

The Trinitarian



Pastoral Reflections

REFLECTIONS

Agape Meals

“Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people.” (Acts 2:46-47)

During the recent holidays (holy-days), many found themselves gathered around the table with family and friends. Eating together is about more than the food that is spread before us. It is about the relationships that we share with one another. It is about catching up on the news of one another’s lives, talking about the past and the hopes of the future.

Eating a meal together is very Biblical. From the Passover meal to Jesus’ last supper, from Jesus sitting down with tax collectors, prostitutes and others to the stories of the early church as mentioned in Acts, these meals are about more than physical sustenance but faith-filled nourishment.

Long before church buildings were constructed, people met together in their homes, sharing a meal as well as their faith. They offered support to one another, lifting up their thanks and prayers to God. They shared what was later called an “agape meal”. *Agape* is the Greek

word for love; not just any love but the unconditional love that we receive from God and are invited to share with others.

We like to gather as a congregation and more often than not, it involves food. It is not that we are an extra hungry church, but we too want to sit down together to share our lives with one another. We’ve seen this most often in our First Friday gatherings.

Beginning in January, we are going to add another meal (I told you that we like to eat), but this one will be a time of worship that is at a dinner table. Like other dinners, we will eat together and share of our lives. We will also talk about our faith and how we might experience God in our everyday lives. We will pray and sing together as well as be in fellowship with one another. This is a different kind of worship service that seeks to gather us in God’s presence apart from our traditional Sunday morning liturgy.

As a community of faith, we all seek to grow in our faith so that we may live out Christ’s love in our everyday lives. We gather as a community to support one another so that as we are sent out, we know that we do not go alone but with the prayers of those from whom we are sent.

Peace in Christ, Pastor Jen

****Agape Dinner Church, Sunday, January 15th - 5 PM in Fellowship Hall**

If any would like to help set up, share their gifts of music or anything else, let Pastor Jen know. Use this link to RSVP - <https://mealtrain.com/gqn8v8>

**We may change the name so if you have any suggestions, please let Pastor Jen know.

Faith @ Home



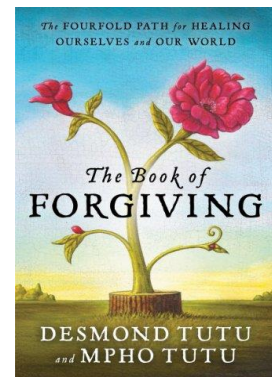
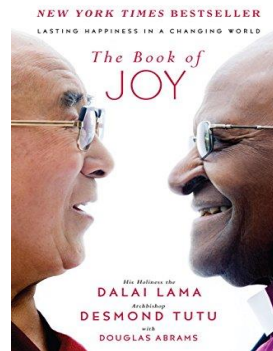
As another year passes, we are often reminded of the many milestones that people have marked during the year – graduations, first steps, applying for college, marriage and the like. Some of these milestones, we celebrate together as a community of faith; others are ones that are celebrated among our own family and friends. In worship, we mark these milestones through prayers and blessings.

How do you mark these milestones @ home? Occasions such as... losing a tooth, birth of a sibling, graduations, driver's license, new Job, ... and the like?

We are putting together a resource for people to use at home as they mark some of these milestones. We will have a scripture reading, a prayer and a small gift that you can share as you celebrate this time in the life of your family. It will be posted on our website as well as available at the church for you to pick up.

If you have suggestions for other milestones and/or want other such resources, contact Pastor Jen.

Speakeasy – Joy and Forgiveness



You are invited to join in a discussion based around two different books:

The Book of Forgiveness by Desmond Tutu and Mpho Tutu, and *The Book of Joy* featuring the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu.

We will be looking at the ways in which forgiveness as well as joy can frame our lives in the midst of division and struggle. They invite us to seek a different way at looking and working through the issues that we face in our everyday lives.

Join us on **Sunday, January 22nd at 2 PM** in Fellowship Hall for a time of reflection and conversation together. Copies of both books are available for people to borrow in the church narthex.



During the November Church Council meeting, we spent some time talking about Stewardship. No, not because we were talking about the budget and finances, but rather to help re-focus on what is at the heart of how we each share of all of our gifts.

