

THE TEMPO

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2026

OCTOBER 4

ONE WORSHIP 10AM

INFORMAL SERVICE

9:30AM

TRADITIONAL SERVICE

11AM

"To nurture Christ-centered lives that reflect God's love and grace in our local and global communities."



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

A
**Reconciling in Christ
Congregation**



**Lutherans
Restoring Creation**
Cultivating Hope & Healing for All



**California
Interfaith
Power
& Light**

1 West Avenida de los Arboles, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360-2939

805-492-1234 office churchoffice@htlcto.org www.htlcto.org

PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCY - 805-492-1234, press 1

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October

OFFICE HOURS

9:00 AM-2:30 PM

For assistance, please contact
Kathleen Sands
Church Office & Campus Operations Manager

805-492-1234
churchoffice@htlcto.org

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One Worship Sunday

OCTOBER 4 10AM **Hearts & Hands:**
Worshiping Together,
Serving Together

Followed by lunch in the Fellowship Hall
& a tour of the Worship & Wonder space for families

SEND FUTURE NEWSLETTER & SOCIAL
MEDIA SUBMISSIONS TO
COMMUNICATIONS@HTLCTO.ORG

**DEADLINE FOR TEMPO SUBMISSION IS
OCTOBER 23 FOR THE NOVEMBER TEMPO**



HOLY TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH
THOUSAND OAKS



OCTOBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 4:00pm Meditation (Zoom) 5:15pm Generations of Faith Team (Zoom)	2	3
4 10:00am One Worship Sunday + Hearts and Hands Service 11:00am Youth Group 11:15am Stewardship Lunch 12:15pm YAG Bible Study	5 7:00pm Life Group #4	6 10:30am Tuesday AM Bible Study	7 7:00pm Life Group #2 7:00pm Life Group #3	8 4:00pm Meditation 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	9	10
11 9:30am Worship and Wonder (during 9:30am service) 10:30am Fair Trade Sales 12:15pm ZOOM MEETING W/ REGINA BANKS 12:15pm YAG Bible Study	12 7:00pm Life Group #4	13 10:30am Tuesday AM Bible Study 5:30pm Executive Committee	14 7:00pm Life Group #2 7:00pm Life Group #3	15 9:00am Dorca's Quilting Circle 4:00pm Meditation 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	16	17 2:00pm Women's Bible Study 3:00–9:00pm GATHER – Pumpkin Patch & Carving <i>Off Campus</i>
18 9:30am Worship and Wonder (during 9:30am service) 10:45am Youth Group 12:15pm YAG Bible Study	19 7:00pm Life Group #4	20 10:30am Tuesday AM Bible Study 6:30pm Council Meeting	21 7:00pm Life Group #2 7:00pm Life Group #3	22 4:00pm Meditation 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	23	24
25 9:30am Worship and Wonder (during 9:30am service) 10:30am Fair Trade Sales 12:15pm YAG Bible Study 4:30pm Trunk or Treat	26 7:00pm Life Group #4 7:00pm THEA Book Club	27 10:30am Tuesday AM Bible Study	28 7:00pm Life Group #2 7:00pm Life Group #3	29 4:00pm Meditation 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	30	31  Happy Halloween!



9:30AM Informal Worship and 11AM Traditional Worship takes place every Sunday unless noted otherwise.



WELCOME STATEMENT



Holy Trinity joyfully extends Christ's love to all. We welcome everyone regardless of race, age, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental health, faith, doubt, family composition, political affiliation, socio-economic status, or any other category that divides us. Christ taught us that loving is a never-ending process of growth and reconciliation. At Holy Trinity, we strive to love diversely and deeply. To all who have been marginalized, we will work to demonstrate that nothing can separate you from the love of God.

"There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."
Galatians 3:28.

OUR LOCATION

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Mitsuanaqan Ventureño Chumash Tribes and Peoples, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home. In making this acknowledgment, we are pledging not to forget them or their story, and to learn from them and our common history.



STILL TIME TO TURN IN PLEDGE FORMS

If you have not yet turned in your pledge form for 2026, there is still time to do so. You can pick up a form at the entrance to the church, at the church office, or you can fill out a form digitally using this link:

<https://htlcto.breezechms.com/form/2027pledge>

We really appreciate knowing what kind of financial commitment you might be able to contribute as the church council plans the budget for mission and ministry 2027. Even if you are unable to give financially at this time you can still pledge to participate in the coming year. Either way, we would love to hear from you!

