

# The Trinitarian



## Pastoral Reflections - *“There is need of only one thing...” (Luke 10:42)*

Spring has sprung and that means spring activities have started with a vengeance. Finding time to attend worship, Faith formation, as well as spending time in prayer can become more difficult the busier our lives become.

Martin Luther is quoted as saying that the busier he became, the more time he spent in prayer. Just as Jesus said to Martha – “you are worried and distracted by many things...” (Luke 10:41), we can become overwhelmed by a burgeoning schedule and responsibilities. Sometimes it may feel as if we don’t even have time to breathe, much less pray.

And yet, breathing is the whole point of it all. Most of the time, we don’t pay attention to our breathing. It is just something that happens automatically with little thought on our part. Until, that is, we are short of breath or have trouble breathing (like Michael) then we become very conscious of it.

In yoga and other meditative activities, we are invited to be mindful of our breathing, to control it, which then helps our regular breathing. These kinds of breathing exercises strengthen us when we do face more strenuous activities. Try this on your own - here’s an example:

*Get in a comfortable position and close your eyes*

*Notice your normal breathing*

*As you take a breath in, use words like “Come, Holy Spirit” or “Come, Lord Jesus”*

*As you release your breath, let the exhale be words like “Have mercy” or “refresh me”*

*Repeat as often as you need.*

This kind of breathing exercise is a form of prayer. As we breathe in, we are reminded of God’s presence with us and as we release our breath, we surrender into that presence. It helps to center our lives in God, quiets our souls for even just a minute and we come to see that we can indeed “pray without ceasing” (I Thessalonians 5:17). Prayer becomes as natural as our breathing.

In both Greek and Hebrew, the words for breath (pneuma/ruah) are the same words for spirit and wind. In the beginning, God breathed his Spirit into us and gave us life. It’s the first thing we do when we are born and the last when we die. God’s Spirit or breath moves amongst us, filling us with Christ’s love.

As we breathe, we are filled with the grace of God to embark on that day’s activities, seeking God’s will to infuse all that we say and do.

As Jesus said to Martha: there is need of only one thing. And that is the breath of God to empower us to live the life that God has given us to its fullest.

Peace in Christ, *Pastor Jen*

## Faith @ Home

As time in the car seems to be increasing for many, here are some things that you can do amidst your travel:

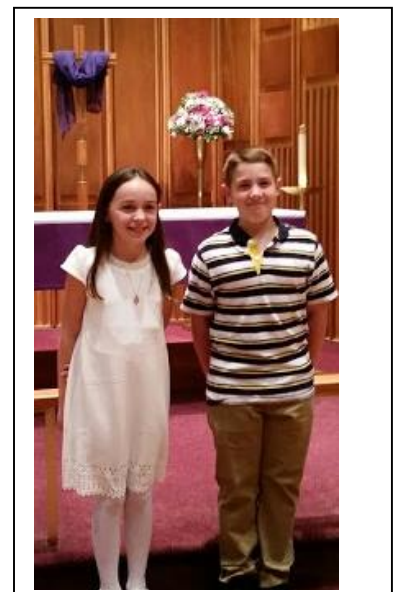
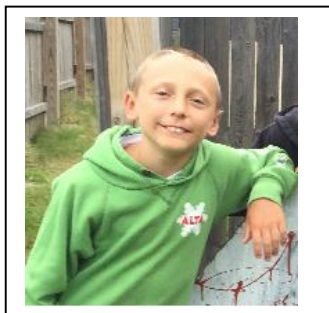
**Signs of God** – look for God’s handiwork as you go. In addition to nature, what other ways is God revealing God’s self?

- + **Questions of Faith:** Ask each other these (or come up with your own):
  - If Jesus played a sport, which one do you think he would play and why?
  - If you were given a million dollars but couldn’t spend it on yourself or your family, what would you use it for?
  - If you could ask God any question, what would you ask? What do you think God’s answer could be?
  - If you could be any person – living or dead – who would you be and why?
  - If Jesus were to come back to earth as a human again, what do you think he would be like? Where would he live? What would he wear? What would he do?
- + **Sharing our faith:** Tell someone else something about your own faith. You can use the following ideas as a guide:
  - Share your earliest memory of learning something about God. When/where was it? Who was there?
  - Share your favorite story in the Bible and why it is your favorite.
  - Share the time that you felt closest to God

## First Holy Communion

The gift of Holy Communion is the birthright of the baptized. At our 7 PM Maundy Thursday service this year, we celebrated first holy communion Walter Jaklitsch, Andrew Klammer, Nicholas Messina, Grace Van Vlack, Cassandra Wise, Kevin Wise, Sarah Yates.

