

## From the Pastor's Pen

"Ever since I first heard of your strong faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for God's people everywhere, I have not stopped thanking God for you."

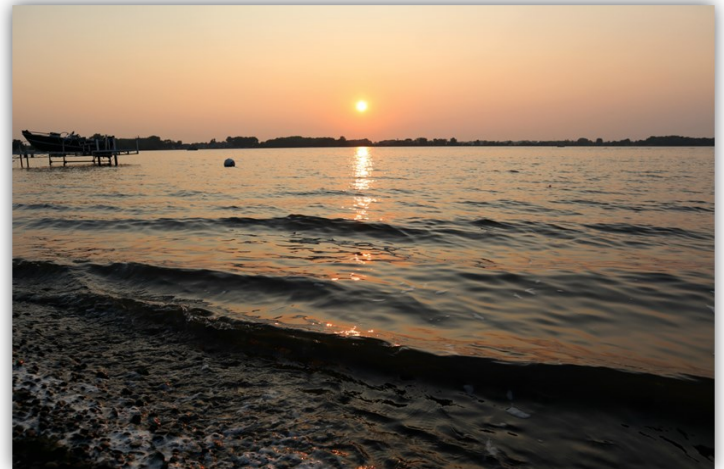
- Ephesians 1:15-16 (NLT) -

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In this month of November, with Thanksgiving quickly approaching, I thought I would take a moment to draw us into a space of gratitude. As a faith community, we have so much for which to be thankful. God has abundantly blessed us this year. God's loving presence has been with us in times of struggle, and God's Spirit of joy has filled us in our celebrations. We have built deeper relationships with one another, and we have grown in our faith and in our roles as followers of Jesus. God has given us all that we need to be the people we were made to be and to live out our calling as a community of faith.

I invite you to take a moment to reflect on the ways God has blessed you this year. Ponder the provision God has offered to us, as a congregation. Think about the ways you have seen the Spirit at work among us. How has your life been enriched by God's blessings? What new, resurrection life have you seen sprouting up here at Trinity? What impact have you noticed for our neighbors, particularly those who are most vulnerable? Hold onto these blessings. Treasure these amazing gifts of grace. Pause ... and give thanks to God for his tremendous mercy and goodness.

God has been *so good* to us ... *and* I am grateful for all the ways you have responded, shown up, and enthusiastically been a part of the work the Holy Spirit has been doing among and through us. Together, we have put our faith into action. We have helped to feed the hungry. We have shared the joy of Christ with those who are less fortunate. We have loved, blessed, and served our neighbors at Bethel Lutheran Home. We have provided quilts to those in need of warmth and love, and self-care kits for those who don't have all they need. We have provided financial support to various organizations and ministries through the Mission of the Month. We have offered a compassionate presence for the lonely and homebound in our community. And so much more. Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness!



Trinity's stewardship emphasis for the month of November will be "gratitude". Throughout the month, we'll hear from a few of the ministries we partner with and support. We'll consider the impact Trinity's ministry is having on the lives of others. And, we'll remember that all of the gifts, resources, and opportunities we have are first given to us by our loving God. Thanks and praise be to God!

With Gratitude.

*Pastor Steve*



This year's community Thanksgiving Eve worship service will be held at Grace Episcopal Church.

# Unapproved October Council Meeting Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Church Council Meeting  
Tuesday, October 15, 2024  
7:00 p.m.

President Tom Farrell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Council recited Trinity's mission statement.

Present: Pastor Steve Lindley, President Tom Farrell, Vice president Kurt Christiansen, Secretary Nancy Sabbe, Walker Ruhd, Marie Millage, Eric Anderson, Darrel Presuhn, Lucas Muller, Karen Giles, Patti Weber, Virginia Lemme, Stacy Thomsen, Shelly Balogh, Alicia Koch, Dani Ruhd

Absent and excused: Deacon Koren Lindley, Jean Mitchell, Melody Hansen

Vice president Kurt Christiansen gave a devotion reminding all present that we always have an open line of communication with God through prayer, and that we need to be open to communication when God speaks to us.

Pastor Steve opened the meeting with prayer.

Motion by Darrel Presuhn to approve the agenda as distributed. Seconded by Virginia Lemme. Motion carried.

Motion by Eric Anderson, seconded by Marie Millage, to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2024, meeting as printed. Motion carried.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

As of September 30, 2024:

General Fund Offering	\$239,329.10
Expenses	\$286,851.05
Expenses Over Offering	(\$ 47,521.95)

The work arrangement with Katie Nelson is going well so far.

Motion by Kurt Christiansen, seconded by Walker Ruhd, to accept the Financial Report. Motion carried.

