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TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Reverend John Hopkins – Senior Pastor
Jennifer Forte – Acting Principal | Carolyn Gallegos – ECC Director



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The Good News

December 2018
Volume 2 No. 11
Page 1

Pastor's Christmas Message



The Message in the Card

His name is Louis Prang. He was born on March 12, 1824 in Prussia. It is told that he was sickly as a child and as a consequence could not attend school. The next best thing for him to do was become an apprentice to his father learning engraving, dying and printing. He went around Europe learning skills in his craft and in 1856 moved to the United States. He started his own printing business and started making greeting cards. And after a time, around 1874 or so, he then started making Christmas cards. It was a way to promote his method of color printing. Well, he hit upon a good thing and the practice of giving Christmas cards to those you know soon began thereafter. He is known as the "father of the American Christmas card."

This tradition continues on to today. In fact many people give them. There is a thriving business for these cards. It is important to select the right one, because the card reflects who you are as a person. They can be funny or serious, religious or not. And they can be inexpensive or widely so.

The goal for most folks is to send them out so that you will get them before Christmas, since they are Christmas cards. (I am going to tell on my mother here...I have to put this because she gets this newsletter.) Some folks like my mother make sure they get them out early. In fact amongst my mother's friends, her card is the first one they receive every year. She makes sure she mails them on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving so folks will get them

the Friday or Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Whether you send cards or receive them is not so much the point, but sending the message is. And God wanted us to get something from Him. He did not put it in a card, but sent this message with flesh and bones. The message that came to us so long ago that had been foretold for ages past was telling us about how great His love is for us. The message we received was born and laid in a manger. The message we received from God was Jesus.

Jesus is a sign of the love God has for us. Christmas is the beginning of that sign of love that culminates in Easter. A sign that says, "You are forgiven and I sent my Son to you to die for you and rise for you, that you might know of my love for all of eternity."

Yes indeed, Jesus is the reason for the ... sending of Christmas cards this season. He is the reason for everything that we celebrate. Whether you give a card or not, whether you receive a card or not. Know this – YOU ARE GREATLY LOVED BY GOD! Jesus is the proof.

Keep that message close to your heart. Share that message with everyone too.

Recall that message every time you wish someone Merry Christmas!

Merry Christmas! May the Lord bless you in every way this New Year!

From the Hopkins Family,

*Pastor John, Donna, and
Jacob Hopkins*



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Trinity's Organ Project Is Complete!

On Friday, November 16, the *voicers* from the Walker Technical Company of Zionsville, PA, left Trinity to head back to Pennsylvania. We were very fortunate to have Bob Walker, the company's founder, do the voicing for us. Voicing means adjusting each sound and note to sound it's best in the building. This is a long and tedious process, which took four long days to complete. The new organ was voiced and in place for it's first services here at Trinity on November 18. Bob Walker has worked in the electronic organ business since the 1960's. The other major electronic organ



builders in their organs use his inventions and innovations. We are fortunate to have one of his own instruments with devices and sounds that no other builder has installed in our balcony. Electronic organ is no longer a term that we use, but digital organ is the accepted term now. The sounds on our instrument are made up of what is known as samples. The builder will identify a pipe organ with a particularly well-made sound, and then will digitally record it. That will go into their library of sounds. The Walker Company specializes in the sounds from the pipe organ builder E.M. Skinner and it's successor, Aeolian-Skinner. These pipe organs from the early part of the 20th century to the 1970's were considered by some to be some of the finest organs ever made. All of the biggest and most influential churches installed these instruments. Most of the samples on our organ come from organs of these makes, the organs we have represented are diverse, St. John's Lutheran in Allentown, PA, Church of the Heavenly Rest in NYC, the Wanamaker organ in Philadelphia, the Vanderbilt museum here on Long Island and a number from one of the companies premier installations at Girard College in Philadelphia. We even have some sounds that would be right at home at Radio City Music Hall. You will hear all of these in worship in the coming weeks. Some unusual sounds you may hear are the chimes, of which we have two set, one indoor and a large set of tower chimes. We also have two harps, one an organ harp made by E.M. Skinner the other samples of an actual harpist playing. We also have added a unique *cymbelstern*, these are the small bells that we had on our old instrument that you are used to hearing, but now the set is made up of over 200 bells that ring in random. The same pattern will never be repeated twice. These are now heard from the new case on the balcony rail, known as a *ruckpositiv*, this is a pipe organ term for a case of pipes that sits near the organist's back, (the German word for back is ruck.) Though the organ is still able to make a powerful sound, I hope that you will take the time to enjoy many of the gentler sounds and choruses that we are now able to hear.

