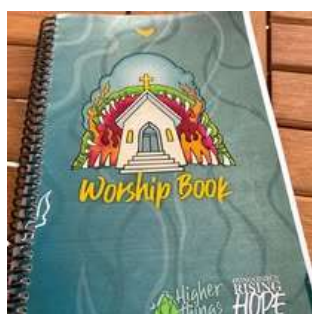




2026

A Personal Note



Imagine 800 youth and chaperones worshiping, praying and learning together under the theme 'Dying Church; Rising Hope'. Pastor Ristau, his wife, and two children were at Higher Things youth retreat in St. Louis last week. Unfortunately, other interested attendees missed the deadline, and the retreat was sold out so quickly that they were not even admitted people on the waiting list. But that's ok. We are going to make sure we are able to register in time for next year, when one of the three retreats will be held only 3 hours from here. We bumped into many pastors and their youth groups and confirmation classes from our District as well as circuit. I even met a freshman from WKU who is excited about attending church with us when school recommences. Here are some photos which include a presentation from the president of the St. Louis Seminary, great food, talent show, massive games, deep-diving breakaway sessions, and lots of smiles. There is also a picture of me preaching during one of the Vespers services, and here it is for your edification: In the Name of Jesus. Amen.



Most Lutherans are in panic mode. They think that the church is dying. "Where are all the young people, or in some cases any people?"

(CONTINUED)

The same panic happens when any honest Christian looks inside of himself, at his sins and struggles. Panic. We shouldn't be surprised. We are surrounded by death. But the theme for this Higher Things is that even though the church -- and each of her members -- seems to be dying, she's not. Since she is Christ's church, and Christ is alive, that means all things in this world that are involved with him, are alive too. Don't trust your eyes. Don't trust your hearts. Don't trust your experiences. Live by faith.

Now you already know that rules and things you do will never fix the situation of this dying problem. That was the basic message of the Reformation, and the message to the Colossians in our text. Rules and Law won't give you life. But Christ and His Gospel will.

Yet saved by rules for us Lutherans, (who understand that we are not justified by our works,) can sneakily find an expression in our well intended efforts on focusing on Jesus. How? Well take what St. Paul tells us in verse 2, inviting us to "Set mind on things above". We can become overly heavenly-minded when tempted to transcend this earth. And, then, thinking about things of heaven can become a lot of work! The Old Adam wants to turn a Gospel promise into a burdensome rule.

Its kind of like when some non-Lutherans approach their relationship with the Lord in this way: they think about God as if He is not actually here; though they wish He were, or, maybe imagine Him to be. But for them Jesus is far away in outer space somewhere, but has promised one day to come and rescue us. Sure, he is "spiritually" with us, whatever that means. But in the meantime, we are basically left to our own devices in figuring out how. The spiritual focus then becomes on our believing, and even faith becomes an act that I DO; and DOING it really well, concentrating on a distant and, well, absent Jesus, with the hope that He is somehow still there for me; though never quite sure. So "just believe a little harder, and you will stay alive". Isn't that what setting your minds on things above means?

Not for us Lutherans. For us it means raising your minds away from yourself, (away from your faulty reasoning driving any doubts about God being really there), raising them towards the Lord, who is really close and truly present. Raising your minds away from the works of YOUR LIFE, towards the works of CHRIST's life. That itself is a dying to self. Letting your life get hidden in His.

Why "hidden"? Because all this is not obvious to your eyes or senses. Jesus looks absent. And often feels absent. But He is not.

The church looks like it is falling apart, but it is not. Contrary to appearances, it is a Mighty Fortress, a Glorious empire; filled with mighty soldiers of the Faith: angels, archangels and all the saints, including you!

(CONTINUED)

When our spiritual lives look like they are falling apart, or our congregation looks like it won't make it through the next decade, when you are the only youth in the pew, and it feels like everybody else is talking about the cool and happening youth group at the mega church down the street, a generic "setting your minds on things above", will not be that helpful or consoling. Instead "set your minds" on Jesus who is actually here;.... and not just by lifting your thoughts high to the heavens, but holding on to a Lord who is really accessible -- flesh and blood accessible -- that is your only hope and comfort in this dying world.

How do we do that? "Lift up your hearts, we lift them up unto the Lord". Where do we hear THAT Sunday after Sunday? The first part of the Eucharistic liturgy! These introductory words of the service of the sacrament, stretch back, like, 1800 years... They assure you that your loving Lord is not far away, but here, there, on the altar!! Though omnipresent, He chooses to be found in His holy supper, contained there for you. As you fix yourself on your self, the earth, your issues, future, and such..... Repent. Instead Lift up your hearts to not only higher things but the highest of things: Christ and him crucified: your strength. Your life.

