

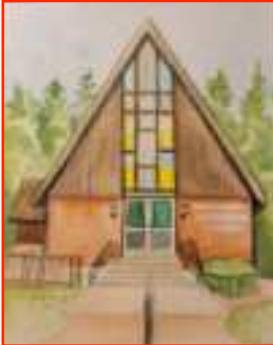
HOLY TRINITY SPIRIT

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Newsletter • Vol. 2 No. 6 • Nov. - Dec. 2025

Physical and Mailing Address:

93 Yaphank - Middle Island Road
Middle Island, NY 11953

Please Note: We are no longer
using the former P.O. Box for our mail.



For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

**Sunday Worship
Services**

9AM Traditional
11AM Acoustic

Sunday School

9AM & 11AM

**Wednesday Worship
& Word**

7 PM

Bible Study

Thursday 10 AM &
7PM

**Office Phone &
Email**

631-924-6991
office@htlcny.org

Website

www.htlc.org

Editor Email

news@htlcny.org

Sunday Services are live
on Facebook &
YouTube and are
archived on our website

Mission Statement

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church welcomes all people to gather around the Word of God; to share in the promises of the Gospel; to grow in Christian faith; and to be a positive influence in our community.

Come join us in fellowship and see God's plan for you!



Newsletter Themes for November & December

November: His Unfailing Promises. For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us. 2 Corinthians 1:20

December: Our Eternal Hope. In hope of eternal life which God, Who cannot lie, promised before time began. Titus 1:2

A Note from the Editor



This issue marks the one year anniversary of my creating the newsletter for HTLC. It has been a joy - filled labor of love thanks to all of you who have contributed and because of the wonderful events that take place throughout the year!

Special thanks to each and everyone of you who have sent in articles, photos and information. This has truly been a team effort. It's wonderful to see the Holy Spirit working amongst the HTLC family! We have four new features: Bible Quiz, Through God's Eyes, Two Become One and Nature Notes.

I wish you a blessed Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas and New Year, filled with joy, peace and love.

We cordially invite you to submit something for our newly created sections

"The HTLC Family Forum" and "Two Become One"

For all of our church members, both young and young at heart.

Please share an article, a poem, photographs, a song, etc. that you've written.

All couples are welcome to send in your "love story" sharing how God put the two of you together and how the Trinity works in your marriage. Widows and widowers are also welcome to share their love story.

300 Words would be perfect for HTLC "FF" and "TBO" articles.

Please contact news@htlcny.org with any idea you have.

Please send your photos of an HTLC event that you have attended

Please be sure to let us know which event it was and the date.

If there are children in the photo, we would need you to write to us to say that you give permission to include them both in the newsletter and on our website.

For those who can't access the newsletter online:

Please call the office at 631-924-6991 to request that a copy be sent to your home or college.

If you would like a newsletter emailed to you

Please email office@htlcny.org to be added to the email list, with Newsletter Email List in the subject line.



Pithy Pastor

Reverend David M. Santos

As the Leaves Turn

As the leaves turn, the crisp air signals another year ending. It is right to reflect with hearts full of gratitude. This year has been filled with God's blessings—some vivid and bold, others quiet and subtle, but all testifying to the truth of Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 1:20: "*For all the promises of God find their Yes in him.*" That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to *God for his glory.*" Looking back on 2025, with two months yet remaining before the year ahead, we rest in the certainty of Jesus' faithfulness as our eternal hope.

This past year, we've witnessed God's hand at work in our congregation and community. From the joyful baptisms that welcomed new members into God's family to the warm fellowship of our picnics, outdoor services, and celebrations, each moment has been a testament to Jesus' unfailing promises. Our Vacation Bible School was filled with the laughter of children learning about the Savior and our outreach ministries brought hope to neighbors in need, from food drives to comforting visits at hospitals and in homes. Even in challenges—whether personal trials or moments of uncertainty—God's promise to never leave nor forsake us (Hebrews 13:5) has held us fast.

Consider the stories shared in our pews: the families reunited, the answered prayers for healing, the quiet strength found in worship during seasons of grief. These are not mere coincidences but living proof that God's promises in Christ are "Yes, and in Him, Amen [truly]." Every sermon preached, every hymn sung, every prayer lifted has pointed us to Jesus, the One through whom God's glory shines in our lives. As we ritually give thanks this November, we celebrate not just the blessings but the One who brings those blessings.

We stand on the threshold of a new year. Our hearts should be stirred by the hope expressed in Paul's letter to Titus 1:2: "In the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time." This hope is not a fleeting wish, but a certainty for the remains of this year, next year and forever, grounded in the God who is truth itself.

In 2026, we anticipate new opportunities to grow in faith and share the Gospel. Our church is planning to expand our community outreach, including a new mentorship program and Bible studies aimed toward living out God's promises in daily life.

Pithy Pastor (Continued)

Reverend David M. Santos

We're also excited about our upcoming Advent season, when we prepare our hearts again to be reminded of God's promises delivered through Christ's birth. These initiatives remind us that our hope transforms our future and how we live today, calling us to be bold witnesses of Christ's love. This preparation begins in each of us—through prayer, worship, and studying God's Word. For the remains of this year and the year to come, let's commit to gather regularly as a church family, encouraging one another, and growing in faith. Remembering that for all who will believe there is a sacred calling to share this good news.

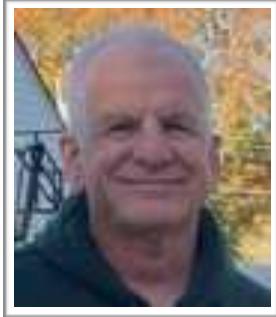
The nationwide revival stirring across churches offers a powerful opportunity. From coast to coast, people are hungry for hope, seeking the truth that only Jesus provides. We are part of this movement, called to shine as a beacon in our community. Our hope in Christ is not meant to be kept within church walls but shared with neighbors, friends, and strangers alike.

