

Trinity Tidings

From the Rector: The Season of Gratitude



If I were to tell you that there are certain things I'm asked about over and over as a priest, I bet you wouldn't be surprised. Specific topics come up with understandable regularity. A lot of them have to do with death and dying, or the Church's stance on certain issues, or what exactly *is* an Episcopalian?

A few weeks ago, I was teaching Inquirer's Class in our parish library. The question came up about praying extemporaneously - or, more to the point, *how* to pray extemporaneously. I told the person to my right to please open the cabinet that housed the dry-erase board. Inside, there was the formula I give people for composing prayers, left over from our Book and Bible Study earlier in the week.

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Celebration of New Ministry
Installation of Mother Mary Ann as our Rector
and Confirmation with Bishop Hunn
Saturday, November 18, 1:00 pm
Reception Following
ALL WELCOME—PLEASE COME!

SAVE THESE DATES!	
Saturday, December 2	Children's Christmas Bazaar, 9 am
Sunday, December 10	St. Nicholas visits TOTH, 10:30 am
Sunday, December 17	Advent Lessons and Carols, 5:00 pm
Sunday, December 24 Christmas Eve No 8 am service	Advent IV service, 10:30 am Christmas Pageant and Communion, 5:00 pm Carols for the Christ Child
Monday, December 25 Christmas Day	Holy Eucharist, 10:00 am
Sunday, December 31 No 8 am service	First Sunday after Christmas, Low Mass with Carols, 10:30 am

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Weekly Worship Schedule

Sunday
8 am: Rite I Holy Eucharist

**10:30 am Rite II Holy Eucharist
 (with music)**

Wednesday
**12:30 pm: Healing Service
 St. Athanasius Chapel**

**~ Come Worship With Us! ~
 All are Welcome**

Trinity on the Hill Episcopal can be found at:
 3900 Trinity Drive,
 Los Alamos NM 87544
www.latoth.org
admin@latoth.org
 505-662-5107

FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

In the spirit of stewardship and the upcoming Thanksgiving, I thought I might write this article about what TOTH has meant to me. When I think about TOTH, the first thought that comes to mind is family, family, family and serving our Lord with joy and celebration. My brothers and sisters in Christ are here. Some of the best events (such as shopping at the Children's Christmas Bazaar and Shop on the Corner) occur here. The diversity, both in the idea that all are welcome and that every generation and walk of life are welcome, occurs here. The best, most sincere smiles of joy, of welcome, are to be found—here. Our freedom to choose a rector, to hear her words of wisdom and growth that are focused on Jesus are to be found here. We love each other, and that bond is obvious and precious.



Rick and I began as Roman Catholics and were part of the Charismatic prayer group at Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM). Music and prayer were joyful, made even more so when Colin and Sue Ellen Kelly would reach across the aisle and sometimes join us. And our IHM music team would cross back over Canyon Road to join TOTH for the healing services. So our affinity with TOTH started decades ago.

Fast forward to the Cerro Grande fire, when close to 300 homes burned in this town, ours included. TOTH was right in the thick of it all, collecting donations of needed items, contacting us, drawing us into this amazing community of fellowship where we felt loved and cared for. God was calling us to a new future with this family, some of whom are quirky, some unique, where we were wanted and needed, where we were encouraged to contribute our skills and energies. And we have never looked back. This is God's home; this is our family.

So in the spirit of stewardship and Thanksgiving, what gifts can we all bring to our family, to our Lord, in giving and sharing in these holiday times?

Blessings and joy,

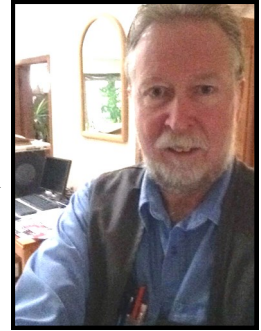
Lisa

Senior Warden

Psalm 95:1-2 "Come let us sing joyfully to the Lord; let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation. Let us greet Him with thanksgiving, let us joyfully sing psalms to him."

FROM THE JUNIOR WARDEN

When happened? Just a few days ago I was writing to you about the month past and now here we are again, so? What have you been doing?