Thank you to Heather Duben and Dawn Morello for this year’s course of instruction.





## How Your Contribution Is Processed

**Have you ever wondered** how your weekly giving to Trinity gets processed? It's not as easy as making a deposit at the bank. The process is mostly manual and requires the effort of three volunteers.

### Counters and counting sheets

Each Monday morning our head teller, Dorothy Kafalas, along with one other volunteer sits with all donations received the prior week.

Using a counting sheet that lists envelope and fund numbers, they begin the task of counting.

Each envelope is opened and the contents compared to the amount noted on the outside. Any discrepancies are corrected on the envelope, which is kept in the office for our records. Each amount is entered on the counting sheet for the fund specified by the member.

Currently there are funds for general, mortgage, memorials, special music, Sunday school, initial offerings, and special holidays. Each amount is entered on the sheet in the proper fund column and finally tallied.

### Summary sheet

The totals for each fund from the counting sheets are then copied on to the *contribution summary sheet*, which also includes monthly rental income from clients who use the church property, along with other income. All totals are checked and crosschecked, and any discrepancies are corrected before completing the counting.

### Bank deposit

Once the totals are verified, the checks are stamped and prepared for the bank along with deposit slips for the general, mortgage, special and holding funds. Deposit receipts are given to

the members who manages the respective fund. Copies of the *contribution summary sheet* are given to the treasurer, the head of finance, the financial recording, mortgage and special funds secretaries, and to pastor.

### Manual data entry

Once the counting is complete I use the *contribution summary sheet* along with the counting sheets to manually enter each contribution into Shepherd's Staff, the computer application used by Trinity to track church finances. Data entry can take up to two hours.

### Online contributions

When you give donations via Vanco, our online facility for contributions, all manual steps are eliminated. This removes the need for manual counting and data entry for each contribution. Instead weekly reports from Vanco are grouped once a month and are uploaded directly to Shepherd's Staff.

If you are currently paying your bills online or you currently shop online, I highly recommend using our Vanco online system to setup your giving. It saves you writing a check each week, you no longer need envelopes and you don't have to make up missed contributions if you miss a service. It saves the Trinity office from handling your donation multiple times while counting and entering it into Shepherd's Staff. Give it a try. It is quite simple.

-Joanne Icken

## Upcoming Social Ministry Activities

These are opportunities to use the gifts God has given you to serve others. Please note that these dates are tentative and subject to change. Any questions can be directed to Joanne Icken ([jjicken@yahoo.com](mailto:jjicken@yahoo.com))

Date	Activity
May 7	Lutheran World Relief Tied Fleece Blankets
June	Cookie Tins for Seafarer's International House
August	School supplies for Putnam CAP
September	God's Work. Our Hands
October	Midnight Run – October 1st
November	Thanksgiving baskets for Putnam CAP
December	Christmas satchels for Seafarer's International House

### Putnam CAP

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.

### Yarn, Woven or Fleece Fabrics, Adult t-shirts Needed

Yarn, woven or fleece fabrics, and used adult t-shirts are needed for Lutheran World Relief projects. Donations may be left in labeled storage tubs in the narthex or outside the office door. All donations will be greatly appreciated.

-Joanne Icken



### WELCA Welcomes all Women of Trinity Church

We invite all women to attend our WELCA meetings at 10:00 AM in Fellowship Hall.

