

The ACORN

Vol. 11 Trinity United Methodist Church, Sarasota, FL November 2025



All Saints Sunday

November 2 2025



Pet Blessing

Saturday, November 8th will be our annual pet blessing at the picnic tables on our campus. All pets are welcome for a blessing by Pastor Linda starting at 9 am. Invite your friends, family and neighbors.

Everyone invited to help get our campus ready for the holidays. Saturday, November 15 8am – noon. Work Day. Board of Trustees have identified projects on our property such as trimming bushes, repairing the privacy fence behind the parsonage and other projects. If you would like to provide water and snacks for the work team, let Pastor Linda or Mark Aukland know.



Sunday, November 23

Thanksgiving Sunday

Following 10:30 Worship

Turkey, Stuffing, Gravy, Rolls and DESSERTS provided.

You bring your favorite side. Please let us know you are coming so we can prepare enough Turkey!

Pastor's Page

Thank you for your heart for others Trinity! At our recent Charge Conference I shared the Pastor's Report reflecting on the year since the last conference in 2024. I looked back at the last year in which your heart and generosity for sharing Jesus with others was so evident. Thank you for being a church that truly cares!

Our DS, Rev. Dr. Debbie Allen who presided at our meeting talked about the importance of the connection between United Methodist churches being in ministry together. We have one such opportunity right now. I have been contacted by Rev. Beth Bostrom who is the pastor at First United Methodist Church of Palmetto. Beth was connected to our church for a short time and also preached for me when I was out before being appointed to this church. First Palmetto UMC has a Food Pantry that typically served 225-250 families every Tuesday. Due to recent financial stress in families that number has climbed to 300 families. She is anticipating that this need will only continue to grow in the immediate future. In addition to an increased need, USDA funding has been cut and the sources she has had for food deliveries have been reduced so there is less food available for their Food Pantry. She is asking for assistance in helping these families.

For our November mission I would ask that we collect **canned goods (meat, vegetables, fruit, soup)** to help with this immediate need. If you would like to help, put your canned goods on the Mission collection table in Haley Hall.



We will continue to have our monthly food drive to help the local food pantry at Church of the Palms and all hygiene items will go to Remnant House.

November is truly a time to remember our blessings and pass them on!
Pastor Linda

November Sermons

11/2 – All Saints Day
Scripture – Luke 20:27-38
Sermon – Is Heaven Real?

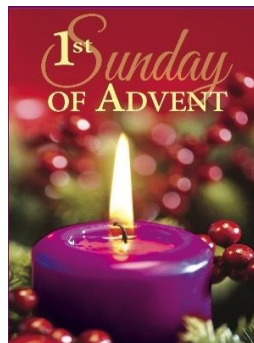
11/9
Scripture – Luke 19:1-10
Sermon – Sinners? - Zaccheus

11/16
Scripture – John 3:1-17
Sermon – Sinners? – Nicodemus

11/23
Scripture – John 4:4-26
Sermon – Sinners? – Woman At the Well

11/30 – Advent Begins

Advent begins November 30



On Sunday November 30th after worship, we start the Advent Season by gathering as a church family to decorate the campus for Christmas. Everyone is needed to hang wreaths and lights, decorate the tree, put up the Nativity and more in the Sanctuary as well as Haley Hall and other parts of our Campus.

After we finish we will enjoy a Chili Cookoff! If you have a favorite chili recipe, sign up to bring a crock pot of chili.

Stewardship

Trinity United Methodist Church is a nonprofit. Most of us give money to nonprofits. Consider the nonprofits you support. Perhaps over a normal year, one might give money to the American Cancer Society, United Way, Red Cross and even Cat Depot.

Each is a worthy cause and one might have a connection therefore earning your support.

God loves you. He sent His Son, Jesus, as our Savior and Redeemer so that through Christ, we will spend eternity fact to face with the One True Living God.

Thank you for saying Y.E.S in your commitment to support Trinity and our shared ministries. Please do not let your support of other nonprofits diminish your commitment to Christ and your church.

Thank you for your faithful generosity in this Thanksgiving season and in every season. Thanks giving in being a cheerful giver. Smile as you give generously.

Cheerfully,
Carroll Hatfield, Finance Chair



Music Ministry

Well, Bless The Lord for being able to look forward to another "Holiday Season" despite what is currently occurring in the world around us! Some of those occurrences are coming close enough to significantly affect people we know and have much care for.

