

Trinity Tidings

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Newport News, VA

November 2017



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From the Pastor's Desk . . .



Where has the time gone?! It seems hard to believe but we are slowly coming towards my one year anniversary at Trinity. Now, I could have waited until the December newsletter to write this, waited until the

actual date, but it is November, and thus it is the season for giving thanks, and when I gather around my family's table this year, there is one thing that will certainly be at the top of my thankfulness list: all of you.

Last Thanksgiving was one that was filled with a great deal of uncertainty. We had only been in Virginia for a couple of months, and all of you hadn't done my call vote yet, and so there were a lot of unknowns in my world. I could not be more grateful that this year finds us in quite the opposite position. Somehow in a year, we have bought a house, settled into Virginia (and its lovely humidity), and God has brought us to all of you. I'm actually not sure there are proper words of thanksgiving for that, however, I shall try.

Thank you, first and foremost, for your love. It is always nerve-racking coming in to a new situation, a new family, and yet, you all welcomed Ben and I with so much care and love. From those first Christmas parties we attended to the welcome sign Anne put on my door when I first arrived. From gift card showers and care about our lives to the post-service hugs and the laughter.

Thank you for your patience. I know that new ministries come with a world of uncertainties; there is always a lot of figuring out to do on both sides, and I cannot tell you what it means that you have all been so patient as we have started this train of ministry moving. We have tried new things this year, we have embraced traditions this year, we have hopefully started some new traditions this year, and that is a remarkable thing. Thank you for answering

Giving Thanks

questions and letting me slowly figure out what life means at Trinity.

Thank you for letting me into your lives. You have shared your homes with me, your hopes, your dreams, your fears, your questions, your joys. Not a day goes by that I am not so grateful that my vocation is one that allows me to hear peoples' stories, to hear about their lives, about where God has taken them, about what God has brought them through. Please know your stories are cherished and I cannot wait to hear more of them.

Thank you for the FUN! Someone said to me just today, "You have a great job," and all I could do was smile and say, "Yeah, I really do," and you all make it this great thing that it is. From my first official game of Sardines to my first Kairos. From the many hills and bridges of the Noland Trail to actually getting my scared self into haunted houses at Howl-O-Scream.

Thank you for your prayers. You all got me on a plane this year! And not just any plane, an across the ocean plane! Trust me when I say that that is no easy feat and you all made it just a little bit easier. (Ben's really thankful for that one too!)

Thank you for your faith. I find a great sense of joy in exploring this world of faith with all of you, in hearing what you all think about scripture and about God's movement in the world. It's incredible to hear how God is moving in your lives. A special word of thanks here to my amazing confirmands who fearlessly share their faith every week, who are never afraid to ask any question, who are always willing to share. You are the BEST!

It's been quite a year. We have shared coffee and literal long walks in the woods. We have remembered our baptisms together and reflected on our faith journeys. We've shared our thoughts on everything from God to our favorite TV programs. We've celebrated life's joys and a few sports milestones and memories. We've shared meals

around tables and altars. We danced on Easter together. Thank you for each and every second of it.

I pray that you and your families have a blessed Thanksgiving; one that is relaxing and filled with joy, laughter, and a lot of gratitude. If you are traveling for the holidays, travel safely. If you are in charge of the turkey, may your oven be awake and ready on Thursday morning. If you're watching football, GO LIONS! If you're staying at home, sleep in a bit and

enjoy the extra Sabbath. Lastly, wherever you find yourself on Thanksgiving, give an extra word of thanks for your Trinity family, it's a true gift. Thank you for this year, for everything you are and everything we will be together. Here's to the next one, and the next, and the next, and the next...

*Peace it Together,
Pastor Tina*

Announcements . . .

Help the Youth Group Fight Hunger!



On Friday, November 10th our youth group will be participating in a "lock out" hunger lock-in event. Along with all the usual lock-in FUN the youth will also be traveling around to houses of congregation members to pick up canned goods for donation to THRIVE. If you will have goods for us to pick up on that Friday evening, please call the church office to get on the list so we can plan our routes accordingly. You can also drop off your can offerings at the church.

TLS Sunday



Ever find yourself wondering what a typical day at TLS looks like? Or maybe what has changed in the school for this school year? Be sure to come to worship on Sunday, November 12 for TLS Sunday. Head of School, Kevin Goetz will be available after BOTH worship services to take congregation members on tours of the school. During this time you'll get to see some of the updates TLS has made this

year as well as hear from Kevin about the wonderful things our staff, teachers, and students have going for 2017-2018.

Special Worship Service

On Thursday, November 9th, at 7 pm Trinity will host Hampton Roads' Lutheran and Jewish congregations in an evening of remembrance and reconciliation. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's official statement regarding Luther's anti-Semitism and the use of his writings by the Nazi party will be read. Choral music and congregational singing will draw from Lutheran and Jewish traditions. The choirs of Trinity and Congregation Emet v'Or (CEVO) will sing together in a combined chorus. Additional music will be offered by Jonathan Rathsam, cantorial soloist at CEVO, Madeline Frank, viola, and members of the Virginia Chorale.

Scott Gurdin and his family are proud founding members of Congregation Emet v'Or. Rabbi Gurdin earned his ordination from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in 1991. Before becoming the Rabbi at Congregation Emet v'Or, he served full time as rabbi for more than two decades with congregations in Maryland and Virginia. In addition to his ordination, Rabbi Gurdin has also earned degrees in History, Hebrew and Paralegal Studies.