If you were asked to define “stewardship”, what might you say? Some of the answers from our Council included: *Stewardship is ...*

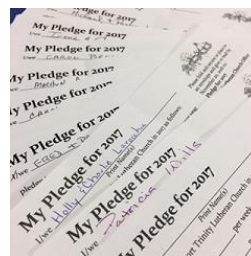
- Our care for each other;*
- About being caregivers or managers;*
- Returning the gifts that we have been given;*
- Returning grace for grace;*
- Giving thanks as the impetus or motivation.*

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth and all therein. And then, God entrusted the care, or stewardship, of his creation into our keeping. This includes not just the environment, but also each other, all of our relationships –friend, family and stranger alike. We are given the gift of learning and knowledge, curiosity and creativity, abilities and interests. We are “loaned” our homes, our possessions, our finances and the like. I mean, we really can’t bring any of it with us when we die, can we? It is all given to us that we might use and care for it wisely faithfully. Look around you right now (wherever you may be) ... I’ll wait ... no, really look at everything....what do you see?

If all that you see is a gift from God that is entrusted into your care, how does that change your perception of it? Do you see it differently? How might you use or care for it in a different way? Thinking about all of this – how would you now define “stewardship”?

If you are willing to share any of your reflections of stewardship – either during worship and/or in the Trinitarian, please let Pastor Jen know.

Your Pledge is Important!



To date, only 54 pledge cards have been received. Submitting a pledge card helps the Finance Committee to put together a more accurate budget. If you need a new pledge card, we do have some available at the church office or you may just email your pledge information to the church office - trinitlutheranoffice@yahoo.com. Include your name, amount of pledge for the month or year (either or both) the general fund and mortgage fund. You can also indicate if you are going to give on-line.



Teracycle Update

Since Trinity joined Teracycle in and sent in our first shipment in March of 2015 we have collected 12,662 units of shampoo bottles, toothbrushes, cereal boxes, etc. At 2 cents per unit along with the additional money from cell phones we have raised \$251.50!

My mother taught me the importance of recycling back in the 1970’s and it has stayed with me and is incorporated into whatever I become involved with in my life. It is great to be among so many other committed people. Thank you for helping to keep more waste out of the landfills!

As we move into the New Year may we continue to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle!

Georgina Marek

Below are some of our upcoming ministries and their dates. These are opportunities to use the gifts God has given you to serve others. This is your chance to make a difference. Any questions can be directed to Joanne Icken (jicken@yahoo.com)

Putnam CAP

Putnam CAP (Community Action Partnership) enables neighbors working together to gather and manage resources that help low-income and at-risk populations in Putnam County. They provide new car seats, transportation, emergency financial help, a food pantry and soup kitchen services.

Thank you for your continued generosity in filling the shopping cart each month with food and home items for Putnam CAP. Their clients are very grateful for the extra help we give them with your donations.

Seafarer's International House Christmas-At-Sea Satchels

After the first service on Sunday December 11th, members of the congregation helped pack 25 Christmas satchels for SIH. Each satchel contained a new sweatshirt, a long-sleeve t-shirt, 3 pairs of socks, a knitted/crocheted hat, and a chocolate bar or can of nuts. Thank you for your monetary and clothing donations.

Knitters and Crocheters!

Thank you for your continued knitting and crocheting. This month the hats were included in the Seafarer's satchels. With your continued support we will be able to provide more hats and scarves to BESSP, and at the end of January I will ship a box of hats and scarves to the Seafarer's International House in NYC. Please look for tubs of yarn located in the Narthex and take a bundle, along with the directions to create scarves and hats. Your completed items can be placed back in the tubs with the yarn. I collect them from time to time.

Mitten Tree

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the mitten tree this year. Seafarers International, BESSP and the Women's Crisis Shelter of Putnam/North Westchester were the beneficiaries of your warmth and kindness.

Year to Date Budget Report November 30, 2016

GENERAL CHECKING ACCOUNT	
<u>Category</u>	<u>Actual</u>
INCOME	
Contributions	162,862.31
Other Income	\$ 22,778
Total Income	\$185,641
EXPENSES	
Benevolence	\$5,500
Pastoral	\$103,467
Education	\$ 2,028.88
Evangelism	\$ 654.49
Worship & Music	\$19,268
Administration	\$45,307
Property	\$25,295
Total Expenses	201,520
NET INCOME	(\$15,880)
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCES	
(Includes \$25,000 in prior year loans)	
January 1, 2016 Balance	\$ 13,765
Current Balance	\$ 9,103

MORTGAGE FUND

<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Variance</u>
\$38,945.75	(\$39,226.00)	(\$280.25)

COMMENTS

MORTGAGE FUND

- Contributions are \$280 behind payments.
- Mortgage Fund balance is \$5,381

MONTHLY INCOME

- November income was \$5,831 more than expenses.

