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# TRINITY LUTHERAN C H U R C H   A N D   S C H O O L

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



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## The Good News

February 2019  
Volume 3 No. 2  
Page 1



### STEPPING OUT IN FAITH

I ran across this story in a *Bits & Pieces* publication of a story about a man named Nathaniel. He was fired from his job and dreaded going home to tell his wife the news. Nonetheless, he went home and told her. To his amazement, she

was thrilled by the news that he lost his livelihood and couldn't support her. She exclaimed, "Now you can write your book!"

Nathaniel had wanted for some time to pursue his literary interests. But that would have meant that he would have had to put some money away to take care of bills while he spent time writing. Yet, he had done nothing about it. However, "He was touched by her enthusiasm, but reality had kept him from sharing it." He wondered aloud to her if he were to begin writing, "What were they going to live on?"

She went over to a dresser and opened up a drawer and pulled out a wad of cash. She had been putting money back all along, in hopes that this day would come, enough money to last a year. "She smiled. 'I've always known you're a genius and would someday write a masterpiece.'"

"By demonstrating her faith in his talent and willingness to bank on his success, Nathaniel Hawthorne's wife inspired him to spend that year writing *The Scarlet Letter*, one of the great novels in American literature."



Reading this story caused me think about the faith that God has given to us. Do we step out in faith, knowing that God is always there for us? Especially, since He has given us all kinds of gifts, talents and abilities, all of these to be used for the benefit of all. That means your gifts are to help me as mine are to help you. As we are a part of His Church, right here at Trinity, they are to be used for all of God's people and the community around us.

How are we going to use what God has given us?

Paul clues us in a little bit in his second letter to the Corinthians, chapter 9 verses 6 and 8: "The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully... God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work."

God is your confidence. God is your provider. God is the giver of faith.

Step out in faith.

This leads me to ask you about the goals for Trinity that I outlined in my January 2019 newsletter article.

How are you doing with the goals for Trinity for 2019? Recall again:

**Goal One:** Start thinking that I am "Trinity." Again, Trinity is made up of the individual members of which YOU are one!

*Continued...*

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## The Good News

### *Pastor's Message continued...*

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**Goal Two:** Make it your personal goal to attend weekly worship and make time to be in personal Bible study.

**Goal Three:** Pray for who needs to hear the Good News about Jesus. Don't know who specifically? Ask God to make it clear who that person might be. Pray for God to send them your way. Remember Goal One, you are the church. Take it personally, invite someone to join you at worship or a Trinity event.

If you keep these three goals in front of you and work on accomplishing them, consider how many lives will be touched by the love of God, including your own!

Whether it be growing in your faith, relying on your faith or giving in faith, just trust in the Lord and step out in faith!

And watch how the Lord increases the harvest of righteousness in you, in others and in Trinity!

Serving the Lord with you,

*Pastor Hopkins*

## The Good News

### *From the Minister of Music*

On Sunday afternoon, February 24 at 3:00 p.m., Henry DeVries, our Minister of Music, will officially dedicate the new Walker organ that was installed in November. We have been very happy working with the Walker company, they have been very gracious and have not skimped on anything. They also have taken no shortcuts in providing us with a new instrument to lead us in worship. It is an instrument thought out not at a factory, but by organists, to ensure that we have all the sounds that we need on it, and controls



for the organist to get to them. Though the console of a church organ is often compared to an airplane cockpit, we have installed a lot to

make an organist's life easier. It has taken a few months for me to get used to some of the new sounds, and figure out where everything is. It is always a learning experience, and continues to be, when you put in a new instrument for worship. At this recital I have chosen to play a number of "Trinity standards," things that the people at Trinity have expressed that they have liked over the years. I have also included a number of pieces to help show off many of the new sounds that we have available to us. Of course a church organ's main function is to support the singing of the congregation, so please come ready to do a little singing as well. I'm looking forward to having a chance to show off our new instrument.



Henry DeVries,  
*Minister of Music*



Our Pastor is very active in making home visits to shut-ins and those who are in hospital or in hospice. He prays with them and administers communion. The Trinity Deacons assist him in this ministry with regular visits to shut-ins and the sick. Deacon Doug Brosky conducts many of these visits accompanied at times by Deacon emeritus Peg Ruhs. Deacons Debbie Vegara, Lynn Waldeck and Betsy Lazarek also make such visits and phone calls.

As for me, my visits are limited to one of our local nursing homes. All of our Deacons make visits to various nursing homes throughout the area to conduct services and visit. I, along with Peg Ruhs, conduct two monthly services at Daleview Care Center in Farmingdale, one at the main facility, and the second at the rehab center next door. We are accompanied by several ladies, friends of Peg, who are excellent singers. Singing is not my gift, but lately we have been joined by John Doughty, who is so gifted. I conduct the service with prayers, a short meditation and some schmoozing, which is one of my gifts.

