



# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Reverend John Hopkins – Senior Pastor  
Tammy Mazza - Principal | Carolyn Gallegos - ECC Director



## The Good News

April 2018  
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Page 1



### It's April! April Musings

- A huge thank you to all the individuals who made Holy Week and our Easter celebrations such a meaningful time of worship. Thank you to the choirs and Henry DeVries leadership, the Altar Guild and their preparations, the Deacons and their service, the office staff for putting the bulletins together and printing them out, to the cleaning of the church to make it ready and presentable for worship. . . It truly takes a team to get it done and we have an amazing team here at Trinity. If you feel blessed by them, be sure to thank them.
- I love the old saying, "April snow showers bring May flowers." Looking forward to the spring . . . At least the crocus popping up through the snow in my backyard are a sign that spring is near.
- Are you ready for spring? I am.
- Speaking of being ready, the Day Care passed an important step this past week. We had our first safety inspection at 97 Nicholai Street. We passed with flying colors! That means that in a couple of weeks or so, we will get another inspection regarding the setup of the inside of the Day Care. This means that we are that much closer to having it open. Before we officially open, we will be having an Open House for you to stop by and have a look. Look for more details in Kim's weekly *Friendly Reminders* for the date for that event.
- Several years ago, Trinity used to have a deaf ministry. From what I am told, there was someone



here to interpret the services. Over these last few months, I have been in discussions with the folks up at Mill Neck Manor School for the Deaf and the Lutheran Friends of the Deaf. In particular, Rev. Thomas Dunseth, Director of Deaf Ministry and Deaconess Phyllis Yee. They are very interested in Trinity having an interpreter for one of our worship services. Quite frankly so am I. That being said, I started asking around Trinity to see if we have folks who are fluent in sign language and would they be willing to interpret a service. In fact, we have three such individuals who could and are willing to do this. (If you are curious, initially, we would probably have the interpreted service at 10:45 am on Sunday.)

- I will be meeting with the interpreters to strategize and plan out how we might carry out this ministry. But it will take more than them to make sure it is successful. **If you are passionate about reaching out to the deaf community, are interested in being a part of this ministry or have the skills to interpret a service, please let me know!** I would like for you to get involved. Even if you are not sure how to help out, but would like to support it in any way, let me know of your interest too.
- What we have is a new ministry opportunity before us, one in which we can partner with the Lutheran Friends of the Deaf. Keep this in your prayers as we explore the possibilities of reaching out to the deaf community with the Gospel.

Serving the Lord with you,

*Pastor Hopkins*

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### **A Time for Reflection**

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed Alleluia!

I am not sure about you, but for me these last few weeks have allowed me to reflect, really reflect, on what Lent and Easter are all about and how this Lenten journey has affected my life.

LIFE IS HARD! School shootings, bombings, illness, loss of jobs, political unrest, uncertainty. These are the daily headlines that we wake up to each and everyday. Even four nor'easters! Not to mention how we handled March Madness! My guess is that there is rarely a day that goes by where we hear GOOD NEWS.

As Christians in a world filled with such difficult situations, our lives get put to the test every single day. Are our children safe? Should I accept those packages left at my door? More chemo, more tests, bills piling up. Should I be complacent to the political situations? What if . . . ?

Two years ago I had the privilege of going to the Holy Land and walking the steps that Jesus took during His journey here on earth. For me it was a pilgrimage, not a vacation. It was a life changing event. If you ever get the chance, go. I got to see first hand where Jesus was born, and see the chapel set up to view that. We took a boat ride on the Sea of



Galilee, and it was so emotional that you could almost see Jesus Himself walking on the water. The Garden of Gethsemane was next. This quiet tree filled area made me think that I, too, might have fallen asleep. We got to walk the Apian Way, carry a cross and stop at each station and reflect that final walk that Jesus made. Next to Caiaphas' house and see the torture chamber to where Jesus was delivered. Then on to Calvary. To be able to kneel and touch the place where Jesus was laid brought tears and feelings of sadness that because of ME Jesus was there.

