

# The Trinitarian



## Pastoral Reflections – Stewards of God’s Creation

*“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth... God blessed humankind and said to them, ‘be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it and have dominion...’ (Genesis 1-2)*

For too long, humanity has taken this phrase “to subdue and have dominion” over the earth as permission to do whatever we want with creation. The Hebrew that is used here (*rada*) that we translate as “dominion” is more about nurturing and caregiving rather than having power over something. “Subdue” (*kabas*) is more about creating order and the ongoing creative process. In other words, we are blessed to be stewards of what God has created. It is God’s world (including us) and not owned by us. All of creation is on loan to use faithfully, and we are tasked with taking care of what God has made.

There are many conversations going on around climate change. Unfortunately, it has become one of those divisive issues in our culture. While as a church, we seek to separate ourselves from pure politics and not take political stands, we are still called as Christians to speak out on issues of justice. In our Affirmation service, part of the promise that we make is to “strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

The ELCA has adopted social statements that address a wide variety of social issues. They are not political statements, but rather based on scripture and our faith that calls us to live according to God’s will for justice, peace and love expressed to all people. One of those statements is about creation. You can read it in full by picking up a copy at church or by going to: [www.elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Social-Statements/Caring-for-Creation](http://www.elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Social-Statements/Caring-for-Creation).

Its stated purpose is: *Caring for Creation* expresses a call to pursue justice for creation through active participation, solidarity, sufficiency and sustainability, and states the commitments of the ELCA for pursuing wholeness for creation — commitments expressed through individual and community action, worship, learning, moral deliberation and advocacy.

As people of God’s creation, we acknowledge our calling to care for what has been entrusted to us. We seek to not just be faithful stewards on our own, but are called to encourage and support others who are doing the same. We act – not out of political motivation – but as Christians called to live into God’s will for all of creation.

Our newly formed Stewards of God’s Creation team has begun some expanded recycling efforts at church to help us as we seek to take care of what God has entrusted to us. We have a month long emphasis to care for creation that was begun on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, Earth Day. There are numerous resources and ways to participate that you can find in this newsletter. If you have any additional ideas, please feel free to share them with our Creation team or you are invited to be a part of it as well.

Let us faithfully serve God as we seek to be stewards of all that has been placed in our time.

Peace in Christ, *Pastor Jen*

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## Faith @ Home

Participate in the Creation challenge (see separate article)

As you begin, read Genesis 1-2 and talk about the following questions

- 1) What is your favorite thing that God created?
- 2) If you could create a new animal, plant, etc., what would you create?
- 3) What is one thing that you commit to doing to take care of God's creation?
- 4) How might you encourage others to take care of God's creation as well?

As spring continues to spring around us, watch for new signs of life and offer up a prayer of thanks for this gift of creation.

Use these prayers as a part of your prayer practices:

*Merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature. Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (ELW, pg. 63)*

*In the beginning God created all things, and God saw that they were good. At our beginning, God created us unique and irreplaceable, loved and wanted by God, known and treasured by God even before He created us.*

*In all our new beginnings, God creates something new so we will seek God in the freshness of this morning, in the laughter of friends, in the colors of creation, and in this beautiful place.*

*Lord God, King of Creation, open our eyes to see your presence, our souls to sense your presence, and our hearts to love your presence, ever here in your creation, and ever beyond it in eternity. Amen.*

(Based on Genesis 1 and Adapted from *Liturgy of Creation* (<http://www.wellsprings.org.uk/liturgies/creation.htm>).

*Let us pray to God, that he will bring to fruition all that he desires for his creation. You have created the universe by your eternal Word, and have blessed humankind in making us stewards of the earth. We pray for your world, that we may share and conserve its resources, and live in reverence for the creation and in harmony with one another. Amen*

(from **New Patterns for Worship**, copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2002. From the Church of England's **Common Worship** website)



**May 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**9:00 AM- 1:00 PM**  
**Sign up in the Narthex**

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## Property News

The big news for me personally has been Ken has recruited me to be the new Property Chair. I have the time and “just enough” talent and am able to draw up on the knowledge and experience of a whole lot of Trinity folks who are serving or have served on the Property Committee. They have been giving me a heads up on all the workings of our church building and grounds. Ken let know what projects were currently being completed and future ones that are ongoing. We’ve had the carpets and pews cleaned in the Sanctuary along with carpets on the stairs connecting with Shepherd’s Hall. The technician from All Star fire alarms has replace the three batteries that run our alarm system and has assured us that all is functioning perfectly. The septic tank has been emptied and our main drain recently cleaned out too. If there is any upkeep that’s been on your mind please feel free to let me know and I’ll see if I can be of help in the matter.

