

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS -

Epiphany - an appearance or manifestation, especially of a deity; sudden, intuitive perception of or insight into the reality or essential meaning of something, usually initiated by some simple, homely, or commonplace occurrence or experience.

Epiphany (with a capital "E") is the Christian observance of the visit to Jesus of the wise men from the East and falls on January 6th every year. It marks the final day of the Christmas season and serves as a kind of transitional time between Christmas and Lent.

As the dictionary definition shows, epiphany is more than a time in the church year, but it is about insight, making known or manifesting something of meaning. In some ways, it parallels the season of Pentecost in which we are both invited and called to bear witness to the Good News of Jesus. These seasons highlight what it means to be the Church.

Just as Jesus was revealed as the Son of God to the Magi, we look for the ways in which Jesus is revealed in the midst of the world today. We open our eyes and our hearts, paying attention to the world around us, looking for how Christ's love and grace is being revealed.

Have you seen an act of kindness towards a stranger?

Have you experienced forgiveness?

Where have you seen signs of hope, of peace, of compassion?

In seeing these manifestations of Christ's love and grace, we are called forth to witness to all that we have seen and experienced. As the light of God's presence has shown in our lives, we are called to let that light shine through us as well.

One of the hymns that is designated for the time after Epiphany is called "Arise, your light has come" (ELW 314). I invite you to use this hymn as your prayer for the Epiphany season.

Arise your light has come! The spirit's call obey;

Show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.

Arise your light has come! Fling wide the prison door;

Proclaim the captive's liberty, good tidings to the poor.

Arise your light has come! All you in sorrow born;

Bind up the brokenhearted ones and comfort those who mourn.

Arise your light has come! The mountains burst in song!

Rise up like eagles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Peace in Christ, **Pastor** Jen

Faith @ Home – Bless your Home



Epiphany falls on January 6th - the last day of the Christmas season which marks the visit of the Magi to baby Jesus.

Matthew writes that when the magi saw the shining star stop overhead, they were filled with joy. "On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother" (Matt. 2:10-11). In the home, Christ is met in family and friends, in visitors and strangers. In the home, faith is shared, nurtured, and put into action. In the home, Christ is welcome.

Twelfth Night (January 5), Epiphany of Our Lord (January 6), or another day during the time after Epiphany offers an occasion for gathering with friends and family members for a blessing of the home. Someone may lead the greeting and blessing, while another person may read the scripture passage. Following an eastern European tradition, a visual blessing may be inscribed with white chalk above the main door; for example, 20 + CMB + 18. The numbers change with each new year. The three letters either the ancient stand for Latin blessing Christe mansionem benedicat, which means, "Christ, bless this house," or the legendary names of the magi (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar).

The following can be used for blessing your home:

GREETING

May peace be to this house and to all who enter here. By wisdom a house is built and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures. (*Proverbs 24:3-4*)

READING

As we prepare to ask God's blessing on this household, let us listen to the words of scripture.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. (John 1:1-4, 14, 16)

INSCRIPTION

This inscription may be made with chalk above the entrance:

20 + C M B + 18

Write the appropriate character (left) while speaking the text (right).

The magi of old, known as

- C Caspar,
- M Melchior, and
- B Balthasar

followed the star of God's Son who came to dwell among us

- 20 two thousand
- 18 and eighteen years ago.

+ Christ, bless this house,

+ and remain with us throughout the new year.

PRAYER OF BLESSING

O God, you revealed your Son to all people by the shining light of a star. We pray that you bless this home and all who live here with your gracious presence. May your love be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide, your truth our light, and your peace our benediction; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Then everyone may walk from room to room, blessing the house with incense or by sprinkling with water, perhaps using a branch from the Christmas tree.

Adapted from Come, Lord Jesus: Devotions for the Home (Augsburg Fortress, 1996). See also "Blessing for a Home" inEvangelical Lutheran Worship Pastoral Care, pp. 337– 353. Reprinted from Words for Worship, copyright 2016 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

January 2018 Property News

Thanks to Pat Wills who continues to do an excellent job for our church. Recruiting organizations to rent our building is wonderful. The income she brings in is amazing. We are 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.

If you are interested in helping keep our closets clean, please let Sharon Laird or I know. Lots of effort on an ongoing basis, but because of Sharon they look a lot better.

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.

We need new carpets in Shepherds Hall. If you have any connections to help us out, please let us know. To see what is required please check out what we currently have in the room. THANKS!

