

# The Epistle

Trinity Lutheran Church

8 South Midland Blvd.

Nampa, ID 83651

**Pastor: Barbara Condon (she, her) Interim**  
**Office Manager: Dean Metzger**

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**(208) 466-2173**

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or find us on

**facebook**

Our Mission Statement

*Trinity Lutheran Church is a place to gather, refresh the faithful, and reach out with word and service to all others through the Holy Gospel.*

## November 2024

FROM THE



### **Taking the Pulse of Trinity - We Are Doing Well**

In August the Stewardship Committee wondered "how are the folks at Trinity Lutheran doing thirteen months into our pastoral vacancy?" They were initially asking this question while contemplating the fall Stewardship campaign but, after some thought, said, "let's ask this generally. How are we doing? What is going well and what isn't?" So, four cottage meetings were scheduled to allow people an opportunity to voice how they are doing and how they think Trinity is doing. Thirty-two people attended the cottage meetings. Overwhelmingly the comments were positive, upbeat and full of hope. One of the main themes throughout was how Trinity is truly a church of the people. That despite losing a vibrant, involved pastor, the ministries at Trinity, for the most part, didn't miss a beat. Whether it was reaching out to our neighbor school, other non-profits in the community, taking care of our own, or gathering to worship - our members were still actively engaged in ministry here. People said that they love the visitor friendly bulletins, which apparently are also member friendly. Our yearly themes, such as "All Are Welcome," is a great way to focus our attention throughout the year. Visitors are warmly welcomed but not smothered.

Areas of concern sounded much like any other congregation, whether Lutheran or another denomination. How can we keep our young people after they graduate? How can we balance "welcoming all" without it digressing into a perceived political position? How can we encourage more people, children, youth, and adults to participate in Sunday School?

I attended all four cottage meetings to listen and learn. What I heard, and continue to see, is a congregation who knows who it is and what it can do. Although ministry continues happening every day there is also the joyful anticipation of what a new pastor will bring to the mix. in peace,

Pastor Barbara

### **News from Church and Community**



**September Noisy Offering** for the teachers and staff at the new West Learning Campus brought in \$231.74! The principals of the shools were so excited about what Trinity is doing!

Watch for pictures of the "goodie baskets" that will be delivered on Tuesday October 22 just in time to help energize the staff during parent/teacher conferences. Thanks for such amazing generosity!

**November's Noisy Offering** goes to Valley Women & Children's shelter (VWCS). The shelter has 60 beds & provides shelter, clothing, meals & case management to homeless women & children. It is staffed 24/7. The VWCS does not receive government assistance and is funded by the generous people in the community. Collection Boxes will be set up in the narthex for socks, hat, gloves, scarves for both women & children & hygiene items (shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, deodorant). So you can either catch some of the holiday sales to purchase any/all of these items & bring them in or donate on **Noisy Offering Sunday November 24<sup>th</sup>**. Let's help Nampa's homeless be a bit warmer this winter. – Church in Community



**TURKEYS AT TRINITY????** Be on the lookout for turkeys running around Trinity! Church in Community will be sponsoring food boxes

again this year. So pluck a feather or more from the turkeys & shop for items and return them to the basket in the narthex marked Thanksgiving food boxes by **Sunday November 17<sup>th</sup>**. If you take a gift card feather, please try to get a "Family Friendly" gift card. Food boxes will be filled on Sunday November 24<sup>th</sup> after church service and then delivered. If you are able to deliver boxes let Steve VanAtter know at 208-467-4020. Thanks so much for everyone's amazing generosity!

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**American Red Cross**

**SIGN UP EARLY - RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE!** – The American Red Cross has declared

an emergency for current blood supply levels. The Red Cross is working diligently to address this issue. Trinity Lutheran Church is working to help the Red Cross out by hosting a blood drive on December 4th from 10AM to 3PM at Trinity Lutheran Church. Please go to [redcross.org](http://redcross.org) to reserve your time and help to address this emergency. Thanks!

