PROCLAIMER

Christ Lutheran

November 2026

Worship

Sunday Morning Worship at **8:30** a.m. & **10:30** a.m.

Livestream 10:30 a.m.

Christian Education for all at **9:30** a.m.

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

210-822-3394

office@clcah.org

The office will be **closed on November 3** for **Election Day,** and **November 25 through November 27** for **Thanksgiving.**

From the Pastor . . .

Politics, Religion, and the Thanksgiving Table

November is an important election month… and it is when families gather for Thanksgiving. Religion and politics will be hot topics, particularly as our nation votes for representation at local, state, and national levels. Candidates for these offices are spending record amounts, mostly for television time, and many use religious language to convince voters to support them. When we sit down for turkey and dressing weeks from now, how will you manage conversations that thank God for abundance in our lives, and then deal with the crazy relative at the table who doesn't see things the way you do?

Cameron Trimble, a pastor of the United Church of Christ, and publisher of the theological journal *Convergence,* shared thoughts on how the Hebrew prophets can provide wisdom for us in conducting our holiday conversations with fidelity to our spiritual consciences while respecting and loving others at the table.

First, prophets like Amos and Micah loved their communities of faith but spoke up when they perceived injustice. In their view, silence was not an option, but neither was hate speech. When Amos saw injustice, he told the children of Israel, *Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.* (5:23,24).

Some may say the best option at the Thanksgiving table is to avoid any controversial subjects, just to keep the peace. Maybe that will work for some, and for a brief time, but in the long run, silence in the face of wrong is not "keeping the peace." It's siding with the group in power. Silence may seem the right choice, but silence in the face of injustice is seen by opponents of injustice as agreement.

How then to speak respectfully? Trimble's work in the October 2026 *Convergence* makes the following suggestions:

- Name the harm, not another person's worth. Name-calling or loud voices hurts others. If you know of injustice to real persons, real situations, speak of that, rather than inflaming your listener.
- Ask the prophetic question out loud: *Is this just? Is this merciful? Is this humble?*
- Make room for the people most affected. Who is harmed by unjust practices or events? Name those people and what has hurt them. Give voice to others' hurts.
- Stay at the table. Don't quit the conversation or the relationship, as we will have to share what comes next in our family, our community, nation, and world.
- Act, not just speak. The prophets used verbs to inspire fidelity to God: DO justice, LOVE kindness, WALK humbly.

"Tis the season" for family gatherings. Volume can at times elevate, but remember the Hebrew Prophets. They loved their families and communities of faith enough to speak. We also love our family members, our congregation, and our community, so – listen first, and when you speak, speak with humility, with concern for others, and with love for your listener.

Pastor H

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All Saints Day / Dia del los Muertos Rememberance ● November 1

The tradition of All Saints' Day is beloved at Christ Lutheran. It allows us to gather and remember, grieve, celebrate, and find solace and hope. On **Sunday, November 1**, there was an All Saints' Altar at the front of the church, surrounding the font. This reminds us of our baptismal promise, and that that no matter what, even in death, we are forever held in love by God. Congregants were invited to bring pictures of loved ones to place on the altar in the Fellowship Hall throughout the morning. Candles were strewn across the Sanctuary altar and lit during worship in remembrance of the saints who have gone before us. A special bell tolled in memory of all those members and friends of our community of faith who have died since our last All Saints' remembrance, as we lift their names in prayer.

CLC Book Club ● November 4 ● 6:45 p.m.

Readers will gather in the **Primrose House** on **Wednesday, November 4** at **6:45 p.m.** to discuss The Secret Life of Sunflowers by Marta Molnar. On **Wednesday, December 2**, we will discuss A Fatal Grace by Louise Penny. Newcomers are welcome!

Lutheran Peace Fellowship Webinar ● November 14 ● 11:00 a.m.