Henry DeVries,
Minister of Music



FALL CLEAN-UP SUCCESS

The Fall Clean-Up was lead by the Probst family who participated in honor of their father Carl. About a dozen volunteers filled about 20 bags of leaves from around the church, trimmed bushes and spruced up the gardens.

In addition, other Board of Property members converted patio lights to LED and repaired the heating system in one of the classrooms.

A very successful day!



Advent

Waiting Expecting Hoping



Are these words you use when thinking about Advent? Think about last year. Did you enjoy or rush around shopping, cleaning, baking, wrapping? You were preparing, but what were you preparing for? Advent should not be the season that leaves you exhausted by Christmas morning.

Advent means coming. We all know that it means that it is Jesus who is coming. It is time to prepare, but take time to prepare your heart and mind. Jesus was born for us and is coming back for us.

Take time to come to church on Sundays and our mid-week services, help decorate our tree, see a Christmas concert. Read Advent devotionals, call an old friend. Take time to watch your favorite Christmas movie, even if it is for the thirtieth time! Advent is the season of waiting and expecting, we are waiting for our Lord Jesus to come again. It is time to celebrate and re-focus that our God loves us so much that he sent us Jesus. The season that ends with Jesus' birth.

Go ahead and decorate, only if you want to. Make one batch of cookies and not ten if that stresses you. Send Christmas cards or not!! Take time to focus on the greatest gift we have, salvation through Jesus. Take time to donate food, call the relative/friend you haven't talked to, tell someone you love them, to help a lonely neighbor, share the blessings that we have, share our time.

The four weeks of Advent are hope, love, joy and peace. Find that in your life this season.

Your Deacons: Doug Brosky Betsy Lazarek Debbie Vergara
 Anthony Cavaliere Peg Ruhs Lynn Waldeck



This month we will begin a tour of Trinity's lovely wood carvings and engravings throughout our church and school.

And David Played the Harp (located on the wall next to the cafeteria) (1955) -- an original wood engraving by the artist Fritz Eichenberg, also known as the Gabrielson Memorial. Fritz Eichenberg was born in Cologne, Germany and was a renowned printmaker and 19th century classics illustrator. In addition to Bible themes he illustrated such classics as *Gulliver's Travels* and *Wuthering Heights*. He also illustrated "Tales of Edgar Allan Poe," an autobiography of Dorothy Day and the first hymnal by the Quakers. Mr. Eichenberg's work has enhanced a long list of children's books; he is represented in most of the important public print collections in our country. In his book, *Ape in a Cape*, which he wrote for his own son when he was very young, he captures his lifelong interest in animals. Trinity's school children are fortunate to have an autographed copy of one of Eichenberg's children's books entitled *Dancing in the Moon -- Counting Rhymes* on a shelf in our very own Weldon Endorf Library! Eichenberg was also a lecturer and teacher and founded the Pratt Center for Printmaking.



by Ellen Kerwin



Christmas is all about the children. I have heard this statement made hundreds of times every holiday season. Maybe you have heard it too. Christmas is all about the children is a catchphrase or slogan that the world uses to distract from the real meaning of Christmas. If Christmas is about children, then we can center the focus of the holiday on kids, Santa Claus, toys and presents. If Christmas is about children then we can also include Jesus, a cute, cuddly, newborn baby safely tucked away in his manger, surrounded by warm and fuzzy animals. It's a nice little fairy tale to tell the kids, to add to the wonders of childhood exemplified in the mystery of the Christmas myths and stories.