But in that sadness we turn to joy. Jesus was not there in the tomb, He had risen! He had broken the conflict of death and total destruction with triumph over death and sin, and yes even for me.

It is my sincerest prayer that in all of the uncertainties of life, and yes there are a lot of them, turn to the true meaning of this season. Turn to the joy of the resurrection and the love that God has for us in sending His one and only Son for US. Trust this love, reflect on this love, live this love and share this love with all those around you.

Christ is risen...He is risen indeed! For you, for me. Alleluia!

Deacon Kathy Funfgeld

Your Deacons:

Doug Brosky

Betsy Lazarek

Debbie Vergara

Anthony Cavaliere

Peg Ruhs

Lynn Waldeck

Kathy Funfgeld



Articles and submissions for the  
May 2018  
newsletter are due no later  
than noon on  
Monday, April 23!

*O blessed spring, where Word and sign  
Embrace us into Christ the Vine:  
Here Christ enjoins each one to be  
A branch of this life-giving Tree. (LSB 595, verse 1)*



Thus begins Susan Palo Cherwien's hymn text "O Blessed Spring". Susan Cherwien wrote that this text was written for the baptismal life of the parish that she was in at the time, Good Shepherd Lutheran in Minneapolis. Above the baptismal font is a striking sculpture by Paul Granlund, which shows Christ as the center of a tree, and the four branches depict people in four stages of human life from birth to death. He uses the words of John 15:5 as the basis for his sculpture, "I am the vine, you are the branches." The artist named his sculpture "Life-Tree" and it was the inspiration for this hymn text.

In stanza two of the hymn, Mrs. Cherwien equates the "summer heat" with "youthful years" and "uncertain faith, rebellious tears." During the season of autumn (stanza three), the limbs of the tree are ripe with "heavy harvest." This season offers "beauty, wisdom, love." Stanza four explores the season of winter where "We breathe our last, return to dust." Yet, "in Christ, our souls take wing"; thus the lifecycle is complete in the "promise of spring." The final stanza introduces a baptismal, sacramental tone, the original inspiration of the hymn, in "this blest mystery" as

*Word and water thus revive  
And join us to your Tree of Life.*



The tune for the hymn, "Berglund", was written by Robert Buckley Farley, a Minneapolis composer, minister and friend of the Cherwien's. On April 29 at 9:00 a.m., Trinity Choir will sing an arrangement of this beautiful hymn by the author's husband, David Cherwien, as we hear the words of John 15 read for our Gospel lesson.

Henry DeVries,  
*Minister of Music*

## **The Good News**

### ***Honor, Serve, Provide***

Invitations have been sent! We hope you will join us at the COMPLIMENTARY kick-off dinner for our HONOR, SERVE, PROVIDE Capital Campaign Thursday, April 19, 7-10pm at Domenico's in Levittown. We will provide you with specifics on the projects at the church and school and funding needs. Also at the dinner we will celebrate our "Trinity Award" honorees: Honoring the Past – Rev. Dr. John H. Krahn, Serving the Present – Deacon Peg Ruhs and Providing for the Future – Mrs. Dianne Uss. Our MC for the evening will be Rev. John Hopkins and our guest speaker will be Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell.

If you did not receive an invitation please contact the church office at 516-931-2225 if you would like to attend the dinner. Please RSVP before April 6. Adults only please.





**TRINITY HAS A WELCOME CENTER!**



The Board of Stewardship, under the leadership of Deacon Anthony Cavaliere has set up and organized a new welcome center!

We, here at Trinity, are a caring people and we want to extend that care to all those who come and visit us. We have a few people who have volunteered to man the Welcome Center. If you have a warm smile, and a heart that is filled with love, you also could help to be the heart and hands of Jesus in our church.

**The Good News**  
*Board of Outreach*



Come join us!  
Meditative - Energizing - Inspirational

**Yoga Classes**

Wednesday Nights

April 4, 2018 – May 23, 2018

6:00pm-7:00pm

\$5.00 per class

In the multi-purpose room

(Yoga mats will be available to borrow or to purchase)



Bring your voices...