- ❖ May 4 – Bible study and craft or project
- ❖ May 7 – Sunday Mother's Day sale between services
- ❖ May 11 – Craft or LWR project
- ❖ May 18 – Craft or LWR project 12:30 PM lunch out

Lunch RSVP: Irene Germain (845) 260-5385



## Year to Date Budget Report Thru 3/31/2017

GENERAL CHECKING ACCOUNT	
<u>Category</u>	<u>Actual</u>
<b>INCOME</b>	
Contributions	39,148.24
Other Income	5,733.68
Total Income	44,881.92
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Benevolence	\$1,500
Pastoral	\$29,694
Education	\$ 190.80
Evangelism	\$ -
Worship & Music	\$5,424
Administration	\$12,070
Property	\$8,294
Total Expenses	57,172
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>(\$12,290)</b>
<b>CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCES</b>	
(Includes \$25,000 in prior year loans)	
January 1, 2016 Balance	\$ 17,180
Current Balance	\$ 5,180

### MORTGAGE FUND

<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Variance</u>
\$11,787.17	(\$10,698.00)	\$1,089.17

### COMMENTS

**MORTGAGE FUND**

- Contributions are \$1089 ahead of payments.
- Mortgage Fund balance is \$6,967.83

**MONTHLY INCOME**

- March income was \$6,138 less than expenses.

**YEAR-TO-DATE**

- Expenses were \$12,290 more than income.

## Property News

Spring has sprung...yeah! If anyone would like to help with the mowing of our lawns this summer, please let Gary Gerfen know of your commitment.

We discussed several items at our last property committee meeting such as our paving of our parking lots, installing air conditioning in Shepherd's Hall, refurbishing of our church sign on Route 6 and more. Things are continuing to look great thanks to many of our members volunteering their time and energy and donations. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Thanks to all of you for your help in turning off lights, closing doors and keeping our closets neat. This saves us lots of money and keeping the closets neat makes it easier to find things. We will be purchasing new shelves for some of our closets.

I would like to again thank Pat Wills for all she does in recruiting organizations to rent our building. The income she brings in is fantastic. We have more groups every month looking to use our facility and that is terrific. God's Blessings on all our members and their families.

Spring cleanup is scheduled and I am sure we will have a wonderful turn out of volunteers. We are also looking to have volunteers sign up in the Narthex to help with the flower beds for this summer. Weeding and watering the flower beds is very important. Please help us out if you can.

A huge THANKS to Laurie Bell for helping us replace our sign on route 6. This will take a lot effort to accomplish. More to follow. Thank you all for your continued support to Trinity Lutheran Church!

-Ken Mongold, Property Chairman

## Sunday School Update

Spring is here and the children had a lot of fun searching for Resurrection Easter eggs on Palm Sunday at the annual Lent Event. Thank you to all who made this such a fun and successful event. (photos)

Our 4th graders had their first taste of the Lord's Table on April 13th, and thanks again to Heather Duben & Dawn Morello for teaching the Communion Class.

In May we will continue our regular Sunday School classes with no SCS on May 28th, the Sunday of the Memorial Day Weekend. SCS will then only have 2 more Sundays for this year with Promotion Sunday on June 11th. More news on Promotion Sunday to come.

-Jeanette Baldanza, SCS Superintendent



## Happy Anniversary



- ❖ LAURIE & PETER BELL 5/4
- ❖ ED & LYNN STOECKER 5/13
- ❖ PAT & JOHN WILLS 5/18

## Memorials in Honor of Cecilia Winters

- ☼ SUE BROWN
- ☼ LOUIS MARCUS

## Happy Birthday



DEVINE, KAT	5/1
GRAHAM, KENNETH	5/1
SCHUFF, ARNOLD	5/1
VON BARGEN, MARIE	5/1
CUOMO II, ALBERT	5/2
MARKERT, BARBARA	5/3
BERTONE, ALEX	5/4
LAIRD, JOE	5/5
ANDERSON, DENISE	5/6
MC DONNELL, ADDISON	5/6
KNAPP, TYLER	5/8
GOOS, BARBARA	5/9
BOYD, MICHAEL	5/11
LYON, KARL	5/11
MARKERT, ERIK	5/11
RUSSELL, JENNA	5/11
SCIARRA, CHRISTOPHER	5/12
MC ELROY, ANITA	5/13
NICOLETTI, ALEX	5/13
GUINYARD, NELIDA	5/15
HANSEN, TYLER	5/15
STRINGER, MICHAEL	5/15
TUTHILL, HALSEY	5/15
BERTONE JR, JOHN	5/18
FENDT, FRED	5/20
ICKEN, JOANNE	5/20
BRIGGS SR, ROBERT	5/22
EFFEREN, HEATHER	5/23
GRILLO, ERIK	5/23
KOLAR, DIANA	5/23
KOLAR, MATTHEW	5/23
DONOVAN, CHRISTOPHER	5/24
ICKEN, DON	5/25
BRUSIE, CLAIRE	5/30
STOECKER, KRISTEN	5/31
TOMPURI, MAISA	5/31





