

November 2022 Newsletter

We Are Church Together: Living with the Saints



All Saints Sunday is one of the most honest days of the year. When we have experienced a significant death in our lives - the loss of a spouse, child, or parent – we carry that loss around with us the rest of our lives. We hear something on the news and it reminds us of something they once said. We go out to eat, look at the menu and remember how they loved eating that restaurant or that item on the menu. We talk to them as though we are sitting across the table having a cup of coffee. We wonder what they would be like now if they hadn't died. It is often when we come to church, however, that our loved one's presence is often the most palpable.

Why? Worship is one of the few times we gather with others and think of existential issues: the meaning of life, what does God expect of me, what am I going to do with my life, what happens when I die, etc. In our younger days, these questions are more theoretical. But as we age, they become more and more real. And when a loved one has died, or has "gone before us" into the great unknown, these existential questions become more profound. They take on a heaviness that was not there before.

Grief is intimately connected to love. When we love someone or something it opens us up, makes us feel lighter, and we experience happiness and joy. But when we lose someone or something, it shuts us down, we feel heavier, and we feel any number of emotions: sadness, depression, anger, frustration, loneliness, confusion, hostility, and more. Love tames us and draws us closer to the person. Grief is wild and unmanageable and the loss feels as though we have been pushed out of their lives. We are alone now.

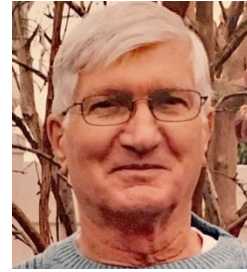
All Saints' Sunday is a day in the church we get to openly acknowledge and voice the names of people we grieve. I encourage you to bring a photo, or photos, of those special people. We will place them up by the altar as a way to acknowledge their presence with us. We will remember the members who have died from Trinity in the past year, but there is also an opportunity to write in the names of other family and friends who have also died that you would like remembered.

Let's be honest. These people we loved are with us in our hearts and minds every single day. This Sunday, we get to show others who it is that we are carrying with us.

Pastor Tim

We Are Church Together: Our Sympathy to...

- + **Larry Schaefer** on the death of his brother, Nilus Schaefer, 77, of Scotland, SD on September 14.



- + **Marilyn Curtis** on the death of her daughter, Lorie Curtis Gladyness, 50, of Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, SC, on September 19.

- + **Karen Beiersdorf** on the death of her husband and fellow Trinity member, Tom Beiersdorf Sr. of Edgewater, FL on October 13.



Rest eternal grant them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.

We Are Church Together: Miscellaneous Notes

Thanksgiving Eve Worship – will be on Wednesday, November 23 at 4 pm.

Communion Visitation – Are you looking for a new way to engage in Trinity's ministry and meet others? Then pray about bringing communion to our homebound members! Michael Lawrence is the new coordinator for this ministry and we are looking for a few people who can drive and who can serve for a couple hours every month. If you would like to be a communion visitor, you can contact the Church Office or reach out to Michael directly.

Welcoming New Members – We will be welcoming new members to Trinity on Sunday, November 20 in worship. Then there will be a potluck dinner following in the fellowship hall.

Commitment Sunday – Sunday, November 20 is also Commitment Sunday. This is the day that we ask our members and friends to turn in their financial commitments (pledge cards) for 2023. This really helps us plan our finances better. Thank you!

Pastor on Vacation – Pastor Tim will be on vacation from November 7-18. Pastor Jack Ottoson will be leading Trinity in worship on Sunday, November 13. There will not be a Monday Bible study on November 7 and 14.

Poinsettia Orders- We will begin to take orders and dedications for Poinsettias beginning on November 6th. Due to availability, we want to have orders and payments made early to ensure that we can have a beautiful selection for Christmas Eve and Christmas day services. The cost per poinsettia is \$11.00. Please submit order forms with payment in a sealed envelope. All orders, payments and dedications are due by December 4th. If you have questions, please contact the office.

Mary Maier Circle will be meeting at Alba Court Assisted Living on November 17th.

Dessert by candlelight - We will be having dessert by candlelight on December 2. Bring your favorite dessert! Begins at 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

We Are Church Together:

Hurricane Relief

Trinity recently received a considerable contribution from the estate of Grace DeVoe. Following the good stewardship practice of tithing (giving 10%), the Council decided to give \$5,000 to the Florida-Bahamas Synod for Hurricane Relief and \$5,000 to the ELCA Disaster Response. Grace's faithfulness to her Church and her generosity continues to help those in need.

