



TRINITY LUTHERAN

CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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



The Good News

September 2019
Volume 3 No. 8
Page 1



It's All Starting... !

It is September! Summer is over and everything seems to be beginning anew.

Our school is starting up this week, Wednesday September 4. Please pray for an excellent

school year for students, faculty and all of our families. I would ask that as you pray, that you include all schools: public, private, colleges, tech schools and their students and faculty as well.

Sunday school for our children starts up again on Sunday, September 8, confirmation on Thursday, September 19, and new member classes on Thursday, September 12. Don't forget, Bible classes held weekly during the day: Tuesday afternoons at 3:30pm in the Stammel Center and Wednesday mornings at 9:30am in the YSR. Also on Wednesday evenings, two offerings: in my office or on Facebook Live for the study on the Gospel of Mark at 7:00pm and the Ladies Wednesday Evening Bible Study in the YSR also at 7:00pm. (One thing to keep in mind about my Wednesday evening class, if you don't watch it live, they are recorded and you can watch it anytime that is convenient for you. I am told by several folks who sit in the pews next to you that they do this!)



It is not just Christian education that is starting, choir is too!!! Choir resumes on Thursday, September 12 and they practice on Thursday evenings. This is the time to let your gifts shine, so lend your voice to the choir! There are lots of opportunities to sing praises to the Lord. Join the choir. Doesn't matter if it has been a while or perhaps your schedule has changed and now permits it. Don't stay at home. Join the choir!

Youth activities are beginning too. Make sure your youth go. Youth make sure you go. Having Christian friends is so important, perhaps in today's world more than ever. And even if you don't have youths in your home anymore, you can still help out. Pray for them, come to their events...GREET a youth on Sunday morning. If you don't know them, introduce yourself to them.

This time of year is a great time to start something new or pick up on what you used to do, even if it has been a while.

If there is something that is going on and you would like to be a part of it and don't know who to ask, ask me.

Lot of things are happening and it will get even better with your participation.

Serving the Lord with you,

Pastor Hopkins

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Choir rehearsals will be starting shortly! Please note the starting dates for our choirs. All choirs except Trinity Handbell Choir and Cherub Choir meet in the music room (CMR). All are welcome, please contact our Minister of Music, Henry DeVries, hdevries@trinityhicksville.org or call him at the church number, (516) 931-2225, to get more information.

Trinity Choir - Thursday, September 12, 8:00 pm – 9:30 pm

Sounds of Praise (grades 2-5), Thursday, September 26, 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Trinity Handbell Choir, 6:45 pm – 8:00 pm, Thursday, September 26.

Cherub Choir (grades K-2), Thursdays 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm, Date - TBA

Youth Ensemble (grades 6-12), Wednesdays, 8:00 pm – 8:45 pm, Date - TBA

Please note that Cherub Choir and Sounds of Praise are open to all of Trinity Lutheran Church's children. The start time was moved so that our children who do not attend Trinity Lutheran School would still have time to come at least close to our starting time. We would love to build up our younger choirs.



I've very excited that this year September 29 falls on a Sunday! In the church calendar, September 29 is the day that the festival of St. Michael and All Angels is observed. Angels we know from the Bible, are God's messengers who watch over us. "All Night, All Day, angels watching over me my Lord," sings the old spiritual. We think of angels as having wings and harps, but that is not quite how the Bible describes them. The Bible mentions different "ranks" of angels – the cherubim and seraphim, who in Isaiah we are told have six wings, two to cover their face, two to cover their feet and two to fly; other places say that they have the body of a lion – scary! There are also archangels, like Michael, who command the other angels, sort of like angel generals. In our readings for this week we hear of war breaking out in heaven and Michael casting the devil ("the dragon") and all of his followers into hell. Yet, although Michael defeats evil in heaven, it is Jesus Christ who is triumphant. He ultimately defeated death and the devil by rising from the dead. On September 29 we will hear these wonderful stories and celebrate God's messengers – we will sing the wonderful hymns of faith speaking of God's angels as they sing Holy, Holy, Holy before the throne of God. We will use the ancient hymn of the church, the Te Deum, in our celebration. Did you know that in the British Isles, St. Michael's Day, or Michaelmas, still starts the school years, and divides the court calendars. Join us on Sunday, September 29 as we celebrate and join with the angels singing Holy, Holy, Holy before the throne!



