

# Trinity Spirit

LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

140 N. 7TH AVENUE | WEST BEND, WI 53095 | 262.334.2125 | trinitywestbend.com

Volume 15, Issue 11

November 2019

Dear Trinity Family,

What are you thankful for? Are you thankful every day? Do you start the day thankful? Do you end the day thankful?

We have this one day a year when we all eat huge amounts of food, watch some football, enjoy our family and, oh yeah, we say thank-you to God. But what about the other 364 days a year? Do we live every day with an attitude of gratitude?

It really does change the nature of existence when we are thankful in all things. I know, because I sometimes lose track of just how blessed I am. In the moments of life when my gratitude is high, even when there are times of struggle, I find peace and hope. The pain still comes, but I can see that the pain is only one small part of a life truly blessed. I find courage to share and to care even when there are temptations to look out for myself first.

On the other hand, when I lose track of how deeply blessed I am, when I fail to offer a word of thanks at the beginning of the day, I often find myself asking why? Why does so and so have more than me? Why do people choose so and so over me for positions and honors? I feel low and depressed and I find it hard to reach out because I need to save everything for me.

Paul writes these amazing words, *Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

These words are amazing because they are written from prison. Even arrested and possibly awaiting death, Paul still sees his life as blessed. Paul understands that he has the greatest treasure of all,

the love of Jesus Christ. This is a treasure that can never be taken away.

Don't make Thanksgiving a once a year event.

Why not a month of Thanksgiving? A year?

A life?

Thank you God for all your blessings.

Please help me remember.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Dave

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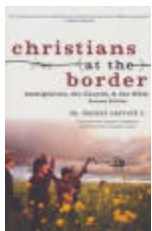
# The Men of Harmene do it again!



Can you guess the identity of "Mr. Pumpkin Head"??



This year's **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service** will be held on Tuesday evening, November 26, at 7:00 p.m. at Cedar Ridge. The annual Pie Social will follow. As usual, donations of your favorite pies are very welcome! Bring them to Trinity by Tuesday morning? Thank you.



Book Study

Continuing our series of books that challenge the Church we will read, Christians at the Border: Immigration, the Church, and the Bible by M. Daniel Carroll Jr. Those interested in discussing the book are invited to gather at 1:00 on Monday Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>.

**GATHER FOR THE GATHERING**

Mark your calendars for **Saturday November 9**, when Trinity will have the opportunity to help prepare and serve lunch at the downtown Milwaukee meal site. There are tasks for children (age 10 and up) to adult, so make this a family event! Details on times and carpooling coming soon!



Our next hosting of Family Promise guests will be from November 10—17. Sign up sheets are out in the Heritage Room for food, fun & fellowship and the ever popular sleep over! Sign up now for the opportunity that best suits your schedule. Don't wait too long!

**Sign up soon!!**

To bead or not to bead—the answer is TO BEAD! On November 18th 6:30 pm join bracelet making in the Heritage Room! Create your own unique hand-crafted Christmas gifts and WOW your family and friends!! Get in on the fun!

It was so much fun last year, Hazel is planning another **CARD MAKING GET TOGETHER!** Mark your calendar for December 9 at 6:30 p.m. and plan to attend. Sign up sheets should be out soon if not already. If you enjoyed it last year, tell your friends and bring them along.

Adult Forum

We began by working on understanding immigrants who live among us. We considered the Church's call to reach out in love. In November we will take time to gain some understanding of another often misunderstood neighbor, those who are Moslem. After the 9:30 worship beginning November 10<sup>th</sup> we will take some time to dispel some of the misunderstanding of Islam and talk about how we can grow in our relationship to those who practice a different faith tradition among us. We will also examine the ELCA's commitment to deeper relationship with those who have different religious understandings. If you have questions or are just interested in knowing more, please come and join us.



Speaking of things "on the way", the final total of the blankets created this year and sent off to Lutheran World Relief was a whopping 119! Terry Kuss loaded them up for the ladies and drove them to the boxcar in Sheboygan for shipment. We thank you for that, Terry, and thanks also to the ladies for giving of their time to work on this mission from the heart. There are many grateful people somewhere out there in the world!





**FISH Family Bowling**  
**Sunday, November 24th, 2019**  
**12:00 pm-1:30 pm**

**Attention all 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Graders AND their families.** Join us for our annual FISH BOWLING PARTY! We'll meet at King Pin Bowl. Cost: \$10.00 per person for Bowling, shoes, pizza, soda. Please rsvp by text, email or Facebook, or sign up on the "Youth Board" downstairs in Fellowship Hall (between the first 2 doors to the Youth Room.