We Are Church Together:

Mission of the Month – Gifts of Love Food Bank

Trinity has been giving to Gifts of Love for years. It is a good, faithful ministry that helps provide food and other items to people in the Edgewater-New Smyrna Beach area. We will be collecting food items throughout November. You may also give a monetary donation. Let us work together to help feed a hungry neighbor.

We Are Church Together:

Covid Precautions

One person recently asked about our Covid Policy since they rarely see anyone masking anymore in public. First of all, the United States has not done a very good job protecting people from Covid. We comprise 4.5% of the global population, but we have over 16% of the deaths. This number could have been far lower given the resources our government provided (vaccinations, masks, tests, and access to good information). Unfortunately, many in our country have not availed themselves to these resources.

Here is what our policy states:

Gifts of Love
Food Bank



Compassion
Works

| | RED Category Mask Mandatory All Areas | YELLOW Category Mask Mandatory Large Groups* | GREEN Category Mask Optional All Areas** |
|--------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Daily New Cases/100,000 | 25+ | 10-25 | <10 |
| Positive Test Rate | 10%+ | 3-10% | <3% |
| ICU capacity | 85%+ | 70-85% | <70% |

* small gatherings masks are optional for groups under 25

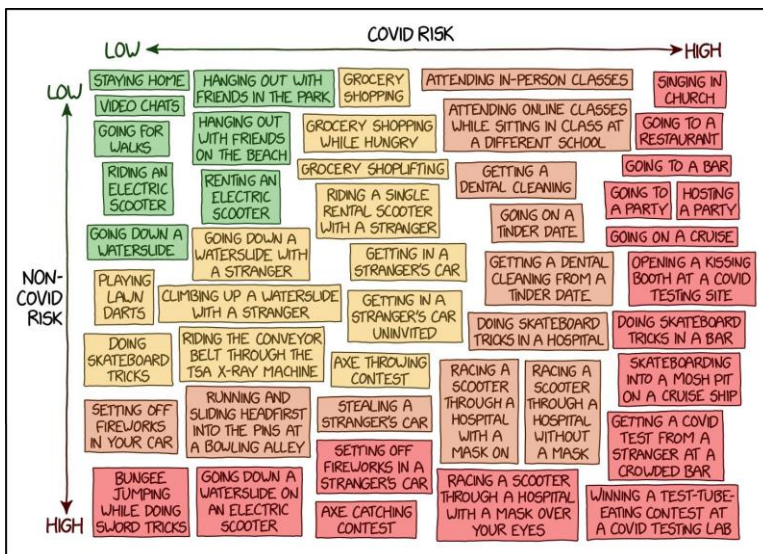
** numbers based from the document "Care-filled Worship and Sacramental Life in a Lingering Pandemic." All three categories must be met.

As of 10/31, our Daily New Cases are at 5.6/100,000 (green), our Positive Test Rate is 6.5% (yellow), and ICU capacity is 72.9% (yellow). Which is why we are still yellow. Many epidemiologists believe our numbers are actually much higher given the number of people using home tests. In addition to Covid, we are also entering into what is expected to be a heavy flu season. Like with Covid, masking helps reduce the chance of getting the flu and getting a flu shot helps reduce the severity of flu. (Please remember that getting Covid is not the same as getting the flu. Scientists are looking at how getting Covid can increase your chances of developing Alzheimer's, prematurely age certain organs in the body, you can develop "long Covid" and more.)

Believe it or not, worship is one of the riskier activities due to us gathering in community and singing together. In fact, there was a humorous "risk chart" that weighed "Covid risks" along with "non-Covid risks." In the upper lefthand corner, "staying home" is the least risky thing we can do according to both types of risk. The bottom lefthand corner, "bungee jumping while doing sword tricks" is low on the covid risk scale, but high on the general risk scale. The bottom righthand corner, "winning a test tube eating contest at a Covid testing lab" is high on both the general risk scale and the Covid scale. But did you notice what is in the upper righthand corner? Singing in church. "Singing in church" is low on the general risk scale, but is as high as it goes on the Covid risk scale. (Read some of the other examples. They are quite funny.) Putting humor

aside, this chart was intended to inform people about the risks associated with Covid.

