

Let God's Word...

# GOOD NEWS FROM THE PEWS

November/December, 2024

...Rule Our Hearts and Guide Our Footsteps

## Pastor's News, views, and attitudes

If you are like me, you are wondering what happened to this year. Here we are at the end of October as I write this. The beauty that surrounds us in the fall colors has always made me stop and see the wonders of God's creation, but as we see things starting to fade away as we prepare for the winter, I am always amazed at the beauty in the spring.

Please know that Julie is offering a stand-alone for Grief Share that is called Surviving the Holidays on Nov 24. If you would like to help support this amazing and worthwhile ministry, we are taking donations to help offset the cost of the upgrade for this course. If you or someone you know is dealing with grief, please call the office to sign up or sign up at [GriefShare.org](http://GriefShare.org)

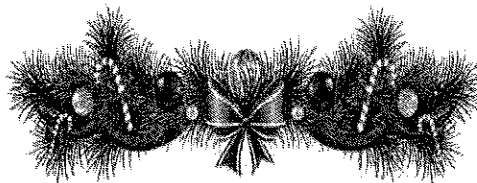
This is the time we start preparing for Christmas. Many start shopping but as I look at what is ahead in the next couple of months, it is busy. We have hanging of the greens on Dec 1.

I am looking at a few options for a series for Advent. For those of you who are not aware, Advent is the 4 weeks leading up to Christmas. According to the church calendar Christmas season does not start until Christmas day.

In addition to Grief Share I will be having a Blue Christmas service. Traditionally this is held on Dec 21. This is the day with the shortest hours of daylight. It is also called a Longest Night Service. It will be at 5 p.m. It is a service for those who don't feel happy during the holiday season. This is a service designed just for this reason.

We will finish out Advent with a candlelight Christmas Eve Service. Please plan on joining us during this most wonderful time of the year.

Blessing,  
Pastor Lisa



## Nurture news

A huge thank-you to everyone who helped with trunk or treat this year, from donating candy and other items, to providing a vehicle, setting up, handing out goodies and cleaning up. The kids loved the stocking hats and necklaces as much or more than the candy.

Creative Crafters is continuing to work on potholders for the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets along with their normal production line of stocking hats, fidget pads, blankets, etc. All are welcome to join us on Wednesday mornings at 9 am.

Julie will continue to lead the Grief Share support group through December 5 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. It is not too late to join them if you are interested. She will also be leading a "Surviving the Holidays" Grief Share on November 24 at 3 p.m. The material has been updated and anyone that wishes can join this one-time meeting. You can register for either one at GriefShare.org or by calling the church office.

We will be calling Bingo at Crosstown Square in Silvis the third Thursday of every month. Please see Barb Downs or Katie Gillispie if you would like to volunteer for this enjoyable outreach.

Our mission opportunity for November is green beans for the Food Pantry Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets. For December our mission opportunity is the Blessings Tree. Please bring new hats, scarves, gloves, mittens, socks or underwear, and gently used clothing for children and adults is also welcome. We will be taking them to area schools and shelters before Christmas. We very much appreciate the wonderful response each month for these mission opportunities.

We will be decorating the church for Christmas on December 1 immediately after Fellowship time. Treats will be provided and a meal if we work until noon.

Please feel free to come to our next Nurture meeting on Monday, Nov. 18 at 5:30. We welcome any questions or ideas about other things our church could do. Thanks so much for all your support and all your prayers. We thank God for such a generous, giving, involved church family.

### *Milan Christian Food Pantry*

The pantry is still serving from 40 to 60 families each week. We are collecting food items for 50 Thanksgiving baskets and will be collecting again for 50 Christmas baskets. Each church provides assigned items and our church is providing green beans this year, which means 100 cans for Thanksgiving and another hundred for Christmas. Right now, we still need 25 more cans for Thanksgiving. We work Nov 3 and Dec 9 from 9-11 am and Nov 7 and Dec 12 from 3-6 p.m. If we have from 8 to 10 volunteers to help, it works out well and we do have fun! Thanks so much for all you give and do. You are a blessing.

