

The Parish Messenger November 2026

Mission Statement

We are a Christian community rooted in God's love growing in Christ through reaching out and serving.

CHURCHES

Georgetown Lutheran
PO Box 86
Balsam Lake, WI 54810
Office: 715.857.5580

Trinity Lutheran
2532-15th Street
Cumberland, WI 54829
715.822.3001

PASTOR

Deacon Scott Burns
715.204.4582 (cell)
sburns002@luthersem.edu

WORSHIP TIMES

Georgetown
Worship 10:30 AM

Trinity
Worship 8:45 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES

Georgetown
9:30 AM (Sept-May)

Trinity
10:00 AM (Sept-May)

OFFICE HOURS

Georgetown: Mondays
10:00 AM- 3:00 PM
Trinity: By appointment

Key Truths About Thankfulness

Gratitude is God's will -
It aligns our hearts with His purposes.

Thankfulness transforms perspective -
It helps us see God's goodness even in hardship.

Small blessings matter -
Noticing them cultivates a grateful heart.

Thankfulness is not seasonal -
It is a daily spiritual discipline.

True thankfulness focuses on the Give, not just the gifts -
Being "thank-full" means being full of gratitude for Christ himself.

A thankful heart is a powerful witness -
It reflects trust in God's character, not in our circumstances.

Prayer

Lord, thank you for Your unending mercy and daily blessings. Teach me to see Your goodness in every circumstance. Help me cultivate a heart of gratitude – not only for what You give, but for who You are. May my life overflow with thankfulness today and always. Amen.



today. devotional.com

NOVEMBER 2026 CALENDAR

Date	Time	Meeting/Activity
Sunday, November 1	8:45 AM	Worship Service – Trinity
	9:30 AM	Sunday school – Georgetown
	10:00 AM	Sunday school - Trinity
	10:30 AM	Worship Service – Georgetown
	5:00 PM	Joint Parish Meeting @ Georgetown
Monday, November 2	9:30 AM	Bible Study - Georgetown
	6:30 PM	Bible Study - Trinity
Tuesday, November 3	12:00 PM – 6:00 PM	Red Cross Blood Drive - Georgetown
Sunday, November 8	8:45 AM	Worship Service – Trinity
	9:30 AM	Sunday school – Georgetown
	10:00 AM	Sunday school - Trinity
	10:30 AM	Worship Service - Georgetown
Monday, November 9	9:30 AM	Bible Study – Georgetown
	6:30 PM	Bible Study – Trinity
Saturday, November 14	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM	Holiday Bazaar & Bake Sale - Georgetown
Sunday, November 15	8:45 AM	Worship Service - Trinity
	9:30 AM	Sunday school – Georgetown
	10:00 AM	Sunday school - Trinity
	10:30 AM	Worship Service - Georgetown
Monday, November 16	9:30 AM	Bible Study – Georgetown
	6:30 PM	Bible Study – Trinity
Sunday, November 22	8:45 AM	Worship Service – Trinity
	9:30 AM	Sunday school – Georgetown
	10:00 AM	Sunday school – Trinity
	10:30 AM	Worship Service – Georgetown
Wednesday, November 25	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Salvation Army Bell Ringing – Rice Lake
Sunday, November 29	8:45 AM	Worship Service – Trinity
	9:30 AM	Sunday school – Georgetown
	10:00 AM	Sunday school – Trinity
	10:30 AM	Worship Service – Georgetown
	6:30 PM	Advent Fest – Trinity
Monday, November 30	9:30 AM	Bible Study – Georgetown
	6:30 PM	Bible Study - Trinity

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Georgetown is looking for volunteers to help with the **live stream**. We are looking for a commitment of about one Sunday per month. No previous experience required. We will teach you at your own pace. Contact Gretchen Frendt at 715-475-9453 if you are interested in helping.

Georgetown is looking for a volunteer to maintain the **church's webpage**. Please contact Roberta Hansen at 715-553-0007 if you are interested.



UPCOMING EVENTS

🩸BLOOD DRIVE 🩸

Georgetown Lutheran Church hosts a blood drive on:
📅Tuesday, November 3rd
⏰12:00 PM – 6:00 PM
📍Georgetown Lutheran Church

Every donation can make a difference in someone's life. If you're able, consider donating and helping those in need. One donation can help save lives! ❤️
Please share and help spread the word!



