

Trinity Tidings

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Newport News, VA

March 2017



The Reverend Tina Melusky is installed as the new Pastor for Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church on February 26, 2017

From the Pastor's Desk . . .



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Let's Talk LENT!

While it feels like 2017 just kicked off, here we are already...LENT! In the midst of our lives which can sometimes run away from

us with their hectic natures and 800 different places to be all at once, Lent always arrives with an abruptness that can sometimes draw us up short. There is no other time of the year quite like Lent, this intentional time of 40 days where we seek to draw closer to God, where we seek to quiet our minds and our hearts and return to the Lord, our God. For some, it's a time of sacrifice, of giving up items that distract us from our lives with God. For others, it's a time of focus, of taking up practices and disciplines that help us deepen our faith. Some of us take intentional time during the day to pray, some of us lessen our time in front of our screens, some of us seek to be more charitable, whatever way you choose to walk through Lent, know that you do not walk alone, but that as a community of faith, we walk this path to the cross together, drawing towards the promise of eternal life together.

For our Lenten journey together, there will be vast and various opportunities for us as a community to come together to reflect on our faith, to worship, and to spend time quietly with God and our neighbor. So consider this your go-to guide for all things Lent happening here at Trinity.

Ash Wednesday—March 1

“Create in me a clean heart, O God...and renew a right spirit within me...”

There will be multiple opportunities for the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday. If you know that you won't be able to make it to one of our worship services, but you have a few moments to drop by. I will be providing prayer and ashes

during school drop-off and pick-up. Come to the front doors of the school from 7:30-7:45 AM and 2:45-3:00 PM and I will be there to pray with you and perform the imposition of ashes. There will also be two services on Ash Wednesday, one at 12:00 PM and another at 7:00 PM, and we hope you can join us for one of the service to begin your Lenten journey with the humbling remembrance of our mortality, even while we have the assurance of forgiveness and eternal life.

Walking Wet—Thursdays in Lent

It is so easy during Lent to get trapped in the muck and mire of our sinfulness, to lament the brokenness in our hearts, and sometimes that wrestling makes Easter Sunday feel like it is light years away. Yet, no matter the season, no matter the day, it never changes our true identity—claimed, chosen, beloved children of God. During this Lenten season, we are going to wade into the waters of baptism and truly remember what those promises mean. Thursday evenings will provide an opportunity for fellowship, for education, and for worship. We will gather together at 6:00 (or whenever you are able to arrive!) for dinner, lovingly provided by a different committee or church group each week. At 6:30 we will spend some time dwelling in passages of scripture that highlight a different section each week of our baptismal liturgy. There will time for small group discussion during this time until we come back together at 7:00 for a brief worship service. During that time, we will gather in vast and various ways around the font to remember each intricate piece of our baptismal liturgy. There will be hymnody, prayer, and a time to come to the font and remember your baptism in a unique way each week. These services will culminate in an affirmation of baptism service on the final Thursday of Lent. Hopefully, by the end of Lent we will all be utterly soaked in God's love, and walk into Holy Week with the overwhelming

Cover photo by Karoline Ardis

assurance of God's presence and care as we approach the cross.

A Holy Week of Intentionality

During Holy Week, there will be different opportunities for intentional spiritual disciplines both at home and at church so that we might fully dwell in the days that will lead us to the garden, to the cross, and to the empty tomb. There will be more about this in the coming weeks, but again, remember we do not walk this journey alone, but together.

My prayer for each and every one of us is that this Lent might be a time of reflection, of prayer, of fellowship, and ultimately of hope, because though these 40 days feel heavy, they lead to the Son, to an empty tomb, and the ultimate promise of the resurrection. No matter what journey you take this Lenten season, may you feel Christ's presence with you every step, may you feel your neighbor's presence every step. Let us begin the journey together.

*Peace it Together,
Pastor Tina*



Thursdays in Lent

Join us for a soup and salad dinner, followed by lesson readings and group conversation, and ending with a brief worship service. Dinner starts at 6:00 PM and all activities will be held in the social hall. The dates are March 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th, and April 6th. The church committees will prepare the meals.

Galentine's Day

So what was Galentine's Day all about?!?!