*Be sure to notify the church office with any changes in addresses and/or phone numbers.*

*Pennies For Missions will be collected the second Sunday of the Month*

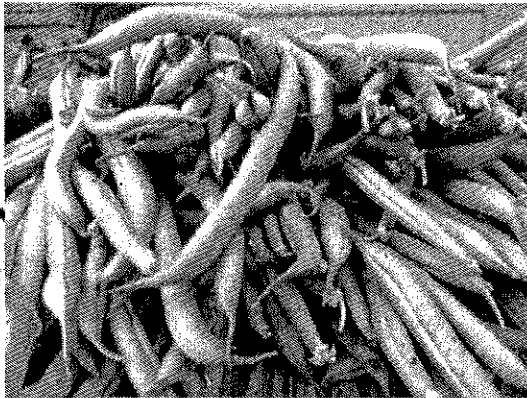
## Upcoming Events >>>

Event	Date	Time
Open Road	Nov 12 & 26 Dec 10 & 24	6 pm
Creative Crafters	Wednesdays	9 – 10 am
Loss of Spouse	Sunday Nov 24	3 – 5 pm
Grief Share	Nov 7 – Dec 5	6 pm
Nurture	Nov 18	5:30 pm
Staff Parish	Dec 18	5:30 pm
Bingo	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday	1:30 pm
Trustees	Nov 16	9:30 am
Finance	Nov 16	10:00 am
Church Council	Nov 16	10:30 am

## Office Hours

Mon-Thurs 9am-noon. Fridays CLOSED.  
 If anyone would like to volunteer in the church office, please see Pastor Lisa or Katie Gillispie. Pastor's hours are available by appointment. If the church office is closed, please leave a message and Pastor Lisa or an office volunteer will return your call. If you have an urgent issue, you may call or text Pastor Lisa on her cell phone at 217-898-8403 or email her at [pastorllisa@gmail.com](mailto:pastorllisa@gmail.com).

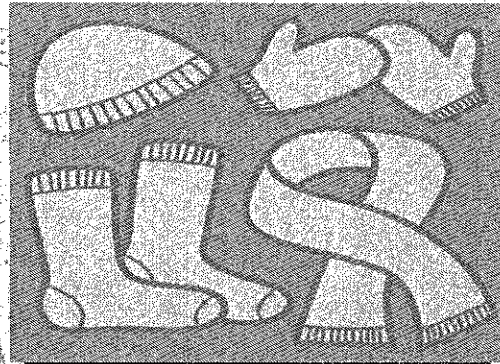
## November's most wanted



Green Beans for Holiday Baskets from the Food Pantry

## DECEMBER'S MOST WANTED

### BLESSING TREE



GLOVES, MITTENS, SCARVES & SOCKS

# Financial News

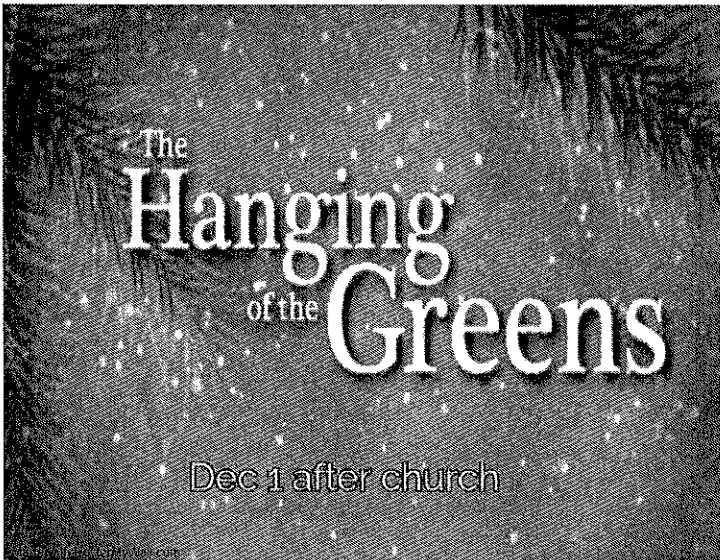
Treasurers Report – For Period Ending 31 Oct 2024  
Submitted by Linda Armstrong Lindy

**Message:** During October, we had to pull \$15,000 from savings to make ends meet. The finance committee is hoping that we will be solvent the rest of the year. Blessings to all. Linda

