Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Lutheran Campus Ministry
Chapel Hill, NC

HTLC Weekly News

November 25, 2026



LCM Homecoming 2026!

News & Upcoming Events



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Stewardship and Finance

Congregational Meeting, Dec. 6th



Save the date for a congregational meeting on Dec. 6th in between services at 9:45am! We will be voting on the 2027 church budget and new Council members (see below for bios).

Last Chance for your Budget and Giving Questions: This Sunday, Nov. 29th

Our final Giving and Budget Q&A is this Sunday between services, and it's your last opportunity to ask questions before the congregational meeting and budget vote on December 6th. Whether you have a quick question or want to understand the numbers behind our giving and the 2027 proposed budget, the Finance Ministry Team and Council members will be there to listen and answer. No question is too small, and your voice matters as we shape this budget together. Please stop by, grab a coffee, and join the conversation. To read the letter from Council, **click here**. To read HTLC Giving Trends, **click here**.

It's not too late to turn in your 2027 Intention Card. To access our confidential online Intention Card, **click here**!



Craig Carbrey lives in Chapel Hill and he and his family have been members at HTLC for over 20 years. He is an architect and works on a wide variety of projects for institutional clients. In his spare time Craig enjoys traveling, hiking, and golfing.



Emily Evans has lived in Chapel Hill since 2003. After receiving her PhD in Physics from UNC-Chapel Hill in 2008, she joined the faculty at Elon University where she is a Professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy. Emily, her wife Beth, and their two teenage daughters have been attending HTLC since 2024 and are active participants in several ministries including worship and music, life group, and youth group.



Love Gift for Staff

Advent is upon us and we begin the watchful wait for the birth of Christ. This is a great time for us to collectively provide a well-deserved thank-you for our rostered ministers and staff through our annual Love Gift. We are truly blessed to have such a talented and dedicated team leading us in ministry. If you are interested in adding your thank-you to those of others, you may simply place a check in the offering plate and mark it"Love Gift," or for Online Giving, input the amount in the “Other” category and add “Love Gift” in the description box. As we have done in recent years, we would like to distribute these gifts on or before Christmas Eve, so please include your gift on or before the last Sunday of Advent if at all possible. Let’s work together to send our outstanding staff a huge end-of-the-year thank-you!
-Personnel Committee

Faith Formation

Deacon Holly's Sabbatical, Nov. 29- Feb 28



Every 7 years our full time ministers are eligible to enjoy a sabbatical time of rest, renewal, and reflection. Next year is Deacon Holly’s turn. Due to the ELCA Youth Gathering next summer, her sabbatical will start at the beginning of the new church year: Advent (Nov. 29th).



Deacon Intern, Abby Miss

While Deacon Holly is on sabbatical from Nov 30-Feb 28, LCM student Abby Miss will be handling communications that Deacon Holly regularly handles, such as family emails, youth emails, and fellowship events. Abby will work five hours a week during Holly's sabbatical (off for Christmas break). She will begin her work the first week of December. If you need to contact Abby please use this email: **deaconintern@holytrinitychapelhill.org**.

Sunday School Classes

For more information on Sunday School classes that are happening, **click here!**

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Worship and Music



Children's Christmas Musical



On December 13th at 9:45am, the children will present "Room for Christmas" by Mark Burrows. To help us all find ways to make room for the Christ Child, you are invited to bring a non

perishable food item that will be offered during the musical. The IFC announcement below will help you know what is needed the most right now.



Christmas Poinsettias and LWR Donations

This year's Christmas Poinsettias can be purchased at $15 per plant. In lieu of plants, donations may be made to Lutheran World Relief in honor or memory of a loved one. Acknowledgments will appear in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Poinsettias will be available for pick up after Christmas Eve Services. To complete the recognition form **click here**.

Please note that once completing that form, you will be directed to on-line giving for payment of flowers or for LWR donations. The deadline for signing up is Wednesday, December 16, 2026.

Altar Flowers for 2027



Flowers are placed on the altar in praise and glory to God. A donation of flowers is a wonderful way to honor or remember someone or to mark a special event in someone's life. You may provide your own flowers, or your order can be placed with University Florist who will deliver two vases to the church at a cost of $125 and will bill you directly. Sundays may also be shared. Contact Pam Weiden, Flower Coordinator at expamch@gmail.com with any questions. Please consider donating flowers in 2027 by **using this link** to sign up for a date.

Outreach and Fellowship



The Giving Tree is Back!