Your call to action is clear: invite others to join you at church. Commit to meet them at the door, sitting with them and helping them navigate a Sunday worship, a Bible study, a mid-week Advent services or our Christmas services. Welcome a neighbor to our community events, from potlucks to service projects. Each invitation is a seed planted, an opportunity for someone to encounter the hope of eternal life. Imagine the impact if every one of us invited just one person to church in 2026. Picture our sanctuary filled with new faces, hearts open to the Gospel, joining us in praising the God who fulfills His promises. This is how revival begins—one conversation, one invitation, one life touched by Jesus' love at a time.

Let gratitude for God's blessings fuel our mission and inspire us to share Christ with others. Holy Trinity is more than a building; it is a family united by faith, called to be part of God's redemptive work in the world which we do to His glory and our joy.

Pax et Gaudium [Peace and Joy]

Pastor Dave



From the Desktop of the President, Tim Jahn

Contact Info: tcjahn@optonline.net

Tis the season for giving. Giving thanks, giving presents, giving up bad habits and resolving to do better in the new year. It's a busy, and often stressful, time for individuals and families as we get caught up in all the decorating, meal preparation, travel planning and gift buying.

If we're not careful, we can lose sight of what's essential: that God has promised us peace and the hope of eternal life through the birth, death, resurrection and ascension of His Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. I thank God for our warm church in the pines and our pastor for helping me keep the focus on what's essential.

This is my last newsletter article. As I reflect on the last few years, it's amazing to me how much God has blessed Holy Trinity and how much we have grown as a congregation. Attendance is increasing and our music ministry has been outstanding. We have reached out to the community in so many positive ways - from our coat drives to the toy drive and especially our food pantry, which continues to serve hundreds of families. It is a testament to Pastor Dave and everyone who gives their time, talent and treasure to the church. Bless you all.

In His Service,

Tim Jahn
Council President



The Deacon's Corner

Ginny Wirsing 631-924-7106



"For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory." 2 Corinthians 1:20.

Probably all of us at one time or another have been promised something by another person and they never followed through. What about a product that explicitly advertised what it would do for us and how it would make our lives so much better but, the product never fulfilled that promise? How about political promises from candidates that never materialized? These are examples of what we call "empty promises." Sometimes they were never intended to be kept. And sometimes, other priorities, or poor planning, or unforeseen problems got in the way of the promises made. The end result of unfulfilled promises is disappointment and when it happens over and over it can result in lack of trust.

We say "I believe in God" in the Apostles' Creed. When we say that it means that we trust God and his promises. God loves us and gave his only son to save us. *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."* God's son Jesus came down from Heaven and was made man. He suffered and died on the cross for all of our sins. He rose from the grave, ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of God. We too, believing in Jesus, will not perish but live eternally with him in heaven.

"...in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began..." Titus 1:2. God's promise is not a sometimes promise. It is not an unfulfilled promise that was never intended to be kept. We are his priority and nothing gets in the way of his promises to us. There will never be disappointment or lack of trust for us when we believe in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.

Promise made, Promise kept! Amen.

To God be the Glory,
Ginny Wirsing

Time to Change Our Clocks!

**Remember to set your clocks back one hour
before you go to bed on Saturday, November 1st**



INCLEMENT WEATHER INFORMATION



In the event that inclement weather causes Holy Trinity to close the office and/or cancel services or any activities, it will be posted on News 12 LI - Channel 12 and HTLCNY.org.

We follow Longwood School District Closing Schedule.

"Serve the Lord"

You are cordially invited to "Serve the Lord" as an Usher, Acolyte, Reader, Choir Member, Altar Guild Member or Sunday School Teacher.

Please contact the office at 631-924-6991 or office@htlcny.org to become a Volunteer

Altar Flowers

A Flower Chart for 2026 will be posted in the Narthex to sign up for putting flowers on the altar.



Put your name on the flower chart next to the date you would like flower to be placed on the altar.

Please fill out the envelope by the flower chart and include either check made payable to Holy Trinity Ladies Guild or cash.

Place the envelope in the mailbox outside the church office, downstairs, opposite the rest rooms.

If you have any questions, please contact Maureen Consiglio by phone 631-331-3088.



Please join us downstairs every Sunday!

A lift is available if needed



Please remember to pray for our Military Men and Women



Join our very own HTLC "Heavenly Sounding Angels" in the Choir

Have you been told you have a nice voice? Can you carry a tune and not sing off key?

If so, we would love to have you join our choir! Children are welcome too!

**Rehearsals are held in the church
every Wednesday 4:30-6 PM**

We have both Traditional and
Acoustic Services each week

Please email or call the office
631-924-6991 office@htlcny.org



Outdoor 11AM Service, September 21st, 2025

Women's Monthly Bible Breakfast

Pot Luck ❤️ Music ❤️ Prayer ❤️ Bring a Friend

Saturday, November 1st 10AM - 12 Noon

Guest Speaker: Ginny Wiring
Topic: "Changing Seasons"

Saturday, December 6th 10AM - 12 Noon

Guest Speaker: Maryann Lewonka
Topic: "The Gift That Keeps On Giving"

If anyone has a topic to share for the Women's Monthly Bible Breakfast, please call the office a 631-924-6991 and leave a message. There is also a Sign-Up Sheet in the Narthex.

Weekly Bible Study

Thursdays, 10:00 AM & 7PM

Open to All

Led by Pastor Dave, we meet in the
Church, downstairs

Bring a notebook & your Bible



Men's Bible Study

2nd & 4th Saturdays

8:00 -9:00 AM

Open to All Men

We meet in the Church,
downstairs

Holy Trinity Movie Night

3rd Friday of Each Month

Nov. 21st 7:30 PM

Dec. 19th 7:30 PM

A great night out with fellowship!

Bring in your favorite snacks and enjoy the smorgasbord of food share.

The movies are always inspiring.