Upcoming Dates: Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> - F<I<S<H<<< Christmas/New Years Party

**Senior High Youth Ministry**

Trinity's Senior High Ministry invites all folks in 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade to gather together throughout the year for: Small Group meetings; Worship and Service opportunities; Retreats, Lock-ins and activities; fundraising and preparing for our 2020 Urban Summer Servant Trip. Check out what's planned and join us for any or all of our 2019/2020 activities.

Every year we talk about how **confirmation is not the end of growing your faith. It is the start of a new chapter in your life story.**

Please join us this year **EVERY 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF THE MONTH**, from 6:00pm to 7:30 for "**Senior High - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday**". It's a lot like confirmation - but different. There'll be some video/discussion and some free time to connect with friends, both old and new.

**The difference?? The topics and activities are kicked-up a notch and chosen in response to ?'s/ideas from you! Please feel free to text, Snapchat, Instagram or Facebook ideas.**

These gatherings are a work in progress designed to meet your interests and schedules. Please join us for dinner on November 3<sup>rd</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm and let's start our months out right.

**Senior High Pizza Making/New Years Lock-In.** Plan to come (Friday, December 27, 8pm to Saturday, December 28<sup>th</sup>, 8am) for preparing our New Year's Pizzas and for New Year's fun and a chance to relax and reconnect and start the New Year right.

**Confirmation Schedule**

Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>:

Topic- Apostles' Creed  
Article 1     Snacks- Mason Ellis

**Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>-**  
**Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>:**

Confirmation Fall Retreat  
at Pine Lake Camp  
Topic- Apostles' Creed/  
the Trinity and Article 1

Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>:

Topic Apostles' Creed  
Article 2     Snacks- Reuben Holcomb

Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>:

Topic- Apostles' Creed  
Article 2     Snacks - Landon Ketter

Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>:  
**NO CONFIRMATION**

**Senior High Fund Raising for the 2020 Summer Servant Trip:**

We will be selling Seroogy's Candy Bars for \$1.50 each throughout November and December. Boxes are ready to go. Pick up in the Trinity church office.

We will be hosting and staffing a "Babysitting Event" for the congregation following the last Children's Ministry Christmas program practice from 11:00 to on December

Also, we'll be taking orders throughout November for our Christmas Pizzas



## COMMITMENT WEEKEND

Commitment weekend will be celebrated on November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> at all services. We invite everyone to bring their commitment card to the service you attend and offer that commitment as a part of worship. There will be celebrations after each service recognizing the importance of the gifts pledged and giving thanks for the blessings of God. Please take time to carefully read the material sent out and take time to carefully and prayerfully consider your commitment to the life of Trinity and the work of God's kingdom. We are invited to imagine what Trinity could do if we did not hold back in our giving and serving. Take time to imagine. In your giving you become a part of the work of God in the life of Trinity Lutheran Church. Thank you for being a part of our life together.

### A Council Minute

Several people have asked for a brief review of council activities. So, we will try to include that as part of the newsletter each month. Because of the timing of the newsletter we will be a couple months behind. In September the council:

Heard reports from guests of the council on youth fundraising and a possible future drama presentation.

Reviewed the budget and the financial situation of the congregation. Expenses are well within budget, but people continue to need to be reminded of the importance of maintaining their giving and the hopes of ending the year strong enough to make up for cuts made at the beginning of the year.

Pastors' and Committee Reports were received.

Plans for the Harmene event were discussed. God's Work, Our Hands plans were finalized.

Concerns about parking lot usage were discussed and plans are in motion to deal with parking by those not attending worship during worship times.

It was approved to make available opportunities for people to support Life of Hope.

For your reading enjoyment, the council meeting minutes can be found in a binder on the table near the fireplace in the Heritage Room!



### Prayer Concerns

This month you are encouraged to think of all you have to be grateful for. Each day think of one thing and spend the day offering thanks to God for the blessing. Among the things you might consider are:

Family (Take time to give thanks for individual members of your family and what they mean to you.)

The necessities that are provided from God's hand (Food, shelter, health, water and air and all those who provide and protect these things that are necessary for life.)

For work, your place in the community, opportunities to touch others in their need. No matter who we are there are ways to serve God and each other and it is a blessing to be able to serve.

