

Trinity Tidings

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Newport News, VA

April 2017

I invite to
Trinity
New guests
Every
Single
Sunday

From the Pastor's Desk . . .



Batter Up!

“It’s the most wonderful time of the year.” Yeah, yeah, I know, you’re thinking that I’ve completely lost it because shouldn’t that be the first sentence of a December newsletter article? Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year! Well...I have to politely disagree, because now, right now, April is the most wonderful time of year for one very simple reason...baseball. That’s right, baseball season is no longer just around the corner, it is here, and my heart cannot stop its exaltation at that fact. Now, I know, some people find baseball unbelievably boring. The game is too long, it’s not exciting, there’s no action, etc., etc. I’ve heard it all, every reason to hate America’s pastime, but there is no changing the fact that, to me, baseball season is about as good as it gets. It’s a way of life in my family, baseball season. It’s a time of year that reminds us of warm summer nights spent at Tigers Stadium in downtown Detroit, that recalls to mind the night we accidentally broke my sister’s couch jumping for joy that after years of mediocrity the Tigers were finally going to the World Series. It’s filled with joy and remembrance and most importantly...hope.

For every baseball fan, the beginning of the season is filled with palpable hope. This could be their year.

Just think about how Cubs fans felt last season, wondering if finally it would happen for them, AND THEN IT DID!! Come April 6th, that will be the mentality of every fan around the country, this could be their year, this could be it. After all, at the beginning of the season, the standings are even, everyone starts at 0-0, everyone is in first place, and at the end of 180+ games who knows what could happen? It’s a fresh start, that first day of the season. The strikeouts of last season, the balls bobbled, the hits that caught the wrong part of the bat, the dropped fly balls, they’re all gone. It’s a new year, a fresh start, and anything could happen.

And you know what? That feeling? That palpable excitement that anything is possible? That is the same feeling we should have as we stand in front of the empty tomb on Easter Sunday. The second that stone rolls away from the tomb and we see the linen clothes lying there abandoned, everything changes, everything resets, and behold everything is made new! Easter Sunday is the ultimate fresh start. All of those things that weigh you down, all those things that plague your heart with worries and fears and concerns, all those things that you think you can’t possibly shake, that you can’t possibly free yourself from? They disappear in the face of a God who does the impossible and raises back to life that which was once dead. Easter is the ultimate reminder that who we are, in all of our messiness, with all of our proverbial bobbled balls and

Exciting News from the Trinity Lutheran School Board

As we all know, the connection between TLS and TLC is a vital, vibrant part of our ministry, and we are always looking for new and exciting ways to strengthen that connection and build more relationships. To better seek to be a community together and honor that relationship, on February 23 the TLS board voted to approve a \$1,000 tuition discount for every TLC family that attends TLS, with the discount being applied *per family*. This is a wonderful way for us to continue to embrace our relationship together and to display the hope we have for the future of TLC children at TLS. If you have any questions about this for the upcoming school year please feel free to contact Pastor Tina or Kevin Goetz.

strikeouts, we are people who are worthy of the gift of Jesus' death and resurrection. We are so crazy loved that God changes the very fabric of creation so that we might live and live with abundance.

Maybe your thing isn't baseball, but each of us has something that makes us feel that palpable excitement. That feeling of oh man this is happening!!!! That is how you should feel on Easter Sunday morning, that butterfly inducing, heart-pounding, cannot contain yourself you are practically shaking with joy feeling. Easter Sunday is this amazing gift. This gift that says whoever you are, you're free. Free to live—to live with the knowledge that you're loved, you're cherished. Free to live

without fear. Free to live knowing that God has got you. Free to live knowing that every day is a fresh start. Free to live knowing that every sunrise is its only little resurrection reminding you that today is a new day, a day to celebrate, a day to be a disciple and love God's people and love God's creation. Easter Sunday is our opening day. The whole world is open to us. Take this chance. LIVE! Take this gift and swing for the fences—God's ready for us to knock it out of the park.

*Peace it Together,
Pastor Tina*

P.S.: Because it must be said, GO TIGERS! ☺

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday - Celebration of First Communion Sunday, April 9th at 8:15 AM and 10:45 AM

This year, as we gather for worship on the Sunday of Holy Week, we will seek to celebrate Palm Sunday in all its honor and glory. Often Palm Sunday is also observed as *Passion* Sunday, however, this year we are seeking to dwell in the story of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, our welcoming of our king in humility on the back of a donkey. You might be wondering why there are so many palms in worship on Sunday. This is why! Palm Sunday is meant to be a time of celebration and joy, welcoming Jesus as he begins his journey through Jerusalem.

We will also celebrate with the children of our congregation who will be receiving their First Communion on Palm Sunday and will rejoice in welcoming them to the Lord's table. A cake reception will be held in the social hall between services.