YEAR-TO-DATE

- Expenses were \$15,880 more than income.

GIFT GIVING ONLINE –

Visit our webpage www.trinitybrewsterny.org to make a one-time or recurring gift. Click on the "Offering" button, set up an account or "profile," and follow the instructions to complete your donation amount and frequency. For more information speak with Stephanie Lyons or email her at: lyonss1@comcast.net

Property News

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped out this past year for spring and fall cleanup and showing your support to our place of worship. It has been a great year of keeping our building in wonderful condition. An unbelievable amount of work was done and things look great!!

Going forward for 2017 we will be doing more renovation and more improvements to our building. If you are in charge of any of our closets please help us by removing items that are no longer in use. It's amazing how things build up that is no longer needed. Thanks so much.

As I have stated before we have been approved by the NY Synod to do some additional repairs inside and outside as well as air conditioning in Shepherds Hall. More info to follow after we put some things in place for these projects. Things are continuing to look great thanks to many of our members volunteering their time and energy.

Again I would like to thank Pat Wills for all she does for recruiting organizations to rent our building. The income she brings in is fantastic. We have two more groups looking to utilize our facility in this month.

We need your help in making sure that lights are turned off and doors closed. This will help us save on our electric and heat loss. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Gods Blessings on all our members and their families. Have a safe winter and thank you all for your continued support to Trinity Lutheran Church!

Ken Mongold, Property Chairman

Annual Congregation Meeting, January 29, 2017, 10:30 AM

To be a voting member of Trinity Lutheran Church, you must contribute once and receive Holy Communion here once a year. **2017 Voting members list is below as of 12/18** – If you're not on the list and think you should be, contact the office.