In Luke 13, Jesus stepped in to liberate a helpless woman. "**On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all. When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, "Woman, you are set free from your infirmity."**"

When Jesus saw this woman, He must have been moved with great compassion. Despite her condition, this woman was in the synagogue on the Sabbath, standing in the back or off to the side with the other women. She was there despite the pain of her infirmity.

In addition to physical pain, this woman had to endure emotional pain as well. There would be much spiritual abuse heaped on her by her neighbors. There would always be the gossip, the talk about what she did to deserve this condition, what sin she had committed to wind up this way. People would shun her. She would have few if any friends or people to talk because others would find her repulsive.

Maybe she went regularly to the synagogue to worship God. Perhaps she was there to meet with God, perhaps she felt it was her duty to do so on Sabbath. Perhaps it was her desire to be there with the Lord and His people. Perhaps she came to hear the words of scripture read and to receive some comfort and encouragement to keep on going day by day and not give up.

But maybe she had come to synagogue that day because she heard Jesus was going to be there. No doubt by this time she had heard about Him and all the miracles He performed. Since she did not speak or draw attention to herself, we can assume she was not going to come forward and ask to be healed or even to pray for healing. This would be unacceptable. Besides by this time she probably had accepted her infirmity and given up asking. Maybe she felt that she deserved her infirmity. Maybe long years before she had committed some heinous sin that resulted in this punishment. She could not ask God for release because she was not holy enough. But she may have come to synagogue that day out of curiosity, just to see and hear Jesus, to see if the things they said about Him were true. Maybe just maybe she wondered if He could heal her.

Jesus, as always, always stepped in to help her. That was essentially His whole purpose in coming to earth. This is what he did by dying for our sins on the cross. He stood for us, the weak and sinful, who were helpless to change our condition or better ourselves. He stood alone against the Law with its guilt, condemnation and death and delivered us from its power.

We should act as Jesus did and always seek to extend mercy and compassion toward the weak and powerless, those very people we have all encountered in Church and in our community.

Deacon Anthony Cavaliere

Your Deacons:

Doug Brosky

Anthony Cavaliere

Betsy Lazarek

Peg Ruhs

Debbie Vergara

Lynn Waldeck



September 8, 2019

All In With Him is our theme for this school year. It is based on Colossians 2 verses 6 and 7 where St. Paul urges the believers to stay rooted in Christ and to be built up and strengthened in faith. The key word in our theme is the word all. By saying we're "all in" the word all urges us to put God first in our lives and to commit ourselves totally to Him. There is another way to interpret this phrase if you read the word all as a pronoun for the word everyone. I think both interpretations of the phrase describe this faith community of Trinity Lutheran Church and School. Here at Trinity, everyone is charged to work together to support one another as we give our all to God and serve our neighbors.

