







#### SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

INTERIOR CLEAN-UP & SETTING UP MEMORABILIA DISPLAYS

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

• EXTERIOR CLEAN-UP & YARD WORK

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

- 9:00am Setup for Service Project
- \* 10:30AM STUFF THE FLOOD BUCKETS\*\*
- 12:00noon Dedication Service
- 12:30PM HOT DOG & HAMBURGER LUNCH

#### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

- 10:30AM COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE
- THE REV. AMY CARPENTER PREACHING
- 12:00noon Lunch in the PLC

<sup>\*\*</sup>A LIST OF SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR THE FLOOD BUCKETS IS AVAILABLE IN THE WEEKLY BULLETIN, THE TUESDAY DIGEST, AND FROM THE COLLECTION TABLE IN THE PLC HALLWAY.

### **\$125** for the **125**<sup>TH</sup>

For the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the planning team would like to challenge each household to collect an additional \$125 to give as a special offering on Sunday, October 27.

Each household should receive an envelope in a mailing. Please use this envelope for the special offering.

We recognize that some households may be able to give more in recognition of this special anniversary and some less. Let's challenge ourselves to stretch and give what we can.



#### WHAT TO KNOW

#### **CLEAN UP & SET UP**

- Each Sunday School class is encouraged to clean their respective room and set up a display of memorabilia.
- Please email digital pictures to Grant Sparks (<u>gsparks20@gmail.com</u>) to be included in a slideshow that will be shared during Sunday's lunch.
- Physical pictures & other memorabilia can be given to Ray Sparks or Rick Jones.

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

We will need many hands on deck. Please watch for signup opportunities.

#### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

- The Rev. Amy Carpenter is preaching
- A special offering will be collected during worship (please see article above for details).
- Lunch Sides and desserts are being provided by the women of the church. Chicken will be provided by Publix. Come and enjoy!



"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." - Ecclesiastes 3:1

As the leaves begin to turn and the crisp autumn air settles upon us, we are reminded of the beauty in change. October often ushers in a time of reflection as we watch the world around us transition from the warmth of summer to the quiet preparation for winter. Just as nature moves through its seasons, so do we as God's people. And in every season—whether it be one of joy, sorrow, growth, or waiting—God's grace remains constant.

I've often found that autumn is a wonderful metaphor for our spiritual lives. We see the trees shedding their leaves, making room for new growth in the coming spring. Likewise, in our walk with Christ, there are times when we, too, are called to let go—to release the burdens we carry or the things we cling to too tightly. It's not always easy. Sometimes we hold onto our "leaves," thinking they are the source of our strength, but God reminds us that true strength comes from Him alone.

In October, the earth teaches us to trust in God's rhythm, to let go of the old and trust that something beautiful is being prepared beneath the surface. This is the rhythm of grace—letting go, receiving, and trusting in the promise of new life.

Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 12:9, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." As we reflect on the changing season, we are invited to rest in God's sufficiency. When we feel weak or overwhelmed by the challenges of life, His grace sustains us. We do not have to have everything figured out. We do not have to hold it all together. God's grace is enough, and His power is at work in our lives, even when we can't see it.

As we move through this season together as a congregation, let's embrace the changes—both within our hearts and within our community. We are a church constantly growing, constantly moving deeper into God's call for us. And in each step, we trust that He is leading us to greater things.

Take some time this month to reflect on what God might be inviting you to release and what He is preparing to grow in its place. Let's lift each other up in prayer and trust that, in every season, His love and grace carry us forward.

Blessings to you and your families this October. May the peace of Christ fill your hearts with warmth and hope as we journey together.

