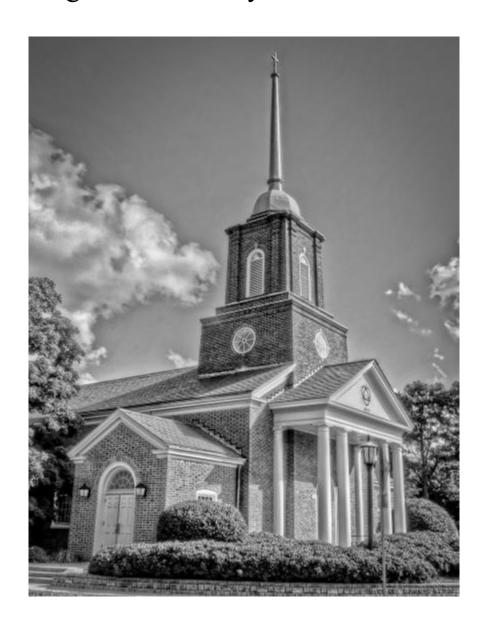
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

11:00 AM Worship Service • September 26, 2021
Picnic in the Park
Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost



Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

Thank you for joining us online or at our in person worship at the park. We will sing acapella today and praise God in all his natural beauty.



The Reverend Tina Melusky, Pastor Pastor Melusky's office hours:

Monday: 9 - 2; Tuesday: 9 -10:30, 11:30 - 12:15

Wednesday 9:30 - 12; Thursday 9 - 12

(Times are sometimes flexible with monthly meetings,

but feel free to call for an appointment or drop in)

William C. Solomon, Interim Organist

Congregation of Trinity Lutheran, Ministers of the Word

6812 River Road, Newport News, VA 23607

Church office: (757) 245-7861; Pastor's cell: (734) 239-4013

Website: www.trinitylutheran-nn.com

Facebook: Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Newport News VA

or, @TrinityNN

Trinity Lutheran is a partner church with Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center,

THRIVE Peninsula, LINK and Peninsula Agency on Aging

Cover image photo by JoAnne Rawls

Gathering

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Amen.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

People of God, in the baptismal waters we travel with Christ from death to life. Our past, our sin, our failure, our doubt, and our shame are drowned and gone here.

You, O God, wash us clean.

Our fear, our confusion, our self-righteousness, our despair -- ALL are washed away by grace.

You, O God, wash us clean.

Our pride, our hypocrisy, and other people's opinions of us no longer have the power to define us.

You, O God, give us new life.

The Spirit lives and moves through us now, a great and joyful mystery, so we may bring love and mercy into the world as the body of Christ.

You, O God, give us new life.

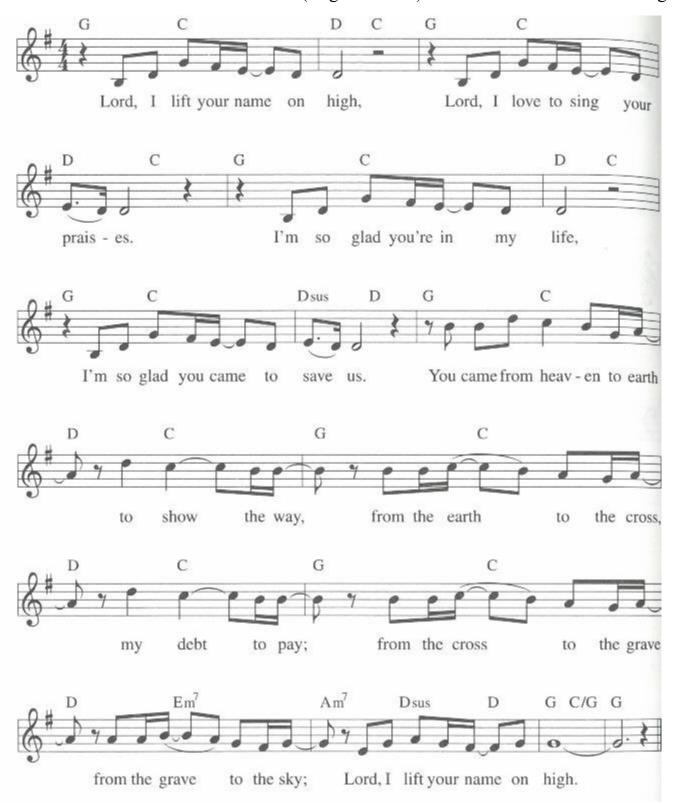
Rejoice that God has claimed us in this baptismal grace, not by our own doing or believing but by God's mercy alone.

You, O God, give us new life.

