

# 2018 EASTER II

## FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART

Happy Easter Everyone! May the Risen Christ renew your sense of God's Presence and Joy!

*Happy  
Easter*

I am just now recovering from all the events of Holy Week... getting my first regular day off this week, since a month ago. That may surprise some of you - no doubt you have heard something like this:

“A pastor only works for an hour on Sunday morning...so, what do they DO the rest of the week?” - That is a good question! It deserves a good answer! After all, we ALL pay the Pastor a lot of money!

My first reaction is to ask, “Would you join me for a day or two... you know, a ride-along!” First, because I would love the company (a lot of my work is done alone – and sometimes it is really quite lonely.) Secondly, I would LOVE to share what I do with many of you – because I am representing YOU, the Body of Christ in just about everything that I do as Pastor!

When I first met with Trinity's Congregational Council back in late October of 2004, the subject of how I would be using my time was of particular interest to a few folks on the Council. I got the feeling that folks didn't trust their pastoral leadership. Accountability seemed to be a big concern. So I promised the Council that I would create a schedule each week, with the meetings, appointments, and the periods of time I would be open for visits. Further, I would post that schedule on the door of the Pastor's Office, so that folks could stop in and see for themselves, what I was doing, if I wasn't in the office.



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Somerset PA  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church  
918 Tayman Avenue  
Somerset, PA 15501

(Address Service Requested)

ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN!  
CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!  
ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

# 2018 EASTER II

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Somerset, Pennsylvania  
Permit No. 149

Fourteen years later, I still post my schedule. For privacy, I don't generally include the names of folks I am visiting or the reason – but visitation is a big part of my weekly work. Sometimes those visits are scheduled ahead of time, sometimes they are “filled in” as I become aware of the need – hospitalizations and deaths, for example. I meet with folks who are anxious about caring for elderly parents, upcoming surgeries, upset with their ex's, frightened for their children, or facing life changing decisions. So you will also see blanks on my schedule – be assured, they are generally full by the end of the week – and so is my heart! Great are the burdens so many folks carry!

I agree that Accountability is important...but of course, that goes both ways! You should know what I am doing – but there is a Ministry Partnership here, and YOU are a part of that equation too! So some of my weekly work is meeting with members who have expressed an interest in participating in one of our ministries. I train folks to be Communion Assistants or Eucharistic Ministers, to help in Sunday School, or make visits at the homes and nursing facilities. Matching spiritual gifts and interests to our various ministries is part of my work each week. The sign on my office door says “Equipper of the Saints for Ministry.” That isn't just a slogan, it is the calling of every pastor! I take it seriously – as each of us are given gifts to share, and we find our joy when we are doing the work that God calls us to do, in building up the Body of Christ!

**BIBLE  
STUDY**

Of course, Scripture and Bible Studies are an important part of my work. I prepare for the Monday Morning Bible Study, the Marys and Marthas Bible Study, and for our Sunday morning Sunday School programs.

Each of these takes more than an hour or two each week.

I have lay partners in leadership in these programs – and I treasure working with them! I meet with families who have a child about to receive Holy Communion and with those soon to be Confirmed. God's Word is our Source and Seed! Teaching is one of my joys!

Worship Planning is a weekly project... not just for the upcoming Sunday but also for future services that involve musicians, the band, members with special needs, or scheduling at a nursing home. My work on a sermon begins as I prepare for the Monday Morning Bible Study, but it continues all week – it is often my first hour of work each morning! I read related scriptures, commentaries, and posted notes from my colleagues and professors; the week culminates in writing and rewriting...usually on Fridays and Saturdays. Normally, that takes about 8-10 hours each week. Periods of time with special services (Lent and Holy Week) require even more time, as I try to be creative in presentation and content. Then, of course, when a member of the congregation dies, the schedule is rewritten completely, as that event will absorb between 10-15 hours, depending upon the circumstances.

Writing is a weekly chore – bulletin blurbs, advertisements, newspaper articles, and newsletter articles are needed to convey both information and make invitations to our members but also to invite others to join us. Posting invitations in public places like bulletin boards, elevators, and dropping them off to members who I think might need the personal invite is also part of my week. Many of you could help in this area – writing, posting, and inviting others, too!

**You're  
Invited!**

In addition to congregational committee meetings each week, there are meetings with other clergy and the Laurel Highlands Conference. Trinity is involved in many ways in

our community – and I am often the representative – both to have input and to keep informed. Our Somerset Area Ministries accomplishes a great deal together – and coordinating our work is important. Occasionally, I serve as a volunteer Chaplain at the Hospital, visiting patients without a church home, or calling their pastors about a hospitalization.

There are days when it seems I am on the phone all day – talking, texting, and emailing as well. I try to respond as quickly as possible to contacts, but be aware, that if I don't have your number in my phone, I may not answer. My phone is a public number, and I get a lot of solicitations, requests for help, and "robo" calls. If you leave a message, I will return it as soon as I can. Occasionally there is a glitch, and I don't return a call – so please try me again if I haven't gotten back to you promptly! Texting is the best - brief, clear and quick! It is a privilege to walk with our members as they deal with a family or health crisis...we may visit only over the phone, but my being "present" can come in many different forms.



Once or twice a day and while I am waiting for an appointment or a visit to begin, I will check our Facebook page or our Website. Nicholas Carroll and I oversee the posts, look at the responses, and return messages and inquiries made by visitors to our social media sites. We try to advertise upcoming events, Bible Studies, and meetings. It is one form of communication that takes constant upkeep. I am also in prayer throughout my day – occasionally you may see me in the car in the parking lot...on a bench in the outdoor chapel...I pray on the road as well!