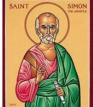
God's richest blessings to you this October, *Pastor Ryan Henkel* 

## OCTOBER FESTIVALS & COMMEMORATIONS Join Us For Vespers to Commemorate These Saints

This October, we have the joy of commemorating three apostles of our faith - St. Luke (October 18) and the lesser-known but faithful apostles, St. Simon and St. Jude (October 28). These saints have left a profound legacy in the life of the Church, and their witness encourages us to reflect on our own journey of faith and mission. Join us for Vespers (Evening Prayer) in the Sanctuary at 6:30 p.m. as we commemorate these saints. After worship, we will gather for Gemütlichkeit (fellowship) - a wonderful opportunity to connect with one another, sharing stories and experiences that strengthen our bonds of faith and friendship.



On October 18<sup>th</sup>, we commemorate St. Luke, the beloved physician and companion of Paul, who authored both the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles. His writings offer us a rich and detailed account of the life of Jesus and the early Church, emphasizing themes of mercy, healing, and the power of the Holy Spirit. St. Luke reminds us of Christ's compassion for the outcast and the marginalized, and his Gospel continues to inspire us to care for both the body and soul in our own ministries.





On October 28th, we honor St. Simon and St. Jude, two apostles who often serve as reminders that God can use anyone to fulfill His purposes. Though little is known about these two saints, their faithful service to the Gospel and their ultimate martyrdom bear witness to the power of quiet, steadfast discipleship. St. Jude, often invoked as the patron saint of lost causes, gives us hope that no situation is beyond the reach of God's grace.

These commemorations of St. Luke, St. Simon, and St. Jude give us the chance to reflect on the diversity of gifts within the body of Christ and how each of us is called to serve in different ways. Please join us for these worship services and for the Gemütlichkeit fellowship that follows—a time to nourish both body and soul as we grow together in faith and community. May the examples of St. Luke, St. Simon, and St. Jude inspire us to follow Christ more closely and to live out His love in our daily lives.

#### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL/BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

If you are not currently connected with a Sunday school class or if you would be interested in new Bible study opportunities, stay tuned! We are going to begin offering more weekday Bible studies, and if there's enough interest, a new adult Sunday school class. We want everyone in the parish to have an opportunity to dive into the Word each week!



#### SONSHINERS NEWS FOR OCTOBER

In light of the recent weather events, the SONshiners Day Trip to Rutherfordton and Hendersonville on Tuesday, October 8 has been cancelled.

We are going to try to have an outing on Tuesday, October 15. Stay tuned for more details.



## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Sunday, October 13

Please note that a Congregational Meeting will begin during the announcement times of the 8:30 and 11:00 services on Sunday, October 13, 2024. The purpose of this meeting is to hold a **congregational vote to nominate and elect members to serve on the Holy Trinity Church Council**. When the nominees are confirmed and the congregation is ready to vote (typically two weeks after the initial nominations), we will resume the congregational meeting that was recessed on October 13. Voting will be held during announcement times at the worship services. The four nominees receiving the highest majority of votes will be declared duly elected to Council for a term of three years beginning in January, 2025.

## Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Gastonia is celebrating 125 years!

Celebrate with us by collecting items for disaster relief and packing flood buckets. We will have a hamburger/hot dog lunch and short service after packing.

Saturday, October 26th at 10:30am

NALC Disaster Response



A list of supplies needed for the flood buckets is available in the weekly bulletin, the Tuesday Digest, and from the collection table in the PLC hallway.

## OCTOBER/NOVEMBER LADIES' BIBLE STUDY Beginning Wednesday, October 9

Isaiah served as God's mouthpiece not only to the nation of Judah but also to the surrounding nations. His message echoes into our lives today as we read his call to rely on the Lord. Using the genres of poetry, narrative, and prophecy, Isaiah communicated clearly that followers of God could trust in Him.

As we study the chapters Isaiah wrote—from his challenging words to the nation of Israel to his prophecies of the Messiah to come—learn to rest in God's promises and grow in trust.

#### **Benefits:**

- Learn to trust God for who He is and how He reveals Himself in Scripture.
- Grow in understanding of the Book of Isaiah and its prophecies.
- Grasp how Jesus fulfills the promises in the Book of Isaiah.
- Discover peace in God's commands, character, and comfort.