-Pastor Erik



A FUTURE WITH HOPE

2027 PLEDGE FORM

htlcto.org/give



CONTACT INFORMATION

Name _____

Pronouns: _____ Phone(cell) _____

Email Address _____

Address _____

2027 FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

☐ I plan to pledge: \$_____ per week OR \$_____ per month
OR \$_____ per year

OR ☐ I intend to give, but will not be pledging at this time.

I/We would like giving envelopes ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know what they are.

☐ I/We would like information about including Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in our will, trust, or as a beneficiary of our life insurance policy.

By checking one of the boxes below, I understand that by making this pledge I am still responsible for changing my giving amount through my bank or tithe.ly.

☐ Yes, I understand and will make the changes myself.

OR

☐ Yes, I understand but I need assistance making changes to my giving in tithe.ly, and I would like Lisa Caestecker, Holy Trinity's Income Recorder to contact me with help.

If giving jointly with a partner/spouse, please include their information here:

Name _____

Pronouns: _____ Phone(cell) _____

Email Address _____

THANK YOU

PASTOR'S NOTE FROM PASTOR ERIK

MUSIC MINISTRY UPDATES

Our music ministry is beginning a new season at Holy Trinity. After twelve years of faithful leadership, Richard and Wanda Ferrin have retired from directing the praise band at the 9:30am Informal Worship service. Jim Wilber also completed his term as interim choir director when the choir's season closed in June. We are grateful for their ministry among us. In August we welcomed Isaac Johnson as our new Music Minister, serving as both Choir Director and Praise Band Director. Isaac brings an extensive music education background, and bringing both roles together into one 20-hour position opens the door to closer collaboration across our music groups. The Choir will return to its regular schedule in October. We are also looking to hire three new Choir Section Leaders for the 11:00am service, with Isaac taking part in the process, and we hope to welcome them in the coming month.

In addition to these changes, the Holy Trinity Church Council has established the position of Organist Emerita in honor of our current organist Virginia's many years of service. Virginia has accepted this offer which will be effective the second Sunday of January 2027. In this new role she will be invited to play periodically, offer preludes and postludes throughout the year, and continue to have full access to the church organ and piano in coordination with the church calendar. Beginning in October, we will also be searching for a Principal Organist/Pianist to accompany the choir and lead congregational singing on Sunday mornings. Virginia has also been invited to take part in the search for the Principal Organist/Pianist.

Thank you for your prayers as we make these transitions and welcome these musical gifts to our worship life together.

ZOOM MEETING WITH REGINA BANKS: ELECTION INFORMATION

You are invited to a Zoom meeting with Regina Banks, director of Lutheran Office of Public Policy, **at 12:15 on Sunday, October 11** either in the Fellowship Hall after worship or on Zoom at home. Regina will discuss the 14 propositions that are on the November ballot based on our Lutheran Social statements.

In each state election cycle, the Office of Public Policy Board meets to discuss the propositions on the November ballot and make recommendations based on our Lutheran Social Statements. If the proposition does not address issues on which we have a statement, we do not make a recommendation. This session with Regina is an opportunity to gather information on the November ballot's 14 propositions before you vote.

It is NOT telling you how to vote, but only giving our recommendation based on the church social statements.

Please join us if you are interested in information to use as you contemplate your vote.

Dixie Hanson, LOPP Board Chair

Click [**HERE**](#) to see the ballot proposition recommendations from Lutheran Office Public Policy.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The God Who Sees & The Book of Ezra

In October we will finish our study based on the book The God Who Sees by Karen González. This study has been a compelling exploration of the immigrant experience interwoven with biblical stories of migration, displacement, and divine presence. González, herself an immigrant from Guatemala, skillfully bridges her own life story with those of biblical figures revealing how the timeless, compassionate God who saw them continues to see and care for the marginalized today.

In October we will also begin a study of the Book of Ezra from the Hebrew Scriptures. We will go through it chapter by chapter for an in-depth reflection of what is going on at the time and how it might relate to us today.

