# Holy Trinity Lutheran Church October 2021 Newsletter



Dear Sisters and Brothers.

Every year we see more and more Halloween decorations. Halloween in increasingly observed with the amount of decorating that only Christmas used to get. Of course Halloween is a shortened form of "All Hallows' Eve," the Eve of All Saints Day which is November 1. In our culture, Halloween has been in a way coopted and secularized like other Christian holidays have. However instead of Santa and the Easter Bunny, Halloween has become society's outlet for celebrating horror and the macabre. Some inaccurately claim that Halloween was a pagan holiday celebrated by druids which was taken over by Christians. In fact, these three days on the church calendar have their origin in Rome in the year 609, when Pope Boniface dedicated the Pantheon to Saint Mary and all the Martyrs, and later, in the year 735, when Pope Gregory dedicated a chapel to "All Saints" on November 1st. (In many parts of Europe, Latin America, and Southeast Asia, the Christian meaning of these days is kept, and cemeteries are visited and filled with candles by those who visit family graves, thinking about the resurrection that awaits those buried there.)

The word "saint" comes from the Latin word *sanctus*, meaning "holy." When we take a day to remember and give thanks for "all saints," we are celebrating God's holy ones. Luther

points out that each of us is a saint by virtue of our baptism—someone who has been made holy and set apart by God to be a people who serve Him. Often though, and on this day in particular, we give thanks for the saints who have died and now live and reign with Christ Jesus in Heaven. These men and women are examples for us of holy living, and of faithfulness in this life: prophets, priests, laborers, mothers, fathers, virgins, martyrs, doctors, artists, caretakers, rulers, teachers—people from every walk of life who had one thing in common, a deep love of Jesus and a life that was changed by Him.

But we remember these saints not only because they are examples to us, but because thinking on those who have gone before us reminds us that our God "is not God of the dead, but of the living, for to Him all are alive" (Luke 20:38). Jesus spoke these words to explain the resurrection to the Sadducees who challenged him. Our Lord pointed out that even when God spoke to Moses from the burning bush, He said "I am the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob." He did not say "I was their God," because those saintly patriarchs, though in Heaven, are very much alive.

Christians have always had an unusually comfortable relationship with death for exactly this reason. Jesus taught us—and most importantly proved to us!— that death is not the end, but it the gateway to Eternal Life. The early Christians were thought strange for treating the bodies of their dead with respect, but they did so because they firmly believed that at the resurrection, that body will rise. When persecuted, they worshipped in cemeteries, on the very graves of the martyrs. In later centuries when the Black Death took hold in Europe and death became a daily reality, Christians took comfort in the sufferings of Jesus, knowing that those who share in death like Jesus, will share in a resurrection like his.

Saint Francis of Assisi, wrote in his famous poem sweetly of death, as a result. We sing, "And you most gentle sister death, waiting to hush our final breath: Alleluia. Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom, fair is the night that leads us home." In a world where many either avoid talking about death or make of it something scary, Christians are called to remember that death is inevitable, but that it is has been conquered by Jesus. It does not have the last word. Death is not an executioner. Our Lord has made it into a gardener.

This month, as where we live the earth begins its rest and the days become shorter, we will reflect on this relationship that Christians share with death. We will give thanks for the heroes of the faith whom the Church celebrates, and we will give thanks for those faithful men and women in our lives who now rest and reign in Jesus' Kingdom. We will remember that those who have died are but sleeping until Jesus returns for them and us, and we will reflect on how we can live boldly and faithfully as a people who believe in the life everlasting.

Peace and joy,

**Pastor Tom** 

#### **Pastoral Care**

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 7 Green St. Stafford Springs, CT 06076-1334 Office Phone-860-684-7571 Church – htlc-church@att.net

Website – htlcstafford.org Pastor Tom (860-806-2440) Email <u>t.s.drobena@gmail.com</u>

Please note this change of an email address for Pastor Tom.

#### **Members of the Council are:**

Rev. Thomas S. Drobena
President – Andrew Fisher
Vice-President – Walter Kovaciny
Treasurer – Sheila Welch
Secretary – Amelia Hinchliffe
Melissa Fisher
Leonard Lichanec
Michael Marvonek
Patricia Marvonek

(Non-Council position) Financial Secretary – Leigh Maxa

#### **Service Teams**

† Worship & Music Team: Leigh Maxa

† Hospitality Committee: Amelia Hinchliffe and Jennifer Welch

† Property Team: Andrew Fisher,

Michael Marvonek, Adam Tremblay and Michael Welch

† Learning & Youth Group Team:

Rev. Thomas Drobena, Melissa Fisher, Cathy & Leonard Lichanec

#### **Shut-in Members of HTLC**

Attn: Barbara Bulick The Ivy at Ellington 123 West Road Apt 115 Ellington. CT 06029-5730 Attn: Ms. Shirley Kaba Douglas Manor 103 North Rd. Windham, CT 06280 Ms. Anna Mandak 21 Old Monson Rd. Stafford Springs, CT 06076-3343

Attn: Mrs. Tonia Marvonek Evergreen Health Care Center 201 Chestnut Hill Rd., Rm. # 2107 Stafford Springs, CT 06076-4005

#### **Bible Study**

The schedule for Bible Study has changed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 6:30 p.m. As shown in the calendar, the schedule is October 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m. The group meets in the social hall at church. Everyone is welcome.