You are invited to join a webinar of "**Blessed are the Peacemakers**," hosted by the Lutheran Peace Fellowship. On **Saturday, November 14** at **11 a.m.**, Bishop Dr. Munib Younan, retired Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and former President of the Lutheran World Federation, will present a webinar on "Nonviolence and the Struggle for Justice and Peace in Palestine." You can register for the Zoom link at **https://bit.ly/47tlLza.** You also may find the link at the Lutheran Peace Fellowship website: **lutheranpeace.org**.

Lucy Circle ● November 22 ● 9:30 a.m.

Women who enjoy reading, good conversation, and fellowship are invited to join The Lucies on S**unday, November 22** at **9:30 a.m.** in the **CLC Parlor.** (This month we are meeting on the fourth Sunday instead of the third). We'll be discussing Happiness is a Glass Half Empty by Oliver Burkeman. If you'd like a copy of the article, please let Jan Norris know.

Living in Interesting Times ● Thursdays ● 7:00 p.m.

Living in Interesting Times will meet in the Fellowship Hall at **7 p.m.** on **November 5, 12,** and **19**. We will not meet on Thanksgiving Day.

Tentative speakers include a Jewish peace advocate active on West Bank issues and a member of the Bexar County Commissioners Court. Please watch Sunday bulletins for details.

We are in the process of forming a second group that may meet on Wednesday evenings with different topics. Again, watch the bulletin for details.

All are invited, including non-members, provided they do not quote anyone outside the meeting or do anything to harm someone. Gatherings usually end at 8:30 p.m.

Paul Ziese

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hanging of the Greens ● November 30 ● 11:30 a.m.

This advent we listen for the enduring echoes of angels. Join us for Hanging of the Greens on **November 29** at **11:30 a.m.** as we prepare for the Advent season, sharing fantastic fellowship with good and faithful friends. We will also share the joy of contributing to the beautification of our worship space for the Advent and Christmas seasons at our annual tradition of the Hanging of the Greens in the sanctuary. The children are invited to the Fellowship Hall to make ornaments for the Christmas tree that will adorn our Sanctuary. It's a special gift for them and for the congregation as we admire their creative art throughout the season. Once the work is done, we gather in the Fellowship Hall for tamales and chili, thanks to Clara Tenorio's gracious hosting!



MISSION & OUTREACH



During this season of Thanksgiving, I am very thankful for our community of faith at Christ Lutheran Church, especially for your hearts of service. Many have volunteered and made donations to those in need and helped to deliver donations. We have members who deliver groceries to our new neighbors on a regular basis and those who give out Care Kits for our houseless neighbors. Others have joined in our efforts to grow our mental health ministry in partnership with the Congregational Collective. All these things, however seemingly small, make a difference.

Thanks to all those who contributed to our bake sale fundraiser and those who volunteered in serving dinner to our houseless neighbors through Downtown Dinners this past month. As we embark on November, there are more opportunities to love and serve our neighbors.

Deacon Lisa Diana

Mission & Outreach Team Meeting • November 2 • 6:00 p.m.

The Mission and Outreach Team will meet **Monday, November 2 at 6:00 p.m. in the Parlor and on Zoom.** All are welcome as we discuss upcoming events. Contact Lisa at lisa@clcah.org for questions and for the zoom link.

Habitat for Humanity Build • November 14 • 7:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Please join us at a Habitat for Humanity build! Volunteers need to be age 12 and older but younger children are welcome to the dedication ceremony afterwards. This is the final Saturday of the Lutheran Cluster Build and it is landscaping day. We usually finish early to participate in the dedication ceremony. For more information, contact Chuck Defreest or Lisa Diana at lisa@clcah.org. The location is at 4212 E. Southcross Blvd, San Antonio, 78222. The new homeowner, Christina Moreno, who is a medical assistant and grandmother, is very excited about owning her very first home and has put in many hours of sweat equity already, beyond what's required. Register by scanning the QR code to the right.

