



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Tidings

November
to
January '20

Advent---Patiently Waiting....



Christmas Eve Service at 7 PM

Fall/Winter Schedule:

9:30 AM- Regular Service with communion

9:35 AM-Sunday School (every other Sunday starting September 15th)

10:30- Coffee hour in All Saint's Hall

10:45 AM- Bible Study in Library

1st Monday WELCA at 11 am

2nd Thursday 6PM Roundtable

2nd Thursday Council (following Roundtable)

See contents of Tidings for many other happenings

Council Meetings are usually the second Thursday of the month. All are welcome to come. Non-council members have voice, but no vote.

AA meetings are every Saturday at 10:30 am in All Saint's Hall

NA meeting are on Mondays at 6:30 pm in All Saint's Hall

A Message from your Council President---

Recently, Dawne and I, along with some of you, witnessed our granddaughter, as well as her fellow classmate, Alyana, receive their first communion at HTLC. I was reminded of how important that day is; in the life of a Christian. Pastor John delivered a message on that Reformation Sunday and asked US, “ – as Lutherans in this day and age, what gives you hope?”. Having four generations of Lutheran family members there that day to witness Camryn's first communion- well giving thanks to GOD to see that – gave me a lot of hope.

I would encourage you all to take advantage of the Council sponsored and facilitated Bible Round table discussions taking place on the 2nd Thursday of each month, from now until February. It is a time for fellowship, community, and most importantly, learning about God's great abundance in our lives here at HTLC.

Looking ahead to 2020, HTLC will be celebrating 80 years of Lutheran ministry to LONG BEACH ISLAND – we plan to rededicate our church bell with a fitting display and commemorate this event.

– Kathy Leifeste and Lynn Hutchinson's terms on council will be ending in January. I would ask that SOME of you prayerfully consider serving with us on church council. The commitment is great, the work is light, and God and this church need faithful servants to help us do the work of this faith community. Please speak to me or anyone on church council if you have a desire, concerns or questions about it. I personally would be very grateful for some HELP and SUPPORT> this is YOUR church and things don't happen without good and faithful stewards to help carry the load.

Wishing all the best to you this Thanksgiving and Advent season;

Blessings ,As ever you servant,

RANDY

Stewardship=====

Please prayerfully consider your yearly pledge and complete and return your pledge card so your church council can work on the coming year's budget. Also consider the giving of your Time and Talents....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 sign-up sheets 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. Attached to the Tidings, you will find a pledge card and Randy Thumhart's Temple Talk**

“Coming into His Presence” Roundtable

This is our Council Sponsored series designed to create opportunities for our members to convene monthly for food, fellowship, study of the Word, and explore new spiritual practices. We meet on the second Thursday of the month, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. Bring your supper to eat with us beginning at 6pm and then we flow into the fellowship meeting.

Our next meeting is Thursday, December 12th. Its title “Welcoming Emmanuel”. Bring with you some Christmas cookies .

WE will eat, draw upon scripture, and introduce various practices we can use to grow in faith. Akin to our Lenten Soup Suppers, we'll be learning *as we enjoy one another's company!* See Marty Chaffee after services or email (rchaffee@juno.com) if you wish to learn more!



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Sunday School—

We are very proud of our two newest communicants at the Lord's Table. We studied special meals that God has blessed us with, in the Old and New Testament. One of the “meals” we studied was the feeding of God's people during their travels throughout the desert with Moses. After the story

was told, one response was,...“What!?!; they walked around like that for 40 years and ate ‘bread and chicken from Heaven...””Yes girls, LOL, they did..But it was Manna and Quail...”. We were going to move next into some Parables and main events in the Life of Jesus, but through conversations with Leah, age 5, over a random cup of Hot Chocolate, we have decided to study the Important Woman in the Old and New Testament for the remainder of the year, with the exception of Christmas and Easter series. It’s a very different area to explore, over past years of teaching.

We also have a student who is working with Pastor John, to be able to be confirmed here at HTLC.