I am not as good as I would like to be with notes of thanks, condolence cards, or remembrances of anniversaries. Fortunately, our Care and Share Committee members do much of

this work – so I can focus on visiting, preparing for funerals, baptisms, and marriages. Occasionally I get to help celebrate milestone anniversaries and birthdays, bless a new home, or visit with folks making transitions from their own home to nursing facilities. We share life's joys and sorrows together – it is in these holy moments that our faith is put to work, the Body of Christ is present in hospital consultations, holding a hand, wiping a tear, saying a prayer, or keeping silent vigil at bedside of the dying.

Part of my work is in the area of Administration – the word "Ad" "ministration" means enabling or making good things possible. I have partnerships with the church staff, the Child



Care staff, and the Lay Leadership of the congregation. Meeting with families, working through a problem, making decisions, making arrangements, responding to questions, hiring and overseeing staffing decisions, moving furniture, writing

reports, keeping records, setting up for meetings, and putting things away, baking bread, creating costumes, researching and inquiring with the Seminary and Synod – these are just a few things I do, to "ad-minister" the congregation's work. I enjoy my regular "chapel time" with the children of the Child Care and occasionally cover for a staff member that needs to step away from their work for an hour or two.

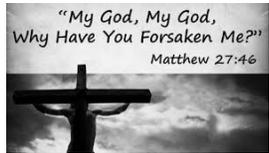
Hopefully, you have a better understanding of what your pastor is doing between Sunday mornings. But, I am quite serious about inviting you to join me on a day in ministry! I would love the company! Otherwise, join me in prayer for this ministry we do together! And if you have a question – please ask me!

Faithfully yours,

Pastor Linda McElroy Thomas

## AN EASTER MESSAGE

It all started with such promise – the angel announcing to Mary that the child she would bear would be called Son of the Most High; the conviction of Mary that this child would be the embodiment of God’s promised justice, that the hungry would



be filled with good things and the rich sent away empty; angels announcing his birth; thousands being fed; the sick healed; the dead raised. And then,

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” It was over. The world hadn’t changed. Might still made right. How ridiculously naïve to believe that any reversal of the old order could come about. Hope is for the gullible. Looking at this broken man hanging utterly helpless, naked and broken on a cross, the powers and principalities, earthly and spiritual, death and the devil must have said, “You fool.”

This, as St. Paul reminds us, is the wisdom of the world. And the world can present plenty of hard evidence that it is right: children killing children in horrific school shootings, 60 million displaced people – all of this supported by our rebellion against God, our idolatrous claim that we are in control and the world is ours. In the face of this and all of the suffering others cause and we cause others, we too might cry out, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

I believe that the beginning of Psalm 22 expresses the anguish of the psalmist and the anguish of our Lord, but there is more going on here. Citing the first words of a text was, in the tradition of the time, a way of identifying an entire passage. The psalm ends this way: “All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him. ...Posterity will serve

him; future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.” This is the wisdom of God.

Jesus’ crucifixion is the death of our death. His innocent suffering has reconciled all of creation to God. He has done it. We stake our lives on this. This year, Easter fell on April 1. We shall have come through the Lenten desert to the Easter garden. We shall say, “Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!” And we shall confess this and live this in the face of worldly wisdom that is based on death. Life wins. Love wins. And if the world wants to call us April fools, we are glad to claim that title.

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton



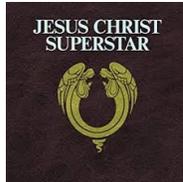
## PATRIOT MANOR SERVICE

**A SERVICE OF HEALING AND HOLY COMMUNION** will be held on **Sunday, April 29** at 2:30 p.m. in the third floor Dining Room of **The Patriot**. The TLC Praise Band will be providing music. Help is needed to assist residents in getting to the worship area from their rooms. All are invited, especially if you have friends or loved ones residing there.

# A VIEW FROM THE LOFT

## Beethoven's Sacred Music

I recently shared with the Adult Sunday School a class on Beethoven's oratorio, *Christus am Ölberge – Christ on the Mount of Olives*. The work is a dramatic oratorio rather than a religious choral Mass or a dramatic opera and is considered a much more humanistic portrayal of the Christ passion than other settings, such as those by Bach. It concludes at the point of Jesus personally accepting his fate, placing the emphasis on his own decision rather than the later Crucifixion or Resurrection. Beethoven, though not usually thought of as a sacred composer, made a big impact during his life with Christus. It is significant to point out that Beethoven was already going deaf at the time he was composing this oratorio, and many speculate he identified with Christ's suffering because of this reason. Though it is not often performed today, this work had a far reaching influence on other composers including Andrew Lloyd Webber whose own musical, "Jesus Christ Superstar" takes a lot of influence from Beethoven in that it focuses on Christ's personal suffering and feelings during Holy Week.



A second significant sacred work of Beethoven is *Missa Solemnis—Solemn Mass*. This piece was commissioned by an archbishop for his coronation ceremony. Beethoven did not finish it for a long time, and it ended being so musically involved that it was never performed during a church service, but has instead been solely performed in concert halls. Like most masses, Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* is in five movements: Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus, and Agnus Dei.

A typical performance of the complete work runs 80 to 85 minutes. The difficulty of the piece combined with the requirements for a full orchestra, large chorus, and highly trained soloists, both vocal and instrumental, mean that it is not often performed by amateur or even semi-professional ensembles.

*Missa Solemnis* along with Handel's *Messiah*, and Haydn's *The Creation* is considered possibly the greatest work of sacred music. British Musicologist Sir Donald Tovey said, "Not even Bach or Handel can show a greater sense of space and of sonority. There is no earlier choral writing that comes so near to recovering some of the lost secrets or a more thrilling sense of the individual colour of every chord, every position, and every doubled third or discord."



