

# The Trinitarian



## Pastoral Reflections

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

### Remember the Date

Birthdays, anniversaries, holidays and the like hold special places on our calendars. I have one of those perpetual calendars so I don't have to move all those dates from one calendar to the next with the beginning of each new year, helping me remember those special relationships in my life.

While Christmas is always on December 25th, other holy days in the church calendar move from year to year. Easter moves every year, dramatically so - which makes the beginning of Lent as well as Pentecost move (as they are dependent on Easter's date). The date of Easter is set by determining the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox which is why it changes every year.

This year, Easter is on April 1st - yes, April fool's day (more about that closer to Easter).

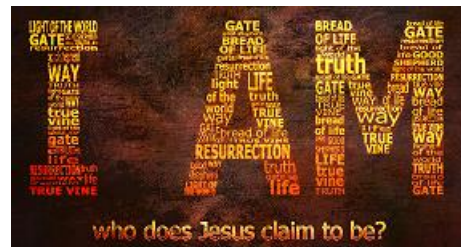
Which makes Ash Wednesday (the 40 days plus Sundays before Easter) fall on Valentine's Day - so don't forget to include that in your romantic evening plans.

While our culture has focused on hearts, candy and flowers on February 14th, the significance of this date beginning Lent cannot be lost on us. More than romantic love, the love that we celebrate as Christians is that all encompassing and unconditional love of God. Lent calls us to repentance, turning back to the One who loves beyond measure and without bounds. It calls us back to God as the true source of love and life.

Just as those special dates on our calendars call to mind those significant relationships in our lives, this year - February 14th/Valentine's day - calls us back to our first love, the love in whose image we are created, the love that will never leave us, betray or desert us- the love that never ends.

So as we gather on Ash Wednesday and even as we also mark Valentine's Day, we recall the loves in our lives - the love that surpasses all our expectations.

Peace in Christ, Pastor Jen



### Faith Formation Wednesdays

7:00 PM, General Meeting Room

Our Lenten series will begin on Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. We will be looking at the "I am" statements by Jesus in John's Gospel.

I Am the

- + Bread of Life
- + Light of the World
- + Door
- + Good Shepherd
- + Resurrection and Life

Join us each Wednesday, except Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> for this special study.

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## Prayer Mondays

Prayer is central to our lives of faith. It is our ongoing conversation in relationship with God. Over the past couple of years, we had asked people to commit to a day during the month to pray for the mission and ministry of Trinity. We are grateful for all those who faithfully prayed during this time.

For 2018, we are asking people to specifically take time on Mondays for a time of prayer, in addition to whatever is your regular prayer practice. Each week there will be a different focus as well as opportunity for prayer. Some of them will be done in community and others are at home. You are invited to participate in whatever way you feel called.

**First Monday:** “Pray without Ceasing”: In 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Paul invites the community of faith to pray always. Set your alarm for 5:17 (am or pm, your choice) and pray for the mission and ministry of Trinity.

**Second Monday:** Prayer Vigil: We will hold a monthly prayer service (7pm) where we will gather in prayer together to pray for specific people, ministries and the like. There will be an opportunity for individual prayer as well as laying on of hands.

**Third Monday:** Prayer Practices: Different ways of praying will be shared for you to use on your own. They will be posted on Facebook as well as shared in the previous Sunday’s bulletin

**Fourth Monday:** Labyrinth: Our labyrinth will be put out in Shepherds Hall for most of the day for people to stop by and use as they are able (watch for specific times to be posted)

**Fifth Monday:** As this does not occur every month, this will be the surprise, with ideas or special services announced in the weeks leading up to this particular week.

## Third Tuesdays Table Talk

Martin Luther regularly gathered with colleagues, students, friends and others to talk about faith, sharing their thoughts, questions and reflections with one another.

On the third Tuesday of each month, we will gather at a restaurant to share a meal and share our own faith questions with one another. (Cost, at this point, will be covered by participants.) Reservations will be required as they will be needed for the restaurant.

Our first Table Talk will be on Tuesday, February 20th (6:30 pm) at McCarthy’s Grill House located at: 374 Route 52 in Carmel

Please contact Pastor Jen, the church office or sign up in the narthex to confirm your spot.