We meet upstairs in the main classroom, immediately following the first hymn of the service. All ages are welcome as it is just one large combined class. This year Sunday School starts on September 15, 2019. We meet alternate Sundays through June 21, 2020. If you wish your child to attend, reach out to Dawne Thumhart at 609-290-0632 or dmthumhart@gmail.com

Remaining Dates for upcoming year:

11/24,12/8,12/22,1/5,1/19,2/2,2/16,3/1,3/15,3/29,4/12,4/26,5/10,6/7, and 6/21.....)

PANTRY SUNDAY: 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. There is a dire need for food items for families in our county. We need to FILL UP the shopping cart in the narthex every month.



Thank you so much for your continued support...

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OUTREACH, FELLOWSHIP, AND WELCA—

Thanks to everyone who helped with the Senior Lunch! A great time was had by all, members and friends alike. Also, thank you those that helped with the Pumpkin washing Day and Merchant Mart. We have had a busy Fall here at HTLC, with the Community Flu Clinic, the Dedication of Windows, Dedication of backpacks and Sunday school supplies, and a joint service and Pot-Luck dinner with our area churches celebrating Reformation.

We also welcomed New Member, Rev. Bruce Ewen, into membership here at HTLC this Fall, as well we welcomed Camryn Lewis and Alyana Ervin to the Lords Table.

Our WELCA group met on Nov 4th to write out Christmas cards for nursing home residents.

We are currently running our Annual Coat and Blanket Drive. Coats and blankets can be placed on the back table in All Saints Hall. The Huebergers will bring them to the Rescue Shelter the first week of December. This is a continues ministry that goes back over 25 years.

December 7th is the Annual Hanging of the Greens at 4 pm. Come out to help decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas season after the Ship Bottom Christmas Parade. This year HTLC will be spectators of the parade. Fresh baked cookies and hot chocolate will be provided.

Coffee hour always needs folks to sign up. Please consider this as you enjoy coffee and treats each Sunday.

The Garden Club will be using All Saints Hall on December 9th and 10th to fashion their greens, arrangements and wreaths. They are not using our Hall for the Boutique this year.

Looking ahead:

Poinsettias have been ordered for Christmas. Watch the bulletins for order forms.

Christmas Eve service will be held at 7pm.
December 29th—Lessons in Carols service at 9:30am.

January 5th is our 3 Kings Potluck after the Sunday Service. We always have a great time! Mark your calendars!

Also in January, we will have our Annual Congregational Meeting on January 26th following our regular service. ALL REPORTS, FOR THE ANNUAL REPORT PACKAGE, FROM COMMITTEE MEMBER LIASONS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE DUE BY DECEMBER 31st via email to dmthumhart@gmail.com

Family Promise--

Family Promise of Southern Ocean County moved into their new space and celebrated an official ribbon Cutting ceremony in October with local dignitaries, Chamber of Commerce members, and FP volunteers present. Their new office and day center is now located at 1001 S Main Street, West Creek, NJ. Their phone number is 609-994-3317. You can follow them or become a volunteer with their activities or at the day center @ familypromisesoc.org. Family Promise is dedicated to ending homelessness. They also have a Facebook site you can follow. It is *FamilyPromise of Southern Ocean County*. They have many events coming up in which you can attend or volunteer. Keep an eye out on Facebook and on the bulletin boards in Hallways for upcoming events.....and items needed for donations.

In the near future, Pastor John and Dawne Thumhart, who is the HTLC coordinator, will meet with FP director to assess how HTLC can help with a current need in the community that has become a dilemma for Family Promise. St Francis Church houses Family Promise families at Maris Stella different weeks throughout the year. Maris Stella is currently undergoing a major renovation in the coming year, so St Francis will not have an area to house the families. We will keep you posted.

Music and Worship

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If anyone who wishes to participate in the bell choir, ANY AGE is welcome. If you can read music, (or can count to 6 as Pastor Linda Wood replied at our annual meeting) or wish to participate in this ministry please see Lisa, our organist, before or after church. No age limit, young and old alike may come and play.....