**2024:**

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July
Income	5,843.88	6,703.37	10,618.01	11,268.99	5,690.07	17,705.47	13,947.13
expenses	9,334.74	10,758.75	8,719.47	20,059.91	10,144.04	9,863.95	18,877.24
difference	-3,490.86	-4,055.38	1,898.54	-8,790.92	-4,453.97	7,841.52	-4930.11
Savings used						10,000	

	August	September	October	November	December	Totals	
Income	21,424.46	8,718.85	23,404.06			125,324.29	
expenses	12,039.66	15,428.54	11,997.96			127,224.26	
difference	9,384.80	-6,709.69	11,406.10			-1,899.97	
Savings used	15,000		15,000			40,000	



If you have an email address or a change to the email address you have given us, please let the church office know. We are using email more and more for our communication.

**BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION  
WITH CAKE!!!**

*First Sunday of every month*

**November Birthdays**

Zaidyn Koester 11/1  
Katie Gillispie 11/8  
Lori Putnam 11/16  
Linda Bloomberg 11/21  
Brandon Mills 11/25  
Nic Laffoon 11/29  
Nicole Koester 11/29

**December Birthdays**

Jeremy Lake 12/4  
Karen Beaupre 12/7  
Julie Eastman 12/8  
Rita Taber 12/19  
Denese Gotthardt 12/27  
Valerie Black 12/30  
Bonnie Martin 12/31

**December  
Anniversaries**

Pearl & Keith  
Smith - 12/13

**Help Needed for Miscellaneous Accounts**  
You may direct extra-donations if you are looking for  
somewhere specific to donate:

- ❖ Office Supplies
- ❖ Computer Supplies (Web support or software)
- ❖ Mowing / Snow Removal
- ❖ Food Pantry

**Attendance  
(in person + online)**

Sep 1	30 + 18	Oct 6	22 + 17
Sep 8	24 + 30	Oct 13	24 + 22
Sep 15	27 + 22	Oct 20	32 + 22
Sep 22	26 + 27	Oct 27	27
Sep 29	34 + 28		

*Please join us for  
Communion the first  
Sunday of every month.*

**Thank You...**

**Bell Ringer**

Nov - Gary Howe  
Dec - Gary Howe

**Acolytes**

Nov - Nicole Koester  
Dec - Nicole Koester

**Liturgists**

Nov - Pam Pearson  
Dec - volunteer needed

**Coffee Helpers**

Nov - Barb Downs/ Sandy Mallder  
Dec - Barb Downs/Barb Lee

**Ushers**

Nov - Greg DeSchepper/Bob Polsher

**Ushers and Liturgists  
Opportunities Available**

As part of our worship service each week, we have opportunities for ushers, liturgists, acolytes and assistants for communion. Coffee helpers for after worship fellowship are also needed. Sign-up sheets are posted in the narthex for these positions. We currently have many spots



Trinity United Methodist Church Non-profit Org.  
300 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Milan, IL 61264

Pastor Lisa Wiedman  
Email: [pastorllisa@gmail.com](mailto:pastorllisa@gmail.com)  
Church phone (309)787-1362

Sunday Worship Schedule  
8 & 10:30 am Sunday School  
9:00 am Worship

Email: [milantrinity@sbcglobal.net](mailto:milantrinity@sbcglobal.net)  
Website: [www.milantrinity.com](http://www.milantrinity.com)  
Facebook: Milan Trinity UMC



**Grieving?**  
*Know someone who is?*

When you are grieving a loved one's death, the holiday season can be especially painful. Our **Surviving the Holidays** seminar helps participants prepare for the holidays and even discover hope for the future.

Milan Trinity UMC  
300 2nd Ave W Milan IL  
309-787-1362

Nov 24, 3-5 pm

**Surviving the Holidays**

Made with PosterMyWall.com

*Blue Christmas*

A service of Remembrance and Hope

Holidays can be emotionally challenging. We invite you to a service of comfort, reflection and hope for hurting hearts.

Saturday, Dec 21,  
5 pm  
Milan Trinity UMC  
300 2nd Ave W  
Milan IL  
309-787-1362

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**Have a Blessed Christmas!**