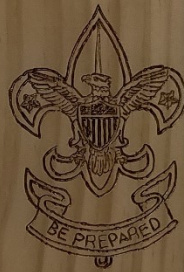
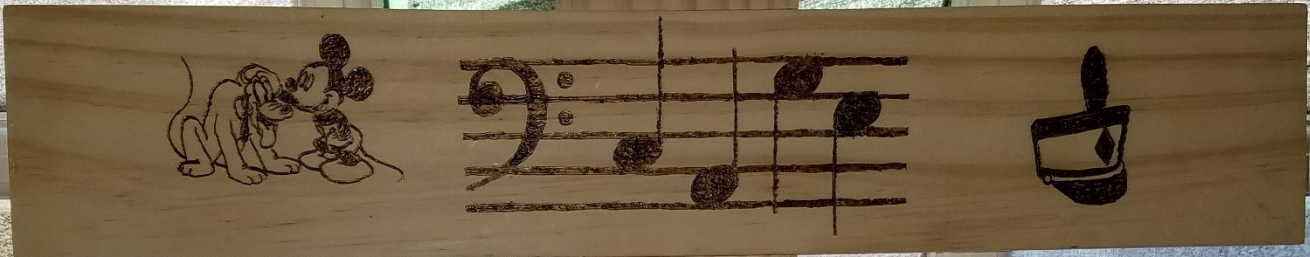


Trinity Tidings

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Newport News, VA

May 2018



Stephen McWithey

THOMAS AND MARY BAIRD
MRS. JOSEPHINE MORGAN
MR. DAVID HOOD
ROSE ANN HOOT
MRS. LUCILLE HONCYTTI
DR. AND MRS. JOHN R. HAYDON
MR. AND MRS. JAMES LARSON

MR. AND MRS. WILLY YOUNG
MR. DAVID FRITTS
MRS. PAULINE EPPS
MR. AND MRS. BENNETT HAZEL
WILHELM WESTE MEMORIAL BY ANNA W.
F. W. HILKE MEMORIAL BY ANNA W.
S. R. HOPKINS MEMORIAL BY C. H. H.

Confirmand cross by Stephen McWithey. More crosses are on pages 6 and 7.



Our dear, darling, unbelievably devoted Scully has a lovely penchant for being *present*. She is not a dog who enjoys being on her own, doing her own thing, at least not when Ben and I are home.

When we're gone, sure, she absolutely enjoys the wonders of having the recliner and all the blankets to herself, enjoys not having her naps interrupted by our jostling her out of our laps or making unnecessary noise, but she's making it very well known that she much prefers life when we are home, when we're with her, when we're all together. Scully is also not a dog that gives even the remotest care for personal space, her own or yours. She is not the dog who has her own niche on the couch, separate and away from everyone else; she is not the dog who lays on the floor while everyone else occupies the chairs, no, she is very much a where you are, there I shall be too type of pup.

We've known this about Scully since we got her. It's part of who she is, cuddly, must be right by your side at all times, and she has been that way since she was eight weeks old. While I've known this though, sometimes I don't really *think* about it. Well, let me tell you, recently, *I thought about it*. Throughout the month of April, my gym has been sponsoring what they lovingly call "Ab April," a cutesy way of describing the fact that they were planning on putting all of our stomach muscles through the ringer for all of April. We've all been issued weekly challenges to work on in order to build our muscles, with the expectation that we will do some when we are there, but that we will also do them when we are home on our own. Well, let me tell you, never in my life have I been more aware of Scully's desire to be *present* than when I have been on the floor of the living room attempting to maintain an elbow plank while she is standing in front of me, staring directly at me and simultaneously trying to lick my nose.

Ever tried to do sit ups with a dog circling your every move? It's not fun. It's *funny*, but laughing is not exactly conducive to working out, so it's been a *challenge*...this attempt to work my abs in the midst of a dog who enjoys being *present*.

All of this has gotten me thinking about how being present is just another item on the massive list of ways that we can learn to be more human, more loving from our pets. Maybe it seems odd, but there are days when Scully is the greatest reminder of God's love I have ever experienced —unconditional, fearless, immense, joyful, incomprehensible. I never cease to learn what it is to love when the lesson is coming from my continually loving puppy. This lesson about presence though, that's been a new one.