Congregational Collective Meeting • December 5 • 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Save the date for the next quarterly meeting of the Congregational Collective on **Saturday, December 5** from **8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.,** location TBD. Everyone is invited to this meeting to learn more about the Collective, to enjoy fellowship with up to 20 other congregations, and to learn from city and county panels concerning **Mental Health and Wellness**. For more information, contact Deacon Lisa Diana at lisa@clcah.org.

Shoulders

by Naomi Shahib Nye

A man crosses the street in rain,
stepping gently, looking two times north and south,
because his son is asleep on his shoulder.

No car must splash him.
No car drive too near to his shadow.

This man carries the world's most sensitive cargo
but he's not marked.
Nowhere does his jacket say FRAGILE, HANDLE WITH CARE.

His ear fills up with breathing.
He hears the hum of a boy's dream deep inside him.

We're not going to be able to live in this world
if we're not willing to do what he's doing with one another.

The road will only be wide.
The rain will never stop falling.



MISSION AND OUTREACH

Coat Drive for the Global Refuge Welcome Center

One of our benevolence partners, **Global Refuge Welcome Center Refugee School Impact Program**, is collecting gently-used coats, sweaters and hoodies for all ages to bring warmth to those in need. Please consider donating to this worthy cause during November. Bring your donations to the donation box in the CrossWay. Thank you!

Christmas Outreach Project: Toy Collection

Inner City Development Christmas Toy Sale & Toys for Immigrant Families

One of CLC's benevolence partners, Inner City Development, brings Christmas cheer every year to its neighbors in the low-income neighborhood it serves. Inner City asks friends to help them set up a Christmas store at their community center at 1300 Chihuahua Street in 78207.

At the same time, our Groceries for Immigrant Families ministry is collecting toys to distribute to children whose families depend on the ministry of Nuevos Vecinos. Inner City Development and Groceries for Immigrant Families will be our Christmas community outreach projects this year – giving needy families a boost so they can present shiny new gifts to their kiddos.

We are asking for donations of new toys, dolls, balls, arts and crafts, puzzles, baby toys, books, games, bikes, and athletic equipment that Inner City will then "sell" to neighbors from their festive pop-up store at the Inner City community center. Shoppers pay at a 90% discount … or whatever they can afford. It brings dignity and joy to families who want to give their children a Merry Christmas but cannot otherwise afford to do so. (Note: They ask that we please not supply any toys or games that promote violence.) Nuevos Vecinos will have a similar toy distribution for their families, although there will be no fee for the toys.

Last year, over 700 children benefitted from the Christmas sale at Inner City, and the funds raised are used to provide emergency services for the families they serve. This will be the first year that CLC has partnered with Nuevos Vecinos for Christmas toys.



Toys should NOT be gift-wrapped. We will deliver to Inner City and Nuevos Vecinos on Saturday, December 12 and ask that you **bring your contributions to the church by Sunday, December 6** and place them in the collection area of the **CrossWay**.

Thank you for caring, sharing, and generously bringing Christmas joy to struggling families in our community.

