



Trinity Tidings

Trinity Lutheran Church
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35110 Division Rd Richmond MI 48062
June 2019

Faith – Hebrews 11:1

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things not seen.”

This past weekend, I had the opportunity to serve at the Southeast Michigan Synod Assembly. For the past four years, I have served as the Parliamentarian ensuring that the plenary sessions run smoothly and that they follow the proper rules of order. This year, I was also elected to serve on the Synod Consultation Committee, which is called to work with the Bishop whenever there is an issue of misconduct within the church or specifically with rostered leaders.

There was both a new Synod Vice President and Synod Secretary elected at the assembly. George Watson decided to retire as Synod Secretary after serving the synod 28 years in that capacity, by far the longest serving person on a synod council in the ELCA. This goes to show that we have some very dedicated members within the synod that support the greater church and the growing of Christ's Kingdom.

Deacon Sue Rothmeyer, our churchwide representative, brought greetings from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and shared churchwide's theme for synod assemblies this year, “For Such a Time as This.” What a great transition into our synod theme of *Faith*. Multiple presenters shared their faith stories and how their story relates to their current ministries. Pastor Elizabeth Friedman, campus pastor at the University of Michigan, shared her story and how that faith is lived out on the campus of the University of Michigan. Pastor Manisha Dostert, Senior Associate Rector of Christ Church Cranbrook and a rostered leader of our synod, shared her story of growing up as a Jain and her conversion to Christianity and baptism at the age of 26. Dr. Ryan Cumming, Program Director for hunger education with ELCA World Hunger, shared how his faith helps shape his call with the ELCA and how that is reflected in his interactions with people throughout the country. Lastly, our fourth faith talk was supposed to come from Pastor Imad Haddad, Pastor of the Evangelical Church of Hope-Ramallah Palestine. The United States embassy would not grant him a visa to come to the states and visit the many partner congregations within the ELCA that support the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. At the time of his presentation, we lifted him in prayer.

It was a full two days as we came together as the Body of Christ at Calvary Lutheran in Clarkston. It was a reminder that we are not on our own in this journey to share God's Good News of love and grace that is freely given to all. We have a great synod that supports congregations and brothers and sisters in Christ that walk alongside us day in and day out to be the hands and feet of God in our communities, state, country, and even around the world.

What is your faith story and are you sharing it with your friends, families and neighbors? “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things not seen.”

*Peace,
Pastor Alex*



Communal Coffee continues...

Join Pastor Alex on Mondays from 10am-noon at Tim Horton's. It's a great time to share any ideas or thoughts you may have, and a great chance to get to know him better.

Confirmation Camp

We have two campers going to camp this year at Stony Lake. Please keep Pastor Alex, Kiera, and Brody in your prayers as they leave for camp June 16 following worship and return Friday June 21. If you would like to send them cards at camp, the camp address is 7898 W Stony Lake Rd., New Era, MI 49446.



Church Cleaning

Do you have an hour or two to spare during the week? Maybe you love to vacuum or dust. All help is appreciated and can be done at any time. Let's make our church presentable for other groups and take pride in the building we can share with the community. On the property board there is a checklist of daily, weekly, and monthly chores. If you see something that you would like to do, please help out. If you have any questions please talk to Rhonda Hutchins or Pastor Alex.

Monthly Dinner Out

Be on the lookout for the next dinner out opportunity with Trinity Lutheran Church. It is our goal to go out once a month as a congregation and all are invited. If you would like to arrange a location for a certain month, please let Pastor Alex know.



Church on the Go

As schools begin to let out for the summer and you begin your family vacations, the Church on the Go kits will be available once again. The kit contains various activities to help your family stay connected with Trinity during the summer. Pick one up at the welcome table and return it when you get back from vacation. Feel free to add to them as well for the next family that takes one.



