

The Weekly Tidings

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Come Together, Grow in Faith, Serve the LORD

In Memory of Stella Chickering

Holy Trinity is saddened to announce that Stella Chickering passed away on September 4, 2020, surrounded by family. She died peacefully at the age of 89 years old. Stella joined our congregation with her daughter, Cheryl Brigham, in May of 2017. She regularly worshipped with us on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings.

Plans for a celebration of life have yet to be determined. Please keep Cheryl Brigham and the rest of the family in your prayers during this troubling time.



Online Survey from the Church Council

With the weather becoming cooler and the dark coming earlier, church council would like to gather a little information about worship preferences during this time of COVID-19. We don't believe worship on zoom will stop in the near future, but we also realize our Tuesday evening outdoor gatherings will no longer become possible.

Please take 1 minute to answer our brief 3 question survey online to help us determine our next steps in providing worship experiences. You also have the opportunity to share any additional thoughts regarding in-person worship and Holy Trinity's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PBTGM86>

Thanks for your time.

Grace and Peace,

The Church Council and Pastor Tim



Pastor Tim's Article: September 8, 2020

Beloved of Christ,

Labor Day is past and we are now unofficially in Fall. It seems to be cliché, but things look different than in the past. Specifically, I wanted to mention Faith Formation. You can look for ways to form your faith in three primary ways this fall. The details are being worked out still, but the following should give you an overview of how to participate in what is going on here at Holy Trinity.

Sunday School – We are going to partner with Luther Crest Bible Camp to bring you faith formation activities for children up through 6th grade. They will produce a weekly Children's Sermon for worship (while we are still online) and also "Sunday School Lessons" that will include a skit, bible story and song. These will be in video form and made available on our website. This will begin the first week in October and look for more information to come.



Confirmation – In the past, we met monthly for food, games, learning and meditation. This year, we are changing gears and will use the "6 Marks of Discipleship" for the youth to practice their faith weekly and then gather virtually to discuss how things went each month. The "6 Marks" we will be using are: Pray, Worship, Read/Learn about Scripture, Serve, Give, Encourage. If you have a youth in 7th grade and older that would like to participate, please contact me. We meet for the first time this coming Sunday, Sept. 13th at 6pm, here at church, under the tent.

Intergenerational – A weekly email will be produced by our Faith Coordinator, Faith Bygd, that all people are welcome to subscribe to. It will consist of links to the content provided by Luther Crest along with other questions/activities/ ideas to form faith at home. This could include a weekly meal grace, bedtime blessing, craft or activity, weekly question, daily scripture reading, book suggestions, podcast and article recommendations. As with "Sunday School" this will begin the first week in October. Look for more information to come. Also, we will meet weekly on Tuesdays at 5pm, for

as long as the weather allows, under the tent, to learn camp songs, practice the FAITH 5 and eat dinner together (BYOD, Bring Your Own Dinner).

Adult – Multiple opportunities on a variety of topics will be offered for people to meet via zoom to learn about and discuss. This will include a continuation of BYOB^2 (Bring Your Own Bible and Beverage with Pastor Tim) and other books or relevant ideas let by other members of the congregation. Also, don't forget, while the weather permits, we are meeting on Tuesday evenings at 7pm, under the tent, for music, scripture and prayer. These have been well attended and well received. I believe there is some silver lining to all that is happening right now, concerning the pandemic. We are forced to think about faith formation in new ways, which in all honesty, has needed to happen, for all churches. We are being forced to come up with ideas that we may not have considered before and might have been resistant to. We are no longer dependent on people coming to the building to learn, but rather, will learn in our homes and throughout the rest of our lives.

Some of what we attempt and try will work out great. Some will go “fine” and require some tweaking. Some will fail miserably and we will move on from it. Who knows? We won't know unless we try. Thanks for being willing to try.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Tim

Operation Blessing

Operation Blessing is in need of clothes for everyone. They should be new or slightly used and clean. They can be dropped off on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday from 10 am-4 pm. We are need to clean out our drawers and closets and after living at home, for the past 6 plus months we what little clothes we actually need. Thank you.



President's Article

There simply is a lot going on in the world - extreme weather, wildfires, racial protests, and related concerns of COVID. We individually offer prayers, donate to relief organizations, watch the news, and look out for others. And if you are like me, you reflect on how grateful we are to be living where we do. I enjoy the natural beauty of this area and the ways that many people live practically, moving through life with ingenuity and independence. Some people also say neighbors in New England exist by following a "live and let live" attitude - if you don't bother me then I won't bother you. This is one "identity" I haven't seen at Holy Trinity given all the ways members do their best to live a Christ-like life.

Even though this pandemic has significantly challenged us in ways we couldn't and can't imagine, we have found avenues to support one other as well as those who happen to be outside our Church family. This coming Sunday we will be "running" for Calumet to assist their important programming and the Caring Connections ministry continues to soften peoples' feelings of isolation and sadness. Many members have contributed their stories of faith, songs, music, readings, and prayers to our outdoor and Zoom services. The Thursday Morning Group keeps a watchful eye, hands-on approach for the property as members offer their time and expertise. Funds for Social Ministry surpassed previous levels of giving, and the Faith Formation gives creative opportunities to our youth and adults. Local neighbors with food insecurity are utilizing the Pop-up Pantry and our offerings maintain the church. With a list like this, I don't think Holy Trinity practices the ways of "live and let live." Instead Pastor leads us and challenges us to reflect, make decisions, and act in faith-based ways that extends love and contributes to the needs of others. Yes, it is hard to not worship together inside the Church AND it is good to remember and rejoice that Holy Trinity is coming together, growing in faith, and serving the Lord.