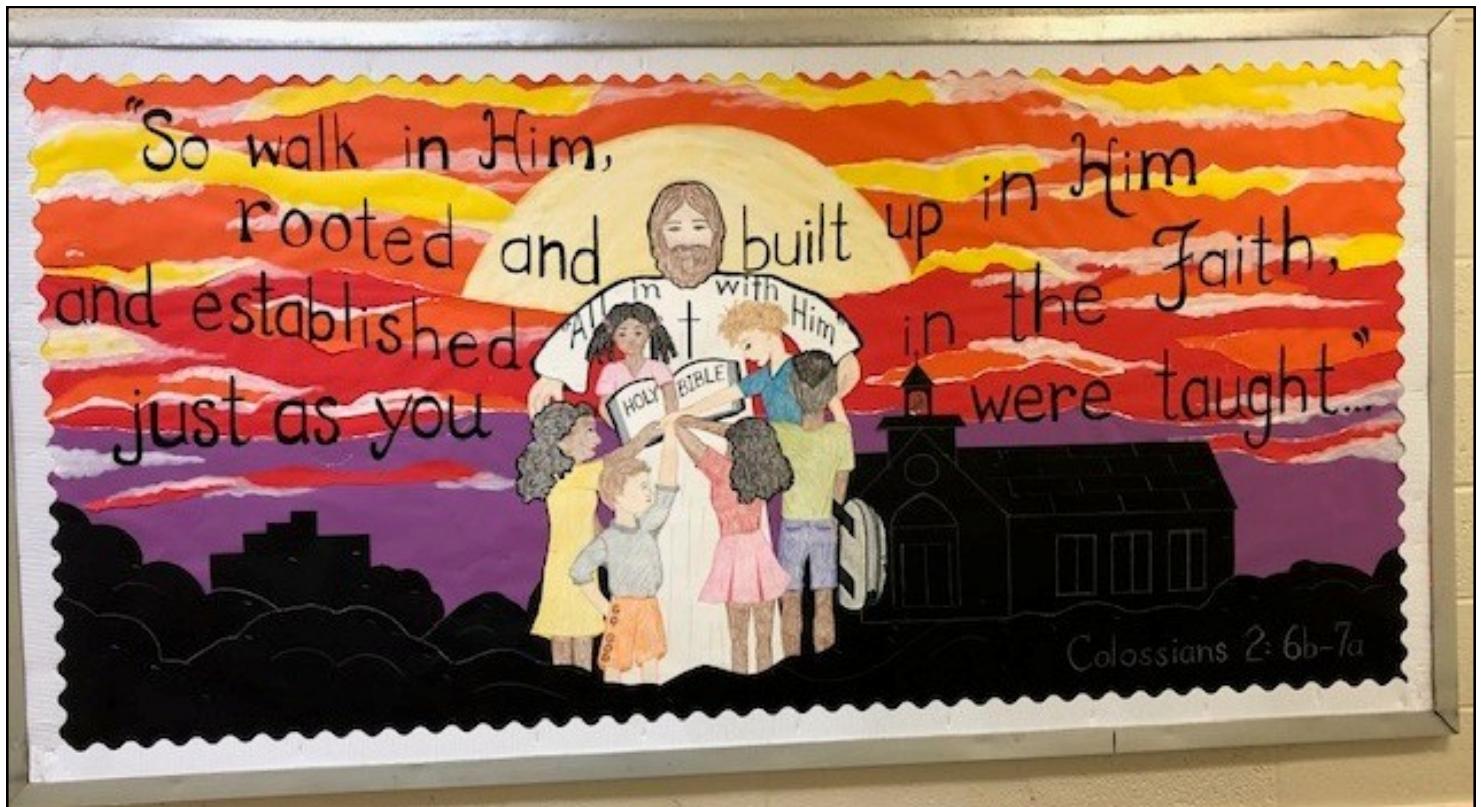
So, are you ready to be **All In With Him** this year? Students, parents, teachers, staff, church members, volunteers, friends... are you all in? I know I am! As the year ahead unfolds, there will be times when we will make mistakes, grow tired, and become discouraged and there will be times that we celebrate. In good or bad times, let us remember that we can always lean on Him and seek the support of others because...we're ALL IN!

Yours in Christ,

Mary-Elaine Leake



1954-2019



Bulletin Board by Ellen Kerwin, Art Teacher

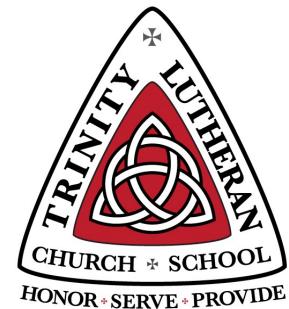
We are delighted to report that a number of projects have been accomplished during the summer months thanks to the Board of Properties. You may remember the original goals of the Capital Campaign included:

Honoring the past – Preservation of Church and School

- Sealing the church from the elements
- Facility infrastructure and utility replacement and renovation
- Replacing sanctuary carpeting

Serving the Present – Foundation of Programs

- Renovations to current classrooms
 - Science room renovation
 - Guidance/counseling services
 - Energy-efficient lighting upgrades
 - Security improvements
- Providing for the Future**
- Financial aid/scholarships
 - Memorial gifts



We are well on our way to accomplishing these goals. Our total three-year goal was \$210,000. Our thanks to you for helping us meet and exceed this monetary goal. We are now at \$235, 900 in pledged and donated funds.

As we have approached each aspect of the capital campaign we have been fortunate to have Board of Properties members whose expertise has allowed to accomplish many projects under predicted costs. Other projects have been added to our original list out of necessity - our scope of safety initiatives for staff, students, congregants and visitors to both church and school has been expanded greatly. Funds we have received beyond our original goal are being utilized toward those safety efforts.

