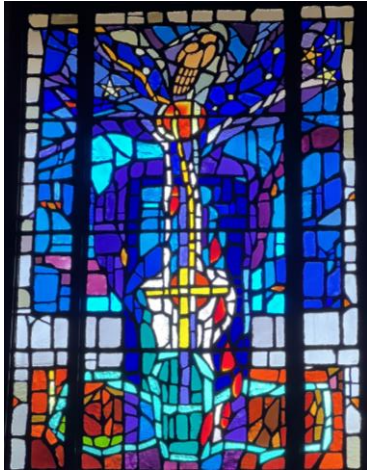




Trinity Tidings

OCTOBER 2023



A newsletter of Trinity Lutheran Church

63-70 Dry Harbor Road

Middle Village, NY 11379

Office – 718-335-7300

Sunday School	Sunday 9:15am
Social Time	Sunday 10:00am
Worship Service	Sunday 10:30am <i>in person and on Zoom</i>

Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church, founded in 1863 and confluent with Ascension, Glendale in 2011. We are a family of Christian believers called together by the Holy Spirit and dedicated to serving God and community. We are followers of the Lord Jesus; in our life together we seek the promise, the love, the peace and the hope, which are God's gifts to us as His people. Our doors and our hearts are open to you in God's name. We invite you to share with us the adventure of faith that unfolds each week at Trinity Lutheran Church. Our fellowship embraces many activities, to which you are most warmly invited.

Trinity Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).
Church Office: 718-335-7300, 9:45am to 2:45pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS: Zoom meeting ID = 7183357300, password= 11379

Using a phone, dial +16469313860

When prompted enter the meeting id followed by # 7183357300#

When prompted enter the password followed by # 11379#

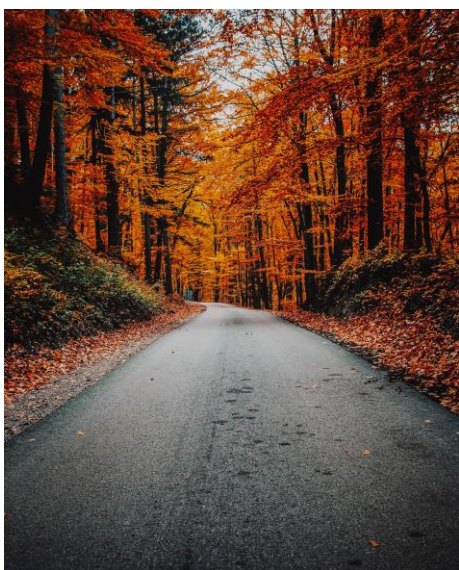
CHURCH STAFF AND TEAM

The Rev. Donald Lemke, Interim Pastor
Mr. Frank B. Auriamma, Jr, Minister of Music
Mrs. Renee Robertazzi, Parish Administrator
Mr. Vincent Mele, Sexton
Mrs. Doris Tegge, Sunday School Coordinator

Dcn. Lois Jenkins, Synodical Deacon
Dcn. Masayo Kagita, Synodical Deacon
Ms. Masayo Kagita & Mr. Jeff Gardner, Worship
Streaming Technical Team

Trinity Tidings is edited and published by Doris Tegge and Renee Robertazzi. We welcome articles and devotionals from our readers for the purpose of enriching our faith community. All articles and comments may be submitted to information@trinitymiddlevillage.org or administration@trinitymiddlevillage.org

FROM THE EDITOR



Autumn marks the time when days are shorter, temperatures are cooler, and we come closer to the end of the year. In the Christian tradition, we are coming nearer to the end of the liturgical year. Autumn is also a beginning. It is the start of a new school year, new teachers, and perhaps new friends. Everyone is back from vacation. Council, Bible Study and Sunday School resume. There is renewed activity at Trinity: Rally Day, Autumn Market, Scouts are back and more. The people of Trinity continue on their journey living as witnesses to God's love. Where will it lead us?

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.”

(2 Corinthians 5:17-18)

- Doris Tegge



QUIET OUR HEARTS AND MINDS

One would not think that singing the same hymn for several Sundays after the ringing of the bell that calls us to worship would quiet our hearts and minds. Hearing the hymn played brings us to hear an invitation to be present with God and the opportunity to simply be. Over the course of the month the melody and tune draws us in and welcomes us to discover a moment in the newness that is worship. Over the course of a month the hymn can become familiar, even an old favorite.