Due to the nature of our audience, the songs we sing are either simple songs such as we use in VBS, old hymns (Amazing Grace) and patriotic songs (God Bless America) which even those with Alzheimer's and dementia recall and join in. My meditations are short, composed of paraphrased Bible stories as well as personal experiences and observations.

It is hard to tell what is going on in the minds of those in our audience. Some may not be attentive but most are. Our goal is to bless them all with the fellowship and love of Jesus in and through us. We want them to know that God has not forgotten them. He is present there with them in the form of us, His servants, His instruments. He uses Pastor and Deacons alike to do the same wherever we go so that all may know the love of Jesus.

*Deacon Anthony Cavaliere*

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



**The Good News**  
*Board of Stewardship*

Greetings from the Board of Stewardship!

At our recent meeting, we were discussing our board goals for the new year, and one thing on our list was "Pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17) As we explored this, we started asking ourselves what does that mean in our everyday lives? And how can we challenge and encourage each other in our prayer life? How is your prayer life on a scale of one to ten? Below are some questions we are asking ourselves.

Are you in the habit of praying?

What about "arrow prayers" those quick little ones in the car or office?

Do you pray at mealtime and bedtime?

When you are pondering a decision?

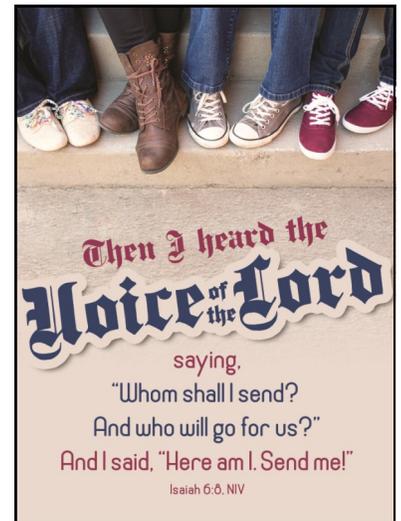
What about fervent prayer, by yourself, out loud, kneeling down with a list?

These are some of the ways we pray in our everyday lives. Maybe you do one or two of them, maybe more, maybe your prayer life looks entirely different, or it is non-existent except during church. We are looking at this list and seeing where we can add to our own prayer life this year. How about you?

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7, ESV)

Currently, and for decades past, church evangelism has centered around programs and events designed to attract people to church with the goal of presenting the Gospel to them. While this has its merits, evangelism is not something which can be programmed. It is something which must be lived outside of the church building, in and among people of other faiths and cultures, people going through joys and struggles, people who need the truth of the gospel and the encouragement, strength, and wisdom that only comes from faith in Jesus Christ. We know that Jesus is working in we who are believers, but He is also working in the lives of the people who are not, people walking in darkness, people we pass on the street, or the mall or wherever, people we meet every day. We must be alert to see what He is doing in their lives, move in response, and join in what He is doing.

As neighborhood missionaries our motivation for evangelism is gratitude for our own salvation, as well as love of Jesus and our fellow man. We are not to evangelize out of guilt or to make ourselves feel like we are doing something for God. We witness out of the joy of our salvation and the desire to win the lost for Christ. Jesus is doing the work but uses every believer who chooses to place himself or herself at His disposal. We can not or should opt neglect or mission due to the fear of failure. As disciples we are called to imitate Jesus. We are empowered to do this by His Holy Spirit. Therefore, no matter how inept we feel about presenting the gospel we cannot mess up what Jesus is doing. All we have to do is be where we are and desire to help others.



**NEWSLETTER  
SUBMISSIONS**

... for the March 2019 issue are due no later than noon on Thursday, February 21!

**The Good News**  
*Trinity Lutheran School 65th Anniversary News*



1954-2018

Planning for our 65th Anniversary Dinner on May 10, 2019 is underway. Save the dates have been sent out, so please mark your calendars. We are currently in the second year, or our three year capital campaign- Honor, Serve, Provide. As part of this campaign we will be honoring those who have dedicated themselves to the life of Trinity Lutheran Church and School. This year, we will be honoring Eileen Heigl, Chris and Roger Koopmann, and Henry Devries.



We are happy to inform you our pledged and donated total is now \$206,914. \$141,104 of that amount has been received as January 19, 2019.

Our heartfelt thanks to those listed below who have made pledges, one-time gifts, memorial gifts and who responded to the end of year appeal to Trinity Lutheran Church and School's *Honor, Serve, Provide* Capital Campaign. Through your participation you have shown us you believe in Trinity's ministry Honoring the Past, Serving the Present and Providing for the Future.

George Ahrens  
Susan Avila  
Arlene Bartlewitz  
Lynn Barr  
Timothy & Jennifer Bauman  
Rev David and Judy Benke  
Joe and Judy Bracconier  
Warren & Catherine Breuer  
Barbara and Doug Brosky  
Linda Buonomo  
Anthony and Terri Cavaliere  
Ilpoong Chang  
Jeannine Gichinsky  
Jon and Debbie Crawford  
Jeannetta Daniels  
Jeanine and Scott Davis  
Christina Deer  
Carolyn Demarest  
Edward & Elizabeth Denning  
Judith DeVaul  
Margret Dill  
John Doughty  
Kathryn Draves  
Grace Duffy  
Margaret and John Eckert  
Weldon and Gail Endorf  
Mary Endres  
Robert & Patricia Engelhardt  
Robert & Dolores Entermann  
Philip and Melissa Essigman  
Denise Fields  
Gerald and Nancy Finn  
Lauren Fix  
Arthur and Jayne Flomer  
Curtis and Lorraine Fogarty  
Leslie and Patricia Francis  
Roland Fricke  
Rev. Charles & Kathy Froehlich  
Joan Gabriel  
Nancy Galdo  
Carolyn and Darwin Gallegos  
Edward and Doris Gargan

Ruth Geiger  
Bruce and Carolyn Ginyard  
Lillian Goetjen  
Gelene Graham  
Howard Graves Jr.  
William and Patricia Griffith  
Janet and Barry Gubell  
John and Nancy Haines  
Suzanne Haines  
Scott and Dawn Hare  
Rev. Dr. Robert & Susan Hartwell  
Susan and Charles Henle  
Marite Ellen Hennessey  
Howard & Linda Hoerberlein  
Wayne & Margherite Hoerberlein  
Rev. John & Donna Hopkins  
Lou Johnson  
Caroline Jones  
Gerry Kelly  
Peter and Josephine Kenney  
Ellen and Dan Kerwin  
Elaine Koop  
Eleanor Kostolni  
Rev. Dr. John & Doris Krahn  
Jane Kramer  
Edward and Nancy Kuck  
April LeGare  
John and Rita Liba  
Johanna Loeffler-Cognato  
John and Jane Lottes  
Ann Malmquist  
William and Annette Martin  
Carole Maters  
Tammy Mazza  
Florence McGuigan  
Kim and Ralph Merz  
Denise Miller  
Susan Mittler  
Jeffrey and Janice Moeller  
John Mohlin  
Laura and Michael Morrisey  
Matthew & Irene Musumeci

David and Renita Newbery  
Kenneth Olsen  
Ruth Ormston  
Anonymous  
Helen Peter  
John Plank  
Ethyl Pordum  
Richard and Virginia Porter  
Henry and Kathleen Porzio  
Carl Probst  
Carmen and Larry Puccio  
Daniel and Denise Pugliese  
Joyce Rausch  
Margaret Ruhs  
Nicholas and Carol Russo  
Dolores Sartor  
Moses and Jean Saxon  
Elizabeth Scarola  
Amy Schildwachter  
Mark and Leslee Schmotzer  
Harry & Elizabeth Shehigian  
Christopher and Erika Skoch  
Roland Smith  
Kurt Spielmann  
Doris Steinhauer  
Eleanor Steinhauer  
Richard and Lauren Straub  
William Sullivan  
S. Jebaraj & D. Suueeharani  
Audrey Tallman  
George Tapia  
Mark & Elizabeth Thompson  
Dianne Uss  
Deborah Vergara  
Fred and Sue Von Bargaen Sr.  
Lynn and Edward Waldeck  
Wednesday Morning Bible Study Group  
Nancy Weisgerber  
Audrey Wenner

Many thanks also to those who supported the school's 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary through the Giving Tuesday event, the Santa Breakfast and by purchasing ornaments.



1954-2018

Lutherans Schools Week was a wonderful success! Our second and third graders sang beautifully in church on January 27. During this week our students had were able to meet Pastor Cusanelli, who aided with superstorm Sandy. Students also participated in different devotions and activities that celebrated their faith as Christians. National Lutheran Schools Week gave us an opportunity to proclaim these great blessings within the communities we serve. Additionally, our elementary school students participated in Nassau County's Valentine's for Veterans program. Students created valentine's that were distributed to our veterans in hospitals and nursing homes. This was a simple way to let our veterans know that their sacrifices are not forgotten. Additionally, our next open house is scheduled for February 9th, from 10:00 AM to 12 Noon. Please spread the word or stop by to see all that we have to offer.

