



Engaged By Grace

W E E K L Y

Ministry Announcements for the week of July 26 - August 2, 2026

Our Sunday Schedule

8:00 am – First English Breakfast Ministry
8:30 am – Morning Prayer with Communion
10:00 am – Worship in Person or Online at www.engagedbygrace.org

New This Week

Embrace the Journey—Together in Christ!

Join us on **Sunday, August 16** for our annual **Backpack Sunday** celebration! During worship, we'll bless the work bags and packs we carry as we go about our daily lives—whether it's a school backpack, purse, tote, laptop bag, briefcase, or diaper bag. Bring whatever you carry with you daily as we ask God's blessing on the journeys, opportunities, and challenges that lie ahead.

After worship, everyone is invited to create their own **trail mix** with a variety of tasty snacks provided by the Theme Team. As you build your trail mix snack, we'll reflect on summer adventures while embracing the journey for the year ahead.

No matter the journey or where your path leads, we celebrate and **embrace the journey—together in Christ!**

Help Wanted

Holy Trinity is scheduled to serve dinner at the YWCA Family Center on **Saturday, August 1 at 5:00 pm**. We would welcome helping hands to prepare and serve a meal to families in need. For more information, please contact Chris Pryor at pryorc82@gmail.com.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Save the date for the next Red Cross blood drive at Holy Trinity on **Thursday, July 30 from 9am-2pm**. The need for blood donations is currently at an EMERGENCY level. You can make an appointment online at www.redcrossblood.org/give or by calling 1-800-REDCROSS. Walk-ins are also welcome. Thank you for considering giving the gift of life.

Mission Trip Sharing

High school youth and adults from Holy Trinity traveled to Cleveland this summer for a 3-day mission trip. They will be sharing a “taste” of their experiences with a visual presentation accompanied by walleye fish bites on **Sunday, August 2nd at 9:30 am**. Photos will be displayed and youth will be available to answer questions throughout the morning. See you then!

Lunch Invitation from Neighbor-to-Neighbor

Please join the Neighbor-to-Neighbor team for one of our periodic lunch outings to ethnic restaurants. Our goal is to learn more about the country's culture, food and the owners' experience as immigrants. On **Sunday, August 2nd** we'll visit Lailaty Café on the South Side of Columbus. The owners are from Egypt, and the menu includes a variety of foods including sandwiches, dinner plates, desserts and many varieties of hot and cold drinks. The unique thing about this restaurant is that they have a "Fun Corner" where kids and adults can play board and computer games. As they say, "Lailaty is a family-owned café designed to bring everyone together without anyone feeling left out." We will carpool from church, leaving at around 11:30 and returning by 1:30. Please join us for a time of learning, fellowship and good food!

Attention High School Youth!

Mark your calendars for an informational meeting regarding the 2027 ELCA National Youth Gathering to be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota next year with the theme "Imagine More." The Youth Gathering is a wonderful opportunity to worship and learn with other young people from around the country. Families and youth entering 8th grade through 12th grade this fall are invited to attend this meeting at **11:15 am on Sunday, August 16** in the conference room to hear details about the Gathering and the registration taking place in October. Another informational meeting will be conducted in September for those unable to attend in August.

Stewardship Corner

In every church, there are people who continually rise to the occasion to get the work done. Although God calls each of us to follow and serve God, many of us are much more concerned about our own lives and goals than assisting in the Lord's work. If we focus on "I, me, mine, and myself," we take care of "number one" to the exclusion of helping and serving. In our prayers, we should be asking God to grant us hearts that want to serve, and we should also be asking God, "What do you want to achieve through me today?" For more information about stewardship, please contact Max Buban at maxmbuban82@gmail.com.

News of Invite Ministries

New Prayer Concerns:

The family of 2-year-old Teddy Corey, Heidi Welch and Dan Sharpe's friend, who died this week
Healing and care for the two children impacted through Teddy Corey's organ donation
Michael Corey, Heidi Welch and Dan Sharpe's friend, hospitalized following a serious car accident
Sherry Hardgrove, undergoing heart surgery on Friday
Craig Sturtz, Barretts' and Wachtmans' friend, recovering from pancreatic surgery this week
Brenda Boganwright, Bill & Cyndy Decker's neighbor, dealing with pancreatic cancer

Removed from the Prayer List:

Barb Campbell, whose test revealed no evidence of cancer
Cheryl Kriska, recovering well from back surgery

Prayers for Our Members:

Zinny Bond, being treated for ovarian cancer
Alice Larrimer, recovering from shoulder replacement surgery
Sara Neikirk, recovering from surgery
Richard Boettcher, recovering from kidney surgery
Elizabeth Sammons, traveling through Europe on scholarship and goodwill missions
Joanne Duncan, at Dublin Post-Acute Care Center, undergoing physical therapy after a fall
Rob Setterlin, recovering from knee surgery and a fall that fractured his ribs
JoAnn Curry, recovering from a fall and broken shoulder
Marge Markowich, recovering from a stroke
Brian Johnson, at Harrison on 5th, recovering from several falls
Wes Jones, undergoing treatments for lymphoma