AARONSON, MICHELLE	DONOVAN, GERTRUDE	LAIRD, SHARON LEE	RUDOLPH, PATRICIA
ALLEN, SIGRID EVE	DONOVAN SR, DANIEL	LANGKE, KRYSTAL	RUDOLPH, RALPH
ANDREN, DAWN MARIE	DOSTER, PAUL	LANGKE, MARISOL	RUHS, KATHRYN
ANDREN, KIMBERLY ROSE	DUBEN, CHRISTIAN JOEL	LAROCCHIA, CHARLES	RUHS, LAWRENCE
ARRIGO, INEZ H	DUBEN, HEATHER JEAN	LAROCCHIA, HOLLY	SALINGER, LINDA
BAGGETTA, JOY	DUDOWITZ, JULIETTE	LAWERENCE, LOIS L	SCHUFF, ARNOLD
BAGGETTA, JOHN	DZIBELA, JOANNE	LEE, JANE	SCHULDT, LISA
BALDANZA, JEANETTE	DZIBELA SR, SCOTT	LEE, ROBERT	SCIARRA, CHRISTOPHER J
BALDANZA JR, JOSEPH	EBERHARDT, ALFRED	LOCKSHISS, DOLORES	SCIARRA, SANDRA TARASOFF
BALDANZA-GIACOMELLI, LAUREN	EBERHARDT, LILLIAN	LUND, LINDA	SERGIO, MAUREEN E
BARATTA, DOROTHEA	EFFEREN, DEBBIE	LUND, ROBERT	SIEBERN, HELGA
BELL, ELLEN	FENDT, CAROL	LUTZ, CAROL ANN	SIMON, CYNTHIA
BELL, LAURIE	FENDT, ERIC GARY	LUTZ, RAYMOND	STATHIS, DUNLIN WADE
BERTONE, ALEXANDER	FENDT, FRED	LYON, DEBRA ANN	STOECKER, EDWARD
BERTONE, CYNDI	FENDT, ROBERT EVAN	LYONS, PETER	STOECKER, KRISTEN LYNN
BERTONE JR, JOHN	FOLEY, MAXINE	LYONS, STEPHANIE	STOECKER, LYNN ALICE
BETTCHER, LORIE P	FOLEY SR, BRUCE	MAREK, GEORGINA	STONE, AUDREY
BETTCHER, JOSEPH	GASIUNAS, ALDONA	MARINICH, DAWN J	STRINGER, BRIAN
BOLDISH, CONSTANCE	GERFEN, GARY	MARKERT, BARBARA J	STRINGER, MICHAEL
BOYD, JENNIFER D	GERFEN, KEMI	MARKERT, BRUCE P	STRINGER, MICHAEL JOHN
BRADLEY, JOAN	GERHARDT, MARY	MARKERT, DANIELLE LYN	STRINGER, SUSAN LYNN
BRIGGS, ELISABETH	GERMAIN, IRENE	MARKERT, ERIK	SULLIVAN, BARBARA
BRIGGS SR, ROBERT	GERMAIN JR, CHARLES	MARKERT, JAMES	TEMPEL, JUERGEN A
BROOKS, CAROL ANN	GIACOMELLI, AUSTIN	MARKERT, KRISTOPHER	TIERSCH, ANDREA
BROWN, SUSAN	GOOS, BARBARA	MASTON, ALICIA MARIE	TOMPURI, MAISA
BRUSIE, CLAIRE	GRAHAM, JENNIFER	MC ELROY, ANITA	TORLISH, MARY
BYRNES, LYNN	GRAHAM, KENNETH	MEGARO, SUSAN	TORLISH-KOVALEC, DEBORAH LEE
CARLSON, FRED	HALBEKATH, JOANNE	MEROLLA, URSULA	TRIELLER, ANNA K
CARLSON, PAMELA	HALBEKATH JR, ERIC	MONGOLD, KEN	TUTHILL, HALSEY
CEASRINE, DELORES	HALBEKATH SR, ERIC	MORELLO, DAWN ANN	ULRICH, DAWN M
CESARE, JULIUS	HANSEN, VERONICA	MORELLO, LUKE	ULRICH, LISA
CHRISTIANO, LORETTA	HARLIN, DEBRA ANN	MOSCATO, JEANANNE	VAN VLACK, LORRAINE
CHRISTOFORI, HILDE	HAYES, CLAUDINE	NESTOR, DANIELLE	VON BARGEN, BARBARA
CIOFFI, CARRIE LEE	HEUSCHKEL, LYNNE	NESTOR, JO-ANN	VON BARGEN, HENRY
COMMISSO, FRANKLYN W	HILDRETH, ALISON	NESTOR, MEGAN ELISE	VON BARGEN, JEFFREY
COMMISSO, MARY BETH	ICKEN, DONALD	NICOLETTI, BARBARA	VON BARGEN, KENNETH
CONROY, AMY ELIZABETH	ICKEN, JOANNE	NICOLETTI, JOHN	VON BARGEN, MARIE
CORBI, ERIN JULIA	JACOBSEN, BEATRICE	NOAH, DOUGLAS	VON BARGEN, THOMAS
COYLE, HEATHER GRACE	JACOBSEN, LLOYD	NOAH, LINDA	VON BARGEN, WILLIAM
CUOMO, ALBERT II	JACOBSEN, NINA	O'TOOLE, DORIS	WALZER, LORRAINE
CUOMO, ANGELA	JOHNSON, EDWARD	PEASE, GAIL	WESTERVILLE, KARL
CUOMO, DONALD J	KAFALAS, DOROTHY	PEASE, THOMAS	WESTERVILLE, MARGARET
CURCURUTO, EMMY	KARLSSON, RITA	PETER, DEBIANE	WILLS, PATRICIA
DE MARCHI, CARRIE A	KNAPP, BRYAN JAMES	PLATT, MARILYN	WINTERS, CECILIA ANN
DEFILIPPIS, LAURA	KNAPP, NANCY	POWELL, JOHN C.	WINTERS, RICHARD
DEROBERTS, PHILIP	KOLAR, FREDERICK	QUINN, JOAN	WUND, LINDSAY
DEVINE, KATHREN L	KOLAR, SUSAN	RAPP, MURIEL	YATES, KAREN
DOELLGAST, JEANNETTE	KOVALEC, EMILY	RENAUD, DOLORES	YESSIAN, JAMES
DONOVAN, CHRISTOPHER	KUHLAND, HEIDI	RIEG, WILLIAM	YOUNG, CHRISTOPHER
	LAIRD, JOSEPH JOHN	RODEN, BARBARA C	YOUNG, MARIA

WELCA Update

We were delighted to have 20 Trinity women celebrate the Christmas season for a lunch at Camp Herrlich. We thank Camp Herrlich for their hospitality and the great cooking of Theo their chief.

Pastor Jen led us in a study and we all enjoyed playing the gift exchange game.