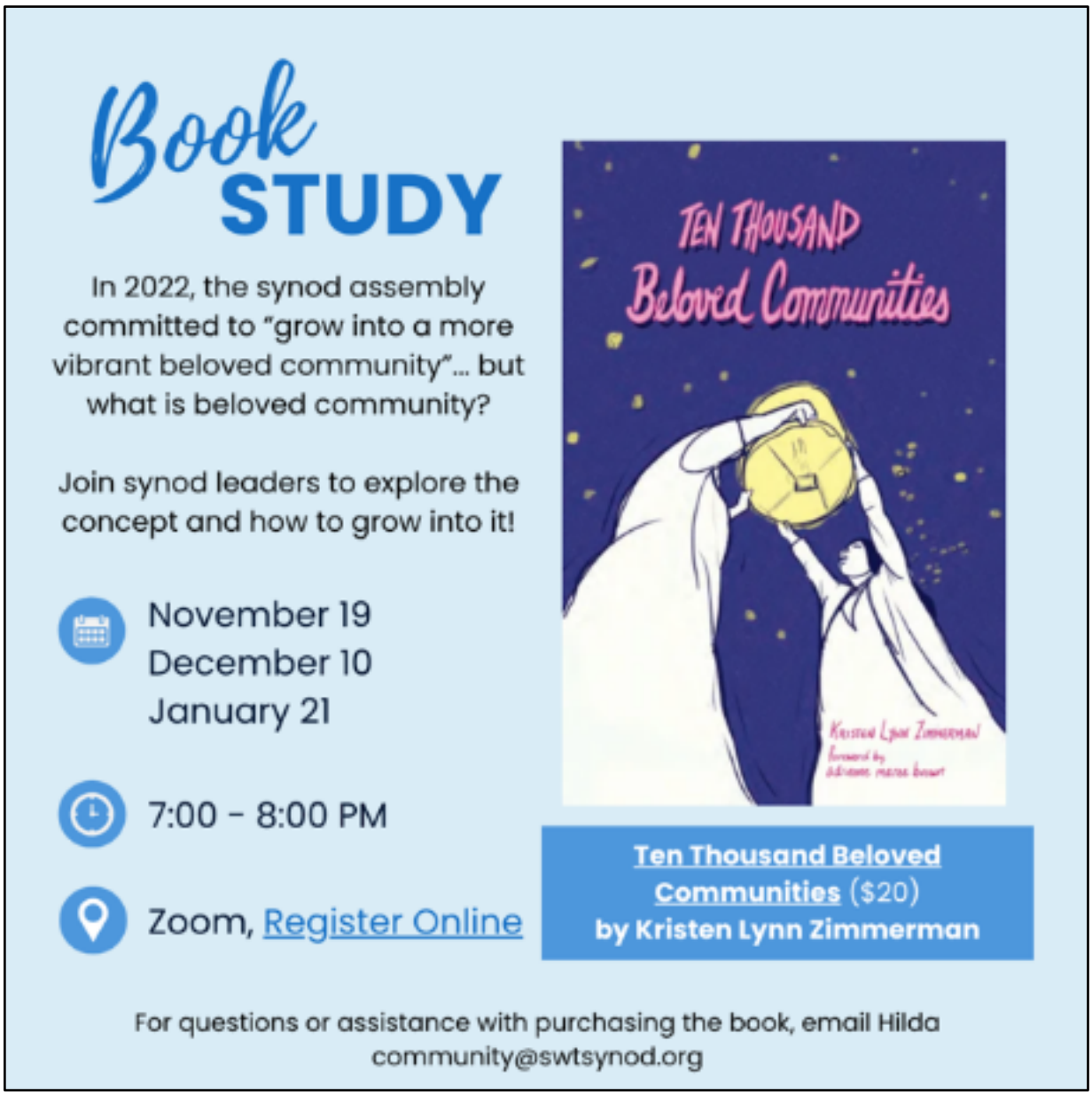
Jan Norris

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Eucharistic & Visitation Care Ministry

As part of SALT coaching through the Congregational Collective, we are growing our Eucharistic and Visitation Team and integrating this team with our Prayer Chain Ministry to better serve our members. We had a great meeting, led by Pastor H, on Sunday, October 11. **If you are interested in learning more about these ministries of caring for one another, we welcome people of all ages and backgrounds**. Contact Lisa Diana at lisa@clcah.org or Pastor H. We plan on meeting again for more fellowship and training.

At one of our SALT workshops, we developed our own statement/elevator speech of what it means: "SALT is a way of interacting in a loving and welcoming way as we live and participate in our church's ministries. We strive to help people feel valued and invited to be part of our fellowship. In our actions we seek to follow the example and teachings of Jesus."



CHILDREN AND YOUTH

From Ms. Blythe

An update from the Director of Faith Formation

October has been a fun-filled and busy month for the youth at Christ Lutheran! Our Wednesday night ministries have been in full swing, with many families sticking around to share a meal and enjoy time together. Sunday School also has been well attended! Kids of all ages begin by gathering for fellowship and a Bible story before breaking into their age groups for games, art, and other fun activities.