The date for the first session will be on **Wednesday**, **October 9 at 6:30 p.m.** This will be an inperson study. Please **contact Anna Houser** (704-813-6560 / <a href="mailto:annaplus2girls@gmail.com">annaplus2girls@gmail.com</a>) if you are interested in participating. The church will purchase and provide the book. A love offering will be collected to supplement the cost.

## CARVE OUT A NEW TRADITION Give Blood - October 28 ~ 2:00-6:15 p.m.

Giving blood has long been a part of Holy Trinity's tradition, but it stopped for a while. Beginning in October 2013, we restarted holding blood drives at Holy Trinity and thus carved out a new tradition. In the time since October 2013, we have held 33 blood drives at Holy Trinity and **provided 1845 pints of blood** to the American Red Cross.



Don't you want to be a part of that tradition? There are several ways to do that. If you can give blood, contact Charlotte Sautner @ 704-860-3399, and she will set up an appointment; go on line to the American Red Cross and set up your appointment; or sign up before and after the early service and before the late service each Sunday through October 27.

Remember, be part of CARVING OUT A NEW TRADITION at Holy Trinity - GIVE BLOOD ON OCTOBER 28 from 2:00-6:15 p.m.

Charlotte & John Sautner Holy Trinity Blood Drive Coordinators



#### YORK CHESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL OCTOBER COLLECTION

The items being collected for York Chester in October are listed below and posted near the York Chester Collection box.

#### For October Holy Trinity would like to collect:

- Pencils with erasers (#2 lead)
- Spiral Notebooks (3 subject)
- Antibacterial Wipes



Please place items in the **York Chester BOX** in the PLC Hallway.

Thank you again for helping our neighbors in need, Diane George Holy Trinity York Chester Contact



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES Boxes Will Be Available on Sunday, October 13

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes will be distributed on Sunday, October 13. They are due back on Sunday, November 17. Information as to what can be packed in the boxes will be in each box. Remember, no gum or candy and no war toys. If you would like to make a monetary donation toward the cost of postage, let me know. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Judy Zander Council Representative Global Missions



#### RISE AGAINST HUNGER UPDATE

The Rise Against Hunger event was held on Sunday, August 25. In less than 2 hours, 49 people packed 10,000 meals. You may have recently received an email that the meals were being sent to Madagascar. Thank you to all who helped make this event a success.



#### FAMILY MINISTRIES NEWS FOR OCTOBER



#### **Youth Ministry Schedule for October**

October 6: Confirmation class/High school small groups 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Confirmation class/High school small groups 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Cotober 19: Shelby Corn Maze trip 5:00 - 10:15 p.m. Send money for dinner.
Cotober 20: Confirmation class/High school small groups 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

October 26: 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary service project 11:00 a.m.-? Lunch will be provided.

October 27: Reformation Sunday. Youth group 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

#### **Preschool Sunday School**

We will begin offering Preschool (3, 4, and 5 yr. olds) Sunday School starting on Sunday, October 13!Sunday school for this age group will consist of a simple Bible story, music and movement, and age-appropriate crafts. (And, of course, snack time!)



#### MEN'S MINISTRY NEWS FOR OCTOBER

On Friday night, September 20, eleven men gathered in Holy Trinity's courtyard for a picnic and bonfire. After eating good food (hamburgers & hotdogs with all the trimmings) grilled by our resident grill master Cody, we sat around the bonfire and enjoyed some sharing and fellowship.

#### **Dates to Put on Your Calendar**

On Saturday, October 12, we will restart our monthly Men's Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. We will be joined by the men of Grace Anglican Church. After a full breakfast, we will discuss plans for future events, service projects, etc. Gentlemen, this is your ministry so come help us get this ministry started again.

On Saturday, November 16, we will have our annual M & M (Meal & Movie) Night at 6:00 p.m. After eating a really good dinner, we will watch a movie. Who knows there might even be some popcorn to share. This M & M Night is for men and women. The cost is \$8.00 per person. Tickets will be available starting the first Sunday in November.