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The **Flower sign-up chart** is on the bulletin board in the long hallway. Bring flowers in memory or honor of someone.

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### **ONLINE WORSHIPERS - A QUERY FROM THE OFFICE STAFF**

Trinity's office manager regularly mails out the bulletin to our shut-ins and others who choose to watch online instead of attend in person. We also post the bulletin for the week on the website so that you can open it up on your device and follow along. Does that work for you? Is the format user-friendly? Would you prefer to get the bulletin ahead of time in the mail so that you have it in your hand when you worship with us online? We would like your feedback so that our members and online visitors will have a satisfying worship experience with us. Pastor Barbara

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**THE SEASON OF ADVENT BEGINS ON DEC. 1**  
We will once again be having Wednesday evening Soup Suppers at 6:15 pm followed by worship with Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00 pm. On Wednesday, December 18 we will follow Holden Evening Prayer with a short, outdoor Blue Christmas Service. During this service we will burn the ribbons from All Saint's Day in the fire releasing some of our grief into the night sky.

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**GOSPEL & GROWTH** - hosted a very successful Pet Blessing service on the church lawn October 9th, with nearly 40 humans attending and over 50 pets blessed in person or via photo. Our next project is the Advent Daily Devotional booklet, with deadline for submissions on October 27th. And we will host an open sanctuary (prayer vigil) for our members and the community on Election Day-eve 11/4 from 4:30 - 7:30 pm; this is a time to step aside to a quiet place, become calm, pray, meditate and prepare for the election. (Penelope Smith)

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**STEWARDSHIP** - is finalizing plans for the Fall Financial Appeal. Ministry Initiatives will be presented on 11/3 and 11/10; commitment cards will be mailed 11/11, with request to complete and return them to church on 11/17 (Celebration Sunday). The work and volunteers on Trinity's various teams and committees are being highlighted: Christian Education was the focus in September, with Communications in October and Church in Community in November. We are grateful for all who attended and brought feedback to the four cottage meetings held in September. (Penelope Smith)

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**PROPERTY** – The roof has been repaired and the ceiling in the church will be repaired and painted next. The irrigation line by the peony plant by the back door has been replaced, no longer leaks and fixed. Cutting the limb off tree by garden will be the next project. This project will occur as soon as the ground freezes to get equipment onto the lawn. (Darrel Miller)

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**FALL FINANCIAL APPEAL** - Our annual appeal will kick off on Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> when Karissa Armbrust presents information on our first Ministry Initiative - Continuing Ministry Excellence. The following Sunday, we will learn about our second Ministry Initiative - A Year of Gratitude. Then, during the following week, expect the USPS to bring you a copy of our brochure, a statement-of-intent card, and an explanatory letter. We will celebrate **Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, as Commitment Sunday**, asking you to bring in your completed cards. If unable to attend that Sunday, you could mail your card or drop it by the church office. Thank you for prayerfully considering your gift to Trinity during 2025 and, by turning in your card, for helping your Church Council plan for the upcoming year.

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### **SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT: Fall Cleaning Can Bring a Joyous Christmas**

The lady at the charity shop today told me that she wishes people would clear out their children's old toys in the lead up to Christmas rather than after because she always sees several parents in the days before Christmas looking for toys for their little ones who might be strapped for cash. She said there's very rarely anything in just before, but that they get inundated with toys in the days after. And it really made me think about it in a way I never would have before. If you know your child is going to get lots of presents from Father Christmas this year, by clearing out your cupboards a few days early you could make another child's Christmas a lot more special too.

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### **NOVEMBER 3 - ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

This year on All Saints Sunday there will be a table in the sanctuary for people to place a picture of a loved one – person or pet – who has died. You may bring a 'linking object' if you don't have a picture. A 'linking object' is something that you have kept that 'links' you to your loved one. Such as a pipe of my father's, or a collar from one of my dogs. There will also be ribbons to write the name of your loved one on. You may take the picture or linking object home that day, but we will keep the ribbons until December 18. On December 18 we will once again offer

A Blue Christmas: A Service of Remembering after our Holden Village Evening Prayer service. We will offer the ribbons up to the bonfire on the back patio that evening in a gesture of release.