April 7, 2018

7:00pm-10:00pm

In the multi-purpose room

All ages welcome!

Complimentary beverages and snacks



**STIRRING SOUNDS COFFEE HOUSE**

Saturday, April 28, 2018

7:30-9:30 PM

Come out and have  
some family fun  
at this free event!



Listen to Christian rock music by Parousia  
and enjoy complimentary coffee, tea and dessert!



As March comes to a close and we prepare to welcome in the month of April, we are thankful for a Tenebrae service reflecting on the suffering and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

April brings many exciting adventures and opportunities for our students. This month Trinity will host the annual Lutheran School's Math Tournament; over fourteen teams will participate and display the mathematical talents they have been blessed with. Career Day will follow; here many volunteers will share the daily tasks of their livelihood

with the children. Mid-month, our teachers will administer the Terra Nova exams to our first through eighth graders; this standardized test drives educational conversation and informs us about the strengths and weaknesses of our students.

Due to inclement weather, we have rescheduled the Washington, D.C. trip for later this month. The fifth and sixth graders will be attending a Billy Jean King Tennis Clinic at Arthur Ashe stadium; they will learn about the history and dynamics of the sport. Last, we would like to congratulate all of our students who have been inducted into the National, Spanish, and Musical Honor Societies. Wishing all of you a blessed SPRING!

In Christ,

Ms. Tammy Mazza  
*Principal*

## **The Good News** *Early Childhood Center News*

Despite the snow, the month of March was a busy one for the children of Trinity's Early Childhood Center. The Nursery and Pre-K classes prepared for the Mini-Olympics that took place last week. The children performed for their families and friends. Even the snow didn't stop these amazing athletes from training and putting on great performances!

Also during March the children celebrated *Read Across America* and remembered Dr. Seuss on his birthday. Celebrating Green Days for St. Patrick's were a highlight of the month as well.

The children have also been learning about the events leading up to Easter with their teachers and are ready to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord with their families.

Carolyn Gallegos,  
*Early Childhood Center Director*





On February 24, LWML held a quilting event and completed ten crocheted baby blankets and 54 quilts to donate to the New Life Center. The first-timers who were present were so impressed with the work involved in making these quilts. Since then, other members of our congregation asked if they could also become involved in this project so I thought I would share the steps needed to make one quilt!

1. First a trip to the fabric store to purchase a piece of fabric 2 1/2 yards by 45" for the back of the quilt and the for 18—6 1/2" squares to be cut for in the main design and another 1 1/4 yards in a compatible color to be cut into an additional 18—6 1/2" squares. Also needed is thread and batting. We like to use Quilters Dream or Warm and Natural cotton batting.
2. The fabric is then washed in cold water, dried and pressed.
3. 36—6 1/2" squares are cut.
4. 18 squares of each color are laid out to form a pattern. There should be six rows across and six rows down. Six squares are sewn together to form a row and the seams are pressed. Each row is pinned together and then sown. All seams are 1/8 of an inch.
5. Now the quilt is ready to be assembled. Three layers are pinned together by first placing the batting flat on the table, next placing the backing fabric (1 1/2 yards) right side up on top of the batting and then finally the joined squares (the quilt top) on top of that. All three layers are then pinned together to keep the pieces from shifting.
6. All three layers are sewn around the edge, leaving one squared corner open.
7. Next, all the pins are removed and the quilt is pulled right side out.
8. The edge is pressed and the corner that was left open is sewn closed and along the entire outer edge of the whole quilt is sewn.

After the quilt is made, it is ready for tying by four LWML members.

The crocheted baby blankets are made by Helen Peter.



By the time LWML meets in January, the tying is done. Each quilt is tied with embroidery thread that is sewn up and down through the quilt and tied in a knot in each corner where the blocks meet. This keeps the layers from shifting. Our job is done! And then the quilts are ready to be donated to the New Life Center!

If you have any questions, please call Helen Peter at 516-938-6914.



### **LEGACY OF LOVE**

The Board of Christian Education is in the process of beginning a new and exciting program called Legacy of Love.