During the winter months we will be meeting twice a month at 10:00 AM as follows:

- **Jan. 12** – Bible Study lead by Debbie Lyon
- **Jan. 26** – Lutheran World Relief project followed by lunch out at 12:30 PM
- **Feb. 2** – Bible Study lead by Debbie Lyon
- **Feb. 16** – Project followed by lunch out at 12:30 PM

All women of the Trinity Church are invited.

Irene Germain

BESP Shelter Schedule

- **2nd week: Jan. 9 – 15th**
First United Methodist Church)
- **3rd week: Feb. 20 – 28th**
First Baptist Church

We still need gloves, hats, socks with some wool in them, boxer underwear, white t-shirts. Place donations in the box in the Narthex. Your prayers and blessings are welcome.

Contact Irene: 845 225-4689
Irene6174@comcast.net or
 Gail 845 225-8921
gpeasesoar@aol.com



WELCA Christmas lunch at Camp Herrlich

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

LAURA DEFILIPPIS	1/2
DAVID HAAR	1/2
DECLAN HOWARD	1/2
DAWN MARINICH	1/2
MAXINE FOLEY	1/4
DYLAN TORLISH	1/4
ZACHARY DUBEN	1/5
SARA CORBI	1/6
JULIUS CESARE	1/9
LUKE MORELLO	1/11
DONNA PORTA	1/12
ALEXANDRA ALAM EL DIN	1/13
DUNLIN STATHIS	1/13
MC KENZIE CALLAHAN	1/16
SARAH-MARIE ALAM EL DIN	1/17
ERIC HALBEKATH SR	1/17
ROBERT LEE	1/18
STEPHANIE ANN DUDOWITZ	1/20
JAKE GROUNDWATER	1/23
ERIN MARKERT	1/23
PENELOPE LITCHFIELD	1/24
JENNIFER MORELLO	1/24
KYLE STEIKE	1/25
HEATHER LAROCCHIA	1/29
ANNA TRIELLER	1/31

Happy Wedding Anniversary

to

CONSTANCE & MARK BOLDISH
January 13th

KARL & ELIZABETH LYON
January 18th



Memorials Received

from WELCA & Dorothea Baratta

In honor of Marion Bradley

Mother of Sharon Laird

&

From Susan Megaro

In honor of George Kramer

Her father



Congratulations to

Brianna Sergio &

Danilo Mejia Gattas

who were married on

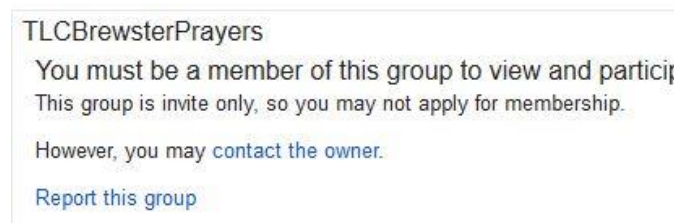
Friday, December 16th at Trinity

Trinity Google Prayer Goup

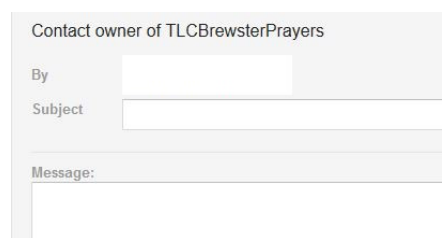
Trinity has a new electronic prayer group. Have you had a need for prayers for a family member or friends. This is a good way to get the word out to folks at Trinity to do some praying. By joining the group you can submit a prayer request or receive a prayer request from others in the congregation.

To join the group, send email to tlcbrewsterprayers@googlegroups.com and ask to join the group or you can visit the [Prayer Request Google Group webpage](#). From the webpage you can join the group, post and view requests online.

Selecting the webpage you will see the following:



Select "contact the owner" and it will open an email.



Complete the email and send it. Once I receive it, I will add your email address to the group and send email to confirm you are now a member of the group.

Joanne Icken

CandleLight Prayer Walk

Monday, January 16th at 1 PM

First United Methodist, Brewster

We gather with our Interfaith sisters and brothers to walk through the Village of Brewster on behalf of our immigrant neighbors and others who are fearful at this time. We will meet at 1 PM at First United to walk in remembrance of the call to justice and peace from Martin Luther King, Jr.

First Friday

January 6th at 6 PM, Fellowship Hall

As we celebrate the journey of the Magis to see Jesus, we gather to share a meal with an international flair. Bring your favorite food to share from a country of your choosing.

