

The Trinitarian



Pastoral Reflections – Gratitude

For our Wednesday evening study, we have been looking at the book “Gratitude: The Transforming Power of Giving Thanks” by Diana Butler Bass. She invites the reader to look beyond writing thank you notes and what she calls the “holding the turkey hostage” as we all name what we are thankful for on the day of Thanksgiving.

Both the words “gratitude” and “grace” have their roots in the Latin word “*gratia*” and the Greek word “*kharis*”. The author writes “*Grace means unmerited favor. When I think of grace, I particularly like the image of God tossing gifts around – a sort of indiscriminate giver of sustenance, joy, love and pleasure...Grace begets gratitude, which in turn, widens our hearts toward greater goodness and love.*” (pg. 19)

Grace is one of those words that we use a lot in church. It is more than just the saying of thanks over our meals. It is not something that we earn – we can’t work our way into heaven. We can’t earn the love of God. God already loves us – not because of what we do, but because we are created in God’s image and are God’s own.

Gratitude is our response to this grace – to the gift of life itself.

What are you grateful for today?

Many will name family, jobs, weather, health, etc. We are “good” at naming generic categories of thanks, but what about specifics related to each of these areas. What is it about one of

your family members – today – that you would like to thank God for? What happened in your life today – specifically – that brought you a sense of joy, of wonder?

And what about all those things – people, places, items in our possession – that we often take for granted? The check out clerk at the store. The people who produce our food. The roads that we drive. The alarm clock that wakes us up in the morning (okay, I’m not always thankful for that).

Bass also invites us to look at the difficult times in our lives – not so much about being thankful that they happened, but how we experienced God’s grace in the midst of them. She quotes Henri Nouwen who wrote “*Still, we are only truly grateful people when we can say thank you to all that has brought us to the present moment.*” (*The Spiritual work of gratitude*).

Rather than waiting for Thanksgiving, let us take the opportunity during these summer months to learn to live thankfully, to recognize who God has worked and works through our daily lives. Let us be transformed by gratitude through the loving grace of God.

Peace in Christ, *Pastor Jen*

NOTE: *Due to storms and other scheduling conflicts, we are only part way through the book so if you would like to join the discussion, pick up the book and read the first three sections (6 chapters) by Wednesday, July 11th (7pm) which is when the group will next meet. We have only discussed the first 2-3 chapters.*



Grief Support Group

I have been thinking about starting a kind of grief group for a while. For further explanation, read my blog post, Mourning to Morning, on the next page.

While for some, the grief is "new" and others it has been a part of our lives longer - still we face the changes and challenges associated with it regularly.

I have scheduled an initial session for Sunday, July 15th (5pm) in the General meeting room to get started. We will determine as a group when, how often, etc. we would like to meet.

Please contact me (Pastor Jen) for any questions.



3rd Tuesday Table Talk

Our next gathering will be on **Tuesday, July 17th** (6:30pm) at Rosy Tomorrow's (15 Old Mill Plain Road, Danbury).

Join us for an evening of fellowship, food and faith-filled conversation.

Please contact Pastor Jen or sign up at church to reserve your spot.

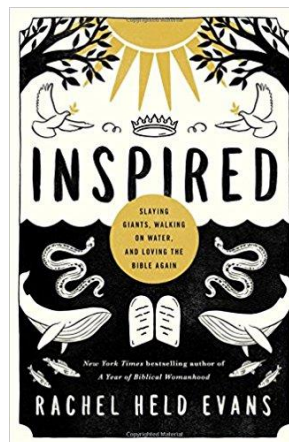
Off the Shelf

Sometimes, it's the titles that grab your attention – here are two such books to add to your summer reading.



From Luther Seminary (book recommendation) **Andrew Root's** book, *"Exploding Stars, Dead Dinosaurs, and Zombies: Youth Ministry in the Age of Science,"* deserves a spot on your summer reading list. Root, Luther Seminary professor and the Carrie Olson Baalson

Chair of Youth and Family Ministry, tackles the age-old debate of science versus religion and shows how the [two can mutually inform one another.](#)



Rachel Held Evans new book is called *"Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water and Loving the Bible Again."*

If the Bible isn't a science book or an instruction manual, then what is it? What do people mean when they say the Bible is *inspired*?

When Rachel Held Evans found herself asking these questions, she began a quest to better understand what the Bible is and how it is meant to be read. What she discovered changed her-- and it will change you too.