We are reaching out to our most valued parishioners and asking them to come and share a book reading, or a life story with the children of our day school. We are asking our congregational family who are age 70 or older to consider being part of this ministry. What a blessing to our children to have you come and read them a story, and share with the children your life story. They have so much love to give and need your love in return. Please talk to Kathy Funfgeld for more information.



### **REFORMATION 500**



We pray that you have accepted our challenge to take a stand and reform your personal life with the two year read the Bible challenge.

Weeks 73-76, take us through Easter, and end on April 14, 2018. Christ is risen, but Jesus' ministry continues through YOU. Week 73 started March 18<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Steve Roth from Good Shepherd in Laurelton writes some profound devotions.

What did you think? Remember that we read two chapters a day every day excluding Sundays. If you would like to look ahead, remember to go to the web site:

<http://lutherantools.org/rb500/list?series=RB500-2017>

Take a special look at the readings for Holy Week. With an emphasis on Bible Study this year for Trinity, we pray that you will take this challenge with us and together we will be united in The Word..

If ever you have any questions or concerns, reach out to Pastor or one of our Deacons.

### **ARE YOUR BURDENS HEAVY?**

The members of our Pastoral Care Ministry Team, Pastor Hopkins and our deacons, are dedicated to caring for our congregational family here at Trinity. We are good "prayer people" and try to have hearts for you. Prayer is a powerful tool especially when you are hurting or have a heavy heart. BUT we can't help if we don't know. So, if you have anything on your heart or mind, please reach out to one of us, share the concerns of your heart. We keep confidences when asked, and we will pray.



### **PENNSYLVANIA YOUTH CHORALE**



On June 1 – 3, the Pennsylvania Youth Chorale will once again be visiting us here at Trinity. The auditioned choir of about 25 children ages 10 – 14 will be presenting a concert on Saturday night, June 2 following the 6:30pm worship service. Their programs are always entertaining and feature a wide variety of music. They will also be attending and singing at the 9:00am service on June 3. It is a wonderful choir, and you

will want to save the date.

We are looking for housing for the children for the weekend. It involves picking them up here at Trinity Friday night, June 1 and bringing them back in the morning. Then taking them home again June 2 following the concert and bringing them back for morning worship. The children come in pairs, with one or two groups of 3. Please let Henry DeVries know if you can house 2, 3 or more children, or call the church office.

***Updates from the Dawg House. . .***

Our Top Dog recently returned from training at Lutheran Church Charities in Chicago energized about this ministry! The Comfort Team has started their meetings, next one being April 8, at 11:30am. Anyone is invited to attend.

We have some work to do before LCC will place a dog with us. When will that happen, we don't know. But we do know that we will continue to work and train so that when they do, we will be ready. We hope to become active in some of the senior and nursing homes and participate in activities in these centers as well as some opportunities with our school.

The team has also started planning some outreach in our local community. On April 9 they will be bringing a gift basket to the Hicksville Fire Department for their meeting to say thanks for all they have done for Trinity. There was also a request for a visit to a rehab center of a young woman recovering from a double ankle break (ouch!).

We still continue to fund raise. We are about half way to our needs. Thank you for your support and please continue to keep our ministry in your prayers!

And don't forget to follow us on Facebook and see what we and the other Comfort Dogs are up to!

**Current Fundraising Goal: \$20,000**

- Equipment and Supplies for the Dog at the Primary Caregiver's Home
- License and Vest
- Comfort Dog Business Cards
- Fundraising Gifts
- First Year Vaccinations
- Prescriptions (heartworm and flea prevention)
- Passing of the Leash Expenses
- Comfort Dog Handler Training
- Travel to Chicago
- Lodging and Meals



Please prayerfully consider making a gift to this ministry.





**Stained Glass -- The Ernest W. Lakeman Windows (1 of 3)**



Ernest W. Lakeman, one of the most renowned stained glass artists of his time, designed and constructed three windows at Trinity. Lakeman was born in Dublin, Ireland, where he received his art training in the country's stained glass studios. When Lakeman came to the United States in his twenties he quickly associated himself with the Goodhue and Connick Studios. In 1939 Lakeman established his own studio and during the years following successfully executed many important commissions. One of Lakeman's most distinguished commissions is the group of seven, large windows in the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine in New York City.