Come join us on Tuesday mornings at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall for conversation and reflection on this important topic.

Reading Guide:

Oct. 6 – The God Who Sees.... Chapters 9 & 10

Oct. 13 – The God Who Sees...Chapter 11

Oct. 20 – The Book of Ezra...Chapters 1 & 2

Oct. 27 – The Book of Ezra... Chapters 3 & 4

HTLC WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Join us on **Saturday, October 17** at 2:00 in the Fellowship Hall for our 2nd session under the theme Bold Faith on an unexpected journey. This session is "Love and loyalty: A story of connection and courage."

We will contemplate Ruth's story, reminding us that "bold faith often looks like choosing connection--choosing to stay, choosing to walk with someone, and choosing to trust that God works through relationships to bring about provision, love and new life."

We welcome your thoughts!

Dixie Hanson

OCTOBER MEDITATION GROUP

You may have a question about why we meditate. Some of us in our meditation group have been meditating for over 25 years. To put it simply in the words of John Main, who started our international meditation group (World Community of Christian Meditation):

When we meditate we are not trying to do anything: we are simply attending to the reality of the divine Presence and learning to be in that Presence.

Join us each Thursday at 4 pm. The first Thursday, **October 1**, we meditate online. Contact Miriam at miriamnakayama@gmail.com for a Zoom invite. Otherwise join us in the church library at 4 on **October 8, 15, 22 and 29.**



Honey Tree is alive again with the sound of children's laughter. We are all so happy to see smiling faces, give and receive hugs, and build lasting relationships with our families.

Our Mud Kitchen is finally complete and an excellent addition to our learning program and interactive experiences.



Honey Tree classes are filling for the 2026-2027 school year. Parents interested in signing up their child should contact the school as soon as possible in order to secure a spot in a class. (805) 492-1232. Office@myhoneytree.com

*May this fall be filled
with peace, joy,
and a deeper awareness
of Your presence.
Amen.*

Blessings to you all!

Vickie Cass, Director

DORCA'S QUILTING CIRCLE

We will be meeting **Thursday, October 15** at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Our emphasis will be completing Christmas quilts to distribute in the Holiday Season.

All are welcome!



TREAT YOURSELF WITH SOME FAIR TRADE ITEMS WITH MIRIAM

Thanks to all for your generous contributions to the Fair Trade basket for the Harbor House Auction. I hope I will find out how much the basket sold for before this goes to press.

Coffee has gone up even more. Sister's Blend is \$13, all decaf is \$12. That is still cheaper than most fair trade coffee in stores. I do believe and I've heard others say it, too, that our Sister's Blend is very delicious. Plus you are helping women coffee growers in Peru and Nicaragua.

Treat yourself to some great chocolate bars at \$4 a piece, dark and milk. Mini's are \$.25 each.

We will be selling fair trade on **October 11th** and **25th**. Look for our table near the entrance doors.

White Cheddar Fair Trade Cheese is still available to be ordered at \$6.50 a chunk.

Happy Fall!

Miriam Nakayama, Nancy Truex, and Terri Kelly

MANNA CONEJO VALLEY

Holy Trinity donated 52 pounds of groceries to Manna Conejo Valley Food Bank in September.

The current Most Needed Items are:

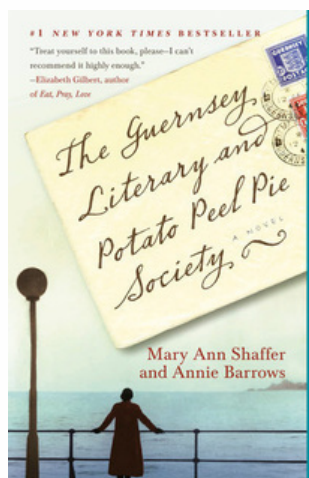
1. Canned Pasta Sauce
2. Canned Meat (Chicken, Spam, or Ham)
3. Condiments (Mayonnaise, Ketchup, Mustard, etc.)
4. Baking Items (Small Bags of Flour, Cake Mixes, etc.)
5. Cold Cereal
6. Canned Baked or Refried Beans
7. Canned Soup (Any Variety)
8. Oatmeal Packets
9. Toilet Paper or Paper Towels
10. Personal Care Items (Soap, Deodorant, Sanitary Pads, Tampons, etc.)

