

# THE TRINITY TIMES

THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2019

## From the pastor

I love the season of Halloween. I may complain about the early appearance of Christmas decorations in the stores, but I am delighted when our local Walgreens begins decorating for Halloween about the 2nd week of September. And this year, a good friend gave me a wonderful Halloween gift in September. She gave me two strings of tiny candy corn lights, and one light-up water globe with a black cat, pumpkin and scary tree inside. I arranged them behind the glass in the parlor door so that everyone in the hallway can see them when they walk by. Oh, and to complete the decorating, I attached stickers of black cats, Dracula, a mummy and Frankenstein on the outside of the glass.

Certainly Halloween is a bigger deal now than it was when I was a child, with a wider variety of candy treats, decorations, and costumes. The number of Halloween costumes available were limited in variety, and they were stacked in the store in little yellow cardboard boxes, labeled on the side: "Witch" Size S. Sizes applied not only to the costume but to the mask as well, and they were those plastic masks with covered rubber bands attached to keep them on the face, and one couldn't really breathe while wearing them. Sometimes one's head size didn't match up with one's body size, resulting in a tiny mask but a well-fitting costume, or a too-short costume with a perfectly-fitting mask. But, hey, one only wore the costumes for an evening!

Halloween is also a more cautious event now than when I was a child, or maybe we are just more aware of the possibilities for candy poisoning and child abductions. It did come out during my trick-or-treating days that one should not eat an apple without having an adult look it over first, lest there be a razor blade embedded in it. Of course, that didn't apply in my neighborhood because we knew everyone from whom we took treats, and Mrs. Small, who always gave out either candy apples or caramel apples, wouldn't have slipped us anything dangerous. Now the word is "don't eat homemade treats" but then we didn't think twice about eating the popcorn balls or rice krispy treat that someone on our street had made for treats. Plus, it was the only time all year that I ever got to enjoy a popcorn ball or a rice krispy treat.

But despite the early appearance of Halloween decorations, I've noticed that the Halloween grinchers are also beginning to emerge. Halloween has caused a few folks to question whether they should observe Halloween, since the day is associated with ungodly and other-worldly things like goblins and ghosts and demons.

When I hear religious folks complaining about the secular and sinister aspect of Halloween, I roll my eyes. Frankly, the attempts to "christianize" Halloween by having a "judgment house" instead of a haunted house is far more terrifying. Sticking a child's hand in gooey, cold macaroni and proclaiming that she's touching "brains" may be yucky and even scary, but it's not implying anything permanent or fearful about the destination of her soul. Scaring children and youth with scenes of what God might do if they commit this sin or that sin is a sad misunderstanding of a silly and fun season. Halloween should be fun, and depending on your age, it's about spending large quantities of times discussing as what or whom you are going in costume, with whom you are going trick-or-treating, reaping candy by the bagful (some of which you hide from your parents!). It's about swapping out the treats you hate, enjoying the creative decorations in the yards and most certainly about carving out a pumpkin.

I know that bad things can happen on Halloween, but bad things can—and do—happen any day of the year. So as Christians, let's enjoy Halloween, act the fool, and have a good time! The only religion that we bring into it should be what we bring into every day, the knowledge that "neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8: 38, 39)

**Trinity Presbyterian Church**

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*The Trinity Times* is published monthly. We welcome news items and other contributions from members and friends of Trinity. Bring your articles to the church or e-mail them to the editor, Judy Schomber (schomberstat@aol.com), by the 20th of the month for the following month's newsletter.

**TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF**

Sally Hughes, Pastor  
William E. Berger, Minister of Music  
Linda Rogers, Office Manager  
Charlie Bundy, Facilities Manager

**SESSION MEMBERS**

Vira Baker (2020) Hank Howerton (2020)  
Vera Billington (2021) Paul Parker (2021)  
Bill Dougherty (2020), Matt Rutherford (2019)  
Phil Elbert (2019) Hank Schomber (2019)  
Aad Zeeuw (2021)