And so, as we begin worship, we give thanks to God for the gracious gift of baptism that joins us together in Christ by the Spirit's power. Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. We praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

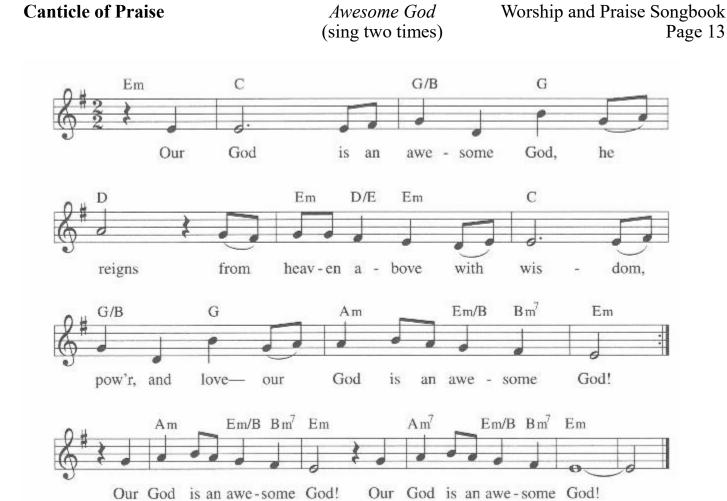
To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.



Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**



Prayer of the Day

God of Awe and Wonder, we tremble when we think of the universe and what You have created. We wonder how we could be so important to You, and yet, You call each of us by name. You have given us meaning and purpose in this world. Help us to speak up, O God, for Your ways of love and justice. Help us to cry out, O God, against the oppressive empires of our world. Help us to demand, O God, reparations and justice for those who have been oppressed. Guide us in Your ways, O God, because You are far beyond our understanding and comprehension, and yet You continue to instruct us in the ways of wisdom and insight. Help us to draw near to You, O Holy One, and to live into Your truth. **Amen.**

First Reading: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?

The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. So Moses said to the Lord, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors'? Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery."

So the Lord said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you."

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!"

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: James 5:13-20

Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

Gospel Acclamation (sung twice)

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary.

Pure and holy, tried and true.

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

Gospel: Mark 9:38-50

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 9th chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of

me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

"For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

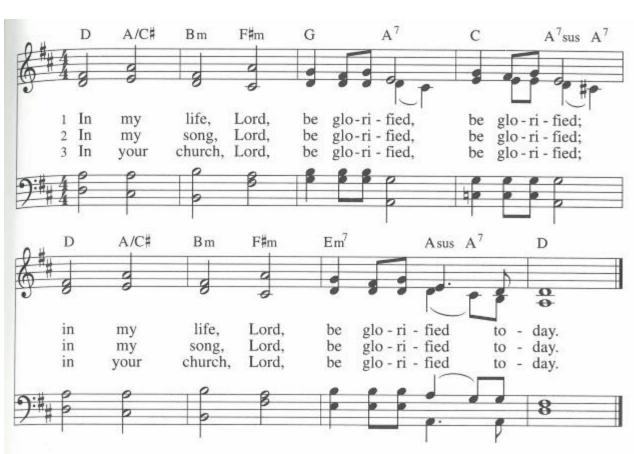
Sermon Pastor Tina Melusky

The assembly stands.

Hymn of the Day

Lord, be glorified

Worship and Praise Songbook Page 89



Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

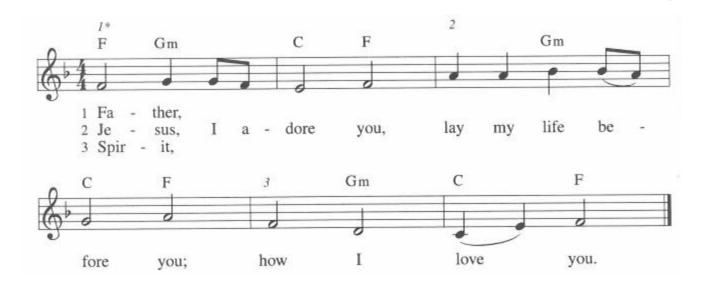
Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.

Receiving of Tithes and Offerings

Ushers will be collecting the offering.

The assembly is seated.



Offertory Prayer

Jesus, Bread of life,

you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Meal

The assembly stands.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise... ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus (spoken)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

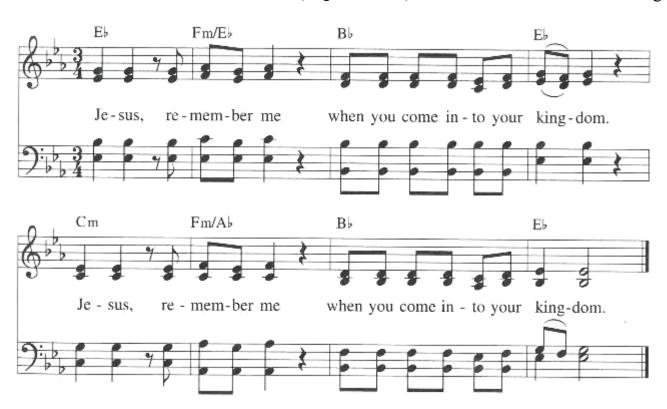
Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Agnus Dei

Jesus, remember me (sing three times)

Worship and Praise Songbook Page 78



Distribution

Communion wafers and cups will be distributed in a basket.

