Trinity Times

November 2026



Baptist minister and teacher Malinda Fillingim tells of trying to instill in her daughters the art of saying thank you. When they were young and received something, she would ask "What do you say?" trying to remind them to use their manners and say "Thank you." Once her daughter got a candy bar from her grandmother. As usual, Reverend Fillingim asked, "What do you say, Hope?" Hope looked at her grandmother and said, "Do you have another one?" Many of us have been like that at times – looking for more, rather than giving thanks for what we've got.

But I think that even more of us are like two children who were taken bowling on a Saturday afternoon by their father, David Brickner, one-time Executive Director of Jews for Jesus. As they drove home it dawned on him that neither of them had said "Thank you." When he pointed it out to them, his son Isaac said, "Dad, I am thankful. I just didn't say it out loud." Brickner writes, "I'd never heard that one before, but the more I thought about it, the more I realized how I have done the same with my Heavenly Father. When questioned or pressed, I can recount the things for which I am thankful to God, yet I often fail to volunteer outward or spontaneous expressions of my appreciation for his blessings."

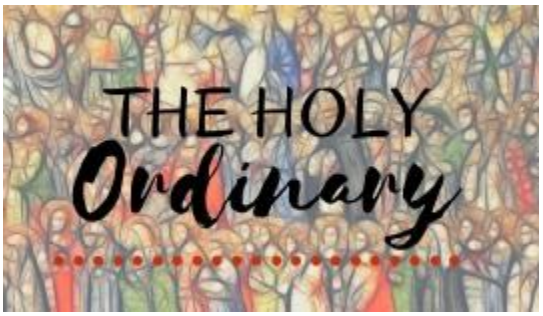
There is something about thankfulness that requires us to say it out loud. We can experience enjoyment or even gladness inwardly, but thankfulness is not a private experience. It must be voiced. From Isak Dinesen's *Seven Gothic Tales* comes this brief dialogue. "What does a guest want?" "I believe," said Augustus, "that a guest wants first of all to be diverted . . . to shine . . . to find justification for his existence altogether . . . Signora, please tell me now: "What does a hostess want?" "The hostess," said the young lady, "wants to be thanked."

And so it is with God, the host at every one of life's feasts. God wants to be thanked. God does not need our recognition, but God is delighted when we express our gratitude. We have been given life, love, the beauty and bounty of creation, daily food and drink, home, family, and friends – everything we have – by God. We have experienced the healing, transforming power of God. And God watches how we respond. God listens for our expression of gratitude. How does one acknowledge blessings? Simple. Just say "Thank you, God."

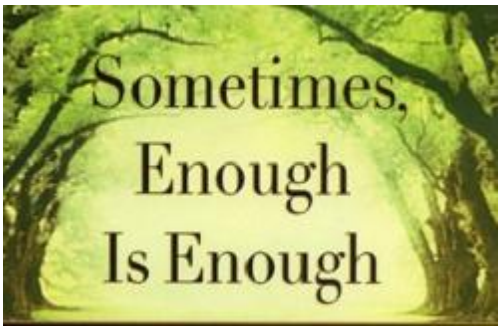
So, let us continually cultivate an attitude of thoughtful and heartfelt thankfulness, and develop the art of voicing our thanks – not just at Thanksgiving, but every day of our lives.

Pastor Eileen

November Worship



November 1	All Saints Day
	Holy Communion
	Naming of the Honored Dead
Scriptures	1 John 3:1-3
	Revelation 7:9-17
Sermon	Ordinary People with One Extraordinary Difference



November 8	Stewardship Sunday 1 (treasure)
Scriptures	Psalm 78:1-7
	Joshua 24:1-3*a*, 14-25
Sermon	The Gift of Simplicity (when enough is enough)



November 15	Stewardship Sunday 2 (talent)
Scriptures	Judges 4:1-7
	Matthew 25:14-30
Sermon	A Passionate, Brave, Wise, Just, and Faithful Woman



November 22	Thanksgiving Sunday
Scriptures	Deuteronomy 8:7-18
	Psalm 65
	Luke 17:11-19
Sermon	Forgetting to Remember



November 29	First Sunday of Advent
Scriptures	Isaiah 64:1-9
	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
	Mark 13:24-37
Sermon	A Very Long Wait

Trinity United Methodist Church's 37th Annual Auction -- November 7th

Now is the time!

