

June 4, 11, & 18 2023

The Weekly Tidings

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

www.htelc.com

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Come Together, Grow in Faith, Serve the LORD

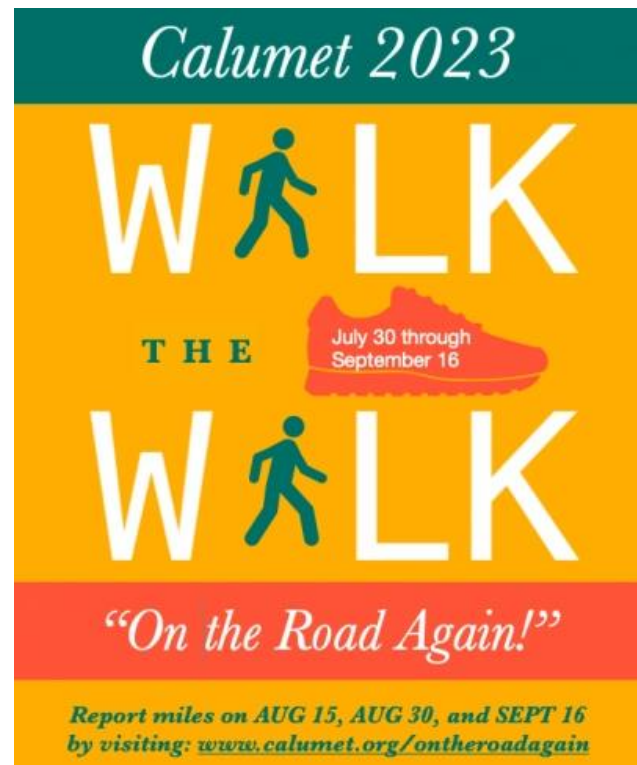
Vacation Bible School

This year's Vacation Bible School theme is "God's Living Water, Covered in Jesus' Grace." VBS will be held at Holy Trinity the evenings of July 9-12, 2023, from 5:00-7:30 PM. Dinner is included. There is a sign-up sheet by the whiteboard near the kitchen. We have planning sessions at 6pm on June 27 and July 6. For more information, contact Lara Scammon at (603) 781-0853 or dscammon@aol.com.



Walk the Walk

The time has come for Calumet to start their annual fundraiser: "Walk the Walk", beginning July 30 and ending on September 16. This is a wonderful and fun way for Holy Trinity to band together and support our favorite Lutheran Summer Camp. Every week, you will log and report your miles to the church office, who will in turn, report our church's miles to Calumet. Please sign up at calumet's website and follow the "register" link: <https://calumet.org/ontheroadagain>

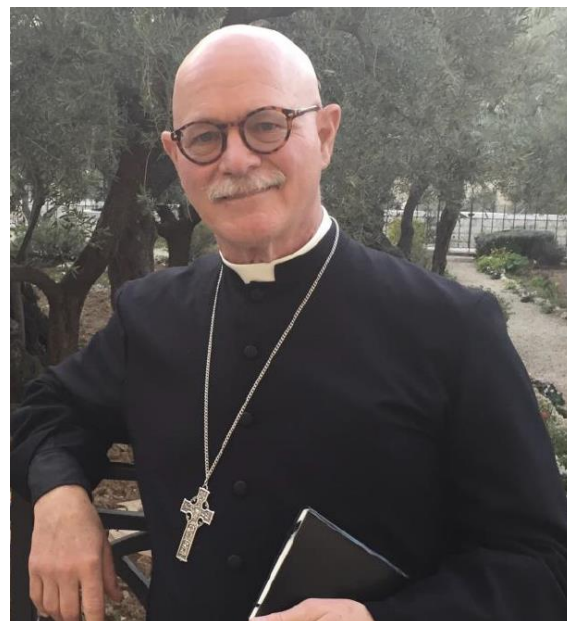


Former Pastor's Article

In the spring, Holy Trinity's church office uncovered documents of old Tidings newsletters in our basement. During the summer, Holy Trinity would like to share several enlightening articles from old Tidings, written by Pastor Dave Snyder (Pastor from 1989 to 1997) and Pastor Paul Lindstrom (interim Pastor from 1997 to 2000).