Men, the ladies have a very strong Women's Ministry, let's make the Men's Ministry just as strong. Look forward to seeing all men on Saturday morning, October 12.

Bruce Zander Men's Ministry Chair



Even though we could not have the scheduled Women's Retreat as planned, we went ahead and completed the service project portion. Using donations from the congregation and complemented by some articles purchased with HTLCW funds, we prepared 32 health kits. Those 32 plus 18 done by the Circle of Patience have been delivered to the NALC Disaster Relief warehouse in Kings Mountain. We want to thank all who contributed resources and time to make this much-needed service project a success.







Pictures from the Disaster Relief Warehouse in Kings Mountain.

We are looking forward to hosting the **Carolinas Lutheran Women's Convocation on October 19.** If you would like to prepare a dessert (and haven't yet volunteered), you may still do so by contacting LaVerne Davis at 704-616-0570 by October 13.

#### Women's Ministry Team

#### **October Circle Meetings**

This is a time of fellowship, snacks, a program led by a Circle member and service projects that are for Holy Trinity Disciples and people in the community. These groups are always open to new members. **Please join us!** 

Circle of Patience: Sunday, October 6 After 11:00 Worship PLC Room 25

Bring your lunch.

Program: Barb Kies

Hostesses: Pepie Jones, Barb Kies, Ann Koors, Frankie Lewis

Circle of Goodness: Thursday, October 10 10:00 a.m. PLC Room 25

Program: Judy Weatherford

Hostess: Barb Kies Card Ministry: Janet Green



## ENDOWMENT HIGHLIGHT Matthew 25 Ministries

This month's Endowment Grant highlight is on Matthew 25 Ministries.

Matthew 25:40 was created in 2014 as a nonprofit 501(c)(3) with an emphasis on education, job creation and providing aid to children. Holy Trinity has supported the mission for several years and did again in 2024.

What is the Matthew 25:40 charity and why does Holy Trinity continue to support them? Matthew 25:40 is a charity that supports the Guatemala children that live in poverty. Their mission is to empower and free children from the poverty that they live in daily, by helping to provide them with an education, meals, and a loving environment where they can learn about our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and what it means to live in relationship with Him.

Matthew 25:40 has been supported for several years by Holy Trinity and a few of the congregation visited and worked with their mission team for a couple days while on a mission trip to Guatemala. This charity goes along with our church's Christian mission: Knowing, Loving and Sharing Christ.

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40 (NIV)

To read more about this life changing work, please visit www.Matthew2540.net.

In His Service, The Endowment Committee

#### VETERANS' LUNCH ON THE 4TH TUESDAY October 22



Soup and Sandwich 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. PLC



All Veterans are welcome!



#### BIG THINGS ARE HAPPENING AT HOLY TRINITY!

#### **Construction is Finally Underway!**

We're so excited to announce that construction is officially underway on the office area of our building! After months of remediation and preparation, we're finally seeing the fruits of our labor. It's a big step forward in our journey to create a more welcoming and functional space for our |congregation and staff.

#### AC Repair is on the Way

We know, we know. The heat has been unbearable! But fear not, relief is on the horizon. We've ordered the necessary pumps to fix the AC in the PLC, and we're hopeful that it will be up and running again within the next few weeks. Until then, let's try to stay cool and hydrated!

#### Get Ready for Our 125th Anniversary Celebration

Speaking of big things, we're gearing up to celebrate our 125th Anniversary! To help us prepare for this momentous occasion, we're inviting everyone to join us for some church cleanup activities on **Saturdays, October 5 and October 19.** Let's come together as a community to make our church look its best for this special milestone.

We can't wait to see you there! Richard DeFreitas Council Liaison Property

#### SPECIAL & HOMEBOUND SAINTS OF HOLY TRINITY

We have three Special & Homebound Saints that have birthdays in October and November. Please help us wish them a Happy Birthday by sending them cards!