Let's get started. By the time you read this instalment the weather will be cold and turkey dinner will be a gleam in my eye but nonetheless the eleventh month is unfolding before us.

So I closed the windows in Kelly Hall, got the Nursery AC unit put away and it is time to start heating our church again. This follows on with the thought that snow will fall soon and we will be hitting you up with the usual winter pleas (please?). You know, outdoor sweeping and raking, ice melt and snow shovel distribution at the doorways, inside to drain the swamp coolers and stow them for the winter, and the biggest topic (snow shoveling). So whaddaya think? Who do you know wants to shovel some snow?

I elicit your participation, share your thoughts, your dreams, your aspirations, your ideas for where we can go together. If you have something on your mind, reach out to me, or to anyone else for that matter. No matter what the topic, just reach for a connection. You'll love it, it's a way of life.

Returning to previous writings, even though some of the items on the list of past have been accomplished, there are still plenty of other things that need to be done yet. One thing in particular on my mind for our near future is that I would like to ask for a work day during the second weekend of December, so consider this as fair warning.

Oh yeah, about that reach out thing I mentioned: have you? To someone? lately?

OK, let's get on it together then.

Mark Hartman
Junior Warden

CALLING ALL HELPERS!

As we approach winter and the busy holiday season, we all pray for snow and a white Christmas, but when our requests are granted, the church needs some extra help shoveling so that all the folks who keep our amazing church running can safely come in to work and worship! If you are able to help, **please contact the church office by phone or email (see below) or Isabella Stephens** at church on Sundays to sign up for any and all days you can! Please leave your name, number, and email so we can get in touch with you. Thank you!!



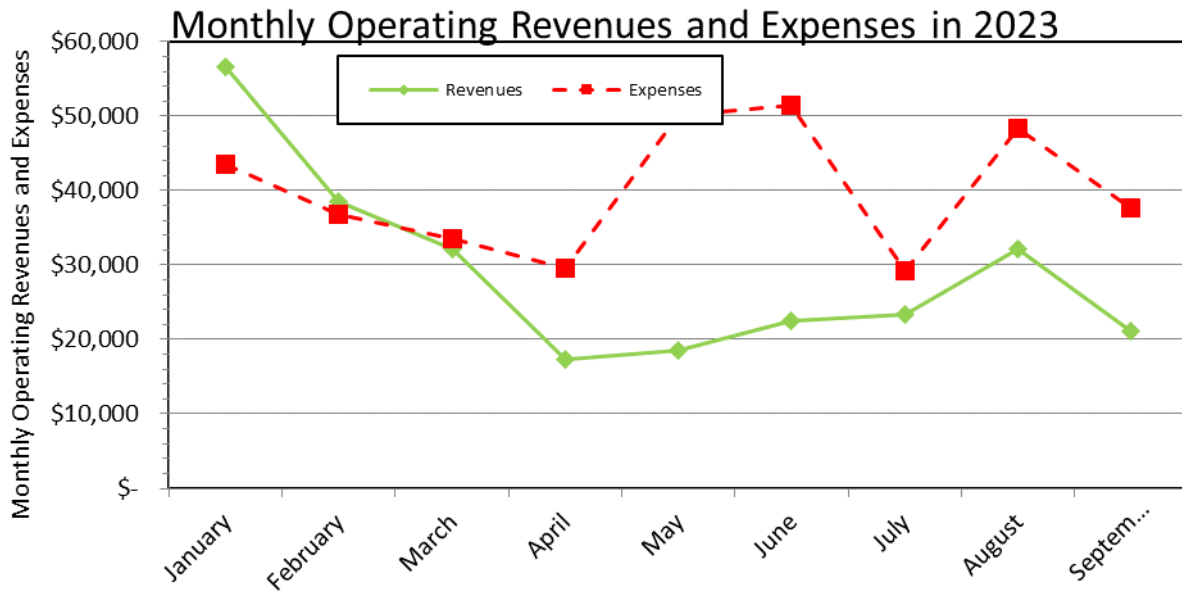
Church office:

Phone: (505) 662-5107

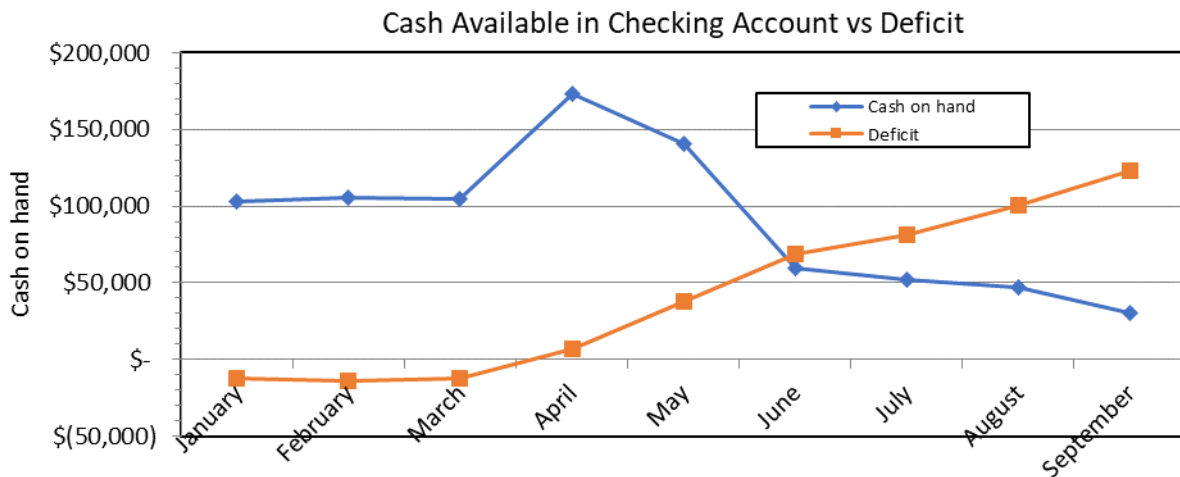
Email: admin@latoth.org

TOTH September Financial Status

Greetings again from your friendly neighborhood Treasurer. I am coming to you again to with an update on this year's finances. **Our annual revenue continues to fall short of our expenses.** This month our expenses fell down to a more expected level but our revenues also fell.



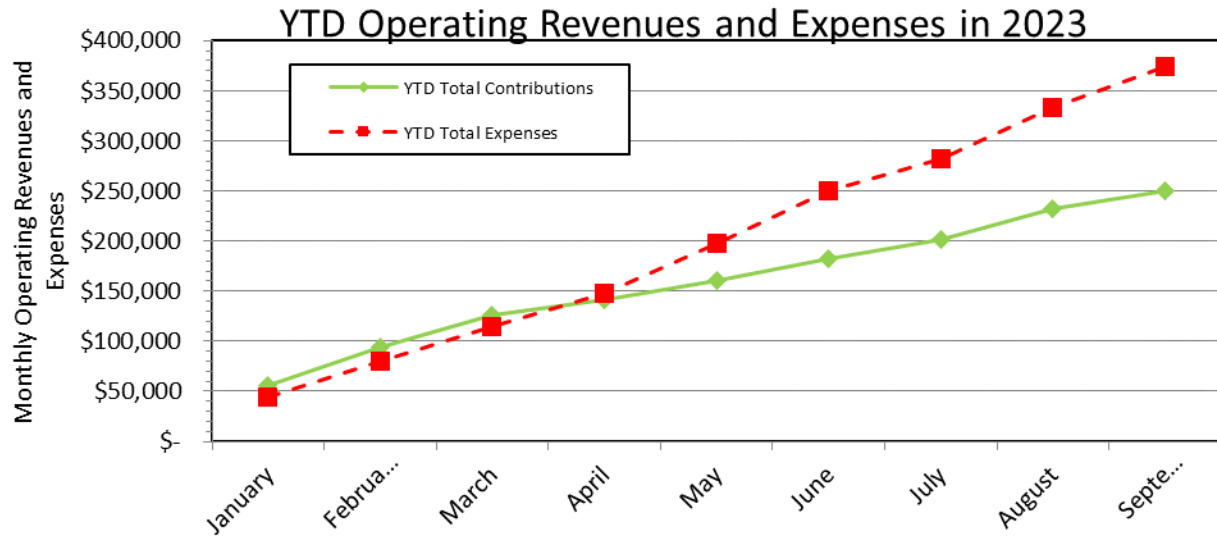
Below is a new chart that will help visualize our financial status. It shows the amount of money we have unallocated in our checking account vs. the deficit. When the deficit exceeds the cash on hand, we will have to take money from the endowment or restricted funds to cover the difference. This year we have spent **\$123,318 more than we have brought in**. Our cash on hand, which is unallocated funds in our checking account, is down to **\$30,511**.