Dover Friendly Kitchen

Dear Holy Trinity Family,

Several of you have asked us how we are doing with Dover Friendly Kitchen duty, and if we are even doing it at all. We decided to let the whole congregation know that we have been continuing our monthly meals as take out ever since March's duty date. Over the summer, because of the heat in the kitchen, we have done a picnic supper of ham and cheese sandwiches (2 of them), bag of chips, veggies and Ranch dip, watermelon slice, and packaged cookies. Bottles of plain and flavored water serve as beverage. We have averaged 75 guests and have made as many as 85 meals to be able to meet extra demand, if necessary.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church, on the corner of Locust and Hale in Dover, where Dover Friendly Kitchen meals are served every Tuesday and Thursday by alternating Dover area churches, has applied certain rules during this time of Covid. We may only have 8 volunteers, we must remain in the kitchen, and we must wear masks and gloves, of course. Marguerite, the DFK Coordinator, distributes the meals to one customer at a time at the main door to the Parish Hall so that contact with others is limited for us. We do miss seeing the guests, some of whom we have known for many years. However, they know we still care about them because our monthly meals have not stopped.



Our next serving day is Tuesday, September 22, which is coming up shortly. It will still be the picnic supper menu. We will again be in need of 8 volunteers, and we know of three people so far who will definitely be there to work. We also know of two people who cannot be there for the next two months. We have had some very regular volunteers during these months, but we would like to know for sure whom to expect for helpers. We are therefore asking that if you are able to be there on Tuesday, September 22, at St. Thomas Church in Dover, by 4:00 PM, please confirm with either me or Jill Schock by this coming weekend, by email, text or phone call. This would make us very happy to know we are covered as to meal prep help. It has been amazing how busy we have all

been, even during the limits of the pandemic, but if five of you could spare 2 hours in the late afternoon on September 22nd, we would be most appreciative.

We hope this finds you all well and safe, and glad to know that your church, through your financial support and our volunteers, is still doing its part to help the local homeless and struggling population.

God bless you all,

Bonnie Sanders

Jill Schock

Stewardship

The Gospel for this Sunday, September 20th, is the story of the workers in the vineyard. The ones who were hired at the end of the day were paid the same as the ones who were hired early in the morning. It is a story which shows God's generosity to those who are under his wing. God has been generous to us and we should be thankful to God in return. We show our thankfulness by giving back to God some of the wages that he has made impossible for us to earn. Whether we have come early or late to our belief God has provided.



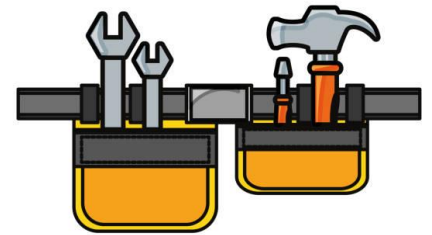
Portals of Prayer & Christ in Our Home

The October, November, December 2020 issues of Portals of Prayer and Christ in Our Home have arrived in the mail. Pick them up during Church Office hours. They will be found on the Communion Table as you enter the main entrance.

Property Team

With the recent moderation in the hot weather and the occasional rain, things are beginning to grow again, and we have been doing the routine outdoor grounds work as needed. As you can see in the following, other important property related matters are continuing.

Since the last Property Team report, engineering work has been completed on the new fire alarm system and we have received a quote and proposed contract to obtain the required permits, procure and install the new system. We anticipate approving the proposal to allow work to begin in September and complete in November. This will involve work throughout the building to install and test a new fire alarm panel, new sensors, other fire protection equipment, and new wiring.



Council has approved a Property Team proposal to remove a dead elm tree adjacent to our entrance driveway. We have accepted a quote for this work which is scheduled for September 23rd.

Council has also approved a Property Team proposal to replace the main electrical power panel for our building. This will resolve some issues with the existing panel and will also incorporate power surge protection for the building. We have an informal quote for this work and anticipate accepting a quote for this work soon. This work will require coordination with the installation of the new fire alarm panel because the electrical panel and fire alarm panel are located in close proximity on the same wall in the basement work room. The new fire alarm system has the highest priority, but we also want to get the new power surge protection installed in time to protect the new alarm system and other equipment in the building.

You may have noticed the new concrete pads (steps) that have been constructed outside of three emergency exit doors (sanctuary exit near the choir, the outside exit for the Wiggle Room, and the outside exit for the back emergency stairway from the second floor). A special thank you goes out to Scott Carson who did this concrete work as well

as considerable work to replace rotted wood siding adjacent to the Wiggle Room exit. The new pads resolve a fire department finding that step-down height at these exits was too large and did not meet life safety code requirements. It is now easier and safer to walk out of any of these emergency exits.

Last month's reported demise of the refrigerator in the conference room was premature. We were able to clean this refrigerator so it can be returned to service when needed.

This month we have been working to resolve an odor issue in the Sacristy. The issue appears to be moisture related and aggregated by the lack of use of the room and long periods of time with the door closed and resulting low air circulation. The banners and vestments have been temporarily moved out of the room to minimize possibility of odor absorption. We have found no indication of water leakage, although there could be some moisture under the carpet or the problem could have resulted from stagnant, humid air. We have been running a fan to move air out of the room and have also been running a dehumidifier to pull some moisture out of the room. The situation appears to be improving. Should we be looking forward to the dry, heated air of winter?

Dave Mercer, Property Team Leader