Our junior and senior high youth had a great time helping with crafts at Oktoberfest, and Trunk or Treat was a spooktacular success! Meanwhile, our confirmation class of 14 students gathered for their second class of the year, continuing their study of the Old Testament.

We have lots to look forward to in the coming month! During the Sunday School hour, we'll celebrate All Saints' Sunday with an all-ages gathering. We'll also be making ornaments in preparation for **Hanging of the Greens** as we **welcome the Advent season** on **November 29**. And mark your calendars—**Christmas pageant practices begin November 8**!

I'm grateful for the energy, laughter, and fellowship our youth and families bring to Christ Lutheran. We look forward to another month of growing in faith and sharing in the joy of being together!

Ms. Blythe

Children's Choirs ● Wednesdays ● 5:30 - 6:15 p.m.

Angelicus Choir (pre K - Kinder) & Gloria Choir (1st - 5th grade)

The Gloria and Angelicus Choirs continue to gather to sing, have fun, and learn about God's love. Both choirs sang in worship in October, and they did a beautiful job! Parents, thanks so much for your support and please mark your calendars with the important dates listed below. Your children's lives will be enriched with music and fellowship, and our worship will be blessed by their sweet voices in praise.

Choir rehearsals run each Wednesday through December 16 which will be our annual choir party snowball fight and celebration! (Please note: no rehearsal on November 25 for the Thanksgiving break.) Scott, Elizabeth, and Ms. Becky will lead ages 3–5-years in the Children's Chapel. Ms. Mary and Ms. Sharon will lead our 1st through 5th grade students in the Sanctuary. We hope no one will miss this musical fun!

Performances:

- **Angelicus Choir** singing in **10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship** on **December 13**
- **Gloria Choir** singing in **10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship** on **November 8** & **December 13**

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Family Dinner Nights ● Wednesdays ● 6:15 p.m.

Looking for a midweek pick-me-up? Join us on **Wednesday evenings** at **6:15 p.m.** in the **Fellowship Hall** for Family Dinner Night! (NOTE: We will NOT meet on Wednesday, November 25, which is Thanksgiving Eve.)

