

Trinity Tidings

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Newport News, VA

June 2017



The new Fort Fun at Huntington Park in Newport News is the site of this year's annual Church picnic. It is a 14,000 square foot playground located on a scenic bluff overlooking the James River. Find us at shelter's 2 and 3. Bring a friend!!!

From the Pastor's Desk . . .



Vacation! AKA: Where Will You Be Church This Summer?

It is that time of year! Summer. The sun is out and the beach is calling. The kids are finally out of school and they are ready and raring for a couple of months filled with bikes and sports and amusement parks and pretty much anything that isn't homework. The days are longer, the temperatures are higher, and there is a palpable feeling in the air of just wanting to be outside doing something. With summer comes flowers and gardens and fresh produce and time to simply breathe a little freer because there seems to be more time. For many of us, along with all the other wonders of summer, comes one very important thing...VACATION! We plan and we schedule, we organize and we wait with (im)patience for the day to finally arrive when we are off and away for a few days, for a few weeks to be with family and friends and be away from stress and worry.

Yet, there's something else that sometimes seems to accompany our summer excitement and our vacation plans...guilt. Specifically, guilt about not being church on Sunday mornings. Yet, it is an inevitable consequence of the summer months. After all, although the kids are out of school, the work week does not always end, and sometimes all you can swing are a couple of weekend getaways to relax. I always find myself feeling a bit bad as the summer creeps up because I watch and I hear how that guilt impacts people. More than any time of the year, as a pastor, the summer is when I get apologized to most, because there are always weeks where some of us aren't here. I even find I do it myself! When my vacation in August creeps up, I will find myself apologizing for not being here on a Sunday. It seems to be an innate part of us, this desire to apologize because we aren't in church on Sunday.

Here's the thing though...just because you aren't here on a Sunday morning, does not mean that you aren't at church. This summer I want us to all work together to rethink how we do church, where we do church, because even though YES!! You will be so missed when we don't see you on Sunday morning, that doesn't mean that you aren't doing church, being the church wherever you find yourself. Jesus reminds us in the gospels that wherever two or three are gathered in his name, he is there. Jesus also tells us that the world will know his disciples by the love that we have for each other. These are not things that happen exclusively within the four walls of a church building! Everywhere we go, no matter the season, no matter the time of year, no matter the day, we should always be seeking to be Christ's church in the world. Whether you're on vacation, whether you're in a pew, whether you just need that morning to sleep in (sometimes you need those!), wherever you are, you are a disciple, you are an ambassador of Christ's love in the world, you are the church wherever you go.

I want us to spend these summer months ENJOYING the gifts that God has given us. The gifts of sunshine and stress-free breaks. The gifts of time with family and friends. The gifts of worshipping in and amongst a variety of communities. The gifts of creation and grace in the most unexpected of places. I want this summer to be for each of us an opportunity to rethink how we display our faith when we aren't in church. I want us to really think about the fact that Sunday mornings aren't the only time that our faith is on display, they aren't the only times that we are the church. I want us to remember that we are the church every moment of everyday, displaying Christ's love for the world and for our neighbor, wherever we might be.

Maybe this summer you will find yourself at Busch Gardens—be the church by being polite and kind to the young, seasonal workers who endure long, hot days that can sometimes be stressful. Maybe this

summer you will find yourself at the beach—be the church by caring for the little piece of God’s creation you occupy while you’re there. Pick up a few stray pieces of litter, admire the water, say a prayer of thanks for the wonder that is God’s earth. Maybe this summer you will find yourself in a foreign country—be the church by finding joy in the diversity of our world, by being a neighbor to someone who looks and sounds different from you. Maybe this summer you will find yourself at home on a staycation—be the church by stewarding your body and soul with relaxation and nourishment. Take a walk, play with your pets, read, sleep in, care for the body that God has blessed you with. Wherever you find yourself this summer, be the church. Love, pray, rejoice, appreciate creation—it’s all a form of worship.

In an effort to support each other in our endeavors to be the church this summer, you’ll find a variety of posters up around the church asking one simple question, “Where will you be the church this summer?” Take a second and jot down where you’re going! That way we can pray for each other in our travels and we can intentionally think about the vast and various ways we can be the church outside of our four walls this summer.