Pastor's Blog ...

Mourning to Morning

When I arrived at Trinity Lutheran Church, there were numerous groups already meeting as a part of the ministry here as well as outside groups that use our building regularly. One of those groups was a "Bereavement" Group that had been meeting for years. It was a small group of widows that after awhile dwindled to just one person.

I had thought periodically about starting a new one and have thought more deliberately about it in this past year following my own husband's death.

Yet, the word "bereavement" or "grief" seemed like such sorrow filled words that I didn't even want to approach them. I got hung up on them even as much as I knew (and know) the benefits of such a group both for me personally as well as people in the congregation and community.

Its not that I - as well as others - aren't sorrow-filled over the death of our loved ones. But it seemed that this time is about so much more than just tears and grief.

It is about letting the tears flow when they need to along with waking up to each new day. It is not forgetting the past or our loved ones, but taking them with us in a new way as we embark on what life now holds in store. It is living in just this moment - because sometimes that is all that we can do.

It is about living from "mourning" to "morning".

I also thought about the different kinds of grief and mourning - not just the bereavement from the death of a loved one. People experience all kinds of losses in their lives - loss of job, health, divorce, other life circumstances, purpose, homes and the like.

So the question arose about how might a "grief group" help all of us in whatever kind of mourning we experience? Yes, there are different kinds of challenges with each kind of loss. However, that is true as well in the death of our loved ones - each relationship is different and filled with its own changes.

How do we - as a people of faith - live "mourning to morning"? How might we as fellow children of God walk with each other through not just our grief but the changes and challenges that we face daily?

We begin by gathering and sharing where we are in our journeys, our time of mourning. We pray with and for one another. We cry together and we laugh together. We share the comforting grace of Christ.

No program, no agenda to force us through our mourning; just the love and grace of God that washes over us and can bring us peace.

If you are interested in being a part of such a group, contact me (revjedyer1@yahoo.com).

<http://revjen-ontheway.blogspot.com/2018/06/mourning-to-morning.html>



Since 1927 Pinecrest has been gathering young adults of the ELCA in a summer camp setting, providing them with access to a strong faith community and an opportunity to develop their strengths as leaders in the church. This exciting and interactive camp has been a life changing experience for generations of campers.

PINECREST 2018!

AUGUST 12-19, 2018 • CAMP LOUEMMA

THEME - Seasons: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8/Hebrews 13:8

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Any prospective camper looking to attend must be 15 years of age by December 31st 2018 or no older than 25 years of age. Attendance for the full session is required. The seven-day session costs \$375 for first-year campers and veterans who send in their registration before July 9.

Registration costs \$425 after July 9 for veteran campers. [Resister online](#) (preferred) or send completed registration forms to the registrar to reserve your spot.

A \$50 deposit is due by July 1, with the remaining balance to be paid by August 7. [Pay online](#) or include checks, made out to Pinecrest Lutheran Leadership Ministries, with your mailed registration form.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Assistance is available to assure that no one is denied this opportunity due to financial need. Many congregations offer assistance, and we encourage you to have a conversation with your Pastor to see if your congregation can assist in sponsoring your week at camp. Partial, and sometimes full, scholarships are also available from Pinecrest. To request a scholarship send an email to Reverend Danielle Miller at PincrestDirector@gmail.com or call 212-665-2504.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Registration questions can be sent to: Phil Burns at pinecrestpost@gmail.com or the publicity team, pinecrestbuzz@gmail.com.

More information and registration is available at: <https://www.pinecrestllm.org>

Congratulations Graduates!

As you mark the upcoming milestone in life. Much has happened to bring you to this moment and memories flood our thoughts as we watch you embark on your next adventure.

This summer, we will be setting aside time in worship to pray over and bless all of our graduates as you each head into a new part of your journey. We are looking at **Sunday, August 5th** as a possibility. Please let Pastor Jen know if you are able to be there that Sunday.

Please know that our prayers are already with you as you graduate as well as for your parents as you both look forward to what God has in mind for your future.