Our Spring Cleanup Day is scheduled for Saturday May 11, 2019 from 9 AM to 1 PM. Whether you come for the morning or stop by for an hour or two to tend a garden or clean up and organize a closet your presence tending to our beautiful Trinity Church is always appreciated. Thanks to all who have helped me get a handle on the work and responsibilities of taking care of our church property. You’ve been a blessing!

Sincerely,  
Peter Donoghue

## Creation Walk

Join us Sunday, April 28th (noon) as we walk the bike path (weather permitting) to enjoy God's creation and to pick up trash along the way. See Pastor Jen for more details

## Earth Month/Creation Challenge

Our new environmental stewardship team is issuing us all a challenge. Beginning on Earth day (April 22nd), we are encouraging everyone to be intentional about their recycling habits for a month. There will be points offered for each habit that you perform - pick up a copy of the Tally Sheet to keep track of what you do each week. We will have a gift basket for those who accumulate the most points. Turn in your tally sheets on Sunday, May 19th and we will then announce who won on Sunday, June 2nd (actually all of creation wins). We will also share the impact that we have had as a congregation on the environment. If you have any questions, see any of the team members: Joan Bradley, Lynn Byrnes, Phil DeRoberts, Patti Kapp, Georgina Marek or Pastor Jen

## Metro NY Synod Assembly

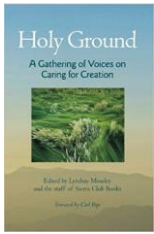
They are looking for artwork from our children that highlights Care of Creation for this year's assembly. It is due to the Synod office by May 1st. More information can be found at: <https://www.mnys.org/news-and-events/our-little-care-for-creation-artists/>

## Summer Worship Series Survey

We are looking at doing a “Gospel according to...” series based on scripture, but using various cultural media (movies, music, books, etc.) There are actually a wide variety of books dedicated to many of these themes.

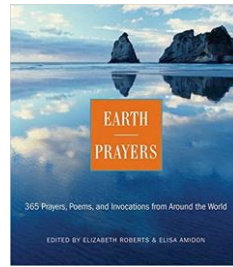
There are approx. 10-12 weeks this summer that we will be doing this series and we would like your input. Please choose your top FIVE (5) that you would like to see done and return this survey to Pastor Jen as soon by May 12th (there is a paper version as well). Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/38FKR7B?fbclid=IwAR1k0j2IlyQwRQyK8B-4G91TH-qxBRSpfc3kWNSh-hk2YXoWNFxLI7fl2f8>

**Off the Shelf** -Here are some books to check out as we focus on being good stewards of God's creation:



**“Holy Ground: A gathering of voices on caring for creation”:** ed. by Lyndsay Moseley and the Sierra Club books

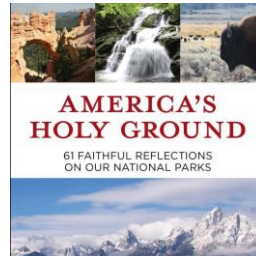
Religions worldwide celebrate creation's gifts of beauty, abundance, and sustenance, and call on humankind to give thanks, practice compassion, seek justice, and be mindful of future generations. In *Holy Ground*, leaders from the world's faith traditions, along with writers who hold the Earth sacred, share personal stories of coming to understand humankind's unique power and responsibility to care for creation.



**“Earth Prayers from around the world”** ed. by Elizabeth Roberts & Elias Amidon

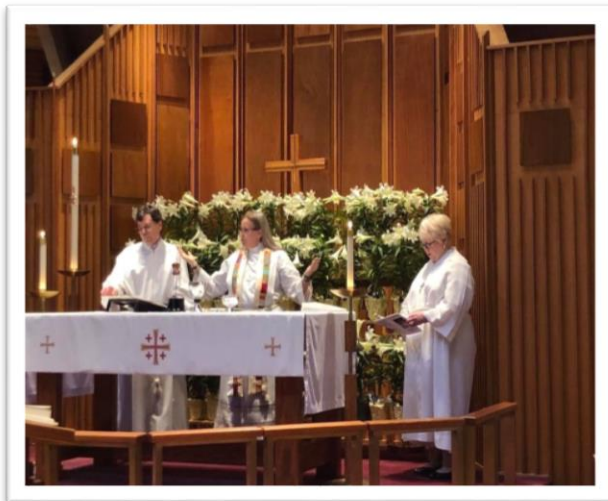
Includes writings from Walt Whitman, T.S. Eliot, W.E.B. DuBois, Black Elk, Wendell Berry, an 11 year-old child, Mary Oliver and more

**“America's Holy Ground: 61 Faithful Reflections on our National Parks”**



*See God all around you:* Your national park experience can be a holy experience, too.