For the pastor's invitation, "lift up your hearts" is not, I repeat, "is not", an appeal to raise your hearts and eyes way up high to gaze into heaven, as if God is not on earth. We are not supposed to elevate our minds to abstract spiritual ideas, or intangible heavenly realms. You raise your hearts to the altar; and when you lift your eyes just slightly higher above from where you sit, stand or kneel. You are lifting up your heart to the crucified, resurrected and ascended Lord, who now resides on the top of that table on a plate called a paten and in a cup named a chalice.

That is where the God of the universe is to be found, right now. WOW! That is how much He wants to be near you. Our holy God comes that close to you since you an unholy sinner can't come close to Him! You cannot elevate yourself to heaven, so He descended down to earth, so that He can remain here on earth with you, until the Final Day, when Christ, who is your life, will no longer be hidden, but you will see Him face to face, when you appear with him in glory.

After all, the things of "the above" became the things "of the earth". Heaven joined with earth, in the God-man; conceived by the Holy Ghost" but also "born of the virgin Mary". And what is equally amazing is that heaven still joins with earth in the holy sacrament of Christ's Body and blood. After all, there is no such thing as a spiritual Jesus. He always comes with a body.

Not setting your minds on earthly things means, weirdly, setting your minds on the earthly MEANS that bring us heavenly GRACE. God became flesh and dwelt among us. That is a tangible and objective reality. So set your eyes on Him, who is in consecrated bread and wine for the forgiveness of your sins; who is in that simple bowl of baptismal water which keeps shaping your new life of holy living; who is in the mundane mouth of called and ordained servant of the Word, your pastor, who equips you in every good work, by preaching the cross. God isn't just spiritually with you -- you who doesn't just contain spirit -- but is a flesh and blood human being. Rather he is BODILY present with you.

(CONTINUED)

Setting your mind on things above, means setting your hearts and minds on the Lord Jesus Christ, who is not far away from you, tucked away in the heavens somewhere, seated at the “right hand of the Father”, misunderstood by so many as if He is a distant God strapped to a chair, or trapped in a cage in a corner of heaven somewhere. He ascended to the right hand of the Father indicates a position of authority, and all presence. It means that He is now with you, closer than you can imagine, until the end of the age. It means He has already raised you from the dead, the sinner that you are, to the saint that you have become, having buried all your anxieties, worries and concerns in His empty tomb.

So no need to panic. For setting your minds on things above, means rejoicing in the fact that our highly ascended, yet ever present, almighty, incarnate, and gracious Lord Jesus has set His mind on you. In the Name of Jesus. Amen.

Smiths Grove Site Outreach

Worship services continue each week at the Smiths Grove site (First Christian Church, 427 College Street). They take place each Saturday at 5 PM. Prior to worship, Bible study is held at 4 PM. Thanks to all of our Holy Trinity members who have attended and prayed and provided various means of support to this outreach ministry!

Please continue your prayers that this outreach would provide more open doors for the Gospel and that the Spirit will lead many to worship the risen Savior. With the opening of Buc-ee's at Smiths Grove recently (and the announcement of several hundred more homes going up in that neighborhood), there will be more people transitioning to this community. If you are living (or know someone who is living) in or around Smiths Grove, let us know so that we can contact them. Here is a church home where people know one another and love to serve the Lord Jesus!

Pastor Ristau



IN THIS ISSUE

Page

Ministry Team News.....	6
Kid's Page.....	11
LWML News.....	12
FAITH Night.....	12
Bible Studies.....	13
Miscellaneous News.....	14
News About People.....	16
Worship Assistants.....	18
Newsletter Deadline.....	18
Birthdays.....	20
Anniversaries.....	20



A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL MINISTRY

Bring on the kids!

It is hard to have a bad day when you are surrounded by preschoolers. I am always amazed at how they live life and take everything as an opportunity to explore, learn, and have fun. Something as simple as a trip to the bathroom turns into a science experiment with soap and water, a self-discovery of how the eyebrows work as they look at themselves in the mirror, and an opportunity to share with anyone that will listen

whatever pops into their head....like "I have a dog", or "my dad has a lot of hair", or "I'm going to the beach." Maybe that's why Jesus told his disciples to allow the children to be around him rather than making them go away.

