# Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church



Available online @ www.trinitylutherannorfolk.org

#### From Our Pastor

Rev. Jonathan Meraz

The kids are back in school. Old routines have fallen into place. A number of Trinity activities have resumed. Some of our members are spending their spare time throwing a few strikes in the Monday evening bowling league. We have four youth attending the confirmation classes that I get to teach. (I do enjoy spending time with the kids). The study of our Lutheran Confessions is going full steam ahead (feel free to join us on Wednesdays at 7 PM). The Men's bi-weekly bible study has started. These and a few other activities are the evidence of the spiritual life that can be found in our congregation.

That's encouraging to me. While we Lutherans so adamantly (and rightly) speak boldly against works righteousness, the truth is, what we do is the evidence of our faith. The apostle James says faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

There's a professor at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis who asks his students to describe for him what the topic under discussion looks like. To paraphrase him, I ask you to consider this question for a moment - what does faith look like? God's holy Word says that **faith** is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. That tells us what faith is but what does it look like? Here are a couple biblical examples.

Faith looks like a man building a large boat in the middle of nowhere, waiting for a great flood to lift it up. Faith looks like a man leaving the security of his native land to go to a place he didn't yet know existed. Faith looks like placing your baby in a homemade basket and turning him loose in a river, confident that the Lord would protect him. Faith looks like a woman coming up alongside of Jesus, believing that if she could just touch the hem of His clothing, she would be healed. Faith looks like four men carrying their paralyzed friend to the Lord, confident that He would do something to help him.

Faith comes to Jesus, looking for the gifts that He has to give, the gifts that He wants to give. Each person in the examples above received more than they were hoping for, much more than gifts of material or physical provision. They received eternal gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. Our Lord still offers those gifts to you today. He purposefully, intentionally distributes them through His means of grace.

What does faith look like? Faith looks like a mother and a father preparing the children to come to Sunday school while they attend the adult bible class and then worshipping together on a Sunday morning. Faith looks like a person spending time with the Lord on a daily basis, reading His Word and praying. Faith looks like someone who finds occasions to serve his neighbor, at school, at work, at home, and maybe, if the opportunity presented itself, telling that neighbor about their Savior, Jesus.

I like routine. It's comfortable and it brings a certain sense of security and safety. I want to urge you to either develop or maintain a routine with Jesus, whichever is appropriate. Include Him in every part of your life. Come to where you can receive the gifts He has for you. They're eternal gifts that aren't available anywhere else and He means for you to have them. He means it so much that He died for it. Blessings to you all.

Pastor Meraz

#### SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:30 am Worship Service

9:45 am Sunday School

10:00 am Adult Bible Classes

11:00 am Worship Service

5th Sundays 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service

Holy Communion 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays

Nursery Available through Preschool age

#### Our Mission

United in Christ we will proclaim the Gospel, administer the Sacraments, and provide Christian education to children and adults in a supportive and nurturing environment.



facebook.com/TLCNorfolk



#### TRINITY LUTHERAN'S MINISTRY TEAM

**Pastor** 

Rev. Jonathan Meraz

**Administrative Coordinator** 

Anne Combes

tlc@trinitylutherannorfolk.org

**Music Director** 

Kai Lin

**Bookkeeper** 

Janice Williams

Sexton

Bill Sontag

Custodian

Antonio Tutt

**Chairman of Deacons** 

Sharyn Leiding – Zone 1 & 3

Deacons

Sharon Plawin – Zone 2

Ken Leiding – Zone 4

Bud and Lynn Hubert -

Zone 5 & 7

Roger & Mary Ann Medlin -

Zone 6



**Council President** 

Conrad Greif

Vice-President

John Knickelbein

**Recording Secretary** 

Lynn Hubert

Financial Secretary

Anne Combes

**Treasurer** 

David Petri

**Christian Growth Chairman** 

Cathy George

**Educational Ministries Chairman** 

vacant

**LWML President** 

Sharon Knorr

Special Ministries Chairman

Patty Malone

Stewardship Chairman

vacant

**Outreach Chairman** 

Doug Sulak

Worship Board Chairman

Janice Gwin

**Youth Ministries** 

Vacant

**Church Properties Chairman** 

Dave Poston

Trustees

Sam Locklear

Jack Carter

# Music Festival

Join us for a night of music with Kathryn Kelly, soprano and Kai Lin, organist and pianist

Reception immediately following in Belvedere Hall.

During the reception a Free Will Offering will be received with proceeds supporting the continuation of our Annual Music Festival.

Friday, October 28, 2016 - 7:30 p.m.

#### From our Pastor

# **Introduction to the Divine Service**

**CONFESSION** 

After the Invocation, we move to the confession. When we approach the most holy Lord in worship, it is appropriate that we confess our sins to Him and seek His forgiveness in absolution. We are reminded that sinful people only stand before God through the merits of Christ never by our own goodness. Indeed, the confession puts the hard truth of our situation plainly, we are by nature sinful and unclean, or I a poor, miserable sinner.

Note, the confession isn't a confession of the sin of the day as if our problem wasn't so bad so that with the proper amount of effort we could improve ourselves. Confession speaks to the heart of our problem. We are totally corrupt before God without Christ. We have no power to correct our problem because the heart of the human problem is the problem of the human heart. Christianity is not a self-improvement program. It is about God doing for us what we cannot do for ourselves.

It is worth noting that when the Lutheran Confessions speak of Confession and Absolution they are primarily referring to private confession. Unfortunately this is not practiced in Lutheran churches as it once was, yet it is still available today. You may contact your Lutheran pastor to set up a time for private confession. He is bound by oath not to reveal that which is spoken to him in the context of private Confession.

These notes were originally written in 2001 by Pastor David Oberdieck and have been edited.

# **Summer Camp**

Craig Bayse

This year's Summer Camp finished on August 19th as a great success. Many thanks to our Camp



Director Linda Loper and her staff for keeping the kids busy with crafts, games and laughs.

If you checked out our Facebook page, you'll have noticed how Patty Malone kept everyone up-to-date on the kids' activities.

Proceeds from the Camp will be used for camp improvements and advertising. We are looking forward to next year!

#### **Christian Growth**

Cathy George

How would you like to be a positive influence in a child's life? We have opportunities at Trinity! Starting October 2nd Sunday School classes will begin. We are looking for teachers for preschool, elementary and middle school. If you are interested, please contact Linda Blaker or Cathy George to sign up. Also recent confirmands can be a part too. Find out how!

Ladies of Trinity. We would like to see a ladies' Bible study group or groups formed for further fellowship and study of God's word at Trinity. To start, a questionnaire has been created to gather information of time, day of week, topic etc. Please fill out the questionnaire and return to the church office.

Men's Retreat is October 14—15th. Please contact Richard Ball if you are interested in participating.

Finally, a big THANK YOU to ALL the members of Sunday School. Our mission project this summer was HELP BUILD TIN ROOFS IN AFRICA. Our goal was \$2000.00 and we raised \$2,604.87!

Beginning in October our next mission project will be *Operation Christmas Child*. A video about this project will be shown in Sunday School on October 2nd.

#### **Board of Deacons**

Sharyn Leiding

What are your plans for the afternoon of December 18th? It is never too early to mark your calendar for the 4-7 p.m. time slot and anticipate making a positive impact on the lives of Trinity's homebound folks. The event?... singing to individuals or groups of folks at their home or assisted living facility. Familiar Christmas carols, both religious and secular, delight the people who applaud our efforts and make us feel welcome. It's truly a ministry that is appreciated. Meet at church and we'll carpool, ending at approximately 7 p.m.

Dorothy Simms joined heaven's ranks on June 27th, just weeks after the passing of her husband, Melvin. Both husband and wife were active, much loved long-time members of Trinity. Deacons were present at the committal service and reception for Dorothy.

The Board of Deacons was represented at the baptism of Katherine Ann Nytko on Sunday, August 28th.

Expect to receive a telephone call from your deacon regarding the ONE WORSHIP SERVICE on Sunday, October 30th. The Reformation Worship Service will be observed at 10 a.m followed by a luncheon in Belvedere Hall complete with oompah music!

#### Stewardship

Lynn Hubert (acting chair)

#### Stewardship Sunday

Stewardship Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday November 13<sup>th</sup>. Again this year you will be receiving a letter from the Board of Stewardship around November 1<sup>st</sup> asking you to prayerfully consider your gifts to Trinity. We ended the fiscal year with a deficit that we are blessed enough to have covered by our gifts to TLC4TLC. A full report will be given at the Voters' Assembly on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. We are also looking at changing our fiscal year which will be discussed at the Voters' Assembly.

As TLC4TLC comes to an end at the end of December we pray that you will consider continuing what you were donating to TLC4TLC and direct those contributions to our General Budget. The General Budget covers the salaries for our employees including our Pastor; our utilities and the general running of the church through each of our Administrative Boards on Church Council.

Your support of our ministry here at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is crucial as we face the challenges of the future and it begins with our gathering as the family of God in worship and Bible Study. It is also time for us to consider how we will commit ourselves to using the gifts and talents that the Lord has poured out upon each of us. In order to carry out our mission we need the support of all of our members in your financial gifts as well as your time and talents. Please VOLUNTEER! All hands make lighter work for each of us. God Bless you!

#### Outreach

Doug Sulak

Our church attendance is continuing on an upward trend under Pastor Meraz. Our Bible studies are growing in size. Pastor is now leading our Lutheran Confessions study group on Wednesday nights.

He is a great teacher and is adding much to our knowledge of our Lutheran heritage.

We are continuing to make our visitors welcome and will seek new ways to reach out to our community with the Good News of our salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

# Did you know?? Trinity has a website!! www.trinitylutherannorfolk.org

The HOMEPAGE welcomes all to Trinity and invites everyone to our Sunday Worship Services and Sunday School.

ABOUT US, tells everyone who we are, gives a history of Trinity, introduces our staff and Leadership Team, tells everyone how to contact us and shows them a gallery of pictures from happenings at Trinity.

NEWS, shows everyone our church calendar (not sure what's happening at Trinity, you always have access to our calendar of events, meetings, etc.), weekly events (this shows everything that is in the bulletin each Sunday for the coming week and is updated every Friday), newsletter (shows the complete Trinitarian), and the 2016/2017 Event Calendar (now you can look forward and see what event is scheduled for each month coming up in the next year).

WORSHIP, shows what worship services we have at Trinity and a brief explanation of communion, worship liturgy (shows the full service as it is printed in our weekly bulletin and is updated every Friday), Sunday School/Bible Classes (tells everyone what Bible Classes are available at Trinity), and terminology (explains what each part of the Worship Service means).

MEMBERS, is a section that only our membership can access!! You have to be invited to create a password in order to open this section. The first page is our complete membership directory (including a picture of each member that has had a picture taken), here you will find up to date addresses, phone and email info! The second page lists those we have listed in our bulletin for prayers (also updated every Friday). The third page is a complete listing of financial and attendance updates as listed in the bulletin each week (also updated every Friday). The fourth page lists groups within the church and an explanation of what these groups do at Trinity. The fifth page is a complete listing of birthdays and anniversaries of each of our members by month. All of the information you need right at your fingertips!!!

MINISTRIES, lists information on our youth, adult, military and community garden.

VISITORS, welcomes those who visit with us and gives information on how to become a member of Trinity.

LINKS, gives information for online resources.

If you have not created a password and checked us out please contact Lynn Hubert and ask to be invited to join our members' only page!!!

### **Worship Board**

Janice Gwin

LWML Sunday will be observed on Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at both services. The ladies will take on the roles of greeters, ushers and Children's' Sermon leader.



Reformation Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup> with ONE service at 10:00 am. Sunday School will be held at 9:00 am. Our Octoberfest Potluck Luncheon will be held following the service in Belvedere Hall.

The Ladies of the LWML will oversee the luncheon. A sign-up sheet can be found on Volunteer Board in the Welcome Center to let us know who is attending and what dish you are supplying. Brats and hot dogs will be served. Please join us on the special day for Christian fellowship and great food.

All Saint's Day will be observed on Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. Daylight Saving Time ends on this day so please make sure you turn your clocks up one hour before going to bed on Saturday night.



Stewardship Sunday will be observed on Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at both services. Pastor Meraz will be on vacation on Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, we welcome Chaplain Prince to the pulpit for these two Sundays, may God bless his service among us and safe travels to Pastor and Julie as they travel to visit with children and grandchildren.



We will have a Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm. Please invite your family and friends to join us as we give thanks to God for our many blessings.

The first Sunday of Advent is on Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>. On the Second Sunday of Advent, December 4<sup>th</sup> we invite everyone to stay after late service to help us decorate the church for Christmas.

As you can see we are entering a very busy time in the life of the church. Please volunteer where you can to help out in our worship services, with the Altar Guild, in the Welcome Center and during any of our special events.

#### LIVE NATIVITY

We are planning on holding a Live Nativity on Saturday evening, December 3rd from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm. This was an annual event many years ago at Trinity. We will have a stable on the front lawn with a donkey, sheep and goats. We would very much like to have our youth participate as Mary, Joseph, shepherds, Wisemen and angels. We are looking for youth in 1st grade and older. We hope to have enough children that each group can take a 15 minute shift in the stable, just in case it is a cold winter night. Adults, we would love you to participate by wearing biblical costumes and be a part of the event on the front lawn. We will be serving cookies, hot cider and hot chocolate. There will be handouts for children and adults inviting all to our Christmas services, as well as Christmas mu-We pray this will be a wonderful evening of Christian fellowship and a warm welcome to our neighbors. Please look for the sign-up sheet on the Volunteer Board in the Welcome Center. There will be a space to sign-up your children, volunteer to help for the evening, as well as making cookies. It will take many hands to work together to help this become a successful event. Even if you don't participate we hope to see everyone out for the evening. If you have any questions please contact Lynn Hubert.

Dear Operation Barnabas Congregations/Chapters,

Here is the address for the latest Warning Order
- http://www.lcms.org/operationbarnabas/
resources.

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Chaplain Craig G. Muehler CAPT, CHC, USN,(ret.) Director, Ministry to the Armed Forces The Lutheran Church-Missori Synod

# Operation Barnabas Night Sing-a-Long

November 17th from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

#### All are invited!

Please join us for refreshments as we come together in fellowship singing God's praises!

#### **LWML**

Lynn Hubert

We began our new year with a meeting on September 10th. We had 12 ladies and Pastor in attendance. New this year we will no longer be collecting dues and the LWML Quarterlies will be purchased by the league. Our next group meeting will be held on March 11, 2017.

LWML Sunday will be observed on October 9<sup>th</sup> at both services. Our ladies will participate as ushers, lectors and greeters. The 2016-2017 LWML Officers will be installed at the end of the early service. Check out the wonderful goodies in the Welcome Center supplied by the LWML.

The LWML is holding a KITCHEN SHOWER for the month of October! We have come up with a wish list of items that need replacing in the church kitchen. Some of the items that we need to purchase include: soup pots, large colanders, griddles, baking pans, baking sheets, steam tables and inserts, coffee carafes and drink dispensers. Your donations can greatly help us to purchase these much needed items. You can make your checks out to LWML and place in the offering plate with a note in the memo section for "kitchen". If you prefer to pick up something to donate, you can purchase Ziploc bags (both quart and

gallon size), dish towels and dish cloths (please no microfiber), and pot holders. These items can be placed in the basket in the Welcome Center. THANK YOU for your donations!

Our next event will be our Tailgate on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 8 am – noon. This is a yard sale where you can sign up to use a parking space in our parking lot and sell your own items out of the "trunk" of your car or set up tables and display your articles for sale. A sign-up sheet for spaces can be found on the LWML bulletin board. We request a donation of \$10 per space and \$3 per table used. It's a great time to clean out your closets and get rid of some unwanted items! We have a great day of fellowship. Please join us to sell, or just to shop, we appreciate your support.

Reformation Sunday will be celebrated on October 30th with ONE service at 10:00 am. The LWML will oversee the potluck lunch following the service. Please look for the sign-up sheet on the Volunteer Board in the Welcome Center.

The LWML Tidewater Zone Workshop will be held at Christ Lutheran Church on Sat. November 12th – 9 am – 1:30 pm. Registration is \$3.00.

Holiday Happenings will be held on Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup> after both services. Look for us in the Welcome Center. Gift items and crafts and lots of wonderful treats will be available to purchase, so come hungry! Pick up that little something for someone special!

Do you have a special event or celebration coming up? Please consider celebrating or acknowledging your event by donating Altar Flowers or by donating goodies for the Welcome Center by signing up to be hostess either after the early or late service. The sign-up sheet for Altar Flowers is in the hallway across from the church office. The sign up for hostess for the Welcome center is on the bulletin board in the Welcome Center. (Please note – We all enjoy the goodies in the Welcome Center after each service. We apologize but when we do not have a hostess signed up there will not be any goodies following that particular service.) The LWML appreciates your assistance as we carry out our service to the congregation of Trinity and to our Lord.

The Altar Guild can use more help in setting up and cleaning up after communion. Please contact Sharon Knorr if you would like training so you can volunteer in these positions.

#### Calendar 2016-2017

October 9, 2016 - LWML Sunday

(observed at both services) Officers Installed

October 15, 2016 - LWML Tailgate, 8:00 am -12:00 pm (Church parking lot)

October 28, 2016 - Music Festival 7:30 pm

(LWML Hostesses for reception) **October 30, 2016** - Reformation

(One service at 10:00 am)

**November 12, 2016** - LWML Fall Workshop, Christ Lutheran Church

November 20, 2016 - LWML Holiday Happenings (Welcome Center)

January 7, 2017 - LWML Luncheon Out at Lynnhaven Fish House

January 2017 - LWML Zone Retreat

February 4, 2017 - LWML Love Box Packing,

10:00 am (Welcome Center)

March 11, 2017 - LWML meeting, 10:00 am (Welcome Center)

**April 8, 2017** - Cleaning of the Sanctuary for Easter, 9:00 am

**April 2017** - LWML Tailgate, 8:00 am -1:00 pm (Church parking lot)

**April 2017** - LWML Spring Rally, 9 am – 2 pm

May 6, 2017 - Mother's Day Luncheon Out

#### **Special Ministries**

Patty Malone

The summer has been rather quiet in regards to special ministries! We did start the new Color-cycle It program; collecting dried up markers and sending them back to Crayola where they make clean renewable energy. Thank you to everyone who has donated markers, YOU are helping to reduce your carbon footprint!

Thank you to everyone who donated to the "School Supply Drive". We are able to help children living in our community who might otherwise not have been able to start school with the proper materials. The collected materials were delivered to those who needed them - thank you Celia and Cesar! We collected 20 packages of crayons, 20 magic markers, 46 glue sticks, 7 liquid glue, 2 school boxes, 7 school pouches, 39 spiral notebooks, 28 pocket folders, 2 packs of dividers, 2 backpacks, 10 rulers, 3 binders, 3 pencil sharpeners, 36 colored pencils, 130 pencils, 26 packaged of filler paper, 12 highlighters, 73 pens and 10 pairs of scissors. As you can see the box held a lot of school supplies and for that we say **THANK YOU!!!** 

We volunteered at the FoodBank of Southeastern Virginia on September 24<sup>th</sup> along with a few members from the other LCMS churches in Norfolk. As always, it is a fun/tiring day! If you would like to volunteer at the FoodBank please preregister on their website and once registered signing up each time we volunteer is much faster.

We will be collecting diapers for the **Greater Hampton Roads Diaper Bank** starting in November up through Christmas. We will be collecting coupons for diapers along with diapers from infant to adult sizes. Access to a sufficient supply of diapers is essential for the health of Greater Hampton Roads infants, disabled and elderly, and the quality of life in our community, but too many individuals don't have the resources to adequately provide this basic need.

The shortage of diapers can lead to serious impacts on the wellbeing of those in need. Parents without sufficient resources often allow children to wear diapers for too long during the day, or try to clean and reuse disposable diapers, putting children at risk for staph and other infections.

Parents and caregivers sometimes have to make the choice between purchasing diapers, paying bills or buying groceries. Please bring diapers to church and put in the collection box in the Welcome Center starting in November and running through Christmas. It is alright to bring in partial packs as long as they are still in the package and taped shut.

As always, thank you in advance for your support! We make a difference in the lives of those living right in our own backyards. You are taking Jesus out of the front door of Trinity into the community and we THANK YOU!

#### YOUTH

Patty Malone

#### Junior/Senior High Youth

The youth enjoyed an end of summer pool party at the home of Lynn and Bud Hubert! We had a beautiful summer day and everyone enjoyed making new friends. Balancing on an inner tube and jumping into them seemed to make a big splash!

They enjoyed a hot dog lunch and yummy brownie sundaes. Thank you to the Hubert's for sponsoring this FUN event!

The senior youth will be going to Top Golf on October 1, 2016. We will be leaving church at 9:00 a.m. to get to Top Golf and get a good spot. If you have been there before, remember to bring your Top Golf card so you don't have to pay the \$5 fee again. If you have never been to Top Golf, please bring \$5 to get your lifetime Top Golf card. Thank you to Mr. Petri for making this fun event possible! Plan on eating lunch with the group before returning to church. It sounds like a fun morning!

If you would like to sponsor a youth event please contact Patty Malone.

#### **Preteens**

The preteens had their first "fun night" on September 9, 2016. They decorated all the parking spots in the parking lot with positive messages for everyone who came to church and walked by. Since 9/11 is a somber day what a better way to help than to be greeted with a positive message! After decorating all the parking spaces, they came in a played carnival games and basketball. Thank you to Judy Sykes for setting up the carnival games and Bill Sontag for setting up the tables. Also, a HUGE thank you to all the parents who stay and help with the evening.

The object lesson was to identify places and things around the world they would like to see end or needed help. They wrote on Band-Aids and placed them on a world map. The children came up with some really good things: stop hunger, no war, better driving and the Band-Aids went on. We then prayed for God's healing of a broken world.

If you missed "fun night" don't worry, we meet during the school year on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month. Come and join the fun!

#### Trinity's Ministry in Christmas Parade comes to a close

Many thanks to all of you who worked hard over the past 20 years to make sure that as Christians we kept Christ in Christmas in the downtown Norfolk "Holidays in the City" parade. Our Nativity float always carried Mary, Joseph and the Baby Jesus with powerful simplicity. It was hard work.... but a labor of love. No one will ever forget the reaction we got from those in the Spirit along the parade path.

Trinity is giving up this particular ministry but I encourage you as Christians to continue to look for opportunities to be a witness to your faith.

Special thanks to Linda Blaker and Eric Keplar who kept the ministry going the past six years. A couple of churches have followed our lead and entered floats with angels and I am hoping others will follow suit. I have made that suggestion to the Wave church which has services in downtown Norfolk. I pray our ministry will be carried on by others.



Trinity's parade ministry was featured in The Lutheran Witness in 2011. Here's an excerpt of that article:

For the past 14 years at the Grand Illumination Parade in Norfolk, Va., there's been a small, humble float depicting the Nativity. Out of some 80 parade units, it's about the only reminder of the real meaning of Christmas and one of the few units to play Christmas carols. It's Trinity Lutheran Church and School's way of proclaiming the Savior's birth to a world that has, in many respects, turned Christmas into a secular holiday.

The parade has been a tradition in Norfolk for the past quarter century. It draws about 100,000 spectators and lots of local media coverage in our metropolitan area of more than a million. It kicks off Norfolk's official "holiday" season the Saturday before Thanksgiving, and it includes the lighting of downtown buildings and other festivities. For 14 years now, the children of Trinity's Sunday and day schools have been a part of that parade with their Nativity presentation.

The idea for entering a Nativity unit came to me while watching the parade in 1994. I realized that not one Christmas carol was being played, and there was no hint of the real meaning of Christmas anywhere. I couldn't believe it. It dawned on me then that if you want to affect the culture in which you live, you've got to do more than complain. Why not have Trinity, my church, enter a unit? We had plenty of children in our day school, which runs through fifth grade, and Trinity has always been about outreach.