For love and all the ways you are touched by love every day.

For who you are. Each of us is unique and uniquely gifted. Thank God for who you are.

For God. God is our greatest blessing of all. God's love is revealed in Jesus to us all. Don't let the giver be lost among the gifts.

\*\*\*\*\*



**SOCKTOBER IS HERE!** Trinity 6th graders are again collecting socks for the homeless in our area. If you want to help, bring any size, color or style to the hamper in the Heritage Room any time from now til Thanksgiving.



# God's work. Our hands.



**KIDS, COPS, FIREFIGHTERS, ETC.—WE APPRECIATE YOU!**





*We celebrate the  
Rite of Confirmation for:*  
 Bryce Edward Bauer  
 Faith Renae Disterhaft  
 Hailey Anne Granger  
 Sophia Margaret Neumann  
 Kayley Marie Rineck  
 Rylie Marie Dwyer  
 And always in spirit and in our hearts  
 Matthew William Beekman



*October 13, 2019*



**ATTENTION! Women of Trinity!!**

Poetry of the Old Testament”

by Anna Maddsen.

In this three-session study we will explore selections from Job, Psalms and Lamentations. Drawing from the experiences of these ancient writers, we will learn to look for God in times of deep emotions, such as joy, anger, celebration, depression, misunderstanding and contentment, finding hope and grace along the way. Stop in for a free sample and see the Bible in a whole new light! We'll save you a chair! The first Monday of the month (except for holidays) at 6:30—meet in the Heritage Room here!

**ADVENT CANTATA – December 7-8  
Saturday night service at 6:30  
Instead of 5:00!!**

Planning for Trinity’s 14<sup>th</sup> Advent Cantata is underway, with the choir again under the direction of Darci Ketter. If you have not sung with the cantata choir in the past but would like to join this year, see Hazel Griffin to be added to the e-mail communication list!

**Rehearsals** are Wednesdays from 6:30-8 on:  
November 6—November 20  
December 4—and  
Final dress rehearsal on the afternoon of  
Saturday December 7  
**Cantata worship services:**  
Saturday December 7 at 6:30 p.m.  
Sunday December 8 at 9:30 a.m.

COMING THIS ADVENT – Thursday night ADVENT  
ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT 6:30-7:30pm

Trinity will be hosting a **light supper/discussion/prayer and re-centering worship opportunity** focused on how our faith can help us confront some of the most common holiday issues.

- December 5<sup>th</sup> – How to keep our focus on Christ in the whirl of holiday craziness and expectations.
- December 12<sup>th</sup> – “Empty places at the table”. Dealing with the loss of loved ones during the Holiday season.
- December 19<sup>th</sup> – “Escaping the tyranny of perfection”. How not to let “normal reality” poison the joy of your holiday moments.

**Why should I give money to Trinity??**

It is time to consider our financial commitment to the work of Trinity Lutheran Church. Without the commitment of every member we cannot continue to do the vibrant ministry that we carry out in our community. As many of you know, last year we had to cut salaries on staff that keep our variety of ministries running in order to meet the budget. This limited Trinity’s ability to reach out to share the love and promise of God both with church members and within our community and world.

We realize that here are many worthy causes asking for your support. **But please consider that Trinity is called to a role that no other single charity can fulfill.** Our purpose is:

To communicate and pass on the faith - an understanding of ourselves and the world rooted in the love, grace and forgiveness of a God who is still at work within all God’s creation to bring new life, growth, wholeness, connectedness and hope.

To encourage, illuminate, inspire and support people so they are better able to notice and care about the needs and issues that are happening beyond their own present personal experience.

To bring together people from various backgrounds, experiences, and generations to form a community of respect, support and encouragement that allows people to recognize and use their gifts to touch a divisive, isolated, self-absorbed and despairing culture with God’s love.

To provide each generation with the roots of love, strength, hope, purpose that will help them stand, grow and shine amidst the pain, hopeless and darkness of the world they face.

To illustrate God’s work of compassion, renewal, growth and life going on all around us.

**If each member of this congregation could give \$5.00 more a week (the cost of a trip to Starbucks or a Cheeseburger meal at McDonalds) we could reinstate and even expand our ability to live out our role as carriers of love, grace, life and hope.**

Throughout October, stewardship materials for the 2020 will be made available that outline the way our financial resources are used to carry on the ministry of Christ. You will see that we do not use our funds extravagantly, but faithfully use each cent to do our work.

