

September 02, 09 & 16, 2018

The Weekly Tidings

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Come Together, Grow in Faith, Serve the LORD

New Banners in our Sanctuary

Check out our new banners for the sanctuary that we made during the first "Traveling Together Sunday." They will be up on Sunday, September 16. See you then!

(Photos by Pastor Tim Krick & Yvonne Topping)



President's Article

Summer's Gone!!! I have no idea where it went, and I can never figure out why, when we have the same 24 hours each day in June, July, and August, those days go so much quicker than the same 24 hour days in January, February, and March. So.....we go from the slower paced summer mode to the hustle and bustle of busy-ness that often puts us in survival mode. Thanks be to God that we have the opportunity every week to be at church on Sunday (and/or Wednesday evening if you're so inclined) to stop, take a deep breath, and reflect on our Lord's presence within us to help throughout the week when daily routines get so overwhelming.

Getting back into the swing of things, two service Sunday's began last Sunday with Rally Day activities sandwiched in between. And what a hit Rally Day was with lots of people all over, mixing and mingling and doing lots of fun stuff. Movie Night returns next Thursday (the 20th), and New Grounds Coffee House will be opening back up Friday (21st) at 6:00 PM. Coming on October 14th will be God's Work Our Hands.



Pastor Tim, Associate to the Bishop, met with our Pastor Tim on Tuesday and then joined the Council meeting, as part of the process of the latter's assimilation at Holy Trinity. During the Council meeting there was a sharing of Council member's thoughts and observations to Synod Tim regarding HT Tim's effect at Holy Trinity. Member's opined about the positive impact HT Tim has had, and the feeling that the congregation is moving in a very positive and upbeat direction. Synod Tim told us that he, the Bishop and Synod staff are very pleased with the transition of Pastor Krick into the Holy Trinity community, and pray for our continued success. Amen!

The summer was not without activity around the church, as the Property Team did their thing every week in keeping the grounds and building in great condition; we had a wonderfully successful and fun filled VBS at the end of July; the parking lot was sealed and re-lined; Faith Formation Team volunteers painted the two back first floor classrooms and the Coordinator's office; and the gathering area, two hallways and classrooms were re-carpeted. In addition, some very dedicated folks were working on transitioning our electronic data systems into a new format and our web-site was being updated and

reconfigured. While these and other special jobs were being worked on, the regular day-to-day tasks were also taking place, such as the choir's singing every week, the finance folks paying the bills, the Library being maintained, Altar Guild setting up for services.... and the list goes on and on. I guess what I'm trying to say is there is a lot of activity that goes on at HT by a lot of volunteers. All the time. It's not like all the tasks are done by a bunch of fairies that float down from the sky at night when everyone sleeps, sprinkling magic dust around and poof!! The job is done!! It takes the efforts of a lot of people. And I, along with all the members of the Council and Pastor, are very thankful to all of you that help to make HT work. Thank You Thank You one and all!!

Speaking of the new carpet, I hope you noticed Property Team Leader Dave Mercer's note in this issue of the Tidings (*see page 4*) about the slight elevation change in floor levels at the junction of the gathering area and the two hallways leading to the class rooms. They have been marked, please watch your step.

Thanks to Brian Clement, whose Eagle Scout project is the installation of a refurbished Holy Trinity sign in front of the church. It's been re-positioned from the previous spot to provide more exposure to passers-by, and really looks great.

thank
you!

We're starting to pick up some traction with AmazonSmile 2nd quarter saw Holy Trinity receive a \$26.00 donation thanks to those who have signed up and made Amazon purchases through the AmazonSmile program. Signing up is easy.... If you have any questions or need help signing up Mark Donahue can give you an easy to follow one page instruction 'manual'. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate .5% of purchases to Holy Trinity after you have signed up and select Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Newington, NH as your designated charitable organization. Thanks to those now using AmazonSmile here's to hoping more will join in.

Enjoy the rest of September as we move into Autumn, and pray for all those folks down south who will be impacted by monstrous hurricane Florence.

God's Peace to All
Dave Smith

Property Team

You may have heard or even personally experienced an unanticipated consequence of the new carpet installation. Some folks have advised us that they have tripped or stumbled at two locations near the kitchen where the hallways merge with the Gathering Area. Since construction of these areas of our facility, there has been a minor elevation change at these points. We are not sure why this problem has arisen now, but it may be the consequence of the new carpet in the hallway being identical to the new carpet in the Gathering Area which makes any elevation change or transition more difficult to see or anticipate. We have placed some warning signs near these locations and have put "black and yellow" warning tape on the floor at the transition. We will continue to monitor the situation. Please make yourself aware of these locations and be cautious as you pass through.

Brian Clement advised us of a delay in the schedule to complete the installation of the refurbished sign in front of our building. The sign has been installed on our front lawn over the September 8th & 9th weekend. Here's a photo of the newly refurbished sign. *(see photo, right)*



This is the time of year we start thinking about taking down and storing our tent for the season. Unless a need to keep it up after Sunday, September 9th is brought to our attention, the Property Team will plan on taking it down on Thursday, September 13th, weather permitting.

Faith Formation Team volunteers have been busy this past month painting the back two classrooms in the Education Wing. These efforts are much appreciated and greatly compliment the newly installed carpet in these rooms. We will be continuing to clear these rooms of materials stored there, but not needed in these rooms.

