



*Holy Trinity Lutheran  
Church*

# Tidings

November  
to  
December  
'17

Worship with Communion:  
9:30 AM every Sunday....and  
immediately following our  
service; we welcome you at our  
Fellowship/Coffee hour....



## CORE VALUES:

As members of the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church we strive to follow Jesus, as the Spirit and the Word transforms us and touches every facet of our life. Therefore, we are:

**Intentional-** Everything we do is purposely dedicated to sharing the good news of the Gospel.

**Committed to Growing in Christ-** Faith, for us, is a lifelong learning process. We endeavor to deepen our relationship to Christ as we work to be his disciples in this time and place.

**Participatory-** The work of the church is everyone's task and everyone is called to be involved in our ministry.

**Joyful-** Our worship draws on the liturgical and musical traditions of the Lutheran Church and expresses the joy of our faith.

**Personal-** We support and pray for one another and respond to individual needs as they arise.

**Committed to Serving Older Adults-** We particularly value and support people in the latter stages of life and strive to give older adults an opportunity to use their time and talents to serve those less fortunate.

## Message from your Pastor:

Dear members and friends of Holy Trinity,

Thank you for your many expressions of welcome since I began serving on October 15<sup>th</sup>! I look forward to getting to know you and to serving God with you through the congregation.

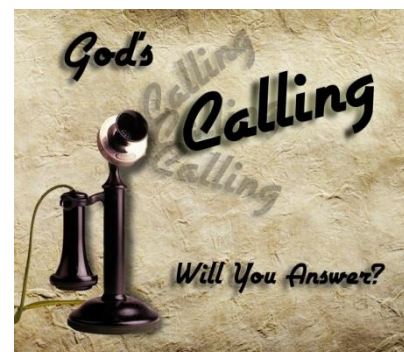
As a half time pastor for Holy Trinity, my plan is to be in the church office on Tuesdays and Thursdays and to lead worship on Sunday mornings. I will preach and preside at Holy Trinity on three out of four Sundays each month. My pastoral responsibilities also include serving in a quarter time capacity for St. Thomas Lutheran Church in Brick, N. J. where my wife, Judy Anderson, is pastor. I will be in the office at St. Thomas on Mondays and Wednesdays and lead worship there one Sunday per month. Before entering into the contractual arrangement to serve at Holy Trinity, Judy and I had been called by the synod council to serve as pastor redevelopers at St. Thomas for almost 6 years. I hope to use some of what I learned as a redeveloper to help us grow as a congregation. Should you find yourself in the hospital or recuperating in a care facility, you are encouraged to let me know. I will be more than willing to visit you.

In conversations and sermons, you have heard me mention my family. Judy and I have been married for twenty one years and have two children. Our son, Patrick, age seventeen, is a senior and our daughter, Kristen, age fourteen, is a freshman. Both attend Howell High School. Patrick and Kristen are involved members at St. Thomas but will certainly visit at Holy Trinity from time to time.

I do feel that the Spirit has been at work in this arrangement that I serve as pastor at Holy Trinity. As we move forward, pray for our congregation and for how best we can respond to God's call to make disciples and to love our neighbor.

God's blessings,

Pastor John





What follows are some thoughts related to All Saints Sunday. Who comes to mind when you hear the word saint? For many of us, individuals such as Francis of Assisi or Theresa of Calcutta come to mind. We remember the amazing ways that God used them in ministering to those in spiritual and material need. That is how we tend to envision one who is a saint.

Duke Divinity professor, Thomas Long, was in the chapel with his young son. It was a bright, sunny day and the sun gleamed through the stained glass windows. The father said to his son, "Those windows show pictures of saints. Do you know who saints are?" There was silence as the boy looked at the bright windows and thought. He answered that yes he knew who saints were; they were ones which the SUN shines through. When we think about it, the boy was almost right. Saints are ones whom the SON shines through! In our lives, we serve as saints in those times when the Son's grace and love shines through us into the world around us. We should not discount God using us to make a difference in the world.

A final thought, the word saint in the New Testament is always in the plural. That means that we are not alone. We can listen to each other, pray for each other, and encourage each other. Jesus uses our sister and brother saints to empower us on our path of serving.

God's Peace,

Pastor John

## **A Message from your Council President---**

As we quickly approach the time of our annual congregational meeting, I wish to ask for any person(s) who wish to serve for the upcoming terms for Council. As I said in the last Newsletter report, I must step down after completing this term, per our Constitution. To date we have only two people who are going to serve on Council starting in January, when elected at our Annual meeting. **WE NEED AT LEAST 2 MORE TO SERVE** as we have four people (\*) with terms coming to an end. Please prayerfully consider serving on Council. Our congregation needs to continue its positive growth that has occurred the last few years. My wife, Dawne Thumhart, has thrown her hat in the ring, as well as one more "church mouse" as a strong possibility.