## REPORTS

Pastor Steve reported

- Staff reviews are scheduled for next week.
- They are experiencing some issues with the WIFI in the office. Infotech has been working on the issue.
- Diane Bruns introduced Operation Christmas Child at services last Sunday.
- Plans are being finalized for Confirmation Sunday, All Saints' Sunday, and Hanging of the Greens services.

- Confirmation classes are going well. The ninth graders had a retreat last Sunday, and Pastor Steve is meeting one on one with the ninth graders.
- The high school group continues to meet.
- He and Deacon Koren are exploring possible Advent studies.

Deacon Koren provided a written report.

President Tom Farrell reported

- Work on the 2025 mission statement is proceeding.
- He thanked Dani Ruhd for all her work on the God's Work, Our Hands project. It was a great success with 110 participants.

Board of Deacons—Virginia Lemme reporting

- Hanging of the Greens is scheduled for December 1. The theme is "And on Earth, Peace."
- The care team is visiting 16 homes currently.
- Two service group leaders have resigned. Patti Weber will try rotating the position of leader through members of those groups.
- Lucas Muller has been filming activities for the introductions to volunteer activities.
- Our Savior and Trinity are a presence on the DSU campus. Pastor Rebecca Breddin and Deacon Koren are visiting the campus.

Board of Trustees—Eric Anderson reporting

- A letter has been received from the city of Madison notifying Trinity that it is necessary to replace 330 square feet of sidewalk by July 1, 2025. He will contact the city to learn which areas need to be replaced.
- The AED units will be tested to be sure they work before looking for pads to replace the expired pads.
- Northern Construction from Tea, SD, has been contacted to look at the Narthex window.
- The elevator is not working, Otis Elevator has been contacted.
- The ladder lock is up.
- The digital sign is functional.
- Looking into the addition of a drop box outside the office door.
- The Stewardship Committee is preparing a handout/bulletin insert for Confirmation Sunday.
- Walker Ruhd has refinished the baptismal font.

# Unapproved October Council Meeting Minutes

Pastor Steve has contacted an artist about creating a bowl for the font.

- The Preschool has some plumbing issues. David Neu will be contacted to investigate the cause.

Board of Parish Education—Dani Ruhd reporting

- A cake will be purchased for the coffee hour on Confirmation Sunday.
- Stacy Thomsen is planning a fall activity for the youth and possibly a service project as well.

President Tom Farrell reminded the Boards to have budget proposals ready for discussion at the November meeting.

Vice president Kurt Christiansen reported that the Nominating Committee has met and is actively seeking candidates.

## TEAM BUILDING

Pastor Steve asked the members to discuss this question: “At this point in your spiritual journey, what are the biggest questions you are working through?”

## OLD BUSINESS

The distribution of the tithe of the Hannemann Funds was discussed. Motion by Kurt Christiansen, seconded by Dani Ruhd, to distribute the funds as follows: \$4,000 to Trinity Preschool for the purchase and installation of playground equipment; \$4,000 to the Trinity Foundation to re-establish the missionary fund; the remainder, \$12,256.00, to the Bethel Foundation. Motion carried. This proposed distribution will be brought to the congregation for a vote at the annual meeting.

Virginia Lemme presented the recommendations of the Membership Committee. Motion by Virginia Lemme, seconded by Kurt Christiansen, to accept the following:

### Statement of Welcome and Inclusion

The people of Trinity Lutheran Church believe that Christ welcomes ALL people to himself, as beloved children of God. This means that we embrace the full inclusion of all people into the life and ministry of this faith community. Whether you have been a lifelong member of Trinity or just discovered us, you are welcome. If you are certain of what you believe or are immersed in doubts, you are included. No matter how you may have previously been excluded, you belong. You are welcome to worship with us. You are wel-

come to the table to share Holy Communion with us. You are welcome to join us for Bible studies, book studies, small groups, and other opportunities to explore your faith. You are welcome to participate in coffee hours, potlucks, and all other gatherings we have as a faith community to celebrate and build relationships. You are welcome to serve with us, as we do our best to embody Christ’s love in the world. We welcome YOU...just as Christ welcomes you...just as you are!

If you would like to be a part of what God is up to here at Trinity, if you would like to become more involved, or if you are feeling called to take on a formal leadership role in this faith community, we invite you to connect with Deacon Koren or Pastor Steve.