Do you ever think about the fact that while we are *involved* in more people's lives than we can probably count through the connections of social media, our jobs, our families, life in general, but how many of those people are we actually *present* for? How many people do you actually look in the eyes and *listen* to when they're talking, when they're sharing? How many people in your life are you *present* with so deeply that it would be akin to staring at them while they hold a plank? Being together is such a gift, it might be one of the greatest gifts that we've ever received from God, this gift that we were made for community, connection, for each other, and yet those are the moments that far too often we let slip by. We're deep in conversation, while also checking every time our phone buzzes at us; we're talking about our days with the TV droning on in the background drawing half of our attention; we're on the phone with a loved one while doing a hundred other things on the other line. We are *there*, but we aren't always *present*.

Maybe the greatest lesson we can learn from our pets is to be present with each other, to be connected with each other, to see each other with eyes that take in the hurt, the joy, the questions, the wonder, the need that is staring back at us just waiting to be seen for what it is. Because that's also the thing with

pets—they *see* us. They see our needs, which somehow is mind-blowing, but they know when we need their presence just a little bit more, when we need affection, when we need a cuddle buddy, when we need to play, when we need to laugh. May we all see each other in the same way, may we all be so attentive as to recognize when our siblings in Christ are standing in front of us incapable of vocalizing their needs, but needing us to *see* them anyway. May

we be present with each other—wholly and completely, not distracted, not detached, not halfway—but fully, fully present.

We are gifts to each other, each and every one of us, so may we all be so present as to not miss what is right in front of us.

*Peace it Together,
Pastor Tina*

Special Announcements

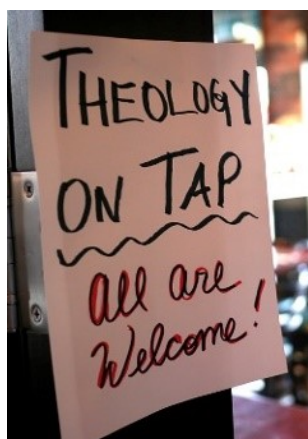
Forwarding Faith



The Forwarding Faith campaign is an effort put forth by the Virginia Synod to seek to support and fully fund our children's and youth ministry long into the future by creating an endowment. As many of you know, the Virginia Synod is known around the ELCA for its children and youth programs and this is an effort to make sure that we continue that tradition of excellence in laying the foundation for the future of the church. The goal for the Synod is \$2,500,000. More information, including testimonials is available at the Forwarding Faith website (<https://www.forwardingfaith.org>).

You do not need to submit any donations now, but please do fill out a pledge form and turn it in to the church or place it in the offering plate. Be sure to keep the pink copy of the form for your records. The Virginia Synod will then contact you regarding your donation. Pledge forms are available from the ushers. If you have any questions about Forwarding Faith please contact Pastor Tina or Todd Recuperero.

Theology on Tap:



The next Theology on Tap will be May 29th. We meet at 6:30 PM to come together for a time of casual and open conversation about faith, theology, life in the church, and how we live as Christians in the world. We meet at Traditions Brewing Company in Oyster Point (700 Thimble Shoals Blvd, Newport News, VA 23606). All are welcome!

Walking Worship Wednesday Returns!!

Ready to get back out into God's amazing creation?! We are too (and so are the turtles!!). Walking Worship Wednes-



days will resume on Wednesday, June 6th at 6:00 PM. We will gather in the parking lot of the Mariner's Museum and head out on the Noland Trail for however long the sun will let us. We walk at an even pace, but the trail has some hills and slopes, so dress accordingly! We walk anywhere from 2-3 miles each night, depending on pace and weather, and throughout the walk we share different sections of a worship service, ending with communion. We would love to have you join us!!

A Note on Hymnody

In the Lutheran Church, we are blessed to have inherited a wonderful musical tradition going back to Luther himself. We have a wealth of beautiful hymns from which to choose each week, and new ones are being written all of the time.

Selecting the hymns for each Sunday's worship can be a daunting task. The ELCA provides a yearly guide for worship planning called Sundays and Seasons which includes suggested hymns for each Sunday. Our Director of Music, Rob Keene, and Pastor Tina plan each service carefully, keeping in mind the theme of the day, the appointed lessons and prayer for that day, and any special events which may be happening.

The gathering and sending hymns do just what their names suggest: gather us in for worship and send us out into the world to share the Good News. The Hymn of the Day serves as the congregation's proclamation of the theme as set forth in the lessons and the sermon. Hymns during Communion

highlight the message of communion, as well as the theme of the day.

We all have our own favorite hymns, which can evoke a multitude of memories and emotions. While we can't each sing our particular favorites each Sunday, we can be assured that the hymns we sing each week have been chosen specifically for their relevance to the theme of the day's worship.