Please place your Manna donations on the designated table in the narthex.

Happy Halloween!
Karen and Marty Kreman

THEA BOOK CIRCLE

Our THEA Book Circle will meet on **Monday, October 26th at 7pm** in the church library to discuss our book of the month: The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows



LIBRARY NEWS

October Treats in the Holy Trinity Library

Sorry no candy or cookie or cheese treats this year in the library, because Miriam will be a first-time grandma in October. But do browse at all the non-fiction treats that are displayed. Non-fiction being anything that is not fiction. To check out a book, sign your name and the book title on the sheet on the clipboard on the file cabinet near the double doors. Happy Halloween!

2026 JAN-AUGUST FINANCE SNAPSHOT

See [**this link**](#) (or view on the next page) for the 2026 Jan-August finance snapshot for the October Tempo newsletter.

Notes to keep in mind:

- Giving income typically slows in the summer, and this year it has slowed slightly more than usual by a few percent. This is the driving reason why Holy Trinity's 2026 year-to-date operating income is lower than budgeted by ~3%, in spite of better-than expected and much appreciated non-giving income early in the year from facility use, Thrivent, and Benevity. Giving income is expected to pick up in the final quarter of the year and close this gap.
- Holy Trinity has a small net surplus year-to-date (+\$2k) rather than the budgeted net deficit (-\$13k). This is because some year-to-date operating expenditures are appreciably lower than budgeted, but spending in the latter months of the year should accelerate and close that gap, at least partially.

Thomas Harris, Church Treasurer

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Budget vs. Actuals: 2026 Budget vs. Actuals - FY26 P&L
 January - August, 2026