Holy Trinity Book Club

Nov. 7th 7:30 PM

"The Perfect Stranger" will be discussed

There will be no Book Club meetings in December

The meetings will begin again in January



November

- 1 - Adam Hill
Karin Wyszomierski
- 4 - Peter Andrus
Ronnie Wilgeroth
- 6 - Jonathan
Wyszomierski
- 9 - Kathy Longhitano
- 11 - Neil J. Hassett
- 12 - Carol Landgrebe
- 13 - Paul McCoy
- 14 - Joan Berg
Bobby DiRosa
- 15 - Donna Pannhorst
- 17 - David Osborn Jr.
- 25 - Dorothy Wheeler

December

- 1 - Philip Wirsing
- 11 - Raymond Berard
- 16 - Dana Bianca
- 21 - Jordan Klein
- 22 - Millie Klein
- 25 - JESUS
- 28 - Ronald F. Hassett

November

- Philip & Kathy
Montalbano
November 27
- Tom & Donna
Kennedy
November 28

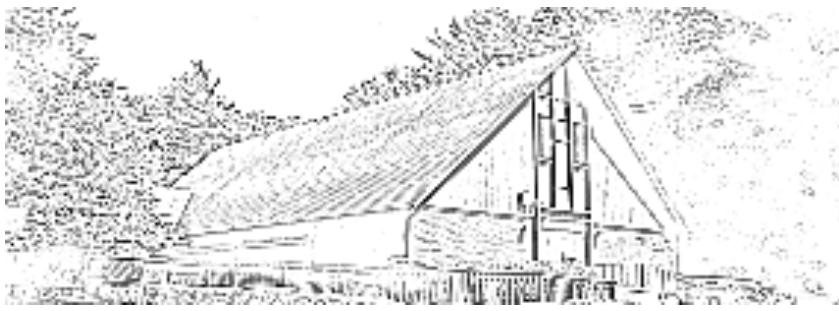
December

- Richard & Maryann
Lewonka
December 7
- Paul & Gayle Klein
December 12
- Keith & Jordan Klein
December 23

Please let the office know if you would like to be included

in our Birthday and Anniversary notices and kindly let us know of any corrections

You may call the office at 631-924-6991 or email us: office@htlcny.org



Council News

Submitted by Tim Jahn

Save the Date: Congregation Meeting

Our next congregation meeting will be held on Sunday, November 23rd, after the 11:00 service. We will be reviewing and approving the proposed 2026 budget and electing four new trustees to replace outgoing, term-limited council members.

Holy Trinity is blessed to have members willing to serve the Lord. The following individuals accepted their nominations from our nominating committee: Beverly Basta, Bill Dulmage, Thomas Santoro, Lisa Snider, Kristi Wilson, and Karin Wyszomierski. For the second year in a row, we will actually have an election for the next church council.

Greg Boschen, Nancy Komnick, Mary Sackett and Tim Jahn will each be completing six years of service on the church council. Many thanks for everyone's dedication to Holy Trinity!

Church Renovation Committee

The following individuals have accepted an appointment to a steering committee for the church renovation: Joyce Fortunato, Paul Klein, John Merkent, Michelle Mullady, Neal Ross, Doreen Thoden and Jim Whitlow. The committee will be reviewing the architect's proposed plans and preparing the next steps for the congregation. They will be providing a comprehensive proposal at our February 2026 congregation meeting.

Generous Donation

You may have noticed two large vehicles in our auxiliary parking lot. Roman Ivan generously donated the cargo van and large trailer to the church which the church council accepted. We plan to use these vehicles to support the food pantry and other community outreach efforts.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

November and December 2025

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday, November 15, 2025
9 AM - 2 PM

Cookie Walk,
Crafts, Gift Baskets
Handmade Items, Jewelry
New Items, cakes, breads, and cupcakes

Lunch and beverage
will be sold

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
93 Yaphank Middle Island Road
Middle Island, NY 11953

631-924-6991





You are invited to exercise your rights and responsibilities
as a member of Holy Trinity
by attending
the
Congregation meeting
to be held
November 16th
after the 11 AM Service

We will be electing new council members and approving
the 2026 Church Ministry Budget

This is one of our most important meetings of the year
I hope to see you all there

Tim Jahn



Thanksgiving Eve Service

Wednesday, November 26, 2025
7PM



Advent Mid-Week Worships

November 26th and
December 3rd, 10th & 17th
7 PM

Poinsettias For Christmas

MESSAGE: _____

FROM: _____



Please contact Maureen Consiglio for info 631-331-3088

Order Envelopes will be in the Narthex with pricing info

Payable by Cash or Checks made out to Holy Trinity Ladies Guild

2025 Holy Trinity's Christmas Card Delivery Service

Administered by HTLC Ladies Guild

Please follow the instructions below in order to utilize this **FREE** service
Save on postage. Write your cards early.



1. Address your cards clearly.
2. Please put your **return address** on each envelope.
3. Place your cards in the "mailbox" in the Narthex starting **November 2 through December 20**.
4. Cards will be sorted alphabetically and will start to be delivered on December 14.
5. Cards will only be delivered to those who attend church.

Notes:

- Please **DO NOT** bring cards addressed to members you have not seen in church in the last three months. If you do, they will be returned to you.
- Also, cards that are not delivered by January 1 will be returned to the sender.
- **PLEASE ADHERE TO THE SCHEDULE LISTED ABOVE AS THE POSTMASTER WOULD LIKE TO ENJOY THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT ON DECEMBER 21**

Soup Supper During Advent Wednesdays



December 3rd, 10th, 17th

We will be eating from 5:30 PM until 6:45 PM

We need 2 people to sign-up each evening to make soup
Please supply soup for approximately 25 people

Sign Up Sheet is in Narthex

Thank you in advance! ❤



Country Christmas

Saturday, December 20th



5-8PM

Live Music Dancing Sing-a-longs Pot Luck Great Fun



Downstairs of the Church





You are Cordially Invited to Attend the Annual Ladies Guild Christmas Luncheon

Saturday, December 13, 2025 11:30 AM Holy Trinity Church

Catering by Athens Diner, Middle Island

Choice of either Chicken Marsala or Chicken Francese
with Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Greek Salad and Rice Pudding
Includes coffee, tea, water, desserts

\$25 Per Person

(Checks made out to Holy Trinity Ladies Guild)

Optional Grab Bag Gift Under \$10
Left/right game with \$5 wrapped ornament

R.S.V.P. before November 26th

(Sorry, but we cannot accommodate walk-ins)

Please fill out one form for each reservation

Send your reservation with check made payable to Holy Trinity Ladies Guild to:



Maureen Consiglio,
25 Windover Lane, Coram, NY 11727
or give to her at church (9AM)

If you have questions, please call Maureen at 631-331-3088



Name (please print) _____



A little History about the Annual Ladies Guild Christmas Luncheon



For more than 20 years the Ladies Guild has been hosting an Annual Christmas Luncheon. In the early years we met at a Chinese restaurant or an Italian restaurant. In 2003 Lee Klinke, one of the original members of our group, suggested that we cater from Lakoma Delicatessen in Ronkonkoma as the food was delicious, plentiful, and the cost was reasonable.

Since 2004 we have been catering from Lakoma Delicatessen. Even during Covid they made "to go" boxes, including rolls, butter, utensils, and napkins. We didn't know at that time that we would have such a long-term relationship with them. Food was delivered in large pots or boxes (rolls) and the meat was in a large metal thermal box that was carried down the stairs to the fellowship room. The meat was freshly sliced using a very large and heavy meat slicer. Tracy and Hans and John (when Hans was unable to carry the equipment) were our servers.

We were saddened to find out that the delicatessen closed this year.

We are having our Christmas Luncheon. Please let your friends who have attended in the past know of the change of caterer. We look forward to seeing everyone when we will celebrate our friendships and Christ's birth.

In His service,
Maureen Consiglio and Carol Gathercole



Christmas Worship & New Year's Eve Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE

Wednesday, December 24

- 5:30 PM Family Service (No Communion)
- 8:00 PM Candlelight Service (Communion)
- 11:00 PM Candlelight Service (Communion)

CHRISTMAS DAY

Thursday, December 25, 10 AM

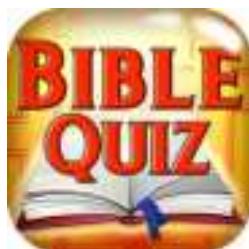
NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Wednesday, December 31, 3 - 6 PM

NO NEW YEAR'S EVE WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Wednesday, December 31, 2025

A New Feature!



Bible Quiz Question

In the Old Testament there are several prophecies about Jesus Christ. Which one says: "For unto us a child is born... And he shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

- A) Micah 5:2
- B) Zechariah 9:9
- C) Isaiah 9:6
- D) Psalms 22:1
- E) Isaiah 53:5

Bible Quiz Answer

Answer C - The book of the prophet Isaiah 9:6 records a prophecy about Christ. For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. And the Prince of Peace.



M. O. S. T. Men of Spirit and Truth

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Middle Island, New York

For information, please contact Scott Krause

Cell 631-295-0974 Email: MOST@htlcny.org

Hello HTLC family!

The men of MOST shared great excitement from our retreat which was held September 12th-13th at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in beautiful Lloyd Harbor.

This year Pastor Mittlestaedt who is the senior pastor of St. James Lutheran Church, taught us about prayer that restores and "The Daily Prayer." The Daily Prayer can be prayed word for word or it can be used a framework for your own daily prayer. The point is, spend time in deep prayer with God on a daily basis.

Pastor likened us Christians to sponges. When sponges aren't used, they dry out and get hard. Just running a sponge under water quickly, will get the edges to soften up a bit but the inside stays hard and dry. The sponge must be fully immersed in a bucket of water for a period of time before it is useful.

We Christians need to be in prayer with our God in order to stay "wet" spiritually. We need to make time to fully immerse ourselves in prayer in order to keep our faith strong and be useful in the kingdom of God. If we only spend a minute here or there in prayer, only our edges are getting wet, our faith falters and we aren't useful.

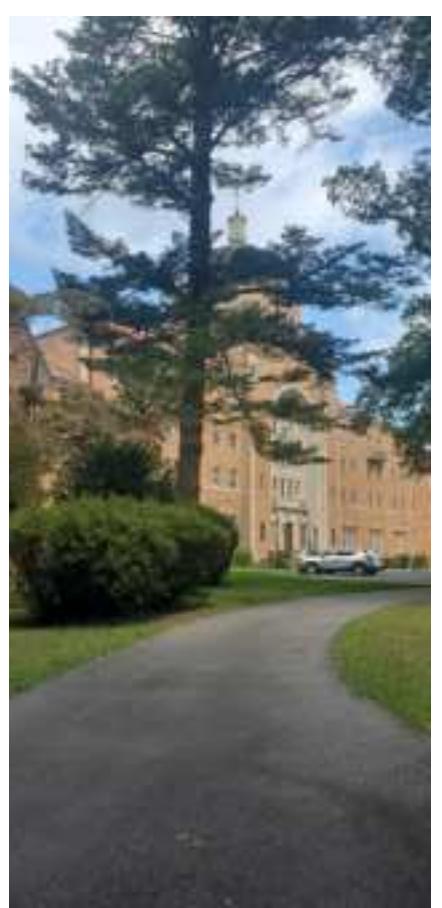
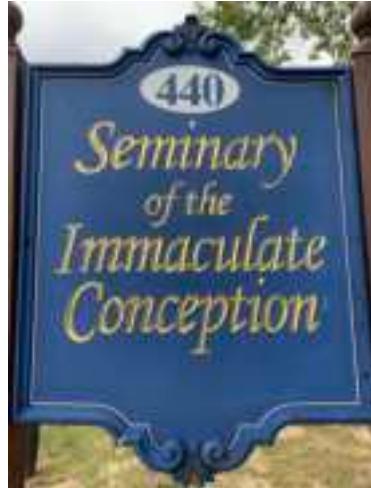
At the conclusion of the retreat, Pastor Mittlestaedt challenged us all to pray The Daily Prayer for 10 days and see how we are changed spiritually.