## National Youth Gathering

We thank everyone who supported our first bake sale to raise money to attend the National Youth Gathering this summer. More fundraisers will be happening soon. You can also visit our online fundraising, Click here: [Trinity Youth Trip](#) or go to [www.youcaring.com](http://www.youcaring.com) and in the search box, type: trinity youth trip.



## WELCA Update

We will be meeting in February on the following dates:

- ❖ February 8 – 10 AM: Bible Study led by Deb Lyon
- ❖ February 22 – 10 AM: LWR project or craft followed by lunch out at 12:30 PM at Tops in Mahopac

In March Pastor Jen will lead us in a Lenten Study. Please join us.

- ❖ March 1- 10 AM: Pastor Jen- Lenten Study
- ❖ March 8 - 10 AM: Pastor Jen – Lenten Study
- ❖ March 15 -10 AM: Pastor Jen –Lenten Study followed by lunch out at 10:30 PM at Mama Rosas.

In April we are getting a group from Trinity to attend the Region 7 WELCA Retreat. This Retreat held once every 3 years is a time to gather for fellowship, study, and fun. See the flyer in this Trinitarian for details. Let Irene Germain know if you are interested in coming.

Irene Germain

[irene6174@comcast.net](mailto:irene6174@comcast.net) 845-225-4698

## Sunday School Update

As we continue with SCS this month brings the beginning of Lent and with that the children will again be marching to the Trinity Brass on Mardi Gras Sunday on February 11th. Look for who may be behind the beads and colorful masks. Ash Wednesday is on February 14th and will start Lent & how we reflect during this season in the church calendar. The children will also have their annual Lent Event on Palm Sunday. Offering envelopes were distributed to the children in January and if you haven't received them please see me.

Jeanette Baldanza  
SCS Superintendent



## BESP Shelter Needs

Thank you so much for all the warm socks and hats. We are good for now! Please sign up to cook, serve or stay overnight with the paid supervisor for our remaining week of ministry: **Feb 26—March 4 at First Baptist Church.** Contact: Gail Pease (845) 629-1963; Irene Germain (845) 225-4698



This year's theme is "This Changes Everything." Our primary scripture will be Ephesians 2:8 *"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God."*

## ELCA Youth Gathering Overview

Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.

An important part of the Gathering's ministry are the two pre-events, the Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (MYLE), a faith formation and leadership development event primarily for youth of color, and the tAble, a gathering that gathers, blesses and empowers youth with disabilities.

Grace is a foundational and distinctive piece of the Lutheran faith. This gift, undeserved and freely given, changes lives and perspectives as people realize they are enough because of what Christ has done and are called into the world to serve their neighbor and share the good news.

Our logo is a visual representation of our theme and the 2018 Gathering experience. It incorporates the coming together of a mosaic to reflect the diverse host city of Houston, as well as the idea that we are a church where *all* are imperfect and incomplete, yet we each belong in – and have an important place in – God's masterpiece. The cross at the center of the logo is the focus – it is God's grace, through Christ's life, death and resurrection, that changes everything for all people.

In her book "Woo: Awakening Teenagers' Desire to Follow in the Way of Jesus," Morgan Schmidt identifies the three central desires of teens. All youth desire:

- Someone to become
- Somewhere to belong
- Something to do [that changes the world]

Throughout the 2015 Gathering and the evaluations and conversations that followed, we heard our young people echo these desires again and again. As young people desire and struggle to find someone to become, somewhere to belong and something to do, the Gathering seeks to be a ministry that helps define some of that or at least open up pathways of discovery. Ultimately, we want youth to understand the fierce love that God has for them, just as they are, and that by grace, through faith, they have been saved. When young people (or really any age person!) truly claim this reality, it indeed changes everything.

## Social Ministry Schedule for 2018

Please note that these dates are tentative and subject to change. Any questions can be directed to Joanne Icken ([jiicken@yahoo.com](mailto:jiicken@yahoo.com)). To help with the cost of our social ministry projects I will be collecting monetary donations to add to our Thrivent project funds after a Sunday service sometime soon. If you have Kohl's cash that you are not using, give it to me or bring it to the church office. We can use it to purchase clothing for our yearly activities.