Wherever you find yourself over the next few months, be safe and be happy. Know that you go with the prayers of your church family. Rest and relax. Enjoy your families and your friends. HAVE FUN! And don’t forget to say a word of thanks to our amazing God who makes all of this possible.

*Peace it Together,
Pastor Tina*

Annual Congregation Meeting

The Annual Congregation meeting will be held on Sunday, July 25, 2017 following the 10:00 AM worship service. All congregation members are encouraged to attend so that a quorum will exist. The main topic will be the approval of the 2017-2018 Annual Budget. All members should have received a letter and the proposed budget. If you did not, please contact the church office.

There will not be a luncheon following the meeting this year.

Sunday

July 25, 2017

Following the

10:00 AM

Worship Service

In the Sanctuary



Organ Music: Lutheran Chorale Melodies

A companion to the earlier article regarding Gregorian chant.

Chorales are the bedrock of Lutheran church music. The term itself signifies our Germanic heritage: the more general “hymn” can reference congregational music of any faith tradition, but “chorale” most accurately specifies a Lutheran congregational song. Of Luther’s many gifts to the church, music is surely one of the most valuable and furthest-reaching. While other reformers viewed music as a sensuous activity to be excised from worship (with the exception of unaccompanied psalms), Luther’s embrace of new poetry for congregational singing gave rise to generations of authors, composers, and organ builders who thrived in a new free market of church music.

Luther sought out the best musicians of his day to assist him in his new endeavor of worship in the vernacular. Johann Walter, a primary collaborator, was tasked with composing new choral music to familiarize congregations with the body of new chorale melodies. You’ll have the opportunity to experience this didactic quality of choral music on October 31st of this year - the 500th anniversary of Luther’s Reformation - when Walter’s setting of “Nu bitten wir den Heiligen Geist” will be offered prior to the congregational singing of Luther’s chorale.

And what began with Luther and his stable of choral composers quickly spread to the finest organist/composers in German-speaking Europe. Of course, Johann Sebastian Bach is the pinnacle of achievement in Lutheran music (and arguably in all Western

music), but there were generations of composers between Luther and Bach who assimilated the chorale into their organ improvisations and compositions. In fact, a new genre was invented by these sometimes nameless musicians - the “chorale prelude,” literally a piece of organ music played prior to the congregational singing of a chorale. Again on October 31st, you’ll hear early Lutheran organ music in this original liturgical function. Congregations of the day had hymnals available to them - if an individual could afford to purchase their own copy - but these printed books included only words. In the absence of notated music, the chorale prelude served to remind the congregation of the particular melody they were about to sing.

Composers looked to existing models - aria, motet, fugue, and others - and crafted new works, often spontaneously during the service of worship. Luckily, many of these were written down and then transmitted to future generations via students of the master musicians. Music publishing was essentially nonexistent, so we’re indebted to these apprentices who painstakingly copied their teacher’s music for their own use and development as performers and composers. Of course, for every work that survived, likely hundreds were lost. Even so, what remains is an impressive corpus of organ music from the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries, from the finest composers throughout the Germanic states that adopted the Reformation. What ties these diverse works together are the chorale melodies upon which they are based.

Rob Keene

Give blood. Help save lives.