Maundy Thursday - Service of Foot Washing and Holy Communion

Thursday, April 13th at 7:00 PM

Join us as we gather around the table to remember and celebrate the final meal Jesus shared with his disciples in the days before his death. We gather as a family around Christ's table to celebrate the gift we have been given in the cross and in Holy Communion—the gifts of forgiveness, eternal life, and love. This year, we will also have stations available during the service for a time of foot washing. Our gospel

for the night remembers Jesus stooping at the feet of his friends to wash the dirt from their feet and prepare them for their discipleship journey after he is gone. There will be two stations available, one with Pastor Tina, where she will be happy to wash your feet, and another station where families are welcome to come forward and wash each other's feet.

Good Friday - Service of Jesus' Last Words

Friday, April 14th at 7:00 PM

We remember that our Holy Week worship does not truly end until Easter Sunday morning, and so our worship continues on Friday evening as we hear the words our Lord and Savior spoke on the cross. It is a time to come together in prayer, reflection, and song to remember the Passion, and hear the story of Jesus on the cross, giving his life so that we might all live.

Easter Sunday - The Resurrection of Our Lord

Sunday, April 16th at 8:15 AM and 10:45 AM

Just as the woman went to the tomb on that long ago morning, so we gather together on Easter morn to witness once again the miracle that is the empty tomb, the holy promise of the resurrection. Our long silent "alleluias" will ring through the rafters as we celebrate with joy, awe, and thanksgiving the incredible work, the incomprehensible love of our God who gives us such a promise.. There will be a reception between services in the social hall. Please bring your favorite hors d'oeuvre to share.

Special Musical Guests for April 23rd



Soprano Rainelle Krause will visit Trinity during the 10:45 AM service on Sunday, April 23rd. Together with Virginia Symphony Orchestra trumpeter Adam Gandolfo and string musicians of the VSO, Rainelle will perform Bach's exuberant solo cantata, *Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen*, BWV 51. The following is an excerpt from her biography:

Known for her absolute precision, fiery coloratura, and honeyed timbre, soprano Rainelle Krause is a versatile and compelling singer. She has trained as young artist with the Sankt Goar International Music Festival and Academy in Germany, the OperaWorks Advanced Artist Program in Los Angeles, Opera Las Vegas, the Taos Opera Institute, and Opera Nova Costa Rica. Rainelle has also been awarded First Place in the Fielder Grant Competition, Third Place and Audience Favorite in the Orpheus Competition, and has been a finalist in competitions in Pittsburgh, New Orleans, St. Louis, Houston, and New York City. From her hometown of Bloomington, Indiana, Rainelle holds a Bachelors of Music (2010) and a Masters of Music (2012) in Vocal Performance from Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music. She currently lives in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, where she trains on aerial silks.

Rob Keene



Stations of the Cross

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
45 Main Street, Newport News, Virginia

At noon on Good Friday this year, the local Hilton area clergy will be participating in a Stations of the Cross service at St. Andrew's Episcopal. All members of local congregations are invited to join us for this service of reverence and solemnity as we walk towards the cross together.



An Afternoon of Song

with the
Students of Mary Matthews



Featuring a variety of folk songs, show tunes, and arias

Sunday April 30, 2017

3:00 p.m.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

6812 River Road, Newport News, VA 23607

Reception to follow

**Donations to support the Don Golden scholarship and Trinity Lutheran
Church and School**



2017 Vacation Bible School
Hero Central – Discover Your Strength in God!
July 10-14, 2017

Web Link:

<http://cokesburyvbs.com/hiltonchurches2017>

Council Actions—March

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

- Approved the distribution of key fobs to church members as needed for the back door. A sign up sheet will be available on the main bulletin board.
- Approved the housing allowance for the Pastor. This is more of a formality to document what part of the Pastor's salary will be designated as housing allowance.
- Referred recommendation of covering the cost of the vocal intern/cantor from undesignated bequests back to the finance committee after a tied vote.
- Planned congregation pot luck brunch which will follow the 10:00 Am worship service on March 26th. Council members will present three topics for discussion and input from the congregation.

Vacation Bible School

The Hilton Area Churches Vacation Bible School is an ecumenical program which includes five area churches. It began over 25 years ago and continues to be an important collaborative ministry each summer. Adult and youth volunteers begin preparing months in advance to ensure that the children attending benefit from an enriching Christian education experience. Our volunteers work alongside volunteers from other churches and together share in the mission to communicate God's love to all.

We would like for all youth and adult volunteers to register no later than June 9. Training for volunteers will be on Wednesday, June 21 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Andrew's.

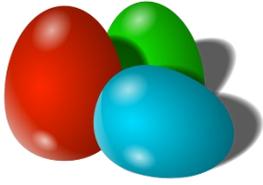
Registration for children, ages 3 years through rising 6th graders, is open NOW through June 30. Use the link at left to register online.