But Christmas is not primarily about the children. Christmas is about the love of God in Christ Jesus. Christmas is about the mercy and kindness of God shown to sinners, to wicked, selfish and ungrateful people who deserve only judgment and condemnation.

This is the love that the people of the world seek when they celebrate Christmas, only they don't know it. They are too preoccupied with putting up lights and elaborate decorations, or with purchasing and giving presents and gifts to loved ones, friends and acquaintances as well as toys for kids. They are rushing about to this and that party, overeating and getting drunk all in a vain attempt to feel love, to feel good about themselves, to forget the troubles they are going through.

Therefore as we celebrate His birth, as we spend time with family and friends, let us remember that Jesus came as a baby, meek and humble, yes. But He did not stay a baby. He came to die for our sins and now He is exalted at the right hand of majesty on high. How blessed we are because He has called us. Let us not forget to rejoice in the blessings and grace that the Lord has poured out on us we who are ordinary, undeserving sinners. He has regarded the low estate of His servants and exalted us. And this is the good news we ought to share with our unbelieving friends, relatives and co-workers at this time of year because of the opportunity Christmas affords us.

Deacon Anthony Cavaliere

The Good News
Trinity's Gates of Paradise



Among the many beautiful works of art in our church, undoubtedly the most precious of them are the exact replicas of Lorenzo Ghiberti's original Gates of Paradise doors in Florence, Italy. Unfortunately the maintenance of these magnificent doors has been neglected over the past few years. Thanks to the research of a diligent parishioner, the appropriate way to begin the cleaning process was discovered. Through a series of emails, two young men with an interest in art and a love for our church, stepped up to volunteer—Zachary Puls and Benjamin Puls, sons of our previous pastor. They spent two days on ladders with various sized brushes meticulously brushing the dust and grime from every nook and cranny. We lift up prayers of thanks for the willing and



helpful hands of Zach and Ben in maintaining the beauty of our sanctuary that it may always reflect the glory of our God to whom it is dedicated.





The earliest memory I have of Christmas in church is when I was about six years old. It was my first Christmas Mass, and it was a mass that was attended almost entirely by children. I remember that the sermon that the priest gave had something to do with giving the Christ child a gift. I do not know what he meant by that, as I do not remember the rest of the sermon, only his challenge to give something. I do recall thinking that the only thing I had on me at the time that I could give (since I had no money) was a pair of mittens.

Later, after the Mass was over, the children all filed past the Nativity crèche that had been set up, to say a prayer and, so I thought, deposit their gifts at the crib of the infant Jesus. It was then I began to struggle with what I thought I had to do. I knew that my mother would probably get mad with me if I gave my mittens, even if I gave them to Jesus because she would have to go and buy another pair and times were hard. But I was afraid that if I failed to give a gift maybe Jesus would be mad (or at least the priest and nuns who were watching would be). To my immense relief, I discovered as I approached the crib, that nobody was leaving anything, and, on top of that, the infant was just a statue, not the real Jesus! So I just held on tightly to my mittens and walked past.

Well, as I said, I do not recall what present the priest wanted me to give to Jesus. But I can tell you now that we all do need to leave a present for Jesus, to give Him a gift. That gift is *ourselves*. Romans 12:1 tells us *"THEREFORE I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship."*

And Jesus also tells us in Mark 8:34-35, *"If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it."*

Jesus does not want things from us. He has no use for a pair of mittens, jewelry, an iPhone or money. He does not **necessarily** want us to spend more time in church or for that matter to go to the mission field in some far corner of the earth or even to give more of our money.

We often think we can satisfy God in a piecemeal way. We try so desperately to satisfy ourselves by giving Jesus, a little bit here and there, a portion of what we have or some of our time in the hope that He will be satisfied with that. But Jesus does not want **some** of the things or money or time we have. **He wants it all**, without reservation. He wants our totality, everything that we own, everything that we are, all of our time, talents and treasures, because we belong to Him: He has redeemed us.

Deacon Anthony Cavaliere



BEGINNING DECEMBER 16, please pick up your 2019 offering envelopes outside the Multipurpose Room. If yours are missing or you would like a set of envelopes, please call Lynn in the church office at extension 230. Thank You!



NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

... for the January 2019 issue are due no later than noon on Wednesday, December 19!



The Good News

Honor, Serve, Provide Capital Campaign



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As we near the end of this first year of our three-year capital campaign, we can proudly state that we have received payments from 119 pledges and other gifts including memorial gifts of over \$140,000. Our three year goal of \$210,000 was, perhaps, an underestimation of our needs and you have seen that need and responded positively. We all thank you.

The new carpet in the church looks especially festive this Advent season, our school is using its newly renovated science room, our safety upgrades have improved lighting in the parking lot and provided a new main school entrance intercom, and our heating system has been improved with additional improvements to come. The energy efficiency of our lighting can be seen in the cafeteria and hallways. Our church and school windows have been repaired.

All of these improvements are thanks to you!

As you know the second phase of the capital campaign is underway with the observance and celebration of Trinity School's 65th anniversary. Near and dear to us, this school has educated many of us, our children, and in some cases our grandchildren... over 2700 students since its opening.

We hope you will help us continue to *Honor, Serve and Provide* both our church and school with your gifts and pledges.

The Good News

Trinity Lutheran School 65th Anniversary News



1954-2018

Trinity Lutheran School is celebrating its 65th year of Christian Education. We have a few events planned throughout the school year to celebrate this amazing milestone. Coming up on Saturday, December 8, we are looking forward to Breakfast with Santa. This event will start at 10:00 am in Trinity's gymnasium and cafeteria. In addition to a wonderful breakfast there are many other activities planned. Crafts are planned for children and adults as well as some holiday games for the children. Of course Santa will be there with the opportunity for photos! The cost is \$10.00 for adults and \$8.00 for children.

We are looking forward to seeing many of you at what we know will be a wonderful celebration with our Trinity family. Please email your RSVP to santa@trinityhicksville.org.

If you wish to sponsor one or more poinsettias to beautify our Sanctuary in celebration of the birth of our Lord, please fill out a memorial envelope, enclose payment and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. Price per potted plant is \$20.00 and the deadline for ordering is Monday, December 17. Thank you!



Join your Board of Outreach for a few hours on Sunday, December 16 after the late worship service (approx. noon) to help decorate our Sanctuary for celebrating the birth of our Savior! There will be the "hanging of the greens," Christmas tree decorating and much more! Watch for more info in the weekend bulletins and Friendly Reminders.



Trinity Lutheran School has a number of exciting events happening during the month of December. Our Christmas concert for 4th and 5th graders and our middle school band and orchestra is on December 4 at 7:00 PM and our Kindergarten through grade 3 Christmas pageant is on December 18. If you are available, please join us for these wonderful shows. The students have been working diligently on these performances. Additionally, we have our annual Barnes and Noble event on December 14. All proceeds go to support our music program. Our Tri-Music Honor Society students will be giving back to the community on December 20 when they play Christmas music at the Daybreak Senior Center in Oyster Bay. We wish everyone a joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Our daycare center has grown quite a bit since the beginning of the school year and continues to create a safe and engaging learning environment for infants and toddlers. We are now in the process of hiring additional staff to accommodate the needs of our increasing enrollment. We are currently looking for someone to work Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays from 7:00 AM - 12 noon. All interested applicants can contact me at (516) 931-2211.

Jennifer Forte,
Principal



The Good News
Early Childhood Center News

The Early Childhood Center children and staff spent the month of November remembering all that we are thankful for. The children are thankful for so many things including their families, teachers, and toys of course! The Pre-K children were invited to celebrate in the school wide Thanksgiving Feast with our Kindergarten through Eighth grade students. The children had a wonderful time sharing a Thanksgiving meal with their classmates and teachers.

As we return from Thanksgiving Break we look forward in the coming weeks to teaching the children about the birth of Jesus. The teachers are busy preparing many exciting Christmas activities for the children to enjoy. The children are practicing songs for their upcoming Christmas chapel, where their families will come watch them sing about the reason for the season. This year our theme will be "A Bright Light in Bethlehem."