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**PET BLESSING** - Trinity held our annual Pet Blessing Service on our lawn on **October 9<sup>th</sup>**. We had glorious Fall weather! Around 40 people attended, including about 15 who were not Trinity members - so THANK YOU for inviting your friends and family, and thank you to our valiant Communications team for posting the event on our outdoor sign. Over 50 pets were blessed; these included the dogs, cats and rabbits who were brought by their humans, plus a number of pets who were blessed remotely (using their photos) including pets of our shut-ins who receive Home Communion. Our thanks to Pr Barb, Steve VanAtter, and Michala Mills for presenting the service; to Jenny Hardy for her calligraphy on the certificates, to Bryce Quarve for setting up the sound system, and to members of Gospel & Growth committee for the paw-shaped cookies for humans and dogs. It was truly an All-Are-Welcome event.

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### **LUTHER HEIGHTS CAMP**

**CHRISTMAS!** - You're invited to Luther Heights' second annual Camp Christmas! Come join us for crafts, activities for all ages, camp style worship, and more as we celebrate

Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany!

Treasure Valley Event is December 8<sup>th</sup> at King of Glory Lutheran Church. A \$30 or more donation per family is appreciated but not required. All ages are invited! Please RSVP to [info@lutherheights.org](mailto:info@lutherheights.org) or call the office at (208) 886-7657. Please include your name, email and number of people that are interested in coming. More information about this fun event to come soon.

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### **SEPTEMBER COTTAGE MEETINGS**

- We continue to be grateful for all the positive feedback shared at our September cottage meetings, and for the helpful suggestions you brought to us. Your honesty helps Trinity to continue what we are doing well and to identify areas where we could grow.

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### **TRINITY CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE**

We just wanted to let everyone know that our Pastoral Candidate Aaron Carr will be joining us for his onsite visit during worship and fellowship this Sunday, October 27, 2024. Please join us if you can to welcome him. Call Committee: Kim Mills, Karissa Armbrust, Steve VanAtter, Donna Benoit, Cedar Hilger or Jeff Henderson.

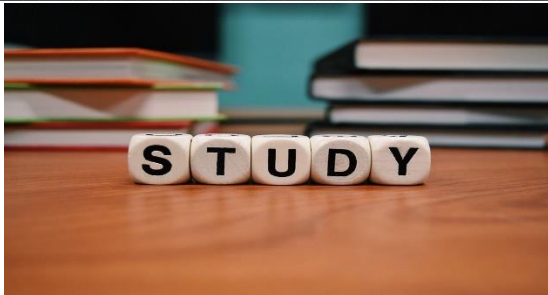
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### **TUESDAY STUDY GROUP**

2-4 pm Tuesday afternoon in the Koinonia Room. All are welcome even if



you haven't been before. We are currently learning about the development of Christian theology and the history of Christianity. Even if you haven't completed the reading or don't have the book, come for the discussion.



**ADVENT DAILY DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET** - The deadline for our annual devotional booklet is **October 27th!** We seek to hear from a wide range of voices. We hope for a few humorous entries, some heartfelt, some theological, some inspiring - readings that will resonate across our broad variety of readers. During November, we will publish two hard-copy versions (booklet and large-print) plus have a pdf version available for those who like to read online or would like to share with out-of-area friends and family (and save the postage). These will be available around Thanksgiving time, prior to the First Sunday in Advent. Our deepest thanks to each of our authors!

