

CTC CONNECTIONS

Countryside Trinity Church
Novmber 2026

FROM THE PASTOR ---- REV. NATHANIEL ASPERGER

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord, Jesus the Christ!

It is always strange to me how fast time flies by. We are here in November 2025! One of the interesting things to me is how much can happen in a year; this year has felt exceptionally full. As we look at where we have been and look to the future, I want to be transparent with you all. We spent all of October talking about Stewardship, and we looked at it from a broader lens than simply finances. We talked about the spiritual side of our discipleship from this stewardship perspective. I encourage you to consider all the ways that your daily practices and habits, effect your discipleship walk.

Soon, the stewardship and finance committee will send out pledge cards. These will not be legally binding, so do not stress over them. These will be your commitment to give as you feel moved by the Spirit. Countryside has a long history here at 4690 Weiss Rd. Many of us have a long history integrated into Countryside's history. I believe that in my short time here, I have observed a lot of life in this place. You all, the living expression of this place, are an active people. You all choose to support more missions in a year than some churches support in a couple of years. We have fellowship every Sunday, where many churches do not. The Session is full of Elders seeking to respond to a world of chaos with proactive care and love. The Deacons are actively seeking to meet people where they are and grow in fellowship. There are committees of the church who are doing wonderful work. We have had new members and new faces here at Countryside every year I have been here. You all greet each other with excitement every time we are together. There is a love that is tangible in this place. We are a vibrant church seeking to be all the more vibrant.

As we approach Thanksgiving and the coming of Advent, I invite you all to reflect on the things you are grateful for in our community of faith. How have you been moved, or cared for, or simply found yourself smiling because of something? I am routinely thankful for such an amazing music team, with Dan, Noah and the choir. I find myself Sunday mornings being pulled from my stressors, the busyness of mind, and sitting in thankful praise before God.

How can we show our Gratitude to God, for and in this place?

Consider how you might steward your spiritual practices, or how you might steward your skills, abilities, and possessions. Who can you share the gratefulness you have for the Triune God, with? I hope that you will find yourself sitting in joy and gratitude as you think about our community of faith, and those who serve so diligently.

My prayer and my hope for Countryside is that in a few years, we will all be overjoyed with where we have come from. We can celebrate the ways we responded to the Spirit for this time and place. I pray that we thrive, and that the community grows inside and around Countryside Trinity Church, at 4690 Weiss Rd in Saginaw.

May the Lord bless you and keep you until we meet again.

-Pastor Nathaniel

UPCOMING LECTIONARY READINGS FOR OCTOBER

All Saints' Day	
Revelation 7:9–17	The redeemed gather at God's throne; the Lamb is their shepherd.
Psalm 34:1–10, 22	Bless the Lord, our redeemer; taste and see that the Lord is good.
1 John 3:1–3	See what love the Father has given us; we are God's children now.
Matthew 5:1–12	The Beatitudes: blessed are you; your reward is great in heaven.
Sunday, November 1	
Semicontinuous Complementary	
Joshua 3:7–17	False prophets, priests, and rulers will be put to shame by God.
Micah 3:5–12	Joshua leads the people through the Jordan to the Promised Land.
Psalm 107:1–7, 33–37	Give thanks to the Lord, who delivered us from the wilderness.
Psalm 43	Vindicate me, O God; deliver me from those who oppress me.
1 Thessalonians 2:9–13 1	We give thanks that you have received and believed God's word.
Matthew 23:1–12	The greatest will become servants; the humble will be exalted.
Sunday, November 8	
Semicontinuous Complementary	
Joshua 24:1–3a, 14–25	Choose this day whom you will serve; we will serve the Lord.
Amos 5:18–24	The day of the Lord is darkness; let justice roll down like waters.
Psalm 78:1–7	Each generation will tell the next of the glorious deeds of the Lord.
Psalm 70	O Lord, make haste to help me, for I am poor and needy.
1 Thessalonians 4:13–18 1	The dead in Christ will rise first; then the living will meet the Lord.
Matthew 25:1–13	The parable of ten bridesmaids; keep awake, the Lord is coming.
Sunday, November 15	
Semicontinuous Complementary	
Judges 4:1–7	The Israelites cry to the Lord; God sends Deborah to deliver them.
Zephaniah 1:7, 12–18	Beware, the day of the Lord is near; wealth will not save you.
Psalm 123	Have mercy on us, O Lord; we have had our fill of contempt.
Psalm 90:1–8 [9–11] 12	A thousand years are like a day to you; teach us to count our days.
1 Thessalonians 5:1–11	Be ready: the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.
Matthew 25:14–30	The parable of talents; good and trustworthy servants are rewarded.
November 22	
Reign of Christ / Christ the King	
Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24	I will be the shepherd of my sheep, says the Lord; I will save them.
Psalm 100 *or*	Make a joyful noise to the Lord; we are the sheep of God's pasture.
Psalm 95:1–7a	The Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture.
Ephesians 1:15–23	Christ is seated at God's right hand; all powers are under his feet.
Matthew 25:31–46	The king will judge: just as you did it to the least, you did it to me.
November 29	
First Sunday of Advent	
Isaiah 64:1–9	Tear open the heavens and come down; save us from our sin.
Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19	Restore us, O God; let your face shine, and save us.
1 Corinthians 1:3–9	God will strengthen you while you wait for Christ's coming.
Mark 13:24–37	In those days the stars will fall from heaven; keep awake.

