

November 2021 Volume 24, No. 11

## Trinity Lutheran Church

A welcoming faith community  
living together in God's love to  
share the joy of Jesus Christ.

# TIDINGS



## Fall Clean Up Day

Our Property Ministry has tentatively scheduled the annual Fall Cleanup Day for **Saturday, November 6, from 9 am-1 pm**. That date may change if there are other events that day, but for now that's what we're thinking. Please plan to bring your favorite rake, leaf-blower/leaf-vacuum, pruning shears, and/or other tools to clean up the church campus. If you would prefer to work inside or if the weather is too bad to be outside, please plan to bring cleaning supplies and hand vacuums for interior room cleaning. If you would be able to help with some informal childcare, that would be great, too. Questions or comments: Steve Dugger, Property Ministry, at 970-691-7469.



## TLC book Group

The TLC Book Group will meet via Zoom **on Monday, November 1, at 9:30 am** to discuss The Women of the Copper Country by Mary Doria Russell. This historical novel is set in 1913 Calumet, Michigan, where a 25-year-old woman leads a strike against the largest copper mining company in the world. The Zoom link for discussions is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85358221885?pwd=RWx6dTEwRzIzc0xuNmtkaWFzZlZldz09>

On the first Monday of December we will be planning and selecting our books for the upcoming year. Start thinking about what you would like to be reading in 2022.

Questions? Call Nadine Hunt at 970-825-3730.

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## 301 FP Turkey Round Up

The Annual 'Turkey Round Up' has begun - Len Russ has once again taken on the challenge to collect even more turkeys for the Food Bank for Larimer County. Bring your rock-hard frozen turkeys to church on **Sunday, November 21 from 2-5 pm**. Please remember, only rock-hard frozen turkeys can be donated. So be sure you hand your turkey to Len or Ginger or anyone helping for a "frozen" check. Let's STUFF THE FOOD BANK! Give thanks by giving!

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## November Adult Forum

**November 7:** Member Stories – All Saints Edition! In honor of All Saints Sunday, all attendees will be invited to honor important saints in their lives by sharing how their faith journey was influenced by these special people.

**November 14:** Trinity's benevolence emphasis in November is ELCA World Hunger so we will learn and discuss ways we can help reduce hunger here and around the world.

**November 21:** In advance of Trinity's annual meeting to approve our plan for funding ministry in 2022, Adult Forum will offer the opportunity to discuss the plan and address questions members may have.

**November 28:** Our confirmation students will join the Adult Forum for an intergenerational discussion on church music and history.

## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



**301 E. Stuart Street  
Fort Collins, CO 80525  
[www.trinitylutheranfc.org](http://www.trinitylutheranfc.org)**

**Facebook: /TLCfortcollins**

**Phone: (970) 482-1226**

**Fax: (970) 482-0817**

**Preschool: (970) 221-9852**

**After Hours Emergency:  
(970)-400-7252**

### OFFICE HOURS

**MON-THURS 9AM-3PM**

### WORSHIP TIMES

**SATURDAY: 5 PM**

**SUNDAY: 10:30 AM**

### Senior Pastor

**Rick Reiten**

[pastorrick@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:pastorrick@trinitylutheranfc.org)

### Education & Family Minister

**Deacon Katie Kline**

[katie@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:katie@trinitylutheranfc.org)

### Office Administrator

**Deana Andrist**

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

### Financial Manager

**Debbie Schwartz**

[dschwartz@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:dschwartz@trinitylutheranfc.org)

### Director of Communications & Volunteer Coordinator

**Amanda Backsen**

[amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org)

### Director of Choirs & Saturday Worship Leader

**Paul Falk**

[paul@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:paul@trinitylutheranfc.org)

### Church Musician

**Carrie Hansen**

[carrie@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:carrie@trinitylutheranfc.org)

### A/V Techician

**Joshua Moore**

### TLC Preschool Director

**Brenda Harju**

[bharju@comcast.net](mailto:bharju@comcast.net)

## Minister's Message

You don't have to spend much time with me before you'll hear me talk about accompaniment. Before I served with the ELCA-Global Mission, I was extensively trained in accompaniment and the five values through which it is understood: mutuality, inclusivity, vulnerability, empowerment, and sustainability. These values have become foundational to my understanding of my role in ministry. Each season of ministry has taught me (again and again) the importance of these values and new ways to live into them. It isn't easy!