Released on April 30<sup>th</sup> from Chalice Press, America's Holy Ground reflects on each of the 60 national parks, connecting its unique traits to religious and spiritual qualities that permeate a holy life. From the ultra-popular Great Smoky Mountain (diversity) to the nearly empty Lake Clark (solitude), you'll never think about national parks the same way.



Here are some pictures from Easter- Thanks to Heidi Kuhland, Pat Rudolph and Lori Vanvlach for the beautiful new quilted banner.



## Sunday School

Spring is really here and our children enjoyed the Resurrection Egg Hunt at our annual Lent Event. Thank you to all who contributed to its success. We had no formal Communion class this year but we will have fourth graders next year! In May we are continuing with lessons and looking forward to our last event of the year, Promotion Sunday. **Promotion Sunday will be on June 9th**, it will be the last day of SCS for the summer but we look forward to seeing all the children over the summer at the 9:30 service. **There will be no SCS on May 26th, the Memorial Day Weekend**- please keep all those service men & women & their families who have given the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.



Jeanette Baldanza

## Summer Office hours:

Starting June 3<sup>rd</sup> I will have new summer hours. I will be in the office Monday through Friday 9 AM to 1PM.

Thanks Sarah Dockweiler, Office Admin



## Calling all artists!

As a part of our summer series of the "Gospel according to...", we are inviting people to create artwork that signifies what they see the Good News of God is all about. There will be more information in next month's newsletter and the weekly bulletins. In the meantime, begin brainstorming and/or talk to Pastor Jen for more information.



Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/38FKR7B?fbclid=IwAR1k0j2IlyQwRQyK8B-4G91TH-qxBRSpsc3kWNSh-hk2YXoWNFfxLI7fl2f8>

## Wednesday Faith Formation

On Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, we will begin a new study looking at Paul's letter to the Romans. Many of our Sunday readings will be focused on this letter as well – so this time of conversation and reflection will supplement what we will hear on Sundays.



All are invited to join us each Wednesday at 7pm in the General Meeting room by the church office (note: we don't meet on Church council nights)



*Join the conversation.*

Our Next 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday Table Talk will be at Aversano's (Rt. 22 Brewster) On **Tuesday May 21st (6:30 PM)** Please sign up in the Narthex.

# Social Ministry

## Social Ministry Schedule for 2019

Date	Activity
April 28	Lutheran World Personal Care Kits
September 15	Lutheran World Relief School Kits
October 20	Breakfast Run
November	Thanksgiving baskets for Putnam CAP
December	Christmas satchels for Seafarer's International House

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))

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.

## Easter Candy Bags for Putnam CAP

We filled 37 bags of candy for the clients of Putnam CAP. Thank you for your generosity.

## Midnight Run

In October we will once again be doing a breakfast run to NYC to feed the homeless. Please remember we can always use travel size toiletries and men's underwear and socks when you are doing your weekly shopping. Place the items in the "Social Ministry" container located in the Narthex.

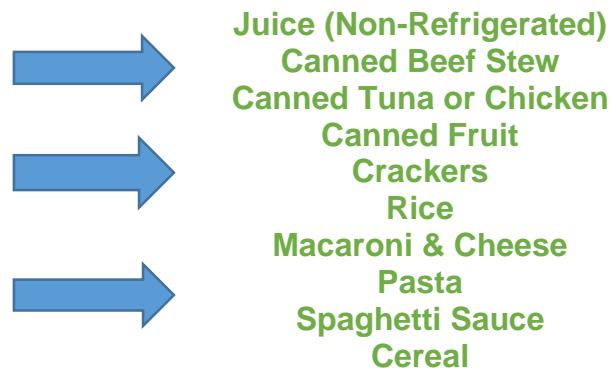
## Putnam CAP

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.

