



# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Experiencing and  
Sharing Jesus

November



701 East Florida Avenue, Urbana Illinois 61801 – Phone: 217-367-8923

Pastor Shawn Boylan – [pastorshawn@trinity-urbana.org](mailto:pastorshawn@trinity-urbana.org)

Traditional Worship - Saturday - 5:30 p.m.

Traditional Worship - Sunday - 8:30 a.m.

Contemporary Worship - Sunday - 10:45 a.m.

Join us online - Sunday - 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. [trinity-urbana.org](http://trinity-urbana.org)

Dear friends and members of Trinity,

Does your life feel a bit off-balance? In these times of change, it's easy to feel off kilter. The last seven months have been so unusual. One friend of Jill's was at home at the beginning of the coronavirus crisis. She was able find time to exercise and enjoy life at a different pace. Now that things are kind of back to normal, exercise time is gone, but there's time to visit the donut shop on the way to work. Maybe your work hasn't changed. Maybe you're retired, but I'm sure you've felt the impact of COVID-19 personally.



To daily be aware that Christ has been with us and that he has been providing for us all along is a very helpful frame of mind. It provides a sense of equilibrium in a world that is constantly changing. Being thankful for his goodness and care speaks peace to our souls and bears good fruit in our lives. God will take care of things.

Jesus said, "And don't be concerned about what to eat and what to drink. Don't worry about such things."<sup>30</sup> These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers all over the world, but your Father already knows your needs.<sup>31</sup> Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and he will give you everything you need.<sup>32</sup> So don't be afraid, little flock. For it gives your Father great happiness to give you the Kingdom." Luke 12:29-32 (NLT)

Jesus gives us a command to seek because he wants people to learn to rely only on God. The word "seek" in the New Testament usually means to try to learn where something is, to look for, to try to find something. What God wants is for us to find is a deeper faith in Christ's love and to share that with others. One good thing that can come from unstable times, like this corona crisis, is that we rely more on God than on ourselves. On the Lord, "we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us." 2 Co 1:10 (NIV)

We can pray for one another and ask for God's help in time of need. What will happen is that God will hear our prayers through Christ, and this is more powerful than we know. As a result, people will give thanks to God because of his gracious love. And it's not just by prayer, but we can also give thanks to God by filling a shoebox and sending it to a child through Operation Christmas Child. Some family in a completely different part of the world will thank God for your gift and have the opportunity to hear about Jesus. And your thanksgiving can abound even more.

Hundreds of kids in two schools in Haiti will thank God every school day because you gave them a good meal to eat, a place to learn and the opportunity to hear about Jesus.

Seek the kingdom of God that thanksgiving would abound in your heart; and also that through your prayers and service to others, there would be much praise and thanks to God. He is with us and providing for us, and we can be thankful for his goodness and care.

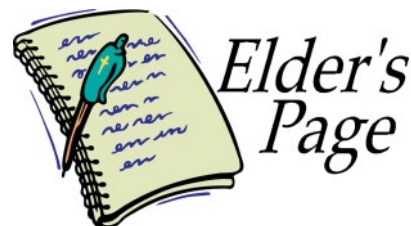
Blessings in Jesus,

*Pastor Shawn*



## Everyone Has A Part To Play

I've been working off and on (seasonally) for months when I have the time, to help someone remove invasive (woody) species that were let grow for decades. As many of you know by now, we heat with a wood burning furnace when the temps stay below freezing. Keeping a seasoned supply of roughly 10 cords of wood annually, turns into a real job. When I can help someone out and heat the house as a side effect, the work seems like less of a chore, and more like "outdoor exercise" (I keep telling myself and my chiropractor during my regular visits).



Over the course of over a year, I would come and go, and each time I'd return to see a better result than anticipated. Much of the project began as a simple invitation to help out and clean up a few bothersome trees. I could offer some advice or suggestions or even comment on alternative species to plant, herbicide control methods or tips for working on the project on their own. Early in the project, it was clear that they were serious about making changes, and improving their property. They stayed busier than I did, with branch removal and understory clearing and treatment. By the next time I visited, it was obvious that they had been working hard on their own as well, I just wasn't there to witness it.