The school ministry gets to be blessed every day that we have these children come to us. We are blessed in seeing all of these unique creatures that God has designed with unique personalities and gifts. We are blessed in watching them learn and grow and interact with their peers. But most of all we are blessed to be able to share the Gospel with them each and every day. Thank you for your continued support of the school ministry.

In Christ,
Bill Hiskey, D.S.M.



The office will be closed Friday, August 14. Both Elizabeth and Pastor Ristau have the day off.

WHY ME?

When we're faced with unexpected hardship, our first impulse is often to ask, "Why me, O God? Why me?"

Yet when a blessing comes our way, we receive it with gratitude and rarely ask the same question: "Why me, O God? Why me?"

MINISTRY TEAM UPDATES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mary Brentlinger	Wendy1755@yahoo.com
Jackson Cain	Cainjackson4412@gmail.com
Jim Davenport	jdavenport226@aol.com
Katie Fritz (secretary)	ktfritz@yahoo.com
David Hoffman (president)	Ds77hoffman@gmail.com
David Jurgens	D_Jurgens@hotmail.com
Harold Ristau	harold.ristau@htlc-bq.org

The minutes from the Board meeting on July 21, 2026 were not approved at the time of this printing. They will be available in the September newsletter.

On March 14, 2023 the Board designated/recognized the following Ministry Teams of HTLC.

MINISTRY TEAMS 2026-2027

Holy Trinity Youth

Ignite	Ages 2 through 5 th grade	Sheryl Morris
Ablaze	Ages 6 th through 12 th grade	Sheryl Morris

Lutheran School Elders

	Todd Otto/Bill Hiskey, D.S.M.
	Corey Zirbel
Choir	Beth Markel
Nursing Home	Irene Garrett – Glasgow
Altar Guild	Harlan & Judy Klankowski
Compassionate Care	Kimberly Parsley

Education

Men's Bible study	Dick Stirn
Women's Bible study	Pastor Press
Confirmation	Pastor Ristau
Sunday Bible Class	Pastor Ristau

Fellowship

Jackie Blindauer & Nancy Melke

Finance

Open

Technology

Mike Bryant

Property

Al Seavey

Outreach Ministry

Holy Trinity	Carol White & Pam Schmaltz
Smiths Grove	Pastor Ristau
Mara Evangelical church	Nelson Feliciano

Servant Groups

Jackie Blindauer & Bonnie Borth

(CONTINUED)

CALL COMMITTEE

As you know we are in the process of calling an Associate Pastor. Here is the list of members serving on the Call Committee:

**Geneva Bentley
Jackson Cain
Jim Davenport**

**Katie Fritz
Marly Hiatt
David Hoffman**

**Pastor Ristau
Ayden Witherspoon
Corey Zirbel**

Please support the committee with your prayers.



CHILDREN'S/YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

Ministry Team Leader: Sheryl Morris

Ignite Sunday School is a combined multi-age class for PreK through 5th grade that meets in the Ignite room (012) each Sunday at approximately 9:30am. We hope you can join us! Classes for the 2026-2027 year begin August 9.

Ablaze is a place where students in grades 6th-8th can engage in deep conversations and grow in their relationship with God. Join us on Sundays at approximately 9:30am in EO-201 upstairs. Classes for the 2026-2027 year begin August 9.

Students in 9th-12th grades are joining the Adult Bible study in the Fellowship Hall.

IMPORTANT NEWS:

1. **Sunday School Kickoff will be Sunday, August 9 at 9:30am.** We will begin in the Sanctuary with a common opening each Sunday with all Sunday School classes and then break off into the different classrooms. **Ignite Sunday School** (for ages 4 – 5th grade) will meet in the Ignite room (012) and **Ablaze Sunday School** will meet in EO-201. Sunday school will end at 10:15am. Parents can pick up their children from their designated classrooms. **Parents** – be prepared to update/submit medical forms for your children. See your Sunday School teacher in the designated classrooms for the forms. It is VERY IMPORTANT that we have updated information on all youth attending Sunday School and other youth activities throughout the year for their safety. It is a ministry team policy that youth that attend overnight youth activities have a medical form on file. Please help us accomplish this on this day. Thank you.

2. **Sunday School Kickoff Pool Party on August 9 at 12:00pm at Southland Pool** (2700 Industrial Dr/BG). All youth and parents are welcome. We will provide free swimming for HTLC youth. Parents can watch for free or pay a \$10 fee to swim. Pizza and drinks will be provided. Hope to see you there!