Just one of the reasons that, for generations, The Church has been a literal place for the peaceful re-alignment of mind, soul and spirit along with body!

Reaching out and participating in a group activity is another way to find some degree of solace. As Pastor Linda referenced in a recent sermon on giving & sharing, one way to give of your time/talent is through participation in the Chancel Choir.

Now, before the reactions of "I can't take on another commitment!" take hold, there's a way to participate that will be quite palatable for most persons. For the past few years, the choir has eagerly accepted the opportunity to serve every Sunday during the month of December due to the fact that they only get to serve just 2 Sundays a month during the other months of the year. Since the repertoire during the season tends to be very culturally familiar, this is the deal...

If you can attend any 5pm Thursday choir rehearsal in the sanctuary preceding the approaching Sunday, you can participate in as many or as few Sunday Choir presentations as you choose to! Try finding a deal like that at a "car dealership!" Sincerely stating.... Your participation during just this season may bring you an added dimension of connection that you've been seeking. Please Consider!

Before I am remiss to broach this topic.... There are always inquiries as to whether the "Bell/Hand-Chime Choir" will make a presentation during the season. Since a Trinity Church "Hand-Chime Choir" is not an on-going group, an "ad-hoc" gathering of at least 12 individuals would need to be formed with a rehearsal schedule of "3 consecutive Wednesday late afternoons" before a presentation can be made! There cannot be any exceptions to these parameters! If you're willing and able to meet those prerequisites for the seasonal only "Hand-Chime Choir", please email your interest to LaTerry@iTrinity.org

The ball is in your court....

Mr. LaTerry
music-director/organist



United Women in Faith

UWF board meeting Monday, November 3
1 pm, Haley hall

Tues. November 11 Ruth Circle 10:30 am
Haley hall

Mon. November 17 Hannah Circle
12:30 pm for lunch at Beatty Shipley's
home

Persis Circle - Contact Marsha Mayers or
Becki for date/time.

Elsewhere in Acorn, you will find the Trinity
UWF Calendar of Thanksgiving. A fun way
to raise funds for the UWF Mission to
Women, Children, and Youth. Printed
copies are available to Haley Hall



Bulletin Board in Haley Hall

Thank you Joy and Joy!



United Women in Faith

Christmas Sale

Saturday, December 6
& Sunday, December 7

9 am—1 pm

Christmas decorations,
gifts, jewelry. Tonya Smith
items, Cafe, bake sale,
music and more!!

Proceeds Benefit our mission to
Women, Children, and Youth

We Need Your Help

Christmas is coming.....UWF is having
a Christmas Sale again Dec. 6 & 7.

We need your donations of anything
Christmas or something that would
make a nice gift. As you are cleaning
out closets, and later this fall getting
your Christmas Decor out, anything
you no longer want, please donate.

Tables will be in Haley West Office
for you to place donations. Thanks!

For more information, contact our
coordinators:

Evelyn Miller evelyntaz33@gmail.com,
phone# 941/586-7660
or Sherrill Carr srcmusic@verizon.net,
phone # 941/376-0720

Trinity Preschool

Today in Trinity Preschool's Garden...

We got to make a teepee around our black bean plant to keep the bunnies out of it. Then opened up pods and spread the seeds out to plant next week! A big thank you Marsha and The Florida DKG Educational Foundation for making this possible!



Trinity Preschool Receives Grant for Garden

In April, Marsha Mayers received a grant from the Florida Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation to start a garden for Trinity Preschool. The planting began with Seminole pumpkin seeds in July, and has progressed to the planting of Everglades tomatoes, radishes, native cucumbers, wild strawberries, basil, oregano, rosemary, marigolds, zinnias, nasturtium, mint, and native milkweed in raised beds along the south side of the playground. Preschoolers love watering the plants with their spray bottles. The teachers have pitched in daily to keep plants watered and covered with netting to protect them plants from neighborhood critters.



Christmas is coming!

**Trinity UMC Sarasota
Preschool
Fundraiser**
with
... 1957 ...
HONEY BAKED
Ham^{co}

Scan the QR code or use the link below
to purchase gift cards



20% of all purchases
come back to
Trinity Preschool

October 15 - December 26

Help us continue to nurture faith, learning,
and community for all of our students!

www.honeybaked.com/fundraising/Trinity_Methodist_Church_Fundraiser
If you have any question email **Glenna Shrock** at preschool@itrinity.org
4150 S Shade Ave, Sarasota, FL 34231



Fresh Crop pecans are coming !!