While I sat and ate my lunch on a downed log destined to become firewood before the end of the day, I took in the view. The whole scene had changed with time, with the seasons, and more importantly with the work put in by the homeowners, myself and a select few others with specialized skills. I finished my part on Halloween, and had to admire the transformation that had taken place. What was once a thicket and a somewhat spooky place to be in (not just on Halloween), had become an attractive garden. It is like a private park, with winding paths, and areas which can be used for quiet contemplation, with mulched wooded remnants flanking the paths. Even the sounds of neighbor kids playing outside, added an air of enjoyment to it all.

I couldn't help but compare the transformation that I had witnessed in this property to another project that needs our attention. You guessed it, the fellowship hall. While everyone may have their own ideas and opinions about the details, it's clear that change is needed. While we aren't going to be dealing with invasive species, or even doing any heavy lifting for the project, each of us has a part to play. We can do as little or as much as we are prayerfully called to do. Right now the "doing" is really about giving. Giving gifts which will help to move forward in the plan to show that "All are Welcome" at Trinity Lutheran Church.

There is still time to send in or drop off a pledge card at the office. Whatever your gift, no matter the amount, prayerfully consider those who are yet to come to Trinity, those who are yet to live in our community, or even those who are not yet born. Everyone who will come to Trinity should know that All are Welcome. Please join me in praying our campaign prayer.

Dear Heavenly Father, guide Trinity Lutheran Church to move boldly in Your Love to be Your messengers in our community. Help us to serve Your people by being Your hands and feet. Give us Your words of encouragement to share with others. Help us to show how All Are Welcome here. Be our firm foundation to build a stronger family in Christ. Illuminate our path to raise the needed funds, for Trinity to be a city on a hill. Help us to be bold witnesses to Your salvation, to demonstrate a firm commitment to Your Word, and to increase our community involvement to grow Your family.

Amen,

Kevin Donoho – Elder Chairman

## President's Monthly Report to the Congregation

I hope you can attend the Regular Voters' Meeting on Sunday, November 22, 2020 in the Trinity church sanctuary after the late service, which will begin at 12:15 PM, subject to the sanctuary being ready for the meeting. *Whether you attend in-person or online through live streaming, you will be able to participate and vote.* If you would like to attend **IN-PERSON**, please let us know by calling the Trinity Office to make a reservation because seating in the sanctuary is limited to 50 members. You will also sign in when you arrive before the meeting so that we take attendance. Or, if you prefer to attend **ONLINE** (live streaming via Zoom), please call the Trinity Office to let us know so that we can send you instructions on how to use Zoom to attend online. You will also be asked to verbally acknowledge your membership before we begin our meeting so that we can take attendance. You can reach Mike Campo at the **Trinity Office** by calling **(217) 367-8923**.

So that you can prepare before the meeting, here is a DRAFT agenda:

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Opening Prayer
- 3) Approval of Minutes
- 4) Parish Council
  - a) Officer Reports
    - i) President (Rick Winkel)
    - ii) Treasurer (David Lange)
      - (1) 2021 Budget-motion to approve
    - iii) Property Manager (Dan Roney)
  - b) Committee Reports
    - i) Capital Campaign Committee (*All Are Welcome*) -restarted (David Lange, Chair)
      - (1) Update on progress of capital pledge campaign and next steps
    - ii) Building Committee -restarted (Dave Kuehn, Chair)
      - (1) Update on building project and next steps
    - iii) Preschool Committee (Carol Niemann, Chair)
- 5) Ministry Council Report (Pastor Shawn Boylan)
- 6) Board of Elders Report (Kevin Donoho, Chair)
- 7) New Business
  - a) Parish Council -election of candidates for Secretary, Treasurer, Property Manager, and one Member-at-Large
  - b) Ministry Council -motion to approve appointments
  - c) Board of Elders - motion to approve appointments
- 8) Next Voters' Assembly Meeting -Spring 2021 -TBD
- 9) Closing prayer
- 10) Adjournment