"They don't have to leave," answered Jesus. "You yourselves give them something to eat!" Matthew 14:16

It has always fascinated me that the central act of Christian worship has, traditionally, been called the EUCHARIST and Eucharist is a Greek word derived from the noun EURCHARISTIA which means gratitude. Could it be that Christians can find in this act of worship a pattern and model for our lives, not just during the Thanksgiving holidays but throughout the year? If you consider the shape and the movement of the Eucharistic liturgy you discover that the central elements involve the bringing to the table of the gifts of bread and wine and the offering of those gifts to God in a prayer of blessing followed by the redistribution of those gifts to God's people. As we think about Thanksgiving and the challenging call to exercise our faith in generous



Christian stewardship, we might reflect on the action of the Eucharist meal as an outline of our life in the faith. We offer what we have to God (the ordinary gifts of time, talent and treasure...gifts that God has blessed us with), and God takes these things and transforms them into "Visible" words and acts of grace which bless and benefit the spiritual life of the world.

This is and has always been the way in which God continues to be active and present in the world. The wonderful story of the multiplication of the loaves and fish, a story which appears six times in the Gospels (twice in Matthew and Mark and once in Luke and John) and is the only miracle of Jesus to appear in all four of the New Testament Gospels, teaches that God does not miraculously use what is not available to meet the needs of the world (Jesus did not create new bread and new fish) instead, God naturally uses inadequate means which are available (five loaves of bread and two dried fish, or seven loaves of bread and some fish in the feeding of the 4000 in Matthew 15) to meet

the needs of the people. The good news is that God will use what his disciples give him, no matter how seemingly insignificant that offering might be, and God will use what we give to bring life (physical and spiritual life) to the world. And if you think about it, that is exactly the rhythm of the Eucharist. May God grant us, during this season of Giving Thanks and as members of the parish called upon to make responsible decisions regarding our personal stewardship for 1996, the grace and the courage to offer what we have to God and for the sake of the world.

Faithfully,

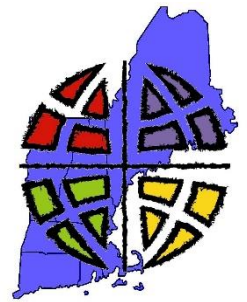
The Rev. David L. Snyder, Pastor (*written in Jan. 1996*)

New England Synod Bishop Election

(the following article was written by the New England Synod)

Will you help us complete our Synod Profile?! A few weeks ago, we announced that we wanted your help to create our Synod's Profile in preparation to elect a new bishop in 2024. The time is here! You can participate by accessing this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NewEnglandSynod>



Please fill it out to the best of your ability. We are so thankful your voice will be included! We are inviting all those who make up our synod to participate. Please - invite others in your congregation or ministry setting to share their voice, too! The more people we hear from, the more representative this feedback will be.

Confirmation Classes 2023-2024

Are you the parent or guardian of a youth who'll be entering Grades 7-12 this fall? This applies to all youth and families who participate in either Immanuel Indonesian Lutheran Church or Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Please call Mark, our Office Coordinator, to register your interest before August 15th, so that he can forward your contact information to the confirmation class leaders. There is no need to call Mark if your youth is already active in the confirmation program. Lara Scammon and Glenn Oswald are preparing suggestions for our newly called Pastor Luther regarding the confirmation program curriculum, procedures, sessions and other activities.

Property Team

Some bids discussed at the congregational meeting on June 11 are provided in the material that follows below.

Scope: Clean and paint the steeple

Robert Morgan Company of Errol, NH \$8100 (gold paint option) \$9900 (gold leaf option)

(Two options for treatment of cross and globe, one with gold paint, one with gold leaf)

LFP Company of Boston, MA \$4425 (quoted only gold paint option)

Jovet Pros of Fall River, MA \$4050 (quoted only gold paint option)

Scope: Clean and re-stain the exposed stained wood structures around the soffit area of the sanctuary and around the main entrance to the church.