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Where: Georgetown Lutheran Church
Date: Friday, November 6, 2026
Time: 4PM-7PM
Menu: Chili and all the fixin's!
Bring your friends!
Share the news that our Community Meal is Back!

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Salvation Army Bell Ringing, Wednesday, November 25, Marketplace Foods, Rice Lake
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM





Advent Fest, Sunday, November 29, Trinity Lutheran Church
6:30 PM
If you have a collection, story, musical piece you would like to share - or would like to join the tone chime group (all ages welcome!), please let Lacy Sellent know. Snacks to follow!

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HOLIDAY BAZAAR AND BAKE SALE

SATURDAY NOV. 14TH | 9AM–2PM

At Georgetown Lutheran Church

883 190th Ave. Balsam Lake, WI

Homemade Crafts

Unique & Handmade Gifts!

Baked Goods

Delicious Treats Made with Love!

Silent Auction & Raffle Baskets

Great Prizes to Win!

Chili and Corn Bread Lunch served $5

Complimentary coffee served all day during event.

Kick off your holiday shopping and come shop for one of a kind unique and handmade gifts!

Half of all proceeds will be donated to "OPERATION CHRISTMAS" of Polk County

Shop • Support • Make a Difference!

***"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever."* (Psalm 107:1, NLT)**



Greetings, Georgetown and Trinity members and friends!

Does anyone else feel like this fall season is really going by really, really fast? It's hard to believe I'm writing for the November newsletter already! With the nearly summer-like weather that we've been blessed with in October, it doesn't feel like the big holiday that comes in this eleventh month of the year is only about four weeks away. No, I'm not talking about the Wisconsin deer hunting opener- I'm talking about Thanksgiving Day.

In our Bible study groups, we recently talked about similar gatherings in the book of Exodus: like the *Festival of Harvest* and the *Festival of Ingathering*- where our ancestors in faith appeared before the Lord and offered their praise and thanks for the first fruits of the crops sown in the spring and then for the final harvest of the crops and God's provision. In the ancient world, these were religious feasts and attendance was a sacred duty in those days (for the men, anyway.) Our Thanksgiving Day in America these days is now largely associated with food, family and football- rather than gathering to giving God thanks for the local harvest. It is a civic holiday rather than a religious one- one might even say it's one of the 'big three,' right up there with Christmas and Easter- except it's the only of the three where we don't have to go to church. So, while the Thanksgiving Day holiday itself may not be "Christian;" giving thanks to God is. We could certainly use that fourth Thursday of November as an opportunity not just to gorge ourselves on turkey and dressing then flop down in front of the TV with our cousins to watch the Packers beat the Rams (or watch the Detroit uphold their tradition of losing to whoever they play on Thanksgiving); but also to pause, take stock of all God has bestowed upon us, and give thanks for all that we have been given.

In our busy, fast paced, overscheduled world it is easy for our prayer lives to suffer- and so often when we do pray, it seems to be us asking God for something. Let's flip that around this month, brothers and sisters in Christ. Let's go beyond just the federal holiday on the 26th and make November 'thanks-giving' month, where each day we tell our awesome God that we appreciate each of the many blessings that we continue to receive. In doing so, perhaps we will find ourselves complaining less about the little things and becoming more in touch with the source of all of those gifts.

In this festive month ahead of us, which is filled with food, family, football (and yes- the annual hunt for some), may each one of us be more intentional about finding ways we can express our gratitude to God and to one another for the many blessings we have. We might do this by re-establishing a table prayer before a meal, reflecting on Scripture, and by letting someone else know you appreciate something they did- no matter how small it might seem. Whatever practice you choose to try, let us never forget to give thanks always for God's greatest gift of all- Christ Jesus! Enjoy this short excerpt from Ralph Waldo Emerson's poem/prayer to kick off your month of 'thanks-giving'.

Yours in Christ,

Deacon Scott

THANKSGIVING

For each new morning with its light,
For rest and shelter of the night,
For health and food,
For love and friends,
For everything thy goodness sends.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson





Trinity Lutheran Church

Thank you to everyone who helped with roadside cleanup on Sunday, October 11.