BLOOD DRIVE FOR HILTON AREA CHURCHES

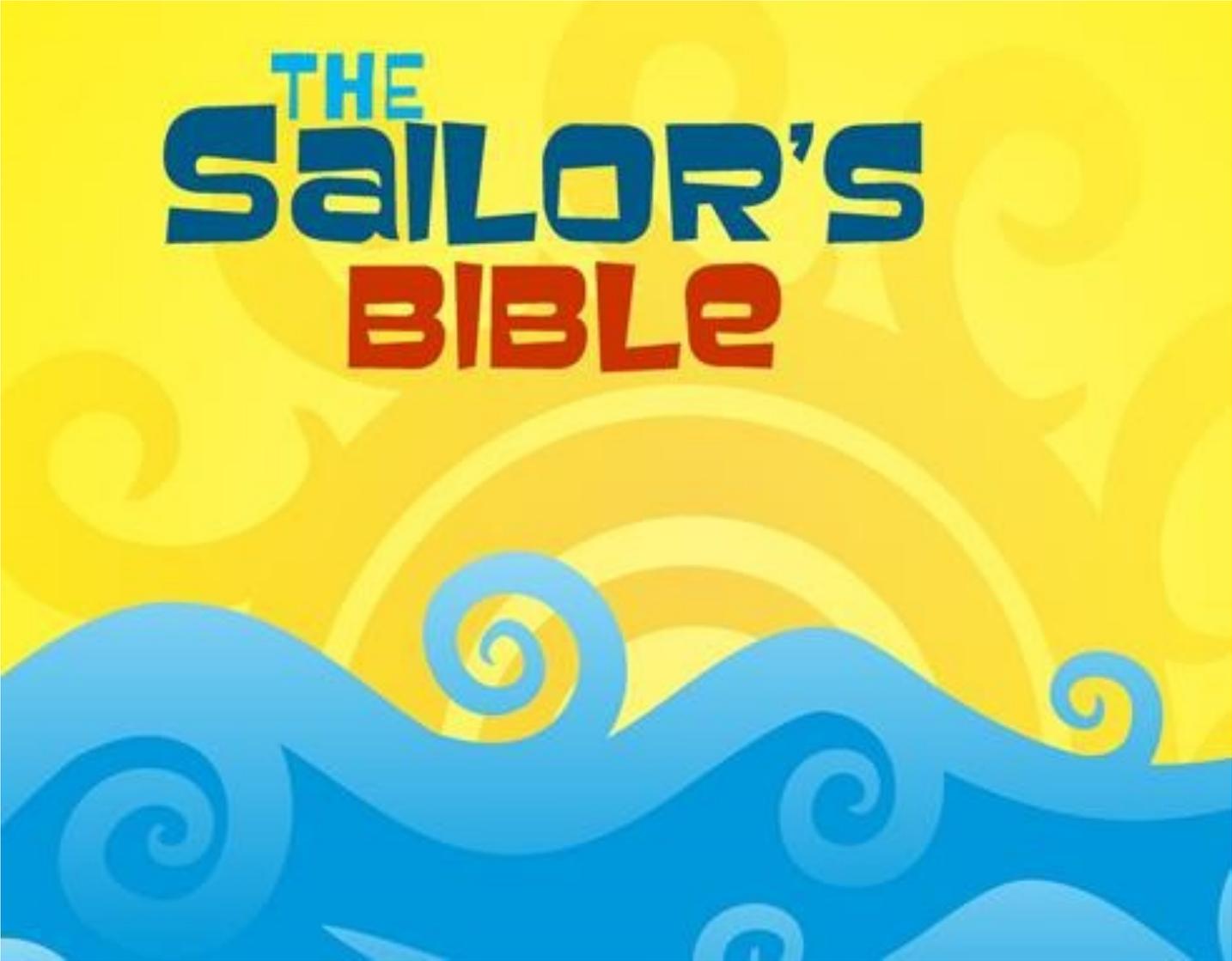
Tuesday, July 11, 2017, 1:30 PM - 6:00 PM

To Be Held At Trinity Lutheran Church

6812 River Road, Newport News

Register at redcrossblood.org (enter HILTONAC)

Or call 1-800-RED CROSS



**THE
SAILOR'S
BIBLE**

Three tales of daring rescue at sea.

Three stories about a God who saves.

Proudly Presented by The Trinity Troupers

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday, June 18, 2017

9:00 AM, Social Hall

Flower Ministry

Flowers are still needed for the remainder of the year. Please see the sign up sheets on the bulletin board near the sacristy kitchen or contact Terri Hoffeditz if you would like to donate chancel flowers for any of the available Sundays.

Flowers may be donated to the Glory of God, or can be donated in honor of someone, in observance of a special occasion, or in memory of someone.

Please remember that if you have pledged to donate flowers, you are responsible for the cost (\$18.00 per vase). Money for flower donations may be placed in the offering plates with a note marked "Flowers", or can be submitted to the church treasurer. If you pay by check, please indicate "Flowers" in the memo line.

On the Sunday on which you have donated flowers, please pick them up after the last service for the day.

Laura Davis, Worship and Music Chairman



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.

Happy Birthday to our Special Senior Saints



Missed May and June Birthdays

Bobbie Gribble.....	80	May 9
Don Golden	82	June 4
Wilma Johnson.....	97	June 4
Viola Kessler.....	94	June 12
Doris Moeser.....	85	June 29

Pastor's Special Announcements and Information

Thank you for the coffee!