We are very thankful for Trinity's PTFA donation of funds to renovate the boys and girls bathrooms and locker rooms by the gym completed early this summer.

Major summer projects this year have included: long-overdue repairs to the school heating system, installing the ceiling and energy efficient lighting in Pastor's office, replacement of classroom carpets in K-8, cleaning of carpets in our ECC, exterior painting of Trinity's school, and replacing Trinity's Church and School banners along W. Nicholai Street and Jerusalem Avenue.

This fall we will be adding two secure entrances to Trinity's gym and near Pastor's office. In addition, new interior signage will be added for emergency assistance to fire and police personnel.

While our original monetary goal has been met, the need for additional funds to complete projects described remains. Your support toward helping us accomplish these project goals is greatly appreciated. Please prayerfully consider how you can assist us to complete these projects.



... for the October
issue is noon on Friday,
September 20!

Trinity's stated vision: "That all will know the love of Jesus!"

How are we, as members of the Church, implementing this vision? How do all the activities which our ministries and committees sponsor work toward this goal? How do the things we do spread the good news of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ?

The Board of Outreach is here to assist all in implementing this mission, to preach the Gospel to others, in words and in deeds.

"All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ... and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us." (2 Corinthians 5:18, 19b-20a)

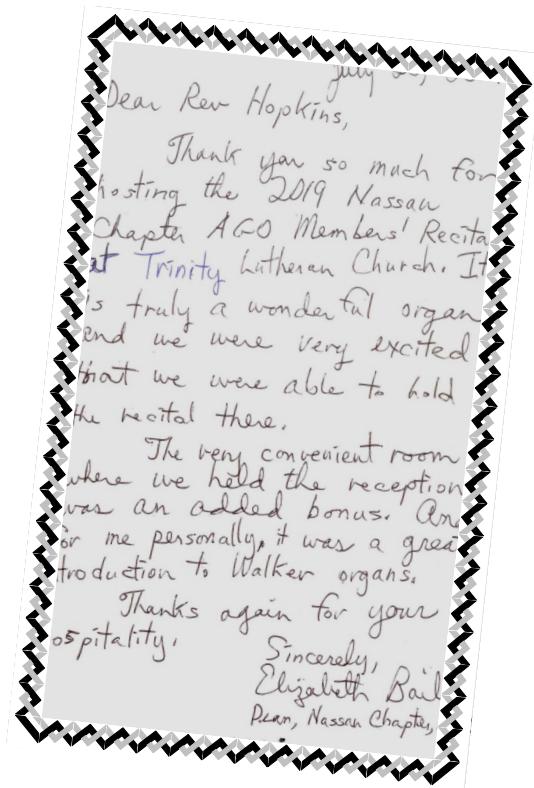
We are Christ's ambassadors. He grants us His grace, love and authority and works through us to bring the gospel of to other people: all people of every ethnicity, religion and nationality. As His ambassadors, we are called to implement the vision wherever we go in our neighborhoods and towns, on vacation or when shopping or even sitting in a restaurant or coffee bar. Don't know how to do this? The Board of Outreach can help. We have resources that will help you carry on spiritual conversations with people even if you are an introvert. We need members for this board, men and women who desire to share the love of Jesus with others, up close and personal. Our next meeting is Monday September 16 at 6:30 pm in Stammel Center. Contact Deacon Anthony at ACavaliere@trinityhicksville.org

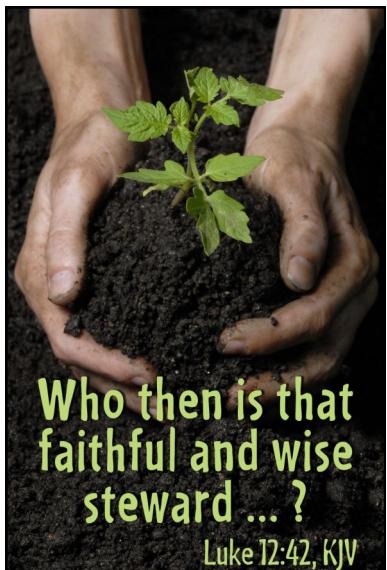
By the way the Second Annual Trunk or Treat is coming up! We need volunteers to set up a trunk for the Board of Outreach and provide treats to give out.

Deacon Anthony Cavaliere



Thank you





What is a steward? Most people will say a steward is a manager. That is correct, but it is only half right. A steward is indeed a manager, but he is a manager of what does not belong to him. Someone else is the owner, and the steward manages the owner's property on the owner's behalf.