As you know, we met on September 13, 2020 in a Special Voters' Assembly and approved these motions (*I added the bold print*):

1. THAT the Fellowship Hall should be demolished.
2. THAT the Campaign Pledge Committee should restart the campaign immediately and present a **preliminary progress report** to the fall 2020 Voters' Assembly on **November 22, 2020**.
3. THAT the Building Committee should restart its work by preparing a **construction plan** to demolish the Fellowship Hall and to build new church facilities, including designs, drawings, and specifications, and cost



estimates that are consistent with the financial pledges made by the congregation, and present the construction plan to the **spring Voters' Assembly**, or as soon as a plan is ready.

The Capital Pledge Committee has a wonderful video about the need for our building project. You can find a link to the Campaign video on the Trinity website (<https://trinity-urbana.org>). Or, here is direct link to the video ([http://www.churchcampaign.org/trinity\\_lutheran\\_urbana\\_il/](http://www.churchcampaign.org/trinity_lutheran_urbana_il/))

I would like to highlight that, on November 22, David Lange as chair of the Capital Pledge Committee will give us a progress report on Trinity's capital pledge campaign. You should have received by regular mail a pledge card, a Campaign newsletter, and instructions for making a pledge. If you have not already done so, please prayerfully consider and make your pledge by filling out the pledge card and returning it to the Trinity Office before November 22, if possible.

Switching gears –in new business at the meeting, we will have an election of candidates for Secretary, Treasurer, Property Manager, and one Member-at-Large to the Parish Council for the term of 2021-2022. Please let me as chair of the Parish Council know if you are interested in knowing more about these elected positions and their respective roles at Trinity or if you would be interested in being a candidate. Likewise, contact Pastor Shawn about appointed positions for the Ministry Council and Kevin Donoho about being appointed as an Elder.

In closing, I pray that you are staying healthy and that we continue to take care of each other at Trinity, including our families, our friends, and our community.

Grace and peace,

Rick Winkel

President

(217) 649-7753 cell

[rwinkeljr@live.com](mailto:rwinkeljr@live.com)

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## Haiti Hunger Fight: An Update From Stivenson

As many of you know, our dear friend Stivenson Jean-Baptiste has completed his reign as the King of Parkland College, returned home to Haiti, and is working as a Feeding Program Director for Trinity Hope. Please join us for a virtual visit with Stivenson, via Zoom, on **Saturday, November 14 at 6 PM**. In this brief (appx. 30 minutes) and lively event, you will see the program in action, hear about its impact on the children, and learn how you can help.

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88035087700?pwd=TVgvWFdPUmlyQU5aa1pFQmgyRG9ydz09>

Our congregation partners with Trinity Hope to sponsor the Yahve-Nissi Christian School near Bainet, and the Institute Olivier Christian School in Port-Au-Prince. *Trinity Hope\** is a Lutheran ministry organization that focuses on one thing: feeding children in Christian schools throughout Haiti. **For about 25 cents per child, Trinity Hope provides one meal five days per week for over 33,500 children.** In many cases this is the only decent meal these children get each day.

When parents know their kids will be fed, they find a way to get them into school. Because they are Christian schools, the kids learn the Gospel along with their other studies. Because most of the schools are attached to churches, more kids (and their parents) end up attending church and learning more about Jesus, and His kingdom expands. Trinity Hope's impact is physical, intellectual, and most importantly, spiritual. It is a win-win-win for the children and their families.