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

Ken Mongold, Property Chairman

Teracycle Thank You

I want to thank the congregation for saving all their toothbrushes, shampoo bottles etc. over the year, along with deposit bottles. Because of you, we collected \$100 in deposit bottles and \$116 in Teracycle programs totaling \$216. Thanks for all you did and I look forward to another prosperous year.

Georgina Marek

Your Pledge Makes a Difference!

To date, only 46 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:

trinlutheranoffice@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.

Join the Altar Guild!

We are currently looking for new Altar Guild members. An Altar Guild member is responsible for preparing the altar for worship each Sunday. The responsibilities include changing the colored paraments according to the church calendar, polishing the communion vessels, and preparing the candles. These tasks require about one hour each week to prepare for the 8:30 am service Sunday, 15 minutes between services, and another 15 minutes following the second service. These tasks are often split between those attending the first service and the second service. Assigned weeks are divided according to your availability and worship habits.

If you can spare some time for Trinity and help us out with preparing the altar for worship each week, please contact Joanne Icken (jicken@yahoo.com)

Social Ministry for 2018

Any questions can be directed to Joanne Icken (jicken@yahoo.com).

Seafarer's Christmas-at- Sea

After the first service on Sunday, December 10th, 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. Thank you for your monetary and clothing donations.

Trinity Knitters and Crocheters

Thank you for your continued knitting and crocheting. This month the hats completed were included in the Seafarer's satchels and a bag of hats were given to Putnam CAP for their client. With your continued support we will be able to provide more hats and scarves to BESP, and in mid-February I will ship a box of hats and scarves to the Seafarer's International House in NYC.

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. Please note that for health reasons they cannot accept expired foods or any open packages.







Photos from packing for Seafarers Christmas Satchels December 2017

Year to Date Budget Report November 30, 2017

GENERAL CHECKING ACCOUNT					
Category		<u>Actual</u>			
INCOME					
Contributions	1	54,206.17			
Other Income		23,985.87			
Total Income	178,192.04				
EXPENSES					
Benevolence		\$5,500			
Pastoral		\$104,331			
Education	\$	1,718.31			
Evangelism	\$	167.00			
Worship & Music		\$21,040			
Administration		\$44,589			
Property		\$25,422			
Total Expenses		202,767			
NET INCOME	(\$	624,575)			
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCES					
(Includes \$25,000 in prior year loans)					
January 1, 2016 Balance	\$	17,180			
Current Balance	\$	2,581			

MORTGAGE FUND

Contributions	Payments	Variance	
\$41,123.14	(\$35,660.00)	\$5,463.14	

COMMENTS

MORTGAGE FUND

- Contributions are \$1,148 ahead of payments.

- Mortgage Fund balance is \$5.053

MONTHLY INCOME

- November income was \$66 more than expenses. YEAR-TO-DATE

- Expenses were \$25,224 more than income.

Trinity Finance

I am somewhat surprised in that some people actually seem to be listening to me when I plead for money for our church. When some church official makes a plea for money, most people, myself included, unconsciously tune them out. It seems the church is constantly out of money and if only we gave a little more the world would be right again. Actually, that is true, but ... we've heard it before, again and again and again. So, when I ran the numbers for October and found out that we ran a \$3,000 surplus for the month, I was surprised. Then to see increased giving for the first two weeks of November, well, what can I say, but thank you all!

Our deficit is down to \$20,000 and falling. The trend has reversed is heading in the right direction. Please keep up the good work. If we can keep this up, we have a really good chance to close out the year on a positive high. I know we can do it. Just five more weeks and you won't have to hear from me until next year!

Your happy Finance Chair, Don Icken

Online Giving

Note from a recent convert

I recently joined the group of people responsible for counting the money the church receives from the offerings, rent and other sources. I have done it 3 times so far and have learned a lot about the complexities of sorting and counting! It is a time consuming and detailed process and as a result, I went home and signed up for online giving! I encourage others to do the same.

Georgina Marek

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

Annual Congregation Meeting January 28th, 2018, 10:30 AM

To be a voting member of Trinity Lutheran Church, you must contribute once and receive Holy Communion here once a year. **2018 Voting members list is below as of December 2017** – If you're not on the list and think you should be, please contact the ofice (trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com).