Wonder Women & Marvel Men of Faith



Join us this summer to be
inspired by these “superheroes” of faith

Summer Worship at 9:30am (Sundays), Saturdays at 5pm (beginning 7/14)

June 3 (Rahab)
Joshua 2:1-24

June 10 (Abraham)
Genesis 15:1-6

June 17 (Miriam)
Exodus 2:1-10, 15:20-21

June 24 (Moses)
Exodus 33:12-23

July 1 (Ruth & Naomi)
Ruth 1:1-22

July 8 (David)
2 Samuel 7:18-29

July 15 (Anna & Simeon)
Luke 2:22-40

July 22 (John the Baptizer)
Luke 3:1-20

July 29 (Mary & Elizabeth)
Luke 1:26-56

August 5 (Priscilla & Aquila)
Acts 18:1-4 & Romans 16:3-4

August 12 (Lydia)
Acts 16:11-15

August 19 (Ananias)
Acts 9:10-19

August 26 (Eunice, Lois, others)
2 Timothy 1:3-7

Sunday School Update

Our SCS year ended with promotion Sunday on June 10th with crafts based on Jesus was a Fisher of men. Thank you to everyone who made & sent in refreshments especially the cupcakes from Cassie Sciarra that kept with our theme. I want to again thank our wonderful staff of teachers who devote their time and talents to our children. Enjoy the summer and we look forward to seeing you all in September.

God's blessings.

Jeanette Baldanza
Sunday School Superintendent



Property News

Thanks goes to Debbie Lyons for volunteering to oversee the clean-up of the flower beds this summer. Her email is Godsjoyfullyon@aol.com. This is truly awesome. Also, thanks to Joy Baggata for planting some early flowers and also thanks goes to Joanne Icken and Kathie Ruhs for purchasing flexible water hoses. All this is so greatly appreciated.

Thanks to Pat Wills for all her support to our Church. In June she came up with even more income for our church. She is constantly getting new groups to utilize our space. Let Pat know if you hear of anyone looking for a place to hold their meetings. Thank so much for your support.

I have noticed that when I walk around our building, Folks are remembering to turn off the lights and this is greatly appreciated. Wonderful for sure. If you have the time and you can empty the dehumidifiers in Shepherds Hall, the Youth Room and the back hallway to the downstairs bathrooms that would be awesome.

Thanks to all our wonderful volunteers who have stepped forward to mow this summer. Your support is so terrific. You are the best. If you forget your time to mow, please give Gary Gerfen on myself a call. Thanks.

A special thanks to Laurie Bell for overseeing the parking lights in the upper and lower grounds of the church. This should be taken care off in the very near future.

Finally, a huge thanks to Sharon Laird and Don Icken for seeing through the finalization of a bid for the back of outside of Fellowship Hall to the NY SYNOD. Hopefully we will receive approval, so we can finish the project.

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

Ken Mongold, Property Chairman

Social Ministry

Please note that these dates are tentative and subject to change. Any questions can be directed to Joanne Icken (jicken@yahoo.com). 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
September	Lutheran World Relief School Kits
October	Midnight Run – October 1st
November	Thanksgiving baskets for Putnam CAP
December	Christmas satchels for Seafarer's International House

Lutheran World Relief School Kits

In September we will be assembling School Kits for LWR. Each kit requires the following:

*Remember these items
while back-to-school shopping
for your children.
Thank you!*



- ✓ 4 notebooks
- ✓ 1 12" ruler
- ✓ 1 pencil sharpener
- ✓ 1 pair of scissors
- ✓ 5 pencils
- ✓ 5 pens
- ✓ 1 24-pack of crayons
- ✓ 1 eraser
- ✓ 1 backpack

Midnight Run

A plastic container, labeled "Social Ministry / Midnight Run" is now located in the Narthex for your donations to 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 those on a budget it is easier to buy a little at a time. As you are shopping each week, pick up a couple travel size toiletries such as shaving cream, 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 what is needed come October.

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
Social Ministry Coordinator

Trinity Finances

Hi, it's your Financial Gnome again. I popped up out of my gnome hole just to say a few things.

Bad News - It's nice and cool down in my hole. I would greatly appreciate it if everyone would keep up their contributions over the summer months, so I don't have to come out again during the heat of the summer to harangue you about financial shortfalls. Neither of us want that.

The Mortgage Fund is getting dangerously short of funds. I report great looking balances at the end of the month, but the next day the bank withdraws our \$3,565 payment. With May contributions less than \$2,500, if June runs the same, we will have less than \$1,000 after the July 1st payment. \$1,000 plus \$2,500 doesn't meet the August mortgage payment. Please don't let us default with five months until the mortgage is paid off.

Good News – Have a great summer!