For many, probably Beethoven's most significant sacred work is the *Finale from the 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony*, the melody of which is used in the famous hymn, *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*. The original lyrics when translated also have a very sacred text. Beethoven's lyrics were largely inspired by the poem by Friedrich Schiller. Below is the ending stanza:

You millions, I embrace you.  
This kiss is for all the world!

Brothers, above the starry canopy  
There must dwell a loving Father.

Do you fall in worship, you millions?  
World, do you know your creator?

Seek him in the heavens;  
Above the stars must He dwell.

Nicholas Carroll  
Director of Music

## MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

### MEMBER RECEIVED BY BAPTISM:

March 18      *Noah Scott Baker*

**NOAH SCOTT BAKER**, son of *Vincent and Kelsey (Lloyd) Baker* was received into Trinity's family by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on March 18.



### MEMBERS REMOVED BY TRANSFER:

February 23      *Barry N. Younkin and Rosalie A. (Walters) Younkin* transferred to Messiah Lutheran Church; New Centerville, Pennsylvania

### MEMBERS REMOVED BY DEATH:

February 27      *Lillian M. (Saler) Lloyd*

April 12      *Ralph William Friedhofer*

## HOW TO CONTACT US

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church  
918 Tayman Avenue  
Somerset, PA 15501

(814) 445-5446      (814) 445-3316 (Fax)

Email: [trinluth918@verizon.net](mailto:trinluth918@verizon.net)

Check out our Website: [www.trinitysomerset.org](http://www.trinitysomerset.org)



[www.facebook.com/TrinitySomerset](http://www.facebook.com/TrinitySomerset)

## BIBLE STUDY GROUPS



**MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** group meets at 10:30 a.m. each Monday in Adult III across from Trinity's Office. Join with them for study of the upcoming Sunday texts and good discussions! (No class on Monday, May 28)

**TRINITY'S MEN'S GROUP** meets every **Tuesday** at McDonald's near the Turnpike entrance at 9:00 a.m. We welcome any men that would like to join us for this coffee fellowship.



**MARYS AND MARTHAS** Bible study group for women of all ages meet on the **1st and 3rd Wednesdays, May 2 and May 16** at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor. The group uses the ELCA women's magazine, Gather. (Copies are in the Chapel Kiosk and Narthex information center.) Join with us when you can for study, food, and fellowship!

**THE ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS** meets in the Fellowship Hall at 8:45 a.m. **each Sunday**. Join us for fellowship, food, and study weekly:

**April 22**—Jim Baker presents a brief Finance Review. Nicholas Carroll begins ***Animate: Faith***—a video study featuring presentations from leading theologians of the Church today, such as Nadia Bolz-Weber and Brian McLaren. Nicholas will help us to explore faith themes from a modern perspective, giving us a lot to discuss through May 27!

# CHILD CARE WORKERS NEEDED

The Child Care is looking to hire more staff. If you know of anyone interested in children and looking for satisfying work, please send them to us.



**CHILD CARE WORKER** – A high school diploma or a GED certificate and 2,500 hours of documented child care experience is required. State Police, FBI, and Child Abuse Clearances are needed.

Mail resume and references to: Trinity Lutheran Church; 918 Tayman Avenue; Somerset, PA 15501.

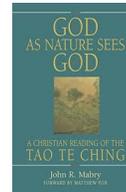
**VOLUNTEERS** - Need to have State Police, FBI, and Child Abuse Clearances, along with a health assessment, and two letters of reference. **Members of Trinity:** The church staff can help you with clearances, and Trinity will cover costs if you volunteer!

# CHILD CARE FUNDRAISER



**FRIDAY, APRIL 27** the Child Care Staff is sponsoring a Fundraiser! Pick up a 1/2 BBQ Chicken for only \$6.50! Call Trinity's Office at 445-5446 and order your 1/2 chicken! Pick up is on Friday, April 27 at 2:30 p.m. until sold out.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**LOVING JESUS STUDY GROUP** meets on the second Thursday of each month at 11:00 a.m. (**May 10** and **June 14**) in Adult III. They are studying the book, God As Nature Sees God by John Mabry. (Participants usually bring along a lunch.)

Please let Trinity's Office know (445-5446) if you want to participate in any of the book studies, and we will order a book ahead of time for you.

**ANY MEMBERS OR GROUPS** wanting to use Trinity's facilities or Pavilion should call Trinity's Office (445-5446) to schedule the date and time for this year, even if you have used it for the same time in the past. Sometimes we have multiple requests for the same date. Thanks!



**ALLEGHENY LUTHERAN SOCIAL MINISTRIES** 2018 Auxiliary Membership Drive takes place during the month of May. Brochures will be available soon in the Narthex and Chapel Kiosk. Our gifts help provide meals, in-home care, therapy, and more.



**ONLINE GIVING DONATIONS** to Trinity can be made by going to our website at [www.trinitysomerset.org](http://www.trinitysomerset.org) and clicking on "Give" to make a donation.

Under comments you can designate your gift for a special purpose if desired or just donate to the General Fund (our greatest need).

## POTTER'S PLAYERS

All of the hard work of the Potter's Players will culminate in two productions as they prepare to take the stage for *Mary Poppins, Jr.* on Friday, **May 18** and Saturday, **May 19** both beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Trinity's Fellowship Hall.



The Potter's Players is a local youth musical theater group Grades 2 through Grade 9! Potter's Players is a faith-based group. The kids come from various parts of the community, including but not limited to Turkeyfoot, North Star, Shanksville, Somerset, Berlin, and Rockwood. They work very hard weekly and would be overjoyed to be rewarded by seeing all of you filling the seats to watch their performance. You won't regret it!