Date	Activity
Feb 25th	Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits
Mar 19th	Easter candy bags for Putnam CAP
Apr 8th	Lutheran World Relief Fleece Blankets
Oct	Midnight Run – October 1st
Nov	Thanksgiving baskets for Putnam CAP
Dec	Christmas satchels for Seafarer's International House

### Midnight Run

Starting **February 1<sup>st</sup>** a plastic container, labeled "Midnight Run" will be located in the Narthex for donations for our Midnight Run in October. To help 50-60 homeless men and women requires many toiletries and underwear. For some it is easier to donate once but for many of us it is easier on the budget to buy a little at a time. We ask that as you shop each week, pick up a couple travel size toiletries such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, deodorant, shampoo, and lip balm. When you are in Walmart pick up new men's underwear sizes M-XL, both briefs and shirts. They have the best price. This will help us make sure we have enough come October.

### Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits

Please join us on Sunday, **February 25<sup>th</sup>** after the first service as we assemble Personal Care Kits for LWR.

### Easter Candy Bags for Putnam CAP

On Sunday, **March 4<sup>th</sup>** I will distribute Easter bags after service. If you take a bag please fill it with Easter candy for the clients of Putnam CAP. The filled bags must be returned to Trinity by Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup> in order for them to be distributed in time for Easter.

### Lutheran World Relief Fleece Blankets

On Sunday, **April 8<sup>th</sup>** after the first service we will once again assemble Fleece Blankets for LWR. This project requires fleece 58-59" wide by 80" in length. If you have fleece at home and would like to donate it to Trinity, please do so during January and February. Place the fleece in a bag, mark it, bring it to the church and leave it in the Narthex. Please note that the fleece must be new and it cannot have any religious symbols, messages, group names, US flags, patriotic or military symbols or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.



### 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.

- Joanne Icken

**Trinity's Financial Status ...** I knew you had it in you, or more accurately, in your wallets. After months of my alternately pleading and haranguing the congregation, with the help of the Holy Spirit, the season of happiness for our Lord's birth and our sense of stewardship in protecting our church, you came through in the St. nick(olas) of time to save us. We had a great December! Our offering envelope contributions were over \$7,000 better than last year, our Christmas contributions were almost \$10,000 better than last year and with some miscellaneous contributions (totally over \$3,000), we closed the month with \$21,000 more than we contributed last year! Thank you all for your help in digging our way out of our financial hole and putting us on the path to financial stability, at least for the next few months. Bless you all.

Your astonished Financial Chair, Don Icken

### Year to Date Budget Report Thru 12/ 31/ 2017

GENERAL CHECKING ACCOUNT	
Category	Actual
<b>INCOME</b>	
Contributions	197,535.75
Other Income	30,366.15
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>227,901.90</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Benevolence	\$6,000
Pastoral	\$112,798
Education	\$ 1,739.26
Evangelism	\$ 167.00
Worship & Music	\$23,325
Administration	\$47,876
Property	\$28,160
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>220,065</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$7,836</b>
<b>CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCES</b>	
(Includes ~\$45,000 in prior year loans)	
January 1, 2017 Balance	\$ 17,180
<b>Current Balance</b>	<b>\$ 34,993</b>

### MORTGAGE FUND

Contributions	Payments	Variance
\$44,892.16	(\$42,792.00)	\$2,100.16

#### Comments

##### MORTGAGE FUND

- Contributions are \$202 ahead of payments.
- Mortgage Fund balance is \$8,000.10

##### MONTHLY INCOME

- December income was \$32,411 more than expenses.

##### YEAR-TO-DATE

- Expenses were \$7,836 less than income.

### Property Update

Pat Wills is probably tired of me thanking her for all her efforts in bringing in dollars to our church from organizations but, that is too bad. She is awesome. Over \$21,000 to start year 2018. We are always looking for other organization to rent our building. Let Pat know if you hear of anyone looking for a place to hold their meetings. Gods Blessings on all our members and their families. Thanks for all those who help keep our closets clean. Sharon Laird and I appreciate it very much.

If you have the time to help with the mowing this Summer, please let us know. Thanks to all our committee members for their support to our building and grounds. You are loved.

If you notice that something is out of place or needs some repair work done, please let us know. Your eyes will help us keep things up to date!

We are always looking for more committee members. If you are interested please let us know. Thanks goes out to Karl Westerville for putting little signs on the Fellowship Hall windows. Now we will all know how to lock them. One of the windows does not lock all the way so we are trying to get it fixed. We also need to order new locking mechanisms on a couple other windows. If you have to open them PLEASE be careful.

Thank you all for your continued support to Trinity Lutheran Church!

