

Trinity Tidings

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Newport News, VA

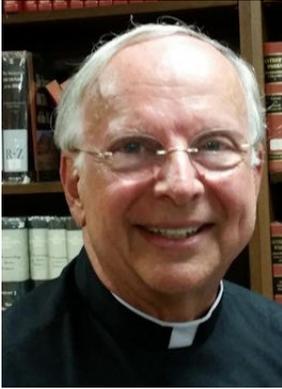
November 2016



Journey to Bethlehem for arts, crafts, food, and more during the Advent Event

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From the Pastor's Desk . . .



Dear Friends,

If all goes as hoped, I will soon be able to have my “second retirement” from active ministry. In these 15 months, you have been welcoming to me and hospitable in every way and I am so thankful for this time

with you, both parish and school. It’s been a privilege to serve as your interim. I believe Trinity has an outstanding primary candidate and I know this pastor will lead and serve with dedication, imagination and faithfulness!

I believe Trinity will undergo some really great transformations in the months and years to come. Some folks here ask, “Can Trinity be a strong church again?” Usually this is a reference to attendance, giving and growth compared to “yesteryear’s” remembrances of crowds and activities. But today, Trinity already is a strong church because this is God’s church. I do wish there was a Sunday when everyone would show up and then we would see how such a gathering would energize and encourage (and all could see how we don’t live out of scarcity but out of abundance!). But something else is going on in our world. Christian Century Magazine ran an article some months ago that said “active church members” used

to attend worship an average of one out of four Sundays, but today it is one out of eight! That’s a change across the whole church and not for the good. The church needs consistent, strong worship attendance; more adult studies, more fellowship opportunities, invitations to the unchurched and witness/service to the community. Jesus commissions his disciples to “share the good news.” Stay at this task with dedication, imagination and persistence. You will be fine. You’re not in the hands of “Allstate,” you’re in the hands of God. I am not too far away in my Williamsburg retirement and will be a part of the Peninsula conference happenings and very much in touch with your new pastor in praying, encouraging and helping in any way I might. It is exciting for Trinity’s next new chapter. Pray, serve, help, and go to work with this ministry and pastor. You will be fine and God will bless you always (and thank you for the opportunity to serve the office of Word and Sacrament; it was a joy!).

Blessings,



Happy Birthday to our Special Senior Saints

November Birthdays

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|----|
| Gerda Hudgins | November 8 | 98 |
| Betty Hazel | November 10 | 93 |
| Alberta Fricke | November 18 | 93 |
| Ernest Moeser | November 22 | 85 |

Call Process

On Sunday, October 30, Reformation Sunday, we welcomed The Rev. Tina Melusky, the primary candidate to be called as pastor at Trinity. Now that the Call Committee has identified the primary candidate, the Congregational Council has met and interviewed her, and the congregation has informally met her at the reception between services on Reformation Sunday, I would like to outline the steps that remain in the process as we look to electing a pastor. This process is outlined in the Virginia Synod, ELCA, Call Process Handbook.

The Call Committee will meet five to seven days after the congregation has had the opportunity to meet the primary candidate.

- Purpose of this meeting is to vote to recommend the primary candidate to the Congregational Council
- 2/3 vote of the Call Committee is needed to recommend to Council
- Call Committee votes to recommend compensation package to the Council

Call Committee requests that a special meeting of the Congregational Council be called to consider recommendation of the primary candidate and compensation package to the congregation.

Congregational Council holds a special meeting to recommend primary candidate and compensation package to the congregation.

- 2/3 of Council's total membership needed to bring to congregation
- Council determines compensation package to be recommended to the congregation
- Candidate agrees to package
- Majority vote of Council needed to approve the compensation package

Congregational Council announces special congregational meeting to vote to extend a call to the primary candidate.