Thank You



- To everyone that has spent a little time cleaning the church.
- Becky Kulman, Jordan Stuart, and Tracy Walsh for another great year of teaching the children of Trinity in Celebrate!
- Everyone that has donated to the patio project at the parsonage.
- Don Plonka, Richard Kuechenmeister, Vern Kulman, Kenny Kulman, and Pastor Alex for all the work on the patio.
- Everyone that serves on Sunday mornings to help worship run smoothly. It really is the work of the people.
- The Boy Scouts for helping clean flower beds and laying down mulch. It looks great!

Dear Members of Trinity,

Thank you so much for the generous donation of food during Lent. Your generosity is greatly appreciated by the families the Backpack Blessings program feeds.

Research indicates that proper nutrition helps brain growth and function in children, thereby helping them with academic success. Your donation significantly impacts the well-being of our Richmond school children.

We sincerely appreciate your generous hearts in helping the *Blessings in a Backpack* program succeed.

- Janeane & Jim Avery, Program Coordinators



1. Pastor Alex mentioned Holy week went well. He also stated he will be on vacation the week of July 14th. Lastly, Worship and Music decided to have the church picnic at the Kulman's on 8/25/19 with service starting at 10:30am.
2. Discussed changing phone service from Comcast to Frontier. Frontier was less expensive.
3. Mark went over financial reports. We are having a congregational meeting after church on 6/2 to discussed options to get Trinity out of the red.
4. Theresa discussed the Mission team transferring to St Paul's in Port Huron. They will now manage team from there.
5. Theresa sent a letter to Weight Watchers regarding increasing their payment to \$75.
6. Don discussed patio fundraiser. We are up to \$1,626 in funds. Our goal is \$2,000. He has already started to build the patio and it is going well.
7. Discussed purchasing new phone for office. Tina is having difficulties hearing people. We will get a few quotes.
8. Discussed church volunteer cleaning spread sheet. Theresa is making up a larger flow sheet to hang in the back of the church.
9. Discussed waxing the kitchen and hall floors. Discussed quote from Burg's. Looking into finding funds for this project.



Roger & Elain Schleef
1155 Lily Trail
Oakland Township MI 48306
Cell Phone Numbers:
Roger – 586.623.7307
Elaine – 586.344.1884

Welcome Child of God!

On May 19 we welcomed Braxton Willis Brinkman into the Community of Christ. Braxton is the son of Carolanne and Jerrid Brinkman. His grandmother is Marge Schultz and great-grandmother is Leni Fistler.



Bike Ministry



**BIKE
MINISTRY**

Trinity Bike Ministry is in need of kids bikes - This is year four of our bicycle ministry. We have collected, repaired and given away over 250 bikes. We are in need of used kids bikes. If you have any to donate, you can simply drop them off at the church or contact Becky Stuart to pick them up. (586-727-1490)

Endowment Fund Grants

Trinity Lutheran Church
Endowment Fund grant
available - \$500.

The deadline to apply to get the \$500 grant from the Endowment fund is Sunday, June 2, 2019.

Please see Pastor Alex or Becky Stuart to get an application.



Birthday Potluck Sunday June 30th

We will be celebrating April, May, & June birthdays following worship on June 30th. Please bring a dish to pass and join us in fellowship as we celebrate.



Church Finances, the business side of the Church

Probably not the most popular part of church but the necessary means of its existence includes the financial welfare of the church operation. Like any personal household budget we at Trinity have a budget. This budget the congregation approves annually. As Treasurer I have spoken to the congregation in March that we are experiencing financial hardship. I promised that I would follow up with the church council and then to the congregation. The issue at hand is that our expenses, even the bare bones budget passed in December and cut further by the council still exceeds the revenues. This issue has carried forward from 2018 meaning our cash position is depleted. Church council has taken some action but the key is us, the church membership ultimately solves this issue. Getting the church back on its financial feet is a much needed first step. As we progress in stewardship the future holds other possibilities to consider.

Please be present at church on Sunday, June 2nd for our normal 9:30 morning service. I will speak at the end of the service as to where we stand financially and suggest what we need to consider financially to solve the current issue. By all means I am available to talk about this issue privately or by telephone. Please feel free to call me at home at 586-430-1466.