	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Apr 2026	May 2026	Jun 2026	Jul 2026	Aug 2026		Total		
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	over Budget	% of Budget
Revenue												
1100 Regular Offering									\$0	\$0	\$0	
1101 Envelopes/Non Pledged	\$13,926	\$4,730	\$5,762	\$5,624	\$4,695	\$4,737	\$6,416	\$4,255	\$50,146	\$56,667	-\$6,520	88%
1102 Envelopes/Pledged	\$48,170	\$38,308	\$40,461	\$41,282	\$25,989	\$36,762	\$30,727	\$42,724	\$304,422	\$321,435	-\$17,013	95%
Total 1100 Regular Offering	\$62,095	\$43,038	\$46,223	\$46,906	\$30,684	\$41,499	\$37,143	\$46,979	\$354,568	\$378,101	-\$23,533	94%
1200 Special Offerings									\$0	\$0	\$0	
1202 Thrivent/Benevity	\$565	\$1,080	\$5,187	\$1,664	\$349	\$276	\$219	\$50	\$9,390	\$4,667	\$4,723	201%
Total 1200 Special Offerings	\$565	\$1,080	\$5,187	\$1,664	\$349	\$276	\$219	\$50	\$9,390	\$4,667	\$4,723	201%
1300 Other Income				\$150					\$150	\$0	\$150	
1301 Honey Tree Donation	\$5,993		\$11,985	\$5,993	\$5,993	\$5,993		\$11,213	\$47,168	\$47,940	-\$773	98%
1302 Use of Facilities	\$1,600	\$4,350	\$1,575	\$1,025	\$1,094	\$875	\$950	\$1,700	\$13,169	\$6,667	\$6,502	198%
1304 Donut Offering			\$10						\$10	\$100	-\$90	10%
Total 1300 Other Income	\$7,593	\$4,350	\$13,570	\$7,168	\$7,087	\$6,868	\$950	\$12,913	\$60,497	\$54,707	\$5,790	111%
Total Revenue	\$70,253	\$48,468	\$64,981	\$55,738	\$38,119	\$48,643	\$38,312	\$59,941	\$424,455	\$437,475	-\$13,019	97%
Expenditures												
2100 Synod Mission Support	\$5,589	\$3,873	\$4,160	\$4,250	\$2,762	\$3,735	\$3,343	\$4,228	\$31,940	\$34,029	-\$2,090	94%
2200 Directed Benevolence			\$1,000			\$1,000			\$2,000	\$3,000	-\$1,000	67%
2400 Worship & Music	\$421	\$509	\$1,320	\$453	\$429	\$315	\$100	\$708	\$4,254	\$8,780	-\$4,526	48%
2500 Children, Youth & Family	\$866	\$290	\$124	\$357	\$307	\$425	\$330	\$540	\$3,239	\$5,733	-\$2,495	56%
2600 Spiritual Growth	\$100		\$21	\$241	\$414	\$9			\$785	\$1,233	-\$448	64%
2700 Welcome Ministry	\$107	\$41	\$133	\$480	\$117	\$166	\$420		\$1,464	\$2,300	-\$836	64%
2800 Community Outreach & Advocacy Ministry				\$21		\$355			\$376	\$700	-\$324	54%
2900 Stewardship	\$312	\$280	\$312	\$246	\$374	\$197	\$323	\$220	\$2,263	\$3,593	-\$1,330	63%
3000 Payroll Expenditures	\$42,825	\$29,886	\$29,568	\$30,041	\$27,297	\$27,339	\$38,586	\$28,294	\$253,837	\$261,548	-\$7,712	97%
3100 Staff Benefits	\$5,666	\$7,133	\$7,138	\$7,198	\$9,542	\$9,500	\$7,985	\$6,409	\$60,570	\$62,521	-\$1,950	97%
3200 Professional Development			\$950		\$211	\$151			\$1,312	\$900	\$412	146%
3300 Office Support	\$1,609	\$2,076	\$948	\$1,112	\$1,313	\$1,080	\$859	\$857	\$9,854	\$9,391	\$463	105%
3400 Utilities	\$2,892	\$2,458	\$2,186	\$2,173	\$1,885	\$1,876	\$2,735	\$1,322	\$17,527	\$19,625	-\$2,098	89%
3500 Maintenance	\$2,382	\$1,802	\$2,184	\$2,266	\$4,729	\$1,773	\$2,360	\$1,847	\$19,343	\$23,500	-\$4,157	82%
3600 Insurance & Taxes	\$3,703	\$2,713	\$2,679	\$958	\$874	\$16,521	\$4,808	-\$9,269	\$22,986	\$22,936	\$50	100%
3700 Technology & Communications	\$565	\$9	\$82	\$82	\$33	\$62	\$285	\$229	\$1,347	\$2,667	-\$1,320	50%
3800 Building	\$1,000								\$1,000	\$667	\$333	150%
Total Expenditures	\$68,036	\$51,070	\$52,806	\$49,877	\$50,285	\$64,503	\$62,135	\$35,384	\$434,096	\$463,124	-\$29,027	94%
Net Operating Revenue	\$2,216	-\$2,603	\$12,175	\$5,861	-\$12,166	-\$15,860	-\$23,822	\$24,557	-\$9,641	-\$25,649	\$16,008	38%
Other Revenue												
BofA Cash Rewards							\$423		\$423	\$433	-\$10	98%
Investment Accts - Interest Earned	\$3,456	\$1,972	\$1,230	\$3,387	\$1,200	\$4,067	\$934		\$16,247	\$12,533	\$3,713	130%
Total Other Revenue	\$3,456	\$1,972	\$1,230	\$3,387	\$1,200	\$4,067	\$1,357	\$0	\$16,669	\$12,967	\$3,703	129%
Other Expenditures												
3854 Transfer of Pastoral Housing CD Interest to Dedicated Acct		\$872	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$900	\$0		\$1,772	\$0	\$1,772	
3857 Transfer of Undesig. Reserve Interest	\$179	\$157	\$176	\$170	\$176	\$171	\$179		\$1,208	\$0	\$1,208	
3858 Transfer of Operating Deficit Reserve Interest to Ded. Acct	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	
3859 Transfer of Capital Reserves to Dedicated Acct	\$418	\$372	\$416	\$402	\$414	\$226	\$229		\$2,477	\$0	\$2,477	
Total Other Expenditures	\$597	\$1,401	\$592	\$571	\$590	\$1,297	\$408	\$0	\$5,457	\$0	\$5,457	
Net Other Revenue	\$2,859	\$571	\$638	\$2,816	\$610	\$2,770	\$949	\$0	\$11,213	\$12,967	-\$1,754	86%
Net Revenue	\$5,075	-\$2,032	\$12,814	\$8,677	-\$11,556	-\$13,090	-\$22,873	\$24,557	\$1,572	-\$12,682	\$14,254	-12%