(CONTINUED)

CHILDREN'S/YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

3. Here are our Youth/Children's Ministry Team and Sunday School Teachers for the 2026-2027 school year:
Y/C Ministry Team – Sheryl Morris, Jill Goodwin, Heidi Lindsey, Jessica Heyungs, Megan Zirbel, and Beth/Nick Boeneke. **Sunday School Teachers – (Ignite)**: Jessica/Mark Heyungs, Robert/Ashley Henson, Megan/Georgie Zirbel, Katie Fritz, Jackie Blindauer (helper). **(Ablaze)** Sheryl Morris, Jill Goodwill, Marcus Ristau. Please prayer for our youth, Ministry Team, and Sunday School staff that we all grow in our knowledge and relationship with Christ, our Savior. Thank you!

**FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAM**

Ministry Team Leaders: Jackie Blindauer & Nancy Melke

**FOOD FUSION FEAST
 SUNDAY, AUGUST 30
 4:00pm in HTLC gym
 A POTLUCK WITH A TWIST**

We are MIXING IT UP and GIVING IT A TWIST. Time to get creative and have some fun. We will be having German, Italian, and/or Hispanic food. To go along with that, the decorations will represent the regions and there will be some fun facts for you to read.

Bring a dish to share from one of these categories, learn something new about the regions these foods come from, and enjoy the company of fellow Christians. Sign up at the visitor's center August 9-23 under one of the regions and we will provide the drinks. Reach out to Jackie Blindauer with questions: 920-207-9185.

EVENTS TO FOLLOW:

September – play "Smoked" date TBD

October 18 at 4:00pm – 65th Anniversary Celebration: a special service with a meal afterwards

November 8 at 4:00pm – Veteran's Dinner

Veteran's Dinner Request: If you are planning on attending the Veteran's Dinner this year, we are asking for your help! The Veteran's Dinner is in honor of all our military. We are asking for pictures of the military members in your family to share with all who attend the dinner. Please send copies of you pictures via email to Aaron Britton (aj22britt@gmail.com). If you have any questions, please call Nancy Melke at 305-781-5782.

(CONTINUED)

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAM



The Fellowship committee will begin taking orders for polos and jackets beginning **Sunday, August 2!** **All orders must be pre-paid.**

Polo shirts and jackets were shown in the July newsletter, and here is the logo on the left chest where a pocket would be. All shirts are royal blue.

There will be a link provided to order online with a credit card, but for those who would prefer to pay in cash or a personal check, that option will also be available. Someone from the Fellowship committee will be available with a laptop in the Narthex on Sunday mornings to assist anyone with online orders and/or collect order forms and money.

See the poster in the Narthex for more detailed information on sizing, but shirts run true to size. There are polo options for men, women, tall, and you; jackets are available in men's, women's, and tall sizes. Prices are as follows:

Polos: \$31.25 each/tall \$33.10 each (sizes XS – 4XL)

Jackets: \$46.25 each/tall (navy not royal) **\$49.85** (sizes XS – 4XL)

Youth polos: \$23.30 each (sizes 4 – 18/20)

Important Dates:

Sunday, August 2: orders begin to be accepted

Sunday, September 13: deadline for orders with cash or personal check

Sunday, September 20: deadline for online orders with credit card

Sunday, October 18: shirts available for pick up between morning services, but also at the anniversary dinner that afternoon.

Website to order online: https://cspcampaigs.com/holy_trinity_lutheran_store/shop/home

We look forward to seeing our church family wearing these items to HTLC services, events, and out in our community – to spark conversations and gain visitors and new members!

Looking ahead, these shirts would make great Christmas gifts!

As a reminder, there will also be anniversary T-shirts available a little later this fall.



(CONTINUED)

MINISTRY TEAM UPDATES

LUTHERAN SCHOOL MINISTRY TEAM

Team Leader: Todd Otto



LIMITED Enrollment for the 2026-2027 School Year is OPEN! Contact the School Office at 270-843-1001 if you are interested in enrolling a child(ren) or want to give information to a friend.

REMEMBER: For families that are members of HTLC – we will continue to offer the 25% discount in tuition for students (Grades K-6) enrolled full time.

Please welcome the following new staff members:

Brianna Brerbaum – PE Teacher
Amanda Brooks – STEM Teacher
Katherine Moore – Art Teacher
Kirsten Smith – P4 Teacher
Lindsay Walden – P3/P4 Teacher

All staff may be reached by phone at 270-843-1001.

CALENDAR EVENTS – School is ready to begin in August. Please be in prayer for the students, staff, and families as they begin the 2026/2027 school year.