Respectfully,
Mark Zink
Treasurer

News from the Mission Team

On May 7th the Trinity Mission Team passed a motion to “dissolve the Trinity Lutheran Mission team and transfer funds and management to St Paul Lutheran Church, Port Huron, MI” to be called Blue Water Conference Mission Team with the plan to continue to involve many congregations in our area.



Trinity's team was formed in 2009 after the profits from “Bob's Boutique” were donated as seed money to subsidize mission trips. Bob Gorr, Theresa Kulman, Judy Phillips and Duane and Judie Schafer were original members. In the past years teams have traveled to Indiana to do flood recovery and to Haiti to serve on medical, construction and teaching teams.

We have also hosted food packing events and raised micro-loans (\$50-\$100) to help Haitian entrepreneurs begin businesses to feed and educate their children. We have provided treadle sewing machines to the trade school and globes (in French!) for the elementary school at Living Hope, Haiti.

A trip to Haiti is scheduled in September to measure and photograph all the 450 elementary children at Living Hope to provide updated information to the children's sponsors. If anyone is interested in more information about this trip or maybe going another time, talk to Judie Schafer 810.305.1825. We hope you will continue to support this new mission team with needs and fund raising and are excited about what new things will happen under new leadership and with renewed energy.

Congratulations Class of 2019!

Capital University – Stephanie Graham
Imlay City – Kayla Whelan
Michigan State Police Academy – Trooper Dustin Gunther Pitcel
Oakland County Sheriff's Department – Rebecca Kulman
Richmond High School – Allison Fistler
– Emali Steward





Volunteers Needed

Hundreds of older and disabled neighbors in our community need help getting to doctor appointments, the grocery store, or other essential errands.

Being able to get food and medical care can make it possible for them to remain in their own homes for as long as possible.

The Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers program is in need of volunteers who can provide transportation in the local area. They especially need drivers who are available during the daytime business hours. If you have a couple hours a month that you can give to someone in need, you can make a huge difference in the life of a struggling neighbor. You tell us what days, times, and areas are convenient for you, and we call you with specific appointments that meet these criteria. If you are free, say yes. If you're not, simply decline and we will call you another time. Even one ride a year will make a big difference to the person who needs it! Please call today 586.757.5551.



May Altar Flowers and Fellowship Hour Schedule



Flowers:

- June 2 – Open, please sign up
- June 9 – Melissa Daugherty – in honor of Dan's birthday
- June 16 – Jason & Becky Kulman's 10th Anniversary
- June 23 – Cal & Judy Phillips Anniversary
- June 30 – Ken & Rhonda Hutchins 28th Anniversary

Fellowship Hour

- June 2 – Open
- June 9 – Open
- June 16 – Open
- June 23 – Tina Steward – in honor of Emali's 18th birthday June 19th
- June 30 – Potluck

June Scripture Readings

- June 2Seventh Sunday of Easter
Acts 16:16-34
Psalm 97
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21
John 17:20-26
- June 9Day of Pentecost
Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:14-17
John 14:8-17[25-27]
- June 16Holy Trinity Sunday
Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31
Psalm 8
Romans 5:1-5
John 16:12-15
- June 23Second Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 65:1-9
Psalm 22:19-28
Galatians 3:23-29
Luke 8:26-39
- June 30Third Sunday after Pentecost
1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21
Psalm 16
Galatians 5:1, 13-25
Luke 9:51-62

- June 1 – Allison Fistler
- June 1 – Cameron Walsh
- June 2 – Ken Kulman
- June 3 – Cameron Greer
- June 3 – Emily Greer
- June 4 – Jeanette Fistler
- June 7 – Derek Hutchins
- June 8 – Karen Stachkunis
- June 10 – Kinsley Bartels
- June 10 – Cherrie Sparby
- June 10 – Sandy Rhein
- June 12 – Marge Robinson
- June 13 – Natalie Wieber
- June 14 – Ginnie Schmelzer
- June 16 – Sharon Macumber
- June 19 – Cole Churchill
- June 19 – Emali Steward
- June 22 – Lisa Hartman
- June 22 – David Schroudt
- June 28 – Nicholas Opalweski
- June 30 – Victoria Turnbull