- Announce in worship services for two consecutive Sundays prior to the date of the meeting
- 10 days before meeting mail compensation package and bio to voting members of the congregation
- Council President contacts Synod Office to arrange for a Call Document
- Notify Bishop that Council is ready to recommend primary candidate
- The election of the pastor will follow worship service
- Secret ballot needing 2/3 majority of the votes cast shall be necessary for election
- No absentee or proxy votes will be accepted
- Majority vote to approve compensation package

Special Called Congregation Meetings

While there will be a formal letter going out to all congregation members to announce the specific dates and times and to provide any pertinent information, it is important to mark the following dates on your calendar and for all members who are able to attend:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Sunday, November 27th | Called meeting to solicit nominations from the floor for council and trustee. |
| Sunday, December 4th | Called meeting to elect up to seven members to council and one trustee and to vote on a Pastor for the congregation. |

Attention Scrapbookers!

Are you looking for a place to scrapbook without the commitment of a full weekend crop (always fun, but we often don't have the time)?

Do you wish you could count on getting a few pages done before your child becomes a parent themselves?

Do you want to spend time sharing, laughing and enjoying the company of other scrapbookers?

Are you new to scrapbooking and want to learn more about the techniques and tools available?

Then join us on Saturday, November 12th 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!



Journey to Bethlehem, Advent Event, November 20th, 9:30 AM



This year's Advent Workshop will feed on the success of last year's event. The children will get a chance to experience The Miracle of Jesus while they visit Bethlehem. There they will learn of Jesus while doing some fun activities and crafts. In order to make this event a success and transform our Social Hall into Bethlehem, we need to borrow some supplies and get many volunteers to help at the different tents and craft areas.

The following is a list of the items we need to borrow (be sure to put your name on the item for easier return):

- Easy pop-up tents/canopies
- Throw pillows for the floor
- Fake or real palms
- Rugs
- Baskets
- Pallets
- Fake fruit
- Clay pots / jars
- Wooden kitchen items
- Blue or brown tarps
- Burlap sacks
- Old solid colored sheets
- Old wooden toys
- Hay bales

The items can be placed downstairs in the Sunday School resource room or mark for advent event and leave in the Church library.

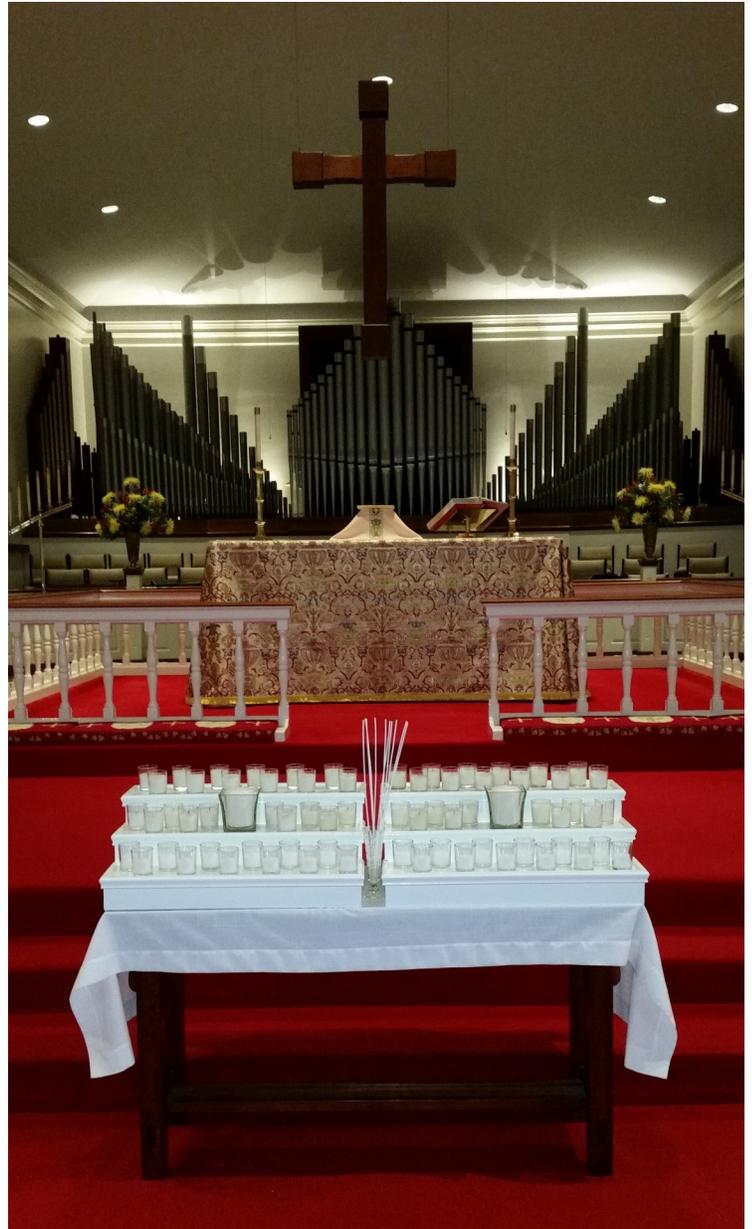
Festival of All Saints, Sunday, November 6th