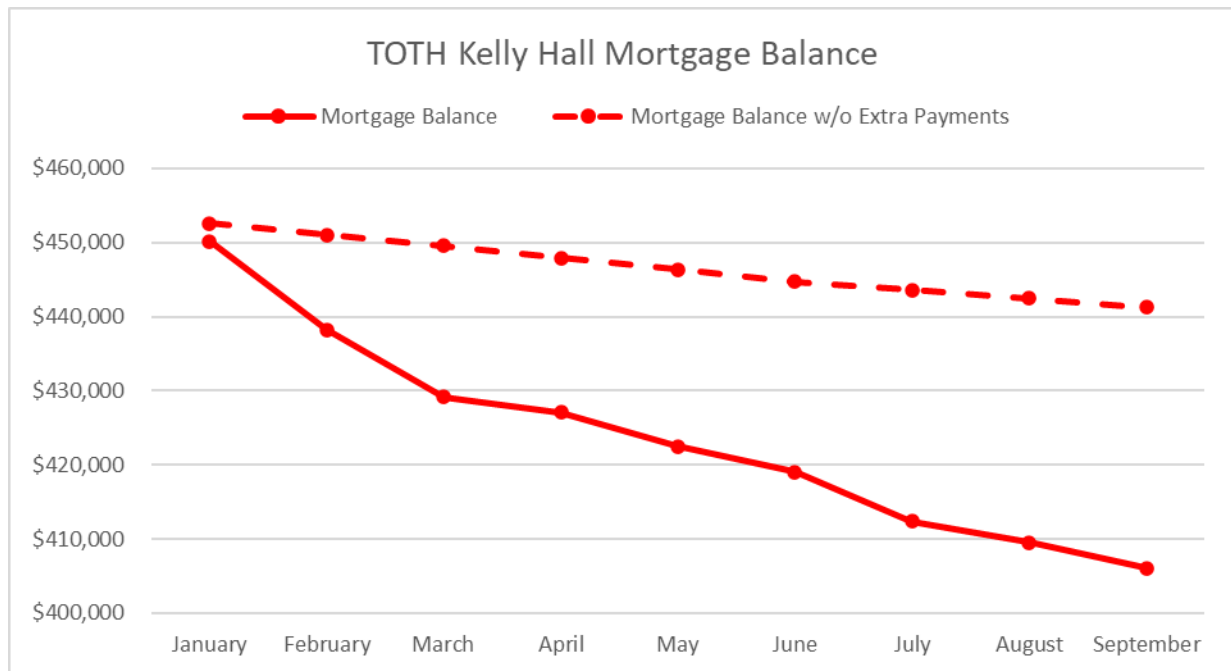
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This graph shows the total year cumulative revenues and expenses to see the big picture.



Finally, here is the current status of the mortgage. With extra payments we paid off \$3,459 of the principle in September. If this years trend continues we'll pay off the Kelly Hall mortgage within 8 years.



Leni Moore, Treasurer

continued from page 1

I explained that, while we can just talk to God when we are praying privately, if we are asked to pray in a group setting, and we don't have the Book of Common Prayer handy, we can use the form of a short letter. You start with a salutation: Dear God/Heavenly Father/Gracious God, etc. Then you state some thing(s) you are grateful for. Then you add your requests or what we formally call petitions. Then you sign off "in Jesus' name we pray/through Jesus Christ our Lord/etc., Amen." (Amen meaning "so be it.")