Thank you to everyone who came out for Open for Prayer during the Easter season. It was such a joy to get to spend time with all of you in conversation and in prayer. I'm already looking forward to next Easter!!



Prayers for Synod Assembly

On June 9-11, Todd and Natalie Recupero will join with Pastor Tina to travel to Roanoke College for Synod Assembly. During this time, they will join with their brothers and sisters in Christ in discerning who shall serve our synod as the next bishop. Please join them in prayer as they seek to lift up the next shepherd of the Virginia Synod.



10:00 AM Worship Service

Please remember that on June 18, we will shift to our summer schedule of ONE worship service on Sunday mornings, at 10:00. We will hold one service through Labor Day weekend, resuming our normal Sunday morning schedule on September 10.



Join Us for Our "Kick Off to Summer"

Sunday, June 18 will be an exciting and eventful day for us as we gather together for worship and fellowship. The schedule for that Sunday morning is as follows:



9:00: "The Sailor's Bible" The Trinity Troupers will perform their spring musical in the social hall. Come to hear a whale of a tale!

10:00: Worship with Holy Communion

11:30: Church picnic at Fort Fun. Join us for an afternoon of fun, food, and fellowship as we say hello to summer. We will meet at the shelters near Fort Fun.

Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 25

Please join us immediately following worship for our annual meeting. We will be voting on the congregational budget, as well as hearing reports from the TLS school board. Your presence and your voice during this meeting are deeply appreciated



Take Me Out to the Ballgame!

Looking for a fun night out with your church family? We will head to the Norfolk Tides Faith and Family Night on Tuesday, July 25. Game time is at 7:00. Tickets are \$9.00/person. Check the bulletin board for the sign-up sheet. All are welcome!!



Calling All Superheroes!

Please remember (both adults and kids alike!) to sign up for VBS! Our theme this year is "Hero Central." VBS will be July 10-14 from 9-12. Registration is online for both children and volunteers. <https://2017.cokesburyvbs.com/hiltonchurches2017>



Thank You TLS 8th Graders!!!

At chapel on Wednesday, May 24 the graduating 8th graders of Trinity presented their class gift to Pastor Tina. Born out of an idea from our current servers at chapel, the 8th graders presented a gift of \$500.00 to Trinity designated for the goal of helping to repaint the inside of the sanctuary. This is a WONDERFUL example of how our church/school relationship continues to grow and develop. We have students who want to acknowledge the church and how much that relationship means to them and that is AMAZING! A huge thanks to our thoughtful 8th graders for such a gift.