There will also be several small group sessions in which members can ask questions and share ideas. We encourage you to come and share with other members as we each prayerfully consider our commitment to the God’s calling.



## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR November 2019

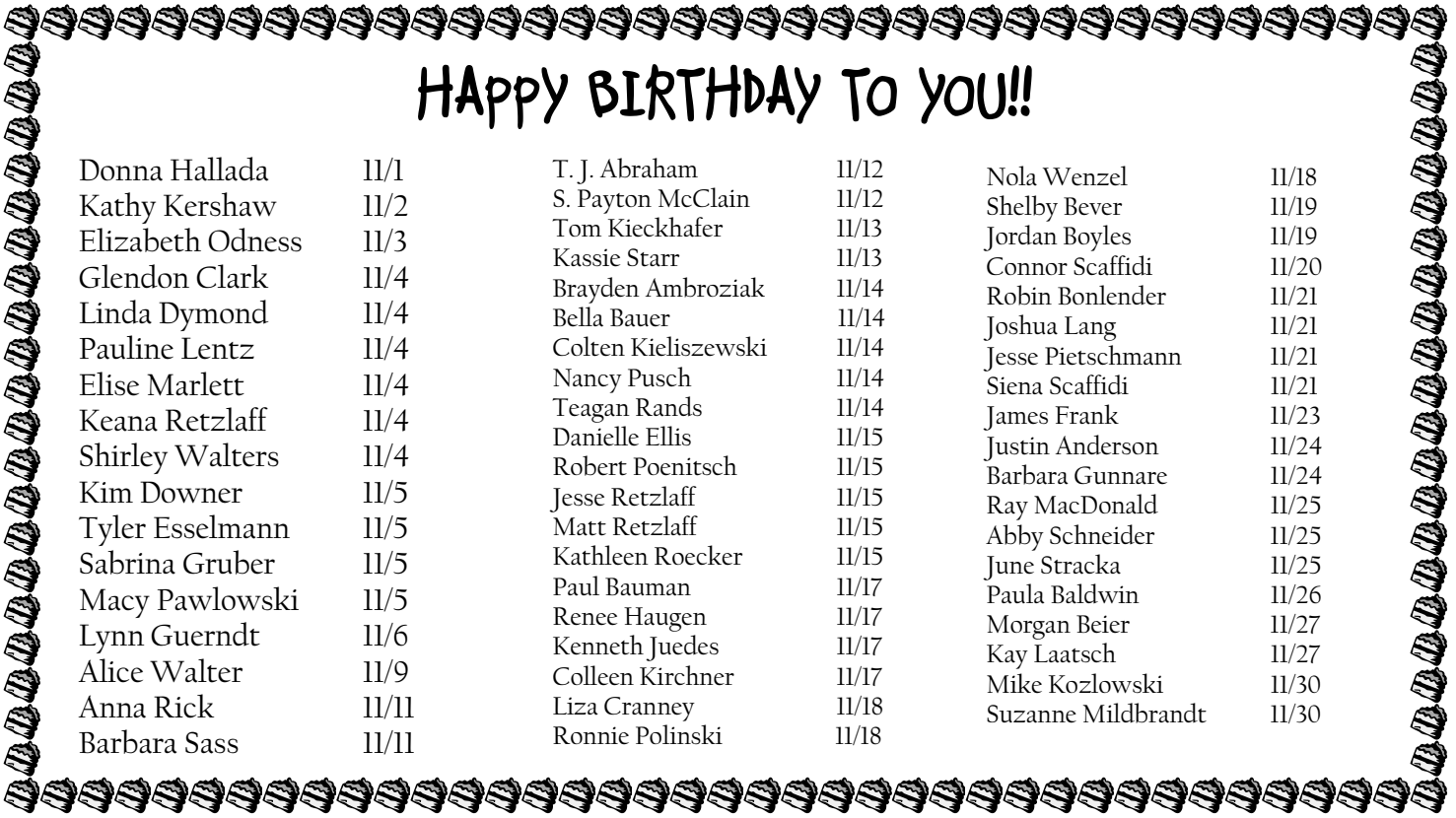
*Counters* Anita McClain & Jody Schilling  
**Saturday, November 2, 5:00 pm**  
*Ushers* Arlyss Speener  
**Sunday, November 3, 8:00 am**  
*Ushers* Ron/Rosemary Fink, Jay Nelson, Carol Peters  
**Sunday, November 3, 9:30 am**  
*Ushers* Pauline Lentz,  
 Kevin Schmitt, Sam Laatsch