Will be here this month.

Mammoth Halves, Chocolate
covered, Cinnamon Glazed

and a new flavor—

Salted Roasted will be available

The purchase of these pecans sup-
ports our Community Connection
Ministries.

Christmas Tree of Blessings

In November, Community Con-
nections and Persis Circle (of the Unit-
ed Women in Faith) will again put
up an Angel Blessings Christmas
tree in the Sanctuary.

The tree will hold paper ornaments
that we can select on Sunday
November 16 to buy gifts for foster
children through Sarasota Safe
Children Coalition and/or for The
Pines residents. The Children's wish
lists can be up to or over \$75.

All Gifts are due back on or before
Sunday, November 30th.



Inhabit the Garden Centering Prayer Group



"The World" thanks you for your enthusiastic support of World Communion Sunday. Special thanks go to each of you who participated in our Bread for the World Offering of Letters. These letters were addressed to our elected leaders asking that they support robust funding for proven global nutrition and food aid programs to especially respond to areas of famine and severe hunger such as Gaza, Sudan, and Haiti. You generously responded by signing 42 letters. We mailed the ones to Senators Scott and Moody. On Friday 17 October we hand delivered 15 letters to the office of Rep Greg Steube. We were graciously received by the District Director Dana Goulet. She had some positive familiarity of the justice ministry of Bread for the World. She assured us that the Staff will include the content of these letters as they formulate their legislative agenda.

We also spoke about the difficulties of the current government shutdown. We shared Bread's prayerful concern for all those going without pay and federal workers who are losing or who have already lost their jobs. We hold in prayer those who are at imminent risk of losing WIC and SNAP benefits. And we assured Ms Goulet that we are praying for all our elected leaders who are tasked with creating a federal budget. As we left Ms Goulet thanked us for our visit and expressed appreciation for the ecumenical and non-partisan emphasis of Bread for the World.

Rev Stephen Hoffman AOJN

It is with gratitude that our circle gathers each Friday morning from 8:30 to 9:30 AM in the Garden of Hope. It "feels" like we are officially in Fall so our circle has more shape these weeks. Last Friday (October 24) eleven of us joined the circle including two first timers. We are grateful for the on-going attraction of the Spirit. We rely on her loving presence.

Father Keating teaches us that our focus in our shared silence is "the Living Christ." Through scripture and service we learn of Christ's expression of the deep love of God by profound humility. Jesus "did not count equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave." (Philippians 2:6-7) Because he was nothing but love, Jesus willingly, even joyfully, became a nobody, fully surrendered.

Personally, I find this one thing to say theologically, but quite another to practice in silence and living. I have not successfully resigned from the instinct to be someone, to be recognized, to be competent, to achieve. I don't think there is anything wrong with any of those, but on-going, daily practice of Centering Prayer makes me aware of how out of proportion and exaggerated those instincts can and do become. I recently read, "The addiction to 'identity' seems the deepest of the unconscious programming, so profoundly hidden that it long escapes even attentive reflection."

That may seem a bit deep, and it is. So to simplify, praying in silence is a way of following Christ humbly accepting becoming a nobody so that by the grace of God we can be transformed into a "YESBODY." After all, "In Jesus Christ every one of God's promises is a YES." (2 Corinthians 1:19)

There is always room in our circle. We each bring a chair and a trusting spirit. We love to talk about Centering Prayer! Feel free to call/text Stephen or Christine at 941-773-7008.

Community Food Drive



Saturday, November 15, 9—10:30 am,
Trinity Parking Lot.

Come by to help sort and pack, donation nonperishables or say Hi! Donations can be left in Haley Hall Kitchen anytime.

Bread for the World

SAVE THE DATE Serving Hope Luncheon hosted by the Bread for the World Coalition of Sarasota with Rev. Eugene Cho, President and CEO, Bread for the World, as keynote speaker At the luncheon, you will learn about Bread for the World, a Christian advocacy organization urging U.S. decision makers to do all they can to pursue a world without hunger, and how you can support them in their work.