Jennifer Forte,  
*Acting Principal*



**The Good News**  
*Daycare News*

Our daycare students continue to work on various curriculum goals. Some of our curriculum goals include reading readiness through stories, nursery rhymes, and poems. Children also participate in music through finger play, singing, and rhythmic instruments. Religion is also incorporated each day during prayers, grace, and Jesus time.

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



The teachers and staff of the Early Childhood Center were happy to welcome back the children after the Christmas break. The start of 2019 has been filled with fun and learning with Trinity's youngest students. The Toddler classes are busy working on their fine motor skills and learning their colors. The children also enjoy dancing and singing in class each day! The Nursery classes are working on an alphabet book while they continue to learn all of their letters. The teachers continue to share some wonderful literature with the children each day. The Pre-K classes have been discussing polar animals and are enjoying learning so much new information. Our Pre-K classes have also been combining with our Kindergarten class for certain lessons and their excitement is evident as they prepare for Kindergarten. All of the children

are enjoying riding tricycles during play time.

Carolyn Gallegos,  
*ECC Director*





**“To share the mercy, compassion, presence and proclamation of Jesus Christ to all those in suffering and in need.”**

It seems the most common question lately has been “So where’s the dog?” I laugh because in my head I hear “Scooby Doo, Where are you?” So let me first update those who didn’t attend the voters meeting as to where we are in the process of obtaining our dog. We started out with the application - completed. Then I attended a two-day training in Chicago for Top Dog Training - completed. We then assembled our team and submitted our applications for approval for handlers and caretakers - completed. The handlers and caretakers go through Skype interviews with Lutheran Church Charities - not completed. Handlers and Caretakers go to Chicago for training - not completed. Our dog will then return with the team to become a member of the Trinity family.

The Comfort Dog Ministry team continues to plan and train. They have several fun activities coming up including this Sunday’s Souper Bowl. You can place a can or package good in the box of the team you’re rooting for. Who’s going to win? The recipients in the community!

Please take the time to check out the Comfort Dog Ministry bulletin board across from the cafeteria to see what we are up to.

We are still looking to expand the team and now is an exciting time to join. We are especially in need of a veteran partner and a partner in law enforcement. If you have an interest in serving the ministry please speak with me.

Donna Haines, *Top Dog*



**The Good News**  
*Lutheran Women’s Missionary League News*

A new year has begun and LWML has closed its financial book and voted on the missions to support with the money raised with our 2018 fundraisers. We are happy to report with God’s blessings, our members, and friends inside and outside of the church, \$7,896.32 was raised! We were short just \$104.00 of our \$8000.00 goal!

Following is a list of the missions that our LWML members voted on and the amount each one received for 2018:

Trinity Lutheran Church for Capital Improvement	\$2,368.90
Christian Appalachian Project (CAP)	\$2,132.00
Lutheran Social Services (Uniondale, NY)	\$1,816.15
Trinity’s Comfort Dog Ministry	\$1,579.27

We would like to ask every group and ministry who has received financial support from LWML to make every effort to attend at least one or all of our fundraisers this coming year. Again, we thank you so much for your past support and we look forward to seeing you and a friend at our next fundraiser on March 2, our annual High Tea. All are invited!

Helen Peter, *LWML President*

### **"The Creation" Fountain**

In 1960 Henry G. and Florence E. Eisemann, life-long members of Trinity, graciously accepted the invitation of Pastor E. Stammel (served TLC from 1943-1974) to help create "a wee bit of heaven" in the midst of a growing, bustling community. Grateful to God for countless blessings in their lives, the Eisemanns cheerfully gave the seven thousand dollars to erect "The Creation" Fountain to glorify God. The sculptured fountain, designed and executed by artist Robert Cronbach, was conceived from the gem of truth in Psalm 19, verse 1, "The Heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth His handiwork."



#### Artist's Description

The fountain is made of hammered and welded bronze, brass and stainless steel. The surface has been oxidized to a black and blue-green patina. The contemporary metal fountain, reaching to capture the wealth of truth embodied in the first verse of Psalm 19, rises from a shallow pool ground seven inches deep into a solid eighteen inch thick piece of golden pink granite quarried in the state of Connecticut.