### Policy for the Welcome and Inclusion of Non-Members

All non-members of Trinity Lutheran Church who desire to be active in the life and ministry of the congregation, hereafter referred to as Trinity mission partner, are welcome at Trinity. We welcome them to worship, Holy Communion, faith formation, and all activities at Trinity withstanding the following. As stated in our constitution,

Non-members may not serve on the council, boards, or other elected leadership positions, and may not vote at any congregational meetings.

Mission partner status will be determined in consultation with the rostered minister(s), council, and staff. There will be a category in Trinity’s rolls to record Trinity mission partner contact information, activity, and giving history. Mission partners will be included in all communications from Trinity, including but not limited to, emails, newsletters, announcements, Sunday School updates, and calendars. We encourage and support the involvement of all our mission partners at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Motion carried.

### NEW BUSINESS

Staff compensation for 2025 was discussed. It was noted that Trinity’s staff received no raises in 2024, however increases in the cost of benefits for the staff were included in the 2024 mission plan. President Tom Farrell proposed 3% raises for Pastor Steve, Alex Eykamp, and the hourly employees. Because Deacon Koren was hired at a salary below synod

(Continued on page 7)

# November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Holy Communion on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays Home Communion on the 3rd Sunday		
<b>03 All Saints Sunday</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2:00AM Daylight Saving Time Ends</li> <li>• 8:45AM–9:45AM Traditional Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>• 10:00AM–11:00AM Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 10:00AM–10:50AM Sunday School : Sunday School Rooms</li> <li>• 11:00AM–12:00PM Celebration Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>• 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM</li> </ul>	<b>04</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7:00PM–8:00PM Bear Den Meeting : Youth Room</li> <li>• 7:30PM–9:00PM Women's Bible Study : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>	<b>05</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office</li> <li>• 1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 5:30PM–6:30PM LSS MRT Group : Room 18</li> </ul>
<b>10</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jingle Change</li> <li>• Stewardship Themed Worship</li> <li>• 8:45AM–9:45AM Traditional Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>• 10:00AM–11:00AM Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 10:00AM–10:50AM Sunday School : Sunday School Rooms</li> <li>• 11:00AM–12:00PM Celebration Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>• 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM</li> <li>• 6:00PM–7:30PM Men's Group : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>	<b>11</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7:00PM–8:00PM Bear Den Meeting : Youth Room</li> <li>• 7:30PM–9:00PM Women's Bible Study : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>	<b>12</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office</li> <li>• 12:00PM–1:00PM Finance Meeting : Zoom</li> <li>• 1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 5:30PM–6:30PM LSS MRT Group : Room 18</li> <li>• 6:00PM–6:45PM Board of Deacons Meeting : Fireside Room</li> <li>• 7:00PM–9:00PM Council Meeting : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>
<b>17</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8:45AM–9:45AM Traditional Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>• 10:00AM–11:00AM Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 10:00AM–10:50AM Sunday School : Sunday School Rooms</li> <li>• 11:00AM–12:00PM Celebration Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>• 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM</li> </ul>	<b>18</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7:30PM–9:00PM Women's Bible Study : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>	<b>19</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:30AM–11:00AM Mary Circle : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office</li> <li>• 1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 5:30PM–6:30PM LSS MRT Group : Room 18</li> </ul>
<b>24 Christ the King Sunday</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8:45AM–9:45AM Traditional Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>• 10:00AM–11:00AM Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 10:00AM–10:50AM Sunday School : Sunday School Rooms</li> <li>• 11:00AM–12:00PM Celebration Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>• 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM</li> </ul>	<b>25</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11:00AM–5:00PM Organ Tuning : Sanctuary</li> <li>• 7:00PM–8:00PM Bear Den Meeting : Youth Room</li> <li>• 7:30PM–9:00PM Women's Bible Study : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>	<b>26</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office</li> <li>• 1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 5:30PM–6:30PM LSS MRT Group : Room 18</li> <li>• 6:30PM–7:00PM Adult Choir Rehearsal : Fireside Room</li> </ul>