*\*Trinity Hope has received a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, the nation's largest independent evaluator of non-profit charities. Check them out at [www.trinityhope.org](http://www.trinityhope.org).*





## Wee Disciples Preschool News

Wee Disciples Preschool Parent Teacher Conferences were held the last week of October as planned. It was a wonderful opportunity to share with families about their child's progress at Wee Disciples Preschool. Many conferences were completed via Zoom format. It was a different process than past years, but I am grateful that I was able to communicate with each family. There have been many challenges to overcome this school year due to COVID-19, but I am pleased with how the year is progressing. Wee Disciples Preschool has been blessed with wonderful families and students and the continued support of Trinity Lutheran Church.

November is a month of learning about being thankful for all that God has given us. We also learn about serving God by helping others and have a service project for the students to complete at home. This year the students will turn in money raised from the service project as a donation to Operation Christmas Child.

This month there is no school to observe Thanksgiving on Nov. 25, 26, and 27. Thanksgiving is a good opportunity to reflect on all the blessings God has given. I am thankful for my family and friends, the Wee Disciples students and their families, my teaching assistant, Julie Elsts, and the Wee Disciples Preschool Committee Members. I feel so blessed to be able to serve God through my work at our preschool.

God's Blessings to you all,

**Karen Rohrer**, Director and Teacher

## Operation Christmas Child 2020

Changes are happening in the way we do things these days, but we can still send boxes for Operation Christmas Child. This year, instead of having a packing party and meeting together to pack gifts, we plan to pack the gift boxes individually, and as families. Think what fun it is to shop for gifts for a child- especially if you can go shopping with a child or a grandchild, a family member or a friend!

The leadership of Samaritan's Purse and Operation Christmas Child is encouraging churches and individuals to continue packing gift boxes for needy children around the world. Many families are suffering this year from the Corona virus and from the economic downturn resulting from the virus. Children need those shoebox gifts, and the Gospel message that is delivered with them, this year more than ever.

We will not collect and store items to put in the boxes at the church this year. Instead individuals and families can pick-up empty boxes at church, shop for items, and fill the boxes. Boxes are available for you to pick-up in the narthex.

**You may return the filled boxes anytime the church is open between Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> and November 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will deliver the filled boxes Sunday, Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> in the afternoon,** to be packed onto trucks ready to get them started on their journey.

Trinity has sent around 50 boxes each year; we hope, by God's grace, to meet that goal this year also.

## Shoebox Ideas



## ALL ARE WELCOME Campaign Progress Report

Thank you to all Trinity members who have returned their ALL ARE WELCOME campaign pledge cards. We are asking every member to prayerfully consider the campaign, and please return pledge cards by November 22, 2020. The cards can be returned by US Mail or in the box located in the church narthex. The campaign hit the \$1 million milestone with the generous lead gift, all pledges to date, and available building fund designated funds. Of course, our goal is \$2 million, so we cannot rest at this point. We still have several weeks remaining. Remember that donations can be fulfilled in 2020, 2021 and 2022 — all still counts toward the campaign. If you are able to donate non-cash assets or appreciated stock, Dean Hull can give you advice. If you have any questions about the campaign, you can send email to me. Our campaign selected Nov 22 as a completion date because it is the beginning of the week of Thanksgiving. Indeed, the Great Provider has blessed each of us in abundance. It is inspiring to see Trinity members come together in this challenge.

-David Lange (email: [davidlange@icloud.com](mailto:davidlange@icloud.com))