Goals for Our Future

In January, the Church Council met and discussed goals for the Church over the next 1-5 years. During our brainstorming session, three calls for help emerged. With your assistance, we can tackle these issues and grow the church! The 3 areas we would like to work on in the coming year are:

1. **Social Media Promotions** - The goal is to increase awareness of our Church on social media. One way to do this is to expand Trinity Lutheran's Facebook page, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Newport News, VA.
2. **Transportation Services** - We would like to make it easier for our older congregation members, or those who can't drive, to attend church events by offering transportation by those that can drive.
3. **School & Church Partnership** - Trinity Lutheran Church and School are stronger together. We are looking for ways to create a stronger bond.

Easter Egg Hunt



EASTER EGG HUNT: All youth aged birth through 3rd grade are invited to participate in the annual Trinity Easter Egg Hunt which will be held rain or shine at 10 AM on Easter Sunday, April 16th. Youngsters are invited to meet in the gym at 9:50 AM on Easter morning with their baskets ready to collect over 1000 Easter Eggs! Can't wait to see you in your Sunday best that day!

EASTER CANDY: The youth group is collecting candy for the annual Easter Egg Hunt to be held on Easter Sunday. Candy needs to be individually wrapped and be able to fit in a SMALL plastic egg. Please refrain from sending in candy that is a choking hazard (jaw breakers, etc.), candy that is not individually wrapped (i.e. a bag of jellybeans), and candy that does not fit in a plastic egg (i.e. lollipops). Please leave all donations in the youth group room on the large table. Thank you in advance!

Virginia Choral Society Concert



Sing Joyfully!

Friday, April 21st, 7:30 PM at First Baptist Church, Newport News

Saturday, April 22nd, 7:30 PM at Tomas Nelson Community College, Mary T. Christian Auditorium

Sunday, April 23rd, 4:00 PM at Trinity Lutheran Church

Building Access Changes

The church and school are in the process of changing how members and teachers enter the building. An electronic key fob system has been installed on the back door which will eventually replace the keypad system. If you regularly use the back door or perhaps you only use it on Sundays, there is a sign-up sheet on the church bulletin board for obtaining a key fob. It is important that you indicate the times you will need to access the building as this is then programmed into the system. The idea is to eventually stop using the keypad and the black Velcro strap. If you have any questions about the key fob, please contact the church office.

Attention Scrapbookers!

New or experienced, please join us on Saturday, April 8th or May 13th 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!

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.



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.



Happy Birthday to our Special Senior Saints

April Birthdays

There are no senior saint birthdays this month

Trinity Lutheran School Kentucky Derby Fundraiser

For more information or to get tickets, visit the school website at www.trinitynn.com or call 245-2576.

TICKETS \$25 ⁰⁰ PER PERSON \$50 ⁰⁰ PER COUPLE	WHAT ELSE?  DRESS TO IMPRESS (Hat and Attire Contest)	Live Music  HARD KNOX BLUE GRASS BAND
FRIENDLY WAGERING ENCOURAGED		
SPONSORS		
Food provided by: 	Photo booth provided by: 	Beer provided by: 

Please Join Us
2ND ANNUAL
KENTUCKY DERBY PARTY

THE DETAILS

Saturday

MAY 6TH
2017

From **4PM**  Until **8PM**

come and go, or stay awhile

The Clubhouse

604 CYPRESS
CREEK
PARKWAY

Smithfield



TICKETS ON SALE at trinitynn.com

A few things to know about

KENTUCKY DERBY

"The most exciting 2 minutes in sports"

THE
143th
RUNNING



AKA:
**RUN FOR
THE ROSES**

Thoroughbreds



**3 YEAR OLD
HORSES**

The Signature Drink

BOURBON + MINT + SUGARY SYRUP =

(beer and wine will also be served)



MINT JULEP

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Items Needed for VBS

If you are willing to collect and donate these items before July 1st for Vacation Bible School, it would be greatly appreciated. You can place the items in the box labeled VBS in the church library. The items needed are:

Paper towel tubes

Square, empty tissue paper boxes

Glass baby food jars with lids

Please call Charlotte Duff at 342-9251 if you have questions.

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.

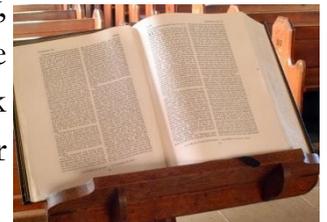


Nursery Volunteers Needed

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

Easter Lilies

Sunday, April 9th is the last Sunday that we will be taking orders for Easter lilies. The table with order forms will be out in the narthex for you to place orders for Easter lilies. The cost per lily this year is \$9.00. Please turn in form and payment **m a r k e d** “lilies” at the same time.

Thank you!



Upcoming Events

- Apr 8 Scrapbooking
- Apr 9 Palm Sunday Service
- Apr 9 First Communion Reception
- Apr 13 Maundy Thursday Service
- Apr 14 Good Friday Service
- Apr 14 Stations of the Cross
- Apr 16 Easter Services and Reception
- Apr 23 Special Musical performance
- Apr 23 Virginia Choral Society Concert
- Apr 30 Student Concert Fundraiser
- May 6 TLS Kentucky Derby Party
- May 13 Scrapbooking

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.