Use this link to RSVP

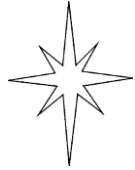
<https://www.mealtrain.com/potlucks/olzred>



We pray for those who are ...

IN THE HOSPITAL, ILL, RECUPERATING FROM SURGERY, OR UNDERGOING MEDICAL TREATMENT:

Ava, Brigitte, Lee, Augie Autieri, Tony Baggetta, Tamara Bagen, Lisa Bagnati, Joan Baum, Kitty, Barbara Jean Bennet, Bennett, Joe Bettcher, Nicole Bettcher, Cherish Bliefernich, Michael Boyd, William Brown, Betty Buckmaster, Ronnie Byrnes, Chuck, Colleen, Corrie, Erin Conroy, Helen Conte, Sharon Cooper, Linda Cowen, Ben Dalecki, Joanne D; Karen Delduco, Kathren Devine, Dilynn, Gert Donovan, Wayne Farber, Tony Ferrajina, Chuck Flickinger, Kristin Foley, Christine Gallegher, George Gilleo, Barbara Goos, Eleanor Greene, Eric Halbekath Sr, Thomas Ingate, JoAnn Johnston, Jennifer Johnson, Bob Koenig, Matthew Kromar, Jean Lamberston, Krystal Langke, Judy Lutz, Chaleb Mc Caughey, Raymond Maglio, Gail Maisel, Michael, Kelly Maxwell, Hedy McCloskey, Ziggy Mignanelli, Michael Montana, Karen Myerwold, John Noone, Pr. Paul Nordeen, Bob Obuck, Pr Garry Patrylo Jr, Ed Ranieri, Muriel Rapp, Nicholas Rogan, Larry Ruhs, Marilyn Schoeller, George Schwarz, Sharon, James Sorge, Phyllis Sorge, Joe Stark, Meyer Steinhardt, Curt Stiles, Carol Straub, Walter Straub, Meranda Sue, Robin Talmadge, Michelle Tessier, Teddi Tom, Mary Torlish, Greg V., Henry Von Bargaen, Katherine Waldvogel, Alex Wallace, Mary Ann Wilk, Jessica Wilkson



WRESTLING WITH LONG-TERM HEALTH ISSUES:

Morgan Andren, Judy B, Gloria Bretone, Janet Canor, Tony Cardella, John Cianciullo, Dorothy Cordell, Deena Cox, Nancy Cuomo, Coppy Cuomo, Tom Curran, Glen DiSanto, Al Eberhardt, Donna Ficara, Jim Fiore, Mollie Fitzpatrick, Margaret Fowler, Amanda George, Chuck Flickinger, Catherine Henneforth, Sue Kaufman, Raymond Kiernan, Janet Kniffin, Carl & Mary Kropp, Ryan Lee, Allen McCaslin, Reneé McElroy, Thaine Manske, George Miller, Tanya Murgai, Regina Paulson, Katie Ray, Betty Rodda, Rosaleen, Riley Rushia, Otto Schmid, Linda Siebold, Sindy, Sally Sheets, Zack Small, Audrey Stone, Dylan Stolper, Kenneth Strawn, Kathy Sullivan, Josephine Talley, Kaeli Tretera, Gina Venezia, Glenn Wagner, Walt, Cecilia Winters, Stephanie, Donna, Richard Yessian

FACING LIFE'S CHALLENGES: Kim Andren, the Banuelos/Cable/Lyon family, Wanda & Cliff, Della Arndt, the Bueti family, Eleanor Byrnes, Catherine, Lillian Eberhardt, Fahy family, Jeannie Graham, Terry Gregori, Joanne Halbekath & family, Larry Hampson, Frank Hastie, Logan Keane, Nicola Kenny, Matt, Bill & Debbie Logan, Anita Luhrs, Mary Jane McMahan, Ryan, Mariela Ramirez & family, Alexander Maxwell, Charles Maxwell Wieller, Sue Rodriguez, Twila Skeels, Alex Smith, Barbara Sparkes, Katelyn Stufano, Kristen Sullivan, Michael Talarico, Morgan Watt, Jennifer West, Dave, Lisa, Jaimie Zeola

SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES: Michael Caitney, Carlos Class, Dylan Cumpston, Adam Elliott, Phillip Gerhardt, Ron Hansen Jr., Dylan Kinsella, Pr Anthony Stephens, Alyssa Torlish, Adam Vieux, Jessica Woodall, all those in the service of our country, especially in Iraq and Afghanistan, and their chaplains