LFP Company of Boston, MA \$3370 (see note 2)

Jovet Pros of Fall River, MA \$5200 (see note 2)

Notes:

1. Robert Morgan Company has been around since 1906 and specializes in church steeple and building restoration work. The bid is from October 2021 and would have to be updated. The bid is higher in part because their approach is to build a scaffold structure to gain access to the steeple. Correspondence with them indicates they plan the coming season's work early in the winter, so they may or may not be available to do this work in 2023. The other two bidders would use an aerial lift to get access to the steeple. These are smaller companies that do mostly smaller scale residential and commercial remodel and restoration. LFP has experience with church steeple work. Jovet is a new company with no specific church steeple experience, but the principal for this company has some church steeple experience in 13 years with a previous company. Review of these companies is continuing. Both LFP and Jovet are available to complete the work in the 2023 season.



2. I asked both LFP and Jovet to quote the two scopes separately. Jovet initially provided a quote of \$7200 to do both scopes. When I asked Jovet to break this total down into a quote for each scope, they provided \$4050 for the steeple scope and \$5200 for the soffit and entry staining scope, for a total of \$9250. Jovet also confirmed that they would do both scopes for a total of \$7200 (in other words, a volume discount of \$2050). LFP has confirmed that their quotes apply to either one or both of the work scopes (total of \$7795)
3. After the congregational meeting, a member of the congregational suggested another potential bidder for consideration. I am attempting to get bids for the steeple and soffit scopes from this company as well.

There are other work scopes for which I will be seeking bids with a goal of getting some additional work done in 2023. The congregational meeting approved a total of \$15,000 for unbudgeted 2023 property maintenance and repair work such as the refurbishment work on the steeple, the stained exterior work around the sanctuary, and others that I discussed. In accordance with the approval at the meeting, council will still have to approve the work for each identified scope as I receive bids, select a service provider, and propose the work to the council. My goal is to present bids for the following additional work scopes:



1. Replacement of the ceiling fan in the sanctuary
2. Repair or replacement of the two skylight windows in the sanctuary
3. Repair or replacement of up to three fire doors

The ceiling fan in the sanctuary is not functioning and is very dirty as can be observed from the floor. The operational problem could be the remote control receiver unit in the fan itself, but this is not certain. The fan has been in service for about thirty years, so it makes little sense to pay for an aerial lift and a service technician to diagnose, repair, and clean it. Given its age, it makes more sense to replace it.

I have previously advised the congregational that the skylight windows above the ceiling fan are not fully operable. These windows are motor operated by remote switch and closed either manually from a remote switch or automatically if a remote sensor detects rain. There is a malfunction of some sort in the overall window controls that causes the windows to close a few seconds after they are opened to either a partial or full-open position. I have spoken to the manufacturer as well as two local service companies. They

have no suggestions on a cause or corrective action. Given the age of the windows, parts availability and time in service, they recommend replacement. Because of the uncertainty for the controls, I have kept the windows closed and removed power from the windows. We do have a work-around if we decide to open the windows ... for example, to get hot air out of the sanctuary during particularly warm periods. The windows can be powered, opened to any desired position, and then de-powered again before the controls spuriously close them. We would have to remember to power them again and close them after each use.

We have two, possibly three, exterior fire doors that are marginally functional in terms of Life Safety Code requirements. I have been successful in keeping these doors operable and they have periodic inspections by the Newington Fire Department, but it has been an ongoing challenge. A qualified door expert may or may not be able to repair them, so replacement may be in order for these doors.

With all of this having been said, I doubt if the just-approved \$15,000 will be sufficient to address all five of these issues, so my plan will be to get the quotes for all five, make a recommendation on a service provider, take a position on priorities, and present the recommendations to council for their consideration. I know that some may apply the old razor, "Out of sight, out of mind" so there might be a tendency to push for resolution to the highly visible matters such as the steeple and the ceiling fan. That thinking may not serve us well. We don't typically see functionality issues with fire doors, but the ramifications are very important and consequential. I would tend to give the fire door issue highest priority and cosmetic issues lowest priority, but priorities are ultimately a council matter.

Dave Mercer, Property Team Leader (pro-tempore)

Dover Friendly Kitchen

Dover Friendly Kitchen will be on Tuesday, June 27 at 3:45 PM. at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Dover. Volunteers are welcome to help support this important ministry. Additionally, please drop off cookies with the Church Office by noon on the 28th. Please speak to Bonnie Sanders for more information: larbonsand@comcast.net, 603-749-2572 or cell: 603-767-6186.