**Dick Jansak** will turn **89 years young** on **October 20.** 151 Arbor Lane, Hendersonville, NC 28791



Christine Smith will turn 98 years young on October 25. 1351 Robinwood Rd., Apt. B-306, Gastonia, NC 28054

**Maynard Bridges** will turn **94 years young** on **November 12.** 1251 E. Hudson Blvd., Room #412, Gastonia, NC 28054



## COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Don't Miss Out... Come Join In!

Don't blink! You might miss something.

In case you haven't noticed, there is **A LOT going on at Holy Trinity** in the month of October. We have days set aside to get our house in order, both inside and outside. We are hosting the Carolinas Lutheran Women's Convocation. We have a major celebration taking place. And, in the midst of all that, we are electing the next class of Council members.

This is a time full of energy and excitement mixed with planning and preparation. I hope everyone will take a moment to ponder how you might participate in the different events taking place. This is a great opportunity to fellowship with others through service, worship, and shared experiences. It also a great time to invite friends, both new and old, to join in the activities. Reach out to someone you haven't seen in a long time.

I'll see you (A LOT) in October!

Blessings, Anna Houser 2024 Council President

## CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS From the September 16, 2024 Regular Meeting



At the September 16 meeting of the Church Council, the following actions were taken:

- Received and approved August financial report from Treasurer, Lee Stadther (see Herald article pg. 13).
- Discussed updating our member roll and preparing for Council nominations and elections.
- Received an update from Personnel regarding the search for a Music Director.
- Received the resignation of Kristen Parsons-Rupp from Council. Made the decision to let the congregation elect someone to fill this position as part of the regular Council elections.
- Scheduled dates for church cleanup days (October 5 & 19) in preparation for the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Weekend.
- Received updates on "No Trespassing" signs for the Garrison parking lots, taking Sunday School attendance, and development of a room request form.
- Received staff and committee reports.
- Next Council meeting: October 21, 2024



#### HOW DO YOUR FINANCIAL GIFTS GLORIFY GOD?

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matthew 6:21 NIV)

Our Giving is an act of Worship. In light of what Christ has done for us on the cross and the amazing grace we receive, our giving should be a reflection of what our heart treasures. Our giving should be viewed as a part of our worship to the Lord. If we are just giving to mark off a line on our spiritual checklist, we are merely involved in charity and are missing out on the great joy of being a cheerful giver.

We give because God has given to us. God has given us everything (James 1:17). He gave His Son to provide for our salvation. He has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in Christ (Ephesians 1:13). He "richly supplies us with all things to enjoy" (1 Timothy 6:17). Because He has given so abundantly to us, we should respond by giving generously back to Him. What is your response to those blessings God has bestowed on you?

#### For those that like numbers...

Noted below we show our August 2024 offerings compared with our monthly budgeted ministry plan. Our staff and leaders continue to manage our expenditures. Our church leadership is doing their best to be good stewards of our financial resources.

	Month of August 2024	YTD through August 2024
Gifts Received:	\$35,443	\$314,170
<b>Budget for Ministries:</b>	\$48,533	\$412,532
Difference:	(\$13,090)	(\$98,362)
Previous Year (2023) Comparison:	\$38,816	\$327,087
Difference between 2024 and 2023:	(\$3,373)	(\$12,917)

Thank you for your continued support of the ministries of Holy Trinity, Lee Stadther Church Council Treasurer 2024