When the pandemic started, these values took on a different shape. When we moved to worshipping online, and settled in for the long haul, I wondered: what does mutuality look like through a computer screen? In a season filled with racial injustice, political unrest, and national divide: what does inclusivity look like? I have wrestled with the question; can inclusivity feel like exclusivity to some? When I struggled with depression, I was challenged to invite others into my own vulnerability. As we re-gather in person in the sanctuary and settle into a new rhythm, what does empowerment look like now? The one question that has stayed the same (or at least similar): is this sustainable?

There are no easy answers to these questions and simultaneously there are multiple right answers. One thing we do know is ministry and the church are changing. The way we used to do ministry is changing. The way we used to find volunteers is changing, the way we set-up communion is changing, and even the way we collect offering is changing. For most people, those are easy changes to get used to. But what about the more difficult changes: the way we use our building, our partnership, or how our ministry teams function. Those can be difficult changes. Many of you are used to a certain way of 'being church' and these changes are difficult. And while some things (many things) are changing, the Gospel truth remains the same, remains constant. The values through which we are church remain the same. The values through which we accompany one another remain the same. I wonder (and if you have an answer, I would love to hear it): what does accompaniment look like for you in this season? How can the church accompany you? How can you accompany the church?

Deacon Katie Kline, Education & Family Minister

# Your GIFTS In Action

## When you give to Trinity, you give to ELCA World Hunger

Over one in 10 people in the world cannot get enough food to keep them healthy. Ten percent of the world's population live in extreme poverty.

ELCA World Hunger strives to alleviate some of this poverty by raising awareness in this country; by responding to crises with food and medical supplies; and most importantly, by working with people and organizations to eliminate the root causes of poverty and hunger in their own communities. In 2019, ELCA World Hunger supported projects in 34 states and territories and 63 countries through gifts and grants totaling over \$23 million.

At Trinity, in addition to the \$2400 allocated in our ministry fund plan to ELCA World Hunger, members also can contribute through ELCA Good Gifts at the annual Alternative Christmas Fair each year or become a monthly partner by visiting their website at <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/ELCA-World-Hunger>.

### 2021 Ministry Fund Plan for the month of September and for year-to-date as of September 2021

	September	Year-To-Date
<b>Receipts:</b>		
Offerings	\$ 22,335	\$ 258,095
Building Use	3,024	29,524
<b>Total Receipts:</b>	<b>25,359</b>	<b>287,619</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>		
Operating and Support	25,021	238,779
Ministries	7,523	65,634
Benevolence/Gifts (Synod, Sky Ranch, etc.)	-	19,892
<b>Total Expenditures:</b>	<b>\$ 32,544</b>	<b>\$ 324,304</b>
<b>Receipts less Expenditures:</b>	<b>\$ (7,185)</b>	<b>\$ (36,685)</b>



## Birthdays



Finnegan Berning	11/1	Sylvia Supinski	11/13	Macee Dugger	11/19
Rob Schmidt	11/3	Justice Jackson	11/13	Courtney Stewart	11/20
Scott Simmons	11/4	Maddy Haller	11/14	Georgia Laird	11/21
Garth Rogers	11/4	Owen Sprain	11/15	Sherry Clark	11/22
Ceily Geppert	11/5	Ken Clark	11/16	Megan Brissey	11/22
Teresa Simske	11/6	Cheryl Backsen	11/16	Isla Zuniga	11/26
Charlene Fuglestad	11/7	Margaret Frye	11/17	Gloria Collins	11/28
Joanne Sunset	11/8	Bennie Drews	11/17	Jennifer Anderson	11/29
Lila Schilling	11/9	Jon Remmers	11/18	Dallen Simske	11/29
Rebecca Oscarson	11/9	Lana Schueler	11/19		

## ♥ Anniversaries ♥

Barb & Jim Montague	11/23	Brenda & Jon Fosse	11/29
Sharyn & Larry Salmen	11/25	Ronda & Scott Simmons	11/30
Heidi & Dean LoRash-Neuenschwander	11/28		

# NOVEMBER 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
	<b>1</b> 9:30 am Book Group  6 pm Property	<b>2</b> 7:30 am Men's Breakfast  5 pm Finance 5:15 pm Soc/Eco Justice 6 pm FP Soc Justice
<b>7</b> 9 am Adult Forum 9 am Confirmation 10 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	<b>8</b>  4:30 pm Exec Council	<b>9</b>  5 pm Trust
<b>14</b> 8 am Used Book Sale 9 am Adult Forum 9 am Confirmation 10 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Faith Formation	<b>15</b>  6 pm Council	<b>16</b>
<b>21</b> 9 am Adult Forum 9 am Confirmation 10 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Congreg Meeting 11:45 am Worship & Music	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  6 pm Joint Eco Mtg
<b>28</b> 9 am Adult Forum 9 am Confirmation 10 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>

Pull Me OUT! HANG ME up!!  
 PUT ME ON YOUR FRIDGE!