### **Statistical Comparison for August - September**

<u>2023</u>		<u>2024</u>	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
8/27	37	9/1	67
9/3	24	9/8	57
9/10	50	9/15	34
9/17	34	9/22	36
9/24	40	9/29	41
10/1	23	10/6	39
10/8	39	10/13	46
10/15	38	10/20	41
10/22	44	10/27(not available)	



### **OFFICERS/COMMITTEE LIAISONS 2024**



**President** Larry Mills (25)

**Vice-President** Sarah Henthorn (24)

**Secretary** Sierra Armbrust (25)

**Treasurer and Accounts Payable Coordinator** Karissa Armbrust (renewable)

**Financial Secretary** Kristina Radke (renewable)

#### **COUNCIL TEAM ASSIGNMENTS**

**Christian Education/Youth:** Sierra Armbrust (25)

**Church in Community:** Lloyd Kellar (26)

**Communication:** Dean Metzger (24)

**Gospel and Growth:** Edith Hannett (24)

**Hospitality:** Edith Hannett (24)

**Property:** Darrell Miller (25)

**Stewardship:** Phil Cronk (26)

**Trinity New Hope:** Sierra Armbrust (24)

**Worship & Music:** Bryce Quarve (26)

**Mutual Ministry:** Sarah Henthorn (24)

#### **CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

**Audit:** Karen Bair (26), Cathy Winwood (25)

**Endowment:** Larry Mills, (24) Jeff Henderson, Edith Hannett

**Memorial:** Kallie Ziemer (25), Joyce Becht (26), Lloyd Kellar (24)

**Nominating:** Edith Hannett, Dean Metzger, Steve VanAtter, Penelope Smith

**Mutual Ministry:** Sharon Jones, Carl Radke, Sarah Henthorn

**Synod Assembly Voting Members:** Jerry & Karissa Armbrust

**Luther Heights Reps:** Janet Metzger & Cathy Winwood



### **PRE-ELECTION**

**MEDITATION** - On **November 4<sup>th</sup>** from **4:30 - 7:30 pm**,

Trinity will open our sanctuary to members and the community - as a place to

seek calm and peace on the eve of Election Day.

Our members and people who attend liturgical churches will think of this as a "prayer vigil". Since that concept might seem intimidating to those from the community (people who also are in need of a time away from the stress of the election) - we are publicly advertising this as an opportunity for "meditation".

We will have soft background music and lots of candles and boxes of tissues. There will be several suggested prayers, plus a list of possible things to pray for, some scripture verses, and hymns - handouts available for those who'd like them. We encourage you to invite your family, friends and neighbors to drop by on the 4th. Regardless of their religious beliefs, we know that the yard signs, advertisements, and news reports have led most people to feel anxious about this election. Beyond voting, there is little each of us can do to lower the stress level - but offering a break from the hype is a gift that Trinity is able to give our community.

## UPCOMING HOLIDAY BAZAARS

**SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**HOLIDAY  
BAZAAR!**

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL BAZAAR!

ENJOY FUN, FELLOWSHIP  
AND FESTIVITIES!

**Saturday, Nov. 2nd**  
**9AM- 2:00PM**  
**3100 S. Five Mile Rd., Boise**

FUNDS WILL HELP SUPPORT  
BOTH CHURCH ACTIVITIES &  
LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS



**THANK YOU!** - Thank you to Jerry and Karissa Armbrust, Penelope Smith, Sarah Henthorn, and Donna & Pat Benoit who hosted Cottage Meetings in their homes.

**THANK YOU!** Thank you to Penelope Smith and Tami Robinson who made dog treats and people treats for our Pet Blessing Service. To Michala Mills for the Animal Prayers. To Jenny Hardy for writing out the Certificates of Blessing. And to Bryce Quarve for getting the sound system set up before the service and Sarah Henthorn for taking it down.

**THANK YOU!** Thank you to Trent Glover for hosting our Oktoberfest, preparing much of the food, and brewing the beer. Thank you also to Elizabeth Schnabel for co-hosting, the decorations, and the fun Trivia Games.

**THANK YOU!** Thank you to Sarah Henthorn and Steve VanAtter for helping with the individual prayers and anointing at the Healing Service.

**THANK YOU!** Thank you to our Hospitality Committee and all of those who helped with the Memorial Service and two funeral luncheons in October.