RESTRICTED TO HOME/NURSING HOME: Marge Christie, Gerrit Franssen, Lawrence Henry, Rita Karlsson, Marian Langlois, Horatio Massatti, Virginia Mead, Marge Popham, Sylvia Rieg, Elizabeth Waugh, Scott Werner

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF: Ruth Steike

Attending seminary: Dawn Morello

Partnership Ministries: The Northwest Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania; the Brewster Soup Kitchen (Brewster 1st Baptist Church) and Brewster Food Pantry (St. Andrew's Episcopal), Brewster Ecumenical Service Partnership (BESP); local small business owners in challenging economic times

Servants of the Church: Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, and the Churchwide staff; Bishop Robert Rimbo of the Metropolitan New York Synod and staff; Pastor Jennifer Boyd, Deacons Charles Germain, Jr. and Dorothy Kafalas; Minister of Music Franklyn Commisso; Council members; Sunday School teachers, and worship leaders

To make changes to the Prayer List, email: trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com

A Message from Bishop Robert Alan Rimbo

With great hope

Dec 14, 2016

You might think I'm crazy to admit this, but sometimes the first thing I do in the morning, right before praying, is look at Facebook. This morning when I checked in I was met with three things that gave me so much to pray for.

First I saw the fourth anniversary of the Newtown Elementary School Shooting.

Second I saw the destruction and killing in Aleppo.

Third I saw that Dylann Roof's confession of the Charleston church shooting.

Having taken in the law, I looked for the Gospel by reading Zachariah 8. Take a moment to read it, looking for words of hope.

This text follows a series of visions from Zechariah and is during a period after the exile and destruction of the temple in Jerusalem. Now this is how God responds to the prophet's visions. As you can see, this is a passage filled with great promise to people who are yearning for restoration. There is great hope for the world.

Even though we are quicker to see jealousy lead to anger and rage, God's jealousy is leading to a deep passion for the people of Zion. There is hope in God being so jealous and passionate towards restoration, justice, and bonds of community.

In the news we see images from Aleppo of people standing in the streets in the midst of utter destruction and rubble. The images all look soft from the dust that clouds the air. It is a stark contrast to the prophet's vision of a faithful city with men and women in the streets and children playing. It truly seems impossible.

Our world is full of vulnerable people and places. Children whose future will be unseen. Refugees who are seeking peace. And the faithful who seek sanctuary in the word of the Lord. We are constantly finding ourselves needing this message of hope and restoration in a broken world.

And here is my hope in this season: that we as a church and as individuals can find ourselves in the remnant people of Zion. I hope for the sowing of peace and the fruits that can be yielded for generations to come. I hope for us to not be afraid, but to have strong hands in working to build God's vision here and now. We are the remnants that must bring a message of hope and peace to a world yearning to be restored. We must speak truths. Make peace. Love one another. And love the truth.

I hope for all of these things as we enter into a time unlike any other. Our hope seems impossible and bearing fruit seems improbable.

When we developed our theme for 2017, "Faith Not Fear", we didn't know what lay ahead. But it is in our most vulnerable places that we need God's word to not be afraid repeated over and over again.

"Faith not fear" is a sentiment that is full of challenge. We act very differently when acting out of fear versus faith. And it is out of faith that I hope we will all act. I hope that we can act with a clear passion for welcoming Christ into our lives and communities.

In this Advent and Christmas season I wish abundant blessings upon you and your family.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

January 2017

January 1

10:00 AM Service of Lessons &
Carols, Holy Communion

January 8

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS
10:45 AM Holy Communion

January 15

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS
10:45 AM Holy Communion

January 22

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS
10:45 AM Holy Communion

January 29 (one service only)

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS
10:30 AM Annual Meeting

Trinity Lutheran Church Mission

Statement: As a people of God, we desire to experience the presence of God in our lives that we might be the presence of God in the lives of others.

Location

2103 Route 6
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Pastor Jen's email

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Inside the January Trinitarian

1. Pastoral Reflections – Agape Meal
2. Faith at Home
3. Stewardship
4. Social Ministry
5. Finances & Property
6. Annual Meeting – Jan. 29th - Voting Members List
7. WELCA, BESP
8. Celebrations
9. Gatherings - Prayer group, Candlelight walk, 1st Friday
10. Our Prayers