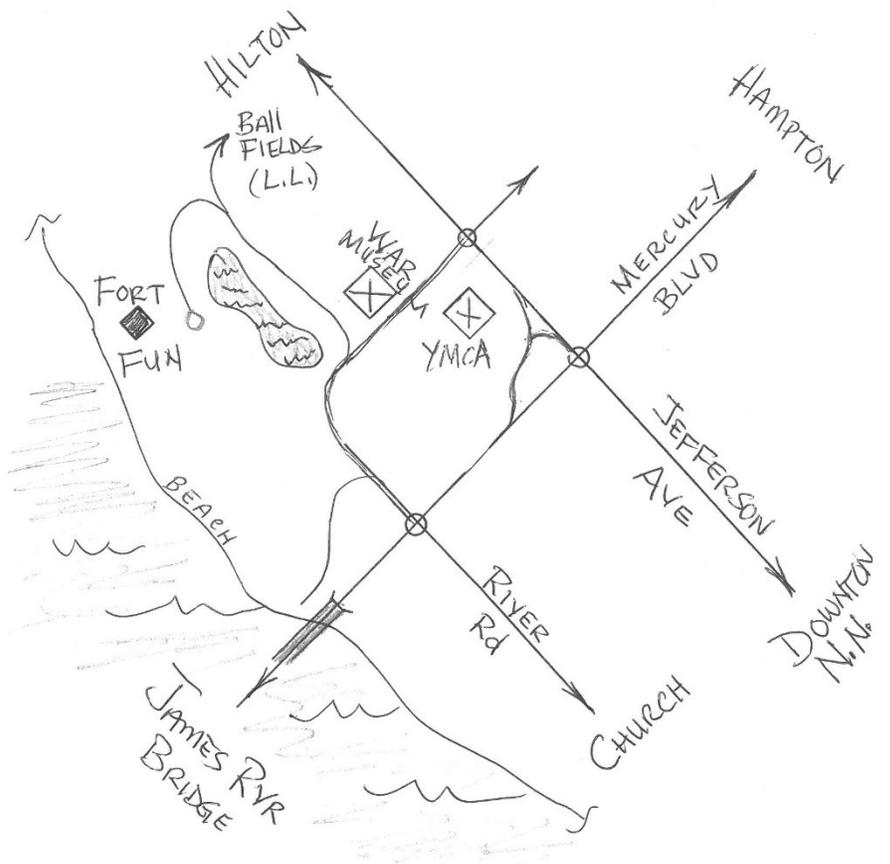
Annual Trinity Lutheran Church Picnic

Sunday, June 18th from 11:30 AM until ???

Huntington Park (Shelter's 2 and 3)

Near Fort Fun (see Map below)

Come out and join your church family in GOD's beautiful natural creation of trees, birds, and flowers to enjoy fellowship together. We will be cooking burgers, hot dogs and fried chicken. Sodas, water, and tea will be provided. Please bring your favorite summer side dish to share with the congregation. Bring your lawn chair and a friend to have a great time and play games available for the young and old alike.



Bernice Pierce Bequest

The ad-hoc committee for the distribution of the Bernice Pierce bequest met on March 30, 2017 to review the recommendations submitted by the congregation. At the January 2017 council meeting, 10% or \$5,900 was approved for distribution to charitable organizations outside of the church. Eight recommendations were submitted by the congregation totaling over \$12,000. After discussion, the recommendation from the ad-hoc committee was to keep all organizations eligible, but to adjust the donation amount for each. The Church Council approved the distribution at the May 9th council meeting. The distribution list follows:

Organization	Amount
Circle of Compassion	\$ 500.
Girl Scout Council of the Colonial Coast	\$ 500.
Colonial Virginia Council – Boy Scouts of America	\$ 500.
Luther Manor	\$ 1,000.
Trinity Lutheran School Scholarship	\$ 1,000.
Trinity Lutheran School (Tech. Lab)	\$ 500.
Virginia Synod – Forwarding Faith	\$ 1,000.
Habitat for Humanity Peninsula – Thrivent Builds Homes	\$ 900.
TOTAL	\$ 5,900.

Trinity Youth Benefit Rummage Sale Coming Soon

July 15-16, 2017 / Details will be in the July Tidings / Accepting Donations Now



Luther on Vacation

Be sure to pick up a flat Luther from the Church or be creative and fashion your own Martin Luther doll to take with you on vacation. You can then share your pictures on the Church Facebook page. What a wonderful way to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Church! Let's see how creative everyone is.



How observant are you? Find another image of Luther in this issue of the Tidings.

Spring Graduates

Meghan Madler has graduated from the University of Virginia with a Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology and Philosophy.

Meghan Olson is graduating from Clemson University with a Master's degree in Historic Preservation. Her brother Patrick has received an internship at NASA Langley in Hampton.

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.



2017 Vacation Bible School

Hero Central – Discover Your Strength in God!

July 10-14, 2017

<http://cokeburyvbs.com/hiltonchurches2017>

Social Media Links

Trinity is going social. The following links will get you to audio files of the Pastor's sermons and the Trinity Facebook site:

Sermons on Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMMKC7jRzqDO1XDtZaQvEEQ>



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TrinityNN/>



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Save the Date: Picnic

Our annual picnic has changed venues this year. It will be held at Huntington Park and Fort Fun, Shelters #2 and #3 after the 10:00 a.m. worship service on **June 18**. Remember to bring your favorite dish to share.

Upcoming Events

June 18 Trinity Troupers Performance
June 18 Church Picnic
June 25 Annual Meeting
July 10-14 Vacation Bible School
July 11 Blood Drive
July 15-16 Youth Rummage Sale
July 25 Norfolk Tides Game

Summer Hours for the Church Office

The Church office will be open from 8:30 Am to 2:00 PM during the summer months of June and July. Regular hours will return beginning in August. Please plan your visits accordingly.

Play Ball!!!

Join us for Faith and Family Night at the Norfolk Tides on Tuesday, July 25 at 7:00. Tickets are \$9/person. Please sign up on the bulletin board so we can get an accurate head count and know how many tickets we need to order.

Hope to see you there!!



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.

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>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TrinityNN/>

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.