Each year Holy Trinity sponsors holiday gifts for 10 Orange County children in need. Requested items include bicycles, toys, games, clothing, and grocery gift cards. To participate, visit the Christmas tree in the narthex any Sunday in November. Each tag on the tree lists a specific item. Choose a tag, sign it out, and return your unwrapped gift **no later than Sunday, December 6**. If you attend church online but would still like to participate, contact **Sarah Zink**.

OWLs Christmas Luncheon

You are invited to join the Older Wiser Lutherans for a Christmas Luncheon on Thursday, December 10th at 11:30 AM in the Reception Hall at Church. Enjoy Holiday Fun and Fellowship! Hosts Susan & Bill Andrews will provide a "Costco catered" lunch.

No need to bring anything but yourself! **Please sign up** by Monday December 7th to be sure there is enough food for everyone.



Womenship Christmas Party

Save the date for a Womenship Christmas Party on December 13th from 3-6pm. The theme is Danish Christmas Hygge! Hosted at Inger and Benjamin Brodey's house. All women of HTLC along with their significant others are invited. **RSVP here**!

IFC: "Stuff the Market!"

For the rest of this year, IFC is looking for both the usual items for food donations, but also to "Stuff the Market!" That means food for holiday tables. (still, shelf stable, unopened, unexpired)

So think about donating: cranberry sauce, canned sweet potatoes, baking mixes, canned pumpkin, stuffing, mashed potato mix, gravy (not in glass jars), chicken broth, cream of chicken or mushroom soup. What else comes to mind?

Check out the Fall schedule for our Young Adult Group, Gather on the Hill!





White Flag Nights

Our congregation is helping with White Flag Nights for when temperatures are under 32 degrees at night from January 17-31, 2027. We are responsible for providing a dinner for up to 40 people at the old police barracks on Martin Luther King each night that the White Flag shelter is open. Please sign up as individuals or groups and indicate what you plan to make so we don't duplicate meals. Most of the information you will need is in the sign up. Questions may be directed to **Devin Gilgor**. Please **sign up here**.

Luther's Café Sign Ups



Luther's Cafe is in need of volunteers- please click the button below! Please consider signing up to host.

Sign Up Here

Lutheran Campus Ministry



Campus Ministry Moment

The halls of the CC have been decked and we are headed home for Thanksgiving! On Sunday night, LCM members gathered to string garland in the doorways and put up and decorate the Christmas tree, accompanied by warm hot chocolate and rice krispie treats. I know that being there brought me joy and sparked my Christmas spirit! There will be no LCM meeting this Wednesday. So, I hope this week you are surrounded by your people, whatever that may mean for you. Safe travels, happy days, and Happy Thanksgiving! We'll see you when we're back.
(written by Alyssa Herbst '29)

Exam Snack Table



It's the most wonderful time of the year (sort of)... Final exams! Help our LCM students finish the semester strong by bringing a snack to the campus center from November 29 through December 11. Reach out to Pastor Katie (prkatie@holytrinitychapelhill.org) with any questions, and thanks for contributing!

LCM Dinner Sign Ups



With the end of one semester, comes the beginning of another! We're in need of folks to provide dinner for about 30 LCM students each Wednesday night of the Spring 2027 semester. Find more information and sign up **using this link**!



Community News



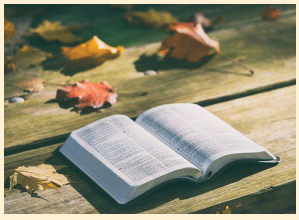
Growing thru Grief

Growing thru Grief meets every Tuesday from 4-6pm at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Meetings are open to all, free, and no pre-registration is necessary.

- Dec. 1st, "Five Strategies for Navigating Grief During the Holidays" (Chris McLeod)
- Dec. 8th, "Keeping Your Loved Ones Close, While Saying Yes to Life" (Donna Kaye)
- Dec. 15th, "Cello Concert" (Debbie Davis)
- Dec. 22nd, "The Ugly Shoes Club" (Vivian Harris)
- Dec. 29th, "Healing Through Song" (Deena Murphy)

Sunday's Lessons

Scripture Readings:



Isaiah 64:1-9
Prayer that God would come with power and compassion
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. (Ps. 80:7)
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Gifts of grace sustain those who wait for the end
Mark 13:24-37
The sudden coming of the Son of Man

For Peace Among Nations
Gracious God, grant peace among nations. Cleanse from our own hearts the seeds of strife: greed and envy, harsh misunderstandings and ill will, fear and desire for revenge. Make us quick to welcome ventures in cooperation among the peoples of

the world, so that there may be woven the fabric of a common good too strong to be torn by the evil hands of war. In the time of opportunity, make us be diligent; and in the time of peril, let not our courage fail; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen. — **Additional Prayers, ELW p.76**

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