*Counters* Linda Amacher & David Putnam  
**Saturday, November 9, 5:00 pm**  
*Ushers* Mark Sergeant, Debbie Burns  
**Sunday, November 10, 8:00 am**  
*Ushers* Dale, Myra, Cory, Cary & Kyle Gunnare  
**Sunday, November 10, 9:30 am**  
*Ushers* Glenn Pietschmann, Nick Laatsch,  
 Mike Kozlowski, Jim Klatt

*Counters* Dawn Spaeth & Judy Ehmke & Kathy Kershaw  
**Saturday, November 16, 5:00 pm**  
*Ushers*  
**Sunday, November 17, 8:00 am**  
*Ushers* Bill/Cheryl Casey, Mary Immekus,  
**Sunday, November 17, 9:30 am**  
*Ushers* Todd Markgraf, Anita McClain,  
 Daniel Schmidt

*Counters* Rich Hills & Denise Kenworthy  
**Saturday, November 23, 5:00 pm**  
*Ushers* Carl & Betty Schweiger  
**Sunday, November 24, 8:00 am**  
*Ushers* Jay Nelson, Lynne & Eric Thorin,  
 Ken Juedes  
**Sunday, November 24, 9:30 am**  
*Ushers* Paul Anderson, Ron Wicke, James Winkler

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!



|                  |       |                     |       |                    |       |
|------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|
| Donna Hallada    | 11/1  | T. J. Abraham       | 11/12 | Nola Wenzel        | 11/18 |
| Kathy Kershaw    | 11/2  | S. Payton McClain   | 11/12 | Shelby Bever       | 11/19 |
| Elizabeth Odness | 11/3  | Tom Kieckhafer      | 11/13 | Jordan Boyles      | 11/19 |
| Glendon Clark    | 11/4  | Kassie Starr        | 11/13 | Connor Scaffidi    | 11/20 |
| Linda Dymond     | 11/4  | Brayden Ambroziak   | 11/14 | Robin Bonlender    | 11/21 |
| Pauline Lentz    | 11/4  | Bella Bauer         | 11/14 | Joshua Lang        | 11/21 |
| Elise Marlett    | 11/4  | Colten Kieliszewski | 11/14 | Jesse Pietschmann  | 11/21 |
| Keana Retzlaff   | 11/4  | Nancy Pusch         | 11/14 | Siena Scaffidi     | 11/21 |
| Shirley Walters  | 11/4  | Teagan Rands        | 11/14 | James Frank        | 11/23 |
| Kim Downer       | 11/5  | Danielle Ellis      | 11/15 | Justin Anderson    | 11/24 |
| Tyler Esselmann  | 11/5  | Robert Poenitsch    | 11/15 | Barbara Gunnare    | 11/24 |
| Sabrina Gruber   | 11/5  | Jesse Retzlaff      | 11/15 | Ray MacDonald      | 11/25 |
| Macy Pawlowski   | 11/5  | Matt Retzlaff       | 11/15 | Abby Schneider     | 11/25 |
| Lynn Guerndt     | 11/6  | Kathleen Roecker    | 11/15 | June Stracka       | 11/25 |
| Alice Walter     | 11/9  | Paul Bauman         | 11/17 | Paula Baldwin      | 11/26 |
| Anna Rick        | 11/11 | Renee Haugen        | 11/17 | Morgan Beier       | 11/27 |
| Barbara Sass     | 11/11 | Kenneth Juedes      | 11/17 | Kay Laatsch        | 11/27 |
|                  |       | Colleen Kirchner    | 11/17 | Mike Kozlowski     | 11/30 |
|                  |       | Liza Cranney        | 11/18 | Suzanne Mildbrandt | 11/30 |
|                  |       | Ronnie Polinski     | 11/18 |                    |       |

## November donate to the Thanksgiving baskets?

COMING THIS ADVENT – Thursday night ADVENT ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT 6:30-7:30pm

Trinity will be hosting a **light supper/discussion/prayer and re-centering worship opportunity** focused on how our faith can help us confront some of the most common holiday issues.

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December 12<sup>th</sup> – “Empty places at the table”. Dealing with the loss of loved ones during the Holiday season.

December 19<sup>th</sup> – “Escaping the tyranny of perfection”. How not to let “normal reality” poison the joy of your holiday moments.