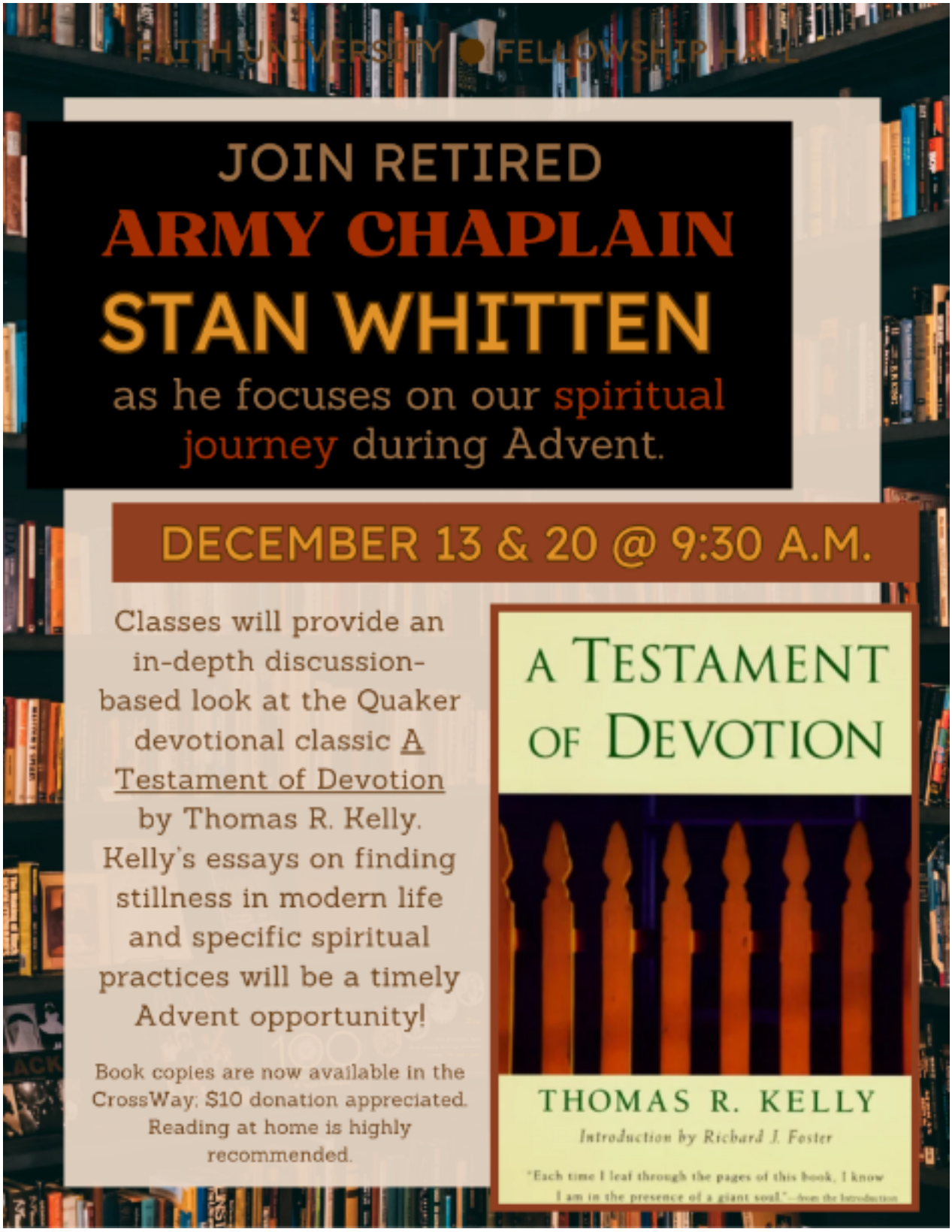
This is a time to relax, enjoy a meal, and connect with friends of all ages. To make these dinners possible, we rely on volunteers to bring main dishes, sides, and desserts, as well as activities for the kids, and cleaning up.

We already have sponsors signed up to provide dinner for the rest of the fall, so bring your family and enjoy!





UPCOMING EVENTS



PRAISES TO:

- Carl Hughes and Michael Fisher for teaching informative and engaging Faith University classes.
- Pastor H, Lorraine Potter, David Schulte, and Allyson Pryor for preaching, presiding and teaching.
- Blythe Boeck, Carolyn Dufelmeier, and everyone who made Oktoberfest and Trunk or Treat a success.
- Everyone who who baked and purchased goodies for the Mission & Outreach Fall Bake sale fundraiser.

MEMBER NEWS:

- Funeral - Our sympathy to the family and friends of Dr. Ivy Schwartz, whose life we celebrated on October 6.

STAFF

The Rev. Leslie Price
Senior Pastor

The Rev. Howard Stendahl
Pastor

Blythe Boeck
Director of Faith Formation

Dana Ferraro
Director of Day School

Deacon Lisa Diana
Minister of Mission & Outreach

Teresa Hackett
Office & Property Manager

Dr. Dan Long
Director of Music Ministry

Jeff Hammack
Organist

Sharon Wiedemann
Accountant

Mary Patino
Youth Choir Director

Sam Tenorio
Custodian

Jesus Garcia
A/V Tech

Carolyn Dufelmeier
Event Coordinator

Clara Tenorio
Nursery Attendant

Silas Tenorio
Intern for Director of Faith Formation

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Bryan Woods
President

Natalie Stone
Vice-President

Jeff Timm
Treasurer

Paul Pfeifer
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Karen Corder
At-Large Member

Lorraine Potter
At-Large Member

Margaret Vallejo
At-Large Member

The Rev. Leslie Price
Senior Pastor

The Rev. Howard Stendahl
Pastor

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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GROWING TOGETHER

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