 2 is complete, we are ready to move onto Phase 3 and enter the Call Process. The first step is to form a Call Committee. Pastor Mitch will meet with the members of the Call Committee to outline what is needed for the Site Profile, help them prepare for the interviews, and guide them through the process of receiving and interviewing candidates. Pastor Mitch shares our Site Profile with viable candidates for initial interviews. He also highly encourages open and transparent communication with the congregation during the entire process. However, once the Call Committee begins reviewing candidate profiles, the process becomes extremely confidential. The reason for the high confidentiality at this point is related to the candidates. Most of them are serving congregations who are not aware that they are considering a change.

During the interviews, the Call Committee will ask many questions, among them being about the candidates' hopes, dreams, and visions for the future of Holy Trinity. It is not recommended to have candidates preach during worship, but rather for the Call Committee to watch videos of the candidates preaching. Once the Call Committee has identified a candidate, the Council negotiates the compensation package. Once the compensation package has been determined, a meet-n-greet with the congregation is scheduled followed by a congregation vote to issue the call. The candidate has 30 days to accept.

Finally, we prepare to welcome and celebrate a new pastor in Phase 5. An arrival date is set which is typically 4-6 weeks after accepting the call. The installation service is then scheduled.

So as we continue through Phase 2, here are some things Pastor Mitch shared we need to think about ...

- Give up getting back to how things used to be. We are in the midst of a paradigm shift in the church. How do we build a Christian community from the ground up with the resources we have?
- We need to be clear with our Mission and Vision to move the church forward. Get clear with ourselves in terms of where we are and where we want to go. Then we can call a pastor to walk alongside us.
- We need to come together as a community of faith to discern who we are and what God is calling us to do and be. †



*Pastor Mitch Phillips, Assistant to the Bishop, NE Ohio Synod.*

# Update from the Worship & Music Ministry Team



## Congratulations to Jack Harig!

Congratulations to Jack Harig who received the Carroll "Gene" Stalnaker Got Your 6 Award at the annual Warriors Journey Home Gala Celebration held September 16. Jack was recognized for his selfless giving of his time and talents to Warriors Journey Home and to the Akron community.

Also in attendance were Lor Breyley, Jacinto and Rachel Núñez, as well as members of the Healing Circle and of Jack's family. †



**New Shirts for Staff** ... If you don't know Vince Simmons, he is our Sexton who works each Sunday to prepare the church building for worship. He is pictured wearing one of the new staff t-shirts. †

Practices for our vocal choir have started again, and we welcome anyone who would like to join us each Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Practice has been moved to room 202, and we hope that you will prayerfully consider joining us. Our bell choir practices every Thursday at 6:30 p.m., and we are always looking for new ringers to join us in this fun and meaningful way that contributes to our worship experience.

I also wanted to let you know that we heard you! As you know we are returning to the liturgy, currently setting three, and we hope that you have enjoyed singing some of your favorite hymns. We have plans to continue singing through the list. Please know that some of the hymns belong to specific seasons in our church calendar, and we will get to sing them all eventually.

Coming up for Arts @ Holy Trinity, our first concert kicks off Sunday October the 8th at 4 p.m. with Miguel Espinoza Fusion. We hope that you will join us for this wonderful ensemble.

Also in celebration of our 40th anniversary of our music series, we launched the "Sponsor a Pipe" initiative in the hopes of funding the organ maintenance account for any future needed repairs. Each pipe is \$40 and each octave for \$480. Sponsor as many pipes or octaves as you like with your generosity.

The Worship & Music Mini + Team meets the second Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the church. We hope you would prayerfully consider joining our team.

Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have any questions. We know that music plays such an important role in our liturgy, and it is so wonderful to hear all of you, each Sunday, singing to the Glory of God. †

Peace in Christ,

Frederica Cohen, Chair



Join us for Choir Practice ...  
Thursday, 7:30 p.m. in Room 202



## Robinson CLC Open House

Robinson CLC's annual Open House, held August 31, brought students and families together to meet the teachers and staff, learn about community resources and enjoy a hot dog meal provided by Holy Trinity. Thank you to the many hands who bought the supplies, set up the tables, cooked, prepared and distributed the food, and shared information about our church and ministries. A special thank you to John Stefanik for securing a Thrivent Grant to fund this event. †



*Pictured at left: Deborah Marks (l) and Frederica Cohen.*

*Pictured above: Amy Indorf and Rich Williams.*



*Pictured above: Pam Marko and Sylvia Leddon prepare the hot dogs; Ruth Stefanik is in the background.*

*Pictured top right: Diane Chambers and Don Parsisson staff the buffet tables.*

*Pictured top left: Frederica Cohen and Diane Chambers talk to families at the Holy Trinity Resource Table.*

## Annual Father's Walk

It was great to see so many fathers, grandfathers, older brothers, uncles and other father figures attend the Annual Father's Walk at Robinson CLC on September 21. Holy Trinity has supported this event for several years by providing donuts and coffee for all the dads (just donuts for their children!). More than 50 fathers attended. †

*Pictured right: Rachel Núñez serving donuts to dads and students.*



## ROMANS 12 - Place Your Life Before God

1-2 So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

3 I'm speaking to you out of deep gratitude for all that God has given me, and especially as I have responsibilities in relation to you. Living then, as every one of you does, in pure grace, it's important that you not misinterpret yourselves as people who are bringing this goodness to God. No, God brings it all to you. The only accurate way to understand ourselves is by what God is and by what he does for us, not by what we are and what we do for him.

4-6a In this way we are like the various parts of a human body. Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around. The body we're talking about is Christ's body of chosen people. Each of us finds our meaning and function as a part of his body. But as a chopped-off finger or cut-off toe we wouldn't amount to much, would we? So since we find ourselves fashioned into all these excellently formed and marvelously functioning parts in Christ's body, let's just go ahead and be what we were made to be, without enviously or pridefully comparing ourselves with each other, or trying to be something we aren't.

6b-8 If you preach, just preach God's Message, nothing else; if you help, just help, don't take over; if you teach, stick to your teaching; if you give encouraging guidance, be careful that you don't get bossy; if you're put in charge, don't manipulate; if you're called to give aid to people in distress, keep your eyes open and be quick to respond; if you work with the disadvantaged, don't let yourself get irritated with them or depressed by them. Keep a smile on your face.

\* \* \*

9-10 Love from the center of who you are; don't fake it. Run for dear life from evil; hold on for dear life to good. Be good friends who love deeply; practice playing second fiddle.

11-13 Don't burn out; keep yourselves fueled and aflame. Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant. Don't quit in hard times; pray all the harder. Help needy Christians; be inventive in hospitality.

14-16 Bless your enemies; no cursing under your breath. Laugh with your happy friends when they're happy; share tears when they're down. Get along with each other; don't be stuck-up. Make friends with nobodies; don't be the great somebody.

17-19 Don't hit back; discover beauty in everyone. If you've got it in you, get along with everybody. Don't insist on getting even; that's not for you to do. "I'll do the judging," says God. "I'll take care of it."

20-21 Our Scriptures tell us that if you see your enemy hungry, go buy that person lunch, or if he's thirsty, get him a drink. Your generosity will surprise him with goodness. Don't let evil get the best of you; get the best of evil by doing good.

*THE MESSAGE: The Bible in Contemporary Language copyright © 1993, 2002, 2018 by Eugene H. Peterson. All rights reserved. Used by permission of NavPress. Represented by Tyndale House Publishers.*

*This chapter from Romans was read together aloud at the All Teams Meeting on September 12. It helped reaffirm that we all need to focus our attention on God in all that we do ... with ourselves, with our families and friends, and within this congregation.*

*This passage is being shared with everyone as a reminder to focus on God. For when we do, He brings out the best in all of us.*



Members of the Worship & Music Ministry Team pictured (from l): Deb Ickes, Jacquie Wert, John Catlos, Frederica Cohen and Molly Phelps.



## All Teams Meeting

*'For where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there among them.'*  
Matthew 18: 20

There were far more than two or three gathered for the All Teams Meeting on September 12, and the Lord was definitely present! Members and leaders of the eight ministry teams came together for a time of fellowship, devotions and leadership learning. This was followed by all teams meeting separately in various locations with collaborative discussions and interactions as needed. Council Vice President Linda Vowles opened the meeting and Rachel Núñez offered devotions.



Pictured above (from l): John Guran, Leslie Eisehnart, Pastor Becki Verbridge, Jack Harig, Linda Vowles and Bob Keener.



Pictured top right: Those who attended donated school supplies for DLM Food & Resources.

Pictured at left around the table (from l): Velma Pomrenke, Don Parsisson, Diane Chambers, Gregg Loesch, Rich Williams and Amy Indorf.



Linda Vowles gives remarks at the All Teams Meeting.

# Faith Formation Activities

What do you do to grow your faith? How do you deepen your relationship with God? There are plenty of Faith Formation activities each month to help you do these things!

We invite you to come, witness, and experience for yourself what it means 'to be a child of God' with others. Share in the fellowship of these gatherings and grow in your faith and belief in Christ as you listen and participate.

And a bonus ... you get to meet new people! You might just be surprised to learn how much you have in common with others. †

**Pictured (clockwise from top):** Women's Bible Study, Hike & See, Holy Trinity Goes to Breakfast, and the newest event, Tuesday on the Trail with Rachel.



**Women's Bible Study ... pictured from l:** Amy Indorf, Rachel Nunez, Diane Chambers, Velma Pomrenke, LJ Kimble, Linda Vowles, Teresa Boland, Marie Grealis, and Molly Phelps. Those who attended but are not pictured: Pastor Becki Verbridge and Sandy DeLuca.



**Tuesday on the Trail with Rachel ... pictured from l:** Rachell Nunez, Pastor Becki Verbridge, Amy Indorf and Rich Williams.



**Hike & Seek ... pictured from l:** Jacinto Núñez, Don Parisson, Amy Indorf, Rich Williams, Diane Chambers, LJ Kimble and taking the picture is Rachel Núñez.

One Faith Formation activity not pictured on this page is **Men's Bible Study**. Tom Baumgardner and Jack Harig lead this monthly group for a time of fellowship, devotion and studying scripture. They gather the third Saturday of each month at 9 a.m. in the office meeting area. And donuts are always available.

**Holy Trinity Goes to Breakfast ... pictured from l:** Hannah Miller and her daughter JuJu, Becky Adkins, Joan Derrig, Deb Ickes, Joanne Aller, Rachel Núñez, Marcy Nagy, Carol & Ray Mason, and Gregg Loesch. Those who attended but are not pictured are Sandy DeLuca and Robert Ritmae.





## Worship & Music Together

Dating back more than 150 years, music has been an integral part of Holy Trinity's worship experience. And we are thrilled to continue that tradition today! With our magnificent organ, Trinity Choir, Bell Choir, Trinity Brass along with guest musicians and instrumentalists, we sing louder, pray harder, and praise God always! †

*Pictured above (from l): Rachel Núñez with Choir section leaders Hannah Miller (soprano), William Bowers (baritone), and Spencer Davis (tenor). Not pictured is Cindy Kenepf (alto).*

*Pictured at left: Linda Kempke, guest organist.*

## Worship Stewards

Date	Readers	Assisting Ministers
Sunday, October 1 9:30 a.m.	Ann Lawson	Linda Vowles
Sunday, October 8 9:30 a.m.	Frederica Cohen	Frederica Cohen
Sunday, October 15 9:30 a.m.	Linda Vowles	Deb Ickes
Sunday, October 22 9:30 a.m.	Marsha Asente	Mike Ameling
Sunday, October 29 9:30 a.m.	Jacque Wert	Rachel Núñez



## October Birthdays

*'Happy Birthday' to the following members who are celebrating birthdays this month!!*

October 2 – Michelle Robison

October 2 – Cathy Snelson

October 3 – Luke Jones

October 5 – Anderson Lauf

October 8 – Madison Lakins

October 8 – Craig Marko

October 9 – Daniel Giffels

October 10 – Gabrielle Carrino

October 10 – Sandy DeLuca

October 11 – Logan Butler

October 12 – Kristin Forbes

October 12 – Dorothea Wise

October 17 – Bob Foutty

October 17 – Thomas McCahan

October 18 – Ricki Ethington

October 18 – Jacob Raymond

October 23 – Steven Mitchhart

October 23 – Kathleen Walsh

October 25 – Keara Mitchhart

October 25 – Eva Wegryn

October 26 – Rick Kimble

October 30 – Mary McCauley

October 31 – Linda Berthold

*If you want to include your birthday in a future issue of the Highlights, please contact Annmarie Demko at (330) 376-5154.  
NOTE: This list only includes known birthdays.*

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## Trinity Highlights

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## HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Praising. Loving. Serving in Jesus' name.*

### Mission Statement:

The mission of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is to bring Jesus to people through love and the word of God.

### Vision Statement:

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is a faith community grounded in God's word, called to worship and committed to serve as disciples of Jesus Christ.

### Address & Phone:

50 N. Prospect Street  
Akron, Ohio 44304-1273  
(330) 376-5154 [holytrinityakron.org](http://holytrinityakron.org)

### Groups & Activities

Altar Guild - Deborah Ickes  
Archives - Ricki Ethington  
Assisting Ministers—Rachel Núñez  
Book Club - Diane Chambers & Amy Indorf  
Communion Assistants - Deborah Ickes  
& Marcy Nagy  
Family Promise & OPEN M - Gregg Loesch  
Memorial Garden - Sonya Nagle  
Men's Bible Study - Tom Baumgardner  
& Jack Harig  
Parish Nurse Ministry - Sally Richenbacher  
Prayer Chain - Sally Richenbacher  
Renaissance Team - Bob Keener  
Readers - Nan Riemenschneider  
Robinson CLC/FRC - Sandy DeLuca  
Live Stream Team - Sandy DeLuca  
Ushers - Gregg Loesch  
Warriors Journey Home - Jack Harig  
Women's Bible Study - Velma Pomrenke

### 2023 Cabinet

Care & Fellowship - Rachel Núñez  
Faith Formation - Amanda Archbold  
Finance - Lesli Eisenhart  
Outreach & Social Concerns - Gregg Loesch  
Personnel - John Stefanik  
Property - Kevin Heckel  
Invite Welcome Connect - Sandy DeLuca  
Worship & Music - Frederica Cohen  
Council Liaison - Linda Vowles

### 2023 Church Council

President, John Guran  
Vice President, Linda Vowles  
Secretary, Valerie Clark  
Treasurer, Lesli Eisenhart  
Frederica Cohen  
Jack Harig  
Bob Hoskins  
Pastor Becki Verbridge

### Holy Trinity Staff

Interim Senior Pastor, Becki Verbridge  
Director of Faith Formation, Rachel Núñez  
Interim Director of Choirs, John Catlos  
Parish Secretary, Annmarie Demko  
Financial Secretary, Jim Minisall  
Communications Coordinator,  
Sandy DeLuca  
DLM Director, Darlene Katz  
DLM Operations Manager & Technology  
Production Coordinator, Stefan Katz  
Maintenance Coordinator, Bruce Mansour  
Sexton, Vince Simmons

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