Our scout troop will be at the church during coffee hour on Nov. 8, and Nov. 15 to display the Holiday items they are selling and take orders. If you would like to order you can either fill out the following form and mail it back – or be at the church on the 8th and/or the 15th to place your order directly. Thank you.

INDIVIDUAL CUSTOMER ORDER FORM

CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER
Boy Scout Troop 304

Scout

Dear Customer:

Thank you for ordering your Christmas greens from us this year! Our goal is to offer a quality product while raising funds for our Troop program. Since we must pay for the wreaths in advance, we need your payment at the time you place your order. Please make your check payable to Troop 304.

Happy Holidays!

P.S. Our Christmas greens make great gifts and memorials

CUSTOMER

ADDRESS

CITY

PHONE

Qty	Description		Price	Ext. Price
	Wreaths			
	12" Decorated Wreath - (approx. 23" outside w/ plastic bow, 3 decorations.)		$30.00	
	12" Wreath on 30-36" Stand - (approx. 23" outside w/ plastic bow, 3 decorations.)		$36.00	
	16" Decorated Wreath - (approx. 30" outside w/ plastic bow, 3 decorations.)		$36.00	
	24" Plain Wreath - (approx. 42" wide)		$56.00	
	Grave Blankets			
	Deluxe Large Blanket - Made with balsam, approx. 5-6 ft long, plastic bow, decorated		$60.00	
	Deluxe Medium Blanket - Made with balsam, approx. 4 ft long, plastic bow, decorated		$50.00	
	Other			
	Birch porch pot - Made with balsam, 3 birch logs, pine cones, and berries in a decorative pot		$48.00	
	Angel Wings 18" (white powder coated steel with swag and red bow)		$50.00	
	Angel Wings 24" (white powder coated steel with swag and red bow)		$55.00	
			TOTAL	

36" Plain Wreath (approx. 70" wide) = $76
48" Plain Wreath (approx. 90" wide) = $96

24" Cross w/ stand = $40
Kissing Balls = $36

Make Checks payable to Troop 304.
Order deadline Sunday November 15th, 2026.
Delivery Saturday November 21th and Sunday November 22nd.











SHOEBOX SAGINAW PROJECT: This year marks the 20th year of the Shoebox Saginaw Project. With over 11,000 generously filled boxes donated since the project first started in 2007. We would like to continue with this tradition at CTC. If you wish to participate, they ask that you fill a shoebox with comforting and kind gifts and personal items for women. The items need to be **NEW GIFTS** that would be appealing to any lady. Suggested general ideas to fill your shoebox include a warm **WINTER pair of sox, hat, gloves, scarf**, lotion, small notebook and pen, non-religious book, lip gloss, hot cocoa mix, calendar, non-perishable candy, Kleenex, wallet or coin purse, small gift card or cash (Meijer, Kroger, Walmart, Aldi, etc.), sewing kit, one size slipper sox, hand sanitizer and personal items such as shampoo, brush, comb, toothbrush & paste, deodorant, nail file, and the list goes on and on . . . Please avoid items that are not appealing to all and/or feminine hygiene products as these items vary with each individual lady. If you wish you may add a handwritten note or card to the inside of your box. After filling the box, wrap in holiday paper. Please, no gift bags or oddly shaped boxes as they are to hard to store and transport. If you prefer you can also get a gift card or check donation payable to Carol Lechel which will then be shared with the agencies. Mail to Carol Lechel, 1154 Lathrup Ave., Saginaw, MI 48638. Shoeboxes can be dropped off on the porch at 1154 Lathrup Ave, 5th house from Brockway and Lathrup beginning November 29th through Monday, December 7th.