Ken Mongold, Property Chairman

## Memorial for Gregory Naumann

From Fred & Carol Fendt

## Happy Wedding Anniversary

HENRY & MARIE VON BARGEN on Feb. 11

JEFFERY & LAUREN DADAY on Feb. 13

## February Birthdays

SCOTT DZIBELA SR	2/1
LUKE LOFTUS	2/1
PAULA BELMONT	2/3
WENDY HEALY	2/3
DANIELLE MARKERT	2/3
URSULA MEROLLA	2/3
NICOLE MORELLO	2/3
DOWLETTE-MARY ALAM EL DIN	2/4
LAUREN BALDANZA-GIACOMELLI	2/4
LINDSAY WUND	2/4
JENNIFER GERFEN	2/6
JOHN GERFEN	2/6
ASHLEY HANSEN	2/6
SOPHIA PUCHALSKI	2/6
ALDONA GASIUNAS	2/7
LOIS LAWERENCE	2/7
JOSEPH MASTON	2/11
AIDAN CASTRO	2/13
LAUREN DADAY	2/13
OLIVIA GIACOMELLI	2/13
BRIAN VAN VLACK	2/13
ANDREA TIERSCH	2/14
KARL WESTERVILLE	2/14
SHARON LUND	2/17
MARY GERHARDT	2/20
NATHAN KNOLKER	2/20
MARK BOLDISH	2/21
JEFFREY VON BARGEN	2/22
ADELINA ZHANG	2/22
ERIN CORBI	2/23
GRANT CUOMO	2/23
CAROL FENDT	2/24
GARY MEISSNER	2/27
RITA KARLSSON	2/28
LAWRENCE RUHS	2/28
LORRAINE VAN VLACK	2/28



## Mardi Gras First Friday with Trinity Brass!

Join us for First Friday Potluck on February 3rd at 6 PM in Fellowship Hall— Mardi Gras First Friday Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6 PM, Fellowship Hall: The Trinity Brass will be providing us with music. Bring a dish to share and enjoy the festive music. See sign up sheet in the Narthex.



**Do you have trouble hearing during the worship services? Trinity has hearing devices that can help. Just ask an usher!**



## Soup Cans for Souper Bowl Sunday February 4<sup>th</sup>

This Sunday has become about more than football, but a chance to reach out to those who are hungry. We will be collecting monetary donations as well as cans of soup for Putnam Cap. In the spirit of the day, please bring beef soups if you are rooting for the Patriots, chicken soup for the Falcons or if it doesn't matter to you - any other kind of soup. Let's see who "wins" this competition.

## Marriage Encounter Weekends

Time is running out to sign up for your spring Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend. Please consider taking a weekend to learn how to make your marriage a more intimate, loving, Christian union. Below are the scheduled Northeast US spring Weekends:

**March 16-18, 2018** at Heritage Hotel Lancaster in Lancaster, PA. A newly-renovated hotel, home of the unique treehouse-inspired restaurant, "Loxley's."

**April 6-8, 2018** at Toftrees Golf Resort in State College PA. A peaceful resort surrounded by a golf course and nestled in the woods in the center of PA.

Contacts for Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at 724-325-3166 or [fjschamber@comcast.net](mailto:fjschamber@comcast.net).



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## We pray for those who are ...

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

Donna Andren, Anne-Marie, Ava, Beth, Brigitte, Lee, Tony Baggetta, Tamara Bagen, Joan Baum, Kitty, Barbara Jean Bennet, Elaine Berg, Joe Bettcher, Nicole Bettcher, Cherish Bliefernich, Bella Bobinski, William Brown, Betty Buckmaster, Ronnie Byrnes, Chuck, Colleen, Corrie, Helen Conte, Sharon Cooper, Robert Cowen, Linda Cowen, Ben Dalecki, Joanne D; Karen Delduco, Kathren Devine, Dilynn, Heather Evers, Wayne Farber, Tony Ferrajina, Christine Gallegher, George Gilleo, Barbara Goos, Eleanor Greene, Barbara Grispin, Eric Halbekath Sr, Thomas Ingate, JoAnn Johnston, Jennifer Johnson, Matthew Kromar, , Judy Lutz, Chaleb McCaughey, Raymond Maglio, Gail Maisel, Michael, Kelly Maxwell, Hedy McCloskey, Michael Montana, Karen Myerwold, John Noone, Pr. Paul Nordeen, Bob Obuck, Pr Garry Patrylo Jr, Nicholas Rogan, Liam Rogers, Larry Ruhs, Marilyn Schoeller, Sharon, James Sorge, Phyllis Sorge, Joe Stark, Meyer Steinhardt, Curt Stiles, Walter Straub, Rob, Rebecca, Debby Tieste, Teddi Tom, Greg V., Henry & Marie Von Bagen, Katherine Waldvogel, Alex Wallace, Ruth Werner, Mary Ann Wilk, Jessica Wilkson, Jim Yessian