I have treasured the time I have served you as your Council President. I will continue to serve on the NJ Synod Council and various committees in the church. I look forward to the future of this congregation with enthusiasm and faithfulness.

In Christ service, humbly Randolph Thumhart



Your current HTLC Council members are:

Randy Thumhart\*

Jack Dessel\*

Joan Gilman\*

Joan Bowers

Krista Grala\*

Lynn Hutcheson

Kathy Minto

Kathy Liefeste



### Prayer Ministry

Our prayer ministry is growing in leaps and bounds. We have a loyal group who pray daily for those on the prayer list. If you are interested in this ministry, you can help in one or two different ways.

1. Join the prayer chain by contacting me, Kathy Leifeste, by phone 732 642-9408 or email: [kataocn@gmail.com](mailto:kataocn@gmail.com) and provide me with your email address or phone number (if you don't have email) if you would like to be a prayer partner.
2. Let me know if you would like someone to be added to our prayer list.

Prayer cards can also be found in the pews if you would like to fill one out during the service and place it in the offering plate.

The list is updated weekly and published in the bulletin. Names will be removed after one month unless you let me know otherwise.

Prayerfully consider being a part of this important ministry.

Kathy Leifeste

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We are looking to complete a list of those with keys. If you have a key, please email Randy Thumhart @ [rpthumhart@yahoo.com](mailto:rpthumhart@yahoo.com) or Dawne Thumhart @ [dmthumhart@gmail.com](mailto:dmthumhart@gmail.com).

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### Adult Bible Study

Bible Study has resumed and for the Fall – Luther and the Reformation– as we study our Lutheran Heritage and for Advent a four week study “I wonder as I wander” and in January – The Parables

Please consider joining us Sunday after our service.....



## 2017 Synod Doings-

On Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, Holy Trinity was the host for the NJ Synod Council meeting from 10-2, providing breakfast and lunch to Our Synod Council and church representatives as they planned for the Spring Synod Assembly and other important events/matters in the upcoming months. Randy Thumhart continues to serve on Synod Council, as his current term expires in May of 2019.

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### Music and Worship

#### URGENT-

With the recent decent departures of a few of our members to retirement moves, our Bell Choir is in DIRE NEED of anyone who wishes to participate in the bell choir. ANY AGE is welcome. If you can read music or wish to participate in this ministry **please see Lisa, our organist** before or after church. We sure would hate to see this wonderful ministry go by the wayside as we need a certain number of individuals to participate to handle the bells. We would hate not to have any bells for our services and/or holidays.

We are in need of a few persons to help on a rotating basis as Communion Assistants. Teens up through the aged are welcome to help. Please see Joan Bower or Kathy Leifeste if interested. There is going to be a training session on Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

Choir practice is every Sunday at 8:30 AM if you wish to join our choir.

## FELLOWSHIP AND OUTREACH---



--Is there any interest in participating in Ship Bottom's Annual Christmas Parade?

**YES..?!?!!** See Randy or Dawne Thumhart if you are interested in this project. This takes place on ***December 2nd***. We have a truck that must be decorated and need people who will march/ride in the parade. The 2017 parade theme is "Deck the Hulls".

Also on ***December 2nd at 4pm***, HTLC will host "Hanging of the Greens." New this year, are the Three Wise Men and the Stable, thanks to Rich Grala. Come out and help beautify the sanctuary for Advent...

Participate in the parade then come down, then come to the church to warm up, have some hot cocoa and fresh baked cookies and help out at the getting the church and Sanctuary for the Advent season. Isn't it ironical that the Parade theme is Deck the Hulls and we are going to Deck the HALLS that same day.....come out and participate in one or both!



The ***Four Church Reformation Celebration*** on Sunday, October 15th at 4:30 pm.

***Reformation 500*** was a big success! The service was exceptional and the dinner afterwards was enjoyed by over 90 people. Check out Holy Trinity's Facebook page for photos. As always, congregation members are needed to sign up for coffee hour. See Lynn if you can help!

We are doing the annual coat and blanket drive for the Rescue Mission and needy.

## **WELCA News-**

WELCA has been collecting items for Family Promise of Barnegat and will continue to do so in the upcoming months.

**All women** of Holy Trinity are members of WELCA. Our meetings are held the second Monday of each month. Most meetings are held at 11 am. Bring your lunch. Dessert and drinks provided. Good fellowship and hands on projects are some of the features. Come out and see!

\*\*\*\*This is a wish list of items needed in the Family Promise Day Center located in Barnegat. If you wish to continue to donate to the Family Promise ministry throughout the year, reach out to Kathy Liefeste for the contact/drop off information. HTLC ladies are still exploring possible long range partnering with other churches for help with the Family Promise ministry.