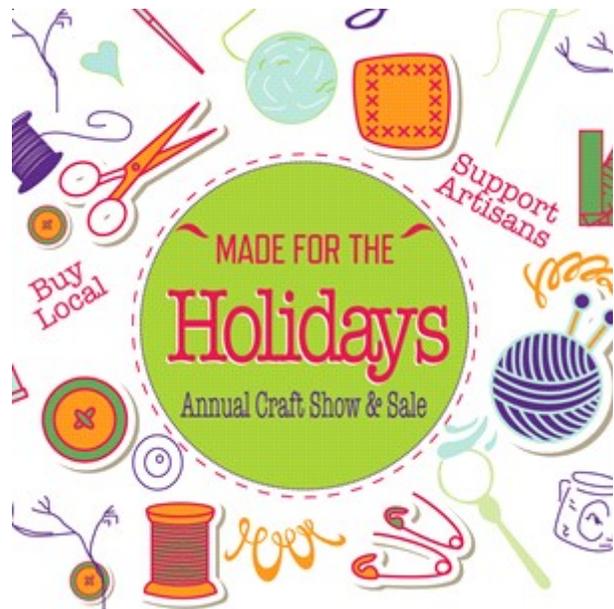
**NOVEMBER WORSHIP  
SCHEDULE AND  
LECTIONARY READINGS**

- November 3 Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost/Celebration of the Lord's Supper**  
Habakuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4;  
Psalm 119:137-144;  
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4; Luke 19:1-10
- November 10 Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost**  
Haggai 1:15b--2:9;  
Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21 *or* Psalm 98;  
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17;  
Luke 20:27-38
- November 17 Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost**  
Isaiah 65:17-25; *Isaiah 12*;  
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19
- November 24 Christ the King/Reign of Christ**  
Jeremiah 23:1-6; Luke 1:68-79;  
Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

**“MADE FOR THE HOLIDAYS” COMING TO  
TRINITY NOVEMBER 1-2**

"Made for the Holidays" is coming to Trinity! Friday, November 1, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Saturday, November 2, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Made For The Holidays is a craft show and sale to showcase local vendors who create unique and one-of-a kind items. There will be a great mix of artists who have been in the business for a long time along with those who are newer. Shop for jewelry, jams, soap and other bath products, women's clothing, wreaths, succulents, handmade upcycled bags and other items, stained glass, art and more! For a sneak peak at the vendor list or for more information, check out the website:

www.madefortheholidays.com <http://www.madefortheholidays.com>



# NOVEMBER IS STEWARDSHIP MONTH

Yes, it is that time again. Time for each of us, individually and/or collectively as a family to take a hard look at how we support our church, personally and financially.

After three years of Presbytery oversight, Trinity was recently given a “clean bill of health” and we are back to normal. But “normal” isn’t without its challenges and we must continue with our efforts to grow and better serve.

A proposed 2020 expense budget is listed here. It reflects what your Session would like to accomplish in the coming year. It represents a modest 8% increase.

While that deficit situation is not where we like to be, it does give us a target when we look at our giving side for next year. A 10% increase looks daunting when viewed within the budget as a whole, if broken down, it is much more manageable individually.

If you are currently pledged or giving \$10 a week can you manage \$11 next year? If your pledge is \$300 a month now, can you do \$330 next year? It is just \$1 per day more. If your pledge is \$5,000 for the year, is \$5,500 really that difficult to reach?

Give prayerful consideration and remember this is all about Trinity’s work for God and our communities.

## 2020 Proposed Expenses

Admin and Finance	36,000	
Joint Capital Fund		16,500
Benevolences	14,200	
Presbytery		6,600
Mission Co-Wk		2,000
New Life Presbyterian Church		1,000
Pastor Discretion		600
Rooftop		1,000
Room in the Inn		1,000
UKIRK		2,000
Building & Grounds	70,000	
Christian Education	800	
Fellowship	1,500	
Growth and Mbrship	1300	
Other Expenses		300
Neighborhood Programs		1000
Music	15,450	
Personnel	228,512	227,135
Worship	3,700	
Misc. Expenses		1,700
NaCoMe Scholarships		2,000
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>371,462</b>	

### Notes:

**The Joint Capital Fund** is a reserve account used to pay major expenses (e.g. new HVAC system) shared equally by Trinity and Linden Waldorf.

**Presbytery** is Trinity’s pledge to Presbytery, Synod and PCUSA programs.

**New Life Presbyterian Church** is the Hispanic Church which shares space with the Glencliff Church on Franklin Road.

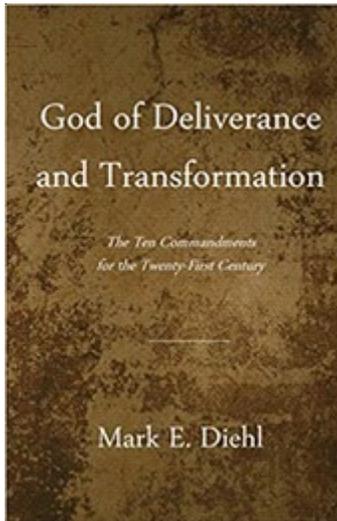
**NaCoMe Scholarships** are available for those who wish to join our church family for the weekend, but do not have the resources.



# ADULT EDUCATION IN NOVEMBER

The Adult Sunday school class invites you to join it at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor During the month of November, we will continue study of Mark Diehl's book, *God of Deliverance and Transformation: The Ten Commandments for the Twenty-First Century*.

In the Hebrew text, the translation is properly "words" or "sayings" rather than "laws" or "commandments." This part of the sacred text was initially referred to as the "Decalogue" or the "Ten Words" of God, and today some continue to choose the specific terminology of the "ten words" for its characterization.



## AFFIRMATIVE VOTE ON TRINITY AT OCTOBER PRESBYTERY MEETING

Sally reported on the report from the Administrative Committee action to the Presbytery. Judy and Hank Schomber were Trinity's Commissioners to the meeting.

NOW the real work begins! Praise God from whom all blessings flow, and may Trinity continue its forward progress in proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ to our neighborhood and the entire world!

“At the 139th stated meeting of the presbytery of Middle Tennessee, October 17, 2019, at Second Presbyterian Church, Nashville, TN, the following recommendation was unanimously approved by the presbytery:

- \* that Trinity be given the latitude to "embark on a five-year strategy which will build up the body of Christ in its current location, and maximize the use of the church building and grounds to the glory of God and the benefit of the neighborhood;
- \* that Trinity be overseen by its current Co-Executive Presbyters, Robin and Ray Thomas;
- \* that the Oversight Committee, who has been working with Trinity since 2017, be dissolved;
- \* the regular reports regarding Trinity's revitalization efforts be furnished to the appropriate presbytery committee.”



# **HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SESSION**

**Moderator: Rev. Sally Hughes**

## **CALLED MEETING OF THE SESSION: October 13, 2019**

The meeting was called to receive a new member.

Elders Vira Baker, Vera Billington, Hank Howerton, Sally Hughes, and Hank Schomber met in the Parlor prior to Sunday morning worship.

The Moderator, Sally Hughes, called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. and opened the meeting with prayer.

Prospective member Karen Utterback Pruitt was presented. She discussed her background. and responded to elders' questions.

A motion to receive Karen by Letter of Transfer was seconded and passed by voice vote.

After extending the righthand of fellowship, the moderator adjourned the meeting with prayer.

## **SESSION VOTES PASTOR CHANGE**

After meeting with Presbytery Co-Executives Robin and Ray Thomas at its stated Session meeting on October 28., the Session voted to request changing Pastor Sally Hughes' status from Designated to Installed. The term "Designated", as used by the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee, equates to "temporary."

After the Presbytery Administration Committee determined to keep Trinity open under the care of an oversight committee in 2016, a search for a new pastor was begun. Because the AC report provided Trinity a three-year window to show it was able to be self-sustaining, Presbytery suggested the next pastor be a Designated Pastor with a three-year appointment.

Rev. Sally Hughes, then Pastor at Historic Franklin Presbyterian Church, agreed to lead Trinity through this time. Her initial appointment was January 2017 through December 2019.

Last month the Co-Executives explained that Trinity's options were to renew Sally as a Designated Pastor, look for a new Designated Pastor, begin a search for a new Installed Pastor or request Sally be changed from Designated Pastor to Installed.

The Session enthusiastically endorsed the latter option, and with minimal discussion voted to ask Presbytery to approve the Call of Rev. Sally Hughes as Installed Pastor. The Co-Executives will take the request to the Committee on Ministry (COM) at its November meeting. COM approval will bring the question back to Trinity for a vote by the congregation.