Rabbi Gurdin and his wife, Lisa, have been married for twenty-seven years. They have three children. Most days, Rabbi Gurdin can be found at a local elder law practice where he works as a paralegal.

Reformation Sunday and Oktoberfest in Pictures . . .



by Michele and Chip Carpenter



Happy Birthday to our Special Senior Saints

November Birthdays

Gerda Hudgins.....	99.....	November 8
Dick Davis	80.....	November 8
Betty Hazel	94.....	November 10
Ernie Moeser	86.....	November 22



Youth News and Events

November 10-11	Lock In / Famine Service Event
November 17-19	Lost and Found (7th and 8th graders)
November 19	Raffle and Silent Auction Fundraiser
December 10	Decorating and Caroling/ Party at Rummel House
January 5-6	Lock In / Bake Sale Fundraiser for Service Project
January 7	Bake Sale for Service Project (during church hours)
January 26-28	Winter Celebration (9th-12th graders)
February 1-4	Ski Trip, Seven Springs, PA (Thursday – Sunday)
February 4	Soup-er Bowl Party (Watch the Super Bowl / Canned Food Drive)
February 18	Tie Blankets for THRIVE (after church)
March 3-4	7th Day Event (5th and 6th graders)
March 11	Planning Meeting and Lunch (Remainder of the Year Planning)
June 8-10	VA Synod Youth Assembly (Selected youth, 1 middle school, 1 high school)
June 25 – July 2	National Youth Gathering in Houston, TX (Rising 9th- Graduated Seniors only)
July 22-27	Kairos (Week long event at Roanoke College – Rising 9th-12th graders)

****Dates are subject to change based off of Advisors' schedules and weather events!****

Lock in: Youth group members will meet at 6 PM on November 10 at Trinity for our first lock in of the year. Make sure that you eat dinner before you arrive at church and bring with you sleeping bag/ pillow, PJs, change of clothes, toiletry items, a flashlight, and snacks to share. In addition, to our normal activities, we are going to be collecting canned goods for the Food Bank. Make sure that you bring some canned goods with you. We have sculptures to make out of all our collected goodies! Parents can pick up youth on Saturday morning by 8 AM.

Lost and Found: Nathan, Keegan, Lena, Emma, and Lois Jean will meet at 12:45 at church on Friday November 17 to travel up to Eagle Eyrie for the weekend. You should have all received confirmation letters via email which have an attached packing list. Remember that we will be on the side of a mountain all weekend, so pack comfortable walking shoes and layered clothing. We will be staying in cabins, so pack bedding (sleeping bag and pillow is easiest) as well as a towel and washcloth for showers. Comfortable clothes and layered sweatshirts and jackets are a must for this event. Also bring a snack to share and money for dinner on the way up and lunch on the way home. This is a great event!

Decorating and Caroling: The youth will meet after church on Sunday December 10 to put the chrismonds on the Christmas Tree. Then we will travel around the city to carol to some of our homebound members finally ending our evening with our annual Christmas Party at the Rummel household. What to bring with you? Money for lunch and a delicious side dish (cookies, treats, lo mein noodles??) to share for the party at the Rummels. Parents can pick you up at the Rummel house by 8 PM.

Special Fundraiser: On November 19 before and after both services, please come and visit Kelly Murphy and some of the youth group members outside of the Church Library. The Youth Group is raffling off homemade candy jars (\$1 per ticket), and there is a Silent Auction going on for baskets of goodies. The very talented Kelly Murphy has donated her time and talents to create these beautiful jars and baskets. All proceeds will go toward the Youth Group. Please come and shop!

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Upcoming Events

Nov 9 Lutheran/Jewish Service
Nov 10 Youth Lock In
Nov 11 Scrapbooking
Nov 12 Fricke Memorial Concert
Nov 17 Youth Lost and Found
Nov 19 Raffle and Silent Auction
Nov 21 TLS Grandparent's Day
Dec 3 Poinsettia sales begin
Dec 9 Habitat Build
Dec 10 Greening of the Church
Dec 17 Trinity Troupers Perform
Dec 24 Christmas Eve Services

Fricke Memorial Concert

In honor of Dr. Clifford Lynn Fricke, our Brother in Christ who passed away in September, there will be a memorial concert by the Peninsula Concert Band held at Trinity Lutheran Church. The concert begins at 4:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary on Sunday, November 12, 2017. All are invited to join us for this concert.

Holiday Baskets

The Social Ministry committee is gratefully accepting food donations for our Edmarc food baskets, seven each for Thanksgiving and Christmas. For more information please stop by the Library or visit the church website.

TLS Socktober

Give socks to the "Socktober Sock" campaign by the TLS Lower School SCA. They are collecting NEW socks only. Please place your socks in the labeled box in the church library.

TLS News

TLS is now a United Way Approved Institution. If your employer offers United Way donations, you can designate TLS (#6701 or Trinity Lutheran School on your pledge card).

Attention Scrapbookers!

New or experienced, please join us on the second Saturday of each month from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM in the Church social hall. The next date is November 11th. For more information and to reserve a spot please call Terri Hoffeditz at (C) 757 871 1182 or (H) 757 766 2646. This is a no sales pitch event.

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.