- Liquid laundry detergent, bleach, disinfectant wipes
- Large storage bins with lids
- Cleaning supplies, paper supplies (paper towels, toilet paper, tissues)
- Drink supplies (i.e., water bottles, juice, coffee), snacks (i.e., fruit snacks, granola bars)
- Shampoo/conditioner, ladies deodorant
- WAWA gift cards for gas for families
- Shop-rite or Acme gift cards for food
- Printer paper, printer cartridges: Toner TN-630-TN-660
- Roadside packages for our families: first aid kit, AAA membership gift card

On November 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM, the women of WELCA will address Christmas cards for nursing home residents. Bring cards and a red or green pen. **All women** of Holy Trinity are members of WELCA. In December, we plan a Holiday gathering.

This year, WELCA along with the congregation, will gather items for Family Promise. Leave your items on one of the tables in All Saints Hall marked “**Family Promise.**”

## **Garden Club**

Once again, the Garden Club of LBI will use All Saints Hall for their gift shop/boutique on December 7, the day of their Christmas House Tour. See Joan Gilman if you are willing to make 2 dozen cookies for that day.



Many hands make light work.....If you can help fill a slot in the everyday workings of the Church Life; ushers, readers, coffee hour, office help, etc...., see the in the back of the sign-up sheets church on the BELLS table. ....Together we can grow in Faith and Hope. We need to keep those empty slots on the help list filled to make our ministry work.



Christian Education-----

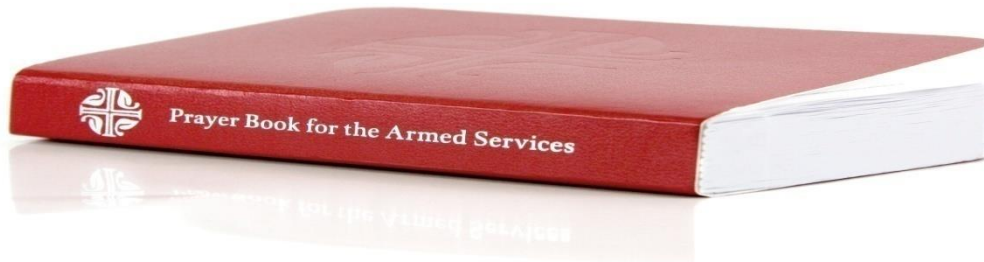


But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not forbid them to come to me; for the kingdom of Heaven belongs to ones like these"....New Heart English Bible translation....

Pre-school children through 1<sup>st</sup> grade meet every other week with Ms. Dawne in the upstairs classroom. The children are dismissed to their respective classes after our first hymn and return to their parents for communion/blessings. Any children, 2nd grade and up, are welcome to meet with Ms. Kris every week during church. Also, Bible study with Kathy Leifeste; see her for details. We are excited to begin another year of learning about our Lord, so come join us.

Any and all children are welcome, guest and visitors alike.....

**Milestones and Updated information:**



Two congregations from our New Jersey Synod, Cape May Lutheran and Holy Trinity, Brant Beach raised close to two thousand dollars for the purchase of the new Augsburg Fortress Prayer Book for the Armed Forces that were gifted to the Seaman Recruits at the USCG Training Center, Cape May. Our prayer is that these books bring each one of our guardians of the sea closer to our Lord.



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We received a telephone call from Chaplain Colleen at the Lutheran Home in Pennsylvania regarding Ruth Brightbill. Ruth would like to receive the Tidings, as well as a note/letter from congregation members as to how things are going in the congregation and/or in their lives. Ruth Brightbill's address is: Ruth Brightbill, Room #D-3, 1 South Home Avenue, Tipton, PA, 19562

Sandy and Carl Despreaux's new address is: 320Coral Creek Drive, Placida, Florida, 33946. Their email is [sandycarl47@yahoo.com](mailto:sandycarl47@yahoo.com). Sandy's cell is 609-389-1169 and Carl's cell is 609-389-1801. Sandy's note stated they "would be back in Manahawkin in May next year for the summer". They will be attending the same congregation as MaryLou Fitzgerald. If I know MaryLou, she already had Sandy on a committee/choir down there.

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After many years here at Holy Trinity, we said goodbye and well wishes to Marianne Smith on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Marianne has moved to Whiting and will be attending Christ Lutheran Church in Whiting. Once her address and new phone number is received, we will share it with you.





### Birthdays and anniversaries

#### November-

3-Tommy Lewis

4- Joan Gilman

8- John Bowers

16-Gloria Veitch

18-Nora Schuler

19-Joan Gigstad

26- Joan & Emil TumSuden

28-Bill & Lillian Bennett

29-Rich & Jackie Nisula

-Dawne Thumhart

30-Meg & Dick Christensen

#### December--

3-Rich Grala

12- Ron Chaffee

14- Kris Grala

15-Carole Meyer

25- Karen Blum-

28- Sandy & Carl Despreaux

30-Meg Christensen

31-Rosemarie Doerr

-Alfred & Connie Lund



**Food Pantry: On the third Sunday of each month we invite everyone to bring in canned goods and/or non-perishable foods for the benefit of the local Food Pantry. Thank you so much for your continued support.....**



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