I've had a lot of people asking me just what happened at Galentine's Day! So, I wanted to give you a little glimpse into our conversation, and where those conversations may take us for future Ladies' Nights Out. 23 of us gathered at Aroma's around coffee and a slightly LOUD music, and we let conversation take us where it would. Galentine's Day is all about

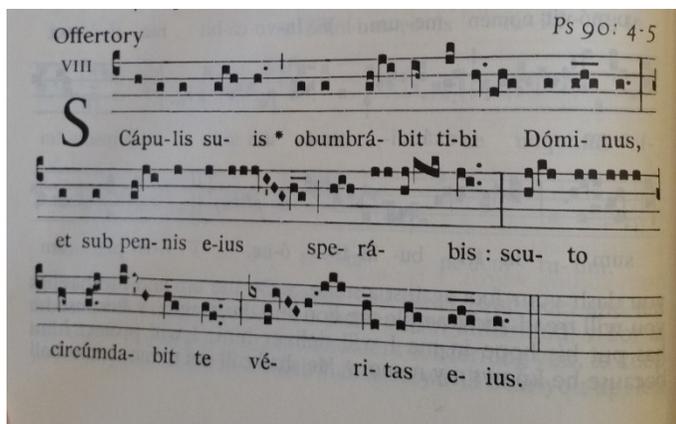
women supporting other women, lifting each other up with love. So, we talked about the women who have been influential in our faith lives, who have helped us grow. We talked about grandmothers and siblings, fellow congregation members and former pastors, mothers and teachers, a myriad of women who are woven into our hearts, who helped us become the women we are today. Conversation also ventured in and around the progress women have made in the church, where we have been to where we are now.

Our hope is that these conversations were just a jumping off point for more, conversations centered around issues of faith particularly relevant to women, just what it means to be a woman in today's world of faith. If you have a topic you'd love to discuss, let me know! I'm already working on our next night out, and I would love to know what you want to chat about!

*Peace,
Pastor Tina*



Organ Music: Gregorian Chant Melodies



When you see a title in Latin on Sunday morning, you know the corresponding organ piece is based on a particular melody from the ancient repertoire of the Catholic Church, collectively known as Gregorian chant. The Latin title refers to both a melody and a text; if I say to another church musician, “I’m playing a setting of *Vexilla Regis* this week,” she’ll know that I’m playing a piece historically associated with Passiontide (because of its text) and she’ll be able to hum the melody. If you’re wondering why Catholic melodies would be used in Lutheran (or other) churches, the answer is straightforward: much of our own congregational song is rooted in these Gregorian chant melodies, by Martin Luther’s design. Without even opening a reference, three of our most important Advent (ELW 263), Easter (ELW 370), and Pentecost (ELW 395) hymns come to mind, all of which were fashioned by Luther and his musical collaborators from existing Catholic chants. Also, there are other historical and aesthetic reasons to include these melodies in worship. The harmonic language with which we are most familiar - pick any of your favorite hymns and hum it - derives from harmonic tendencies that were first systematically explored in old Catholic melodies. In fact, melodies that behaved in similar ways were catalogued together and labeled with a particular “mode.” Over time, certain of these modes were found more usable than others; the modes musicians kept developed into the “major” and “minor” scales that are ubiquitous in Western music. If a particular chant melody sounds a bit un-

sual to you, it’s likely because its mode was ultimately discarded over the centuries and you simply haven’t heard much music that follows its harmonic tendencies. From an artistic standpoint, Gregorian chant melodies are so very different from the rhythmic rigidity of Germanic chorales and English hymns that including them breathes fresh life into our worship services.

One other idea is worth mentioning here: not only does a particular chant melody have a seasonal liturgical function (like *Vexilla Regis* mentioned above), but many chant melodies are specific to a single day in the church year and even specific to a function (introit, offertory, communion, etc.) during a particular worship service on that day. Composer Gerald Near has given us a wonderful resource: in his *A Gregorian Liturgical Year*, Near takes one chant melody assigned to each Sunday and other important liturgical occasions and composes an organ piece based on that melody. He’s not the first to do this, of course. French composer Charles Tournemire did something like it in his *L’Orgue mystique*, although he set several melodies for each day, rooted in his own improvisations during Catholic worship services. Near’s music is far better suited to modern worship in American churches: beautiful new settings of ancient sacred melodies that can be enjoyed in bite-sized portions. For the curious among you, I’ve included a picture (taken by my phone) of the chant melody that I played on the First Sunday in Lent, *Scapulis suis*, in its traditional notation.

Oh, if you ever wonder what a Latin title means, I encourage you to whip out your smart phone and type away into the web browser. A few seconds spent with Google will give you everything you want to know about a particular piece that I’m playing, including the complete text.

A companion article will follow regarding Lutheran chorales.

Rob Keene

Congregational Brunch Pot Luck

Sunday, March 26th, following the 10:00 AM Worship Service

Please bring your favorite dish to share



Congregation dinner circa 1953-1954.

Church council wants to share some ideas with you and they want to hear your ideas! Join us on Sunday, March 26 for a congregational brunch potluck. Members of council will be sharing ideas about new projects we would like to explore, as well as seeking input from the congregation about how we can live into our ministry of mission. Please note that on this Sunday, there will only be one service at 10:00 AM (Adult and Children's Sunday School is cancelled, First Communicants will still meet at 8:45 AM). That way we can all join together after worship for a meal, a time of fellowship, and planning.

