

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Norfolk, Virginia

Praising the Lord for 100 years of Grace



100th Anniversary—September 2020 Issue

Our Trinity Family Serves Others Locally and Around the World

Serving the Lord is who we are as Christians. Reaching out to those in need has been a rich part of Trinity's history. In the early days Pastor Plawin and men of the church picked up children in the Fairmont Park neighborhood, where many German Lutheran families lived, and brought them to Sunday School at Trinity. The ladies of the church made Sunday dinner for young service men during WWII and members spent time at the Lutheran Service Center in downtown Norfolk. This ministry to others has continued over the years and has expanded to include many city and world support ministries. In recent years the Board of Special Ministries under the direction of Patty Malone has enhanced Trinity's outreach ministry.



Right: Pastor Plawin with his daughter Judy at the Lutheran Service Center downtown.





Foodbank

Volunteers from Trinity regularly sort food items and check dates at the Foodbank in Norfolk, usually on Saturday mornings. Trinity also collects food donations from our members and transports them to the Foodbank.



St. Columba Ecumenical Ministries





St. Columba Ecumenical Ministries is a homeless day center in Norfolk. Trinity makes sandwiches and hygiene kits for the center several times a year.

Operation Christmas Child

This mission is part of Samaritan's Purse. It's a way to show God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. Trinity collects items for the Christmas boxes and sponsors a Christmas in July Ice Cream Social for donations.















Ministry to Those Who Serve Our Community

Trinity partnered with Unity Lutheran to salute those who serve the community - police, firemen, hospital workers. They took food and thank-you cards to let them know they're loved.



REACH, Inc. (Reading Enriches All Children)

REACH, Inc promotes literacy for children who are at-risk and homeless throughout Coastal Virginia. Trinity collects gently loved books year round - on the bookshelf in the Welcome Center - to help children develop their own home libraries. Trinity members have filled the bookshelf 3-4 times.



Preteen Fun Night



The Friday night outreach to preteens meets monthly, September thru May, for a fun-filled night of games, basketball, Bible object lessons, snacks and crafts. Organized by Patty Malone.

Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits

Personal care kits are assembled by Trinity volunteers and shipped around the world when the need arises. Bud and Lynn Hubert transport the kits to the LWR Warehouse in Baltimore, MD, the distribution center.

Trinity has Supported Many Ministries Over the Years

The Judeo/Christian Outreach (Homeless) Center - by preparing dinner twice a year for about 100 people; The Greater Hampton Roads Diaper Bank; Blankets for the Homeless; EdMarc Hospice in Portsmouth; The Minnick Schools/Lutheran Family Services in western Virginia; and the Lion's Club collecting eye glasses for those in need.

Vacation Bible School

For many years Trinity offered VBS to its own kids and those from the neighborhood. It served the kids well with fun activities and learning about Jesus, their friend and Savior.





Blood Drive

Trinity holds Red Cross Blood drives when the need for blood increases. Below, Ralph Knorr is one of our many volunteers who donate blood.



Trinity's "Cooks" - Feeding Those in Need











There's a lot of food prep at Trinity to help those in need and for other ministries. Trinity's volunteers love to cook and enjoy the Christian fellowship they share while preparing the food. From luncheons, the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (which raises funds for special needs.), Oktoberfest Luncheon or ministries outside of Trinity, we are blessed with faithful volunteers!

Many Serve the Congregation

Volunteers are plentiful at Trinity for whatever the need, spring cleaning the sanctuary in preparation for Easter, preparing palm crosses for Palm Sunday, clearing snow from the sidewalks, it's amazing what goes on behind the scenes.







Reminding Others of God's Presence

The Nativity on the church lawn during the Christmas season proclaims Jesus to our neighbors and those passing by. It's a way of sharing Christ with them. A Chrismon tree served that purpose in years past.

Bud Hubert and family made the stable. Hot cocoa and cookies are enjoyed by all attending the evening.







Serving God's Children











Constructing Trinity's playground for its children was quite a job - it took many steps, but volunteers got the job done! And it takes a "village" to keep Trinity's grounds looking beautiful. It's a labor of love to the Lord by the folks who do the work.

Serving Those Coming to America



Trinity sponsored the Doan family from Vietnam in the late 70's when many Vietnamese refugees came to the U.S. That involved finding jobs, housing and a car for the family so they could be self supporting in the U.S.





Trinity's Garden was initiated to share vegetables with those in need and to teach children about God's creation. Special thanks to sextons, Bill Sontag and Ron Jones for their work on the garden.

Serving the Congregation

LCEF—Ralph Knorr serves as Lutheran Church Extension Fund representative at Trinity to assist people who want to invest in LCEF savings accounts.



Taping church services during Pandemic

Bud and Lynn Hubert figured out a way to record and post Trinity's Sunday morning service during the Pandemic of 2020 when churches were closed. Dick Robertson who has deep roots at Trinity was so impressed that he could get the service at his home in California that he offered to fund a new updated sound system for Trinity!