A sustaining vote by the congregation will send the motion on to the full Presbytery at its February meeting where Sally will be approved as Installed Pastor. A Service of Installation and reception will be set at a later time.

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE SELECTED AT CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON OCTOBER 13**

At a congregational meeting called for October 13, five members were elected to serve on the nominating committee to present elders for the class of 2022. Elders on the committee are Hank Schomber and Phil Elbert and from the congregation Jackie Brewer, Linda Rutherford and Benita Sims.

The Nominating Committee will receive recommendations from the congregation and

will contact prospective nominees for the office of Ruling Elder to seek their consent. Then at another congregational meeting to be announced later, the congregational will vote on the slate of elders. Nominations from the floor will be allowed but only if the nominee has been consulted and agreed to be nominated prior to the meeting.

## WE WELCOME NEW MEMBER KAREN PRUITT



Karen's family attended Trinity when she was young. She was a nurse's assistant as a teenager. She has three children. She is the daughter of Susan Tucker Utterback and the granddaughter of Dorothy (Dot) Tucker, also members of Trinity.



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Maya Monterroso - 8

Paul Parker - 19

Jay Norman - 28

*Our apologies if we have missed your birthday or if it is incorrect. If we have missed or muffed your special day please call the church office at 297-6513 and let us know.*

## SPECIAL GROUP ACTIVITY MEETINGS

**\*\*\*Wandering Presbyterians** There are no more tickets available for the luncheon at Scarritt Bennett. However, anyone is welcome to attend the free Christmas concert in Wightman Chapel at 1 p.m. It will feature vocalist Terrell Hunt, who has roots in gospel, jazz and classical music. For those who purchased tickets for the luncheon, we will meet at the church at 10:30 a.m. to carpool to Scarritt Bennett and return to the church around 2/2:30 p.m.

**\*\*\*Presbyterian Women** will meet Tuesday, November 5 at 11 a.m. in the Trinity parlor. We will cover Lesson 3 "Words of Love: Keep Sabbath" from *Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments*.

### TRINITY BOOK CLUB (NEW!) First Meeting: **November 13, 2019**

Monthly on a Wednesday, 6 p.m. for supper followed by Meeting at 6:45-7:45 in the parlor (coincides with choir practice).

Purpose:

- To stimulate our delight in learning and relating to each other in our unique reactions to the literature selected by the group.
- To create a monthly-meeting book club for interested members, family, and friends to share in meaningful discussion of current and/or classic fiction and nonfiction.
- The first meeting will be to organize and for the group to select a title to read for December as well as a volunteer to lead that discussion.

For more information, see the East Hall bulletin board and sign-up area for a list of potential book suggestions and two articles that talk about why engage in a book club and the positive impact on our empathic connections to others.

The booklist is by no means exhaustive—please bring your own suggestions to share!

# THE ONLINE CALENDAR

For a complete list of activities, visit [www.trinitypresnashville.org](http://www.trinitypresnashville.org) and click on “church calendar”. The calendar is updated regularly as activities are added, deleted, or changed. If your committee or group schedules a meeting using the church’s facilities, please contact Linda (297-6513 or [office@trinitypresnashville.org](mailto:office@trinitypresnashville.org)) so your meeting can be placed on the calendar, or if there is a facilities conflict, it can be resolved before scheduling.

## TRINITY TRACKINGS

*If you have any news or announcements to share with the congregation, please pass them along to Sally via e-mail or word-of-mouth or drop a note in the offering plate on Sunday so they may be shared in the next Trinity Trackings column. Any and all tidbits of news are welcome!*



Aad Zeeuw was recently asked to accompany the Consul of the Netherlands on the Consul’s visit to Nashville.  
 Paul Berger moved to Olympia, WA to accept a new position on October 29.  
 Sally and Will enjoyed a fall trip to New Hampshire during the week of October 21.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### Trinity Contributions Recap – as of September, 2019

September	Year to Date	Budget YTD	Difference	Annual Budget
\$15,843	\$115,641	\$111,901	+\$3,740	\$149,200

### Building Use (Rent) Recap

\$13,829	\$134,785	\$136,043	-\$1,258	\$191,154
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**SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK!**

*Daylight Saving Time Ends*

**NOVEMBER 3, 2019**

# ANNUAL THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON ON NOVEMBER 24

Come one, come all, to Trinity's annual Thanksgiving Luncheon on Sunday, November 24, following worship. We plan to have the usual feast with all the trimmings and you are invited to bring family and friends to enjoy the food and fellowship.