- Teacher/Staff Orientation is Monday, August 10.
- Back to School **OPEN HOUSE** is Monday, August 10 from 4:00 to 6:00pm.
- First Day of School for K-6th Grade is Wednesday, August 12. Opening Chapel will be at 8:30am.
- First Day of School for Preschool classes is Monday, August 17.



FUNDRAISER: Dan Blindauer will again be selling SMART Saving Cards for the school every Sunday in August except 8/16. These SMART cards are the school's main fundraiser at the beginning of the school year, especially since they are not doing mums this year. The cards feature various locations in Bowling Green that offer either a one time or all year discount. The cards can be used from August through the end of July 2027 and cost \$25.00. Cards may also be purchased through the school office.

Scholarship Fund: Through the generosity of the Petrusch family and in honor of Ed's parents, Edward and Viola Petrusch, a scholarship endowment fund was established in 2000 for future students needing financial assistance to attend HTLS. Anyone is eligible to contribute to this fund through a gift to the church or school designated to the Petrusch Scholarship Fund. Please consider this fund when making memorial gifts and/or donations to the School's ministry. This fund is managed by Thrivent Financial. If you have questions, please contact the School Director.

Make a postcard PUZZLE

Summer is full of little moments that remind us that God is guiding each step. Like a puzzle, he brings every piece together in his time.

What you need:

- A postcard or printed picture
- Scissors
- Pencil (optional, for guiding your cuts)
- Envelope or small bag (for storing pieces)

What you do:

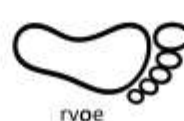
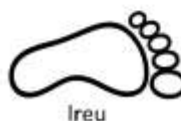
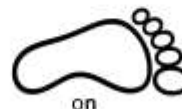
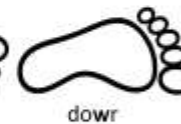
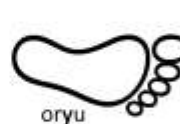
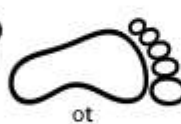
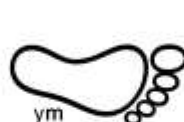
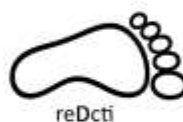
1. Flip your postcard over and lightly draw puzzle shapes or cut freely.
2. Cut the postcard into a mix of big and small pieces.
3. Mix up the pieces and try to put the picture back together.
4. Store the pieces in an envelope so you can use it again later.



Footsteps with God

Have you ever walked along the shore and noticed footprints in the sand? The poem *Footprints in the Sand* reminds us that God is always with us.

Unscramble each word and write it inside the footprints to see what Psalm 119:133 (NIV) says about our steps. (Hint: the bold letters show the first letter of each word.)



Psalm 119:133 (NIV)

Answer: "Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me."

From the
rising of the sun
to its going down
the LORD's name is
to be praised.

Psalm 113:3, NKJV





LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

MITE BOX SUNDAYS: Mite Box Sunday is August 30. We hope that you have been saving your loose change over the last three months for this offering to LWML.

The mites collection boxes are again available in the Narthex. Thank you for your donations for LWML Mission Grants.



REMEMBER TO PRAY:

- For our members who are going to college whether here in town or in another town/state
- For the students attending WKU who will attend HTLC while here in Bowling Green



FAITH NIGHT

We have a variety of activities planned each Wednesday evening.

Resumes Wednesday, August 19
FAITH Night will continue through, November 18.

5:15pm

Sanctuary Praise Choir

Led by Beth Markel

(starts August 26)

6:00pm

Jr. Confirmation (CR)

Led by Pastor Ristau

6:30pm

Adult Bible Study (EO-110)

Led by Pastor Toopes

Theme: "The Book of Romans"

(started August 5)

7:15pm

Fuel & Friends

Led by Nicholas & Bethany Boeneke

IN EVERY SEASON TURN TO GOD

Are you enjoying a happy time? *Praise God.*

Is life becoming difficult? *Seek God.*

Are you experiencing a quiet moment? *Worship God.*

Are you suffering great pain? *Trust God.*

Are you unsure what to do? *Ask God.*

Are you overwhelmed with joy? *Thank God.*



Below is a devotion that the Outreach Committee submitted for the newsletter.