Prayers for Our Family and Friends:

Chuck Jentes, Jill Banicki's father, recovering from major surgery
Joe Berkemer, Matt Berkemer's uncle, undergoing chemotherapy
Phyllis Bliss, friend of Holy Trinity, undergoing kidney dialysis twice/week
James Gildea, Shirley Boyd's friend, recovering from a fall that fractured vertebra in his neck
Betty Mak, Shirley Boyd's friend, undergoing daily home dialysis
Pom, Na Brown's friend, recovering from a seizure
Sammy Cochran, Shannon & Abbey's infant son, Debbie & AC's grandson, home on anti-seizure meds
Violet, Carolyn and Clyde Cramer's neighbor's 8-year-old granddaughter, diagnosed with leukemia
Joe Stone, Genie Craven's son-in-law, dealing with the result of neck surgery
Dr. Thomas Anderson, Bill Decker's friend, recently diagnosed with cancer
Tim Curry, Bev Farrell's brother and JoAnn Curry's brother-in-law, struggling with Parkinson's
Melissa, Sue Ferguson's daughter, battling colon cancer
Kirk Gerber, Pastor Bonnie's brother, hospitalized in Akron with an infection
Alan Greiner, Barb Keller's brother, dealing with multiple serious medical issues
Tom Kochheiser, Phil Kochheiser's brother, recovering from heart surgery
Rodney Larson, Don Larson's brother, diagnosed with cancer
Randy Isaacson, Anna Lynch's father, dealing with health challenges
Mary Ortwine, Pastor Dave Markowich's sister, undergoing health tests
Ryan Dunn, Janet Maxwell's son, deployed with the Ohio Air National Guard to the South Pacific
Jan Attanasio, Janet Maxwell's friend, diagnosed with ALS
Kathy Poling, Susan Poling-Jones's friend, diagnosed with cancer
Lucas, Susan Poling-Jones and Tony Jones' nephew, recovering from seizures and a brain bleed
Heidi McCarthy, Susan Poling-Jones' friend and mother of 3 children, undergoing radiation for breast cancer
Ben Souders, Susan Poling-Jones' friend's son, diagnosed with bipolar disorder
Romie Fullenkamp, Mandy Richards' uncle, diagnosed with lung cancer and in need of a new heart valve
Lois Rozenquist, Susan Setterlin's friend, battling non-operable lung cancer
Andres Torres, Juan Torres's father, having heart issues
Amy Lavoie, Becky Warnement's cousin, battling a recurrence of lung cancer
Chloe Walker, Annika Wachtman's fiancé Kyndall's niece, seriously burned in a science experiment at school
Those affected by natural disasters, the Armed forces, victims of terror, and all those on the margins of society most vulnerable to unrest, oppression and exploitation.

News of Embrace Ministries

Pastoral Succession Discernment Process

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we continue the discernment for a future pastoral succession plan at the time of Pastor Steve's retirement, Holy Trinity's church council is reaching out to explore the financial feasibility of the co-pastor model and to conduct means testing based on the insights and guidance provided by the congregation.

The objective of this phase is to see what interest already exists in the congregation to help fund a co-pastor model, if that's the direction the congregation decides.

To be clear: this is not a decision to move forward with that model — it is an act of faithful stewardship, gathering the information needed to answer the questions many of you raised and to further guide our collective discernment.

We also want to create opportunities for our congregation to continue providing their thoughts and considerations about the models, and Council will continue to share information about the discernment process.

To share your thoughts, please complete and return the mailed response form by **Sunday, August 16th**. Responses will be reviewed by the executive committee in confidence with only anonymized & aggregated results shared with council / staff. Extra forms and a collection box are available at the reception window.

Thank you, again, for your active participation in sharing your insight as part of this ongoing process and reach out to any council member with questions — we are here to walk this road together, in faith and in fellowship.

In Christ's service,
Holy Trinity Church Council

President Lynn Anderson (lynnanderson1873@gmail.com)
Vice-President Nicole Carothers (nicole.carothers5@gmail.com)
Financial Secretary Peter Ward (ward.1@osu.edu)
Treasurer Debbie Cochran (cochrane62@gmail.com)
Secretary Allison Abell (allison.m.abell@gmail.com)

Got Snacks?

Everyone appreciates the Hospitality time after worship on Sundays to socialize while often enjoying a small treat or beverage. Drinks are provided by the Hospitality Committee and other folks are invited to bring snacks to share. Sweet, savory, salty or fruity — all are welcome! Sharing food together is a time-honored expression of friendship and fellowship. It's also a great way to recognize a special occasion. Please sign-up near the Hospitality coffee station to help provide "goodies" to share on an upcoming Sunday this summer.