Please bring a picture of those you wish to remember and place it on a window sill in the sanctuary prior to the start of service. During the service, you will be given a chance to light a candle in honor of those you wish to remember.

The tradition is that All Saints Day or the Festival of All Saints is celebrated on the first Sunday in November. It is a day to commemorate the ones we have lost as well as the Christians who have lived before us and have testified their Christian faith. We celebrate All Saint's Day with the fundamental belief that there is a prayerful spiritual bond between those in heaven and the living.

In the Middle Ages the Church celebrated both All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day. All Saints' Day was the day when the Church remembered the Christians who had died because of their faith, whereas All Souls' Day was the day when the Church commemorated and prayed for the dead. The idea was to help the dead go through purification in purgatory and enter into heaven by praying for them. At the Reformation in the 16th century the existence of purgatory as a place of punishment or purification was rejected. Consequently, All Souls' Day was abolished. The Church kept All Saints' Day to commemorate those who died for the sake of their faith.

Ref.: Wikipedia.org and LutheranChurch.dk



Thanksgiving Food Collection



Please help us to make Thanksgiving baskets for five families from Edmarc (the hospice program for children in this area). Medications and treatments can get very expensive and sometimes families run short of money to buy food. We would like to make up five baskets for Edmarc families and one basket for a family in the community. Please help us by donating items that you might serve for a Thanksgiving feast. We will have a bin in the church library to collect donations and also some brown paper bags (with menu item ideas on them) to put your items in if you should wish to have one. The deadline for donations is November 13th.

Thanking you in advance for your generosity and help.

The Social Ministry Committee

Bits and Pieces of Useful Information

Reformation Reception

There will be a reception between services on Sunday, October 30th (no Sunday School classes). Please join us as we begin to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the start of the Lutheran Church. You are invited to bring a hors d'oeuvres to share during this time of fellowship.



Reformation Day

Tidings Inputs

Do you have something you would like to see published in the Tidings?

You can submit an article by the 15th of the month or contact the Administrative Assistant to offer suggestions. Based on space available we will work to get your input request into the newsletter. All calendar inputs are welcome as well.

Notice and Thanks

Ed. Note: The Office Administrator will be out of the office from Nov. 11th to Nov. 18th. Volunteers will be available to answer the phone and direct visitors.

Thanks to Barbara Olson for helping me with the folding of the Celebrates on numerous occasions and still continues to do so. A big thanks goes to Barbara Olson, and Cal and Kay Scougal for helping with folding, stuffing, and sealing the Stewardship letters. Terri Hoffeditz has been a big help organizing the church office keys and key chart. Sandy Cobb has done a tremendous amount of work on the church register over the past several years (much of it at home). Last, but not least, Carol Bessom has been my right arm in the office helping me with whatever was needed. My heartfelt thanks to all who volunteer in so many ways, but especially when they are needed.

Constant Contact

Constant Contact is our church email system for special announcements as needed. This is our most efficient and timely method for getting church information out to the congregation.



If you are not receiving the church messages, please notify the church office at **245-7861** or by e-mail at **admin@trinitynn.org**. We must have your permission stating that you wish to accept these emails from the church. If you are receiving the emails, but wish to change email addresses or add an address, please notify the church office as well.

Also, please advise the office administrator of any mailing address or phone number changes as soon as possible.