2017 Ski Trip Photographs



Installation Photographs



Building Repairs Needed?

As you walk around the Church, have you noticed anything out of place or in need of repair? Since the building is nearly 60 years old, the property committee is diligently working on repairs as fast as they are able. In order to properly track what needs to be done, all members are requested to use the blue work order form located on the main bulletin board. Please complete the form and turn it into the Church office or the Property Committee shelf in the library. All repairs will be prioritized. If you are willing to help with the repairs, please contact the property committee chair, Ed Matz, to offer your services.

Attention Scrapbookers!

New or experienced, please join us on Saturday, March 11th or April 8th from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM in the Church social hall.

Help us get a new Trinity scrapbooking group together that will meet once a month (the second Saturday of the month). For more information and to reserve a spot, please call Terri Hoffeditz at (C) 757 871 1182 or (H) 757 766 2646.

Please note: this is not a sales sponsored event. Just plain scrapbooking!

Bernice Pierce Gift

The estate of Bernice Pierce recently provided a substantial monetary gift to the Church. The council has approved to tithe 10 percent of the gift. Therefore, forms to fill out with your recommendation as to what charities you would like to receive funds are posted on the main bulletin board. Please complete a form for each charity and attach additional information about the charity to the form. All forms can be dropped off in the church office or the church library no later than March 21, 2017.



Scholarship Applications

Attention graduates and college students. It's the time of year when Trinity offers its scholarship to those of you who are entering college, graduate school, or the ministry. Applications will be available on the bulletin board and online via Trinity's website. The deadline is May 1st. You may turn them in to the church office or give them to Kathy Stevens. If need be, you may email them to Kathy at dannyscotland@yahoo.com. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Kathy.

Seeking Assisting Ministers

Have you always wanted to participate in worship, but never knew how? Now you can! We are looking for people who are willing to participate as assisting ministers during both worship services. Assisting ministers read the prayers of intercession, as well as read several other prayers throughout the service and assist at communion. If you are interested please contact Pastor Tina, and if you'd like to sign up there is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.



Happy Birthday to our Special Senior Saints

March Birthdays

Dan Jungkuntz	81	3/10
James Gribble.....	83	3/13
Shirley Anderson.....	82	3/18
Ruth White	92	3/20
Barbara Olson	84	3/22
Bobbie McWithey.....	82	3/25

Moments of Grace and Thanks: PORT at Trinity

Wow what a week it was! Blessed by warm temperatures, the week went essentially without a hitch – a few clogs and overflows which we'll make plans to stay ahead of next year. The PORT guests and volunteers touched by this experience will be forever changed. To say thank you seems almost too simple; but each name listed below also stands recognized for the gift of your time and your energy in service to men, women and children who needed shelter from the cold and a comforting, warm meal.

To the Trinity Troopers (the unloaders/loaders who helped start and complete the week in an organized way): John Lunsford, Gary Brocksmith, Cliff Obara, Anne Evans, Grant Owens, Steve Moeslein, Fred Ardis, Brad Goodman, and Sue Moeslein.

Glass Door Duty: Rock Moeslein and Harlan Hamby.

To the Trinity Night Owls (keeping watch through the night): Dave Carlson (x2!), Cliff Obara, Sue Moeslein (x2!), Karoline Ardis, Bill Mulvey, Gary Brocksmith (x3!), Richard and Sandra Anderson, Mark Madler, Anne Evans, Kristen Young, Diane Roselius, and Dave Roselius.

To the Greeters/Check in and Check out Crew: Astrid Quist, Melissa Quist, Steve Quist, Bill Solomon, Alex and Shawn Murphy, John and Sandy Lunsford, Sue Moeslein, Dan Jungkuntz, Susan Piland, David Hunt, Bob Self, Grant Owens, Anne

Obara, and Jenny Davis.

For the Clothes Closet Helpers who Sue forgot to send reminders to but who showed up to save the night: Sandy and Jerry Cobb.

And to the Meal Preparers/Servers and Cleaners: Fred Ardis (original chef and creator of the now famous “Fred McEgg”), Ellen and Samuel Molina, Patricia McClelland, Suzanne Beckstoffer, Ed Matz, Kathy Johnson, Philip Shook, Dottie Self, Susan Deagle, Linda Ross, and Judy Hunt.

And for those who were ready to be called to fill in if needed: Rick Johnson and Harlan Hamby.

If we forgot anyone, please accept our sincere apologies. Let us know and we will correct it in the next Tidings.

It should seem so very clear by this list that Trinity does practice what it preaches. An experience like this requires great commitment from a congregation, and we are so grateful to you for being so reliable, resourceful, and cheerful in every task. We had new volunteers this year and volunteers taking on different roles. Thank you again for making this such a successful event; we hope that for those who were able to help, that it was worthwhile and that you would offer to do it again in the future.