If anyone is interested in a copy of "The Daily Prayer", please let Pastor or myself know and we will get you a copy.

In His service,
Scott Krause

MEN'S RETREAT 2025

September 12 & 13, 2025 Immaculate Conception, Lloyd Harbor



The Food Pantry



**Open Tuesdays and Wednesdays
10 am- 1 pm in Church Basement**

Food, diapers sizes 3, 4, & 5 as well as Monetary Donations
are always welcome and greatly appreciated

Checks should be payable to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.
Please write: "Good Sam" in the memo section



**Sunday School for grades Pre-K to 6
11:00 Service
(Right after Pastor's talk)**

❤️ Each Sunday, children will learn important lessons from the Bible,
make crafts, play games, and pray.

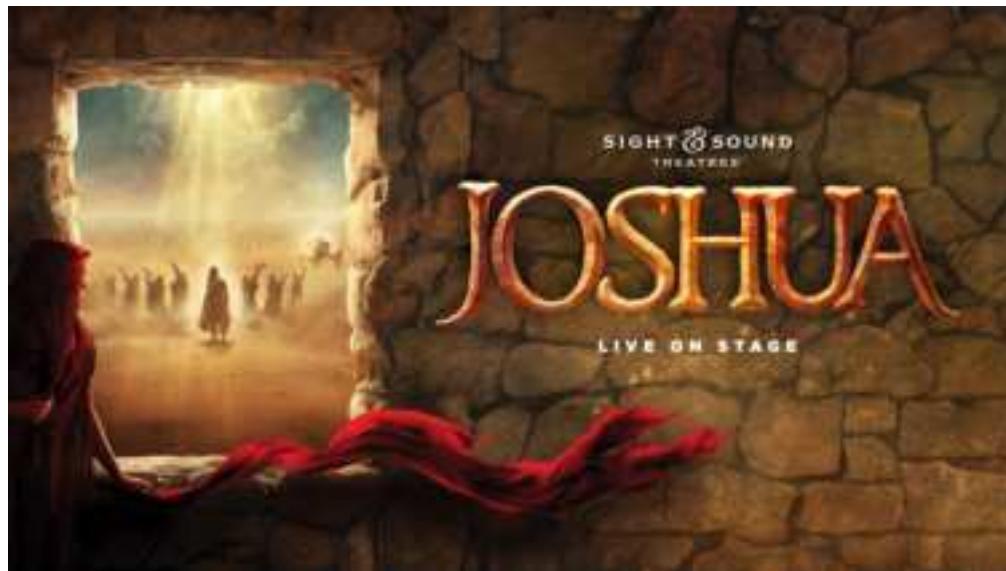
❤️ In December, we'll start practicing our Christmas play which we will present to
the church on Sunday, December 21, 2025 at the 11:00 service.

Happy Thanksgiving!



Merry Christmas!





SIGHT AND SOUND JOSHUA 2-DAY TRIP

The stewardship committee is organizing a trip to see Joshua in either May or June 2026. We need a minimum of 49 people to make the trip a reality. If you are interested in taking this trip, please sign up or contact the church office. If 49 people are interested and sign-up we will lock in a date and price for the congregation to consider. At that point you can commit and make a deposit. Listed below are the proposed itinerary and possible cost.

TRIP INCLUDES:

Deluxe Motorcoach	1 Dinner (Hershey Farm)
1 Night Hotel Accommodations	Farmers Market Shopping
Preferred Theater Seating	Kitchen Kettle Village
1 Breakfast	Meal Gratuities
1 Lunch Buffet (Golden Corral)	

2026 ESTIMATED PRICE PER PERSON PER ROOM

\$539 one person per room

\$459 two people per room

\$429 three people per room

\$409 four people per room

All Preliminary R.S.V.P.'s must be in by Sunday, November 2nd to determine if the trip will take place. A sign up sheet is in the Narthex.

For Information, please contact Deacon Frank Consiglio at 631-331-3088

All are invited to submit something for the Holy Trinity Family Forum

Children are welcome as well as adults!

**The
Holy
Trinity
Family
Forum**

Please send to news@htlcny.org

Submitted by Carol Gathercole



Carol first started drawing when she was a little girl.

This is the first painting she did while attending an acrylics class.
It now hangs in her guest bedroom.

The drawing below is done with acrylic and charcoal pencil.

Thank you, Carol for sharing your beautiful work!



Submitted by Carol Gathercole



In addition to her beautiful sketches and paintings, Carol also has a flair for writing.

"Only 13 Years Old" is the name of her heart wrenching poem, posted to the right.

Only 13 Years Old

She looked so innocent this child of mine,
Her smile so radiant-her face did shine.
Everyone who knew her-loved her so,
From the top of her head right down to her toe.
Her big blue eyes and hair of gold,
A delightful child and only 13 years old!

Her smile endearing, her laugh contagious,
Her personality was so outrageous.
I was so proud-what more could life bring?
She did so well in everything.
A wonderful child, and that's what I was told,
She has everything and only 13 years old!

And then it started-A mother's nightmare,
More than I thought one person could bear.
"Adolescence" at first was the excuse,
Talking back and verbal abuse.
Smoking cigarettes she acted so bold,
This was my child and only 13 years old!

As weeks went on the phone calls came,
Teachers saying, "She thinks it's a game."
No more homework and cutting class,
Disrupting the teachers, acting so crass.
No more hugs-she was acting so cold,
A belligerent child and only 13 years old!