TREASURER'S REPORT – BETHANY SCOVILL
Changes in Equity- August-October, 2026

Countryside Trinity Church

11/06/2026 11:41 AM

Changes in Equity

August 2026 - October 2026

**** Unposted transactions have been included on this report ****

CONSOLIDATED ALL FUNDS

		Beginning Balance	Income	Expenses	Transfers	Ending Balance
NET ASSETS	3000					
UNRESTRICTED	3100					
Memorial Fund	3105	28,201.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	28,201.13
General Fund	3110	(10,659.44)	18,143.75	(25,413.02)	3,070.00	(14,858.71)
Bricks Fund	3115	1,539.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,539.85
Mission Fund	3130	37.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	37.50
Minister Compensation Fun	3140	81,662.30	0.00	0.00	(1,070.00)	80,592.30
Endowment - Expendable	3150	107,363.26	11.74	0.00	(2,000.00)	105,375.00
Subtotal Unrestricted	3100	208,144.60	18,155.49	(25,413.02)	0.00	200,887.07
DONOR RESTRICTED	3200					
Food Account	3220	164.52	100.00	0.00	0.00	264.52
Good Samaritan	3230	966.81	160.00	(150.00)	0.00	976.81
Youth Experience Fund	3241	835.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	835.81
Parking Lot Fund	3242	1,296.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,296.24
Muriel Lakey Scholarship	3290	6,706.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,706.09
Endowment Nonexpendable F	3310	149,796.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	149,796.50
Subtotal Donor Restricted	3200	159,765.97	260.00	(150.00)	0.00	159,875.97
TOTAL FUND BALANCE		367,910.57	18,415.49	(25,563.02)	0.00	360,763.04

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CTC

SESSION COUNCIL	DEACONS
Class of 2026	**Class of 2026**
Roger Scovill	Dan Groom
Kathy Loviska	Paige Pequignot
Chuck Davis	Lori Halase
Class of 2027	**Class of 2027**
Sidney Diggs	Lynne Groom
Debbie Davis	Jackie Williams
Sandy Redfield	Ron Platt
Class of 2028	**Class of 2028**
Carol VanArsdale	Pat Denno
Becky Pequignot	Ronda Otway
Bethany Scovill	Duncan Redfield

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CTC

MISSIONS SUPPORTED BY COUNTRYSIDE TRINITY CHURCH - HOW DO WE CHOOSE?

At CTC we support many different Missions through "Special Offerings" including **One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost/Strengthening the Church, Peace & Global Witness/Neighbors in Need** and **Christmas Joy/Fund** as well as our "Missions of the Month" throughout the year. It is not necessary to contribute to each of the Mission's CTC supports. If you are able and wish to do so, we invite you to select those missions you are most passionate about and donate to them. Any contributions you make are greatly appreciated. **THANK YOU**.

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH: The Missions of the Month for September were the City Rescue Mission and the Old Town Mission. Mission of the Month for October is the Peace Offering. The Missions for November are Hidden Harvest, Thanksgiving Food Cards and the Angel Tree. If you wish to donate, please mark your donations accordingly.

"SCAM TEXTS, EMAIL, CALLS, OH MY! It seems that scammers are hard at work again. If you receive an email, text or some other communication, asking for you to buy gift cards, send money, click a link, scan a code, or anything of the like, IT IS A SCAM! If you receive any contact from someone from the church, whether Pastor, Kathy, Dan or anyone else, please call Kathy or Pastor Nathaniel to verify. Use the numbers listed in our directory to do so. Thank you!"

"Pastor Nathaniel class on Sundays, looking at setting discipleship and life goals has been going very well. This class is part of Nathaniel's doctoral program, where he shares some of the lessons he has learned and then works together on practices to help us in our faith and lives. If you are interested, please talk to pastor Nathaniel for more information."



Pack your lunch each Wednesday and join Pastor Nathaniel for fellowship and Bible Study. Come each Wednesday, or the Wednesdays you can. Together we can grow in understanding.



John & Leore Bethune Traditions of Saginaw, West,	**Dawn Curtis** @ Home	**Lois Krzak** @ Home
Avis Leach Roosevelt House/Hemlock	**Marilyn Leffler** Traditions of Saginaw, West	**Marie Lemmer** Candlestone Senior Living Community-Midland, MI
Fern Evon Little Swan Haven Manor		**Elaine O'Keefe** Great Lakes Rehab

Our Homebound members and friends would all love to hear from you. Please drop them a card or give them a call. Their contact information is in the Church Directory.