Tickets are \$3.00 at the door. All are invited!

## GEOHERMAL UPDATE

ORIGINAL GEOTHERMAL PROJECT TOTAL	\$400,612
GIFTS FROM MEMBERS TO DATE	\$218,276
CURRENT BALANCE OUTSTANDING LOAN (MIF)	\$143,922
CURRENT MONTHLY PAYMENT	\$1,100
(Please continue to give when possible as we try to reduce this debt)	

## LAY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

**"Declaration on the Way"**  
**Lutheran-Roman Catholic Dialogues**

**Saturday, May 5, 2018**  
**9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

One of the key scripture stories of the Easter season is Jesus' appearance to the two who were "on the road" to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35). As they walked, a stranger joined them, asked about the news, and they explained that they had hoped that Jesus was the Messiah, but that he had been put to death. Further, the two had heard the reports from some women about the empty tomb, and could hardly believe it might be true that Jesus was alive. The stranger began to tell them about the Holy Scriptures that described how the Messiah would die and would rise from the dead... and yet, they did not know that it was Jesus walking with them! They invite the stranger to their home and they share a meal. In the "breaking of the bread" it was revealed to them that the stranger was, in fact, Jesus! Later, they realize that he had been revealing to them the meaning of the scriptures... and their "hearts had been burning" while he did so.

I love this image... that two of his followers don't even realize Jesus is with them, teaching them, and it was in the breaking of bread, the fellowship over a meal, that they realized he had been with them all the time! Jesus comes among us when we struggle with our faith, expectations, and our search for meaning. Jesus comes among us in the breaking of bread and fellowship – and Jesus is revealing himself in these encounters!

I hope YOU will join us for Lay School this May 5<sup>th</sup>! We will be exploring the changes in our faith relationships with our Roman

Catholic brothers and sisters. We will enjoy fellowship and breaking bread together – and in doing so, experience Jesus and the Body of Christ, the Church, in a new way. Come with questions! Come with your experiences! Invite a Roman Catholic friend – and Come!

We have two excellent speakers: Dr. Maria Erling (Gettysburg, United Lutheran Seminary) and Monsignor Michael Becker (Roman Catholic priest and Ecumenical Officer for the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese.)

Please make your reservations for Trinity’s Lay School of Theology by placing the form below in the offering plate, dropping it off at Trinity, or calling Trinity’s Office at 445-5446.

Come early to enjoy a cup of coffee with your ecumenical friends before we begin! --Pastor Linda McElroy Thomas

*The deadline for lunch reservations is Thursday, May 3*

-----  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check below all that apply to you for the Lay School of Theology on Saturday, May 5:**

*(Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.)*

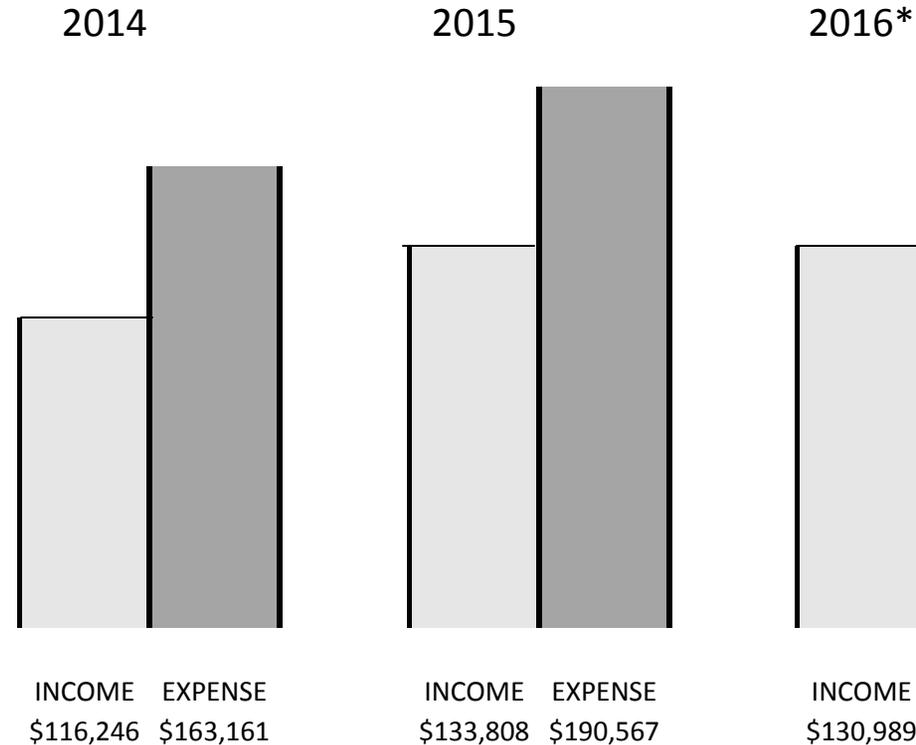
I will attend the two morning sessions from 9:00-10:15 a.m. (then a 15-minute break) and from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

I will attend lunch provided by Trinity from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

I will attend the afternoon session from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

(A freewill offering will help defray costs)

# RECAP OF GIVING AND EXPENSES 5-YEAR 1ST QUARTER

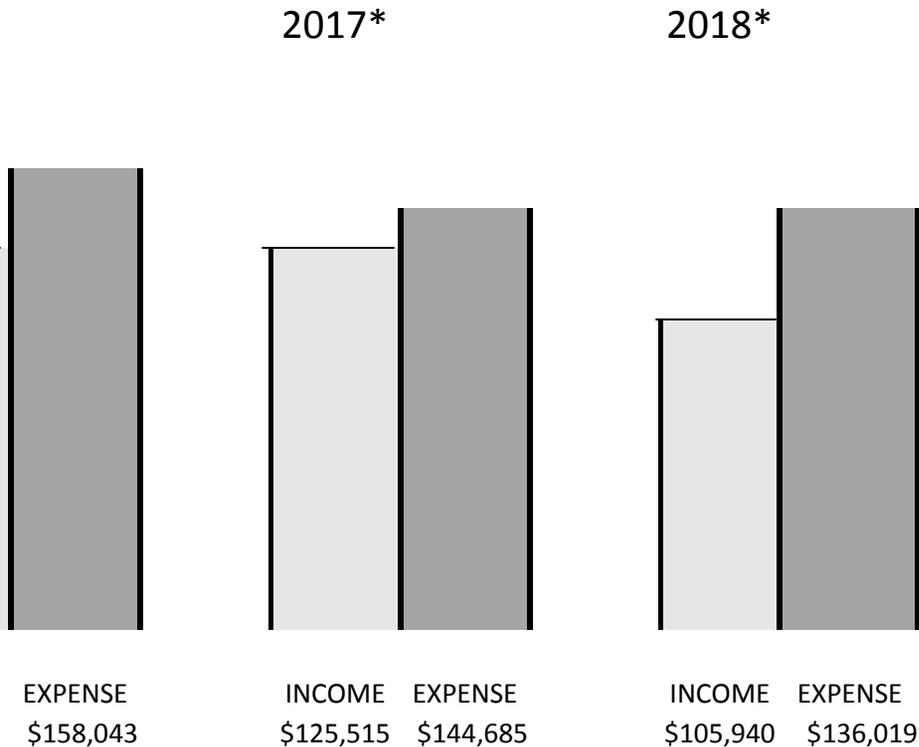


These numbers represent gross income and expenses. As reported in the past, we will continue to report these numbers to you each quarter. While we have had less than the first quarter for the past 4 years; expenses are still high. We are making continuing efforts to reduce expenses and improve cost control.

\*2016, 2017, and 2018 do not include income and expenses

# EXPENSES 2014 - 2018

## YEAR COMPARISON



requested in the Congregational Meeting, ...  
 er. As you can see, income in 2018 is ...  
 significantly less in 2018 which reflects our ...  
 control in the Child Care.

s from the geothermal project.

## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

### FEBRUARY/MARCH 2018

- ➔ Motion carried to cash in CD4 and place in Advantage Interest Savings and review reinvesting it at April Finance meeting.
- ➔ Motion carried to ask auditors to begin audits in May.
- ➔ Approval for Chris Lloyd to get quotes on rewiring related to the sound board and quotes relating to the Carillon.

## SYNOD ASSEMBLY

**OUR JUNE SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES** are *Melanie Miller, Ann Persun, and Pastor Linda* so far. We thank them for giving their time to attend this important Synod event. Synod Assembly takes place at The Blair County Convention Center Friday, **June 1** through Saturday, **June 2**. The theme is "How Is the Holy Spirit Calling Us?" The Presenter is The Rev. Dr. John Hoffmeyer who is the Associate Professor of Systematic Theology at United Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia.

**LAUREL HIGHLANDS SPRING CAUCUS** is **Tuesday, May 1** at 6:00 p.m. at Camp Sequanota and includes dinner. All are welcome. Delegates to Synod Assembly particularly are encouraged to attend.

## PIANO RECITAL

**NICHOLAS CARROLL PIANO STUDIOS RECITAL** is scheduled for **Sunday, June 3** at 1:30 p.m. in the Nave. The recital is free and open to the public. All are invited!

## GRADUATE RECOGNITION

TRINITY WILL HONOR ITS GRADUATES on  
**Sunday, June 3** during 10:00 a.m. worship.

Please inform Trinity's Office by calling 445-5446  
 (or by filling out the form below) with the names of the seniors  
 in your family graduating from high school, college, technical  
 school, or graduate school by noon on **Tuesday, May 29** so  
 that they may be included.



Graduate's Name \_\_\_\_\_

School/College Name \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, degree earned in \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

## KIDS' HUMOR - PINTEREST

One particular four-year old prayed:

"...and forgive us our trash baskets  
 as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets."

A little boy was overhead praying:

"Lord if you can't make me a better boy,  
 don't worry about it.

I'm having a read good time like I am."

A Sunday School teacher asked her little children,  
 as they were on the way to church service,  
 "and why is it necessary to be quiet in church?"

One bright little girl replied,  
 "because people are sleeping."

## WHAT IS THE MUTUAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE?

*"Mutual Ministry is a mission-oriented enterprise  
 that is characterized by a broad vision of ministry  
 and a healthy practice of mutuality."\**

The members of the Mutual Ministry Committee, along  
 with the Pastor, are to attend to the Mission orientation  
 of the congregation – the emphasis is on how the Con-  
 gregation and the Pastor work together to meet the chal-  
 lenges and accomplish our Mission.

**Trinity's Mission is to be people of God in Christ.**

How we work to accomplish that mission is detailed in  
 our Vision Statement:

**The Vision of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church  
 is to be thankful people of God  
 anchored in the Gospel.**

**We grow through worship, study,  
 Christian fellowship, service,  
 and sharing God's love with all creation.**

Mutual Ministry is in the name – how do we accom-  
 plish this together? That is an ongoing pursuit and  
 changes with the joys, sorrows, and challenges the con-  
 gregation faces. When there is stress or anxiety, it is  
 easy for people to resort to unhealthy behaviors.  
 Changes in finances, staffing, attendance, program-  
 ming, culture, or generational shifts are all stressors.

The Mutual Ministry Committee works to monitor changes in the congregation, anticipate challenges, and works with other leadership to creatively meet them in healthy ways. To clarify:

- The Committee is not intended to “minister to the pastor” by taking care of the Pastor’s personal needs for psychological or spiritual support. Rather, the committee is to work in partnership with the Pastor to deal with the challenges the congregation faces and to think creatively about how to approach the mission.
- The Committee is not a way to channel complaints about the pastor, anonymously. This is ineffective and can be a harmful approach to dealing with conflict. Rather, committee members are to help members “own” their issues and deal directly with the Pastor if there is a problem. Therefore, we do not use each other to “triangle” communications.
- The persons on the Committee are appointed by the Council – not typically volunteers – for their maturity, wisdom, and concern for the overall health of the congregation.

I look forward to a healthy *Mutual Ministry* with my partners: John Cascio, Gretchen Knupp, Donna Jacobson, George Kaufman, Bill Carroll and Dale Kriner.

Pastor Linda

\*Pastor and People: Making Mutual Ministry Work, Augsburg-Fortress Leadership Series, p.44

## CHILD CARE FUNDRAISER

LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WHO LIKE IT HOT\*\*\*

TRINITY’S CHILD CARE continues to sell 1 oz. Country Meats Smoked Snack Sticks in these remaining flavors:

\*\*\*Hot Cajun - Three different peppers - white, black, and red blended and seasoned.

\*\*\*Hot BBQ - BBQ stick with hot red pepper that tastes sweet and ends with heat

\*\*\*Ghost Fire - Hottest meat stick with a habanero seasoning as well as an extra kick with Bhut Jolokia pepper (better known as “Ghost Pepper.”)

Bold Teriyaki - An orange mandarin sweet Asian teriyaki fusion with a hint of smokey citrus.

Pepperoni - Incredible taste

**ONLY the above flavors** are available in Trinity’s Office for just \$1.00 each per stick! Profits go to support Trinity’s Child Care. Any questions, call Ann (445-5446).



## FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Thank you to everyone who continues to help support us with fundraisers, donations, and financially. We have recently received donations of a pack ‘n play, high chair, games, finger paint, and a DVD player. Spring is in the air, and we are looking for changes here at our Child Care. We are enjoying the nice days that we get to be outside seeing the grass turn green and the buds on the trees.



The children are learning about the seasons and look forward to being outside after a long winter. Keep us in mind while spring cleaning. We are happy to take donations of slightly used toys, books, children's movies, and old towels.

We are continuing to grow here with our baby room now having 8 infants and hiring more staff members to help. I am excited to be adding a mural in the infant room to create a more visually stimulating and family inviting environment. With spring in the air, I am feeling excited and ready for the next season with our children here.

Jody Jurgevich - Child Care Director

## KENYA NEWSLETTER

**Nairobi International Lutheran Congregation – NILC**

**ELCA Missionary serving with Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church**

As 2017 ends and we look head to 2018, I thank you for your commitment to ELCA Global Mission in Kenya. I am grateful that I serve here with you and by means of your generous financial support. Know of my heartfelt thanks and my hope that you will continue this journey in mission in 2018. We are stronger when we are together. I thank you.

This is what the Kingdom of God looks like, in part, at Nairobi International Lutheran Congregation. We have a highly valued Friday afternoon self-help support group that are “positive,” that is HIV/AIDS positive, and they find strength and support under the leadership of one of our congregational members, Christine Wamathai each week.

A common practice here is financial support groups in which members contribute on a regular basis and then, when a certain figure is reached, they are able to take a loan for a child's school fees, or family medical expenses, and the like. At the year-end gathering, Christine went through each member's 2017 account and distributed their balances. The average amount received was around 4,000 Kenyan shillings, about US \$40. One member spoke of taking her grandchild on a trip while another said she'd try not to spend it on Christmas gifts so she'd have some reserve going into the new year.



At a recent meeting, we spoke of Jesus' mother, Mary, who gave birth under difficult conditions, far from her family, in a humble setting. Several group members then spoke of the challenges they face trying to care for their children and grandchildren under hard conditions of illness and poverty. I receive a hundredfold back from what I provide them. We sang and we smiled, then held hands in a circle of prayer as we gave thanks that, like Mary, we find favor with God when we bear Christ's love to the world.

Rev. Michael G. Fonner, Th.D.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

**TRINITY'S NEXT NEWSLETTER**

**DEADLINE IS:**

**MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2018**

## THRIVENT CHOICE

### CONGRATULATIONS!

Since 2010, over \$370 million has been distributed to thousands of churches, schools, and other nonprofits through Thrivent Choice®. Through this program, eligible members can recommend where Thrivent donates millions of charitable outreach dollars each year.

We are excited to share, based on member recommendations, Trinity Lutheran Church received \$409.00 in charitable outreach funding in 2017. We hope this gift helped to further support your incredible work.



Thrivent Choice®

## COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER** on **Thursday, May 3** is being observed on the steps of the Somerset County Courthouse from noon to 1:00 p.m. Please bring a lawn chair. In case of inclement weather, the observance will be held across the street at the Somerset Anglican Fellowship Church.



**THE ANNUAL 5K/10K DAILY AMERICAN RUN/WALK** will be held **Saturday, June 9** at 8:30 a.m. at the Somerset High School Track. This year the money raised goes to the **Boys and Girls Club and Meals on Wheels**. Please call Sally Miller, Trinity's Team Coordinator, if you are interested in participating in the race at (814) 395-5593. Registration forms are in the Narthex, Chapel, and Trinity's Office.

## BIRTHDAYS IN MAY

- |    |                        |                     |
|----|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1  | Rebecca Hersh          |                     |
| 2  | Martin Siemon III      | 20                  |
| 4  | Brandon Rhodes         | John Minnich        |
| 7  | I. Frederick Brubaker  | Anja Troy           |
|    | Trisha Miller          | 21                  |
|    | Jonathan Walter        | Barbara Coonahan    |
| 9  | Patricia Cascio        | Jack Hess           |
|    | Anne Frantz            | William Kuhlman     |
|    | Valerie Kleinert       | Danielle Lloyd      |
|    | Claire Zufall          | Luther Shaulis, Jr. |
| 10 | Jill Glessner          | Brooke Spangler     |
|    | Daniel Woy, Jr.        | Noah Spochart       |
| 11 | Shelby Bailey          | 22                  |
|    | Broderick Greig        | I. Richard Adams    |
|    | Charles Mitchell III   | 23                  |
| 12 | Sara Gibbs             | Robert D. Christner |
| 13 | H. Joyce Barrett-Jones | John Harvey         |
|    | Donna Jacobson         | 24                  |
| 14 | Judy Trent             | Julia Matheny       |
| 16 | Goldie Beals           | 25                  |
|    | Christopher Mihalaki   | Robert Holt, Sr.    |
| 18 | Billye Kyle            | 26                  |
|    | Douglas Shaffer        | Robert P. Harrold   |
|    | Ryan Spangler          | 27                  |
| 19 | Jaxson Pizer           | Anthony Sanner      |
|    | Olivia Spochart        | 28                  |
|    |                        | Jean Otto           |
|    |                        | 30                  |
|    |                        | Kenneth Walker      |
|    |                        | Robert Weimer       |
|    |                        | 31                  |
|    |                        | Nicholas Anderson   |
|    |                        | Ty Trent            |



# JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Ava Fanale  
Erin Gibson
- 2 Janet Fetterolf  
Scott Lloyd
- 3 Amanda Rugg
- 4 William Peck
- 5 Bruce Rhodes
- 9 Evan Walter
- 11 Evan Fetterolf  
Zeke Pizer  
Kathy Mitchell
- 12 Jennifer Rice
- 13 Samantha Hause  
Allison Harrold
- 14 Shirley Gibson  
Bonnie Rice  
Diane Wagner  
Andrea Weimer  
Nathan Weimer
- 15 Emily Lloyd
- 16 Abigail Bokros
- 17 Pamela Croyle  
Aaron Swanson
- 18 John Centi  
Lori McNelly
- 19 Betty Hunter
- 20 Madelyn Mitchell
- 21 Judy Greig  
Jonathan Jacobs  
Paul Urbain



- 22 Donna Cascio
- 24 R. Michael Cascio  
Ian Fetterolf
- 27 Ruth Nicholson
- 28 Taylor Demchak  
Alyssa Morocco  
Janet Morocco  
Walter Rose, Jr.
- 30 Kathy Johnson



# CONGRATULATIONS!

## TRINITY MEMBERS HAVING SIGNIFICANT BIRTHDAYS (80 YEARS AND OLDER)



- I. Frederick Brubaker—May 7
- Goldie Beals—May 16
- Billye Kyle—May 18
- Jack Hess—May 21
- William Kuhlman—May 21
- Luther Shaulis, Jr.—May 21
- I. Richard Adams—May 22
- Robert Holt, Sr.—May 25
- Jean Otto—May 28
- Kenneth Walker—May 30
  
- Abigail Bokros—June 16
- Betty Hunter—June 19
- Paul Urbain—June 21
- Ruth Nicholson—June 27
- Janet Morocco—June 28
- Walter Rose, Jr.—June 28



## LUTHERANS...

Lutherans sing “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” better than anyone else.

Lutherans generally have less money than Episcopalians but more money than Baptists.

Lutherans make better coffee than almost anyone.

Lutherans believe in the *importance* of confession and frequently confess their sins, particularly when confronted with the *evidence*.

Lutherans trust other Lutherans except in matters of judging what is best for the Lutheran Church.

Lutherans believe that evil movies should be censored or banned. They also believe no one should have the right to tell them what movies they can or can't see.

Lutherans believe in *miracles* and sometimes expect them, particularly during *stewardship* drives.

Lutherans listen to sermons with great interest except when they are thinking about something else.

Lutherans who have never been on the Church Council claim they don't know what goes on at Council meetings. Lutherans who have been on the Council claim they don't know either.

Lutherans believe in *change* when it is for the better. They oppose it unflinchingly when it is for the worse.

Lutherans don't think the church should abandon the principle of the tithe. They don't think the church should insist on it either.

Lutherans believe it is OK to poke fun at themselves because somehow God *loves* them anyway. If they didn't believe that, they would not have allowed a frivolous piece like this to be published.

Submitted by Kathy Reed

Lutheran Chapel Service Bulletin - Clark Air Base, January 5, 1986

## CAMP SEQUANOTA EVENTS

### Spring Benefit Dinner – Friday, April 27, 2018

Time: Tours & Appetizer begin at 4:45 p.m.; Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Cost: A \$55 donation is suggested.

Please call the Camp Office for tickets (814) 629-6627.

The spring benefit is an evening dinner complete with entertainment and sharing about Sequanota's ministry.

### Adult Day Bible Study – Thursday, May 10, 2018

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. in the Bowersox Enrichment Center

Cost: \$10 includes lunch

Rev. Nathan Pile will discuss “*Jesus Changes Everything.*”

Bring a bible (any translation) and a pen or pencil and get ready to dive into the Bible. Dress comfortably. Please register at Camp's Office (626-6627) or email: [contact@sequanota.com](mailto:contact@sequanota.com)

### Spring Work Day – Saturday, May 12, 2018

Time: 9:00 a.m. – mid afternoon Cost: Free and includes lunch

Volunteers Needed! Grab your work gloves and a sturdy pair of shoes to help prepare camp for the upcoming summer camp season. Please contact the Camp Office or sign up online to let us know how many volunteers to expect.