This summer we encountered a few plumbing issues which we have addressed and will continue to address. A faucet in one of the two kitchen sinks failed and was out of service

for a few days until we found and installed a repair part. As it turned out, the internal parts are not particularly robust, and the new part also failed after a short period of usage. A second replacement part appears to be hanging in there. We have purchased a new replacement faucet which we will install when a good opportunity arises (a Thursday morning with rain). We also recently found some water in the cabinet under this same location. It appears that this issue is unrelated to the faucet problem, and is likely due to a failed seal where one of the sinks joins the counter top. We have applied some temporary calking material at this location, but the sink needs to be lifted and the entire seal around the sink replaced. This should not be a major, expensive project, but it takes time. We have also recently found a problem with the toilet in the men's room in the Education Wing. The metal ring holding the toilet to the floor had corroded away rendering the hold down bolts ineffective. This is an unusual and difficult installation because of its attachment at a concrete floor. We have completed a repair and the toilet is properly sealed at the floor. An energetic user may still sense some movement of the unit, but it is still sealed. Be gentle, guys! Given that we have other similar installations of similar age in the building, the Property Team is waiting for the next shoe to drop! Oh, joy!

Dave Mercer, Property Team Leader

Stewardship

Are you ready for something exciting? Are you tired of the same old blah Stewardship Campaign? We, the Stewardship Team, are hoping your answer to those questions is YES! We, too, are tired of doing the same old, same old. That said, we hope to give you a new way of looking at stewardship; the possibilities of ministry that your giving provides. The blah old "Temple Talks" will give way to "Ministry Updates." In the Ministry Updates some of the recipients of your giving will tell us about how we have made a difference in the lives of people. Your gift to Holy Trinity does so much more than just keep the doors open here at the Church. Your gift spreads our love of God throughout our communities and the world. To turn to more practical matters, each of us will receive a packet of materials, unlike the couple of letters in the past, which will tell our story of God's work in the world that our hands and our work have aided. In that packet, of course, we include a letter, some study material, and, oh yes, a pledge card. There is much more to tell, but that can wait until October when we begin the pledge campaign.



Operation Blessing

Since we have been supporting Operation Blessing for many years and because they have new programs and have reorganized many things, I thought it might be good if I included how they are trying to help our community. The following information has been taken directly from their website.

“OB believes in empowering change. Every day we provide services for people, because we realize that providing for a physical need paves the way for us to provide for a spiritual need.

Transaction: Free food and household necessities for those in need.

Transition: Promote healthy life choices through education and outreach programs.

Transformation: Offer hope for a changed life comes through faith in Jesus Christ.”



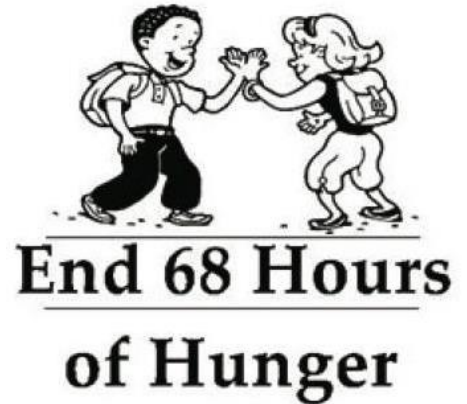
We are continuing to collect items for OB to use in their food pantry. Won't you help by contributing any of the following items? BAKED BEANS, RED, BLACK or KIDNEY BEANS, CEREAL, VINEGAR, COFFEE, TEA, or ALMOND MILK. (The entire list of items they need are on their website, OperationBlessing.Org.) I have asked for only a limited number of items to make it easier for you to remember when shopping! Thank you.

Lois Laurence.

End 68 Hours of Hunger

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church has a team that packs food for the program 'End 68 Hours of Hunger' for the city of Portsmouth!! This program is designed to provide food for children in need that would sustain them for the weekend when school is not in session. This year Kathy McKenna and Lauren Gianino are the Team Coordinators for our church.

Our team is responsible for packing food bags for children on 7 Thursdays throughout the school year. We pack at the First United Methodist Church, [129 Miller Ave. Portsmouth](#) and we meet at 6pm. Depending on the number of volunteers, the packing process takes between 40 minutes to an hour - but rarely a full hour.



We know that everyone cannot make every date but we send reminders a week ahead of each date and you just respond to let us know if you are available or not. Occasionally, we will have to change our packing date if there is a storm predicted. Right now, we do not have this year's schedule. Our first packing date will be some time in October. Once the schedule is out, we will let everyone know.

If you are interested in joining our team please email myself (mckenna.kathy.62@gmail.com) or Lauren Gianino(pglg813@comcast.net). If you know of someone who would like to join our team....please have them contact us!! We always welcome new participants!!

Let us know if you have any questions!!
Kathy McKenna & Lauren Gianino

Movie Night

Movie Night returns September 20! Join us as 7:00 PM for RBG, a documentary exploring the life and legacy of 84-year-old Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Snacks will be provided!



A message from Pastor Msungu

(note: this is the unedited version of the email we received last week from Pastor Msungu. Please excuse any spelling and grammar mistakes)

Hello my Brother in Christ

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I pray that you, your family, and community as well are doing fine. Back for our side also were doing fine and progressing well.

I would like to present to you and your community my special thanks for all things that you did to us, Thank you for your prayers in my family, Community as well as my ministry and for sure I saw many grace in my life, Family and community as well, God he did, and he protect us daily.



Thank you for your support to all uncountable things that you did, Thank you for your electrification funds to our hostel and this project was completed since last week, and I can send the photo to you, very sorry I'm so late to send the photo it's a problem of network, The student we are so happy to get the electricity, I'm sure that even the performance in their studies were changed.

Also we are happy because for all students we are in one uniform as what you have told me, all students we are in one pair of truck suit.

We are celebrating this holy day with my wife Sporah but she arrived in this morning to Mbeya for her schooling, please continue to pray for her so that she can afford in her goal, Also we are continuing to the renovation of our church as you can see in the photo. Thank you for all and may God Bless you

Peace to you, your family and to the whole community.

Rev. Livingstone Msungu
Isimani Parish