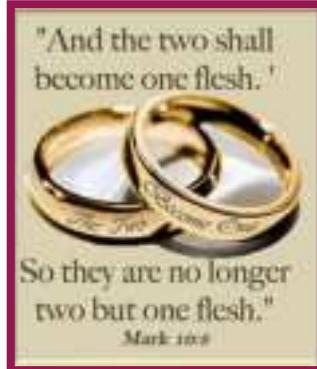
Curfews were completely ignored,
I talked, threatened and implored.
Grounding didn't work. To my dismay,
She snuck out her window and ran away.
All night long I searched in the cold.
A runaway-and only 13 years old!

Thank goodness she returned the very next day,
I promised anything just so she would stay.
We went to counselling-She and I
What I found out-I wanted to die.
Drugs and alcohol that's what I was told,
My God-an addict-and only 13 years old!

She's gone to rehab far, far, away,
Doing quite well-so they say.
A mother's nightmare finally at rest,
through tears and heartache I did my best.
She'll be home soon to love and hold
My little daughter who's only 13 years old!

C. Gathercole

A New Feature!



**Deacon Frank and Maureen Consiglio
share their "love story"
of how God works in their lives
as husband and wife**

Maureen and Frank met August 1979 at the BOCES satellite school that was located on North Bicycle Path in Terryville. Maureen was the secretary at the school. Frank was her mailman. The mail was delivered to a box on the road which was a little dangerous. Maureen asked about inside delivery. The next day the custodian made the mailbox disappear. Once we were able to have inside mail delivery, Maureen's boss would leave the room when Frank came to deliver the mail. We would talk and get to know each other.

In 1980 we had our first date that was at the BOCES Christmas party. Shortly after we were seeing each other regularly. Maureen shared that she was a member of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and would like Frank to attend church with her. Frank was a non-practicing Roman Catholic who went to church once or twice a year. Frank accompanied Maureen to Holy Trinity where he heard Pastor Paul Wagner preach. When he attended the Roman Catholic church, he had always heard about the law, i.e., punishment for your sins. However, Pastor Wagner preached that God loved us in spite of our sins. Frank felt the love of God for the first time. But not enough to keep him coming to church regularly.

The problem was that Frank loved playing softball in a local league that played double headers on Sundays. After the games the team would go to a local pub to enjoy a beer, sharing time with his teammates and their families. Maureen and her daughter, Kathy would occasionally watch the games and get to know the team.

Pastor Wagner was so patient and funny with Frank. He had the same gift as Pastor Dave, remembering names. His sermons always emphasized the love of Jesus. As he shook my hand leaving the church or at coffee hour, he would encourage me to come to church more often. If Frank had not attended church for a month or so, Pastor Wagner would shake his hand, not let go and say, "wait, give me a minute, I know your name." He would release Frank's hand and after about 10 seconds, he would smile and say, "I remember, it's Frank isn't it." We would laugh and I would tell him, "I get the point, I'll come more often." Pastor Wagner nodded in agreement.

When Frank and Maureen decided to get married in 1982, Maureen requested that he attend church regularly with her and Kathy. That was a problem because Frank still loved his Sunday softball league and the camaraderie at the pub. Frank made a counter proposal and promised to go to church for six months and give it an honest chance. However, if he didn't like it, Maureen was not to insist he go to church.

Frank eventually took the new member class and within six months was on the church council. Frank and Maureen have been active at Holy Trinity (43 + years) ever since. We have made many friendships over the years. God has showered us with His blessings.

All married couples, widows and widowers are cordially invited to tell us your love story!

Please send a 300 word article to news@htlcny.org

A New Feature!

"Through God's Eyes"

By Debbie Elliott



Christmas People are Yes People

At Christmas time, I always remember an experience I had visiting a Christian Bookstore in Riverhead. I started a conversation with the owner, Harriet. In the past, I had prayed with her when our daughter was sick. She knew all about Jenn's successful kidney transplant. I mentioned to her, that out of thanksgiving to God, I was going to donate my kidney to a man in Boston. As I checked out, she thanked me for telling her my story. She said it was confirmation of what God had spoken to her. She had been praying and fasting to ask God if He had a special word for her.

After some time, God impressed her that He yearned to hear the word "Yes." As she prayed about this, scriptures came to her mind, all relating to the Christmas story. Elizabeth had said "Yes," when she thought it was impossible for her to have a child. Mary said "Yes," when she was told by an angel that she would have a son. Joseph said "Yes" despite knowing that he would face embarrassment and ridicule and the possibility that his life would never be the same again. The Wisemen said "Yes," when it meant traveling many miles to follow a star and search for a King. The Shepherds said "Yes," when they heard the angels' proclamation and went to worship a King born in a manger. Harriet said I was saying "Yes" by donating a kidney to a stranger.

Our conversation started me thinking. At Christmas, many people had to say "Yes" to fulfill God's plan to rescue us from the penalty of sin. Today, God still wants to work through His people to bring hope and the forgiveness that only Jesus can offer. How are we part of God's plan? What does He want us to say "Yes" to? What miracles would happen if we said "Yes?" Maybe that should be our gift to God this Christmas Season. What will you say "Yes" to?

God's Blessings,

Debbie Elliott

"Nature Notes: Appreciating God's Amazing Creation"



By Barbara Lindemann

A New Feature!

Snowy Owls at the Beach

When you think of owls, what comes to mind? Most people think of a brown bird who (hooo...) flies around the forest at night and sleeps in a tree during the day. That's a good description! But what if I told you there's an owl that does everything the opposite?

I'm thinking of snowy owls! The male Snowies are all white, well camouflaged for their usual home in the Arctic. Females are a bit larger than males, and are white with black speckles. They both have invisible asymmetrical ears, which helps them locate prey hidden beneath the snow.