If a hymn seems unfamiliar to you, here are a few suggestions to make you feel more comfortable and able to participate in the communal singing which is such an integral part of our Lutheran worship experience. Listen as the organist plays the introduction; you may realize that you've heard that tune before. Read through the words; they are as important as the tune. If you still don't feel comfortable singing, follow along in your hymnal for the message that the words convey.

Lutherans sing, and we sing boldly! Lift your voices to the praise of God!

Vacation Bible School Registration

The 2018 Hilton Area Church's Vacation Bible School will be held from July 23rd to the 27th. It starts at 9:00 AM and ends at noon each day. Registration is now open for both volunteers and children (pre-K through fifth grade) who want to attend. Visit the following website to sign up. Please sign up early so the folks planning the event are better prepared. Experience the ride of a lifetime with God!

<https://rrr.cokesburyvbs.com/hiltonchurches2018>



Easter Lilies

To the Glory of God and in Honor of . . .

- Kendall Klapperich by Dee and Butch Klapperich
- Bob and Bobbie McWithey, by Brian McWithey
- The Grandchildren by Barbara Olson

To the Glory of God and in Memory of . . .

- Rich Huebner, by the Trinity Chancel Choir
- Our Grandparents, by Hank and Suzanne Beckstoffer
- Cathie Wall, by Carol Bessom, Kathy, Karina, and Elena Stevens
- John S. Wiseman, by James and Susan Deagle
- Peggy and David Chase, by Anne Evans
- Deceased members of Hamby and Siceloff Families, by Virginia and Harlan Hamby
- John Murdter, by Dick and Terri Hoffeditz
- Deceased loved ones, by Connie Hoover and Page Davis
- Dan Klapperich, by Dee and Butch Klapperich
- Jane Lee, by Harry Lee

- Leslie McWithey, by Brian McWithey
- Aunt Frances, Uncle Charlie Withero, by Albert, Ellen, Marie, Christopher, and Samuel Molina
- Roxanne Schultz and John Michael Molina, by Albert, Ellen, Marie, Christopher, and Samuel Molina
- Our Beloved Mother and Precious Nanny, Tillie Schultz, by Albert, Ellen, Marie, Christopher, and Samuel Molina
- Our parents, Roy L. and Wilma H. Johnson and Leo V. and Julia M. O'Connell, by Pearl and Leo P. O'Connell
- Roland R. and Ruth T. Adams, by Pearl and Leo P. O'Connell
- Don Olson, by Barbara Olson
- Our infant son, Zachary, by Grant and Donna Owens
- Our parents, Art and Dot Newsome and Ben and Joanne Owens, by Grant and Donna Owens
- Karen Moore Schappert, by Nancy and Bob Schappert

Youth Group Activities

Mandatory Meeting for NYG:

National Youth Gathering Youth and Parents MUST meet at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Hampton on Sunday, June 3 at 6:00 PM for our last meeting prior to going to Houston. Please make sure that you are present at that meeting.



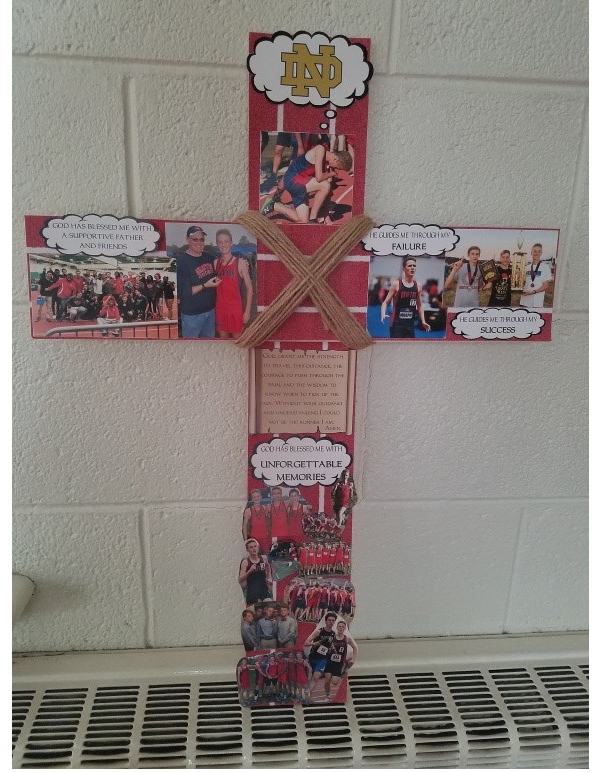
Thank You to Congregation:

The Youth Group would like to sincerely thank all the congregation members who have supported us on our planning for the National Youth Gathering. Thank you for all the prayers, the donations to the Yard Sale, and the financial donations. We are excited to share in this faith changing event, and we couldn't be more ready for this trip to Houston. We will have a full report when we return, but we ask for your continued prayers during our trip from June 25 through July 2, 2018.