We are in need of a few persons to help on a rotating basis as Communion Assistants.!! Teens up through the aged are welcome. If you aren't sure of what is involved and/or would like a little refresher course or training and would like to help out, let us

know. Please see Joan Bower or Kathy Leifeste if interested.

The sign-up sheets for ushering and readers are in the back of the church. Please help out where you can.

The Alter Guild is still looking for donations of gifts/monies for the following items that still remain on their Wish List:

Purificators and corporals.....If you wish to contribute or purchase outright, please see Joan Bowers.

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Bible Study-----Exploring God's Word

Over the past year we have found that our Adult Bible study has morphed into a very casual exploration of God's Word. We begin with prayer and then really "delve" into the Word. We read a passage and think about what stands out for us, what catches our attention. Many times it is seen in context to what is occurring to us in our lives at the present moment. We ponder the Word together and many times just laugh, because many times we are befuddled...and then someone has an insight and we begin to roll into that direction or maybe in the opposite direction! Everyone's input is valued. There is no right or wrong concepts.

We also look at the historical context, library context and the Lutheran context. We can spend weeks looking at the passages from different angles. It is a lot of fun and by no means are we Bible Experts! Nor do we expect anyone to be. We are blessed to have Pastor Linda Wood attending our group and sometimes Pastor John, who can shed some light on the passage. Sometimes, even they are stumped! All in all, it is an enlightening experience.

Consider joining us on Sunday Mornings. Bring your coffee and goodies from Coffee Hour...and an open mind. It is fun to discover the richness of our Faith through looking at books of the Bible!

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:

Join the prayer chain by contacting me, Kathy Leicester, by phone 732 642-9408 or email: 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. 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.....

HTLC Book Group/ Knit One, Pray Too ---

Holy Trinity's Book Group generally meets on Thursday, 10:00 -11:30 a.m. in the Zastrow Library. . The group's conversation is lively and vibrant, and new members are WELCOME! See Marty Chaffee after services or email (rchaffee@juno.com) if you wish to learn more!

Knit One, Pray Too, Holy Trinity's knitting group has returned. We also generally meet on Thursday using our talents to knit or crochet TwiddleMuffs, a knitted sleeve with soft items attached to keep dementia patients' hands active and busy. After our stitching is completed, we will be attaching textured ribbons, beads, and various fabrics both inside and outside, creating a unique, one-of-a-kind source of visual, tactile and sensory stimulation. No worries! One does *not* need to be master knitters or crocheters to create TwiddleMuffs!

But, should you wish to embark on a slightly less complex project, we'll also have patterns to crochet cuddly, small octopi that can be used to comfort preemies in the NICU units in area hospitals. They are adorable! We hope to meet the third Thursday of every month. However, if you can't join us in the Zastrow Library, you are welcome to complete any of these projects from home, and/or help us to collect buttons, ribbons, pompoms and large beads that we'll be able to use to decorate our crafts! See Marty Chaffee after services or email (rchaffee@juno.com) if you wish to learn more!

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 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.

The church email is office@holytrinitylbi.com. Our website is www.holytrinitylbi.com.
Our Facebook site is under user name *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, LBI*.

Contemplating Membership here at Holy Trinity?...You are invited to speak to Pastor John Anderson or one of our Council members for information and process or you may fill out the blue new members sheet on back table and leave it in the office or place it in the offering plate and Pastor John will reach out to you.

IF YOU WISH TO BE ADDED TO OUR EMAIL LIST AND CHURCH DIRECTORY, PLEASE FILL OUT PEW CARD AND PLACE IN OFFERING PLATE. YOU MAY ALSO EMAIL DAWNE THUMHART AT dmthumhart@gmail.com. You can also follow us on FaceBook, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, LBI...as well as on our church website.....Also when you have a chance, go on our church website and read up on the history of all our stained glass windows.....Beautiful....!!