THE WORLD NEXT DOOR

Him we proclaim, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man mature in Christ. Colossians 1:28 RSV

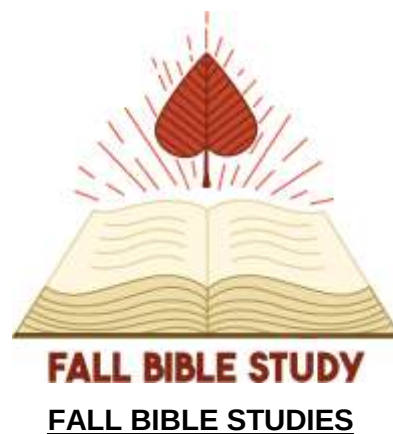
Thrilling accounts of conversions to Christ and baptisms in His name have come to us from New Guinea, Nigeria, India, and elsewhere. Wistfully we regret that we are not somewhere on a missionary team doing great things out there.

Some of us forget that the world is next door as well as far away. We too can and should be on the missionary team witnessing of Christ to the neighbor, to the person beside whom we work or study, to those who are without God and without hope in our community. This is just as important as the seemingly more romantic activities thousands of miles away. St. Paul found and seized opportunities to proclaim Christ wherever he went. He warned of sin and he taught everyone he met all that he knew about Christ. At this he worked with all the wisdom and strength that Christ gave him. His goal was to help others become mature Christians.

With the rapid transportation and communication of our day, more and more of the world lives next door. What a wonderful time this is for the church to fulfill her mission! What golden opportunities there are for all of us to be witnesses of Christ to the world! How can we remain silent?

Redeemer of the world, here I am; send me to speak life and salvation in Your name. Amen.

Herman A. Etzold; 11/22/66
The Best of Portals of Prayer



Men's Bible Study:

The Men's Bible study will resume this fall, on Tuesday, September 8 at 9:30am. Contact Dick Stirn at 270-793-9991 if you are interested in attending.

Women's Bible Study

Trouble and trials come to all people, Christians included. We may wrestle with how to respond when we face difficult situations. Questions arise: Does God not love me anymore? Why does He allow such things to happen? Why do the righteous suffer and the wicked often seem to get off scot-free? During the fall women's Bible class ("God Blesses Through Trials"), Pastor Press will guide in working through some of the experiences of God's people from Scripture so that we see how His Word continues to strengthen and encourage through all challenges. Classes will be held Tuesday mornings, 9:30-10:45am, in EO-110 (the old OWLS room), beginning on September 15 and going through the early part of Advent. If you plan to attend, please contact Pastor Press (press@csp.edu; 651-788-6940) so that we have sufficient material for all participants.





We encourage ALL staff members to attend the HTLS Chapel Services during the school year. We will close the School Entrance door each Wednesday from 8:20 a.m. to 9:10 a.m.

Church members are always welcome to attend the chapel services and worship with the students, staff, and families of HTLS. Please enter through the School entrance as no other doors will be unlocked by 8:20 a.m. We are essentially "locked down" during chapel but you are welcome to wait in the school lobby for the staff to return.

Please know that this will mean that no one will be answering the phones either, but you may leave a message and your call will be returned when the staff returns to the offices.



NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

The newsletter is being distributed via e-mail and the Narthex/Lobby. It is also on the website. If we have an e-mail address for you we are sending it there. (We did not e-mail to a work address unless given prior permission.)

If we don't have an e-mail, a printed copy will be placed in the Narthex/Lobby for you. If you would like to receive newsletters by e-mail please contact the church office at 270-843-9595.

Printed copies are also available in the bottom row of the narthex boxes.



If you would like the latest update please contact the church office at 270-843-9595 or e-mail Elizabeth at church.admin@htlc-bg.org.

The directory can be e-mailed to you or printed out and placed in your Narthex mailslot.



Our church is growing and we are developing more and more programs. This means that the building is being used more frequently as well.

In order to make using the building as easy as possible for everyone, it is **IMPERATIVE** that you contact the Church Office as soon as you plan to use any part of the facility to make sure the date and/or room is available, etc. There are also several policies that are in place for the use of the building that you would need to be aware of when hosting an activity at Holy Trinity.

All of the activities at Holy Trinity will benefit from everyone working together for the best use of the facility.



THE GIVING BOX

The Giving Box is a community service project started by Zoe Witherspoon to support local nonprofits collecting needed donations. Every two weeks, a nonprofit is selected at random and Zoe contacts the organization to learn which items are most needed. Those needs are then shared with the church congregation, who spend the next two weeks donating the requested items. At the end of each collection period, all donations are delivered directly to the organization. In the month of July, The Giving Box has collected a total of \$571.01 for the Life's Better Together Organization and essential items for the Nurture Next Kids organization, helping provide valuable resources to families and individuals in the community.



Holy Trinity has a **FAX MACHINE** for all those last minute – must get it to us items. The number is **270-843-7466**.