Friday, February 6, 2026 11:30am Doors Open 12:00pm Lunch and Program Palm Aire Country Club | Sarasota, FL

Holiday Lights Trolley

Holiday Lights trolley tour:
December 14th, 6:30 pm. \$20/each

Trinity has arranged for a 20-person 90-minute Trolley Tour of the holiday lights of Sarasota.

Details for sign ups soon!

November Birthdays



Thomas Surprise 11/1
Audrey Pritchett 11/7
Christine Hoffman 11/7
Audrey Pritchett 11/7
Dave Dirmeyer 11/8
Evelyn Miller 11/9
Jean Henry 11/10
Jim Golm 11/11
Chris Compton 11/12
Bic Saunders 11/12
Carol Eggers 11/13
Ginger Evans 11/13
Nikhil Balakrishnan 11/17
Donn Raymond 11/17
Melissa Stalo 11/19
Andy Pritchett 11/20
Cathy Tjaden 11/20
Sarah Wagler 11/20
Joy Voyles 11/24
Lynne Henry 11/24
Jerry Ralston 11/26
Susan Hicks 11/27
Danielle Schweid 11/27
Ann Golm 11/28

Anniversaries

Curt & Kim Eskew 11/3
Chuck & Carol Swart 11/9
Jason & Jennifer Means 11/12
George & Ruby Cook 11/16

Prayers

What an honor it is to lift up our church family in prayer. One of the greatest privileges of Christian life is the opportunity to pray. If you would like to be a part of the Prayer Team, please let the Church office know.

Please lift extra prayers for:

Kay Anthofer, Sherrill Carr, Chris Compton, Roy Cowles, Becki Creighton, Barb Ellsworth, Karyn Eubanks, Jean Henry, Jim Henry, Brenda Lee Hickman, Revella Lee, Elle Lyons, Jim Martin, Bev Packer, Marie Pirano, Troy Poulin, Phyllis Pritchett, Steve Puhaly, Rhonda Puhaly, Mary Raymond, Jan Robertson, Tom Robertson, Jerry Ralston, Ken Smith, Carol Swart, Chuck Swart, Debbie Utter, Kara Voyles, Bob Ward, Mary Weaver, Marilyn Williams, Miriam Williams, Betty Woolverton, Owen Woodyard, Pat Woodyard.

Our Prayers are with the Towery Family on the death of Amy's mother.

Also please pray for our military family: Gunnar Kral, Joshua Marsh, Dylan Mitchell, Brandon Oberkamp, Audrey Santana, Craig Scott, Devin Voyles, Dylan Youngblood.

Note: please let us know if any of the above are no longer in the military service.

Did you know?

Every Sunday a group meets at 10:10 to pray for prayer requests, for the church, for our country. The 10:10 prayer time is a vital undergirding of all ministry at this church. Anyone can be part of this prayer time on Sunday mornings. If you would like prayer for yourself or a loved one come share in this prayer time. If you feel strongly about God at work in this community through the ministries of Trinity, come pray for God's continued guidance. Meet in the courtyard outside the side sanctuary door. All welcome!

Thank you Note

Thank you for all the cards and heart-felt condolences I received on the death of my sister.

- Nancy Masterson



All Saints Sunday

All Saints Sunday, November 2 2025.

As a church, we recognize those members who have died this past year. During worship everyone had an opportunity to light candles in remembrance of our loved ones who have died, especially those who helped us come to faith and grow in faith.

Trinity Members who have died since All Saints Day 2024:

**Lucy Athas, John D. Ellsworth,
Dawn R. Sutton, Joan M. Utter**

Hey Meta...Look and Describe



During a Family Reunion trip to North Carolina, our Phyllis Pritchett was interviewed by the local newspaper. Here is the article (in part):

Hey Meta...Look and Describe! This is a common command native Phyllis Pritchett says throughout her day and it has improved her life.

Over 15 years ago, Pritchett was diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa, an eye disease that causes progressive vision loss. She initially lost her peripheral vision and often described her sight as looking through two straws. Now her vision is 95% gone.

To help adapt to her vision loss, Pritchett became acquainted with a low vision company in her community of Sarasota Florida.

Nearly a year ago, she learned of Ray-Ban Meta AI integrated glasses and was immediately interested.

After a demonstration and training session in her home where she learned she could read her mail, text friends, and answer phone calls, all through her glasses, she decided to purchase a pair.