In their tundra home, snowy owls' favorite prey is lemmings, and other small rodents. Like other owls, they fly silently, due to specially designed feathers with soft fringed edges. But unlike most owls, which are nocturnal, snowy owls are diurnal, which means they are active during the day! They are specially created for living in the land of the midnight sun, where in summer, the sun never sets.

So now you're wondering, what are Snowy Owls doing on the beach? Is it true they can be seen on Long Island during the winter? Yes! The places to look are along the shorelines, particularly amongst the sand dunes. Occasionally, they will perch on a tree or even on top of a building. Surprisingly enough, they are usually found resting on the ground because they are used to the Arctic with no trees. Even though they are out in broad daylight, they are well camouflaged to blend in with sand and pebbles!

If you're lucky enough to discover a snowy owl at the beach, don't go too close. You don't want to scare or disturb them; it takes energy for them to fly. It's best to bring binoculars if you have a pair, but it's not necessary. A great reason to go for a winter walk on the beach: You may discover a unique visitor from the far north, one of God's amazing creatures!

7 But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds in the sky, and they will tell you; 8 or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish in the sea inform you. 9 Which of all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? 10 In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind. Job 12:7-10



**Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.**

Isaiah 41:10

Lord Jesus, as we stand on the threshold of a new year, we seek Your light to guide our path.

Fill our hearts with hope and renew our spirits, that we may embrace the opportunities ahead.

May we find strength in Your presence as we step into the unknown, knowing that each new chapter is a gift.

Lord Jesus, grant us the courage to embrace new beginnings with open hearts.

Help us to find joy in each moment, and to share Your love with those around us.

Help us to let go of our fears and uncertainties, trusting in Your divine plan. Amen.

Prayers for the 2026 New Year

The following are from stmparish.org

Prayer for Gratitude "Heavenly Father, as we enter this New Year, we come before You with hearts full of gratitude. Thank You for Your faithfulness through the past year. Help us to always remember Your goodness." Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Prayer for God's Presence: "Father, let Your presence be with us in every moment of the new year. May we feel Your guidance and comfort in all we do." Scripture: Exodus 33:14

"The Lord replied, 'My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.'

Prayer for God's Glory: "Father, may our lives bring glory to Your name. Let our actions, words, and thoughts reflect Your love and truth." Scripture: 1 Corinthians 10:31

"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

Prayer for Unity: "Lord, we pray for unity within our families, churches, and communities. Help us to walk in love, forgive one another, and work together for Your glory." Scripture: Psalm 133:1

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"

Prayer for Divine Favor: "Lord, surround us with Your favor this year. Let Your blessings be evident in our lives so that others may see Your goodness." Scripture: Psalm 5:12

"Surely, Lord, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield."

Prayer for Spiritual Growth: "Lord, help us to grow in our knowledge of You this year. Strengthen our faith, deepen our prayer lives, and draw us closer to Your heart." Scripture: 2 Peter 3:18

"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."

Prayers for the 2026 New Year

The following are from Bible Prayer Hub dot com

Prayer for Divine Surrender: "Father, I surrender myself completely into Your hands this new year. Whatever Your will may be, I accept it with gratitude and trust. Guide my steps, direct my paths, and help me align my desires with Your perfect plan. Let only Your will be done in my life this year, for You are my loving Father. Amen."

Prayer for Love and Compassion: "O God of steadfast love, as I begin this new year, teach me to walk in Your ways. Grant me the wisdom to show mercy, the strength to forgive, and the grace to love others as You love me. Help me become a channel of Your compassion in this world. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Prayer for New Opportunities: "Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of a new beginning. As I start this year, I pray for wisdom to recognize and courage to embrace the opportunities You bring my way. Help me step out in faith when You open new doors, trusting in Your guidance every step of the way. Amen."

Prayer for Learning from Past Experiences: "Lord, as I begin this new year, help me learn from my past without being bound by it. Transform my mistakes into wisdom, my failures into stepping stones, and my victories into humble gratitude. Guide me to use these lessons for Your glory in the year ahead. Amen."

Prayer for Renewed Hope: "Dear Lord, fill my heart with fresh hope as I begin this new year. When challenges arise, remind me that You are my source of strength. Let Your promises be my anchor in times of uncertainty, and Your presence my comfort in every season. Amen "

Prayer for Trust in God's Timing: "Heavenly Father, as this new year unfolds, help me trust in Your perfect timing. When things don't go according to my plan, grant me the patience to wait for Your divine schedule. Let me find peace in knowing that You order all things beautifully in Your time. Amen."

Prayer for Divine Preparation: "God of all wisdom, prepare my heart and mind for what lies ahead in this new year. Equip me with Your armor, fill me with Your Spirit, and grant me discernment to navigate each day according to Your will. Amen. "

Prayer for New Beginnings: "Father of new beginnings, I thank You for this fresh start. As I begin this new year, help me release what needs to be left behind and embrace the new things You have in store. Let Your light guide my path forward. Amen "

Prayer for Strength and Courage: "Mighty God, as I begin this new year, fill me with supernatural strength and courage. When challenges arise, remind me that I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Let Your power be made perfect in my weakness. Amen."

Prayers for the 2026 New Year

The following are from Bible Prayer Hub dot com

Prayer for Family Blessings: "Loving Father, I lift up my family to You as we begin this new year together. Protect our relationships, heal our wounds, and strengthen our bonds. Make our home a haven of Your peace and love throughout the coming months. Amen."

Prayer for Personal Growth: "Lord of transformation, use this new year to mold me more into Your image. Help me develop godly habits, break free from limiting patterns, and grow in character and wisdom. Let Your work of refinement continue in my life. Amen"

Prayer for Peace: "Prince of Peace, as I start this new year, fill my heart with Your perfect peace. When chaos surrounds me, help me find stillness in Your presence. Let Your peace guard my heart and mind throughout the year ahead. Amen."