Some World War II Books from the BGLibrary

Are you interested in learning more about World War II? The Bibliography section of the BGLibrary has a number of books you might find interesting. They may not be cheerful, fun reads, but they're really valuable history. For those of us too young to have experienced that difficult time, it's good to learn what the generations before us had to bear.

Here are some suggestions:

Irena's Children by Tilar Maggio. This is the story of Irena Sendler who risked everything to save 2500 children from Nazi concentration camps.

Prague Winter by Madeline Albright. Albright share her memories of growing up in Prague during the war.

The Choice by Irene Eber. Ms. Eber shares her memories of growing up in a small town in Poland during the war.

Orchestra of Exiles by Josh Aronson and Denise George. This is the story of Bronshaw Hubrman, creator of the Israel Philharmonic, and how he saved 1000 Jews from Nazi horrors.

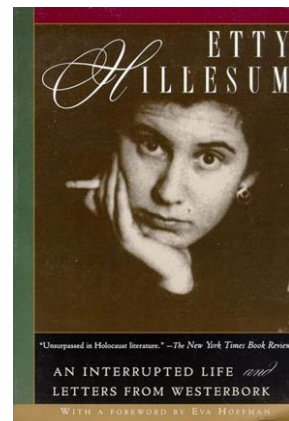
An Interrupted Life and Letters from Westbrook by Ety Hillesum. It's the story of an extraordinary woman incarcerated at Auschwitz where she died at the age of 29. (Incidentally, Pastor Luther preached a sermon about this book!)

One Christmas in Washington by Daved Bercuson and Holger Herwig. This book describes the secret meeting between Roosevelt and Churchill that changed the world.

The Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom. This Dutch watchmaker became a heroine of the Resistance and an evangelist.

Scotland's Land Girls by Elaine M. Edward. The Land Girls gave vital service to their countryside during the national emergency. You can also find Land Girl stories on PBS.

Growing Up in Germany under Hitler by Holy Trinity's own Ursula Hoene. Ursula's gone now, but her story is in our Library.



Prayer Concerns

Health Issues: Franklyn Vosburg, Jerry Schock, Pastor Linn Opderbecke, Alice Peterson, Bob Hollister, Don Gindlesperger, Steve Bush, Joyce Rivoire, Richard Anderson, Yvonne Topping, Dave Smith, Larry Sanders, Hazel Larson, Leo Larson, Geri Seig, Rani Marcus, Grover Marshall, Shirley Jackson, Julie Moore, Dick Topping.

Homebound: Carol Saufley, Edith Rowan, Barbara Werdelin, Ron Evers, Dave & Joyce Rivoire, Anita Lindstrom, Judy Hollister, Jean Klein. **Military:** Josh Bretz, Matthew Hanrahan, Brendan Podszus, Jacob Schankis, Jessica Chabot.

Friends: Bonnie Bly (Sue Althof's sister-in-law), Dave Bly (Sue Althof's brother), Cinda DeWerff (Rich Wilcox's sister), Kathy Wyrick (Linda Marshall's friend), Jacquelynn & Richard Murray (Jessica Feeley's sister and brother-in-law), Rich Conway & Karin Otero (Lois Laurence's friends), Renee Chin (Sue Althof's friend).

Prayers will be listed for at least 6 weeks unless told otherwise. If you would like a prayer concern listed in the bulletin, please fill out a Prayer Request at the Usher's table or contact the Church Office at office@htelc.com.

Monthly Attendance & Offering

Sunday, May 14:	101 (<i>In-Person</i>) + 41 (<i>Online</i>) = 142	Offering: \$2,963.85
Sunday, May 21:	82 (<i>In-Person</i>) + 30 (<i>Online</i>) = 112	Offering: \$10,587.25
Sunday, May 28:	72 (<i>In-Person</i>) + 34 (<i>Online</i>) = 106	Offering: \$2,766.45
Sunday, June 4:	78 (<i>In-Person</i>) + 31 (<i>Online</i>) = 109	Offering: \$7,115.90
Sunday, June 11:	91 (<i>In-Person</i>) + 22 (<i>Online</i>) = 113	Offering: \$2,840.45

Calendar at-a-glance

July 9-12: Vacation Bible School

Sunday Worship, Sundays at 9:30 AM

Wednesday Bible Study, Wednesdays at 9:30 AM

Property Team, Thursdays at 8:00 AM until noon.