As you view the fountain, situated in the north end of the Youth Patio, you will notice the two fountain heads representative of the heavenly bodies, namely the earth's sun and the stars. They are located at the peak of the fountain. The water, one of God's sustaining gifts of life, spills from them. It falls caressingly on and over cloud-like forms and then rains down on a large, curved segment which represents the earth, our temporary home. The earth is symbolized as an up-turned basin, ever ready to receive the goodness of God. Flowering forms may be seen protruding from the earth-form reaching

heavenward to catch and consume the life giving water. The water spills off the earth form and drops into the pool. It is then filtered and re-circulated up to the fountainheads, completing its cycle, from the firmament to earth, then back to the firmament.

Behind the fountain, slightly to the left of center, the symbol of our Lord's love for man, His cross, silently stands sentinel to this moving, living expression of man's devotion to the goodness of God.

#### The Sculptor

Robert Cronbach, Sculptor and Teacher (1908-2001) Commissions included: sculptures and fountains at the United Nations General Assembly Building, The Fashion Institute of Technology in NY and the Federal Office Building in St. Louis. Cronbach taught at Adelphi University in NY from 1947-1961 and The Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine. He exhibited widely and was represented in the collections of various museums and private individuals.



By Ellen Kerwin

### **The Good News** *Miscellaneous Items of Interest*



A special thank you for the ice machine! Our cafeteria has been upgraded with a new ice machine! Many, many thanks to the generous donor who gifted our church and school with this wonderful addition. It's up and running and already has been a blessing!



### LICENSED CHRISTIAN COUNSELORS NEEDED

Lutheran Counseling Center, a 501 (c) 3 faith-based Christian mental health counseling center with nine church based sites over the metropolitan NY area, has an opening for part-time licensed Christian mental health counselors to provide fee-for-service counseling for children and adults at our Mineola, Farmingdale and (soon to open) E. Northport sites (must be able to work at least one afternoon and evening per week and may work at more than one site.

If interested, please send your resume to:

[Center@LCCNY.org](mailto:Center@LCCNY.org)

For more information, call us at:

**516-741-0994 or 800-317-1173**

Our mission is to be a healing ministry of the Church offering health, hope and wholeness by serving individuals, families, congregations and the community. LCC strives to serve all people regardless of religious affiliation, personal conviction, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender, or age.

Visit our website at: [www.LCCNY.org](http://www.LCCNY.org)

**VALENTINE FOOD BASKETS** We will be packing our Valentine food baskets on Monday, February 11 at 10:00 AM in the Stammel Center. If you wish to make a cash donation please put it in an envelope and mark it "Valentine Baskets." Thank-you for sharing with others!

pancake mix  
tuna  
cereal/oatmeal  
rice/pasta mixes

toothpaste  
jam/jelly  
pasta & sauce mayo  
soup

canned fruit  
shampoo  
dish detergent  
hot chocolate syrup

peanut butter  
cookies/crackers



**M**embership  
Class

### New Member Classes to Begin!

Membership classes are scheduled to begin on February 24 and will run for five Sundays at 10:45am. This class is open to all who desire membership or to learn about the basics of our Lutheran Christianity. To sign up or get more information, contact Deacon Anthony Cavaliere at [acavaliere@trinityhicksville.org](mailto:acavaliere@trinityhicksville.org).



# Good Eats FOR A GOOD CAUSE

15% OF YOUR TICKET WILL BE DONATED TO  
TRINITY LUTHERAN YOUTH GROUP

When you present this flyer while ordering.



**TRINITY LUTHERAN YOUTH GROUP  
GIVE BACK EVENT  
FEBRUARY 28, 2019  
FROM 11:00 AM TO 11:00 PM**

**CHILI'S BETHPAGE - 4100 HEMPSTED TURNPIKE, BETHPAGE, NY 11714-5600  
516-579-0053**

Mention or show the Give Back Event Flyer with each check to receive credit for the sale. Sale cannot be included in donation amount with flyer.  
Offer only valid on the date and location stated above. Donations will not be given on sales made prior to or past this date.

Join us for  
**A Professional Cooking Demonstration!**

Presented by our very own...

**Chef Warren Breuer**



**On the Menu...**

**French Onion Soup**

**Chicken Stir-fry**

**Vegetarian Stir-fry**

**Fried Rice**

**Vegetarian Fried Rice**

**Please RSVP by February 22 to reserve your spot!**

*A free-will offering will be taken to benefit Trinity's Senior Youth for attending the LCMS National Youth Gathering this summer!*

**\* Bring your own take-out containers and you can take home leftovers! Yum!**

# Save the Date!

Comfort Dog Ministry

## **PUPPY SHOWER**

March 3, 2019 1pm – 3pm

See the Comfort Dog Ministry bulletin board for suggestions on how you can help the ministry prepare for our dog!

R.S.V.P to Church Office by

**February 23**