This month we will take a closer look at the large stained glass window set in the south wall of the church over the *Gates of Paradise* (doors), the first window Lakeman made for Trinity. It can be seen from inside the church in the rear wall of the balcony and is especially striking when viewed from the floor of the nave. In fact, Lakeman used the stained glass art to such perfection that the nimbus around the head of Christ brings a radiant light into the church after all other light fades. It was dedicated on Palm Sunday, 1947, to the memory of the men and women of Trinity who served in WWII, and to those members who gave their lives in this war.

The central theme of the window is victory over death and the grave. This theme is depicted in the central lancet with the victorious Christ, crowned and robed in simple, kingly vestments. Christ is shown holding the chalice in His right hand, representing the cup of suffering which all must drink in order to wear the victor's crown. The shadow of the cross can be seen in the background, also the words of our Lord, "Be of good cheer; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). Immediately above the figure is shown the dove representing the Holy Spirit; while below, is seen the Ark representing safety. The base of the central lancet shows the stoning of Stephen, the first Christian martyr.

The left-hand lancet, which bears the caption *Faith*, depicts Abraham about to sacrifice Isaac, his only son, representing the supreme act of faith. It is also recognized as the prototype of the great sacrifice of God's Son, Jesus Christ, through which all mankind is saved and blessed. The panel bears the words, "The Lamb slain before the foundation of the world" (Rev. 13:8). Below is shown the symbol of Abraham -- the wood and the fire. The base of this lancet shows the subject, The Calling of Peter and Andrew (Heb. 12:1).

The right-hand lancet, bearing the caption *Courage*, shows Daniel in the lion's den. The lions represent the forces of evil which can be overcome only by faith and courage. The symbol of Daniel is shown below a figure of Saint John writing his Gospel. The base subject of this lancet is the shipwreck of Saint Paul while on his way to Rome, an instance of the perils and hardships endured by the early warriors of the faith.

The tracery of the windows shows in the center angels supporting the Christ symbol of Alpha and Omega, while on either side is seen the cross and the crown which constitute victory.

(Next month we'll continue analyzing Lakeman's last two windows at Trinity.)



# Jr. Youth

**6TH THROUGH  
8TH Grade**

*youth  
church*

**APRIL 2018**

## Quick Calendar

Friday, April 20th  
**FUEL 2 GO**  
**\*\*6:30 - 9:00\*\***  
Grace Lutheran  
Church

Saturday,  
April 28th  
**LOCK IN!**  
6:30 pm to 7:30 am  
on April 29th  
**WE NEED  
CHAPERONES!!**

## Upcoming Events

### **FUEL 2 GO**

On April 20th We'll be heading down to Grace Lutheran Church to have a combined Jr. Youth FUEL style event. Please arrive on time, as we will be leaving the building. Drop off at 6:30, Pick up is still 9pm

### **LOCK IN**

### **DATE CHANGE!**

Due to availability the date had to be moved. Please if you are interested in chaperoning part of this event I need a lot of help. This event can only run with adequate supervision.



# Sr. Youth

**9-12TH Grade  
and Beyond**

*youth  
church*

**APRIL 2018**

## Quick Calendar

Monday, April 2nd  
Homeless Help at  
Haven  
Meet at 5:30pm

Go Karting  
Friday, April 6th  
2:30 pm  
Meet in YSR

Sunday, April 17th  
Coffee Hour and  
Bake Sale  
8:30am

Trivia Night  
Friday May 4th  
6:30pm

## Upcoming Events

### GO KARTING

APRIL 6TH We're going GO KARTING!  
Meet us at 2:30 pm in the YSR and we'll  
head to Karts Indoor Raceway in  
Ronkonkoma.  
Cost is \$50 for 5 races  
Hope to see you there!

### TRIVIA NIGHT

Time to test our brains. Trivia Night is  
May 4th. Please start letting your  
friends and family know and putting  
together some raffle baskets.