Giving income typically slows in the summer, and this year it has slowed slightly more than usual by a few percent. This is the driving reason why Holy Trinity has a small net surplus year-to-date (+\$2k) rather than the budgeted net deficit (-\$13k). This is because year-to-date operating ex

HEARTS & HANDS ONE WORSHIP SUNDAY & STEWARDSHIP LUNCH OCT. 4

Mark your calendars for a special **One Worship service on Sunday Oct. 4 at 10:00am.**

Following the service there will be a lunch provided by the church over in the Fellowship Hall to celebrate the end of our Fall pledge drive and the blessing of our gifts. An RSVP is helpful to know how much food we should order. You can RSVP to the church office at churchoffice@htlcto.org or you can look for the sign up sheets on the church patio or announcement wall in the entrance way. We hope you can join us!

In 2025-2026, we tried out our first Hearts & Hands worship at the 9:30 service where it was a little more simplified and ended in some kind of service project that invited all age groups to connect and engage with one another. 11 o'clock attendees were invited to come early or to stay after and participate in the service project as well. For the 2026-2027 program year, we will hold similar types of services during our One Worship Sundays. Our first Hearts and Hands service this Fall will be on October 4th, a one worship Sunday that is the culmination of the Stewardship campaign. See below regarding the service project.

SERVICE PROJECT FOR HARBOR HOUSE

As part of our annual pledge drive this year we are going to do a special collection for Harbor House in order to make health kits. Harbor House is a local non-profit which works with volunteers to provide free meals everyday out of our Fellowship Hall for those who are in need in our community. They also

provide many other services for unhoused folks in the Conejo Valley including laundry services, casework, and rental assistance. The items we will be collecting are listed below. There will be a bin in the entrance to the sanctuary where we will collect these items. These will be used for our service project after church on October 4 where we will then build the health kits together. You are invited to bring any of these items that you are able to so we can make a difference in our community! Items needed for health kits:

- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Disposable Razors
- Travel size shampoo
- Travel size conditioner
- Travel size body wash
- Soap
- Antibacterial wipes
- Hand sanitizer
- Hydrocortisol
- Ear plugs
- Wet wipes

Please scan below or [CLICK HERE](#) to signup to donate for the Harbor House Service Project/Stewardship Drive.



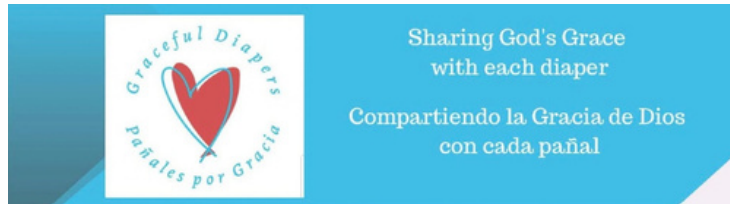
GRACEFUL DIAPERS

It is that time of year again! For the past couple of years during the month of October, we have collected diapers and wipes for Graceful Diapers pantry in Oxnard. On the first Saturday of November, volunteers load up the diapers to deliver and hand them out.

Donations of diapers and wipes can be brought to the entryway of the Sanctuary up until November 1. All diapers and wipes need to be unopened. We welcome all baby diaper sizes, and typically need more of size 3 through 7.

At least 2 drivers (with cars we can load the diapers in) and 3+ other volunteers needed for loading, unloading, and helping to hand out the diapers.

Email Pastoremily@htlcto.org if you can help!



GENERATIONS OF FAITH: BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS, NURTURING FAITH

Our team develops and supports a balance of age-and-stage programming and intentionally intergenerational experiences. We seek to create spaces where children, youth, and adults can share stories, ask questions, serve together, worship together, and discover God's presence in one another's lives.

Team Members: Bill Burrato, Dave Narramore, John Paul Abraham, Janny Franken, Katie Miller, Rose Egertson, Pastor Emily, and student intern: Ashlynn Bryson.