So a prayer built on this formula might look like this:

Gracious God, we give you thanks for Trinity on the Hill. We thank you for all the opportunities you have given us over the years to witness to your love in Los Alamos.

Help us to bring others to know, love, and serve you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

I have to be honest, there was a time when it never occurred to me that I should express some gratitude before launching into whatever I wanted to ask. Much of the time I was so focused on whatever my concerns were, that I was eager to get to it right away.

The person who taught me to start with thanks first, was a man in the first parish I served as a rector, named Keith Chesterton. Keith was one of those perfectly stalwart church members that are mentioned in the hymn "I sing a song of the Saints of God": dedicated, faithful, generous, hard-working.

Keith was the one who, along with his wife, made a deal with God that each year, when they made their pledge to the Church, they would increase their giving by ten percent. The deal was that, if there were ever a time when they couldn't afford bread for their children, they wouldn't give that week. Thankfully, that day never came. As you might imagine, Keith was the kind of person that made an impression on a young priest, and I paid attention to the things he shared with me.

So for the last twenty years, I have started nearly every prayer with some kind of thanksgiving. There has rarely been a situation in which I haven't found some-

thing to be grateful for. In a dire medical situation, you will perhaps hear me give thanks for the gift of modern medicine. When someone has died, I give thanks for God bringing that person into our lives on our earthly pilgrimage. When I am going through tough times, I give thanks for the lessons that I will learn and the growth that will inevitably occur.

This is not to say that there aren't times when things are so bad that I can't think of something. Like everyone else who prays at all, there are times when all I can manage is "PLEASE HELP!" And that's perfectly okay. We should never lose sight of Jesus on the cross, asking God to take the cup of pain and sorrow away. Jesus, in his humanity, is a comfort and pattern for us.

In this season of gratitude, what are you thankful for, despite the challenges you face? While it's true that it took six months for me to find a permanent home, I'm grateful for the temporary roof over my head; for getting to live in such an interesting community; for the natural beauty that surrounds us; and for a congregation that appears to be growing again. Just this last Sunday, we had several people in church whom I had not seen before. At our young families' potluck last week, we had 35 adults and children. From what I've been told, the number of families participating in the last year has more than doubled. And I know some of you have been inviting friends and family members to church.

If you struggle with finding things to be grateful about, please know that all of us go through that at one time or another. One thing that may help is including a prayer for God to help you see where his grace and loving-kindness is to be found. With the great 17th century poet and clergyman George Herbert, we may say: "Thou has giv'n, so much to me, give me one more thing, a grateful heart."

Family Christmas Eve 2023

Las Posadas

Rehearsals December 3rd, 10th, 17th
2 to 4 pm

(1st Grade and up)

Coming Soon! The 2023 Children's Christmas Bazaar

The final team meeting for the 2023 Children's Christmas Bazaar will be held in Sherrill Hall on **Sunday, November 12, at noon**. Light refreshments will be provided. All are welcome to attend.

Also, volunteers are needed!

- **Do you like to bake?** Please consider donating yummy treats. Any amount is helpful, but 3 dozen would be amazing. Drop off the baked goods on December 1 between noon and 5pm in Kelly Hall.
- **Need a quick workout?** Consider helping to set up tables and move boxes on December 1 between noon and 4pm.
- **Need a second workout?** Clean-up volunteers needed for Saturday, December 2, from 3-5pm.
- **Other volunteer positions** are available for wrapping, in the shopping area, and more. Please see flyer in the Church narthex for more information and to sign up to volunteer.

Lastly, please **spread the word** about the 2023 TOTH Children's Christmas Bazaar:

Saturday, December 2, from 9 am - 2 pm

For questions, contact Zandrea Glenn at 505-709-0805

<https://latoth.org/childrens-bazaar/> (for the SignUp Genius link)





The
Gospel According to
MARK

A live, solo performance by

Jeffrey Favorite

from the New International Version® of the Holy Bible

Sunday, October 22, 4pm (doors open at 3:30pm)

Friday & Saturday, November 3 & 4, 7pm

(doors open at 6:30pm)

Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church

3900 Trinity Dr., Los Alamos

(505) 662-5107/www.latoth.org

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Los Alamos TOTH

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

FOR THE CHILDREN'S
Christmas Bazaar

DEC. 1 & 2, 2023

Use link above to volunteer for a specific time & date

Questions?
Call: 505-662-5107
Email: admin@LATOTH.org

<https://latoth.org/childrens-bazaar/> (for the SignUp Genius link)

Los Alamos TOTH

DONATION SUGGESTIONS:

KID TOYS
NECK TIES
ORNAMENTS
JEWELRY
BOOKS
BOARD GAMES
SCARFS
WINTER CLOTHES

DIY KITS
COLORING BOOKS
DINOSAURS
MAGNETS
LEGOS
GLOVES
GADGETS
TOOLS
KITCHEN ITEMS
FIGURINES
PUZZLES
KNICH KNACKS

Questions?
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Email: admin@LATOTH.org

Trinity Tidings

A newsletter of Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church

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Trinity on the Hill's Mission

The Mission of Trinity on the Hill is to share the power and joy of God's love, to fully embrace all God's children, and to respond to the needs of our community and the world in the spirit of Jesus Christ

The next regularly scheduled issue will be in December, 2023. Submission deadline: Monday, November 27, 2023.

Submit electronically to admin@latoth.org

October's Children's Sunday School

Many of our families used the public school's Fall Break to adventure out of the state. We are excited to see everyone back in church for the later part of October and are welcoming the cold weather, most of our kids hoping for snow to come soon and the fun that snow brings - skiing!

2 age-groups are offered for Children's Sunday School every Sunday from 9:15am - 10:15am:

- Younger group meets in Classroom 4, with grade 2 and under led by Zandra Glenn.
- Older group meets in Kelly Hall with grade 3 and up led by Keith Stephens.

Children's Sunday School needs volunteers to be a **teacher's assistant**. Please contact Kelli Maginot to get involved.



Kids made cinnamon rolls in the Kelly Hall kitchen to share with church family at coffee hour

The younger and older age groups combined classes to learn about Joshua. Here, they are working together to pretend to cross the Jordan River.



For the record: October 2023

Funeral: Mary Jane Cunningham, October 7, 2023



Coats for Refugees



The Interfaith Coalition is once again gathering **new** coats for the refugees who have recently settled in Albuquerque. Many are being assisted by the Lutheran Family Services organization. For more info about LFS: <https://www.lfsrm.org/>

Most of these families and individuals are from warmer climates, so the chilly weather is a shock! If you wish to participate, please donate **new items for boys and girls** in sizes Small and Medium for ages attending kindergarten through 6th grade. You can also donate for **teens and adults** in sizes Small, Medium, and Large. To make this easy, we are also gladly accepting gift cards for any dollar amount which will be used to purchase coats. Suggested stores for gift cards are Target and Walmart.

The coat drive will occur through the month of November. A collection box will be located at TOTH, in the narthex or outside Kelly Hall, as space permits.

Thank you so much for your generosity to the refugee community. The families so appreciate the kindness of the church communities here in Los Alamos!

