

## HTLC Weekly News

October 8, 2026



Outdoor Worship and picnic (inside) on Sunday was amazing!

## News & Upcoming Events

For more information on these and other upcoming events, scroll down and keep reading!

### **Worship and Music**

- Joint Taizé service, Oct. 13th
- Altar Flowers Opportunity
- Children and Adult Christmas Music Opportunities- sign up now!

### **Outreach & Fellowship**

- Oktoberfest sign ups

### **Faith Formation**

- ELCA Youth Gathering Envelope Fundraiser
- Adult Forum class, Oct. 11th
- New Member Class

### **Lutheran Campus Ministry**

- Campus Ministry Moment

### **Finance**

- Finishing the Year with Gratitude and Faithful Hearts

### Misc.

- Scam Alert
- Interfaith Community Advocacy Letter (in Community News)

## Worship & Music

### Joint Taizé service with UPC!

On Tuesday, October 13 we will be hosting a joint Taizé with University Presbyterian Church in our sanctuary at 7:30pm. Come for a 30 minute service of singing and meditation.

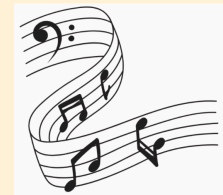


### Altar Flowers

Please consider providing Altar Flowers for these remaining 2026 dates: November 8 or 29 and December 6 or 13. 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. Sign up using [this link](#).

### Lessons and Carols Opportunity

Do you love to sing Christmas music? Have you wanted to join the choir for Lessons and Carols but cannot attend Wednesday rehearsals? Here is the opportunity for you! If you are interested in singing with the choir for Lessons and Carols, fill out [this form](#) to let Megan know you are interested. If you have any questions, contact Megan. All are welcome!



### Children's Christmas Musical

The children's Christmas musical this year will be "Room for Christmas" by Mark Burrows, presented on Sunday, December 13th between services. If your child is interested in being in the ensemble and does not already attend children's choir, please let Megan know. All are welcome! If your child is interested in a solo part, singing or speaking, [please sign up here](#) for an audition time by October 15th. For singing solos, please have your child come prepared to sing a song of their choosing. If none of the times listed work for you, please let Megan know and we can find a different one.

## Outreach & Fellowship



**Save the Date: Reformation Sunday, Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>**

**4:30pm: 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration**

**5:30pm: Oktoberfest**

Casual dress, oompa band, brats & homebrewed  
beer! Sign up now!

As we hope you know by now, our Oktoberfest on Oct. 25 will be part of our 80th anniversary celebration. We want to be sure to have enough food, so please RSVP by Wednesday, October 21. RSVP [HERE](#).

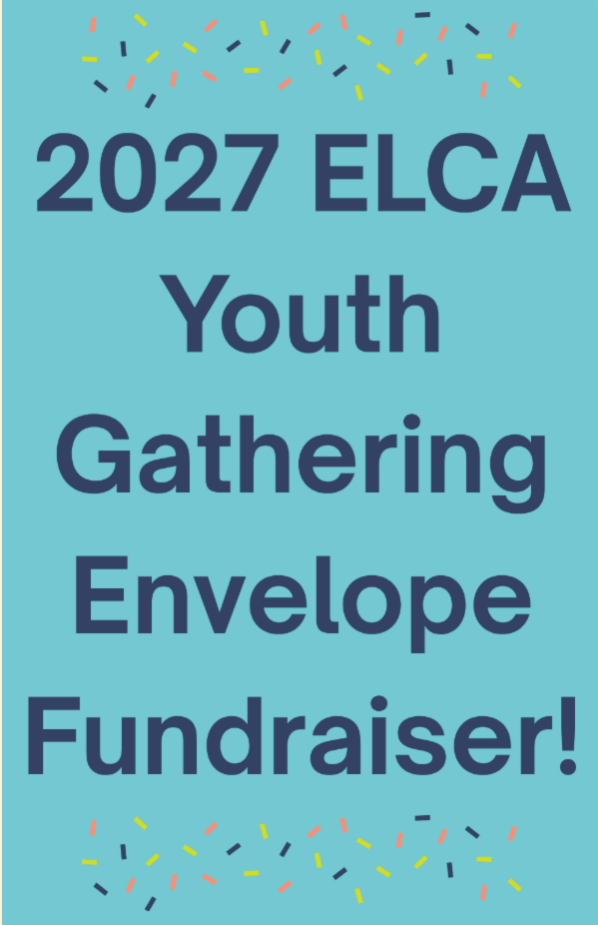
In order to feed all the guests that might attend, we have a volunteer sign up for German potato salad and desserts. We also need a rain contingency and some people willing to help set up in the Reception Hall, in case we need to be inside. Sign up [HERE](#).

### **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](#)



# 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering Envelope Fundraiser!



On Sept. 27-Oct. 18, you are invited to take an envelope from the ELCA Youth Gathering display in the narthex. Each envelope has a number on it that indicates how much money you are willing to contribute to help support our trip to Minneapolis in June of 2027. If all 200 envelopes are returned, we will raise \$20,100! Cost of the trip is approximately \$1600 per person and we may have 23 of us going! Please return by Sunday, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>. Feel free to take more than one envelope! We will always accept online gifts as well, marked ELCA Youth Gathering. Thank you so much for your generosity and support of our youth ministry!