We are God's stewards. Our stewardship is that God has made us managers of what belongs to Him:

"For we brought nothing into this world, and we cannot take anything out of the world." (1 Tim. 6:7)

Everything that we have and everything that we are comes from God's fatherly divine goodness and mercy. God is the owner. This is not only because He created all things; He is also the redeemer. He has redeemed – that is, purchased – and won all things. Therefore, it all belongs to Him. We are simply managers of everything in this world. Like Joseph in Egypt, we are put in charge of managing what belongs to God. What a privilege.

Think about that for a minute. The all-knowing, all-powerful, all-wise God has asked us to manage his possessions on His behalf here on earth. And by doing this, He invites us to take part in the allocation of His good gifts. He wants us to give our input and advise Him in where His gifts are to be used. What a privilege indeed. But what a responsibility!

"Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required." (Luke 12:48b)

We are not the owners. And while He puts us as managers, we are still to do with His property what He wants done with it. That means we need to know what He desires and wills for His property. How do we know this? How can we know the will and mind of God? We find the will of God in the Bible. There God tells us what His will is for all of His gifts. He tells us how we are to spend our time and use our talents and treasures. He instructs us in the use of our minds, bodies, and souls. There is nothing we have that doesn't belong to Him.

"Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body." (1 Cor. 6:19–20)

God informs us of the big picture, the overarching policy, of how we as His stewards – managers and custodians – are to manage His property. And that is stewardship. It is simply doing what God wants us to do with what He has given us. As St. Paul said,

"Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness." (Rom. 6:13)

Deacon Anthony Cavaliere



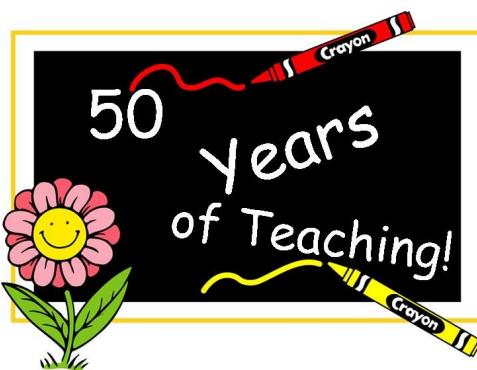
Trinity Lutheran School is looking to hire a director for the after school program, Monday through Friday, 3:00pm to 6:00pm. For more information, please contact Mary Leake in the school office at 516-931-2211, ext. 210 or via email at mleake@trinityli.org.

Trinity's Board of Properties would like to thank its fellow members, church volunteers, direct donors and the Honor, Serve, Provide Capital Campaign pledge contributors for their support so that we were able to complete the following projects:

- Paint Rooms 1012, Critter Room, ECC 2,4,5
- Replace 200 Fluorescent Light Bulbs with Led Bulbs
- Replace Fans in Critter Room
- Replace Air Conditioner Motor for Church Offices
- Trimmed Bushes on School Side
- Repaired Tractor and Lawn Mower
- Repainted Handicap Parking Lanes
- Repaired and Painted Yellow Curb Outside ECC
- Install New Ceiling and Led Lights in Pastor's Office
- Repaired Doors in ECC
- Installed Electric Supply and Air Conditioner in Room 103
- Repaired School Heating System
- Replaced Window Screens in Daycare Building
- Replaced Shattered Glass in Daycare Front Door
- Install Raised Bed Garden in Daycare Yard
- Replace Defective Smoke Alarm in Daycare
- Replace Defective Front Door Lock in Parsonage
- Repair Bench in Courtyard
- Paint Peeling Siding on Exterior of School
- Upgrade Sound System In Church with Additional Antennas
- Repair Water Main Leak to Playground Sprinkler



The Good News Early Childhood Center News



Trinity's Early Childhood Center Staff is busy preparing to welcome the children for our 50th year of Pre-school education at Trinity! This school year we look forward to celebrating this wonderful milestone of 50 years of teaching Trinity's youngest children about the love of Jesus. We hope you will be able to join us throughout the year as we have different events planned to celebrate. Trinity is blessed to have many dedicated staff members who go above and beyond each day for the children and families we serve. The staff has many wonderful activities planned for the children and are looking forward to meeting their newest students. We are all excited for a year filled with learning, laughter, and love with our Early Childhood Center children!