# 2024

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		01 <i>All Saints Day</i> • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	02 • 5:00PM–6:00PM Fellowship Potluck Meal : Fellowship Hall • 6:00PM–7:00PM Saturday Worship w/Holy Communion : Fellowship Hall
06 • 5:00PM–5:45PM Epiphany Bells Rehearsal : Sanctuary • 5:30PM–6:00PM Covenant Choir Rehearsal : Fireside Room • 5:30PM–6:30PM 6th–8th Confirmation : Fellowship Hall • 7:00PM–8:00PM High School Youth Group : Youth Room	07 • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall	08 • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	
13 • 5:00PM–5:45PM Epiphany Bells Rehearsal : Sanctuary • 5:30PM–6:00PM Covenant Choir Rehearsal : Fireside Room • 5:30PM–6:30PM 6th–8th Confirmation : Fellowship Hall • 7:00PM–8:00PM High School Youth Group : Youth Room	14 • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall • 6:15PM–7:30PM Foundation Commission Meeting : Conference Room • 6:30PM–7:30PM Pack 5 Meeting: Crossover : Fellowship Hall	15 • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	16 • 9:30AM–11:00AM Hanging of the Greens Rehearsal : Sanctuary
20 • 5:00PM–5:45PM Epiphany Bells Rehearsal : Sanctuary • 5:30PM–6:00PM Covenant Choir Rehearsal : Fireside Room • 5:30PM–6:30PM 6th–8th Confirmation : Fellowship Hall • 7:00PM–8:00PM High School Youth Group : Youth Room	21 • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall	22 • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	
27 • No Preschool–Thanksgiving Break • 5:00PM–5:45PM Epiphany Bells Rehearsal : Sanctuary • 5:30PM–6:00PM Covenant Choir Rehearsal : Fireside Room • No 6th–8th Confirmation • No High School Youth Group	28 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i> • No Preschool–Thanksgiving Break • Office Closed • No Coffee Time on Thursdays	29 • No Preschool–Thanksgiving Break • Office Closed • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	30



Thank you to Susan Williams, Tom Farrell, Roger Moose, Wade and Jennifer Briggs, Karen Kalvig, and Karen Giles for serving Home Communion in October.

### Thank You

Thank you for the prayers, kind words, and support from everyone, as well as the visits from Pr. Steve.  
from Larry and Jean Mitchell

### Lake County Food Pantry 2024 Christmas Turkey and Angel Tree Projects

Angels will be available for adoption on Nov. 16. The Food Pantry's 'Angel Trees' will be located at Gary's Bakery, Montgomery's Furniture, and the Madison Public Library. Wrapped gifts should be delivered to the Downtown City Armory (198 Van Eps Ave N., Madison) beginning Saturday December 7th through Wednesday December 11th (except Sunday) from 11 A.M. to 6 P.M. The Food Pantry will deliver these gifts, along with food on Saturday December 14, 2024. Donations to support the Food Pantry's 42nd annual Christmas gift and food program for deserving families and children are needed and appreciated. Contributions (tax-deductible) can be made through your church (checks to Food Pantry), deposited directly in the Food Pantry's account at First Bank and Trust, or mailed to PO Box 61, Madison, SD 57042. Thank you for your support.

Food Pantry Board of Directors



### Financial Response as of 9/30/2024

The year-to-date statistics are:	
Your General Fund Offering	\$239,329.10
Expenses	<u>\$286,851.05</u>
Expenses over Offering	(\$ 47,521.95)

### Trinity Lutheran Church Statement of Welcome and Inclusion October 2024

The people of Trinity Lutheran Church believe that Christ welcomes ALL people to himself, as beloved children of God. This means that we embrace the full inclusion of all people into the life and ministry of this faith community. Whether you have been a lifelong member of Trinity or just discovered us, you are welcome. If you are certain of what you believe or are immersed in doubts, you are included. No matter how you may have previously been excluded, you belong. You are welcome to worship with us. You are welcome to the table to share in Holy Communion with us. You are welcome to join us for Bible studies, book studies, small groups, and other opportunities to explore your faith. You are welcome to participate in coffee hours, potlucks, and all the other gatherings we have as a faith community to celebrate and build relationships. You are welcome to serve with us, as we do our best to embody Christ's love in the world. We welcome YOU ... just as Christ welcomes you ... just as you are!

If you would like to be a part of what God is up to here at Trinity, if you would like to become more involved, or if you are feeling called to take on a formal leadership role in this faith community, we invite you to connect with Deacon Koren or Pastor Steve.



### November Coffee Hour

The November Coffee Hour will be hosted by the Family of Love. Family Group Leader, Patti Weber, will be contacting you. Your help is always appreciated ~ Thank you!  
FYI ~ December Coffee Hours will be hosted by the Family of Joy.