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas season filled with laughter and





LCC K-9 Comfort Dogs Help Students, Faculty, and Staff After Sudden Death of a Student

On Monday, November 26, four LCC K-9 Comfort Dog teams deployed to Long Island Lutheran High School in New York. They met with Principal Jessica Raba, who had invited the comfort dogs to come after the sudden death of a sophomore student. Bringing their unconditional love and comfort were LCC K-9 Comfort Dogs Maggie (Christ the King - Newtown, Connecticut), Leah and Addie (Immanuel - Danbury, Connecticut) and Lily (Good Shepherd - Old Bridge, New Jersey), their handlers, and seven ministry partners from Trinity - Hicksville, New York (in the process of getting a K-9) with Pastor Hopkins from Trinity. The teams were present in the lobby to greet the students as they entered. The students had no idea the Comfort Dogs would be there to greet them. The smiles on the students' faces were amazing. Mrs. Raba said she hadn't seen her students smile that way since the first day of school.



After a few periods, the teams moved into the common area where the students congregate and have lunch. The teams saw almost 300 students throughout the day. Many staff and administration came for some comfort as well.

The Comfort Dogs and ministry teams also met with some of the students who rode the bus with the student that passed. They shared that their bus driver had stopped just before getting to school and said a prayer since many of them had been sad before entering school today. Some of them came down later and joined us as we let the dogs play in the gym. To hear the laughter warmed the hearts of the ministry team and the staff.

God put us where we needed to be. The teams worked seamlessly together and it was a successful day. Lu-Hi, as they affectionately call their school, can't wait to have Trinity come back when they have their own LCC K-9 Comfort Dog, and look forward to a great partnership. Please pray for the family of the student, all students, faculty, and staff as they look to Jesus to comfort them in their time of need.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK

A Comfort Dog Ministry sponsored event!

Saturday, December 8, 2018 from 10:00am – 1:00pm

Fancy Christmas Cookies and Candies

Leave your holiday baking to us! Many different varieties of delicious home-made cookies and candies to choose from for only \$8.00/pound!



FINAL APPEAL!! We are looking for anyone and everyone to help contribute the goodies for this fundraiser. The Christmas Cookie Walk will be open to everyone, at Trinity and in our community. It's another great way to share the love of Jesus by inviting all to enter our doors and learn about our ministry here.

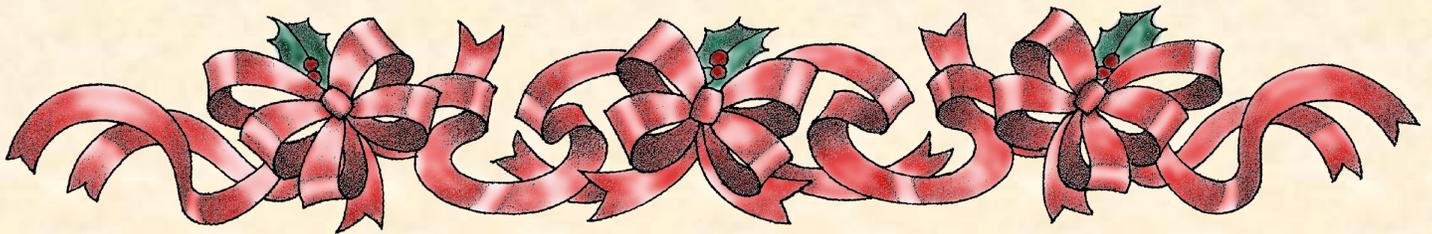
We are asking for a minimum of five (5) dozen Christmas cookies and/or candy from everyone in our congregation who enjoys baking. Cookies need to be pretty and tasty and in keeping with the Christmas season. Smaller-sized cookies are better. All cookies and candies need to be delivered to Trinity no later than 3:00pm on Friday, December 7 so that we have plenty of time to inventory and set up for the following day. Thank you to everyone who is helping the ministry with your culinary talent!