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church & School are on the Internet.

Our websites are continually updated.
The addresses are:

Web Site Addresses

Church

www.htlc-bgky.com

School

www.HTLSBG.com

There are links on these sites to e-mail Pastor Ristau and Bill Hiskey.



The church services are being “**live streamed**” now. If you are homebound or away from town you can “join worship” from your computer via our Facebook page.

Our e-mail addresses are as follows:

Church e-mail address

church.admin@htlc-bg.org

School e-mail address

school.admin@htlc-bg.org

NOTE: Addresses are case sensitive and there are no spaces in the addresses.



We invite all men to participate in the Men's Retreat on Friday, October 2 – Sunday, October 4 at Camp Arcadia in Arcadia, Michigan (www.camp_arcadia.com). We will have an opportunity to hear, meet, and talk with Chad Foster, a LCMS Pastor, as the speaker for this event. The main event (October 2-4) costs \$289.00 for room and board and it's \$75.00 for an extra evening on October 1. The website to register is www.camp-Arcadia.com/register or you can call Rachel at 231-889-4361. Please contact Bill Parsons if you have other general questions at 231-944-6150 or David Jurgens if you have questions about transportation at 270-256-2260.



Please be in prayer for these members/family members of Holy Trinity that are in the military. Their addresses are listed below so that you can send them a letter whenever you want to.

Caleb Goad, son of Dana Johnson, is in the Navy Military Police. Caleb is now deployed in Greece and is using Dana's address at this time for all mail.

Goad, Caleb A.
c/o Dana Johnson
527 Henson Road
Bowling Green, KY 42104

Jackson Heinze, son of John Heinze, is serving in the Air Force and is deploying to Africa March – October 2024. All correspondence to John's address at this time.

AB Heinze, Jackson, E.
c/o John Heinze
2170 Greenhill Street
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Jonathan Heinze, son of John Heinze, is serving in the Air Force.

Sgt. Jonathan Heinze

Jordan Heinze, son of John Heinze, is also serving in the Air Force.

Airman Jordan Heinze
17464 E. Keystone Circle S Unit #B
Aurora, CO 80017

Alex Joseph Madison, grandson of Mike & Pam Case, is now a Corpsman in the Navy. He is stationed in San Antonio, TX.



AUGUST 7, 2026



OUR MEMBERS IN LONG-TERM NURSING CARE...Joan Thomason



OUR MEMBERS THAT ARE HOMEBOUND...

Greg Bergmann, Charles James, Irma Lamm, Don & Donna Ludwig, and Del Wolff



IN A MEDICAL FACILITY LAST MONTH WERE...Don and Donna Ludwig.

We pray the Great Physician will continue to bring them healing and strength.

NOTE: Contact Pastor Ristau if you have questions about any of these members.



CONGRATULATIONS! Bradley & Raychel Borth had a healthy baby boy, **Lyle David**, on Sunday, July 25. Lyle is also welcomed to the family by his brother and sister: Nelson & Hazel. The proud great-grandparents are Bruce & Bonnie Borth.

May God richly bless this miracle of new life.



WE EXPRESS OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES to the family of

David Nelson in the death of his wife, Shirley Nelson. Shirley was also a member of Holy Trinity. Shirley died on Friday, July 3 at 73 years of age. Funeral services were held in Bowling Green, KY.

We commend David, Kim Newhart, and MaKayla Potter and their family to the comfort and compassion of our Loving and Living Lord Jesus Christ.



GREETERS FOR AUGUST
 (First person/couple - 8:00 service
 Second person/couple - 10:30 service)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
2	PETER & CINDY BRANDT LYNN & CAROLE CLARK
9	MARLY & DEB HIATT DAN & JACKIE BLINDAUER
16	CRAIG & JODI PRAXL TIM & HEATHER RATHERT
23	BRUCE & BONNIE BORTH DAVID & LAURIE JURGENS
30	JEFF & HILARY EVERSOLL ROBERT, ASHLEY, & BRITTANY HENSON



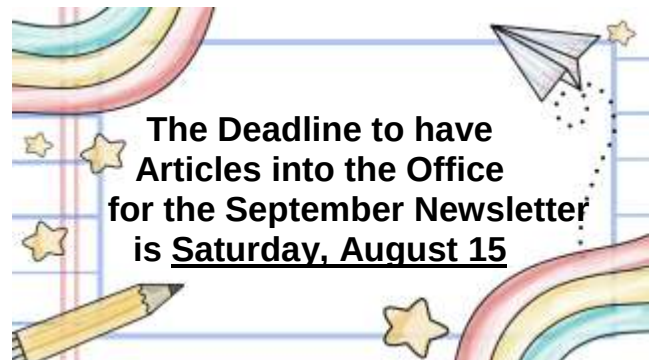
READERS FOR AUGUST
 (First person - 8:00 service
 Second person - 10:30 service)