**THANK YOU!** Thank you to Sharon Jones for purchasing the items, filling the bags, and handing out our Friendship Bags to visitors. This is such an important outreach ministry to those who have found their way in our doors.

**King of Glory Lutheran Church**  
3430 N Maple Grove Road  
(Just North of Ustick Road)

**2024 Holiday Bazaar**

<b>Friday, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9 am - 4 pm</b>
<b>Saturday, Nov. 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9 am - 2 pm</b>

Featuring: Norwegian Potato Lefse, Huge variety of Cookies & Fabulous Fudge, Baked goods, Jams & Jellies, Specialty Breads, An Assortment of Handcrafted items, Pet toys and treats, Stocking stuffers, Hostess gifts and so much more.

Granny's Attic will return featuring treasures ready for a new home!

Food Service	Friday	Saturday
Bolton Brothers' Food Truck Breakfast Selections	9:30 - 11 am	N/A
Cinnamon Rolls & Coffee	N/A	9:30 - 10:30 am
Soup, Roll & Dessert	11:30 am - 1:30 pm	11:30 am - 1:30 pm

We accept all credit cards:  
VISA, Mastercard, Discover & AMEX for all goods EXCEPT at Food counter  
(Cash or Checks only)

Bolton Brothers' Food Truck in King of Glory's Parking lot Friday only



## IN OUR PRAYERS

<b>For healing:</b> Colton	(Fran & Elwood's grandson – brain tumor)
Jony	(Linda Dombeck's son – health)
Steve	(Fran Webb's brother-in-law – cancer)
Rylee Bentley	(Emily Bentley's cousin – health issues)
Sharon Jones' 2 nieces	(Alzheimer's)
Monica Perez	(friend of Edith Hannett – in need of a kidney)
Di Seba	(cancer treatments)
Kim Edwards	(from Sharon Jones)
Trent Glover	(Relational Healing)
Angel Bray	(Margreta Spady's granddaughter – cancer)
Abby	(Fran & Elwood's granddaughter – seizures)
Connie	(From Fran Webb – recovery from cancer surgery)
Sherry Swim	(From Mary Braudrick's cousin – Knee surgery)
Don Tiller	(recovering from extremely low blood pressure)

<b>For Wendell and Rick Regier</b>	<b>grieving the death of Mona-Lisa</b>
<b>For Dick Sansgaard &amp; Family</b>	<b>grieving the death of Ann</b>
<b>For Andrew</b>	(Elizabeth Schnabel)
<b>For Sharon Stanger</b>	(from Randy & Martha Miller)
<b>For Klayton Hanson</b>	(from Karson Hanson)
<b>For Perkins Family</b>	(grieving a death in the family)
<b>For Chloe</b>	(grieving a death in the family)
<b>For Thomas</b>	(Assistance for finding housing. Janie Stubson)
<b>For Lisa &amp; Henry Hernandez</b>	(Working on family and co-parenting challenges)
<b>For Freedom</b>	(from Sarah Braudrick)
<b>For Laura (Janie's daughter)</b>	(Travelling to Moscow. Janie Stubson)

<b>People in the Armed Services:</b>	
Brett Collins	(grandson of Helen Collins – Marines)
John C. Collins II	(Helen Collins' grandson – Navy SEAL)
Bill MacDonald	(Navy)
Amanda Love	(Cathy Winwood's Niece – Army)

*Prayer concerns will be removed after two months on the list  
unless you let the office know otherwise*

# Trinity Servants For November 2024

δουλος [*doulos*] is the New Testament Greek word for servant.