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>3</b>  6 pm Bells 7 pm Chancel Choir	<b>4</b> 9:30 am Bible Study	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>  5 pm Saturday Praise
<b>10</b>  6 pm Bells 7 pm Chancel Choir	<b>11</b> 9:30 am Bible Study	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  5 pm Saturday Praise 6 pm Used Book Sale
<b>17</b>  6 pm Bells 7 pm Chancel Choir	<b>18</b> 9:30 am Bible Study	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  5 pm Saturday Praise
<b>24</b>	<b>25 Thanksgiving</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  5 pm Saturday Praise
			5 pm Saturday Praise

## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

**November 6/7** Bonnie Bend / Anya Reiten

**November 13/14** Ron Bend / Delores Wisner

**November 20/21** Vicki Volbrecht / Lindsay Reiten

**November 27/28** Sherry Clark / Rich Fennig

# Highlights from Current Council Minutes

## Finance Report:

- Receipts to the end of August 2021 were \$262,261 with expenditures of \$291,760 for a negative balance of \$29,499.
- \$18,884 has been received in employer matching gifts through Benevity. Of that amount \$11,247 has been applied towards property expenses, which reduces the negative balance to \$18,252.
- TLC will become a designated non-profit recipient of the proceeds of car donations through ARC. A potential donor makes arrangements with ARC for pick-up and auction of a car, and designates TLC as the recipient of the proceeds. ARC handles the entire transaction, deducts a portion of the proceeds for their programs, and returns the remainder to TLC.

**MFP (Budget) for 2022:** The initial draft of the MFP (budget) for 2022 indicated a deficit of \$96,434. To bring the MFP into line, the Finance and Executive Committees have proposed no increase in salary for any staff member, reduction of benevolence to 7.5% (from the current 10%) of the offerings, adjustments in benefits, and reduction of all ministry areas by 10-15%.

## Repurposing Space in the Church Building:

- The administrative staffs of the partner churches have moved into the existing library at TLC.
- The proposal described in the July minutes for construction in the west wing to create clergy offices for SPE and MOM has been rejected by the 301 Faith Partners as being too expensive.
- After considerable discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously to replace the carpet in the Fireside Room and the west office, to make necessary repairs, and to purchase matching bookcases for the Fireside Room, with the total cost not to exceed \$8000. This proposal will be taken to the partner churches to invite them to share the expense.
- An Open Forum for the congregation will be held on October 16/17 to discuss the repurposing of the rooms in the building.

**The Sanctuary Ventilation:** Don Heyse presented a study that reveals that the ventilation in the back of the church is excellent, but that the filtered air flows forward, picking up contamination along the way making the air in the front of the sanctuary less safe. A Blueair Classic 605 Air Purifier unit has been purchased for \$497.99 to be placed in the front of the church on a trial basis.

## Announcements:

- The Council Retreat will be held October 16 in the Fellowship Hall. The retreat will include representatives of the partner churches for group building and discussions of doctrine and governing structures, budgeting and spending, and developing educational opportunities.
- Joshua Moore (who runs the sound board for worship) has resigned, and discussions are going on with the partner churches about hiring one person to serve all three churches.
- Three Council members Betty Wagner, Don Heyse, and Erik Elliott, are participating in a two-year leadership program.
- Mary Ann Miller is “retiring” from her role as head of the Altar Guild.

Respectfully submitted, Nadine Hunt, Council Secretary

**Complete minutes of Council meetings are available in the Church Office.**

## Meeting for Potential Trees, Water & People Service Trip

If you are interested in going on a service trip with a great organization, please join us for a presentation from Trees, Water & People ([treeswaterpeople.org](https://treeswaterpeople.org)) on **Saturday, November 20 at 10 am** via Zoom. James Calabaza, National Program Director, will be talking about the National Tours to Tribal Lands in South Dakota and New Mexico in relation to a potential 301 Faith Partners service trip in 2022. With a TWP National tour you can learn about the culture and traditions of the Native American people, visit historical landmarks and natural landscapes, and work with your hands while learning about local communities.