News of Empower Ministries

School Supply Collection

Vacation Bible School began a collection of school supplies to share with children at the YWCA Family Center, a shelter that temporarily houses families that find themselves homeless. Now everyone at Holy Trinity is being asked to add their own contributions as well. Throughout the summer and leading up to the **Blessing of the Backpacks and Bags on Sunday, August 16**, we will be collecting the following NEW school supplies to be distributed to children at the Y-Center:

- Pencils and pens
- Notebooks
- Folders
- Crayons, Colored Pencils, Markers
- Clear (see-through) backpacks

Contributions can be placed in the collection bin located under the signup table in the Gathering space. These items will be blessed along with our own bags on Sunday, August 16. Thanks in advance for your help!

Empowerment Shelf – July 2026

By Elizabeth Sammons with love from Neighbor-to-Nighbor

The Payback, *She Persisted* and *Bound for Canada* are Neighbor to Neighbor's books of note for this month. This literature intends to expand our awareness, theology and/or acceptance of diverse viewpoints. We hope you'll discover how these writings from various generations embrace what it means to be human and to walk in spirit. ...

The Payback by Cauley, Kashana

Jada Williams can tell exactly what style people need to transform their life. Too bad she's no longer using this superpower as a wardrobe designer to Hollywood stars, but for minimum wage. When Jada is fired yet again, she is forced to outrun the Debt Police who are out for blood. But Jada, like any great antihero, is not going to wait for the cops to come kick her around. With the help of two other debt-burdened mall coworkers, she hatches a plan for revenge.

She Persisted by Pinkney, Andrea Davis

Ella Fitzgerald struggled as a child, especially during the Great Depression. But after winning over the audience with her singing at an Amateur Night, Ella's career began, and she eventually went on to become a world-renowned singer known as the First Lady of Song. In this chapter book biography, readers learn about her amazing life and how she persisted. For grades 2-4.

Bound for Canada by Bordewich, Fergus

The Underground Railroad remains a pivotal movement in American history. This book presents the humanity of the movement. Historical figures--black and white, slave and free, are shown as complex richly textured characters in this movement.

Ministry Calendar at Holy Trinity for July 26 – August 2, 2026

Sunday, July 26, 2026

8:00 am – First English Breakfast Ministry
8:30 am – Morning Prayer with Communion
10:00 am – Worship with Communion in Person or Online at www.engagedbygrace.org

Monday 6:30 pm – BSA Troop 555

Tuesday No Events Scheduled

Wednesday 10:15 am – Preacher's Bible Study

Thursday 9:00 am – American Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday No Events Scheduled

Saturday 5:00 pm – YWCA Family Center Dinner

Sunday, August 2, 2026

8:30 am – Morning Prayer with Communion
9:30 am – Mission Trip Presentation
10:00 am – Worship with Communion in Person or Online at www.engagedbygrace.org
11:30 am – Neighbor-to-Neighbor Lunch at Lailaty (3869 S. High St.)

Holy Trinity Schedule of Worship Servers – July & August 2026

Date	Time	Welcome Center	Assisting Minister	Lay Reader	Ushers	Communion Assistants	Livestream	Bread Bakers	Communion Team
July 26	10:00 am		Tim Hudson	Mary Jane Neiman	John Gray Ron Benedick	Carolyn Cramer Chris Pryor	Matt Sharp	Chris Burton	Suellen Sharp Nancy Riley
Aug. 2	10:00 am		Jody Passafume	Keith Townsend	Chris Pryor Peter Ward	AC Cochran Elli Cucksey	Mark Abell	Debbie Cochran	Chris Grabenstatter Janette MacConnell Kris Kochheiser
Aug. 9	10:00 am	Bob & Barb Campbell	Celeste Chappell-Bates	Beth Myser	Skip Duncan Doug Myser	Deb Bickford Peter Ward	Jared Forts	Chris Grabenstatter	Nancy VanFossen Lynn Anderson
Aug. 16	10:00 am		Ron Benedick	Ben Kaffenberger	Matt Sharp Adam Wagenbach	Herb Maxwell Janet Maxwell	Matt Fox	Nancy VanFossen	Kathy Higbee Marie Tanner

Sunday Worship Texts

Sunday, July 26 – Luke 17:5-6; 2 Timothy 1:1-14 **Rekindle the Gift of God**

Sunday, August 2 – Luke 17:16-19; 2 Timothy 2:8-15 **Remember Jesus Christ, Raised from the Dead**

The Holy Trinity Staff:

Pastor: Steve Wachtman (steve.wachtman@engagedbygrace.org)
Preschool: Molly Capuano and Jackie Newlon (directorhtcdp@gmail.com)
Administrator: Laura Hudson (laura.hudson@engagedbygrace.org)
Minister of Music: Joshua Brodbeck (joshua.brodbeck@engagedbygrace.org)
Director of Faith Formation: Noelle Fox (noelle.fox@engagedbygrace.org)

For mobile giving options, scan code below with your phone's camera or go to <http://www.engagedbygrace.org/offering>



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