While we wish we didn't have to mask during worship, it is a small inconvenience for helping to keep people safe, especially given the age (both young and old) and health conditions of some of our members. And wouldn't our Lord want us to care for the health and well-being of our neighbor? I think Christ would say, "Yes, absolutely." Image by Marc Handelman from <https://xkcd.com/2333/>



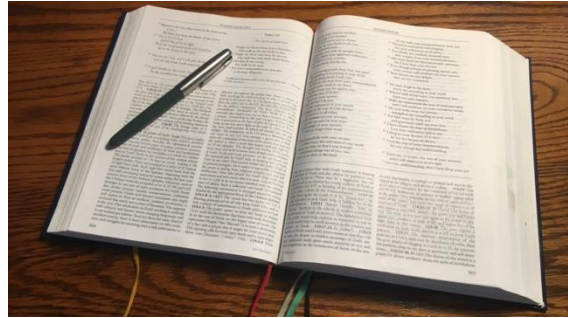
We Are Church Together: Monday Bible Study

We meet via Zoom at 11 am (Eastern Time) on Mondays to study the lessons that will be used in worship the following Sunday. It is a good way to dwell in the word and reflect more deeply on the lessons. The link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87504774403?pwd=VUpUUGJPRkNlVlYhHhVSXBHUkh3UT09>

or you can go to our website

(www.trinitylutheranmsb.org) and use the link provided.



Date of Bible Study – Readings we will be studying

Monday, November 7 – 23 Pentecost – No Study today – Pastor on vacation

Malachi 4:1-2a *A day of blistering heat for the arrogant; a day of healing sun for the righteous*
Psalm 98 *In righteousness will the LORD judge the world. (Ps. 98:9)*

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 *Do not be idle, but do what is right for the sake of Christ*

Luke 21:5-19 *Jesus speaks of wars, endurance, betrayal, and suffering for his sake*

Monday, November 14 – 24 Pentecost – No Study today – Pastor on vacation

Jeremiah 23:1-6 *Coming of the shepherd and righteous Branch who will execute justice*

Psalm 46 *I will be exalted among the nations. (Ps. 46:10)*

Colossians 1:11-20 *Hymn to Christ, firstborn of all creation; peace through his blood*

Luke 23:33-43 *Jesus is crucified between two thieves: you will be with me in Paradise*

Monday November 21 – 1 Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5 *Weapons of war transformed into instruments of peace*

Psalm 122 *I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." (Ps. 122:1)*

Romans 13:11-14 *Salvation is near; time to wake from sleep*

Matthew 24:36-44 *The sudden coming of the Son of Man*

Monday, November 28 – 2 Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10 *From David's line, a ruler bringing justice and peace*

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 *May the righteous flourish; let there be an abundance of peace. (Ps. 72:7)*

Romans 15:4-13 *Live in harmony, welcoming one another*

Matthew 3:1-12 *A voice cries: Prepare the way of the Lord*

We Are Church Together:

Cantor's Notes

[Nov 2022]

**“We believe that the holy act of singing together shapes faith,
heals brokenness, transforms lives, and renews peace.”**

The guiding stance of *The Center for Congregational Song* of the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada.

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd is a hymn included in the new Lutheran worship supplement *All Creation Sings*. The author of this poignant text, Sylvia Dunstan (1955-1993), served the United Church of Canada for thirteen years as a parish minister and prison chaplain. She died after a brief arduous battle with liver cancer. She was one of the leading hymn writers in North America during her brief life. She is remembered by those who knew her for her passion for those in need, her gift of writing, and her love of liturgy.

The hymn, originally titled “Christus Paradox,” presents images of Christ that are seemingly contradictory. Consider, for example, an “everlasting instant.” At the crux of these paradoxes stand death and resurrection with the cross at the center of it all. This paradox is the heart of the Christian faith. The text is paired with a familiar tune, PICARDY, which many will recognize from singing “Let all mortal flesh keep silence” (ELW 490).

You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd. You, Lord, are both prince and slave.

You, peacemaker and sword-bringer of the way you took and gave.

You, the everlasting instant; you, whom we both scorn and crave.