AARONSON, MICHELLE ALLEN, SIGRID EVE ANDREN, DAWN MARIE ANDREN, KIMBERLY ROSE **BAGGETTA, JOY BAGGETTA, JOHN BALDANZA, JEANETTE** BALDANZA JR, JOSEPH BALDANZA-GIACOMELLI, LAUREN BARATTA, DOROTHEA BELL, ELLEN **BELL, LAURIE BERTONE, ALEXANDER** BERTONE, CYNDI **BERTONE JR, JOHN** BETTCHER, LORIE P **BETTCHER, JOSEPH BOLDISH, CONSTANCE** BOYD, JENNIFER D BRADLEY, JOAN BRIGGS, ELISABETH **BRIGGS SR, ROBERT BROOKS, CAROL ANN BROWN, SUSAN** BRUSIE, CLAIRE **BYRNES, LYNN** CARLSON, FRED CARLSON, PAMELA CESARE, JULIUS CHRISTIANO, LORETTA CHRISTOFORI, HILDE **CIOFFI, CARRIE LEE** COMMISSO, FRANKLYN W COMMISSO, MARY BETH CONROY, AMY ELIZABETH COYLE, HEATHER GRACE CUOMO, ALBERT II CUOMO, ANGELA CUOMO, DONALD J CURCURUTO, EMMY DE MARCHI, CARRIE A DEFILIPPIS, LAURA DEROBERTS, PHILIP DEVINE, KATHREN L DOELLGAST, JEANNETTE

DONOVAN, CHRISTOPHER DONOVAN SR, DANIEL DUBEN, CHRISTIAN JOEL DUBEN, HEATHER JEAN DUDOWITZ, JULIETTE DZIBELA, JOANNE DZIBELA SR, SCOTT EBERHARDT, LILLIAN EFFEREN, DEBBIE FENDT, CAROL FENDT, ERIC GARY FENDT, FRED FENDT, ROBERT EVAN FOLEY, MAXINE FOLEY SR, BRUCE GASIUNAS, ALDONA GERFEN, GARY GERFEN, KEMI GERHARDT, MARY **GERMAIN, IRENE GERMAIN JR, CHARLES GIACOMELLI, AUSTIN** GOOS, BARBARA **GRAHAM, JENNIFER GRAHAM**, KENNETH HALBEKATH, JOANNE HALBEKATH JR, ERIC HANSEN, VERONICA HARLIN, DEBRA ANN HEUSCHKEL, LYNNE ICKEN, DONALD ICKEN, JOANNE JACOBSEN, BEATRICE JACOBSEN, LLOYD JACOBSEN, NINA JOHNSON, EDWARD KAFALAS, DOROTHY **KNAPP, BRYAN JAMES** KNAPP, NANCY KOLAR, FREDERICK KOLAR, SUSAN KOVALEC, EMILY KOVALEC, ETHAN KUHLAND, HEIDI LAIRD, JOSEPH JOHN LAIRD, SHARON LEE

LANGKE, KRYSTAL LANGKE, MARISOL LAROCCHIA, CHARLES LAROCCHIA, HOLLY LAWERENCE, LOIS L LEE, JANE LEE, ROBERT LOCKSHISS, DOLORES LUND, LINDA LUND, ROBERT LUTZ, CAROL ANN LUTZ, RAYMOND LYON, DEBRA ANN LYONS, PETER LYONS, STEPHANIE MAREK, GEORGINA MARINICH, DAWN J MARKERT, BARBARA J MARKERT, BRUCE P MARKERT, ERIK MARKERT, KRISTOPHER MASTON, ALICIA MARIE MC ELROY, ANITA MEGARO, SUSAN MEROLLA, URSULA MONGOLD, KEN MORELLO, DAWN ANN MORELLO, LUKE MORELLO, JEN MOSCATO, JEANANNE NESTOR, DANIELLE NESTOR, JO-ANN NESTOR, MEGAN ELISE NICOLETTI, BARBARA NICOLETTI, JOHN NOAH, DOUGLAS NOAH, LINDA O'TOOLE, DORIS PEASE, GAIL PEASE, THOMAS PETER, DEBIANE PLATT, MARILYN POWELL, JOHN C. QUINN, JOAN **RENAUD, DOLORES RIEG, WILLIAM**