PORT—Winter Homeless Shelter

The shelter for homeless people during the winter months known as PORT (People Offering Resources Together), will be held at Trinity next year from February 15th through February 22nd. Please mark your calendars and plan to sign up to help with this valuable community outreach. Look for the sign up sheets that will be displayed starting in December.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

ADVENT EVENT

Sunday, November 20th
Your help is needed! Canopies (easy up style) are needed for the Advent event. Please bring yours to loan the Church before November 11th. The Christian Education committee will be transforming the social hall into ancient Bethlehem. If you can help with the setup and/or tear down as well, please contact Jessica Moye.

Upcoming Events

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| Oct 30 | Reformation Reception |
| Oct 30 | TLS Book Fair |
| Nov 1 | Congregation Dinner |
| Nov 6 | All Saints Sunday |
| Nov 12 | Scrapbooking Event |
| Nov 18-20 | Lost and Found, Youth |
| Nov 20 | Advent Event |
| Dec 9 | LFS Christmas Party |
| Dec 10-11 | VCS concerts |
| Dec 17-18 | VCS concerts |
| Dec. 18 | Trinity Troupers Musical |
| Dec. 18 | Greening of the Church |
| Dec. 20 | Lessons and Carols |

United Campus Ministries invites you to the ...

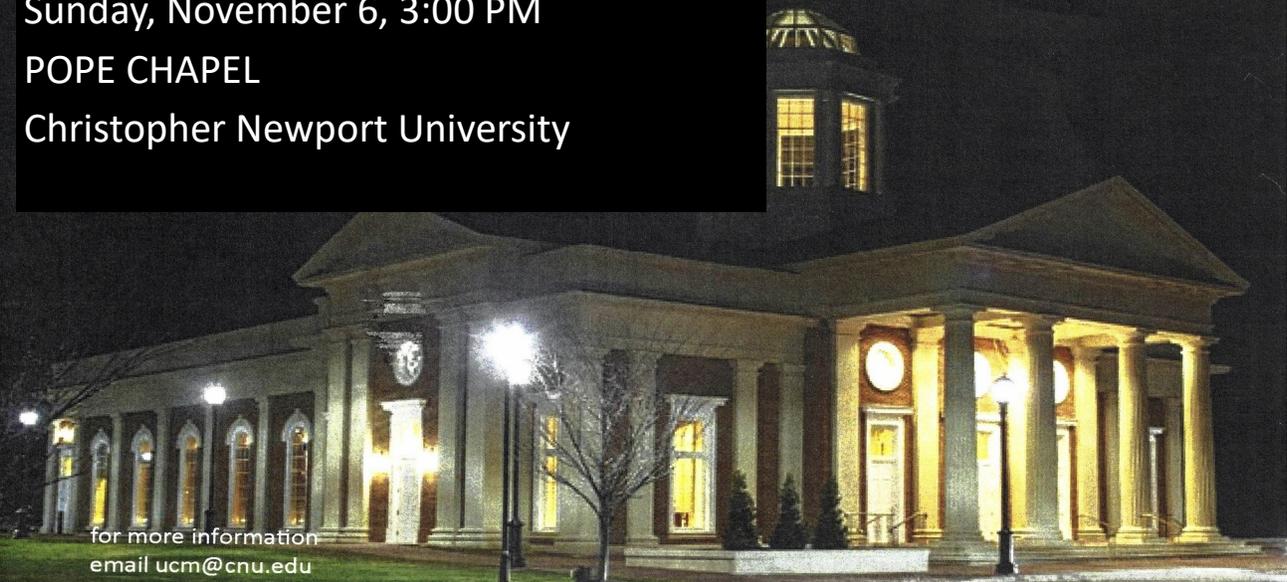
Festival of Church Music

Sunday, November 6, 3:00 PM

POPE CHAPEL

Christopher Newport University

Six Choirs from local churches
Mass choir to sing three pieces
Meet UCM's interim campus minister
Special offering to benefit UCM



for more information
email ucm@cnu.edu

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: 9:15 A.M.

Holy Communion is celebrated weekly

A Nursery is Provided during worship

Contact Information

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Dr. James G. Cobb (pastor@trinitynn.org)

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.