Carolyn Gallegos,
ECC Director



Please call Helen Peter at 516-938-6914 if you plan on attending the first day time LWML meeting on Monday, September 16 from 10:30 to 11:30am at Helen's home. An evening meeting will be held at the church on Tuesday, September 17 at 7:30pm in the CMR. At both meetings, we plan on working on bookmarks for David Specht to hand out when he sells the Trinity Christmas trees and wreaths.

Registration for the 2019 Fall Retreat, October 11-13 at the Tuscarora Inn, opens on September 1, 2019. The Inn will accommodate a limit of 100 attendees so make sure to obtain a form from LWML to complete your registration as early as possible.

September 21 will be our annual Garage Sale held at 33 Winding Place in Hicksville from 10:00am to 4:00pm that Saturday. This sale has grown over the years and is a wonderful neighborhood outreach. Why not come out and join our neighbors and support this event!

The Sunshine Prayer Line needs more people willing to pray for those in need. There are no meetings, just a commitment on your part to faithfully uphold people each day in your daily prayers. Please contact Helen Peter if you are interested.

Thank you!

Helen Peter
LWML President

The Good News
Community Garden Update

God has watered the earth and the garden has yielded a 100 pound harvest so far! Tomatoes, zucchini, eggplant, cucumbers, beans, hot peppers—all distributed to the clients of the Lutheran Social Services New Life Center Food Bank in Uniondale.

If you have a talent for lawn mowing, the garden could use a volunteer.

Email Howard at howard.e.graves@hofstra.edu or call him at 516 463 6429.





Hi Friends! It's been a fun summer so far here in New York. I have had so many new adventures. I went to four, yes FOUR different Vacation Bible Schools. I met so many new human pups. We talked about Jesus' Miraculous Mission and we Roared! I also traveled to other churches to share my ministry. I went to a street fair in Brooklyn and a BBQ in Delhi, New York. I love sharing my story and reminding people they are loved.



My favorite part of this summer was flying to the Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Conference. Several team members went with me. We worshiped and attended workshops on how to make my ministry better. But the best was seeing some old friends and making new ones.



I've still been doing my regular visits. I have visited the Alzheimer's Foundation, Central Island Rehabilitation Center, Daleview Nursing Home, and Mill Neck Manor. I have even been visiting the dispatchers at the Police 911 Call Center and Firecom. The nice folks at the Nassau County Critical Response Team invited me to their meeting to talk about how I can better help during a crisis response.

My team is now starting to plan some fun events for the fall and winter. Trunk or Treat is scheduled for October 27. Start planning now to enter your trunk in the fun! We are also going to start collecting candy in September. We had such a great response last year and this year I get to participate. I'm so excited.

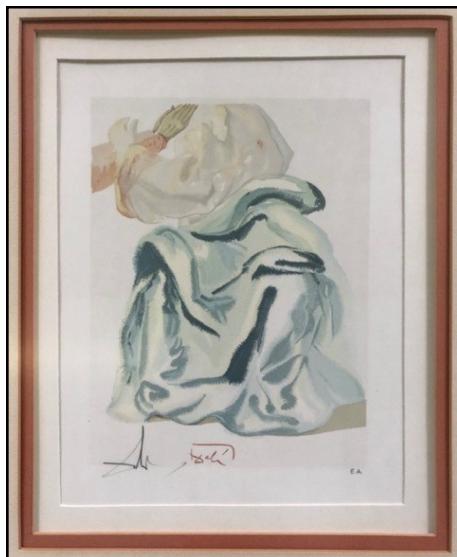
My last note . . . thank you for reading the directions on how to approach me and help my handlers when they are working with me. I turned 18 months on August 18 and every day I learn more and more. But I also like to find challenges for my handlers.

*Go after a life of love as if your life depended on it...
because it does..." 1 Corinthians 14:1*



Abraham





"LA PARADIS #30 A L'EMPURCE" by Salvador Dalí (located on the south wall just past the east wing entrance doors) was given in memory of Charles A. and Lulu Saurer by Kathy and Otto Gabrielsen, Jr.