Sending

Table Blessing

Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, + one God, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



Dismissal

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Office Hours: Mondays through Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Hearing Aid information: The "T-Loop" switch has been turned back on. We hope that those who wear hearing aids should now hear better. If not, please let us know and Cliff Obara will try to work with you to see what is going on.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE TRINITY EVENTS...

Pastor Tina in Michigan on October 3: Pastor Tina will be presiding at a wedding in Michigan on October 2. She will be gone from Friday, October 1 through Sunday, October 3 and return to the office on Monday, October 4. A Lutheran pastor who joined our church last year during the pandemic, The Rev. Beth Woodard, will be presiding at Trinity next Sunday.

Thanks Bill Solomon!: There are just no words to adequately express our gratitude to Mr. Solomon for becoming the longest running organist substitute in Trinity's history. We appreciate your dedication, your enthusiasm and especially your music selections for Sunday mornings. More importantly, thanks for doing your job so faithfully during the many pandemic months that we have been experiencing. We cannot thank you enough!

New Music Director next Sunday: We will be welcoming our new Music Director., Geoffrey Bell, next Sunday, October 3. He comes to us from Hidenwood Presbyterian with much excitement about his new position as the Trinity Music Director. His plans for a revival of our church choir will be forthcoming. He has already mentioned to me a potential new idea he has for the choir. So, former choir members, be prepared to get a call. Anyone who has a brand new interest in singing in the choir, please let Geoffrey know about you. His email address is music@trinitynn.org and he has already been checking his emails from Anne and Tina.

Adult Sunday School Gears Up Again!: ALL ARE INVITED to the Adult Sunday School Class. Please consider joining us! The Trinity Adult Discussion Group will gather for our first fall session on Sunday, October 3 during the Sunday School hour (between services at 9:45 a.m. in the parlor). Our book for the fall is QUESTIONS TO ALL YOUR ANSWERS: THE JOURNEY FROM FOLK RELIGION TO EXAMINED FAITH by Roger Olson

(Introduction and ten chapters with discussion questions). On October 3 we will be discussing the Introduction to the book, and then we will read and discuss one chapter each week that the group meets. The book is available electronically as well as in hardback or in paperback.

We will be meeting in person, but do have the means to include folks who wish to be included via Zoom, but will only set up a Zoom meeting for a specific date if anyone interested contacts Patricia McClelland by email (psm1@cox.net) with that request by the Thursday prior to that Sunday. Hope to see YOU there !!

Tuesday Morning Bible Study will be on Tuesday, September 28, at 10:30 a.m., ONLY VIRTUALLY until further notice!!

Church Picnic: Picnic in the Park happens TODAY at 11:00 a.m. Please bring your own chairs and side items to share with your family only. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided by the Congregational Life Committee. Please wear your masks. We will be located in a different area of the park this year. **Directions:** If you are coming off of Jefferson at the stop light, go straight and then turn left and follow the road around. If you are coming off of Jefferson on the road close to the Magnet School and the park bathrooms, go straight and follow the road around to the end.

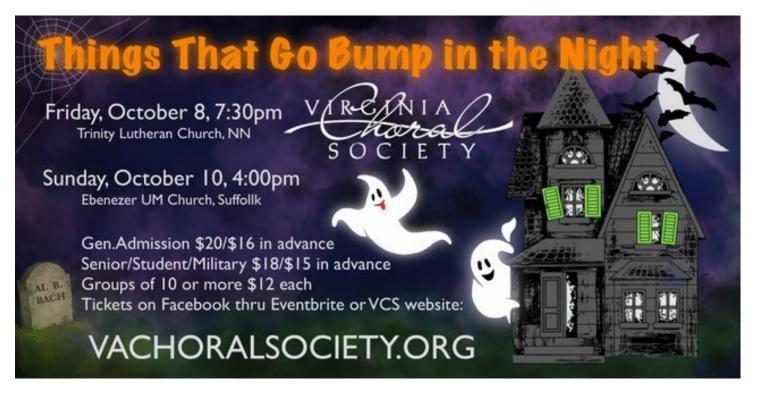
Manna Bags UPDATE!: The first batch of Manna Bags are complete. We are still collecting items and we still need items to complete quite a few more bags. You can now pick up some Manna bags to hand out to those in need, if you so choose. They are located at the wheelchair ramp door as you exit on Sunday morning. If you are not attending in-person services service, but do wish to participate in this project, please let the church office know and we will make necessary arrangements. Here are the items we're still collecting:

Mini Water Bottles Applesauce Granola Bars
Individual Boxes of Raisins Mini hand sanitizers Gallon Sized Ziploc
Bags

Take me out to the Ball Game! Faith and Family Night at the Norfolk Tides is this Wednesday, September 29. We currently have a block of 20 tickets, but can always add on more if needed! Game time is 7:05 and we will meet at the Box Office entrance to Harbor Park. Tickets are \$10/person. If you and your family are interested in attending please RSVP to Pastor Tina by Sunday, September 26.