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

Morgan Andren, Judy B, Lisa Bagnati, Bill Barki, Gloria Bretone, Jennifer Rebecca Butvinik, Janet Canor, Tony Cardella, Olivia Casale, Erin Conroy, Dorothy Cordell, Deena Cox, Nancy Cuomo, Copyy Cuomo, Tom Curran, Glen DiSanto, Gabriel Elliot, Donna Ficara, Jim Fiore, Margaret Fowler, Amanda George, Kira Hansen, Catherine Henneforth, Sue Kaufman, Raymond Kiernan, Janet Kniffin, Ryan Lee, Allen McCaslin, Reneé McElroy, , George Miller, Tanya Murgai, Ed Ranieri, Rosaleen, Riley Rushia, Otto Schmid, Linda Siebold, Sally Sheets, Zack Small, Audrey Stone, Dylan Stolper, Kenneth Strawn, Kathy Sullivan, Jennifer Szczechowiak, Josephine Talley, Michael Tamborino, Kaeli Tretera, Mary Torlish, Gina Venezia, Glenn Wagner, Walt, Stephanie, Donna

**FACING LIFE'S CHALLENGES:** Kim Andren, the Banuelos/Cable/Lyon family, Wanda & Cliff, Della Arndt, Charlotte Berwind, the Bueti family, Catherine, Donlin family: Marisa Pease, Liam & Noah; Barbara, JD & Katie Ray, Lillian Eberhardt, Rebecca Elliot, Fahy family, Elizabeth Goscinski, Jeannie Graham, Terry Gregori, Joanne Halbekath & family, Larry Hampson, Frank Hastie, Lillian K, Logan Keane, Nicola Kenny, Matt, Bill & Debbie Logan, Anita Luhrs, Mary Jane McMahan, Ryan, Mariela Ramirez & family, Alexander Maxwell, Charles Maxwell Wieller, PJ; Sue Rodriguez, Twila Skeels, Alex Smith, Barbara Sparkes, Katelyn Stufano, Kristen Sullivan, Michael Talarico, Morgan Watt, Jennifer West, Dave, Lisa, Jaimie Zeola; Zaccardo family

**EXPECTING:** Lauren & Collin Gaines, Sarah & Jay Moser, Lauren Giacomelli & Rich Masucci

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

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



## Receive Free Weekly Lenten Devotions



Each devotional includes a Bible verse, ideas for family activities, and conversation-starters. We know families are busy, so the devotionals are created to fit easily into your family's weekly routine.

You'll receive them in your inbox from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday. [Click here](#) to sign up.

## Looking ahead ...

**Ash Wednesday** is February 14<sup>th</sup> – Service at Noon and 7:00 PM.

**Lent begins** Sunday February 18<sup>th</sup> through March 18<sup>th</sup>

**On March 10<sup>th</sup>** - Moravian Love Feast at 5:00 PM

**Palm Sunday** is Sunday March 25<sup>th</sup>

**Maundy Thursday** is March 29<sup>th</sup>

**Good Friday** is March 30<sup>th</sup>

**Easter Sunday** is April 1<sup>st</sup>



We Are An Offering

REGION 7 SPIRITUAL GATHERING—APRIL 27-29, 2018  
Holy Family Conference and Retreat Center  
303 Tunxis Road, West Hartford, CT 06107

*Each of you has received a gift to use to serve others.  
Be good servants of God's various gifts of grace.  
1 Peter 4:10-11*

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## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### February 2017

#### February 4 (Scout Sunday)

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS

10:45 AM Holy Communion

#### February 11

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS

10:45 AM Holy Communion

#### February 14 – Ash Wednesday

Noon Holy Communion

7:00 PM Holy Communion

#### February 18

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS

10:45 AM Holy Communion

#### February 25

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS

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)

### *Inside the February Trinitarian*

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