### First Friday Potluck – May 5<sup>th</sup>

6:00 PM, Fellowship Hall

#### “Run for the Roses/Kentucky Derby”

Wear a hat! Prizes awarded for the funniest, most glamorous and most creative! So put your thinking caps on and come up with a hat to wear!! Sign up to be a judge (3 needed) if you don't want to wear a hat.

Sign up in the Narthex or RSVP online here:

<https://mealtrain.com/gg2r8l>



### Congregational Retreat/Planning

Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 9 AM – 2 PM

How are we living out the mission that God has set before us? Through ongoing reflections and conversations, the Church Council is inviting all of Trinity (all ages) to gather to dream and to work upon these areas of ministry and how we might more fully live out God’s mission. We will be moving out of general areas into very specific and tangible ideas. We will talking about the following areas of our mission:

- Contemporary worship
- Outreach ministries
- Spiritual formation
- Hospitality
- And others that may arise in our conversations

### Youth Activities at Trinity

#### Ellis Cemetery Clean Up

Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup> - Following the first service we will be cleaning up the Ellis Cemetery. Afterwards we will get pizza. Please make sure to dress appropriately for yard work.

Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 - 11:30

Our last dance before the summer is a Pajama Party! All of the proceeds will go towards the Putnam Humane Society.

### BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sunday, May 21, 5:30 PM

We are gifted by God’s grace with the presence of a variety of pets in our lives. In order to honor these gifts, you are invited to bring your pet on to the back parking lot at Trinity for a special Blessing of our Pets.

We will also be praying for those animals who do not have a home or who live amidst difficult circumstances. We will honor them by bringing donations for the Putnam Humane Society. See wish list here:

<http://www.puthumane.org/how-you-can-help/wish-list/>

Invite others to join us for this time of blessing!





## *We pray for those who are ...*

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

Ava, Beth, Brigitte, Lee, Tony Baggetta, Tamara Bagen, Lisa Bagnati, Joan Baum, Kitty, Barbara Jean Bennet, Elaine Berg, Joe Bettcher, Nicole Bettcher, Cherish Bliefernich, Bella Bobinski, 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, Wayne Farber, Tony Ferrajina, Christine Gallegher, George Gilleo, Barbara Goos, Eleanor Greene, Rachel Gressel, Eric Halbekath Sr, Thomas Ingate, JoAnn Johnston, Jennifer Johnson, Bob Koenig, Lynda Kraus, Matthew Kromar, Jean Lamberston, Krystal Langke, Judy Lutz, Chaleb McCaughey, 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, Chuck Pease, Ed Ranieri, Nicholas Rogan, Larry Ruhs, Marilyn Schoeller, Sharon, James Sorge, Phyllis Sorge, Joe Stark, Meyer Steinhardt, Curt Stiles, Carol Straub, Walter Straub, Meranda Sue, Rob, Robin Talmadge, Michelle Tessier, Debby Tieste, Teddi Tom, Mary Torlish, Greg V., Henry Von Bargen, Marie Von Bargen, Katherine Waldvogel, Alex Wallace, Mary Ann Wilk, Jessica Wilkson