Rev. Jim O'Connor, who recently retired as pastor of Trinity, became the guiding force for the idea and for Trinity's efforts. "Along with the many exciting events I've experienced in my ministry throughout the world, our participation in the annual Illumination Parade is among my top ten," he says. "It's simplicity writ large; and the message is as clear as a pealing church bell. Amidst the bands, the parading community backers, the strutting horses, the expensive floats, the giant character balloons, and secular Christmas songs that dominate the event, here come the students of Trinity in handmade costumes, led by a made-from-scratch float carrying Mary, Joseph, and the Child."

Most important, O'Connor adds, "The Cross is always in plain view."

"No matter how cold it's been on parade evenings, the crowd warmed to the traditional message of the baby Jesus and invariably raised a loud cheer." O'Connor says about his parade experiences. "You may think that might have been out of place, clapping and cheering the way they did, but I think our Lord reveled in the recognition. Our gracious God had moved out of the church doors into the midst of a crowd on a cold winter night; and the people loved it! I suspect that only the Holy Spirit knows what exactly was in their hearts."

As a member of Trinity, I'm always honored to march with Trinity's Nativity float. As we move through the streets of downtown Norfolk, I sense the Lord is smiling.



### **Official Acts**

#### Members Removed

Gary Hollers - August 18, 2016 Richard Palmer - September 13, 2016

# **Baptisms**

Katherine Ann Nytko - August 28, 2016

# **Bowling News**

Doug Sulak

The Tidewater Lutheran Bowling League started it's 42<sup>nd</sup> season on Monday August 29, 2016. New bowlers from Trinity include Dan Paris as a full time bowler and Pastor Meraz as a substitute. We would love to see some smiling faces from Trinity to cheer us on as we all like to strut our stuff. We bowl on Monday nights at 6:30 p.m. at AMF Norfolk Lanes on East Little Creek Road. Hope to see some of you there to cheer us on.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Oct	ober 2	016		YOUTH @ Top Golf 9:00 a
Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 am SS 9:45 am Adult BC 10:00 am	Bowling League 6:30 pm	4	5 Confirmation Class 4:30 pm Choir Practice 6:00 pm Lutheran Confessions Study 7:00 pm	6	7	8
9 LWML SUNDAY Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 am SS 9:45 am Adult BC 10:00 am	Bowling League 6:30 pm By-Laws Committee Meeting 6:30 pm	11	Confirmation Class 4:30 pm Choir Practice 6:00 pm Lutheran Confessions Study 7:00 pm	13 Men's Bible Study @ Ball's 7:00 pm	Men's Retreat PreTeen Night Activities 6:30 pm	15 Men's Retreat LWML Tailgat Bazaar 8:00 an
16 Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 am SS 9:45 am Adult BC 10:00 am	Deacon's Meeting 3:30 pm Bowling League 6:30 pm	18	19 Confirmation Class 4:30 pm Choir Practice 6:00 pm Lutheran Confessions Study 7:00 pm	20	21	22
Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 am SS 9:45 am Voters Assembly Meeting 10:00 am	24 Bowling League 6:30 pm	25	26 Confirmation Class 4:30 pm Choir Practice 6:00 pm Lutheran Confessions Study 7:00 pm	27 Men's Bible Study @ Ball's 7:00 pm	28 Music Festival 7:30 pm	29
30 REFORMATION SUNDAY Worship Service 10:00 am	31 Bowling League 6:30 pm	WORSHIP SERVER SCHEDULE  If you are unable to serve on your designated Sunday,				

10:00 am SS 9:00 am Adult BC 9:00 am Reformation Oktoberfest

Celebration



please make arrangements for someone to cover for you and let the church office know as soon as possible.

Thank you!