RODEN, BARBARA C RUDOLPH, PATRICIA RUDOLPH, RALPH RUHS, KATHRYN RUHS, LAWRENCE SALINGER, LINDA SCHULDT, LISA SCIARRA, CHRISTOPHER J SCIARRA, SANDRA TARASOFF SERGIO, MAUREEN E SIEBERN, HELGA SIMON, CYNTHIA STATHIS, DUNLIN WADE STOECKER, EDWARD STOECKER, KRISTEN LYNN STOECKER, LYNN ALICE STONE, AUDREY STRAND, RONALD FREDERICK STRINGER, BRIAN STRINGER, MICHAEL STRINGER, MICHAEL JOHN STRINGER, SUSAN LYNN SULLIVAN, BARBARA TEMPEL, JUERGEN A TIERSCH, ANDREA TOMPURI, MAISA TORLISH, MARY TORLISH-KOVALEC, DEBORAH LEE TRIELLER, ANNA K ULRICH, DAWN M ULRICH, LISA VAN VLACK, LORRAINE VON BARGEN, BARBARA VON BARGEN, HENRY VON BARGEN, JEFFREY VON BARGEN, KENNETH VON BARGEN, MARIE VON BARGEN, THOMAS VON BARGEN, WILLIAM WESTERVILLE, KARL WESTERVILLE, MARGARET WILLS, PATRICIA WINTERS, RICHARD YESSIAN, JAMES YOUNG, CHRISTOPHER YOUNG, MARIA

WELCA 2018

WELCA will be meeting twice a month for January and February. We invite all women of Trinity to join us.

January 4 - 10 AM

Bible study lead by Debbie Lyon

January 18 - 10 AM

Craft or LWR project followed by 12:30 lunch at Southeast Grill

February 8 - 10 AM

Bible Study lead by Debbie Lyon

February 22 - 10 AM

Craft or LWR project followed by lunch out at 12:30 PM at Top's Hibachi

In March Pastor Jen will lead a Lenten Study on March 1, 8,15 and 22. On March 15 we also go out to lunch at 12:30 PM.

Irene Germain

BESP Shelter Schedule

Please donate ONLY warm gloves with thinsulate, socks, medium boxer underwear, medium white t-shirts. Any protein: good mixed nuts, tuna or salmon in packets. NO clothing or household items. Leave donations in closet to right as you enter Shepherd's Hall. Thank you for signing up for the Christmas week at First Baptist Church. Arms Acres Substance/Alcohol Treatment Center is grateful for the Gerfen Family donation of new tees and hoodies for the men. We are blessed with Trinity members' generosity. BESP Schedule: Dec. 25-31—First Baptist Church; Jan. 15-21—First United Methodist Church; Feb. 26-March 4—First Baptist Church.

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



Sunday School News

Happy New Year to you & yours! As we start 2018 we give thanks for the beautiful holidays we enjoyed together. We continue with our SCS lessons and the children will receive new envelope boxes for their offerings to Trinity. On January 28th Trinity will have it's annual meeting so SCS will still be during the 8:30 service. The Youth Group will be making breakfast sandwiches that morning so plan on coming to church hungry.

Jeanette Baldanza, SCS Superintendent

CELEBRATIONS

Happy Wedding Anniversary

to CONSTANCE & MARK BOLDISH January 13th

KARL & ELIZABETH LYON January 18th



Memorials Received

For Al Eberhardt

From Fred & Carol Fendt Carol Brooks Erika & Christine Butler Carol & Chuck Helvig

For Michael Boyd

From Carol & Chuck Helvig

For Gregory Naumann

From Carol & Chuck Helvig

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

LAURA DEFILIPPIS DAVID HAAR	1/2 1/2
DECLAN HOWARD	1/2 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

GATHERINGS

ELCA Youth Gathering

In June 2018 some of the youth will be going to Houston Texas, where we will meet around 30,000 other youth give or take! While we are there we will be doing service projects to better benefit their community! The youth will be having a bake sale on Sunday January 14th after the 8:30 service. Hope to see you and your sweet tooth there.

Kim Andren



Dear Rev. Boyd -

Thank you so much for the US beautiful little red bats you made for the little thats Big Hearts project. They are adorable and very important to reaching my goaf of over 1900 bats readed for area hospitals in February. I appreciate your support of this project and helping as to racie

awareness of congenital heart defects.

Enjig the holiday season !