- **Remember the schedule:**
  - **Granny's Attic yard sale from 2:00 to 5:00 PM**
  - **Auction preview from 4:00 to 5:00 PM**
  - **Auction from 5:00 until exhaustion**

- **Remember and advertise all the available goodies:**
  - **A Wyndham resort week at choice of many inviting locations during 2027**
  - **Over 80 Items, gift cards and certificates from local merchants**
  - **Traditional favorites up for bid - Debbie Beattie's apple dumplings, Joyce Gebele's carrot cake, Ann Sherer's painting, themed baskets, new & slightly used merchandise**
  - **Delicious home-made pies by the slice, hot dogs, chili, and meatball subs along with soft drinks, coffee, tea and hot chocolate**

  - **Talk to your friends and neighbors and bring them to the auction!**

  - **Don't forget to put the auction flyer in your car window and on any bulletin board or store window that will accept it! Extra flyers are available in both the narthex and Fellowship Hall.**

  - **Drop off all items and merchandise on Thursday or Friday, Nov. 5 or 6, from 5:00 to 8:00 PM. Contact Craig Grant if you need an alternative drop-off time.**

  - **Contact Craig Grant (at cmlgrant@optimum.net or home at 845-223-5489 or via cell at 845-380-1715) if you have any questions.**

COME! BID! ENJOY!

Sunday 11/22 - Charge Conference at Poughquag UMC at 2:00 pm

Christmas Shoeboxes

Again this year, we will be collecting Christmas Shoeboxes to be distributed locally by Dutchess County's Acts of Kindness. Fill a shoebox size box with items such as crayons, coloring books, hair accessories, games, matchbox cars, gloves, candy, etc.

Use your imagination - be creative! No liquids. Please wrap it and write "boy or girl" and the age it's appropriate for on the outside end of the box.

There is always a need for boxes for teens (suggestions: gift cards, gloves, scarves, lotions, etc).They may be dropped off in church or the Lutke Room. The due date has yet to be determined.

Please see me with questions.

THANK YOU.

Karin Riley



November facts:

- Birthstone: Topaze
- Birth Flowers: Chrysanthemum & Peony
- Nov 1st – All Saint's Day
- Nov 11th – Veterans Day
- Nov 26th – Thanksgiving Day
- Nov 29th – First Sunday of Advent



Jesus's Parents Realize He's Divine As He Completes Carpentry Project Without Going Back To Home Depot A Single Time

November Food Pantry - 1 week early due to Holiday

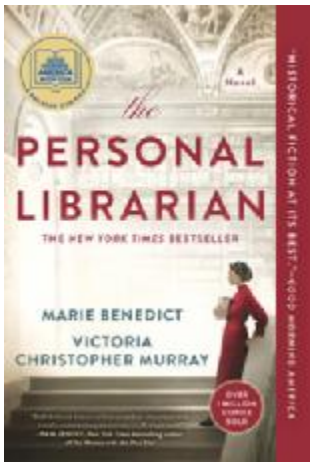
The November distribution is typically the largest every year, and is moved up a week because the last Thursday of the month is the Thanksgiving holiday.

Bagging will take place on Tuesday, **November 17th** at 10 am in the parish hall. If you would like to help bag food, please let either Marcia or Craig Grant know, and they will add your name to our list of volunteers.

The distribution is **November 19th** from 7- 8 pm. The Sunrise Rotary Club of LaGrange will once again provide turkeys and either an apple or a pumpkin pie for every household that wants one. Members of the local Lions Club have continued to help carry food to awaiting cars. We greatly appreciate all who lend their assistance! We couldn't do what we do without their help!

Marcia Grant

Book Corner by: Margaret Cornell



The Personal Librarian is a historical fiction novel by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. It tells the true story of Belle da Costa Greene, a brilliant Black woman who hides her identity and passes as white to become J.P. Morgan's personal librarian and a powerful figure in the art world.

Blessing of the Animals – Oct 4th

Many church members brought their pets to be blessed.









The Power of Music/Hymns

Sunday at New Connexions in New Paltz, we sang – actually, most of us listened to - Dolly Parton sing her arrangement of the hymn What a Friend We Have in Jesus, and it has been in my head since then! A beautiful hymn – sung by a woman whose life was filled with kindness and giving and generosity and love.

The above is my intro to some thoughts on hymns – the power of hymns – Methodists were born to sing – thanks to John and Charles! And what do those hymns do? Music to teach theology, music to express prayer, music to unite congregations. Hymns are foundational pieces of worship. John and Charles realized the spiritual power of communal singing during their travels, especially through encounters with the Moravians. Charles wrote 6,000+ hymns, many set to popular tunes, so everyone could be involved in the singing – connecting those who could read music with those who could learn by listening.

When was the last time you looked in the front of the United Methodist Hymnal and found Directions for Singing from John Welsey's Select Hymns. 1761. Charles wrote the hymns, and John suggested how we should sing them. Directions for singing were to encourage active and heartfelt participation from everyone. These directions can be fun to use in planning a worship service on hymns or the program for a church meeting or the introduction for each section of a District Conference – if you remember at a recent Catskill Hudson District Conference that is exactly what we did – we introduced each section of the meeting with a singing rule! These directions make us smile, make us want to do exactly as the direction instructs – always ending with the final direction – "Above all sing spiritually. Have an eye to God in every word you sing……."