We collected three bags of trash, three bags of recycling, and . . . . . a fishing pole!

OCTOBER FUN

Georgetown Lutheran Church Annual Fall Dinner













NEWS FROM OUR COUNCILS

Georgetown Lutheran Church meeting minutes
October 25, 2026

Meeting called to order by President Ryan Peterson
Roll Call taken by Nicki Norlund
Absent from meeting: Tim Frendt, Andrew Frendt
Deacon Scott led group in opening prayer
Motion was made and carried to approve today's meeting agenda.
Motion was made and carried to approve last month's meeting minutes and presented to the council.
Roberta Hansen presented last month's (September) financial report. Motion was made and carried to approve the report as presented to the council.

DEACON SCOTT'S REPORT:

- Deacon Scott asked for reimbursement for attending a conference in Eau Claire. Total of $100 is to be split between the 2 congregations. ($50 each)
- Deacon Scott would like to start using "Sundays in Seasons" for our bulletins and worship material. Council is open to the idea and plans to implement the new material as of Jan 1st, 2027, after our current bulletin and worship material has been used up.
- Deacon Scott would also like to work with the leaders of the shepherding groups to go over the process of duties for and during worship. Deacon Scott will reach out and connect with the leaders of the groups

OLD BUSINESS:

- community meal: The 1st community meal is set for Friday Nov. 6th from 4-7pm. Plan is to serve chili
- Butterfly Garden: Weeds are coming up and need to be pulled. Need to reach out to the company that put in the garden as it was the council's impression that no weeds should be coming up. The old telephone poles that are out by the butterfly garden will be removed as they are now obsolete
- Snowplowing-this has been tabled until the next meeting.
- Fall Dinner-331 meals were served at this year's fall dinner. Big thanks to all the volunteers that help make this event possible.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Church musicians needed: We are looking for an additional pianist that can fill in a few Sundays for Sherry.
- Holiday Bazaar: Holiday bazaar is set for Nov 14th 9am-2pm. Taking donations of gift baskets, homemade crafts and baked goods. If interested in donating, please contact Nicki Norlund or Britta Norlund-Bryan.
- Soup-er bowl Sunday is set for either Jan31st or Feb 7th. Official date is TBD.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Elder: Stephanie continues to invite attendees to our church to help grow our numbers
- Deacon: Nothing to report
- Trustee: Nothing to report

LOOKING AHEAD:

- Joint council meeting for Sunday, November 1st @ 5pm. GLC to provide a meal. Soup, sandwiches and dessert.
- No regular council meeting for November since we have the joint council meeting.
- Next regular council meeting will be DEC. 13, 2026

Dennis led council in closing prayer
Motion was made and carried to adjourn the meeting.

Trinity Council Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2026

Present: Heidi W., Deedra W., Randy M., Ray C., Robin D., Brenda R.
Absent: Deacon Scott B., Jennifer B.
Meeting called to order 5:30
Opening Prayer

Heidi Reports: Secretary and Treasurer, approved
September YTD Net Revenue $6,698.96 $53,785.56 Expenditures $3,171.62 $52,317.16

Old Business:

- Roof - fundraiser ideas, patch some of it until it can be repaired
- Welcome Breakfast - 13 people attended
- Front Door - Deedra has sent agreement to Rice Lake Glass to be fixed.

New Business:

- Cleaning person - Joann Sellent has stepped up to the role. Thank you Joann!!
- Ryan (GT Pres) needs a copy of Spring Joint Meeting minutes. Heidi sent a copy.
- Birthday list needs to be changed to just names, not dates. Protection from Identity Theft.
- Mutual Investment Fund Video - https://www.mif.elca.org/mission-investment-stories/prince-of-peace this shows how our investments are used. Heidi will check with Christine to see if we can show it during announcements.
- Shepherding Group - need to update Congregation list - need to update

Motion made and seconded to adjourn
Closed with The Lord's Prayer
Next meeting: Sunday, Nov 1st at 5 pm at Georgetown. Meal then meeting.
Trinity will be meeting at 4:45 for a brief meeting before.