2018 Confirmation Crosses



Samuel Molina



Alex Murphy



Keegan Wise



Mikayla Behlmar

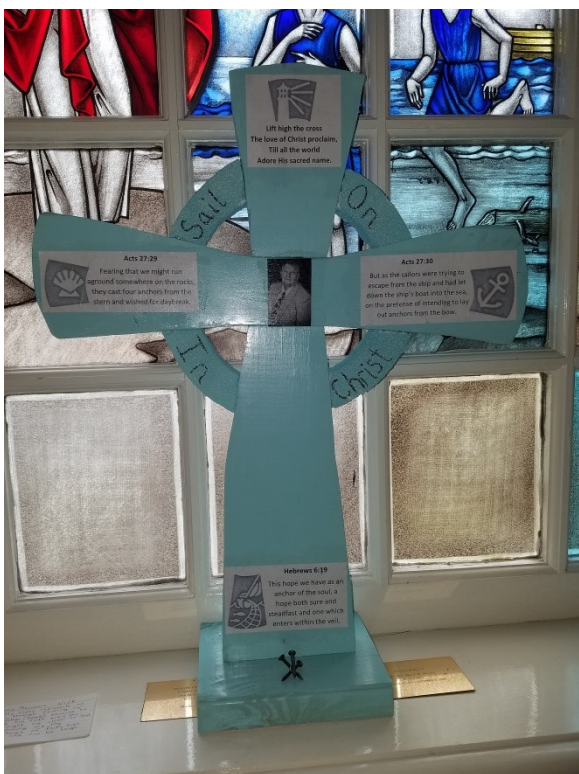
Graduating Confirmands for 2018 include Samuel Molina, Stephen McWithey and Alex Murphy. Please help celebrate their accomplishment by attending the reception following the worship service on May 20th. The other confirmands will continue their faith journey's through next year.



Lina Recupero



Nathan Rummel



Emma Recupero



Lois Jean Carpenter

Miscellaneous Announcements

SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: All members are invited to speak to someone in the office or sign up with the persons who coordinate each of these ministries: Ushers: Don Sniady, 833-7677; Lectors: Kathy Stevens (8:15), 532-6228 and Laura Davis (10:45), 595-7474; Nursery Caregivers: Charlotte Duff, 342-9251 and Altar Guild: Astrid Quist, 930-2492 or Karoline Ardis, 766-0388. There are roles for children and youth to participate as well. Thanks to all who serve.

CARD MINISTRY FOR OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS: The Witness Committee is restarting our wonderful card ministry, in order to reach out to our homebound members with thoughts and prayers, letting them know that they are in our hearts as a congregation. There are greeting cards on the table in the narthex which you are invited to sign as part of this ministry. They will be out for the next couple of weeks so that everyone can have a chance to sign them.

HILTON CHURCHES TOILETRY DRIVE FOR LINK: As part of the 100th anniversary celebration of Hilton Village, the Hilton area churches are hosting a toiletry drive to put together bags of items for PORT and the Veterans' Homes. We will assemble the bags at the Hilton celebration on July 7th. In order to make this drive as successful as possible, we are hoping each church can gather 40 of each of the following items:

Travel Size: Deodorant, Soap, Lotion, Toothpaste, Hand Sanitizer, Tissues; Other Items: Razors (w/ protectors), Toothbrushes, Combs, Travel Pill Containers, Mini Bottles of Water, Socks, Washcloths. We will be collecting items through June. Items can be placed in the tubs in the narthex. The last Sunday to contribute is June 24. Thank you!

CHURCH DIRECTORY: The Church Directory is being updated with anticipation of a June printing. Please contact the Office Administrator with any corrections to your mailing address, phone numbers, or email address.

ATTENTION ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRS: Reports for the Annual Congregation meeting in June are due on June 1. If you wish to have an electronic copy of your report from last year, please call the church office. If you wish to have a paper copy, there are a few 2017 Annual Congregation report booklets in the church library. Thanks in advance for taking the time to write and send in your report.

HILTON VILLAGE CENTENNIAL: In the church library, there are placards with information about the events for the Hilton Village Centennial. In addition, two different books about the centennial by author, John V. Quarstein, are being sold for \$22 (history of Hilton) and \$25 (signed by author photo book). Come by the church office to see the books or ask Anne Obara to show you on Sunday.