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS...

Virginia Housing and Community Development Corporation: VHCDC seeks Volunteers to help replace exterior sheathing and install vinyl siding, insulation, flooring, HVAC, electrical, plumbing, wall-board, and cabinets at a 2-story duplex located at 31 E Howard St in Hampton (Phoebus). Needed are laborers, carpenters, electricians, plumbers, and HVAC technicians. Hours are 9-4 Mon-Sat. Any time you can give is appreciated. Register at tinyurl.com/dmbweb54 now to help When completed, this property will house two disabled/homeless veterans and their families. We sincerely appreciate your support.



Giving to Trinity: There are a number of ways that members can give their donations to Trinity Lutheran Church during these times when we are not physically in church.

- 1. You may **write a check** and mail it in. It can be addressed to the attention of Carol Bessom, Trinity Lutheran Church, 6812 River Road, Newport News, VA, 23607.
- 2. During the church office hours, you may come in to **hand deliver your donation** to Anne, Carol or Pastor Tina.
- 3. Set up an automatic withdrawal from your own bank, which will then send it to Trinity.
- 4. And lastly, the newest method is the . . .
- 5. 4. VANCO Online giving: If you have questions about the donation site or how to make your donation, please don't hesitate to contact the church office, 245-7861.

Procedure for online giving:

Go to: http://trinitylutheran-nn.com/

Press the green "online giving" link.

6. NEW! If you attend in person, an offering plate is located in the narthex. You may place your offering there as you enter.

PRAYER LIST

ILLNESS, SURGERY, RECOVERY, SHUT-INS: Recovery: Anne Evans and Steve Quist Nursing Homes/Assisted Living: Jeanette Cantrell (The Chesapeake, 955 Harpersville Road, AL302, Newport News, VA, 23601); Millie Christensen (Morningside: Rm. 131; Charles Kessler (The Chesapeake - Assisted Living, Rm.207); Lucille Lebold (Williamsburg Landing, Memory Care Unit); Shut-in at Home: Janet Edwards, Gerda Hudgens, Joan Johnston, and Doris Moeser.

SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS: The Ahlen Family and Alex Ommaya (cousin), requested by Kathy Stevens; Hannelore Voss (Karoline's mother), requested by the Ardis family; Jack and Sharon (Sherry) Johnston and Pam Little (Donna's sisters), requested by Grant and Donna Owens; Bonnie Carlson, requested by Dave Carlson; Sandy Nelson, requested by Pastor Tina Melusky; Kimber Pulley Matzke, requested by the Owens family; Shirley Anderson, requested by the Anderson family; Flora May, requested by Jon May; Matt Adamo (Brother-in-law of Patricia) and Rachel and Matthew Bradley and their unborn twins, requested by Patricia Fielding; Nancy Schappert, requested by Bob Schappert; Bob Schappert; Pat O'Connell; Ben Nelson, requested by Laura Davis; Pamela Smith Jones (Patricia's sister), requested by Patricia McClelland; Pamela Bosserman (NEW ADDRESS—4521 Thorncroft Drive, Glen Allen, VA, 23060), requested by Bill Solomon; Larry Navatka, requested by Dottie Lombardo Self; Eric Curtin, requested by Jennifer Curtin Caylor; Siobhan Leonard (daughter-in-law), requested by Susan Piland; and Donald Hall (son of member Susan Hall), requested by Dee Klapperich.

Those Who Serve, Military and Civilian Duty: NEW! James Fielding, State Dept., Myanmar; Bryan Hunt, State Dept., Washington, D. C.; Eric Lindfors, Deputy Commander US Naval Forces - Korea; Tyler Obara, Virginia Air National Guard, LAFB,; Ashby Owens, Operation Smile; and Josh and Ellen (Davis) Badgley, State Department, Bangkok, Thailand.

Chancel Flowers: Today, flowers are given to the Glory of God, by Laura Davis.

Serving the Assembly

<u>8:30</u>	<u>11:00</u>
	Pastor Tina
Ushers	Clifford Obara
	Dave Carlson
	Anne Obara
Ben Melusky	