### **WRESTLING WITH LONG-TERM HEALTH ISSUES:**

Bette Adams, Morgan Andren, Stephen Arden, Judy B, Gloria Bretone, Jennifer Rebecca Butvinik, Janet Canor, Tony Cardella, Olivia Casale, John Cianciullo, Dorothy Cordell, Deena Cox, Nancy Cuomo, Copsy Cuomo, Tom Curran, Glen DiSanto, Al Eberhardt, Donna Ficara, Jim Fiore, Margaret Fowler, Amanda George, Catherine Henneforth, Sue Kaufman, Raymond Kiernan, Janet Kniffin, Ryan Lee, Allen McCaslin, René McElroy, Thaine Manske, George Miller, Tanya Murgai, Betty Rodda, Rosaleen, Riley Rushia, Otto Schmid, Linda Siebold, Sindy, Sally Sheets, Zack Small, Audrey Stone, Dylan Stolper, Kenneth Strawn, Kathy Sullivan, Josephine Talley, Michael Tamborino, Kaeli Tretera, Gina Venezia, Glenn Wagner, Walt, Stephanie, Donna, Richard Yessian



**FACING LIFE'S CHALLENGES:** Kim Andren, the Banuelos/Cable/Lyon family, Wanda & Cliff, Della Arndt, Charlotte Berwind, the Bueti family, 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

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

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

**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 Church-wide 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](mailto:trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com) or call 845-279-5181

### Interested in joining Trinity?

If you would like to find out more information about what it means to be a member of Trinity's church family, please let Pastor Jen now. [revjedyer1@yahoo.com](mailto:revjedyer1@yahoo.com); 845-279-5181.

### Alternative Service Committee

We're looking for people who are interested in exploring alternative worship services at Trinity. Please see Ralph Rudolph or Pastor Jen if you are interested in seeing what others are doing and sharing your ideas on the subject.

### Trinity Needs a New Treasurer

We have been blessed by countless faithful servants who have been our treasurers over the years. Arnold Schuff, our current treasurer, is retiring at the end of this year and so we are looking for someone to take on this responsibility. We would like to find his replacement early so that we can have a smooth transition. If you would like more information, please contact Don Icken (Finance Chair), Barbara Markert (Council President) or Pastor Jen. Call the office for their contact information: 845-279-5181.



### Fellowship Hall Window

Thanks to Charlie Larocchia for putting a window in the Fellowship Hall Door!

## What Is a Synod?

The English word "synod" comes from two Greek words, *syn hodos*, which literally mean "a way together." This word points to the fact that we are part of an interdependent church. The [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#) has three expressions: over 10,000 congregations, 65 regional synods, and the churchwide organization. The Metropolitan New York Synod is a regional expression of the ELCA.

Our synod covers all five boroughs of New York City, all of Long Island, and seven upstate counties (Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, Westchester). We are divided geographically into 18 conferences, each represented by a dean who serves as a liaison between the bishop's office and the congregations in their area.

The 190 parishes on our territory are greatly diverse, from rural outposts to inner-city storefront churches, with a good dose of suburban mid-sized congregations as well. Our location blesses us with great ethnic diversity; you can worship in over a dozen languages, including Spanish, Arabic, Cantonese, Mandarin, Norwegian, German, and American Sign Language.



Faith not fear. What does it mean to live in a society where faith is what determines our actions? Has this challenge changed in the 500 years since Martin Luther posted the 95 Theses, calling people to faithful conversation?

Our 2017 Synod Assembly will be under the theme, Faith Not Fear. This is the same theme we are using for other events and resources surrounding the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017. Our assembly will culminate with a Saturday event, free and open to all, that will help us to explore what it means for us to be Lutherans today through workshops, keynotes, and a Festival Eucharist.

The 2017 Synod Assembly will be held May 11-13 at the Westchester Marriott, 670 White Plains Road, Tarrytown, NY 10591. Check these pages and our synod's Eletter for updates.

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## WORSHIP SCHEDULE MAY 2017

### May 7

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS

10:45 AM Holy Communion

### May 14

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS

10:45 AM Holy Communion

### May 21

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS

10:45 AM Holy Communion

### May 28

8:30 AM Holy Communion

10:45 AM Holy Communion

### 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  
Brewster, NY 10509  
Phone: 845-279-5181

**Website:** [trinitybrewsterny.org](http://trinitybrewsterny.org)

#### Pastor Jen's email

[revjedyer1@yahoo.com](mailto:revjedyer1@yahoo.com)

#### Office

[trinlutheranoffice @yahoo.com](mailto:trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com)

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