This print is an original color woodblock engraving from the Divine Comedy Series. The Spanish painter Dalí was a leading member of the Surrealist Movement in the late twenties and early thirties. The first retrospective exhibition of Dalí's works at the Museum of Modern Art in 1941 established his reputation in the United States. Dalí began the first of his magnificent religious subjects in the late 1940's. It was in the 1950's when Dalí was commissioned to illustrate one of the most important works of Italian literature, The Divine Comedy, by the famed poet Dante Alighieri. Dalí created one hundred watercolors to represent scenes from Dante's travels through Inferno, Purgatory and Paradise. It was at the St. Regis Hotel in New York City where Dalí was contracted to hand sign each of these scenes. And that he did...using different colored crayons he signed in red for Inferno, purple for Purgatory and blue for Paradise.

This particular scene is titled "To The Empyrean," which in English means "relating to heaven, where human will and God's will become one."

About the Artist: Salvadore Dalí was a skilled draftsman, best known for the striking and bizarre images in his work. His painting skills are often attributed to the influence of Renaissance masters. His best known work, **The Persistence of Memory**, was completed in August 1931 and is one of the most recognizable surrealist paintings. Surrealism is the 20th century movement in art and literature which sought to release the creative potential of the unconscious mind by the irrational juxtaposition of images.

by Ellen Kerwin

A Prayer for Teachers

Lord, bless the teachers who give their heart to teaching. Thank you for the special gift that You have given them and for giving them a spirit of grace and compassion. May they have strength and endurance to perform their many tasks, and may they know and feel the deep gratitude of those whom they teach.

Amen





UPDATE FOR SEPTEMBER 2019
WITH COUNSELING SITES LOCATED IN:
NASSAU SUFFOLK MANHATTAN QUEENS
WESTCHESTER BROOKLYN

'Free Chicken' from Lake Placid
By The Rev. Anthony Stephens, PhD, JD, LMHC

This is not meant to be a "Yea, Me" article. There is definitely some 'free chicken' (i.e. good information that sets you up for success in 'Army-speak'). Nonetheless, I am not un-proud of completing, by the grace of God, the 140.6 miles of Ironman Lake Placid in about 15 hours. Here is the 'free chicken': it was a spiritual and practical journey and I learned some lessons that I would like to share below. These came from the many *angelos* (Greek for "messengers") that were placed in my journey.

Race as if you are always on camera: A long time ago I started running triathlons in a route that went through my parish. I met many enthusiastic supporters who were friends and parishioners en route and for their sake, I did not want to be seen not "trying." It wasn't so much that I cared what they thought, but I wanted to do my best as a member of their community. Take away: if you don't want to do it for yourself, do it for the team – though the team loves you regardless.

Always say "Thank you": This is key. Recovering Alcoholics, and others of the Twelve Step community talk about an attitude of gratitude. I was told to thank volunteers, which I did profusely. More importantly, at regular increments (transitions, hill tops, waypoints), I prayerfully thanked God. It's true that at the race's finish I was so smoked that I forgot how to make the sign of the cross, but every time I remembered to be thankful, it produced a great neurochemical blast, which acted as a natural pain killer and euphoric.

Start slowly: My game plan was to go flat out for as long as possible. Coaches and sages said this was a rotten idea, so I didn't. I started slowly at each new stage and gradually built up pace. In the Army we call this: crawl, walk, run. It worked – personal best!

Tolerate slow progress: I am primarily a runner, and marathons used to be my main thing. This started with learning that my blood pressure was a bit high. Distance running motivated me to set a goal and exercise to it. Fifteen years ago, at age 43, I couldn't run a bath without getting out of breath. I learned any degree of going forward is better than going backwards, and going backwards can show how to go forwards better. Going forwards or backwards is always better than quitting. My run at IMLP was sloooow. However, when my son, my coach, and a few other supporters cheered me on, my pace picked up. Running slowly still gets you there and is not an indication to give up.

These are analogs for life's trials and tribulations: losing weight, overcoming injury or disability, getting through grief, upgrading to healthy, non-violent, relationships and many more. It's 'free chicken'. Bon appetit!

Anthony Stephens, PhD has served as a staff psychotherapist with the Lutheran Counseling Center since 2000. He continues to see clients in the Paul Qualben Center in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. He also serves in the New York Army National Guard as a major in the Chaplain Corps.

For more information or to set an appointment at one of our nine counseling sites in the metro NY area, call us at 1-800-317-1173. Please visit our website at www.LCCNY.org.