Prayer for Divine Direction: "Heavenly Guide, as I begin this new year, I seek Your direction for every decision. Illuminate my path with Your wisdom, and help me discern Your voice amidst life's noise. Lead me in the way I should go. Amen."

Prayer for Financial Wisdom: "God of provision, grant me wisdom in managing the resources You provide this new year. Help me be a good steward of Your blessings, teach me to give generously, and guide my financial decisions according to Your principles. Amen."

Prayer for Health and Wellness: "Divine Healer, I commit my health to You as I begin this new year. Grant me strength in body, clarity in mind, and vitality in spirit. Help me care for the temple You've given me with wisdom and discipline. Amen."

Prayer for Purpose Fulfillment: "Lord of purpose, align my life with Your divine calling as I start this new year. Help me understand and fulfill the unique purpose You've designed for me. Let every step I take bring glory to Your name. Amen."

Prayer for Relationships: "God of love, bless my relationships as I begin this new year. Help me nurture healthy connections, heal broken bonds, and extend Your grace to others. Guide me in building meaningful relationships that honor You. Amen."

Prayer for Spiritual Victory: "Mighty Warrior, as I begin this new year, I declare Your victory over my life. Help me stand firm in faith, resist the enemy's schemes, and walk in the authority You've given me. Let this be a year of spiritual breakthrough and triumph. Amen."

Please take note of our new mailing address:

93 Yaphank-Middle Island Road | Middle Island, NY 11953

We are no longer using the former PO Box



Would you like to receive our Newsletter?

If you would like to receive the "Trinity Spirit" please email us at office@htlcny.org or call the office at 631-924-6991 and we'll be happy to send it to you!

Please write Newsletter Email List in the subject line of your email and be sure to give us your first and last name and address if you would like it mailed.



Prayer
Requests

Would you like us to pray for you?

If you would like us to pray for you, please contact us at the Church Office at 631-924-6991 or email office@htlcny.org

Our Deacons are happy to speak with you!



Walter Baepler 631-928-8781
Frank Consiglio 631-331-3088
Ginny Wirsing 631-924-7106
Karen Peterson 631-764-7904
Deacon in Training:
Steve Wilgeroth 631-387-1934



Would you like to meet with Pastor Dave?

To schedule a time to meet with Pastor Dave, please use this link:

<https://calendly.com/meetwithpastor>

You may also call the Church Office at 631-924-6991

COLLEGE STUDENT INFORMATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

E-MAIL _____

Please fill out and return to the Church Office so you may receive the newsletter at your college

RECENT BAPTISMS AT HTLC

Welcome to the Body of Christ and the HTLC Family!



Emmanuel Sarwari was Baptized on Sunday, September 7th

He is married to Choir member Rosalee Spero



9 month old Hailey Ann Hughes was Baptized on September 21st
at the outdoor 11AM Service

HTLC Photo Gallery August - October 2025

Please email your photos to news@htlcny.org so we can share them

It was with heavy hearts that we said good bye
to our Office Secretary, **Janine Knee**,
on August 29th.

Thank you, Janine for all your hard work
over the years and we wish you well
in your new endeavors upstate!



Michael Prussick attended the 11AM Service on September 21st,
the day before he left for Great Lakes Chicago Naval Base.

Let's all keep him in our prayers
as he prepares to serve our country!

Thank you, Micheal!

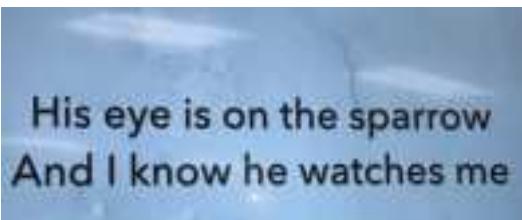
SEPTEMBER WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

Our Guest Speaker was Elaina Mara (The late Holly Baepler's daughter)
Her topic was "Be Still and Know That I Am God"



OCTOBER WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

Our Guest Speaker was Linda Boschen and her topic was "Questioning God"



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, PAULA & LINDA

Celebrated on October 12, 2025 Thank you for all you do for HTLC!
Blessings and Well Wishes in the upcoming year for you both!



OCTOBER DRIVE THROUGH FOOD EVENT

Saturday, October 19th 9-10 AM

1500 Items were donated!

**Thank you one and all
for your generosity!**



OCTOBER COAT DISTRIBUTION

Saturday, October 25th



OCTOBER TRUNK OF TREATS

Saturday, October 25th

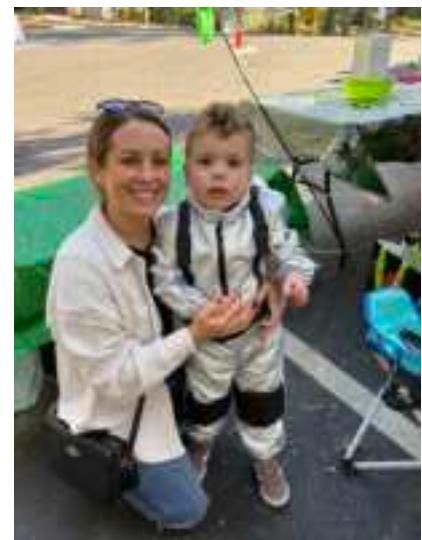


OCTOBER TRUNK OF TREATS

Saturday, October 25th



**As much fun for the
adults as it was
for the kids!**



OCTOBER TRUNKS OF TREATS

Saturday, October 25th



A HEARTY WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Reformation Day Observed 9 and 11AM Sunday, October 26th

Mereta
Blackwood

Meghan Costas

Bill Dulmage

Laurie Fariello

Sabrina Gale

Adriana Herbert



Alyson Macomb	Linda Feierabend
Jonathan Padin	David Gale
Theresa Rolfe	Kenny Jensen
Barbara Sanelli	Kirk Milojevich
Diana F. DeLeon	Katie Tetzloff
Michelle Dun- Martinez	Mel Rolfe