Putnam CAP's food pantry is experiencing severe shortages on non-food items that our clients need and are unable to purchase with SNAP coupons. Please help by purchasing some of the following items:



Here are also a few suggested non-perishable foods that would be greatly appreciated at the pantry:



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## Pack the Pantry – Youth Event

On March 30-31, The Pack the Pantry event, led by the Trinity Youth Group, was a wonderful success! A total of 10 kids participated in the event. Seven fasted for the entire 25 hours! When they started the day they fasted from food and electronics (OMG!). As part of this fundraiser, our youth collected 8 shopping carts filled with food donations from patrons at ShopRite of Carmel, along with monetary donations. Back at Trinity, they constructed “shelters” from a cardboard collection which they slept in overnight. Naming their town "Youtheran Village". Pastor Jen shared a lesson to help them better understanding about hunger. Many small steps can have a big impact.



Later that evening, we returned to the store with our collective donations of more than \$1000, to purchase more food and gift cards. The kids learned how to stretch a penny on a budget and purchase items that will make several meals for many people. The kids also enjoyed a friendly competition, boys against the girls, to see who would get closer to their target funds. The girls won!

Before bed we all joined in the sanctuary to debrief on the lessons of the day and ended with prayer. All the kids thought it was a positive experience and would like to ask other churches to participate. The next morning they attended service and enjoyed a well deserved meal!



We thank Joy Baggetta for all her work in organizing and chaperoning as well as Lois Lawrence, who also chaperoned.



This event is not only important to our community, but it helps to teach our youth some serious life lessons. Thank you to all who helped make this event such a success!



## Trinity Finance

### YEAR TO DATE BUDGET REPORT (THRU March 31, 2019)

GENERAL CHECKING ACCOUNT	
<u>Category</u>	<u>Actual</u>
<b>INCOME</b>	
Contributions	44,197.58
Other Income	6,284.62
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>50,482.20</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Benevolence	\$ 2,300.00
Pastoral	\$27,584
Education	\$184
Evangelism	\$214
Worship & Music	\$5,936
Administration	\$15,938
Property	\$11,009
Misc	\$88
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$63,253</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>(\$12,771)</b>
<b>CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCES</b>	
(Includes no loans)	
January 1, 2019 Balance	\$ 36,572
Current Balance	\$ 23,801

### MORTGAGE FUND

<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Variance</u>
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

### COMMENTS

#### MORTGAGE FUND

- Mortgage is paid off as of 10/1/2018

#### MONTHLY INCOME

- March income was \$2,012 more than expenses. \*

#### YEAR-TO-DATE

- Expenses were \$12,771 more than income \*

By the time you read this Easter will have come and gone. And to dispel the rumors I've been hearing, just because bunnies live in holes in the ground DOES NOT mean they are related to us gnomes. They are all about Easter. We are all about money.

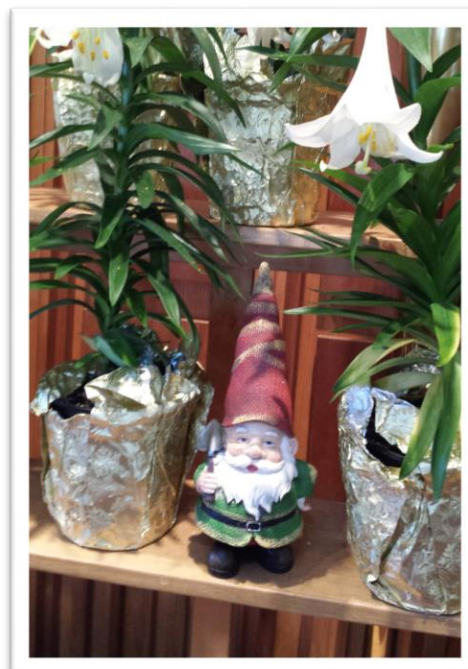
Speaking of which, we have been holding our own, financially, for the last two months. We have shown a slight surplus in March, and, if you don't mind the metaphor *going out on a branch*, we are looking good for April. No bird jokes, please.

Our deficit is around \$10K and should be smaller when we close out April.

So please let me thank you all for your contributions and keep up God's good work.