**TWP Service Trip Presentation on Saturday, November 20 at 10 am via Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/350899592?pwd=VWgvQmR4Nm5oL2Vxc2dic05tbEdhUT09>

Meeting ID: 350 899 592 | Passcode: 028929

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## Book Lovers Used Book Sale

Don't miss the 5th Annual Book Lovers Used Book Sale in support of our TLC Preschool on **Saturday, November 13, from 6-7 pm** and **Sunday, November 14, from 8 am-1 pm**.

## LuMin Meals

We will be filling the bellies of the students at our local Lutheran Campus Ministries (LuMin) again this Fall and Spring semesters. They were not able to host meals last year, so let's help to start off the school year with some hearty meals from our wonderful cooks! Looking for families, individuals or small groups to prepare a meal and bring to the LuMin building on designated Sunday evenings. We will worship with the students, then serve the meal and help cleanup. Most students will be vaccinated. Please adapt your meals for those that do NOT eat meat, wheat or lactose.

Dates that we need to fill are: **11/14/21 1/30/22 3/27/22 4/24/22**

Contact Steph Dugger if interested 970-223-9119 or [steph.dugger@hotmail.com](mailto:steph.dugger@hotmail.com).

## President's Perspectives

Dear Trinity Family, Wow, I cannot believe I am drafting an article for the November 2021 Tidings, where has 2021 gone? We have had lots of interesting happenings in 2021.

I regret the Larimer County decision to go back to full mask mandate, vaccinated or not, in public places. This means that we must follow the mandate and wear mask during in person worship and any other meetings or gatherings at Trinity Lutheran Church. Council also made the tough decision to not have fellowship hour during this time. I hope the mandate is lifted, sooner rather than later and we can go back to a more normal worship service. I want to thank you for your understanding of our need to keep everyone safe.

Also, I would like to encourage everyone to look at the MFP (budget) before our Congregational meeting in November. Finance ministry, council and our rostered leaders have worked hard to keep Trinity in a healthy financial position during this trying time called Covid 19 pandemic. Challenging decisions have been made, and a proposed MFP sent forward for approval. If you have questions or concerns, please join us at the Adult Forum addressing the MFP, the morning of the Congregational meeting.

Finally, I would like to thank all who joined the council at the recent Congregational meeting to have an open forum discussion about the building room changes and the 301 Faith Partners progress. We had good discussion and I am encouraged by the comments and thoughts. Thank you.

As we move into this busy time of the year, let us remember that we continue to be a church family, in person, with or without masks, on zoom and in various committee meetings and gatherings. Trinity has a long rich history and we will continue to be a beacon of light for the community as we continue to try to navigate these uncharted waters and to climb our mountain.

Betty Ann Petitjean-Wagner, Congregational President



Did you notice in the narthex gathering area that we have a map of Fort Collins and surrounding areas? We need your pin location! Take a pin, corresponding to the congregation you attend, and place it where you live. We bet you will be surprised at who your neighbor is. Maybe you live next to Trinity member, or St. Paul's folks come from Windsor, or Mary of Magdala all live within a mile of 301 E. Stuart! Let's find out.

Pin colors: **Blue** – St Paul's; **Purple** – Trinity, **Gold** – Mary of Magdala.



## The heart, hands & feet of God

Thank someone who has lived out their faith by sharing their gifts and made a difference in the church OR community, please email Amanda, [amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org).



Dear **Trinity**, Thanks to your generosity, the Food Bank is supporting more than 60 summer meal sites throughout Larimer County. Because of your gift of \$529, kids have access to nourishing meals during the summer, helping them thrive...and just be kids. ~ Amy Pezzani

Dear **Trinity**, Thank you for your gift of \$529 to ELCA World Hunger. Through your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, you are sharing this amazing grace with others. You are helping people around the world feel the transformational power of God's love. ~ The Rev. Robin Brown

**TLC**, Your donation of \$132 to Habitat for Humanity is helping to move Karen from the hardship of chasing an affordable rent to the strength, stability and self-reliance she'll have as a homeowner. You, along with other Christians and faith organizations, are the hands and feet of God for Karen. ~ Mara Johnson

Dear **Trinity**, Thank you for your continued support-your gift (\$800 to the Nappie Project) ensures the Food Bank can serve those in the community who need it most. ~ Amy Pezzani



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## TLC Gifts Registry

As we move into our stewardship season of talent (time, talent, and treasure), Trinity is excited to release the *new* TLC Gifts Registry. Without further ado, please complete one registry for each family member (including kids) by visiting <https://forms.gle/b1J3k6fQPD63XfMi9>. We think it is easier to complete online but if you prefer a paper copy, please contact the office and have one mailed to your house, remember you will need to mail or bring the completed form back to the church.



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