Your Finance Chair,
Don Icken



Year to Date Budget Report Thru May 31st, 2018

GENERAL CHECKING ACCOUNT	
<u>Category</u>	<u>Actual</u>
INCOME	
Contributions	74,632.40
Other Income	6,932.60
Total Income	81,565.00
EXPENSES	
Benevolence	\$2,500
Pastoral	\$45,204
Education	\$ 155.19
Evangelism	\$ -
Worship & Music	\$8,627
Administration	\$25,401
Property	\$17,322
Total Expenses	99,209
NET INCOME	(\$17,644)
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCES	
(Includes no loans)	
January 1, 2018 Balance	\$ 38,781
Current Balance	\$ 11,101

MORTGAGE FUND

<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Variance</u>
\$15,452.93	(\$17,830.00)	(\$2,377.07)

COMMENTS

MORTGAGE FUND

- Contributions are \$2,377 behind payments.
- Mortgage Fund balance is \$5,624

MONTHLY INCOME

- May income was \$2,688 less than expenses.

YEAR-TO-DATE

- Expenses were \$17,644 more than income.



Over the past couple of summers, we have had both “Flat Jesus” and “Flat Luther” to accompany us during our summer activities. People have taken pictures for us to share on Facebook as well as through our newsletter.

This year, we are reminded that we are “Created in the Image of God” as a “Child of God”. Pick up a poster, cut out the middle and take a selfie and send it in to share what you are doing during these summer months.



A Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend can help you enrich your marriage and add some pizzazz to

your journey. Sign up TODAY to be sure to get the Weekend of your choice.

Weekends scheduled this fall in Northeast US are:

* September 14-16, 2018 at Spruce Lake Retreat in Canadensis, PA. A lovely hotel-style retreat center with many acres of woodlands in the heart of the Poconos, an hour north of Allentown, PA .

For questions, or if you would like a brochure, contact Northeast US Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at 724-325-3166 or fjschamber@comcast.net.



Trinity Women of the ELCA

We welcome you to join us at Trinity’s WELCA meetings.

Our remaining 2018 summer schedule is as follows:

July 19 – Florie Kays Tea Room (69 Glenida Ave., Carmel) at 12:30 pm. We will meet at the restaurant. Let Irene know you are coming: irene6174@comcast.net. Or call her at 845-225-4698.

August 23 – Centennial Golf Club at 12:30 pm. We will meet at the restaurant. Let Irene know if you are coming.

Terracycle and Recycling Update

We've collected \$133 for deposit bottles and cans so far this year and \$49.18 from Teracycle.

Thanks for your continued support.

- Georgina Marek



Celebrations



Happy Birthday

- 7/1 LOFTUS, STEPHEN
- 7/2 SERGIO, MAUREEN
- 7/2 STRINGER, BRIAN
- 7/2 STRINGER, MICHAEL
- 7/4 HARLIN, DEBRA
- 7/5 JOHNSON, BRADLEY
- 7/6 HYATT, MASON
- 7/6 MARKERT, BROOKE
- 7/7 TORLISH, BILL
- 7/10 ANDREN, KIMBERLY
- 7/12 SCORRANO, DONNA
- 7/14 COMMISSO, FRANKLYN
- 7/14 EBERHARDT, LILLIAN
- 7/14 VON BARGEN, KEN
- 7/20 BETTCHER, SOLOMON
- 7/20 GRILLO, ROBERT
- 7/21 PEASE, GAIL
- 7/22 CONROY, ERIN
- 7/23 CAPECEA, MEAGAN
- 7/24 LEE, JANE
- 7/25 BAGGETTA, JOY
- 7/25 DZIBELA, JOANNE
- 7/26 LANGKE JR, MICHAEL
- 7/27 BERTONE, CYNDI
- 7/27 RICE, LAUREN
- 7/30 NOAH, DOUGLAS
- 7/31 KNAPP, BRYAN
- 7/31 MC NAMARA, KRISTEN