Clothed in light upon the mountain, stripped of might upon the cross,

shining in eternal glory, beggared by a soldier's toss,

you, the everlasting instant; you, who are both gift and cost.

You, who walk each day beside us, sit in power at God's side.

You, who preach a way that's narrow, have a love that reaches wide.

You, the everlasting instant; you, who are our pilgrim guide.

Worthy is our earthly Jesus! Worthy is our cosmic Christ!

Worthy your defeat and victory; worthy still your peace and strife.

You, the everlasting instant; you, who are our death and life.

Cantate Domino! (Sing to the Lord!)

Brian Larson

Centennial Celebrations!



John & Thelma Reus



Sam Shoup

We are very blessed to have three centennial birthdays to celebrate this year! On August 29, Thelma Reus turned 100 years old. On October 12, Sam Shoup turned 100 years old. On November 26, John Reus will turn 103 years old. We thank God for these three people and ask that he continues to watch over them and bless us with their presence within our Trinity family.

If you would like to send a birthday card to John for his 103rd birthday, you can send it to: 3704 Cardinal Blvd. Unit 229, Daytona Beach, FL 32118. We would love to flood his mailbox with birthday blessings!

Thelma and Sam were acknowledged in the 100 Birthday Club featured in Living Lutheran magazine.



105: Ferriel DeLap, Our Savior, Lake Oswego, Ore.; **Karl Enar Karlsson**, Bethel Stafford, Roseau, Minn.; **Martha Staby**, King of Glory, Loveland, Colo. **104: Florence Cordes**, Trinity, Barton City, Mich; **Jean Janssen**, Redeemer, Hooper, Neb. **103: Marie Schelley**, New Life, Spruce, Mich. **102: Rosella Erickson**, Bells Coulee, Mindoro, Wis.; **Delores Nunn**, Our Savior, Lake Oswego, Ore. **101: Gertrude Fegley**, Redeemer, Waverly, Iowa; **Bertie Munson**, St. Timothy, Omaha, Neb. **100: Ernie Albertson**, Grace, West Point, Neb.; **Helen Anderson**, Immanuel, Centralia, Wash.; **Kathleen Berlin**, Augsburg, Toledo, Ohio; **Gladys Johnson**, St. John, Thorndale, Texas; **Ralph Podas**, All Saints, Worthington, Ohio; **Thelma Reus** and **Sam Shoup**, Trinity, New Smyrna Beach, Fla.; **Millie Royer**, Reformation, Media, Pa.; **Beverly Thomas**, Trinity, Santa Barbara, Calif.

November Birthdays



| | | | |
|----|------------------|-----|----------------|
| 8 | Paula Bernbaum | 20 | Mary Parada |
| | Deborah Gelerter | 24 | Tyler Newell |
| 9 | Ralph Snyder | 25 | Peg Buzby |
| 11 | Chuck McCain | 103 | John Reus |
| 18 | Robert Evans | 27 | Gary Hopkins |
| | Rusty Norris | 29 | Barbara Larson |
| 20 | Eloise Berrian | 30 | Twila Davis |

***November 10- Martin Luther**

A NEW BIRTHDAY SONG

Using the tune KREMSER, *We Praise You, O God*

We celebrate with you the life that God gave you.
 We thank God for letting us share in your joy.
 God bless you and keep you and shine Christ's light upon you.
 With love we sing together happy birthday to you.

TRINITY COLUMBARIUM



COLUMBARIUM NICHE SUBSCRIPTION FEE

MEMBER: \$2000.00

NON-MEMBER \$3000.00

Includes one niche which will hold two urns, a faceplate (to covers the niche) that is engraved with name of deceased, plus year of birth and death.

APPLICATION AVAILABLE

Contact one of the following:

- Marilyn O'Connor (386-402-4304)
- Jean Haughwout (386-478-9650)
- Church Office (386-428-4307)

Administrative Information

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|------------------------------|------------------|
| Pastor: | Rev. Tim Bernard |
| Cantor: | Brian Larson |
| Office Administrator: | Mary Parada |
| Custodian: | Laura Jones |

Office Phone: (386) 428-4307
 Office E-mail: trinitylutheran485@gmail.com
 Pastor Tim: revtimtlc@gmail.com
 Trinity website: www.trinitylutheransb.org
 Florida-Bahamas Synod www.fbsynod.org
 ELCA www.elca.org