	<b>November 3</b> All Saints	<b>November 10</b> Pentecost 230	<b>November 17</b> Pentecost 24	<b>November 24</b> Christ The King
<b><u>Assisting Minister</u></b>	Karissa Armbrust	Bryce Quarve	Mary Braudrick	Bryce Quarve
<b><u>Crucifer</u></b>	Cedar Hilger	Jason Mills	Jeff Henderson	Aldwin Kellar
<b><u>Acolyte</u></b>	Aggie Klahn	Abigail Radke	Evan Ziemer	Elizabeth Schnabel
<b><u>Reader</u></b>	Tami Robinson	Sierra Armbrust	Janie Stubson	Giada Armbrust
<b><u>Children's Message</u></b>	Jason Mills	Penelope Smith	Sierra Armbrust	Steve VanAtter
<b><u>Music</u></b>	Karissa Armbrust	Bryce Leifeste	Karissa Armbrust	Bryce Leifeste
<b><u>Audio/Streaming</u></b>	Larry Mills & Sarah Henthorn	Larry Mills & Elizabeth Schnabel	Elizabeth Schnabel & Bryce Quarve	David Sheriff & Bryce Quarve
<b><u>Greeters</u></b>	Pat & Donna Benoit	The Hanson Family	Ardelle O'Bryan & Julie Haugen	Tami Robinson & Joyce Becht
<b><u>Ushers</u></b>	Steve & Julie Ward	Lloyd & Judy Kellar	Darrel & Peggy Miller	Penelope Smith & Elizabeth Schnabel
<b><u>Altar Guild</u></b>	Kristina Radke	Beth Rasgorshek	Judy Kellar	Cathy Winwood
<b><u>Offering Counters</u></b>	Lloyd Kellar & Darrel Miller	Sierra Armbrust & Sarah Henthorn	Sierra Armbrust & Larry Mills	Edith Hannett & Sarah Henthorn
<b><u>Fellowship</u></b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b><u>S. S. Teacher</u></b>	Pastor Barb	Pastor Barb	Pastor Barb	Pastor Barb
<b><u>Flowers</u></b>	The VanAtters	The Winwoods	<b>TBD</b>	The VanAtters
<b><u>Wine</u></b> Randy & Martha Miller	<b><u>Eternal Candle</u></b> Randy & Martha Miller	<b><u>Communion Bread</u></b> Julie Haugen	<b><u>Church Cleaning</u></b> Randy & Martha Miller	

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(208) 466-2173

TO:



# Trinity Lutheran Church Calendar for November 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1</b> Office Closed	<b>2</b>
<b>3 All Saints</b>  9 am – Intergenerational Sunday School 10 am Worship and Communion 11 am Fellowship Time	<b>4</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  4:30 – 7:30pm Pre-Election Meditation in Sanctuary	<b>5</b> Office 8:00 – Noon <b>ELECTION DAY!</b>  Noon - Al-Anon 2-4 pm Study Group	<b>6</b> Office 8:00 – Noon	<b>7</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  6:30 pm Al-Anon	<b>8</b> Office Closed	<b>9</b>
<b>10 Pentecost 23</b> 9 am – Intergenerational Sunday School 10 am Worship and Communion 11 am Fellowship Time	<b>11</b> Office 8:00 – Noon	<b>12</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  Noon - Al-Anon 2-4 pm Study Group  6pm – Beer & Hymns @ Crescent	<b>13</b> Office 8:00 – Noon	<b>14</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  6:30 pm Al-Anon	15 Office Closed	<b>16</b>
<b>17 Pentecost 24</b> 9 am – Intergenerational Sunday School 10 am Worship and Communion 11 am Fellowship Time Thanksgiving food box food back	<b>18</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  <b>9:00 am Epistle Articles Due</b>	<b>19</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  Noon - Al-Anon 2-4 pm Study Group 7 pm Church Council	<b>20</b> Office 8:00 – Noon	<b>21</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  6:30 pm Al-Anon	<b>22</b> Office Closed	<b>23</b>
<b>24 Christ The King</b> 9 am – Intergenerational Sunday School 10 am Worship and Communion 11 am Fellowship Time Noisy Offering Assemble & Deliver food boxes	<b>25</b> Office 8:00 – Noon	<b>26</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  11:30am Women's Luncheon	<b>27</b> Office 8:00 – Noon	<b>28</b> Office Closed 	<b>29</b> Office Closed	<b>30</b>