Patti Bennett Office Wanager

Communities of Peace and Justice



2nd Annual Prayer Walk for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday, January 15th, 1 – 2 PM

Meeting Place: First United Methodist Church 83 Main Street, Brewster, NY

For more information, please contact Rev. Wongee Joh at <u>wongeejoh@yahoo.com</u> Rev. Jennifer Boyd at <u>revjendyer1@yahoo.com</u>

Please join us for refreshments and fellowship, immediately following our walk, at First United Methodist Church

Parking Availability: St. Andrews Episcopal Church First United Methodist Church First Baptist Church Brewster Metro North Train Station (Sundays and Holidays)

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, Erin Conroy, 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 Bargen, 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, Dorothy Cordell, Deena Cox, Nancy Cuomo, Coppy 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 McMahon, 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;

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

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF: Thaine Manske (Pr. Jen's uncle)

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

SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES: Michael Caitney, Carlos & Alyssa (Torlish) Class, Liam Conroy, Dylan Cumpston, Adam Elliott, Phillip Gerhardt, Ron Hansen Jr., Dylan Kinsella, Pr Anthony Stephens, Kyle Tiersch, 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

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

Finding Faith in an Age of Terror - Bishop Robert Alan Rimbo

This time of year, in a culture facing terror of all sorts, many people are wanting to find faith. I think a better way to approach this is to be in places where faith can find us. I'm not simply writing to invite you to a mosque or synagogue or church – although it would be great to see you there. I'm inviting you to places where people of faith gather. And, just to be clear, those are by no means restricted to houses of worship.

To be sure, there are plenty of those places available. On Christmas Eve I expect churches to be full. And I expect many who will sing "Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful" will be those who are simply wanting to be faithful, if only for an hour...or wanting to be more faithful because of what they are fearing. And that will be true not only of the Lutherans I represent.

The faith we seek to make available to people, the faithful community we will enter, are gifts from God. This faith and these people are marked by certain characteristics we need for the common good.

You may know that Lutherans are completing a year of grand celebrations surrounding the 500th Anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation. What I am hoping is that in the coming years we will move from that historic grounding we have commemorated toward greater cooperation with people of faith in ecumenical and inter-religious movements.

There is a great commitment among leaders of various communities of faith to engage progressive advances at the grassroots level, to promote tolerance, and to encourage people to flourish in a new and needed age of community. The amazing strides between Lutherans and Roman Catholics point to this.

There is a strong desire and willingness to work on welcoming all people in a spirit of generous hospitality. As a Lutheran I can say that many of my tribe are engaged in ministry with the LGBTQ communities. In our own Synod here in Metropolitan New York, we are working to address the systemic racism which is America's original sin. We are strongly speaking out in opposition to the anti-Semitism and Islamophobia all around us. We are engaged with faithful people in our own country and around the world in addressing the abuses of power we see every day.

There are remarkable efforts at offering God's welcome to immigrants and asylum-seekers and refugees, though we certainly look for more such opportunities in the face of governmental resistance. We will work actively to participate in inclusive welcome, as our Lord Jesus was himself a refugee.

There are local congregations in which people of faith are welcoming people of all races and nations, one of the great gifts of the amazing communities in which we live. We are striving to welcome the stranger without fear but with the same kind of faith that our ancestors experienced when they reached these shores and were welcomed by the first nations people.

There is a commitment to practicing a faith that is intimately connected with "peace on earth," the gift of wholeness that is truly the meaning of shalom.

There is, in our churches and in many other religious communities, a welcome to the open table of God's Reign where all can gather together.

And while we do not have all the answers, of course, we are faithful in responding to the terror all around, knowing that God is with us and guiding us into a new day of faith when war and hardship and suffering and oppression will be no more.

This is pious language. True words. What I am calling the synod I serve as bishop to do is to put these words into action for such a time as this. And I invite you to join me as faith discovers us together again and again.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

January 2018

- Jan 7 8:30 & 10:45 AM Holy Communion
- Jan 14 8:30 & 10:45 AM Holy Communion
- Jan 21 8:30 & 10:45 AM Holy Communion
- Jan 28 8:30 AM Holy Communion one service

Thursdays noon: Spoken worship with Holy Communion

DATES TO REMEMBER

Jan 28, 10:30 AM Annual Meeting

Jan 15th, 1-2 PM 2nd Annual Peace Walk

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

Pastor Jen's email revjedyer1@yahoo.com

Office trinlutheranoffice @yahoo.com

Inside the Trinitarian

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- 5. Finance; Online Giving
- 6. Voting Members List
- 7. WELCA; BESP; Sunday School
- 8. Celebrations: Birthdays, Anniversaries, Memorials
- 9. Gatherings
- 10. Our Prayers
- **11**. Community