SAVE STAMPS! The Atlantic District Lutheran Women's Missionary League is collecting cancelled stamps that will be sold to a dealer. The money received from the sale of the stamps will go to the Interpreter's Fund for the Deaf of the AD LWML. Please help us by collecting stamps for this cause and sharing this notice with friends, family or business associates. Help us make this effort a success! Here are the requirements for collecting cancelled stamps:

Commemorative Stamps—those honoring a person, place or thing, **foreign stamps, holiday stamps, and love stamps.** We are concentrating on these types of stamps. We aren't saving bell and flag stamps any longer as they are not earning much money for all the work involved. Stamps cannot be **damaged or torn.** The stamps should be cut from the envelope and have 1/8 inch of the envelope left around the entire stamp. These are the requirements from the dealer. This is an ongoing project and we are excited about it! Remember to save all the stamps from your Christmas or other holiday mail. We do get more money for commemorative stamps so please purchase them whenever you can. The dealer will also take any pages or books from a collection or first day covers. If you have any questions, please contact Helen Peter.



ALEXANDRA MURDOCK

*We give thanks to You, O God;
we give thanks; Your name is near.
People tell of Your wondrous deeds. Psalm 75:1*



My name is Alexandra Murdock, and everyone calls me Lexi. I am from Scottsdale, Arizona. I am a sophomore at Concordia College New York. My major is Art. A fun fact about me is that I have been dancing since the age of two years old. I started the Dance Crew at Concordia! We are a busy group! Thank you for your continuing prayers for Lutheran student like myself! We are very grateful for the financial support we are able to receive. Wishing you the joyous anticipation of Jesus throughout the season of Advent.

Dear Pastor Hopkins,

We at Concordia College, New York want you to know how important your contribution to East Coast Association of Congregations ECAC really is. Our Lutheran students want to reach out personally and thank each congregation for their unwavering support.

Alexandra has chosen your church body to thank! Please find attached her first writing to your congregation. It would be wonderful if you could include her letters in your weekly bulletins or newsletters, so your congregation can see firsthand the huge impact they are making in the life of a student at Concordia. Without your financial support, a college education might not be possible for these students.

We praise and thank God for your faithful partnership!

Kathy Dresser '79
Director of Church Relations
Concordia College New York

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Act justly - - Love mercy - - Walk humbly with your
God. MICAH 6:8

Dealing With Grief During the Holidays

By Eden Althaus, LCSW, LCC Psychotherapist

Christmas time is here again; the trees are up and the lights are twinkling. Every store you walk into has festive music playing and shades of red and green throughout. It is the most wonderful time of the year, for we are preparing for the birth of our savior. However, this time of year doesn't always bring joy to everyone... the decorations, music, parties, and festivities can serve as painful reminders to those who have suffered a loss of a loved one. Seeing the empty chair at the table or remembering an old family tradition that once included this person can be emotionally overwhelming. Here are some ways to help cope throughout the holidays:

Give yourself grace - In 2 Corinthians 12:9 The Lord said, *"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."* Just as God has given us grace, we must shed grace upon ourselves. Allow yourself to feel what you are feeling, sit with those emotions, and be present and mindful about what is going on within you. Many times we try to avoid the feelings related to loss because the pain seems overwhelming. However, the use of mindfulness can help facilitate healing and acceptance, being open to those uncomfortable feelings in a non-judgmental way. Ultimately, this will lead us to a place where we can process those emotions safely and come to peace with them.

Surround yourself with love - It can be easy to isolate, to stay home and let the holidays go by without participating. However, the feelings of loss and grief do not go away by avoiding the holiday celebrations. In fact, by separating yourself from traditions and celebrations, the feelings of loneliness can intensify. Perhaps you can start some new traditions with family or friends during this holiday season. Do something that is meaningful to you. Whether it is volunteering at a soup kitchen, caroling at a nursing home, or crafting with old friends, make an effort to surround yourself with love and support and avoid isolation.

Reach out and ask for help - It is okay to not be okay. It is okay to feel pain and to ask for help in dealing with your heartbreaking emotions. Loss can be overwhelming, confusing, and downright miserable. You don't have to go through it alone. Seek counseling or speak to someone who you know and trust. Ask God for healing, comfort and strength. Seek guidance about where to turn with your despair. Know that LCC is always ready and willing to help.