SUMMER SERVICE HOURS: Starting June 3 through September 2, there will be only one service at 10:00 AM every Sunday morning. In addition, after the Memorial Day weekend, Sunday School both for adults and children will not resume until the fall. Our summer liturgy will be "Now the Feast and Celebration."

SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS: Thank you to everyone who has made a donation to our Trinity Scholarship Fund! Your donations continue to make a difference. Please kindly remember the fund as you make plans for your spring and summer offerings. You may use the green envelopes provided in the pew racks if you wish to make a donation, or simply mark a portion of your offering as such on your regular envelope. Our college students appreciate your continued and faithful support!

DEADLINE APPROACHING

The Office Administrator needs committee reports and directory updates by the first of June so they can be published in time for the Annual Meeting which will be held on June 24th.

admin@trinitynn.org

Youth Activities Around the Church



The Trinity Troopers have been busy at work with Music Director Rob Keene preparing for their upcoming performance during the Pentecost Service. In addition to mastering their music they have been engaged in interactive play, rhythms and patterns with Rob! He works with the Children during part of the Sunday School hour.

Children of all ages got to take part in the Pastor's Children's Chat this past month! Pastor Tina asked the children to pick someone from the congregation to sit alongside them. In addition to parents, Bill Solomon and even Pastor Tina's husband, Ben, were asked to come up!



The Sunday School children work together on various activities while learning about the stories in the Bible as they strengthen their faith. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the Pastor or the chair of Christian Education, Jessica Moyer. Volunteers are always welcome.

A Reminder from the Treasurer

This is just a reminder to some of our members but may be new information to others.

The purpose of the weekly envelopes is to allow members to faithfully support the work of the church either every week or, for some members, every month or even yearly. It is a way of encouraging members to prayerfully consider the ways they faithfully and *regularly* support the church through their “treasure” as well as through their time and talents. These gifts to the general fund allow the church to support our outreach ministries, pay our bills and also contribute to the missions of the Virginia Synod and the national church.

The weekly envelope also has a space for special gifts that members may wish to occasionally support, such as World Hunger, the church scholarship program, Trinity School, National Youth Gathering, PORT, etc. Any special gifts such as these would normally be made *in addition* to the regular donation to the general fund.

It is fun and exciting for members to help support the special programs of the church, but please remember to do so *in addition* to your faithful support of the general fund!

Thank you!

The Treasurer



Scrapbooking Fundraiser for TLS

Beckie Belote, along with several other local Creative Memories advisors, are partnering to host a big scrapbooking event to help fund the Trinity Lutheran School cheerleading team. It will be held at Trinity on May 18th and 19th. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, contact Beckie at beckiebelote@verizon.net. It is sure to be a fun event!

Happy Birthday to our Special Senior Saints



May Birthdays

Charles Keesler	91.....	May 9th
John Long.....	85.....	May 14th
Jeanette Cantrell.....	92.....	May 23rd



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Upcoming Events

May 18	TLS Scrapbooking
May 19	TLS Scrapbooking
May 20	Pentecost Sunday Reception
May 20	Dona Lynch Memorial
May 29	Theology on Tap
Jun 3	Summer Service Schedule
Jun 3	NYG Meeting
Jun 6	Walking Worship Wednesday

Confirmation Crosses

Around the sanctuary for the Easter season you will see different, unique crosses highlighting the sanctuary windows. These crosses were made by the Confirmation class as their spring project. They were encouraged to make a cross that represented their faith and how different parts of their lives are influenced by their faith. There are note cards with each to provide explanation. Please enjoy and uplift our Confirmation students in this display of their faith.

Memorial Service

There will be a memorial service for Dona Fry Lynch at the Peninsula Memorial Park, starting at 2:00 PM on May 20th.

Pentecost Refreshments

We love our confirmands! To show them our love, please bring a savory or sweet treat to share on Sunday, May 20 for the reception to be held after the 10:00 AM worship service. Thank you!



TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Many thanks to all who attended or supported our TLS Cinco de Derby on Saturday. Thanks to your support, we had our most successful Derby party ever making just under \$11,000!

Fundraisers like Cinco de Derby are a critical part for the funding required to create an exceptional educational experience for our children at Trinity.

THANK YOU for your support of Trinity Lutheran School!

Bob McWithey

It is with sadness that we must announce that on May 17th Bob McWithey passed away. We give thanks for his life, and for his faithful witness to Jesus Christ. In this difficult time, please hold Bob's wife Bobbie, their son, Brian, grandsons, Thomas and Stephen and their other family members in your prayers. Funeral details will be forthcoming.

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.