Happy Anniversary

- ♥ ALBERT & KRISTEN CUOMO 7/1
- ♥ PHILIP & DONYCE DEROBERTS 7/1
- ♥ GEORGINA MAREK & KENNETH EVANS 7/1
- ♥ LISA SCHULDT & DAWN GROUNDWATER 7/1
- ♥ BEATRICE & LLOYD JACOBSEN 7/2
- ♥ EMMY & JAMES CURCURUTO 7/3
- ♥ JUERGEN & ROSANNA TEMPEL 7/4
- ♥ ERIN & DAN MINIERI 7/5
- ♥ RALPH & CHRISTINE RICE 7/8
- ♥ JAMES & PEGGY ANDES 7/9
- ♥ LAUREN & GEORGE ZHANG JOHNSON 7/9
- ♥ BRUCE & MAXINE FOLEY SR 7/10
- ♥ MICHAEL & KRYSTAL LANGKE JR 7/12
- ♥ MAUREEN & MARK SERGIO 7/23
- ♥ BRYAN & LIZ SMITH 7/23
- ♥ JOSEPH & DEBBIE EFFEREN 7/27
- ♥ WENDY & KENNETH HEALY 7/28



Congratulations to Deacon Dorothy Kafalas
 on the birth of her first great-grandchild,
 Jacob Paul Kafalas, born on May 1st.

We Pray for Those Who Are ...

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

Anne-Marie, Ava, Beth, Brigitte, Lee, Tamara Bagen, Peter & Helene Basick, Joan Baum, Kitty, Ellen Bell, Barbara Jean Bennet, Joe Bettcher, Nicole Bettcher, Cherish Bliefernich, Bella Bobinski, William Brown, Betty Buckmaster, Chuck, Colleen, Corrie, Helen Conte, Sharon Cooper, Robert Cowen, Linda Cowen, Ben Dalecki, Joanne D, Kathren Devine, Dilynn, Ngan Dyer, Heather Evers, Wayne Farber, Tony Ferrajina, Christine Gallegher, George Gilleo, Eric Halbekath Sr, Thomas Ingate, Jennifer Johnson, Sofia Loraca, Judy Lutz, Chaleb McCaughey, Raymond Maglio, Michael, Kelly Maxwell, Robert Murphy, Karen Myerwold, John Noone, Bob Obuck, Pr Garry Patrylo Jr, Nicholas Rogan, Liam Rogers, Larry Ruhs, Marilyn Schoeller, Sharon, Joe Stark, Meyer Steinhardt, Curt Stiles, Teddi Tom, Greg V., Henry & Marie Von Bargaen, Katherine Waldvogel, Alex Wallace, Mary Ann Wilk, Jessica Wilkson; Walter Baietti, Donna Perrault, Janna Kreps

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, Deena Cox, Nancy Cuomo, Copsy Cuomo, Tom Curran, Phyllis DeMarco, Glen DiSanto, Gabriel Elliot, Donna Ficara, Jim Fiore, Margaret Fowler, Amanda George, Kira Hansen, Catherine Henneforth, Corina Hohenstein, Sue Kaufman, Raymond Kiernan, Ryan Lee, Allen McCaslin, Reneé McElroy, George Miller, Tanya Murgai, Ed Ranieri, Rosaleen, Riley Rushia, Otto Schmid, Zachary Schwartz, Linda Siebold, Zack Small, James Sorge, Phyllis Sorge, 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, Kim Marshall

Facing life's challenges: Kim Andren, Wanda & Cliff, Della Arndt, Charlotte Berwind, the Bueti family, Catherine, Donlin family: Marisa Pease, Liam & Noah, Barbara, JD & Katie Ray, 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, Alex Smith, Barbara Sparkes, Wanda & Cliff Strawn, Kristen Sullivan, Michael Talarico, Morgan Watt, Jennifer West, Dave, Lisa, Jaimie Zeola, Zaccardo family; Jeanne D, Melissa S

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

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 Donald McCoid 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

For prayer list changes or additions email :
trinluthernoffice@yahoo.com or call 845-279-5181

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

July 1

9:30 AM Service of the Word

July 8

9:30 AM Service of the Word

July 15

9:30 AM Holy Communion

July 22

9:30 AM Holy Communion

July 29

9:30 AM Holy Communion

Saturdays starting July 14

5:00 PM 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

Pastor Jen's email

revjedyer1@yahoo.com

Office

trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com

Inside the July Trinitarian

1. Pastoral Reflections: *Gratitude*
2. 3rd Tuesday Tabletalk, Grief Support Group, Off the Shelf
3. Pastor's Blog: Mourning to Morning
4. Pinecrest
5. Congrats Graduates, Wonder Women & Marvel Men of Faith
6. Sunday School; Property News
7. Social Ministry
8. Finances
9. WELCA; Terracycle
10. Celebrations
11. Our Prayers

No Trinitarian in August;

The next Trinitarian will be in September.