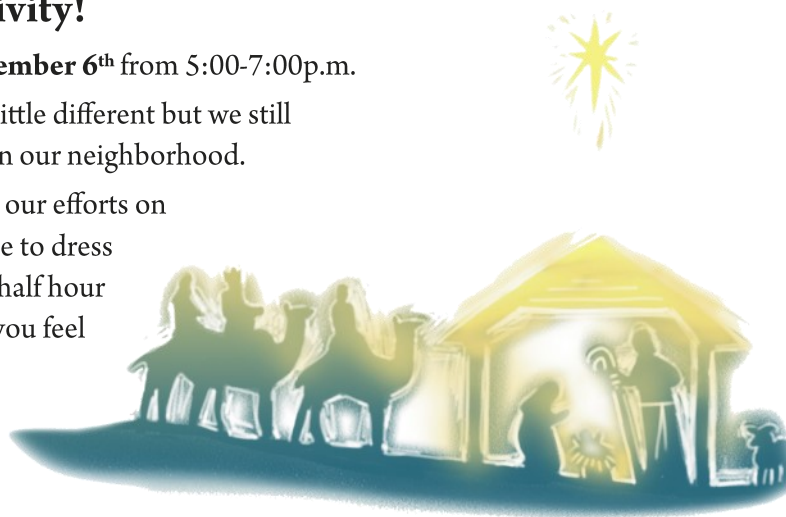
## Mark your calendar! Trinity Live Nativity!

Trinity's Live Nativity is scheduled for **Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>** from 5:00-7:00p.m.

Due to COVID, this year's event will look and feel a little different but we still have the privilege of sharing the Christmas message in our neighborhood.

With no indoor food or activities we will concentrate our efforts on the outdoor scene. I am in need of 2 teams of 9 people to dress up as our characters. I am asking you to commit to 2 half hour shifts. (You would alternate with the other team). If you feel you could help out in this way please contact me at [riselange@icloud.com](mailto:riselange@icloud.com).

I invite everyone to lift up this ministry outreach in your prayers.



## LWML (WIM) News:

Thank you to all who donated supplies for school kits. These supplies will be distributed by Lutheran World Relief to some of the world's poorest communities. We surpassed our goal of assembling 100 kits. Your generosity is much appreciated.



**LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF**



WIM meetings will continue on the 2nd Tues. of the month at 6:30pm. We will alternate with in-person meetings in the sanctuary and Zoom meetings. Our next meeting, Nov. 10, will be a Zoom meeting.

## NOVEMBER Birthdays

11/02	Luke Bull
	Hannah Donoho
11/06	Dave Lindsay
11/07	Sandi Wienke
11/09	Miller Calhoun
	Sarah Wanagat
11/10	Sylvia Sauer
11/12	Nina Frank
11/13	Renee McElwain
	Elliot Murphy
11/14	Melissa Murphy
	Leah Peifer
	Brian Vanetti
11/17	Zoe Revell
	Yosef Stifanos
11/19	Doris Matthews
11/24	Deb Winkel
11/26	Julie Warren
11/27	Jeanette Eckhardt
11/28	Amber Johnson
	Brooks Murphy
	Shirley Witte
11/29	Carolyn Pruser

## NOVEMBER Anniversaries

11/03	Michael & Melissa Murphy (8 years)
11/05	Merl & Phyllis Mennenga (59 years)
11/19	David & Laura Wetherell (15 years)
11/24	Mark & Faith Wetzel (47 years)

For the Month of October	
October 4, 2020	\$6,232
October 11, 2020	\$3,422
October 18, 2020	\$8,531
October 25, 2020	\$3,332
October total Offerings	\$21,517
YTD Receipts	\$226,569
Copies of Trinity's monthly income, expenses and full budget breakdown are in the Narthex and updated each month.	

## Trinity Small Groups and Bible Studies

Please reach out to the individual group leaders for further information about your group.

- Women's Book Group - Monday, November 2, 16, 30, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. (Risë Lange)
- Pieces of Love at church (Jennifer Holhubner)
- Cottage Bible Study at homes (Mary Jo Rott)
- Women in Mission at church - Tuesday, November 10, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. (Faith Wetzel)
- Tuesday Bible Study (Pastor Ehlers) - November 3, 10, 17 9:30 a.m. in the church sanctuary.
- Young Adults Fellowship (Jill Boylan)
- Breakfast Bible Study at Urbana Gardens (Phil or Joyce Bell)
- Couples Bibles Study (Risë Lange)
- Home Bible Study at the Rouse's (Hilary Rouse)
- JOY – will not meet in November