**Your financial gnome,**

**Don Icken**



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# Celebrations

## Happy Birthday

KAT DEVINE	5/1
KENNETH GRAHAM	5/1
BARBARA GRISPIN	5/1
ALBERT CUOMO II	5/2
BARBARA MARKERT	5/3
ALEX BERTONE	5/4
JOE LAIRD	5/5
CARLTON PROCTOR	5/5
DENISE ANDERSON	5/6
ADDISON MC DONNELL	5/6
TYLER KNAPP	5/8
BARBARA GOOS	5/9
SUE KAUFMAN	5/10
JENNA RUSSELL	5/11
CHRISTOPHER SCIARRA	5/12
NELIDA GUINYARD	5/15
TYLER HANSEN	5/15
MICHAEL STRINGER	5/15
HALSEY TUTHILL	5/15
JOHN BERTONE JR	5/18
JAMES ULRICH	5/18
FRED FENDT	5/20
JOANNE ICKEN	5/20
ROBERT BRIGGS SR	5/22
HEATHER EFFEREN	5/23
ERIK GRILLO	5/23
CHRISTOPHER DONOVAN	5/24
DON ICKEN	5/25
CLAIRE BRUSIE	5/30
KRISTEN STOECKER	5/31
MAISA TOMPURI	5/31

## Happy Anniversary

❖ LAURIE & PETER BELL	5/4
❖ JAMES & ANGELA NASTASI	5/9
❖ ED & LYNN STOECKER	5/13
❖ PAT & JOHN WILLS	5/18



**First Friday Potluck – May 5<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 PM, Fellowship Hall**

**Bring a dish to share and enjoy food,  
fellowship and fun!**

## 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, Mimi Berlin, 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, Thomas DeMarchi, Kathren Devine, Dilynn, Heather Evers, Wayne Farber, Tony Ferrajina, Stan and Linda Fitzgerald, Christine Gallegher, George Gilleo, Thomas Ingate, Elizabeth Iskowitz, Lloyd Jacobsen, Jennifer Johnson, Janna Kreps, Pastor Tim Kennedy, Sofia Loraca, Judy Lutz, Chaleb McCaughey, Melanie, Raymond Maglio, Michael, Kelly Maxwell, Karen Myerwold, John Noone, Bob Obuck, Pat, Pr Garry Patrylo Jr, Donna Perrault, John Powell, Carol Richie, Nicholas Rogan, Liam Rogers, Helen Rosenbolm, Larry Ruhs, Marilyn Schoeller, Sharon, Joe Stark, Meyer Steinhardt, Curt Stiles, Walter Straub, Teddi Tom, Greg V., Henry Von Bargen, Katherine Waldvogel, Alex Wallace, Mary Ann Wilk, Jessica Wilkson.

**WRESTLING WITH LONG-TERM HEALTH ISSUES:** Thomas Allen, Neil Amorusa, Morgan Andren, Judy B, Lisa Bagnati, Gloria Bretone, Jennifer Rebecca Butvinik, Janet Canor, Tony Cardella, Olivia Casale, Erin Conroy, Deena Cox, Cobby Cuomo, Tom Curran, Glen DiSanto, Bill & Mary Duzal, Gabriel Elliot, Donna Ficara, Margaret Fowler, Amanda George, Kira Hansen, Catherine Henneforth, Corina Hohenstein, Sue Kaufman, Teresa Kemp, Raymond Kiernan, Ryan Lee, Kim Marshall, Allen McCaslin, Reneé McElroy, George Miller, Tanya Murgai, Laurie Nucherenno, Ed Ranieri, Rosaleen, Riley Rushia, Zachary Schwartz, Linda Siebold, Zack Small, James Sorge, Phyllis Sorge, Audrey Stone, Dylan Stolper, Kenneth Strawn, Kathy Sullivan, Josephine Talley, Michael Tamborino, Kaeli Tretera, Mary Torlish, Gina Venezia, Glenn Wagner, Walt, Stephanie, Donna

For prayer list changes or additions email :  
[trinluthernoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:trinluthernoffice@yahoo.com) or call 845-279-5181

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

**Restricted to home/nursing home:** Gerrit Franssen, Lawrence Henry, Rita Karlsson, Marian Langlois, Horatio Massatti, 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 Emergency Shelter 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.

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## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### May 5

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS

10:45 AM Holy Communion

### May 12

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS

10:45 AM Holy Communion

### May 19

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS

10:45 AM Holy Communion

### May 26- Memorial Day Weekend

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS

10:45 AM Holy Communion

### DATES TO REMEMBER

- ✓ May 11 – Trinity Spring Cleanup
- ✓ May 21 – Third TuesTableTalk

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## 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 May Trinitarian*

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