The Social Ministry Committee

Congregation Council Actions: February Meeting

The following actions were completed at the February 14, 2017 Council meeting:

1. Approved the January Council meeting minutes (this meeting was held in conjunction with the Annual Retreat).
2. In lieu of costly repairs to the keypad lock on the backdoor, council approved the use of the new key fobs, which will be distributed as needed. The key fobs can be controlled in terms of when

access is allowed and they monitor when access is made. The school has already been using the system for several months.

3. The procedure for reporting property repairs will be published in the Tidings and listed on the main bulletin board.
4. The next council meeting will be held on March 14th.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dear Friends and Members of Trinity Lutheran Church,

Clifford and I are truly grateful for your prayers, thoughts, and all the cards we received at our recent stay at the rehab center. We gain strength from all the help. We want to thank everyone.

God Bless,
Clifford and Alberta Fricke

(as dictated to Anne Obara by Alberta)

Help Us REFRESH Each Other!

We continue to join together for a time of fellowship between services in the library, a time for folks to come together and catch up around refreshments as we prepare our hearts for the service of Sunday morning. We are always looking for volunteers who are willing to provide refreshments for these Sunday morning coffee hours.



If you are willing to provide snacks for this time, please sign up on the bulletin board.

Nursery Volunteers Needed

We're using SignUp.com to organize our upcoming volunteers. Here's how it works in 3 easy steps: 1) Go to: <http://signup.com/go/1PzRCz>, 2) Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like., 3) Sign up! It's Easy - you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on SignUp.com. Note: SignUp.com does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact Charlotte Duff (theduffs3010@gmail.com) so she can sign you up manually.

New Lector Procedures

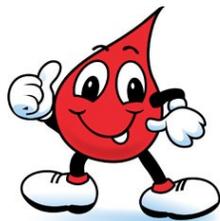
If you're one of our readers, please note that the Celebrates which you usually receive in the mail are now available in the church library in the big white binder labeled "CELEBRATES." You can pick up your readings as early as you would like for your convenience. The binder is currently up to date through May, if you are ready to pick up your readings.



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

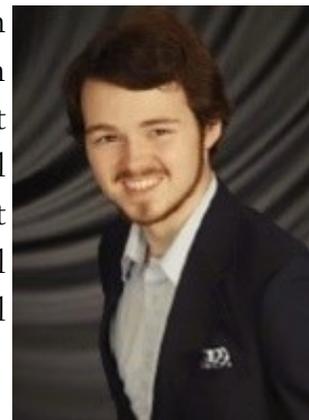
Hilton Area Blood Drive

On Tuesday, March 14, there will be a Hilton Area Churches blood drive at Hilton Christian Church, 100 James River Drive from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit <http://www.redcrossblood.org/> and enter HiltonAC to schedule an appointment. Donate to save a life!



Bradley Fielding in Concert

Bradley will be performing in a youth solo recital in the Sundays at Four Isle of Wight concert series at Christ Episcopal Church, 111 S. Church Street in downtown Smithfield, on Sunday, March 19 at 4:00 p.m. This will be Bradley's first solo recital. This will be a free will offering concert.



Looking for Something? It's Probably on the Bulletin Board!!

Just a friendly reminder that the main bulletin board near the stairwell on the River Road side of the church is the central hub for all of our sign-up sheets and forms. There you will find assisting minister sign up, sign up for refreshments between services, building use forms, building maintenance requests, and other helpful items for life here at Trinity. Every member or visitor is encouraged to take a trip to the bulletin board prior to or after the Sunday services to see what they can do to help the ministry of the Church.

Also, the Church library is another source of information. First of all, you can join others between services for fellowship and learn what is going on in the church. You will also find the latest copies of the directory, Tidings, Celebrates, and any other printed materials that will enhance your life at Trinity.

Take some time from your busy lives to "Walk the Church" as you may be surprised with what you can learn.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

6812 River Road, Newport News, Virginia 23607

Phone: (757) 245-7861



Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship: 8:15 A.M. and 10:45 A.M.

Faith Walk (Sunday School) Between Services: 9:30 A.M.

Holy Communion is celebrated weekly

A Nursery is Provided during worship

Contact Information

Pastor: The Rev. Tina Melusky (tina.melusky@gmail.com)

Organist and Director of Music: Rob Keene (music@trinitynn.org)

Administrative Assistant: Anne Obara (admin@trinitynn.org)

Treasurer: Carol Bessom (cbessom@trinitynn.com)

Website: <http://www.trinitylutheran-nn.com>

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Virginia Synod

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is a covenant partner with:

*Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center, Habitat for Humanity, Newport News Link,
and Thrive Peninsula (formerly Denbigh United Christian Outreach).*

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation.