

# Trinity News

Volume MMXVIII No. 7 ✠ July 2018

## *Get Ready for a Scandal!*

**The Bible we Read in Worship this July**

**Mark Mummert, Cantor**

During Sunday worship in this time after Pentecost, our congregation has been reading (with all of those around the globe who follow the same calendar of appointed bible readings) the gospel of Mark, the earliest gospel written, about 70 CE. In July we will read portions of chapters 5 and 6, which include stories of Jesus' healing and teaching.

It is perhaps interesting to note that these familiar stories of Jesus and his public ministry are most often accompanied by scandal. In Mark 5:21-43 (July 1) we hear of Jesus breaking from religious taboos by making contact with a bleeding woman and a dead girl. Scandal! Not only is Jesus crossing a boundary by risking everything to touch people labelled unclean, but his honoring and openness to women was shocking in the patriarchal Palestine and Roman Empire.

In Mark 6:1-13 (July 8), Jesus is preaching in the synagogue, and his words are not received well by the worshippers. They are offended. Scandal! Further, Jesus invites his followers to go and spread the gospel message, but to take nothing with them, making them rely totally on the kindness of strangers. What the heck is that about?!

In Mark 6:14-29 (July 15), upon hearing about Jesus and his followers and their healing and teaching, King Herod gets so worried about the Jesus movement and its political ramifications that he goes after John the Baptizer. The end of the story is über scandalous: John's head is on a platter. Outrageous!

In Mark 6: 30-34, 53-56 (July 22), Jesus' fame is spreading and many are coming to him, crowding and pressing in on him. Even Jesus can't take all the pressure and goes to a deserted place to avoid the paparazzi. Nonetheless, those seeking Jesus found a way to crash his vacation and demand that he heal them. Avoiding the crowds, Jesus?!? Really?

Worshippers may think that attending worship on Sunday is about escaping the world and its scandals. Instead, we come to worship and discover that Jesus' ministry is about scandals – he hangs out with all the wrong people, he risks everything by making choices to eat with, heal, or speak with outsiders; people that tradition, custom, or even religion would deem unworthy. And then we ourselves may become uncomfortable when we note that Jesus himself becomes *political*, challenging the way the world is set against the goals of God's reign of justice, peace, and mercy to the least of these.

When we gather, we are constituted as Christ's own living body in the world, continuing to speak, teach, heal, and serve in Christ's name. Because Jesus' ministry was intensely *political*, our public ministry will also be immersed in the politics of our time. Our baptismal calling invites us to work for peace and justice in all the world – and that work will mean that we will speak up for those whom Jesus would have regarded as outsiders, marginalized, poor, sick, unclean, strangers, and those unjustly persecuted.

Some Christians, particularly in the United States, worry that the Church ought not speak or make comment on political matters. Some even are persuaded that the doctrine of the separation of church and state means that the Church should be quiet about “earthly” matters, and be concerned only about “spiritual” or “heavenly” matters. Thus, when the ELCA, through its participation in organizations like Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS) makes a statement on behalf of refugees, some ELCA members are troubled that the church would get into politics.

However, Lutheran Christians have consistently been engaged in politics on behalf of all the “little ones” of the world – anyone on the margins who is trampled and pushed aside and made to feel less than honored and loved. It is our church's mission, to be “in” but not “of” the world, working for God's justice and peace to be known in our land and beyond. Thus, our congregational worship will include bible readings, prayers, hymns, sermons, rituals, and other signs that form us to be participants in the world as God's own hands and feet.

Come to church and be scandalized by the love of God, who invites us to see the divine in everyone we encounter – not just the people we love and know and recognize as like us, but especially our enemies, those with whom we disagree, those who look very different from us, the outcast, the stranger, the unclean, the broken, the homeless, the hungry, the dying, the imprisoned, the misunderstood, the mentally ill, the disabled, the tardy, the alien, the fat, the thin, the freckled, the hidden.....

Come, be known by the scandalous God, who, in Jesus Christ, offends us with unearned, inclusive, and forgiving love.

# CONGREGATION COUNCIL UPDATE

*Thom Tarquinio, President*

The Trinity Council held its regular monthly meeting on June 11, 2018. After opening devotions, the meeting began with a presentation by the Transition Team (TT). The TT shared information gathered during 13 Focus Group meetings they held with church members over a three-month period ending in late April. The TT presentation was followed by questions from Council members. Council then discussed how to best present the data to the congregation making plans for interactive discussions with church members. Our goal is to use comments from Church members, obtained from the Focus Groups and the interactive presentations to assist in planning a “transition” to proper staffing for the future. Council also discussed the current reality of church staffing options, based on information obtained at the recent NE Synod Assembly.

The theme of the recent NE Synod Assembly was “Stir it Up”, which is a metaphor for “Change it Up”. We know that almost everyone hates the idea of change, and any discussion of the need for change may create anxiety, insecurity, and even anger in many individuals, members of Trinity Lutheran Church included.

At the Synod Assembly, we heard the reality that seminary enrollment continues to decline, resulting in fewer ordained pastors available to satisfy the needs of Lutheran churches. Due to financial constraints, staffing changes have become necessary at some churches. Some Lutheran churches have closed, and some Lutheran congregations are now sharing space with other (non-Lutheran) churches. There are Lutheran churches now sharing a single ordained pastor, with each church being cared for (and paying for) a half-time pastor. Many other Lutheran churches are actually now functioning without an ordained pastor, but rather with only a church deacon. The typical model congregation over the past 100 years has been a church building, a paid ordained minister, and various outreach programs aimed at helping those in need. This entire process has been supported by volunteer activities and financial support of the church members. Many believe that this model will be rare 50 years from now. Due to changing demographics, decreased church attendance, aging of those who regularly attend church, and social or cultural changes, there are a couple of obvious choices for churches going forward:

1. Try to avoid change, hold on to what you’ve got, and face a future of slowly decreasing membership, vitality, outreach programs, and financial stability, ultimately leading to closure or melding with another church. If we choose this path, it seems unlikely that Trinity will fail in the near future, but will it be here for our children and grandchildren?
2. The other option is to attempt to morph into something new and excitingly different ... albeit, something that we cannot currently predict or even envision.

Our duty and mission as Church Council is to help guide our congregation through what will surely be a challenging, but transparent, transition process. We will all need to keep an open mind to the possibility that change may be necessary, but that it can also lead to a better and more stable future.

Although we spent a great deal of time at the Council meeting discussing the above, we also heard monthly reports from Pastor Nathan and Cantor Mark, detailing their recent activities on our behalf. Pastor Nathan's report included a "Personal Note", which summarized many of the positive happenings at Trinity over the past several months. His comments are encouraging and inspirational at this time of transition, and you will find his comments in this *Trinity News* on page 5.

Scott Baeder presented the treasurer's report and a report from the Finance Committee. Income is up slightly and expenses have been well controlled, so our overall financial status remains solid. Scott also told Council that Church members generously contributed and pledged a total of \$266,000 on June 10, the first day of giving to the Forever Faithful Campaign debt reduction plan ... "Thanks and well done"!

Council continues to work on setting up new "Ministry Cabinets", the goals of which are to provide better communication and more efficient functioning of all church ministries. Currently, the plan is for seven "cabinets", as follows:

1. Communication and Social Media
2. Faith Formation and Education
3. Faith-in-Action
4. Hospitality and Fellowship
5. Stewardship
6. Welcoming
7. Worship and Music

Lastly, Council discussed, debated, and unanimously approved a continuing resolution to fly the Rainbow Flag on the church sign at the corner of Lancaster and Salisbury Streets every June and during other local Pride celebrations. This Council vote reaffirms the decision initially made at Special Congregational Meeting in 2011, when the congregation voted overwhelmingly to approve a statement to welcome members of the LGBT community into the ministry of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Our next regularly scheduled Council meeting is on Monday, July 9 at 7 p.m. As always, everyone is welcome, so please come and join us!

This verse from Joshua was read during Council devotions and provides guidance to us going forward: *"Remember that I have commanded you to be determined and confident! Do not be afraid or discouraged, for I, the Lord your God, am with you wherever you go."*

## A note from Pastor Nathan ...

Do you realize how much we have accomplished together in the past few months?

- The *Transition Team* engaged 100 members of this congregation in conversation and reflection, and produced a thoughtful report with vital information foundational for mission and staff planning ...
- *The Forever Faithful Capital Campaign*, devotedly guided by the *Forever Faithful Steering Committee*, was launched at the beginning of June and in the first two weeks received over \$300,000 in pledges ...
- The *Property Committee* is alive and active. The attic and kitchens have been cleaned, the chapel has been re-carpeted, and information is being gathered on the needs of the roof in preparation for roof repair and painting the building exterior ...
- *Worship is strong and faithful* with music led by Cantor Mark and the fantastic Trinity Choir. Our Television Ministry continues to faithfully deliver high quality productions of our worship into the homes of our neighbors. An exciting *Music at Trinity* program is already planned for next year in which we celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the Noack Organ ...
- *Treasurer Scott Baeder, the Finance Team, and Bookkeeper Barbara O'Day* have put in countless hours and energy managing our finances. They report that as of mid-June, *actual pledge income exceeded budgeted pledge income* ...
- *Jena Hardy is actively preparing for a trip to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Texas and Elm Park Ministries Day Camp in August.* She has also worked with Melissa Butler to dream about a new Wednesday Night Food & Basketball Program in the fall ...
- *Eucharistic Ministers faithfully take the Eucharist to shut-in members* and the TLC Care Team (formerly named Health Cabinet) have volunteers willing to start a prayer chain and to coordinate meals and transportation for members in need.
- *We have a custodial staff in place and Building Manager Jeff Burch continues to coordinate cleaning and maintenance.* Once the fire alarm system is installed (which admittedly has torn through the building and left a lot of dust/debris in its wake) we will be in a good position to be able to get the building cleaned and sparkling...
- *We enjoy food hospitality and fellowship meals* weekly prepared lovingly by dedicated volunteers.
- *Karen Allen, along with the Welcome Desk Volunteers,* faithfully manage office tasks, weekly bulletin production, and other matters of welcome.

- *We've been responsive to the needs of the Preschool & TEC Schools* which have allowed the nearly 50 students of the schools to co-exist in safe and healthy learning environments. Special thanks to Jeff Burch, the Preschool Advisory Team, and the Congregational Council for their work in these efforts ...

*In these, and so many other ways, you remain faithful to this ministry and to this congregation. I give thanks for all of you. I give thanks for the very real ways the Holy Spirit is renewing, leading, and preparing us for an exciting future! Let us give thanks for each other, for our love and care for this ministry, and for openness to the Spirit's work among us. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!*

## July Schedule for Blessings around the Font

Beginning in May, various members and friends of Trinity Church have been invited to gather around the font during the Sending Rite of the 10 a.m. liturgy for blessing, appreciation, and prayer. On June 10, we prayed Godspeed & Farewell to Amy & Olivia Whitney as they move to North Dakota in July. On June 17, we thanked volunteers who have helped with food hospitality. On June 24, we commissioned youth heading to the ELCA Youth Gathering and to Camp Calumet. Here is the schedule for July:

- ❖ July 1 – Prayers for our country as we prepare to celebrate Independence Day
- ❖ July 8 – Television Ministry
- ❖ July 15 – Greeters
- ❖ July 22 – Worcester Art Museum
- ❖ July 29 – Elm Park Ministries Day Camp Counselors

If you have ideas of groups or teams of people who might be recognized, blessed, and appreciated in a similar way, please reach out to Pastor Nathan ([npipho@trinityworc.org](mailto:npipho@trinityworc.org)) or Cantor Mark ([mmummert@trinityworc.org](mailto:mmummert@trinityworc.org)).



### Actual Pledges Given vs. Budgeted Pledges

As of June 18, 2018, the Finance Committee reported that we had received pledges totaling \$161,429.50 vs a projected budgeted total of \$158,666.65.

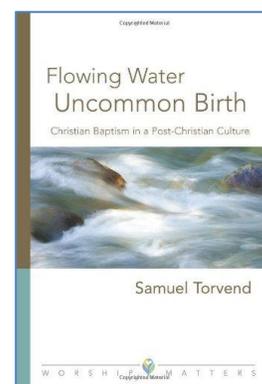
## Faith Formation for All Ages



- **Men's Bible Study ...Wednesdays 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. – Golden Room**  
The group meets weekly to read and discuss the lessons to be read in the upcoming liturgies on Sunday morning. Contact Dave Horn at davehorn43@gmail.com for more details. This group will meet throughout the summer.
- **On summer break:** Tuesday Bible Study, Sunday Education for Children & Youth and Wednesday Confirmation. Classes will resume in September.
- **NEW! Summer Sunday Adult Forum (June 10 through August 12): 9 – 9:50 a.m. – Library with Cantor Mark Mummert as Leader.**

Have you ever wondered:

- *what is baptism? what does it mean to be baptized?*
- *what is different about baptism today?*
- *how has the church begun to talk about baptism differently than when I was a child?*
- *why does the church change?*
- *how does the church appropriately adapt to culture?*
- *why is the baptismal font at Trinity Church in the middle of the nave?*



If you have asked these questions, this Adult Forum is for you.

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## TRANSITION NOTES

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The Transition Team reported to the Congregational Council at its June 11, 2018, meeting after conducting 13 focus groups over a period of several months, and hearing directly from other individuals in a process that engaged almost 100 members of Trinity Church. The six members of the team (Loie Angelsten, Roz Horn, Sulma Rubert- Silva, John Trobaugh, Mary Tarquinio and Pastor Nathan) prepared summaries of each of the Focus Groups and presented these to the Council, and identified the top five most commonly expressed themes across the groups.

The “Top 5” themes report to the Council:

1. The importance and desire for **community engagement and outreach**. Members expressed hope that Trinity could be “*A place to be alive and fully engaged in the community.*” Members want to serve and become more active participants in the local community.

2. The importance of **communication** – both internally within Trinity and from Trinity to the neighborhood. Members underscored the vital role Social Media plays in communication.
3. **Members expressed fear** of the congregation dwindling away, dying out, and losing relevance. Members also shared their fears about congregational finances, caring for an aging building, and dealing with change in general.
4. **An appreciation for the ministry staff** of Pastor Nathan, Cantor Mark, and Director of Youth & Family Ministry Jena Hardy, and a desire to find ways to utilize their talents.
5. Support for **education and programming that can engage families with children and meet the spiritual needs of the congregation**. There is energy and enthusiasm to build educational opportunities within our church walls, within our neighborhood and within our community.

Next steps for the Transition Team:

1. **Reports for Ministry Teams ...** While the team identified the top five themes in its report to Council, there is still a great wealth of information that was collected in the focus groups. The Transition Team will now review all 13 focus group summaries and provide to the Ministry Teams a summary of all the comments, ideas, and suggestions that fall in their respective areas (see Council President report for Ministry Cabinet areas). For example, comments such as *“no one should be sitting alone during coffee hour”*, and *“we need points of entry for new members to become active outside of worship service and we need points of connection for existing members when they want to get more involved”*, will be provided to the Chairs for consideration as they go forward in their work.
2. **Interactive presentations to Congregation ...** The Transition Team will join Council in planning interactive discussions with church members in the next few months for further conversation of the findings of the Transition Team. To see summaries of the Focus Groups, and/or for more information about the findings and process, please speak a member of the Transition Team. Focus group materials and summaries are always available for members to review.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Tarquinio (chair)



## Forever Faithful Campaign

The *Forever Faithful* Debt Reduction Campaign's goal is to raise \$700,000 over the next three years so that the construction loan from the ELCA's Mission Investment Fund can be retired earlier than its scheduled 20-year term. Trinity's ministries will benefit

because of the interest that will be saved if we are able to pay-off the loan.

The kick-off for the *Forever Faithful* campaign was conducted on Sunday, June 3. Pr. Nathan reprised the theme from his Pentecost sermon regarding the "holy commotion" created among the believers in the early Church after the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples. Trinity has been entirely wrapped up in this "holy commotion" through the years and years of faithful ministry and in the countless ways that we continue to serve our neighbors here in Worcester.

At the Adult Forum, members of the *Forever Faithful* Steering Committee recounted the history of the *Restoring+Renewing+Rejoicing* Capital Campaign, discussed the construction projects and the financing options. The remainder of the session was used to answer questions.

The *Forever Faithful* campaign packets were distributed. If you were not present, you should have received your packet in the mail. If not, please contact us or alternatively, you will find the materials on our website ([www.trinityworc.org](http://www.trinityworc.org)).

The *Forever Faithful* campaign's kick-off luncheon was well-attended. Our guest speaker was Frank Kartheiser from Worcester Interfaith who thanked Trinity for its continued partnership in the Gospel. Cantor Mark Mummert led the group in singing the "Forever Faithful" call and response that we also sang at this year's Easter Vigil. The Steering Committee then gave some information on the renovations and repair projects and then explained the elements of the *Forever Faithful* campaign. This was followed by a question and answer period.

Commitment Sunday followed on June 10 with the aim of gathering all of the pledges by July 1 (the official start of the *Forever Faithful* campaign). As of June 17, we had received \$297,550 in pledges and gifts (42.5% of our goal). This is a fantastic start! We are confident that with God's help, our goal is attainable if we all work together!

Campaign envelopes will be available before July 1. You may also give electronically via our website. For more information about electronic giving, please contact our Treasurer, Scott Baeder.

Questions may be directed to any of the members of the Steering Committee (Kevin Erkkila, Carol Hartz, Joel Schur, Loret Schur, or Jessica Sutherland).

## ✠ Worship at Trinity Lutheran Church ✠

### **Sunday, July 1** Sixth Sunday after Pentecost – Lectionary 13

Lamentations 3:22-33 *Great is God's faithfulness*

2 Corinthians 8:7-15 *Excel in generosity, following Jesus*

Mark 5:21-43 *Christ heals a woman and Jairus' daughter*

Psalmody: Psalm 30 *I will exalt you, Lord, because you have lifted me up (Ps. 30:1)*

Hymn of the Day: Hymn 610, *O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come, DISTRESS*

*This coming Sunday we will hear about Jesus healing a bleeding woman and Jesus raising a dead girl to life. Many first-century people would have found aspects of these stories shocking. Come to worship and see what your reaction is.*

**8 a.m. – Holy Eucharist (Christ Chapel)**

**10 a.m. – Holy Eucharist (Nave)**

### **Wednesday, July 4 Independence Day**

**No service**

### **Sunday, July 8** Seventh Sunday after Pentecost –Lectionary 14

Ezekiel 2:1-5 *The call of Ezekiel*

2 Corinthians 12:2-10 *God's power made perfect in weakness*

Mark 6:1-13 *The Twelve sent to preach and heal*

Psalmody: Psalm 123 *Our eyes look to you, O God, until you show us your mercy (Ps. 123:2)*

Hymn of the Day: Hymn 675, *O Christ, Our Light, O Radiance True, O JESU CHRISTE, WAHRES LICHT*

*In the gospel reading for this coming Sunday, we hear about the ministry of Jesus and about the work of his chosen Twelve as they also preach and heal. Now we are those witnesses sent to testify to Christ and to bring healing to others.*

**8 a.m. – Holy Eucharist (Christ Chapel)**

**10 a.m. – Holy Eucharist (Nave)**

### **Wednesday, July 11**

**6 p.m. – Holy Eucharist (Christ Chapel)**

**Sunday, July 15** Eighth Sunday after Pentecost – Lectionary 15

Amos 7:7-15 *The sign of the plumb line*

Ephesians 1:3-14 *Chosen to live in praise of God*

Mark 6:14-29 *The death of John the Baptist*

Psalmody: Psalm 85:8-13 *I will listen to what the Lord God is saying. (Ps. 85:8)*

Hymn of the Day: Hymn 813, *Faith of Our Fathers*, ST. CATHERINE

*Sunday's gospel reading is the unpleasant story of Herod's dancing daughter and, what followed, the decapitation of John the Baptist. Come to worship to hear what this has to do with us.*

**8 a.m. – Holy Eucharist** (Christ Chapel)

**10 a.m. – Holy Eucharist** (Nave)

**Wednesday, July 18**

**6 p.m. – Holy Eucharist** (Christ Chapel)

**Sunday, July 22** Ninth Sunday after Pentecost – Lectionary 16

Jeremiah 23:1-6 *A righteous shepherd of Israel*

Ephesians 2:11-22 *Reconciled to God through Christ*

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 *Christ healing the multitudes*

Psalmody: Psalm 23 *The Lord is my shepherd: I shall not want (Ps. 23:1)*

Hymn of the Day: Hymn 611, *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*, KINGSFOLD

*The Bible describes us as being like sheep who need a shepherd. Come to worship to meet the Shepherd who, with endless compassion, teaches, heals, and feeds us.*

**8 a.m. – Holy Eucharist** (Christ Chapel)

**10 a.m. – Holy Eucharist** (Nave)

**Wednesday, July 25, James, Apostle**

**6 p.m. – Holy Eucharist** (Christ Chapel)

**Sunday, July 29** Tenth Sunday after Pentecost – Lectionary 17

2 Kings 4:42-44 *Elisha feeds a hundred people*

Ephesians 3:14-21 *Prayer to Christ*

John 6:1-21 *Jesus feeds 5000*

Psalmody: Psalm 145:10-18 *You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. (Ps. 145:16)*

Hymn of the Day: Hymn 674, *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*, LINSTED

*For the next five Sundays, our gospel readings come from John, rather than from Mark. The Gospel of Mark was the earliest gospel written, about 70 CE, and the Gospel of John the last, about 100 CE. All five weeks will focus on Jesus as the bread of life. Come to worship, to hear and to eat.*

**8 a.m. – Holy Eucharist** (Christ Chapel)

**10 a.m. – Holy Eucharist** (Nave)

# TRINITY CONGREGATION COUNCIL

## *Officers:*

**Thom Tarquinio**

*President*

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**Susan Brown**

*Vice President*

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**Dale Mattice**

*Secretary*

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**Scott Baeder**

*Treasurer*

**treasurer@trinityworc.org**

## *Other Council Members:*

Alivia Burns

Nancy Fontneau

Mark Mummert

Jennifer O'Connor

Christopher Pavasaris

The Rev. Nathan Piphon

Ana Ranese

Sulma Rubert-Silva

Jacob Schur

Joel Schur

Jessica Sutherland

Judy Willoughby

To contact someone on the Council, **e-mail** [admin@trinityworc.org](mailto:admin@trinityworc.org) and the Parish Office will forward the messages; or **mail** your note to Trinity Lutheran Church, 73 Lancaster Street, Worcester, MA 01609-3152.

## PARISH STAFF CONTACTS

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*Deadline for August 2018 Issue: Wednesday, July 20, 2018*

## Serving for the Month of July

	<b>July 1</b>	<b>July 8</b>	<b>July 15</b>	<b>July 22</b>	<b>July 29</b>
<b>Lector 8 AM</b>	Karen Short	Loret Schur	Rich Osterfield	Peter Schur	Joel Schur
<b>Lector 10 AM</b>	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Beth Axelson	Edward Van Corbach	Dwight Hubbard	Dale Mattice	Edward Van Corbach
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Scott Mueller	Libby Stone Ed Menard	Merrie Gerber Ed Menard	Ana Ranese Scott Mueller	Libby Stone Ed Menard
<b>Crucifer</b>	Scott Mueller	Ed Menard	Ed Menard	Scott Mueller	Ed Menard
<b>Crucifer &amp; Greeters</b>	Jeris Stewart Carol Hartz	Judy Willoughby Nancy Johnson	Jo & Trent Alexopoulos	Ken Johnson Judy Willoughby	Susan Brown Nancy Johnson
<b>Ushers</b>	Maureen Stake Ed Menard Carl Robertson Vincent Eovacious	Gordon Wallat Gary Oja Beth Axelson	Robert Burns Carl Robertson Beth Axelson	Cole Mueller Grace Mueller Beth Axelson	Gordon Wallat Gary Oja Beth Axelson
<b>Acolytes</b>	Tyler Leino Beverly Leino		Kate Noroian Ryan Trobaugh	Greg Noroian	
<b>Sacristan</b>	Susan Brown	Patty Cummings Karen Short	Judy Willoughby	Ed Menard Carl Robertson	Patty Cummings Karen Short
<b>Bread Baker</b>	Loie Angelsten	Beth Axelson	Nancy Fontneau	Lori Doyle	Nancy Fontneau
<b>TV Ministry</b>	Sandy Pike Paul Gustafson	Sandy Pike Paul Gustafson	Sandy Pike Paul Gustafson	Paul Foster Sandy Pike Paul Gustafson	Paul Foster Sandy Pike Paul Gustafson

**Trinity Travelers Has Some Openings!** Anyone interested is to contact Judy Roberts at (508) 304-8008 or Beth Axelson by email at [baxelson015@gmail.com](mailto:baxelson015@gmail.com). Openings are for:

**Thursday, July 19** to Newport Rail Tour with lunch on the train

**Wednesday, September 12** to Hart's Turkey Train in New Hampshire

**Wednesday, October 10** Vine to Wine; lunch at the Honora Winery with other stops

**Wednesday, November 7** to the Norman Rockwell Tour; lunch at the Red Lion Inn

**Tuesday, December 11** to Aqua Turf, CT for Holiday Winter Wishes and luncheon.

# CALENDAR FOR JULY

## Sun Jul 1, 2018

### ***National ELCA Youth Gathering***

### ***6th Sunday after Pentecost***

### ***Food Collection Sunday***

8am Holy Eucharist

9am Adult Forum

10am Holy Eucharist

11am Coffee Hour

11:45am Korean Presbyterian Church

## Mon Jul 2, 2018

### ***National ELCA Youth Gathering***

3pm Executive Committee Meeting

6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous

7pm Volleyball

## Tue Jul 3, 2018

6pm Adult Basketball

6pm Clemente Summer Class

## Wed Jul 4, 2018

### ***Independence Day – Building Closed***

## Thu Jul 5, 2018

6pm TOPS

## Fri Jul 6, 2018

3:30pm Lutzen/O'Connor

Wedding Rehearsal

## Sat Jul 7, 2018

6:30am Korean Presbyterian Worship

10am – 2:30pm Farmer's Market

3pm Lutzen/O'Connor Wedding

## Sun Jul 8, 2018

### ***7th Sunday after Pentecost***

8am Holy Eucharist

9am Adult Forum

10am Holy Eucharist

11am Coffee Hour

11:45am Korean Presbyterian Church

## Mon Jul 9, 2018

7pm Council Meeting

7pm Volleyball

## Tue Jul 10, 2018

6pm Adult Basketball

6pm Clemente Summer Class

6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous

## Wed Jul 11, 2018

8am Men's Bible Study

6pm Mid-week Eucharist

6:30pm Trinity Youth Basketball

7:30pm CoDA

## Thu Jul 12, 2018

10am Centre for Theocentric

Leadership and Learning

6pm TOPS

## Fri Jul 13, 2018

No meetings today.

## Sat Jul 14, 2018

6:30am Korean Presbyterian Worship

10am – 2:30pm Farmer's Market

## Sun Jul 15, 2018

### ***8th Sunday after Pentecost***

8am Holy Eucharist

9am Adult Forum

10am Holy Eucharist

11am Coffee Hour

11:45am Korean Presbyterian Church

## Mon Jul 16, 2018

6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous

7pm Volleyball

## Tue Jul 17, 2018

6pm Adult Basketball

6pm Clemente Summer Class

## Wed Jul 18, 2018

8am Men's Bible Study

10am Trinity Tots

6pm Mid-week Eucharist

6:30pm Trinity Youth Basketball

7:30pm CoDA

## Thu Jul 19, 2018

8am Trinity Travelers: Newport Rail

6pm TOPS

## Fri Jul 20, 2018

### ***Trinity News Deadline***

No meetings today.

## Sat Jul 21, 2018

6:30am Korean Presbyterian Worship

10am – 2:30pm Farmer's Market

**Sun Jul 22, 2018**

**9th Sunday after Pentecost**

8am Holy Eucharist  
9am Adult Forum  
10am Holy Eucharist  
11am Coffee Hour  
11:45am Korean Presbyterian Church  
6pm Christ Worship Center  
Fundraising Dinner

**Mon Jul 23, 2018**

6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous  
7pm Volleyball

**Tue Jul 24, 2018**

6pm Adult Basketball  
6pm Clemente Summer Class

**Wed Jul 25, 2018**

8am Men's Bible Study  
6pm Mid-week Eucharist  
6:30pm Trinity Youth Basketball  
7:30pm CoDA

**Thu Jul 26, 2018**

6pm TOPS

**Fri Jul 27, 2018**

**Trinity News Mailing**

**Sat Jul 28, 2018**

6:30am Korean Presbyterian Worship  
10am – 2:30pm Farmer's Market

**Sun Jul 29, 2018**

**10th Sunday after Pentecost**

8am Holy Eucharist  
9am Adult Forum  
10am Holy Eucharist  
11am Coffee Hour  
11:45am Korean Presbyterian Church

**Mon Jul 30, 2018**

**EPMDC Week 1 at Trinity**

**Preschool Closed for vacation**

3pm Executive Committee Meeting  
6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous  
7pm Volleyball

**Tue Jul 31, 2018**

**EPMDC Week 1 at Trinity**

**Preschool Closed for vacation**

6pm Adult Basketball  
6pm Clemente Summer Class

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## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATES

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**Ashley Fateiger** graduated from Nashoba Regional High School in Bolton. She will be going to college at Roger Williams University in R.I. this fall.



**Follow Trinity Church on Social Media!**



**Facebook.com/tlcworchester**

**Twitter: @tlcworchester**

**Instagram: trinityworchester**

## SACRAMENTS AND VISITATIONS

The administration of the sacraments, visitation of the sick and homebound and instruction of the faithful are among our principal pastoral concerns. To serve the Trinity community as faithfully as possible the following schedule is provided to help you in your planning.

### **The Sacrament of Holy Baptism**

Baptisms are celebrated on five festival days during the church year:

- Mary, Mother of Our Lord (August 12, 2018)
- All Saints Sunday (November 4, 2018)
- Baptism of Our Lord (January 13, 2019)
- The Great Vigil of Easter (April 20, 2019)
- Pentecost Sunday (June 9, 2019)

To arrange for a baptism contact Pastor Nathan well in advance.

### **Preparation for Marriage**

Couples desiring to be married at Trinity should contact the pastoral staff **at least six months in advance**. A sequence of three preparatory classes is required, the scheduling of which should be confirmed when the date of the marriage is established.

### **New Parish Members**

Persons interested in joining the parish should indicate their desire to the pastoral staff, be regular at worship and plan to attend a New Member Class.

### **Hospital & Home Communion**

Kindly contact the parish office when a family member or friend is admitted to the hospital or when illness or injury prevents church attendance and the Sacrament is desired.

## ✠ PASTORAL ACTS ✠

### BAPTISM

Willow June Gregoire 20.May

Lucia Maeve Stoner 20.May

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Charles Muhanguzi 20.May

### FUNERALS

Hazel Bates 11.May

Marjorie W. Clark 17.May

## ✠ CELEBRATIONS ✠

### BIRTHDAYS

Charles Peters 2. June

Leland Carlson 6.June

Eric VanLeeuwen 16.June

June LaJeunesse 30.June

### ANNIVERSARIES

Carter and Alice Lindberg 4.June

Douglas and Nina Behm 8.June

Howard and Evelyn Elander 9.June

Rev. Paul and Carol Kennedy 10.June

David and Nancy Hagberg 11.June

Robert and Carol Peura 13.June

Raymond and Jill Anderson 25.June

Christopher and Cheryl Foster 26.June

Robert and Helen Hill 28.June

Frank and Lynette Szerlag 29.June

Birthdays and anniversaries are noted each month after persons have reached the age of 80 or have been married for twenty-five years or more. Thereafter anniversaries are noted in five-year increments until couples celebrate fifty years, and then every year after fifty years is reached. If we missed your special date, know that the error was unintentional, and inform the parish office so that the record may be corrected.

## Briefly Noted

**Remember, First Sunday Is Food Sunday!** Please bring your non-perishable food items to Trinity on July 1 and August 5. On these Sundays, the items you bring may be put in the grocery cart located in the hallway outside of Jeppson Hall. Your food donations go to Carty Cupboard. Thank you for helping those in need!

**Parish Office Closed:** The office will be closed on Independence Day, July 4. If there is a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor Cliff Gerber at (508) 688-4763.

**Pastor Nathan will be on vacation from Friday, July 13 to Saturday, July 21.** In the event of a pastoral emergency during that time, please call Pastor Cliff Gerber at (508) 699-4763.

**Farmers Market Farmstand is here!** There is a Farmer's Market Farmstand at the far end of Trinity's Parking lot near the Institute Road entrance every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. until October. This farmstand is sponsored by Dick's Market Gardens in Lunenburg. There will be plants, fruits and vegetables as they become available during the season. Come and visit!

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## YOUTH

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**Coming Soon:** Even though summer has barely started, it's time to start thinking about the next school year! We've been having conversations with parents and youth about their ideas for events, activities and programming for the 2018-2019 school year. If you have any ideas or thoughts, please let Jena know. Here are a couple of things to put on your calendar now:

- **Disney Double Feature Movie Night For Everyone:**

Saturday, August 18 6 p.m. – 10 p.m.

\$10 buys you pizza, popcorn, drinks and a make your own ice cream Sunday dessert!

Stay tuned for details about which movies will be played!



- **Hammo at Camp Calumet, September 7-9, 2018:** \$90 for registration, sleeping in a bed (we're not camping this year) and meals. Please let Jena know if you want to go!

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## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

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**TV Ministry Donations Needed:** Our TV ministry is an important outreach program for shut-ins and the elderly who are not able to attend church regularly. You may help to support this ministry by making a donation and honoring an event or family member by sponsoring a broadcast of a Sunday viewing. Just fill out the donation form on page 23 indicating the Sunday you wish to sponsor. The fee is \$150 for full sponsorship but you may also give a partial sponsorship for any Sunday. Please contact Karen Allen, the office manager, if you have any questions at [admin@trinityworc.org](mailto:admin@trinityworc.org) or (508) 753-2989 X 11.

**EPMDC 2018:** With summer right around the corner, plans for Elm Park Ministries Day Camp are in full swing! Camp runs for two weeks, Monday through Friday, July 30 through August 10. This will be the 9<sup>th</sup> summer that Trinity will host campers from the community, counselors from Calumet and local teens who volunteer as CIT's for two weeks of urban day camp. As donations are gathered and plans are made for camp, it's important to remember why we do camp. EPMDC started because a group of pastors and lay leaders saw a need in the community and turned it into an opportunity to serve! They noticed how many children there were in the Elm Park neighborhood who had nothing to do during the summer. And what was available was expensive. God was calling them to do something for all children that would be equalizing, fun and faith-filled regardless of families' ability to pay for it. Trinity was connected to Camp Calumet who offered their counselors to congregations in New England to run Urban Day Camps. And Elm Park Ministries Day Camp was born and has gotten better with each passing year!

Some people have concerns that EPMDC puts a big strain on Trinity. A lot of time, energy and money goes into making it happen each year. But there's no way to put a price tag on ministry and relationship building! Jesus' ministry made people uncomfortable, even his disciples thought that He was inconvenienced. Jesus didn't play it "safe." He was radical, challenged all the norms, naysayers and expectations that people had in order to change lives. Let's follow Jesus's example by fearlessly serving others despite the strain and cost!

Registration materials are available for campers (age 6-13) and CIT's (age 13 and up). Please contact the office to get started with all the paperwork. Please also consider making a financial donation to EPMDC so that all children can come to camp and we can continue our tradition of welcoming so many young people into our midst this summer! This year, our big question is, "How do we bridge our ministry that we do for two weeks with the rest of the year? How do we share all the great, personal stories that campers, counselors and volunteers have about camp? More importantly, how can we follow Jesus to more boldly serve our community?" If you want to help us answer those questions, please talk to Jena!

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## *POETRY AT TRINITY*

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Perhaps you've just never thought about it, but you already love poetry, find it revealing for your inspiration and for the expressing of your life experiences.

The Scriptures favor it too! Do you love Psalm 23 or Psalm 121? Do you like the politics expressed in Mary's Magnificat or Amos' words calling for justice "let justice roll..."? Or the great love chapter of I Corinthians 13? So much of God's way of grace is revealed in words of poetry!

Have you ever quoted or thought in poetic words: "and miles to go before I sleep..." or, "I took the road less traveled..." or, "good fences make good neighbors..." ?

Hymn texts with their accompanying rhythms, greeting card sentiments, inspirational vistas from nature, and everyday metaphors used to communicate our experiences – all life utilizes poetry and poetic images.

This fall "Poetry at Trinity" will become an opportunity to gather, to share, and to discuss what is meaningful poetry in our lives. Or perhaps it will be an opportunity for you to begin using a new awareness or exploration of what can be so helpful in facing life's challenges, sufferings, and joys. Of course you may bring a friend to listen, to discuss, to share. Details will be Announced this fall.

### Come

(inspired by a poem of Rumi)

Come, come whoever you are  
come lovers of science and thinking  
come lovers of nature and art  
come lovers of justice and compassion.

Come into Christ's love.

There will never be a better time,  
a better opportunity, a better Companion.

Come, come whoever you are  
come introvert and extrovert  
come sinner and forgiver  
come loving one, come lonely one.

Come into Christ's love.

There will never be a better invitation,  
a better celebration, a better Host.

--Doug Behm

The TEC School Presents...



**S.T.E.M.** School Vacation  
*adventures* and Summer Programs

THE **T.E.C. Schools**  
THINK • EXPLORE • CREATE  
73 Lancaster Street Worcester MA

For Children Ages 5-12 years old

**CALL TODAY**  
(508) 577-3045

**WHEN:**  
9am-3pm daily  
Before Care from 8am-9am After Care from 3pm-4pm  
Before and After Care \$10 per day

**COST: \$375 per week**  
Register by May 15 for  
Early Bird Discount \$350/week  
(5% Sibling Discount)

Summer S.T.E.A.M. Programs June 11-29 and August 13-31

Dear TLC Friends,

We are gearing up for the summer!

Register today to enroll your child for six fun-filled weeks of **S.T.E.A.M. activities**. Children will engage in science, technology, engineering, and art activities. This is a great time to learn something new while having fun with friends. Here's what our happy camper has to say about summer at T.E.C.

Thank you for your support. We love to innovate and bring exciting programs that are relevant to young students. **Please forward this along to anyone who you might think would be interested.**

Thank you,  
Rupali Sharma  
Director

Week 4: August 13-17  
Week 5: August 19-24  
Week 6: Aug 27 -Aug 31

*3D Modeling and 3D Printing Design*  
*STEM Creations*  
*Create a Mask a Day!*

### TLC Christian Preschool



We would like to take this opportunity to thank Pastor Nathan and Cantor Mark for taking time from their busy schedules to meet with the preschool children throughout the school year. Each week, the children look forward to going to chapel and having music class. We often hear the children singing the songs they learn and we hear from parents that the children are sharing prayers and stories about God. Thank you for sharing God's love with the children and your time with us. Until September...