The trainer told me to open my refrigerator and ask Meta to find the ham salad, and I was given the response “second shelf on left side.” That’s what sold me on the glasses right then and there,” said Pritchett.

She shared additional examples that impressed her. Needing to find a red shirt in her closet, Pritchett asked Meta to look and find the red shirt. Meta quickly responded that it was on the second hanger on the left. During a visit to Walmart with a friend, they were having difficulty finding the wood glue, so she decided to try out her glasses. Again Meta’s prompt response was that it was on the bottom shelf on the right.

Pritchett made it clear that the glasses don’t improve her vision. Their use is to help her navigate her surroundings. And while AI integrated glasses can be purchased online, she opted to buy directly from the manufacturer at the suggestion of her eye doctor. By going this round, she received hands-on Training and one year of support. Although this was an additional cost, Pritchett said it was beyond worth it.

The glasses have a six hour run time and take approximately 20 minutes to charge. Charging occurs in the case. Price for the glasses range from \$300 to \$500.

Phyllis’s favorite thing about her Ray-Ban Meta glasses? “I can read my mail. I can read a book or have a book read to me. They help me to be independent and when you live alone, you need all the help you can get.”

Since owning her smart glasses, she has demonstrated them to friends and neighbors and has assisted four people in getting a pair. She said jokingly that she hasn’t received a commission check, but that it’s OK, because helping people is what it’s all about.

November 2025

TRINITY UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

CALENDAR OF THANKS-GIVING

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Get those sweaters out and count them! Give 10 cents each
2 Attend church today? Yes - give 25 cents No - give 50 cents	3 Count Cookbooks Give 5 cents each Never used? 10 cents	4 No bills in the mail today? Give 25 cents	5 Count your ceiling fans. Give 10 cents each	6 Have a pet dog, cat, or bird - give 15 cents for each one	7 How many rings do you own? Give 10 cents each	8 Count your windows Give 5 cents each, 10 cents for sliding doors
9 Freedom to worship how we wish Give \$1	10 Count eggs in your fridge - 5 cents each, 10 cents if hard boiled	11 Own a HS or College yearbook? Give 5 cents each	12 Still have a class ring? Give 10 cents for one Give 25 cents for two	13 Count your TVs. Give 25 cents for each one	14 How many mirrors do you own? Give 10 cents each	15 How many states have you lived in? Give 15 cents each
16 Going to lunch after church? Give 25 cents	17 Count your sunglasses Give 10 cents for each pair	18 How many cars do you own? Give 25 cents each	19 How many years have you attended Trinity? 5 cents each	20 Count your grand & great grandchildren Give 10 cents each	21 Pull out your Bibles! Give 15 cents for each	22 Are you ready for Thanksgiving? Yes- give 10 cents, No-25 cents
23 Ever been a liturgist? Yes - give 10 cents No - give 25 cents	24 Are you travelling out of town this week? Yes - give 25 cents	25 Count your skillets/trying pans Give 10 cents each	26 Count anything you own that plays music Give 10 cents each	27 It's THANKSGIVING! Give 1 cent for each blessing up to 100	28 Did you eat too much yesterday? Yes - give 25 cents.	29 Blessed to live in the USA? Give \$1
30 5 th Sunday Offering Give to Residing Hope please!						

Proceeds from this fundraiser will go to Trinity UWF missions. Please make check for total donation to Trinity UWF and mail to Nancy Masterson or put it in the UWF Treasurer box in the church office no later than Sunday, 12/7. Thank you for participating!

**Trinity
United Methodist Church**



4150 S. Shade Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34231

Tel: 941-924-7756

Email: trinity@iTrinity.org

www.iTrinity.org

Join us Sunday at 9:00am or 10:30am for In-Person Worship or Live-streaming
Worship on Facebook at 10:30am.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TrinityUMCSarasota/>

Or watch the recording anytime on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCu8ri4OChHWMbbJt3rgfRLg>

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Linda Tice

Traditional Worship Director: LaTerry Butler

Director of Children/Youth Ministry: Russell Towery

Sound/Projections Board: Lou Towery

Business Administration: Jack Hundley

Secretary: Karen Remfrey

Preschool :Glenna Shrock, Director

Custodian: Ann Erwin

*The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly,
serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.*