- Myra Mallard, friend of Elizabeth Lethermon, at the death of her brother, Andy
- The family of Gary Diebler, brother of Denny Diebler, at his death on 9/16/24
- Dennis Christman, hospitalized
- Jennifer McLamb, daughter-in-law of Steve and Marsha, for her health
- Paul Kaiser, recovering at home following hospitalization
- In thanksgiving for Betsy Greene's successful cancer treatments
- Anne Corbell, recovery and healing from back surgery on 9/17/24
- The family and friends of Jerry Alexander, brother-in-law of Ray & Nancy Sparks and cousin of Bruce and Betty Blalock, at his death on 9/13/24
- Jill McGlohon and the family of Artie McGlohon, at his death on 9/12/24
- **The family of Billy Karagias,** close family friend of Rick & Pepie Jones and son of Marilyn Dean, who passed away on 9/15/24
- For friends and family dealing with cancer: Dennis Christman, Maria Brimmer, Pastor Kristen Phillips, Walter Martin, Barbara Zinke, Rebecca Cloninger, Alex Melvin, Ed Bridges, Dean Lawson, Melanie Henry, Beth Rudin, Julie Hill, Marilyn Lateulade, Jim Siedel, Teresa Hartman, Kelly Powell, Octavia Glenn, Margo Schopper, LeaAnn Buckwell, Bob Burleson, Tina Heracklis, Braxton Morris, Pastor Bill White
- **Homebound:** Caroline Banker, Pinkney Froneberger, Paul Kaiser, Janie Norton, Kathy Wallace, Iris Work
- Family and friends actively serving in the military: Braeden Lawing, Brett Boyd, Logan Cape, Mae Dodd, Josh Holland, Andrew Lambert, Luke Saylors, Liam Overby, Ryan Wallace, Jacob Lawing
- For healthcare workers and first responders: William Niemeyer, Chuck and Bridget Niemeyer, Beth Michaels, Melodie Garrison, Kailey Hinds, Cindy Isenhour, Lynn Ledbetter, Anna Murphy, Reggie Parlier, Jennifer Sutley, Jon Michael Brackett
- Robin Simmons, for her health
- All the persecuted, including Leah Sharibu
- All missionaries, including the Thorstad family and the Voice of the Martyrs
- For those outside the Church, that they may be brought to faith in Christ Jesus
- For the youth and children of Holy Trinity, for the Holy Spirit to guide them
- For our ministry partner, Displaced Roses, and for the Holy Spirit to stir us up to serve our neighbors in need
- For the North American Lutheran Seminary System and for an increase in vocations to the ministry
- For our Bishop, Dan, our dean, Steven, and for all clergy and people of the Carolinas Mission Region

## **Upcoming Birthdays**

With special joy, we recognize and celebrate these birthdays in the months of October & November. We are thankful for the life and spirit of the birthdays we celebrate.

May the blessings of God flow in the life of each of you.



1	John Sautner	1	Vickey Lineberry
2	Franklin Bogle, Ashlyn Oakes	3	Josie Cloninger, Joan Rickle
7	John Walker	6	Terri Cate
8	Chad Silverstrim	8	Will Allen, Wanda Orija
9	Pamm Nolen, Ray Sparks	9	AJ Faulkner, Chris Saunders
12	Richard DeFreitas, Carla McMahan,	12	Maynard Bridges, David Williard
	Zachary Silverstrim	13	Dana Rice
14	Steve Lanier, Mick McMahan,	14	Lee Young
	Jennifer Sutley	16	Wanda Christman
15	Brooke Smithers	17	Robin Kirby
17	Kay Peak	18	Wes Barnes, Martha Sofley, Trey Sutley
20	Dick Jansak, Ken Weatherford	19	Mitchie Wells
21	Nancy Faulkner	22	Brack East
24	Zach Buchanan, Mary Elizabeth	23	Dennis Mercer
	Mattox	24	David Abernethy, Sam Black,
25	Steve Cochran, Bobby Frye,		Charlotte Eaker
	Christine Smith	27	Doris Waits
28	Hayden Parsons		
29	Corrie Cloninger		
31	Susanne Ratz		



#### Did we miss your birthday?

If your birthday is incorrect, or you have a birthday in October/November and your name is not on this list, please call or email the church office and give us the correct information.

# HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 805 SOUTH YORK STREET GASTONIA, NC 28052

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



#### **Knowing, Loving and Sharing Christ**

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#### **MINISTRY STAFF**

Lead Pastor Pastoral Assistant/Director of Christian Ed. Cody Carpenter Organist Nursery Supervisor Custodian

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