#### **October Birthdays**

01 – Bryan Maxa

14 – Owen Baarck

20 – Andrew Fisher

21 – Craig Fisher

25 – Laurel Rose

28 – Barbara Bulick

#### **Anniversaries**

05 – Jevon & Jenny Baarck

05 - Craig & Stacy Fisher

05 – Emil & Evelyn Kucko

Happy 75th Anniversary

#### **Annual Harvest Sale**

This year's Harvest Sale will be held Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There will be work sessions to make Kolach, Stuffed Cabbage and other activities. Remember many hands make light work and everyone's help is appreciated / needed. Does anyone have prizes to be donated for the Harvest Sale Raffle?

#### **Canning Jars Needed**

Amelia Hinchliffe will be making jam again this year to donate to sell at the Harvest Sale. Amelia is asking for people to donate canning jars to be used to preserve the jam. Half-pint size jars, either wide mouth or regular size opening are preferred. You can leave the jars at church or call Amelia on her cellphone (860) 208-4224 to arrange how to get the jars to Amelia. Thanks in advance for everyone's help with supplying jars.

#### **Marriage Announcement**

The Rev. Thomas S. Drobena joined Andrew Fisher & Natalia Dalla Valle in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony on Saturday, September 18, 2021 at Holy Trinity in Stafford Springs. Congratulations! May God's love be with you till the end. May you find many more reasons to love each other and to be grateful to God for having each other.

#### **Healing Service**

On Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup> we will have a healing service at our Sunday worship. We will have special prayers for healing, health, and wellness, and intercessions on behalf of doctors, nurses, and all who work in healing professions. While we pray for healing at every worship service, this day is chosen in anticipation of the commemoration of Saint Luke the evangelist, who is commemorated on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Tradition tells us that he was

a physician, and the Gospel he authored pays special attention to Jesus' ministry of healing the sick and casting out demons. There will be an opportunity for individuals to come forward to be prayed for with laying on of hands and anointing with oil.





#### **September – October Service Schedule**

These readings are from Series B and can be found in the front of the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal.

<u>Tellers</u> <u>Worship Assistants</u> <u>Reader</u>

October 3, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. – The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Green Genesis 2: 18 – 24; Psalm 8; Hebrews 1: 1 – 4; 2: 5 – 12; Mark 10: 2 – 16

Hymns – Entrance: 838, Hymn of the Day: 595, Communion: 462, Closing: 843
Amelia Hinchliffe Leigh Maxa Daniel Lichanec

Walter Kovaciny

October 10, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. – The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost – Green Amos 5: 6 - 7, 10 - 15; Psalm 90; 12 - 17; Hebrews 4: 12 - 16; Mark 10: 17 - 31

Hymns – Entrance: 669, Hymn of the Day: 685, Communion: 677, Closing: 705

Jennifer Welch

Sheila Welch

Daniel Lichanec

Michael Welch

October 17, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. – The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost – Green Isaiah 53: 4 – 12; Psalm 91 9 – 16; Hebrews 5: 1 – 10; Mark 10: 35 – 45

Hymns – Entrance: 818, Hymn of the Day: 712, Communion: 471, Closing: 676
Walter Kovaciny
Leigh Maxa
Daniel Lichanec
Leonard Lichanec

October 24, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. – The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost - Green Jeremiah 31: 7 – 9; Psalm 126; Hebrews 7: 23 – 28; Mark 10: 46 – 52

Hymns – Entrance: 768, Hymn of the Day: 532, Communion: 521, Closing: 551 Amelia Hinchliffe Sheila Welch Daniel Lichanec Walter Kovaciny

October 31, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. – Reformation Sunday – Red

Deuteronomy 6: 1 – 9; Psalm 119: 1 – 8; Hebrews 9: 11 – 14; Mark 12: 28 – 34 Walter Kovaciny

Leigh Maxa

Daniel Lichanec
Patricia Marvonek

Hymns – Entrance: 504, Hymn of the Day: 517, Communion: 779, Closing: 654 November 7, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. – All Saint's Sunday – White Isaiah 25: 6 – 9; Psalm 24; Revelation 21: 1 – 6a; John 11:32 – 44

Amelia Hinchliffe Leigh Maxa Daniel Lichanec

Walter Kovaciny

Hymns – Entrance: 424, Hymn of the Day: 422 Communion: 430, Closing: 873

Attn: Tellers. Please mark your calendar when you're scheduled to serve. Lately, there hasn't been enough to count the offering per policy. The policy states the Financial Secretary and two (2) helpers to count the offering. If you're not available to serve on the Sunday you're scheduled, please find a replacement. Thanks.

## October Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:10 a.m. Social Hour	4 Francis of Assisi, Renewer of the Church	5 Pastor Tom's Day off	6	7	8	9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Safe Net Distribution
10 The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:30 a.m. Council meeting	Philip, Deacon	Pastor Tom's Day off	13	6:30 p.m. Bible Study	15 Teresa Of Avila, Renewer of the Church	16
17 The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 a.m. Healing Service 11:10 a.m. Social Hour	Luke, Evangelist & Physician	Pastor Tom's Day off	20	21	22	9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Safe Net Distribution
24 The Twenty- Second Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	25	26 Pastor Tom's Day off	27	6:30 p.m. Bible Study	29	30 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Annual Harvest Sale
31 Reformation Day 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:10 a.m. Social Hour						





### Saturday, October 23, 2021 10am – 1 pm

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 104 W. Main Street Stafford Springs

Kolach - Pastries - Pies - Stuffed Cabbage - & More!

Craft Vendors – Jams – Pumpkins – Mums

Free Tractor Rides & Petting Zoo

Lunch Café -Raffle

To pre-order stuffed cabbage, kolach, or pies call or text 860-806-2440.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 104 West Main St. Stafford Springs, CT 06076 Website address www.holytrinitystafford.or