TRUNK OR TREAT - OCTOBER 25, 4:30 - 6PM



This is an intergenerational event hosted by our Generations of Faith team. If you need a ride, we'll have a sign-up closer to the date. We have a team willing to be drivers for the event! Dress up (or not), come to socialize, help with the "cake-walk" game, hand out hot dogs, help put on temporary tattoos, and be a kind, smiling face to all the families who come through!

Learn more and sign up [HERE](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR FAMILIES WITH KIDS AT HOLY TRINITY

Youth Group (Grades 5-12)

October 4 @ 11am: One worship Sunday, inclusive of a service project and a lunch where youth are invited to hang out at the youth table to eat. Then, we'll head to the youth room for some games until all are ready to head home.

October 18 @ 10:45-11:30am: Meet in the Youth Room for connection, community, and talking about this messy thing we call Faith together

October 25 @ 4:30-6pm - Trunk or Treat

NEW THIS FALL! WORSHIP & WONDER

for Pre-K through Elementary

October 4th: Join us for a special "Hearts and Hands" One-Worship Sunday at 10am for worship and a service project. Immediately following worship, families with young kids are invited to go with Ashlynn, one of our main adult leaders, to explore the Worship & Wonder classroom and playground. This is where they will have "Worship & Wonder" time every Sunday in October and November. After exploring the space, come have lunch in the Fellowship Hall with other members of the congregation!

Starting October 11th during the 9:30 service, children will be invited to leave worship after the Passing of the Peace for 20-30 minutes of Bible stories, activities, conversation, and wondering about faith before returning for Communion with their families.

Age-appropriate learning
Worship with family
Time to wonder, learn, and grow

We will host Worship and Wonder every week for 2 months at a time, beginning October-November of 2026.

October 25th: Trunk – or – Treat

STILL NEED TO REGISTER YOUR KIDS FOR THIS SCHOOL YEAR?

Register here: [Faith Formation Registration](#) -- The form covers all events from 2026-2027.

YAG AND GATHER

Fruits of the Spirit Bible Study

Dates: Sundays beginning
September 13th until
November 15th, 12:30pm

Location: CLU Kingsmen Park. A group of us will meet at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church at 12:15 to walk over together!

Whether you can make every session or just a few, please sign up so we know who's joining us and can make sure you receive any updates or schedule changes. Sign up [here](#).

Pumpkin Patch & Pumpkin Carving

Date: October 17

Time: 3:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Location: Pumpkin patch, then dinner and carving

at Craig's House

1377 Ashton Park Ln, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320

Details: We'll visit the pumpkin patch together, then gather for dinner and pumpkin carving at Craig's House.



Holy Trinity Trunk or Treat

Date: October 25

Time: 5:00 PM

Location: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Details: We're helping with Holy Trinity's Trunk or Treat event! Come help decorate a car or assist with other fun activities.

SAVE THE DATE

Bingo (Community Event)

Date: November 20

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Fellowship Hall

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please keep these people in your prayers:

Melissa Beaman, for a good surgery and for healing
JJ and Brenda, friends of Kristi Alameda
Craig, Doug, and Mike, friends of Brian & Jude Wurschum
Doug Hosler, the son of Betty Hosler
Rodger Kendrick, Jean Kammerer's brother
Joyce Lawson, for healing
Karen Kreman, for healing after surgery
Robin Slattum, for healing
Leilani Smith, for healing from cancer and for wisdom with decisions relating to treatment
Lecy Fredo, for healing after surgery
Fred Lindberg, for comfort as he goes through radiation treatment and for healing
Mike Duhig, Julie Riedel's brother, for healing during treatment
Joan Cressman, for healing
Leatrice Oram and Amanda Palmquist (friends of Katie Yant) for comfort during treatment
Susie Wilber, for continued good recovery
Lori O'Neil, for continued healing
Evonne Larson, for continued healing after a fall

Please hold these families in prayer as they grieve the loss of their loved one:

The family of Shirlee Stone
The family of Trevor West, the son of our Praise Band pianist Steve West
The family of Sarah Jensen-Elhoff, sister of Kathleen Sands
The family of Darryl Priest upon his recent death
The family of William Horbury, brother of Beth Goodnight
The family of Tom Converse, Pastor Emily's uncle
The family of Paul Sullivan, Cindy Grether's brother-in-law
The family of Mary Kathryn Davenport, Susie Wilber's sister
The family of Greg Miller, son of Jerry & Margaret Miller
The family of Elizabeth Velarde, Yolanda Mosley's mother
The family of Hazel Dell Hansen, cousin to Margaret Schwalm and Nelius Ronning



ARE YOU EL NIÑO READY?