Permission to feel joy - Lastly, cut yourself some slack and try not to feel guilt when you finally feel that joy sparking again. There can be great comfort in honoring those we lost by living our lives to the fullest. In the Kubler-Ross five stages of grief model, denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance are all stages that one may or may not go through when dealing with bereavement. Although this model has been around for a long time, a newer model by Lois Tonkin, called, "Growing around Grief" also sheds light on understanding these difficult emotions. She explains that acceptance doesn't necessarily mean those sad feelings are gone, but instead suggests that grief becomes part of us and our lives still continue and we grow around it—allowing yourself to feel joy in the mist of our sadness. Tonkin's model explains that living with loss is not about getting over your loved one, as much as it is finding ways to live a happy and full life that includes your beautiful memories.

As this Christmas season comes and goes, you will make it through and you will become stronger because of it. We at the Lutheran Counseling Center wish you a Merry Christmas and the peace of Christ, which surpasses all understanding. May God bless you and give you hope.

Eden Althaus, LCSW, is a social worker with the Northport VA Medical Center, directs the Young Adult Ministry at Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in Garden City and counsels children, teens, couples and adults at LCC's Dix Hills site. For more information or to set an appointment, please call the Lutheran Counseling Center

(www.lccny.org) at

1-800-317-1173 or e-mail us at Center@lccny.org.

Child of Promise

A Series of Special Services for Advent

Promises, promises—the Bible is full of them, but ultimately all of the promises of God are found in the Christ Child. In this Advent worship series, we will explore the promises associated with the original Hebrew names given to the Messiah, the Promised One, in Isaiah 7-12. Each service will delve into the meaning behind the promises of old and how those promises of old give meaning to our lives today as people of promise as we await the Christ Child.

December 5: God with Us - Isaiah 7:10-14 Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14). In the Hebrew name Immanuel (meaning "God with us"), Isaiah captures the essence of the promise of Christ's presence with us forever.

December 12: Prince of Peace - Isaiah 9:2-7 "The government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called... Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6). In the name Sar Shalom (meaning "Prince of Peace") Isaiah proclaims the promise of harmony and unity which only Christ can bring.

December 19: A Branch - Isaiah 11:1 "There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit" (Isaiah 11:1). By using the name Nezer (meaning "Branch"), Isaiah reveals to us that Jesus is connected to us and we are connected to him—always.

Please join us each Wednesday in December at 7:5pm as we prepare for the celebration of the birth of our Savior!

We Invite You to Worship with Us This Christmas Season!

Trinity's Advent worship services will be held each Wednesday on December 5, 12, and 19 at 7:15 pm.
Regular worship is on Saturdays at 6:30 PM and Sundays at 9:00 and 10:45 AM.

Saturday/Sunday, December 22/23

6:30 PM	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
9:00 AM	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
10:45 AM	Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion

Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24

6:00 PM	Family Christmas Worship Service
7:30 PM	Carols and Candles Service
9:00 PM	Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion
11:00 PM	Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion

Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25

9:30 AM	Family Communion Service
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Saturday/Sunday, December 29/30

6:30 PM	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
9:00 AM	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
10:45 AM	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion

New Year's Eve, Monday, December 31

6:30 PM	Holy Communion Service
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We recognize that this time of year is a very busy time for all of God's people. We invite you to take a moment in the midst of that busy-ness to worship God, who gives us every gift.
Come into His Sanctuary, take refuge and rejoice!



O Come, Let Us Adore Him



Breakfast with Santa

December 8, 2018
10:00 AM

\$10.00 Adults, \$8.00 Children

Yummy Pancake Breakfast!
Crafts for Children!
Crafts for Grown-Ups!
Letters to Santa!
Holiday Games!
Photos with Santa!

Make a FRAME for your photo with Santa!
Christmas Cookie Walk!

RSVP: santa@trinityhicksville.org

Celebrating Trinity Lutheran School's 65th Anniversary!