### Need a Ride to Church?

East Dakota Transit is now offering extended hours for Sunday services, from 8 a.m.–noon. Their service is wheelchair accessible, Medicaid accepted, and seniors (60+) ride free in town. Anyone can ride, but children under four years of age must be accompanied by an adult. Schedule a ride by calling 605-256-5810, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

### Save the Date

Hanging of the Greens  
9:30 a.m., Sunday, December 1



## NEWS FROM THE FOUNDATION

Recent Memorials  
October 21, 2024

### In Memory of Adelyne Stearns

Judy Thompson  
Mary Lingbeck  
Marv and Sandy Rhode  
Gene and Marilyn Hexom  
Greg and Anita Jung  
Alvin and Janice White  
Nyla Sonen  
Mark and Carol Barger  
Marlene Grapes  
David and Gay Spark  
Scott and Rosie Jamison  
Dennis and Carol Nordling  
Robert and Heidi Cole  
Dennis Doer and Judith Payne  
Sally Olson  
Bob and Marcia Olson  
Phillip and Joan Cramer  
Debi Collina  
David and Ann Zervas  
Steve and Cindy Christiansen  
Retha Thrun  
Jerome and Susan Larsen  
Mike and Sharon Halseth  
Bob and Patti Vanhove

### In Memory of Lynnette Taylor

Bob and Patti Vanhove  
Mike and Sharon Halseth

### In Memory of Charlie Lundholm

Dave and Nancy Gilbert  
Marv and Sandy Rhode  
Gene and Marilyn Hexom

## Membership Information

*Is your info. up-to-date?*

Have you moved? Did you disconnect your land-line? Did you change your e-mail address? Did you get married? Did you have a baby? Did you get a divorce? Do you wonder why the church has not been connecting with you? Please notify the church office when you have an address change, e-mail change, marital status change, etc. or update the information on your Realm account.

## Council Minutes Continued

(Continued from page 3)

guidelines, President Tom Farrell suggested that Deacon Koren's compensation be increased to bring her closer to the synod guidelines. The synod is recommending a 5% increase in staff compensation for 2025. The consensus of the Council was to follow the synod recommendation of 5% and to increase Deacon Koren's compensation to bring it closer to synod guidelines.

Motion by Tom Farrell, seconded by Darrel Presuhn, to continue to meet on the second Tuesday of the month. Motion carried.

Motion by Kurt Christiansen, seconded by Patti Weber, to set Sunday, January 19, 2025, as the date of the annual meeting with Sunday, January 26, 2025, as the snow date. Motion carried.

The South Dakota Synod has been awarded a grant from the Lilly Foundation to help establish its "Holy Playground" Initiative which is designed to help Christian congregations more fully engage children in worship and prayer practices.

President Tom Farrell closed the meeting with prayer.

Motion by Virginia Lemme, seconded by Darrel Presuhn, to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Sabbe, secretary

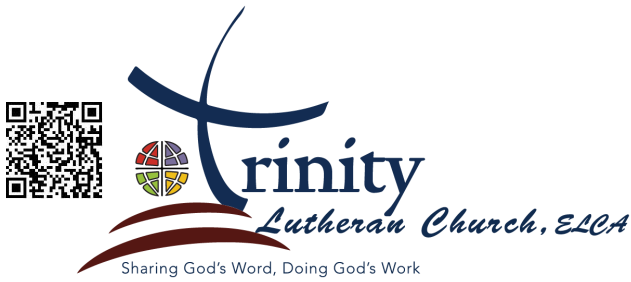


**Invitation  
for  
Youth Musicians**

*"I love every part of LSM! If you want to get better at music, and if you want to be part of an amazing and supportive community, and if you are a person of faith, this is the place for you!" – LSM 2023 student*

**LSM** LUTHERAN  
SUMMER  
MUSIC ACADEMY & FESTIVAL

LSMacademy.org



203 N. Harth Ave.  
Madison, SD 57042

**Return Service Requested**

## Financial Giving Options

- Checks can be mailed to the church.
- Credit cards can be processed in the church office.
- The church website ([www.tlcmadison.com](http://www.tlcmadison.com)) allows for one-time or recurring donations using a checking/savings account or a credit/debit card.
- The Electronic Giving option through Vanco can also be initialized by filling out an application form in the church office.
- If you should have questions with any of these options or would like to discuss which one is the best option for you, please call Alex at the church office at 605-256-2771.

### Mission of the Month

The November Mission of the Month is Lake County Food Pantry. This program has been serving our citizens for 41 years, providing over 40,000 pounds of food to people needing food assistance. One in ten families in Lake County deal with “food insecurity” each day. The program is operated out of the main ICAP office. *Gifts may be designated on offering envelopes/checks to Mission of the Month Fund. The Jingle Change collection on November 10 also supports the Mission of the Month.*

### Food Pantry

The Lake County Food Pantry mission of the month for November is canned vegetables. Diapers and baby wipes are also requested.

### Congregational Information

**Deaths:** Lynnette Taylor on September 26

**Baptisms:** Brody Nielsen on October 27

**Weddings:** none

### Pastoral Care

If you are in need of pastoral care or know someone who is, please contact Pastor Steve or the church office.

# SEE YOU IN CHURCH