# NOVEMBER 2019

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY  | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY   |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|
|  |   |   |  |  | <b>1</b>   | <b>2</b><br>5:00 pm Traditional                                      |
| <b>3</b><br>8:00 am Traditional<br>9:30 am CTP/CM  | <b>4</b><br>2:45—6:00 pm MUSIC THERAPY<br>6:30 pm Women of Trinity Bible Study                    | <b>5</b><br>1:00 pm Bible Study<br>7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous                                  | <b>6</b><br>6:30 pm CONFIRMATION<br>6:30 pm CANTATA PRACTICE | <b>7</b><br>7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous                              | <b>8</b><br>9:00 am Blanketeers<br>5:00 pm Confirmation Fall Retreat | <b>9</b><br>8:45—1:30 <b>The Gathering!</b><br>5:00 pm Traditional   |
| <b>10</b><br>8:00 am Traditional<br>9:30 am CTP<br>Children's Ministry<br><br><b>FAMILY PROMISE WEEK BEGINS</b>   | <b>11</b><br>2:45 pm Music Therapy  | <b>12</b><br>1:00 pm Bible Study<br>7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous                                 | <b>13</b><br>6:30 pm CONFIRMATION                            | <b>14</b><br>1:00 pm OWLS<br>7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous             | <b>15</b>  | <b>16</b><br>5:00 pm Traditional<br><br><b>CONSECRATION WEEKEND</b>  |
| <b>17</b><br>8:00 am Traditional<br>9:30 am CTP<br>Children's Ministry<br><br><b>CONSECRATION WEEKEND</b>  | <b>18</b><br>2:45 pm Music Therapy<br>6:30 pm BRACELET BEADING PARTY!!<br>7:00 pm COUNCIL MEETING | <b>19</b><br>1:00 pm Bible Study<br>7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous                                 | <b>20</b><br>6:30 pm CONFIRMATION                            | <b>21</b><br>10:00 am Prayer Shawlers<br>7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous | <b>22</b><br>9:00 am Blanketeers                                     | <b>23</b><br><b>LEFSE FEST 11:00-3:00</b><br><br>5:00 pm Traditional |
| <b>24</b><br>8:00 am Traditional<br>9:30 am CTP<br>Children's Ministry   | <b>25</b><br>2:45 pm Music Therapy  | <b>26</b><br>1:00 pm Bible Study<br>7:00 pm <b>ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE AT THE RIDGE</b> | <b>27</b><br>6:30 pm CONFIRMATION                            | <b>28 THANKSGIVING!!</b><br><br>7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous          | <b>29 OFFICE CLOSED</b>  | <b>30</b>  |
| <p><b>CONSECRATION &amp; MINISTRY FAIR WEEKEND<br/>NOVEMBER 16-17</b></p> <p>Meet council and team members from each area of Trinity's ministries, ask questions and get involved. The gift of your time and talent are vital to the work of the church! They contribute in numerous ways to making a flood of ministries happen both in and outside our doors—YOU ARE PART OF THAT!</p> |   |   |  |  |  |  |

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*Prepared Especially For:*

**Volume 15, Issue 11** **Published 12 Times a year**

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dschoob@trinitywestbend.com

**Worship Schedule**

Saturday..... 5:00 pm (Traditional)  
Sunday..... 8:00 am (Service of the Word)  
Sunday..... 9:30 am (Created to Praise)  
Holy Communion Celebrated at all services

**Church Office**

Hours..... 8:00 am-4:30 pm  
Phone..... (262) 334-2125

Shirl Curreri.....Parish Coordinator  
scurreri@trinitywestbend.com  
Donna Hallada..... Volunteer Coordinator  
429-1323  
Cheryl Scaffidi.....Children's Ministry  
trinitywestbendcm@gmail.com  
262-339-0223

**Council**

President..... Leah Rineck  
Vice President..... Mercedes Loomans  
Secretary..... Sandy Poenitsch  
Treasurer..... Paul Bauman

**Committees**

Finance.....Paul Bauman, Leah Rineck  
Community Building..... Travis Thorin  
Outreach.....Hazel Griffin  
Stewardship..... Mercedes Loomans  
Property..... Bryan Johnson  
Faith Development..... Candace Anderson,  
Aaron Pierce  
Tech..... Leah Rineck  
Music & Worship.....Linda Amacher  
Invitation..... Sandy Poenitsch  
Ministry Support..... Cindy Tikusis  
Rotating High School Youth