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CTC

October came and went very quickly, it seemed. Hard to believe that Thanksgiving is just around the corner. Here are some of the October highlights:

- Choir is back in full force. As always – we welcome any of you who wish to come lend your voice. See Dan Groom if you are interested.
- We started Cribbage Club, on October 17th. We had a great turnout for our first week and we want to thank Roger Scovill for giving instruction to those who needed a refresher or just beginning.
    - Cribbage Club will continue on the third Saturday of each month at 2:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Please bring your own snacks and beverage.
    - The next meeting will be on Saturday, November 21st. Hope you can be there.
- The Mission of the month in October was the Peace Offering.
- November's Missions of the Month are Hidden Harvest, Angel Tree & Thanksgiving Food Cards. If you wish to participate please mark your donations accordingly. Thank you.



DON'T FORGET TO SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK WHEN YOU GO TO BED ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31ST. DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS!

GET INVOLVED!



Express yourself and your faith by joining the worship, music, or usher team today.

There are so many meaningful and fun ways to get involved, and there is something for everyone to do and **YOU** are needed for CTC to continue to grow and move forward. If you are interested in becoming a worship helper, singing in the choir or have any questions about how you can help, please speak with Darren Woodke or Dan Groom. If you can occasionally usher, talk with Pat Denno or Ron Platt.

CTC CHOIR

TALK WITH DAN GROOM IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING. WE'D LOVE TO HEAR YOUR VOICE. CHOIR JUST RETURNED FROM SUMMER VACAY – SO NOW IS A GREAT TIME TO JOIN!





THE NEXT CTC WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION MEETING

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH BEGINNING @ 11:30 A.M

WE HOPE YOU CAN ATTEND!



ADVENT SCHEDULE

This year's advent begins on Sunday, November 29th and runs through Thursday, December 24th

Our Soup Luncheons will be on the following Sundays following the worship service.

November 29th

December 13th

Hope you can come and share in the Fellowship and Advent Program presented by Nathaniel Asperger.

SERRV
INTERNATIONAL

Since 1949

Fighting global poverty through fair and ethical trade

One of the first fair trade organizations in the world, SERRV International, began its mission in 1949 after World War II by helping displaced European refugees trade their handcrafts for income. Since then, we've extended our reach to countries worldwide, supporting over 5,000 artisans and farmers annually by selling their beautiful handcrafts and delicious foods.

Over the years, SERRV has worked with churches, retail stores, other groups and countless individuals to promote and sell fair trade items. As a nonprofit, SERRV also receives contributions and grants to help sustain our fair-trade mission. Our 26,000-foot warehouse receives goods sent by artisans and farmers from 23 countries. Multiple catalogs are mailed out each year to current and potential customers. We package and ship as many as 50mailedmade items and foods a year.

On Sunday, November 8th, Countryside Trinity Church will be showcasing a display of some of the items SERRV has for sale following worship in Fellowship Hall. Hope you can be there!







BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

2 Taylor Hansen (M=Dana Woodke Cooper)
4 Marianne Bird
5 Daniel Groom
8 Chad Parker
8 Rylan Hanson
10 Randy Jacob
13 Kyle Redfield
15 Ainslee Mahan
15 Aubree Mahan
21 Karla Parker
21 Casey Redfield
31 Jim Lorenz

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Becky Pequignot
3 Rob Halase
3 Charles Davis
8 Lindsey Groom
13 Louis Diechman
14 Michael Patrick Groom
14 Jane Strom
17 Lois Krzak
20 Liz Saperstein
29 Tom Ladner
30 Vincent Martinez

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Zachary Plater
2 Drew Pequignot
2 Dan Groom
3 Joseph Ruth
5 Mary Longstreth
8 Karen Blankenship
11 Jerry Paquette
13 Ethan Parker
13 Charlotte Armstrong
14 Mike Yusaf
14 Tania Yusaf
16 Randy Groom
17 Elizabeth Jacob
19 Christopher Davis
22 Jean Anne Miller
22 Pat Denno
25 Ezra Yusaf
25 Aaron Plater
26 Ashley Huizar (Hanson)
27 Marie Lemmer
29 Scott Jacob
29 Lori Halase

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Paige Pequignot
3 Sam Nolan
8 Duncan Redfield
9 Stephanie Plater
10 Katherine Asperger
12 Jacob Plater
16 Pervez Yusaf
19 Martin Bethune
19 Bethany Scovill
21 Ronald Miller
22 Shannon LaFray
22 Jacob Groom
22 Lucas Gonzales
28 Avis Leach

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

28 Charles & Irene Ohmer

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

17 Dallas & Jackie Williams
29 Darren & Joann Woodke
29 Duncan & Sandy Redfield

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

20 Sidney & Kermit Diggs

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

None Known

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

None Known

Countryside Trinity Church
4690 Weiss Street
Saginaw, Michigan 48603
(989) 793-0125