NOVEMBER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

November 2023

Date	Time	Acolytes	LEM/LR	Prayers of the People, 10:30	Media Team 10:30	Usher 10:30	Altar Guild
Nov. 5	8:00	Luke Favorite	Luke Favorite				
	10:30	Ben Foley, Server Susan Sprake, Crucifer, River Yamada, Josh Moore, TB	Lisa Rothrock, LEM/LR Marilyn Lisowski, LEM	Lisa Rothrock	Rick/Richard	D. Giovanielli	Marilyn and Paul Lisowski Andy and Linda Light
Nov. 12	8:00	Richard Triplett, Server	Kay Dreamtrader, LR Richard Triplett, LEM				
	10:30	Isabella Stephens, Server River Yamada, Crucifer Gregory Maginot, Anna Moore, TBs	Linda Light, LEM/LR Isabella Stephens, LEM	Claire Singleton	Bill/Mark	Maggie Moore	Ellie Giovanielli Marybeth Stephens Jo Moore Susannah Smith Sarah Rochester
Sat. Nov. 18	1 pm	Susan Sprake, Server Ben Foley, Crucifer	Lynn Godwin, LEM Susan Sprake, LEM Jeff Favorite, LR	Ven. Patty Soukup	Nancy/Bill	Andy Light	Renee Roybal Valarie Prestwood Karen Humphrey
Nov. 19	8:00	Ben Schilling, Server	Rob Baran, LR Ben Schilling, LEM				Renee Roybal Valarie Prestwood Karen Humphrey
	10:30	Isabella Stephens, Server Susan Sprake, Crucifer River Yamada, Peter Maginot, TBs	Renee Roybal, LEM/LR Susan Sprake, LEM	Nancy Coombs	Richard/Rachel	Andy Light	
Nov. 26	8 am	Richard Triplett, Server	Rozelle Wright, LR Richard Triplett, LEM				Rozelle and Brad Wright Kathy and Pete Peterson
	10:30	Ben Foley, Server River Yamada, Crucifer	Susan Sprake, LEM/LR Lynn Godwin, LEM	Linda Light	Michelangelo Robin	Bill Godwin	



Sundays:

- **Holy Eucharist Rite I** at 8 am, in person only.
- **Holy Eucharist Rite II with music** at 10:30 am, in person and via Facebook live at www.facebook.com/trinityoth
- **Compline**, 7 pm in the Sanctuary. Prayers by candle-light, with plainsong. All welcome!

Tuesdays:

- **Women Alive** at 7:30 am via Zoom (3rd Tuesday); in Sherrill Hall (2nd and 4th Tuesdays). Contact Rozelle Wright or Claire Singleton for the link. First Tuesday walks around sunrise.

Wednesdays:

- **Service of Healing**, 12:30 pm in St. Athanasius Chapel. In-person only.

Thursdays:

- **Men's Group**, 7:30 am, Sherrill Hall
- **Book and Bible Study**, 12 noon, Library

It's time to shop THE SHOP!



The glorious golden cottonwoods light the way for the fast-approaching holiday season. A time of family and friends, festivities, and food will soon be here, and we volunteers at the Shop on the Corner await your visit.

Our kitchen section has many items to help you prepare your holiday fare. There are dishes and tableware to dress your table plus tablecloths and napkins to make it holiday-ready. Bed linens, sheets, and towels will be ready for your out of town guests, and all are neatly folded and sized. Books and puzzles make terrific gifts as do all of the toys and games in a separate children's section.

Clothing is divided into sections for coats and jackets, women's wear, men's shirts and pants, and infants' and children's clothing. You'll also find a section of tools, outdoor equipment, and many other useful items. You'll find lovely upscale clothes and "bling" in our Boutique.

You can't miss our Christmas section, beautifully displayed with ornaments and gift items to help you prepare for the most joyful of holidays.

We look forward to seeing you!

PS: Don't forget how much we love your donations!

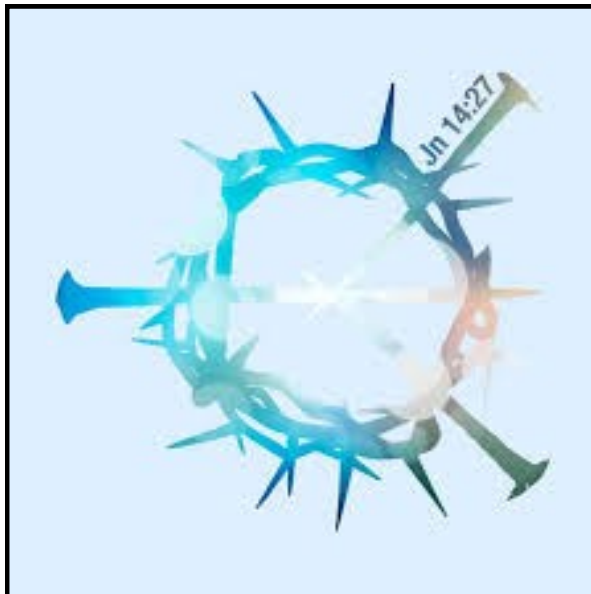


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Los Alamos, NM 87544

Return Service Requested



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November 2023