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## Sunday School Classes

For more information on Sunday School classes that are happening, [click here!](#)



## Our Ancient, Sacred Text Questions Us

What is truth? Where are the nine? And who do you say that I am? The Adult Forum has scheduled a one time class on October 11th between services at 9:45am downstairs in the Ministry Center, entitled: "Our Ancient, Sacred Text Questions Us!" We'll look at some of the 2,500 questions contained on the Bible's pages. We'll vote on the top ten. Questions open us! Questions lead us to more than answers! "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?" "Where is your brother Abel?" and so on... We look forward to seeing you there!

[Click here](#) to see what's coming up for the Adult Forum.

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## New Member Class

Do you want to learn more about Holy Trinity and Lutheran Campus Ministry? Do you want to get more involved with our mission and ministries? Do you want to become an official member?

Pastor Will is leading a New Member Class during the Sunday School hour, 9:45-10:45 AM in the conference room in the Ministry Center Sundays October 18th, 25th and November 1st. To sign up for the class or for more information about the class contact Pastor Will at [prwill@holyltrinitychapelhill.org](mailto:prwill@holyltrinitychapelhill.org)

**New  
Member  
Class!**

## Lutheran Campus Ministry



### Campus Ministry Moment

A highlight of last week was the blessing of the pets and outside worship! I loved seeing all the animals we have in our LCM family. It was a beautiful time to share God's word and the weather was so nice outside. I also got to help sing during communion and I really enjoyed the message. Another highlight was "Pastor in the Hot Seat"! Literally so many amazing conversations and topics and I truly felt I learned so much. (written by Jackie Hernandez '27)

## Finance

### Finishing the Year with Gratitude and Faithful Hearts

As the end of the year approaches, we give thanks for the many ways God has blessed our congregation and our ministry together. If you have made a giving intention for this year, we encourage you to prayerfully fulfill it as you are able. Your faithful generosity enables HTLC and LCM to continue sharing our love of God and serving our neighbors. As Scripture reminds us, "Each should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7)



This link, [GIVE to HTLC](#), will connect you to the church website, where you will find convenient ways to give using Text, Venmo, or our Online Portal.

## Misc.

### Scam Alert

We've received reports that someone pretending to be Pastor Will is sending out a vague email talking about "urgently needing a favor." This is spam, and is not from Pastor Will.

As a reminder, church staff will never ask for gift cards or banking information via email. A good rule of thumb is to check the return email address. If it doesn't end with "[@holyltrinitychapelhill.org](mailto:@holyltrinitychapelhill.org)," then it's not from the church staff.

Feel free to call Grace at the church office (919) 942-2678 with any questions, or anytime you want to double check a suspicious sounding email. Thank you for reporting the messages and looking out for one another!

## Community News

### Interfaith Community Advocacy

The undersigned leaders of local faith communities invite members of our congregations and the wider community to join together for a Souls to the Polls early voting event on October 18, shortly after 12 noon, at Chapel of the Cross, [304 E. Franklin Street, Chapel Hill](#).

This is a nonpartisan gathering. We will not endorse candidates or political parties, nor will we suggest how anyone should vote. Rather, we gather as people from different faith traditions who share a commitment to thoughtful participation in the life of our community. Our traditions call us, in different ways, to consider the well-being of our neighbors, especially those who are vulnerable, and to seek justice, compassion, peace, and the common good.

We encourage each person to reflect on the teachings and values of their own faith and conscience, to learn about the candidates and issues before us, and to make their own decisions about how to vote. Casting a ballot together does not mean that we will all vote alike. It is an expression of our shared conviction that participating thoughtfully in our community and our common life together is a responsibility worth taking seriously.

Many people in our communities are facing significant challenges, including the costs of health care, food, housing, and transportation. While we may differ about the policies best suited to address these concerns, we can affirm the importance of listening to one another, caring for our neighbors, and participating in the civic process with intentionality, humility and respect.

Early voting also provides practical opportunities for eligible voters. Orange County residents who meet the requirements may register and vote during the early voting period, and eligible voters may use any early voting site in the county. Voting early can also provide additional time to address registration or voting questions that may arise.

We hope you will join us as we come together across our different traditions, united not by how we vote, but by a shared commitment to our neighbors and the common good. May we approach this moment with humility, respect, and care for one another.

Rev. Will Rose  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Rev. Elizabeth Marie Melchionna  
The Chapel of the Cross

Rev. Paul Burgess  
University Baptist Church

Rev. Meg Peery McLaughlin  
University Presbyterian Church

Rev. Justin Simmons  
Love Chapel Hill

Rev. Jarrett McLaughlin  
University Presbyterian Church

Rev. Donnie Jones  
Amity United Methodist Church

Rev. Javier Almendárez-Bautista  
Episcopal Church of the Holy Family

Rev. Dr. Michael Cousin  
St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church

Rabbi Jen Feldman  
Kehillah Synagogue

Rev. Justin Coleman  
University United Methodist Church

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## Growing thru Grief

## Growing Thru Grief

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

- Oct 13: "Anger" (Bill Dahl)
- Oct 20: "Engaging with Your Grief Narrative" (William Holloman)
- Oct 27: "When Words Aren't Enough: Grief, Healing, and the Arts" (Sarah Woodard)

# Sunday's Lessons

## Scripture Readings:

### Isaiah 25:1-9

The feast of victory

### Psalms 23

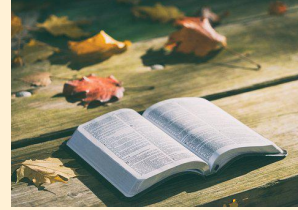
You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over. (Ps. 23:5)

### Philippians 4:1-9

Rejoice in the Lord always

### Matthew 22:1-14

The parable of the unwelcome guest at the wedding feast



## 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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