	October 2	October 9	October 16	October 23	October 30
L	Cathy George 8:30 am John Butcher 11:00 am	Anna Carter 8:30 am Bettie Terrell 11:00 am	Ralph Knorr 8:30 am Julie Meraz 11:00 am	Anna Carter 8:30 am Linda Blaker 11:00 am	Chaplain Prince 10:00 am
C A	Ralph George 8:30 am Bill Gregory 11:00 am		Ralph Knorr 8:30 am Jeff Ingmire 11:00 am		Chaplain Prince 10:00 am
A	Janet Gould 8:30 am Shelby Blaker 11:00 am	8:30 am Janet Gould 11:00 am Shelby Blaker and Ana Mallie	8:30 am Janet Gould 11:00 am Justin Malone and Russell Crouch	8:30 am Janet Gould 11:00 am Shelby Blaker and Phillip Crouch	Shelby Blaker,Justin Malone and Jason Loper 10:00 am
C S	Judy Sykes	Sharyn Leiding	Chaplain Prince	Ian Bugbee/ David Chadwick	Pastor Meraz

Sun	Mon	Tue  1  ALL SAINTS DAY	Wed  2 Confirmation Class 4:30 pm Choir Practice 6:00 pm Lutheran Confessions Study	<i>Thu</i> <b>3</b>	Fri <b>4</b>	<u>Sat</u> <b>5</b>
6 ALL SAINTS DAY observed Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 am SS 9:45 am Adult BC 10:00 am Daylight Savings Time ends	<b>7</b> Bowling League 6:30 pm	8	7:00 pm  9 Choir Practice 6:00 pm Lutheran Confessions Study 7:00 pm	10 Men's Bible Study @ Ball's 7:00 pm	Church and School Offices Closed VETERAN'S DAY  PreTeen Night Activities 6:30 pm	LWML Fall Workshop @ Christ Lutheran
Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 am SS 9:45 am Adult BC 10:00 am Stewardship Sunday	14 Bowling League 6:30 pm	15 Deacon's Meeting 3:30 pm Council Meeting 7:00 pm Trinitarian submission deadline	16 Confirmation Class 4:30 pm Choir Practice 6:00 pm Lutheran Confessions Study 7:00 pm	17 Operation Barnabas Sing-a-Long 6:00 pm	18	19 Men's Breakfast 8:00 am
20 Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 am SS 9:45 am Adult BC 10:00 am LWML Holiday Happenings	21 Bowling League 6:30 pm	22	23 Thanksgiving Worship Service 7:00 pm	24	25	26
PRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 am SS 9:45 am Adult BC 10:00 am	28  Bowling League 6:30 pm	29	30 Choir Practice 6:00 pm Lutheran Confessions Study 7:00 pm	November 2016		

### **WORSHIP SERVER SCHEDULE**

If you are unable to serve on your designated Sunday, please make arrangements for someone to cover for you and let the church office know as soon as possible. Thank you!

	November 6	November 13	November 20	November 27
Lectors	Brenda Pendry 8:30 am John Butcher 11:00 am	Anna Carter 8:30 am Julie Meraz 11:00 am	Ralph Knorr 8:30 am Pat Gregory 11:00 am	Cathy George 8:30 am Julie Meraz 11:00 am
Communion Assistants	Ken Leiding 8:30 am Jeff Ingmire 11:00 am		Ralph Knorr 8:30 am Bill Gregory 11:00 am	
Acolytes	8:30 am Janet Gould 11:00 am Justin Malone and David Crouch	8:30 am Janet Gould 11:00 am Shelby Blaker and Ana Mallie	8:30 am Janet Gould 11:00 am Justin Malone and Russell Crouch	8:30 am Janet Gould 11:00 am Shelby Blaker and Jason Loper
Children's Sermon	Linda Blaker	Judy Sykes	Sharyn Leiding	Pastor Meraz

# TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

6001 Granby Street Norfolk VA 23505

757/489-2551 Church

www.trinitylutherannorfolk.org



# Voters' Assembly Meeting October 23, 2016 10:00 am

Please join us on Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> during the Bible Class hour beginning at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary. The agenda will include an update on the end of the fiscal year ending July 31, 2016. There will also be a proposal to change our fiscal year from August 1 – July 31 to January 1 - December 31. With this change we will also need to approve a new budget for the new fiscal year beginning January 1, 2017. This should be a short meeting concerning our finances. Please mark your calendars now to attend.