The Fellowship Committee will prepare the turkey and dressing, ham, sweet potatoes, green beans, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, salad, rolls and butter, and serve tea, lemonade, coffee, and water. There will be vegetarian and gluten-free options for those who wish them.



Again we are asking the congregation to bring desserts -- especially pies and other Thanksgiving favorites. The Fellowship Committee will cut and plate your desserts per your instructions. They will provide whipped cream for the desserts. The warming cabinet will be available in the kitchen for anyone who brings desserts which need to be kept warm.

Reservation slips will be in the Sunday bulletins and may be placed in the offering plates. You may also call the church office before Wednesday, November 20, at 615-297-6513 or e-mail the office at

[office@trinitypresnashville.org](mailto:office@trinitypresnashville.org).

There is no charge for the Luncheon but donations will be accepted. Please invite anyone who would enjoy a homemade Thanksgiving meal!



# LINDEN WALDORF SCHOOL NEWS



## HANGING OF THE GREENS ON NOVEMBER 30

The first Sunday of Advent is December 1st and the congregation is needed to prepare the sanctuary for Advent on November 30. The more hands are available to decorate the sanctuary, the less time it takes to hang the greens, decorate the tree with Chrismons, place candleholders and candles on the pews and arrange the poinsettias for the Advent season.

Removing the decorations from storage and assembly and cleaning (if necessary) will take place beginning at 10 a.m. in the East Hall. Charlie will be on hand to help with the tree and some of the trickier decorating spots.

If you can lend a hand, the whole process normally is completed by lunchtime. Even if you can only be there for an hour, it will help. Join in making the sanctuary festive for Advent!



# INVITATION TO SING AND/OR JOIN A BOOK CLUB

An opportunity to eat, read or sing is going to be offered beginning November 13 at 6 p.m. here at Trinity Presbyterian Church. A light meal will be served at 6 p.m. for those who plan to attend choir practice at 7 p.m. as well as for those who want to meet for a monthly book club. We'd like to get an idea of who might be interested in participating, so a sign-up sheet has been put in East Hall if you are interested in eating, then reading or singing on Wednesday, November 13th at 6 p.m. If you have questions, contact Katy Wilson

[katybwilson@gmail.com](mailto:katybwilson@gmail.com)

or Carla McDonough  
[carla\\_mcdonough@bellsouth.net](mailto:carla_mcdonough@bellsouth.net)



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## FROM OUR MISSION WORKER, KARLA KOLL

Dear friends in mission,

This year's International Peacemaking Program came to an end on October 10th. Unfortunately, Xinia Briceño, the director of the Rural Aqueduct Association of Milano, was denied a visa to come to the United States to participate in the program. Erlinda Quesada, Roman Catholic laywoman who has worked with communities in the Caribbean region of Costa Rica for decades, offered to come in Xinia's place. It was a delight to travel with Erlinda, whom I did not meet until she got off the plane in Louisville for orientation. We are very grateful to the folks in New Brunswick, Hudson River, Salem and New Castle presbyteries who received us. In the newsletter below, I have shared some of the perspectives offered by Erlinda out of the experience of her community with export agriculture.

As I write these lines, I am preparing to leave the United States for the Philippines, where the latest meeting of the International Reformed and Pentecostal Dialogue is taking place. Our two teams will be working to bring our five years of dialogue on mission to a conclusion and write our final report

to offer to our churches. My husband, Javier, will be joining me on this trip. After the meeting, we will visit mission co-worker colleagues in Manila and Dumaguete before we return to the United States for a brief stop on our way back to Costa Rica.

As always, I am grateful for the prayers that accompany me each day. I am looking forward to being back at the Latin American Biblical University to prepare for a new academic year. And I look forward to staying in touch.