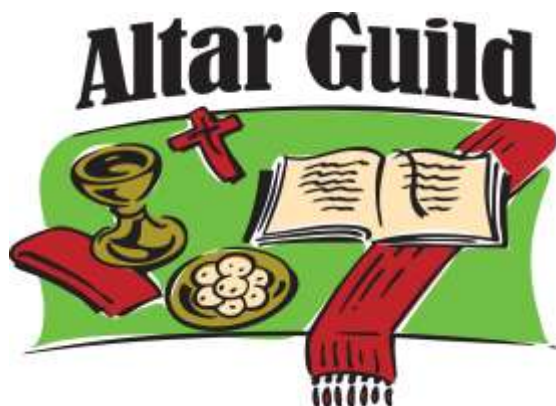
<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
2	CINDY BRANDT DAVID JURGENS
9	BART WHITE HEATHER RATHERT
16	BRUCE BORTH PAM SCHMALTZ
23	PETER BRANDT SHERYL MORRIS
30	HILARY EVERSOLL STEVE BROOKS



ACOLYTES FOR AUGUST
 (First person - 8:00 service
 Second person - 10:30 service)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
2	QUINN OTTO VERA FRITZ
9	LIAM PAYNE ELLIE HISKEY
16	HUNTLEY MOORE AUGUST MERKLE
23	QUINN OTTO SYDNEY DAVENPORT
30	LIAM PAYNE STELLA JONES





ALTAR GUILD FOR AUGUST

8:00 A.M.	PATTI STUCKWISCH
10:30 A.M.	SHERYL MORRIS JACKIE BLINDAUER



COMMUNION SERVERS FOR AUGUST

8:00 A.M.	PETER BRANDT
10:30 A.M.	MICHAEL THORPE



AUDIO-VISUAL team

AUDIO/VISUAL FOR AUGUST

(First person - 8:00 service

Second person - 10:30 service)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
2	MICHAEL MOORE AYDEN WITHERSPOON
9	MICHAEL MOORE A.J. ZIRBEL
16	MICHAEL MOORE ELLIE HISKEY
23	MICHAEL MOORE STELLA JONES
30	MICHAEL MOORE AUGUST MERKLE



CHRISTIAN SYMBOL

SUNFLOWER — The sunflower, a symbol of faithfulness and devotion, represents a life turned toward God. Just as the flower follows the sun, believers are called to seek the light of Christ and remain focused on Him.

Its bright bloom reflects the joy and glory of God's presence, while its steady growth points to a life rooted in faith. The many seeds of the sunflower can also symbolize spiritual fruitfulness. In Christian symbolism, the sunflower reminds us to remain steadfast, to seek God daily and to reflect His light in all we do.



2	Emily R. Langlois	14	Anne Padilla
3	Paul S. Powers		Elizabeth Nehm
	Braxton Graham	16	Donald J. Ludwig
6	Lucy M. Veith	18	Irma H. Lamm
	Zac Poteet		Sheryl Z. Morris
7	Jack M. Sikes, I	19	Melissa A. Albert
	Beth V. Britton	21	Andrew J. Tolbert
8	Zoe C. Witherspoon	22	Matthew J. Linhardt
	McKenna L. Goad	23	Daniel Blindauer
9	Riley A. Moore	24	Al Seavey
10	Brennan W. Rathert	28	Vanessa L. Ulm
	Caroline Langlois	29	Finley M. Price
11	William E. Hiskey (senior)	30	Donald G. Brod
	Sayer R. Parsley	31	Scott M. Nehm
12	Markus Schadwill		Alexandra Ducloux



1	Barry & Jamie Moore (17 th)	11	Joe & Sue Banister (41 st)
2	Harold & Elise Ristau (29 th)	12	Del & Sally Rathert (64 th)
3	Ken & Jackie White (43 rd)	18	Mark & Connie Press (53 rd)
4	Brian & Jackie Adams (7 th)		Walter & Barb Dobring (47 th)
5	Colin & Katie Fritz (15 th)	20	Raul & Anne Padilla (60 th)
7	Jeff & Hilary Eversoll (27 th)	22	Matt & Jeanie Price (45 th)