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church website: www.holytrinitylbi.com

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A note from your Editor :

This time of year, we reflect on how we can best use our “time and talents” in our church and in our community. We all are blessed in different ways. Some can give more of their time and/or money to their church, families, and community and some may give less. The two are not in competition with each other, just like the ebb and flow of the tides/ life are not a competition. Things change all the time in our church life and in our own lives. Ecclesiastes, Chapter 3, tells us exactly that; there is season/ time in life for everything. Matthew, Chapter 6, tells us not to store our treasures here on Earth but in Heaven. I have come across two areas that hit a little close to home.

The last few weeks I have watched the different social media sites regarding the DEVASTATION that hit the lower Outer Banks, specifically the tiny Island of Ocracoke. They, like our community, had their homes, businesses, and places of worship destroyed by Hurricane Dorian in September. The main road on the island still has not been repaired 2 months later. Only 4 wheel drive vehicles and those belonging to NC DOT repair crews are able to be on the road in from the ferry drop-off points.

Remember how we struggled to regain some sense of normalcy for our friends and families in the aftermath of Sandy. They too are struggling to do the same. The only way on and off this small island is by a 35 minute ferry ride. There is SIGNIFICANT need for help for the island. We, here on LBI and in our surrounding communities, were extremely fortunate to have help over the long recovery. Our church, our families- they all received some sort of help.

Zion Lutheran Church in Egg Harbor City, NJ, whose Pastor is Kathleen Harris (whose husband, Jim Harris, is our Synod Treasurer), has in their congregation, a young family in need. That family is very active in the church and community. The family has a disabled 5 year old son that suffers from a disease called Holoprosencephaly. The little one's name is Keegan Findieson. He is a bright ray of sunshine. He is also a growing boy who has out grown car seats and pediatric car chairs that help transport him safely in

the family car. The family is now in immediate need of a handicapped accessible van to allow the family to continue to attend church and community events TOGETHER AS A FAMILY. A Go-Fund Me site, started by Keegan's therapy team, has been set up for Keegan to help obtain that item. She wrote a very powerful letter and attached it to the site. It will also be on the church bulletin board. Keegan's grandmother is my childhood best friend and extremely active in her church and synod wide Youth programs.

Attached to the Tidings, you will find attached links for help for those on Ocracoke Island and for Keegan. I also will put copies on the bulletin board and tables.

During a time of indecision in the Lutheran Church and here at HTLC, our offerings were divided between the church and what was called "Council Defined Benevolence". Monies each year would go to a different charity, one local, one state, one national, and worldwide. We no longer have that line item or division within the Church. It's now up to us as individuals, how our heart moves us, to help our neighbor in need.

As you prayerfully consider how you can help out your church during this month of Stewardship, also consider how you can help your Christian neighbor in need, whether that community is near or far.....Something to think about...hmmm..

Through Him, We can do great things.

Blessings throughout, Dawne

Ocrocoke Island

Keegan Findieson

ocracokedisasterrelief@gmail.com

GoFundMe.com (type in Keegan's name)

ocracokeadoptfamily@saltnlight.co

Keep Keegan Mobile page on Facebook

adopt@lifesaving.church

Ocracoke Disaster Relief page on Facebook

November---

3-Tommy Lewis

4-Joan Gilman
6-John Caruso, Jr
11-Joan Bowers
16-Gloria Veitch
18-Nora Schuler
26-Joan and Emil TumSuden
28- Mason Joback
29-Dawne Thumhart
 Bill and Lillian Bennett
 Rich and Jackie Nisula
30-Meg and Dick Christensen

December—

3-Rich Grala
7-Justin Brink
14-Kris Grala
26-Dick Mumma
30-Meg Christiansen

5-Carol and Dennis Brink
12-Ron Chaffee
25-Karen Blum
28-Sandy & Carl Despreaux
31-Rosemarie Doerr
 Alfred and Connie Lund

January—

07-Randy Thumhart
10-Deb Hirsekorn
18-Robert Bell
17-Tatiana Birkelund
 Eve Birkelund
21-Kris and Rich Grala
30-Dick and Ruth Mumma

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