My latest newsletter from Presbyterian World Mission can be found here:

Karla's newsletter @presbyterianmission.org  
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My mailing address is:  
Rev. Dr. Karla Ann Koll  
Latin America Biblical University  
Apartado 901-1000  
10San Jose, Costa Rica

# LEARN ABOUT CHRIST THE KING/REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY

At the conclusion of the Christian year, the church gives thanks and praise for sovereignty of Christ, who is Lord of all creation and is coming again in glory to reign (see Revelation 1:4-8). In 2019, November 24 is Christ the King/Reign of Christ Sunday on the liturgical calendar.

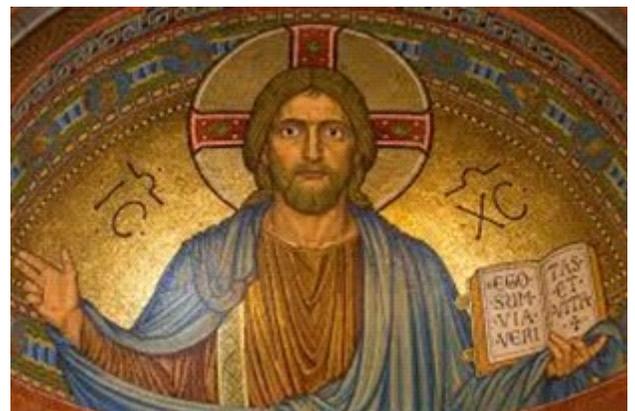
This festival was established in 1925 by decree of Pope Pius XI. Originally it took place on the last Sunday in October, just prior to All Saints' Day. Now it is celebrated on the last Sunday of the Christian year, a week before the season of Advent begins.

The festival of Christ the King (or reign of Christ) ends our marking of Ordinary Time after the Day of Pentecost, and moves us to the threshold of Advent, the season of hope for Christ's coming again at the end of time.

The day centers on the crucified and risen Christ, whom God exalted to rule over the whole universe. The celebration of the lordship of Christ thus looks back to Ascension, Easter, and Transfiguration, and points ahead to the appearing in glory of the King of kings and Lord of lords. Christ reigns supreme. Christ's truth judges falsehood. As the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, Christ is the center of the universe, the ruler of all history, the judge of all people. In Christ all things began, and in Christ all things will be fulfilled. In the end, Christ will triumph over the forces of evil. Such concepts as these cluster around the affirmation that Christ is King or Christ reigns! As sovereign ruler, Christ calls us to a loyalty that transcends every earthly claim on the human heart. To Christ alone belongs the supreme allegiance in our lives. Christ calls us to stand with those who in every age confessed, "Jesus Christ is Lord!" In every generation, demagogues emerge to claim an allegiance that belongs only to God. But Christ alone has the right to claim our highest loyalty. The blood of martyrs, past and present, witnesses to this truth.

Source:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/christianyear/christ-king-reign-christ/>



## November 2019

A calendar that includes all building use, including LWS, can be found on the church website: [www.trinitypresnashville.org](http://www.trinitypresnashville.org)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1</b> <i>Trinity's 77<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</i> 10 am-5 pm Holiday Craft Show & Sale	<b>2</b> 10 am-3 pm Holiday Craft Show & Sale
<b>3</b> <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am Worship/Communion After Worship: First Sunday Fellowship Time	<b>4</b> 8 pm – AA Meeting	<b>5</b> 11 am Presbyterian Women	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9 am – 4 pm LWS Elves' Faire
<b>10</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am Worship After Worship: Fellowship Time	<b>11</b> 8 pm – AA Meeting	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>14</b> 8 pm – AA Meeting	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am Worship After Worship: Fellowship Time	<b>18</b> 8 pm – AA Meeting	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Eat, Read or Sing: 6 pm Supper 7 pm Book Club 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>21</b> 8 pm – AA Meeting	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am Worship After Worship: Thanksgiving Dinner 3pm Girl Scouts	<b>25</b> 8 pm – AA Meeting	<b>26</b> 7 pm – Session Meeting	<b>27</b> 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>28</b> <b>Happy Thanksgiving!</b> 8 pm AA Meeting		

Church Office closed on Mondays