A bit more about hymns – the definition – a religious song or poem to God or a god. The word "song" and its variations appear in the Bible over 400 times. The Bible is not a songbook; however, there are at least 185 songs, of which 150 are found in the Psalms, with the others in Song of Solomon and Lamentations. During COVID, New Connexions (at that time, New Paltz UMC) offered a weekly Hymn-a-Long, a half-hour-plus of hymns to brighten the soul during the lonely and isolated times of COVID. It was a Facebook Live event – and many tuned in each week to listen to these hymns. Responses were heartwarming and thankful for this opportunity to be immersed in music. This continued well after the COVID years. Another pastor in a Catskill Hudson church also offered a weekly hymn – a beautiful voice singing with his guitar. Again, a beautiful way to escape from daily issues and be engulfed in music.

For me, hymns are my source of daily prayers – they are my everyday "go-to". As I said I have been singing What a Friend We Have in Jesus" since Sunday. I find a hymn verse or tune comes to me each day as my source of morning prayer – part of my morning devotional. These hymns might be shortened to a breath prayer – sometimes I sing them to myself, and often I hear the tune. These hymns – this music have helped to sustain me in the last few years as my personal life has had some serious challenges. Some of my favorite hymns – Hymn of Promise, It Is Well with My Soul, Abide With Me, God Will Take Care of You, Great Is Thy Faithfulness, Grace Alone, Healer of Our Every Ill, and so many more. Then I go to Taizé chants and prayers – these songs are repetitive and meditative, such as O Lord, Hear My Prayer, Stay with Me, and Jesus, Remember Me.

And why did I just ramble all of above? It's because we must never forget or neglect the power of hymns and the power of music. Singing hymns together builds community – builds connection – we are called to be together and sing together! We are United Methodist – we want to be more like John and Charles! When was the last time you participated in a big old-fashioned hymn sing! Want to do one? What is your favorite hymn? Music and hymns heal the soul.

With love of hymns and music,

Margaret Howe
New Connexions UMC
Catskill Hudson District Lay Leader

Round Table meets via zoom on the 2nd & 4th Tues evenings at 8:05 pm.
Email Patsy Boisvert at pmboisvert22@gmail.com to join the group.
Topics:
November 10th Do you relate to a single person in the Bible? – Shirley

November 24th If you could choose one book as a mandatory read for all high school students, which book would you chose?

Adult Bible Study

Join us via Zoom on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm for this weekly adult Bible study with a time of prayer and praise. Contact Clay Beattie at (845) 223-5584 for reading materials.

Yoga

Beginner/All Levels "Align & Refine"
RajaHatha Yoga

Trinity United Methodist Church

Tuesday Class	**5:30 - 6:45 pm**
Thursday Class	**6:00 - 7:15 pm**
Saturday Class	**9:00 - 10:15 am**



Please arrive 10 minutes prior to start of class.
Class cost: $5 (20% donated to church)

Trinity Piecemakers

The Trinity Piecemakers will meet in the Fellowship Hall on the first Thursday of each month at 7:15 pm. Meeting dates will be posted during church. Please contact Debbie Beattie at: 845-223-5584 for more information.

Trinity United Methodist Church

Webpage: https://trinityumclagrange.org

Worship Recordings
Use this link to see the worship recordings on the Trinity YouTube channel.

https://www.youtube.com/@tumclagrange8619

Trinity United Methodist Church
6 South Cross Road
LaGrangeville, NY 12540



DATES TO REMEMBER

Nov 1st	**All Saints Day** **Holy Communion** **Daylight Savings Time ends**
Nov 3rd	**Election Day**
Nov 7th	**TUMC Auction**
Nov 8th	**Stewardship Sunday 1 (treasure)**
Nov 11th	**Veterans Day**
Nov 15th	**Stewardship Sunday 2 (talent)**
Nov 17th	**Food Pantry Bagging**
Nov 19th	**Food Pantry Distribution**
Nov 22nd	**Thanksgiving Sunday** **Charge Conference at Poughquag 2 pm**
Nov 26th	**Thanksgiving Day**
Nov 29th	**First Sunday of Advent**

The Trinity Times

Editor: Bob Boisvert
Send articles to:
raboisvert47@gmail.com
Church email:
trinitylagrange@aol.com
Church Website:
www.trinityumclagrange.org
Church Facebook:
Trinity UMC LaGrange
Church phone: 845-223-3152
Pastor: Rev Eileen Freeman
Pastor's email:
eileenfmfreeman@gmail.com
Choir Director: Craig Grant
Organist: Heidi Tucci
Secretary: Eileen Hartney
Secretary's email:
eghartney@gmail.com