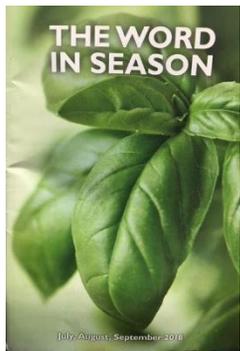
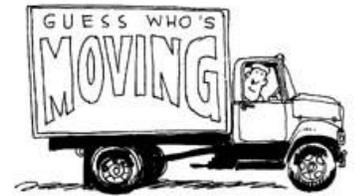


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## PARISH OFFICE NOTES

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**Calling for All Addresses, Telephone and Email Changes:** Please be sure to keep the parish office updated with your most current street address and phone numbers. If you have a **new email address**, you may go to the website at [trinityworc.org](http://trinityworc.org) and sign up for the newsletter and the weekly Trinity E-News distribution. Your old email will eventually “fall off” of our mailing list. If you have any questions, contact Karen Allen at [admin@trinityworc.org](mailto:admin@trinityworc.org) or call (508) 753-2989 x11.



**Do You Need a Copy of the Word in Season Booklet?** This is a great tool for everyone to use as they study the Bible. The book can be mailed to you or picked up quarterly. Each day of the quarter has its own page listing several readings from the Bible as well as a commentary about something in the reading. It takes only a few minutes each day and it gives an inspiring message. Please call the parish office at (508) 753-2989 and request your copy and that your name be added to our regular mailing list. The parish office now has the issue for April, May and June 2018.

**Is Someone in the Hospital?** If you know that a parishioner is in the hospital, please call the parish office at (508) 753-2989 to let us know. Also, please be sure to have your loved one's Trinity membership included in their hospital profile. Calls are made daily to the area hospitals, and names of Trinity members who are in the hospital are provided to us for updating in the Parish Notes.

**Hi Everyone:** I hope you are having a good summer. I am looking forward to my vacation in August. I can hardly wait! You have a fun summer and stay cool. Don't forget to wear suntan lotion and drink plenty of fluids. I'll see you again in the fall. From Mindee Gordon, Parish Office volunteer.

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## THANK YOU NOTES

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**From Calumet Lutheran Camp:** Thank you very much for your pledge of \$2,000 and your pledge payments in the amount of \$1,000 for the Baths and Solar Campaign which is well on its way to completion. To our friends at Trinity – Thank you for your constant, long-time support for Calumet! From Knute Ogren, Director of Development

**2018 ALTAR CANDLES, FLOWERS, TOWER LIGHTING,  
TRINITY NEWS and TV MINISTRY**

In this coming year, the Parish Office encourages donors for the altar candles, flowers, tower lighting, *Trinity News* and TV Ministry to sign up early by using the following form.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

- **Altar Candles:** \$20 per month to sponsor the altar candles for the month of \_\_\_\_\_ 2018. The dedication is to read “given to the glory of God in honor/memory/celebration (circle one) of: \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.
- **Altar Flowers:** As sponsor, you will order the flowers from the florist of your choice. You may have the florist pick up the floral inserts from the Parish Office if you are ordering the double bouquet for the stands or you may order an arrangement in a vase that the florist supplies. The cost is paid directly to the chosen florist and the donation is noted in the bulletin for the chosen Sunday. Please call the Parish Office if you have any questions about this process.

I would like to give the flowers on Sunday, \_\_\_\_\_, 2018. The dedication is to read “given to the glory of God in honor/memory/celebration (circle one) of: \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

- **Tower Lighting:** \$20 per half month to sponsor the Tower Lighting for the first half/last half (circle one) of the month of \_\_\_\_\_ 2018. The dedication is to read “given to the glory of God in honor/memory/celebration (circle one) of: \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.
- **Trinity News:** \$50 per month to sponsor *Trinity News* for the month of \_\_\_\_\_ 2018. The dedication is to read “given to the glory of God in honor/memory/celebration (circle one) of: \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.
- **TV Ministry:** \$150 per Sunday broadcast to sponsor the TV Ministry for Sunday, \_\_\_\_\_, 2018. The dedication is to read “given to the glory of God in honor/memory/celebration (circle one) of: \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

Total amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

This form is due in the Parish Office by Tuesday at 5 p.m. if not earlier. Thank you. Or you may drop this form and payment made out to Trinity Lutheran Church in the offering plate on Sundays, at the Parish Office, or send by mail to Trinity Lutheran Church, 73 Lancaster Street, Worcester, MA 01609.



Trinity News (USPS 641-200) is published monthly by Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 73 Lancaster Street, Worcester, MA, 01609. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to TRINITY NEWS, Trinity Lutheran Church, 73 Lancaster St., Worcester, MA, 01609. Periodicals postage paid at Worcester, MA.

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## Trinity Worship Services on TV and the Internet

**Internet Webcasts-** [www.trinityworc.org](http://www.trinityworc.org) -or- [www.vimeo.com/trinityworchester](http://www.vimeo.com/trinityworchester)

**TV- Same Day Broadcasts: Shrewsbury-** Channel 28, Sunday 8 p.m., Monday 12:30 a.m.

**TV- Delayed Broadcasts: Worcester-** Charter TV-193, Sunday 4 p.m.; Channel 194, Sunday 11 a.m.; **Auburn-** Tuesday 11 p.m., Thursday 10 p.m., Sunday Noon & 11:30 p.m.; **Holden-** Sunday 8:30 a.m. & 6 p.m., Thursday 7 p.m.; **Hudson-** Sunday 11 a.m. & 5:30 p.m., Wednesday 3 p.m.; **Leicester-** Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday 8 a.m., Sunday 10 a.m.; **Oxford-** Sunday 1:15 a.m. & 9:15 a.m.; **Spencer-** Saturday & Sunday 8:30 a.m.; **Sterling/Lancaster-** Wednesday 2 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m.; **Sutton-** Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday 9 a.m.