The Southwest California Synod Disaster Relief Ministry is encouraging congregations and households to take steps now to prepare for the possibility of heavy rain, flooding, mudslides, and other severe winter weather. A little preparation now can make a meaningful difference when weather arrives.

Southwest California Synod Disaster Relief Ministry



ARE YOU EL NIÑO READY?

El Niño can contribute to intense winter weather and periods of heavy rain. Every El Niño is different, so now is a good time to prepare your household, vehicle, and congregation for winter storms.

PREPARE • STAY INFORMED • CHECK ON YOUR NEIGHBORS

LIVE NEAR A RECENT BURN AREA?

Heavy rain can create an increased risk of flash flooding, mudslides, and debris flows in and around wildfire burn areas.

Pay close attention to weather forecasts and local emergency alerts. Be prepared to leave if an evacuation warning or order is issued.

Never drive or walk through floodwater.

LEARN MORE & GET PREPARED

- ✓ **NOAA:** Understanding El Niño
- ✓ **Ready.gov:** Preparedness for households, vehicles, kids & older adults
- ✓ **Local Public Works:** Flood preparation & sandbag locations

3 THINGS YOU CAN DO TODAY

SIGN UP FOR EMERGENCY ALERTS

Emergency alerts provide information about severe weather, flooding, evacuation warnings, road conditions, and other hazards.

Los Angeles County: Alert LA County
City of Los Angeles: NotifyLA
Ventura County: VC Alert
Santa Barbara County: ReadySBC

Not sure which system serves your community? Visit **CalAlerts.org** to find your local emergency alert system.

CALL 211 FOR LOCAL HELP

Dial 211 to connect with local community and emergency-preparedness resources, including information about services available in your area.

Resources vary by location, so 211 can help you find local sandbag locations, preparedness assistance, and other community services.



PREPARE BEFORE THE RAIN

- Clear gutters and drains and check for leaks.
- Know your risk for flooding, mudslides, or debris flows.
- Find your nearest sandbag location before a storm.
- Prepare an emergency kit with food, water, medications, flashlights, and essentials.
- Charge phones and backup batteries.
- Make a plan for pets and anyone who may need extra assistance.
- Avoid unnecessary travel during severe weather.

OLDER ADULTS & NEIGHBORS WHO MAY NEED HELP

- ✓ Check in with older adults, homebound neighbors, people with disabilities, and others who may need assistance preparing for a storm.
- ✓ Older adults are encouraged to keep medications, important documents, emergency contacts, and necessary medical or mobility supplies easy to access.
- ✓ In Los Angeles County: Eligible homebound adults age 65+ in flood-prone areas may qualify for free sandbag delivery and installation. Call 211 to ask about the Sandbags for Homebound Seniors program.



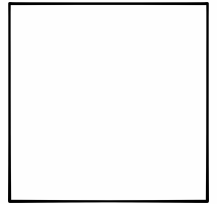
Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

1 West Avenida de Los Arboles

Thousand Oaks CA 91360-2939

805 492-1234 office churchoffice@htlcto.org www.htlcto.org

Return service requested



October
2026

ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

If you would like to purchase and donate flowers for the church altar, please fill out **THIS FORM** or follow the instructions below.

1. **Sign Up:** Visit the Flower Chart located on the kiosk in the narthex and select the date you would like the flowers to be placed on the altar.
2. **Payment:** The cost is \$65. Please write "Flowers" on the memo line of your check to ensure proper allocation or use an Altar Flower Envelope, available in the narthex. Kindly make your payment by the Wednesday prior to your selected date to allow ample time for ordering.
3. **Bulletin Note:** Email your dedication and any color preferences to churchoffice@htlcto.org by noon on Wednesday to be included in the Sunday bulletin.
4. **Pickup:** After the second service, you are welcome to take the flowers home.