## SEQUANOTA (CONTINUED)

### Mother's Day Banquet – Sunday, May 13, 2018

Time: 2 seatings: 11:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.

Reservations required

Cost: Freewill donations will be accepted.

Celebrate Mother's Day this year with a lovely buffet style meal without the wait time of a restaurant. Contact the camp office to make a reservation for your group (629-6627). Tables fill up quickly.



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!

### Free Day At Camp – Sunday, May 20, 2018

Time: 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Cost: Free and includes lunch

A one-day open house designed to give you a taste of our summer camping programs. Youth groups, youth, and families are invited to spend an afternoon playing games, making arts and crafts, hiking, and worshiping in anticipation of the upcoming summer camp season. Please contact Camp Office to register (814) 629-6627.

## THANK YOU

Dear Trinity Family,

Thank you for the many cards, flowers, telephone calls, and loving wishes for my mother, Virginia, on her 100th birthday.



She is doing well as she passes on to a new century. God is certainly good to us and we are blessed.

Peace be with you all,  
Pastor Larry, Linda, and Barry Hoover

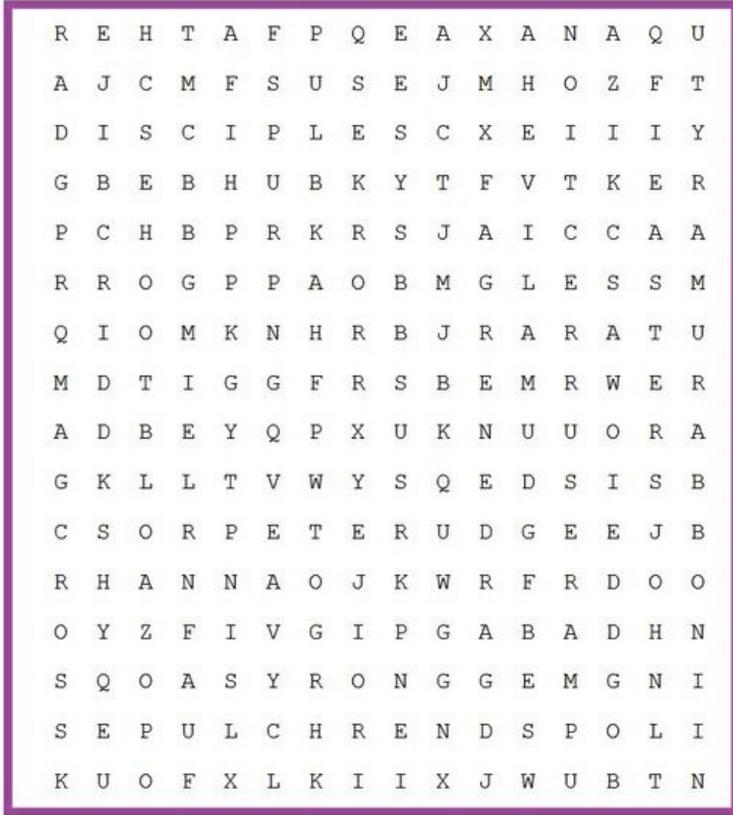
## SAFETY AND SECURITY

A Task Group has been formed to complete a 'security audit' for Trinity's property and programming. Working with Police Chief Randy Cox and other resources, the Task Group will be developing a series of recommendations to improve safety and security for the people who attend functions at Trinity. Please be patient, as a few of our practices may change as we become more aware of ways we can improve safety. As Chief Cox reminded the Task Group recently, we want to increase safety, but be mindful that increasing security measures ought not to compromise our hospitality and our mission!

The first change may come as early as the beginning of May if the Council approves. Historically, all the doors to the church buildings have normally remained open throughout Sunday mornings. This means that during worship, persons may enter and exit without being seen or greeted. In an effort to reduce this possibility, the recommendation is that, with the exception of the front doors and the handicapped entrance of the sanctuary building, the other doors of the church buildings may be locked after the 10:00 worship service begins in the Nave (with the exception of the front door and handicapped door of the sanctuary building). In this way, the ushers will know who is entering the building and be able to greet them.

**ALL OF TRINITY'S DOORS ARE EMERGENCY EXIT DOORS** – *anyone can always exit the building* through any door. The only exceptions are the front door and the handicapped entrance – both of which will remain unlocked. This change will only limit access *into the buildings* after worship begins. Please be mindful of this if you are running late or need to go out to your car – entrance will be limited to the front doors of the church after worship begins. We are recommending and hope to have signage added by that time, to "shepherd" people to the front door.

# EASTER WORD SEARCH



Alive  
 Angels  
 Cross  
 Dead  
 Disciples  
 Easter  
 Father  
 Gardener

God  
 Holy Ghost  
 Jesus  
 Joanna  
 John  
 Mary  
 Peter  
 Rabboni

Resurrection  
 Sepulchre  
 Tomb



Church House Collection

## JOIN US ON SUNDAY EACH WEEK FOR WORSHIP!

**7:30 a.m.** Holy Communion Service in Trinity's Chapel in the Educational Building

**8:45 a.m.** Sunday School Classes for all ages in the Educational Building and Fellowship Hall  
 (Children's Last Sunday School Day for the summer is **Sunday, May 20.** Adults continue classes in the summer.)

**10:00 a.m.** Holy Communion Service in Trinity's Nave

**4:00 p.m.** Healing Service with Holy Communion  
 First Sunday of each month in Trinity's Chapel  
**(May 6 and June 3)**