It may be unsettling to learn a new hymn every month. But each day and each month we are being drawn into a place where as Peter tells us to be carefree in our gathering because God is careful of us. In four weeks we learn the words. In four weeks the tune has become a part of our rhythm.

Quiet our heart and minds and gather to be the people of God.

– Pastor Don Lemke



LOOK AT WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT TRINITY!

RALLY DAY – SEPTEMBER 11



Rally Day at Trinity marks the beginning of a new season of Bible Study, Sunday School, and Confirmation classes. It is traditionally celebrated with a picnic in Juniper Park that includes hamburgers and hotdogs with all the side dishes, baked goods, and all kinds of treats. Kids participate in games such as sack race, three-legged race, tug of war, and ring toss. This year the weather did not cooperate and we moved the picnic indoors. Nevertheless, the thunder and rain did not dampen our spirits. Thank you to Dorothy Russo and Bob Firneis for organizing and for all who helped and contributed.





AUTUMN MARKET – SEPTEMBER 30



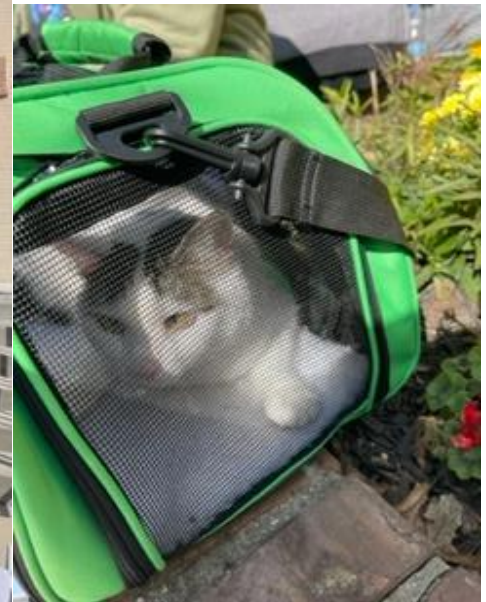
The Autumn Market was held early this year with an Oktoberfest theme. Bratwurst, potato salad and pretzels were served. Jeff's pulled pork sandwiches were also available by popular request. The fellowship hall was stocked with vendors of all sorts and plenty of people came to browse, buy, and eat. For those in the gaming mood, there were gift baskets and a raffle. Many people ventured below to the basement and bought some good stuff at rock bottom prices. Many thanks to all who

donated food, gift baskets, and rummage items. Many thanks to all who worked very hard in preparation and on the day of the event as ticket sellers, bargain basement sellers, cooks, food servers, table setup, decorations, and clean-up. Most of all, thank you Sandy Boos for coordinating the whole event and managing all the vendors.



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS – OCTOBER 1

St. Francis of Assisi had a special heart for all animals. He called them his brothers and sisters. Therefore, it is a common tradition to celebrate his feast day, October 4, with a blessing of the animals. This is a celebration of and thanksgiving for the creatures of creation that God has given us. We ask God to bless the animals themselves and the relationship between pet and owner. All people were welcomed to bring their furry friends to Trinity this Sunday for a blessing and special liturgy. Many showed up with their pets and they were all very well behaved.



JUNIPER PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION CELEBRATION



On September 23, the Juniper Park Civic Association had their 85th Anniversary dinner at Trinity. The function was attended by numerous dignitaries of the community, including Grace Meng, Joseph Addabbo, Joseph Pfeifer from the FDNY, Deputy Inspector Kevin Coleman from 104 Precinct, Bob Holden, and of course, Tony Nunziato. Joseph Pfeifer was the key speaker. Tony Nunziato organized the entire affair and presented all the awards. He did a great job!

Additional Guests of honor were Mark Weidler of the Queens Chronicle, Squad 288/HazMat1 of the FDNY, Assemblyman Steven Raga and Christine Wilkinson, editor of the Juniper Berry magazine.

Entertainment was provided by a jazz band. The food was catered by Barosa. We all had a wonderful evening! We all left with a sense of pride in our community knowing we have a strong civic association that looks out for our best interest. They do their best to protect us from issues that face the community. – Margie Kromar



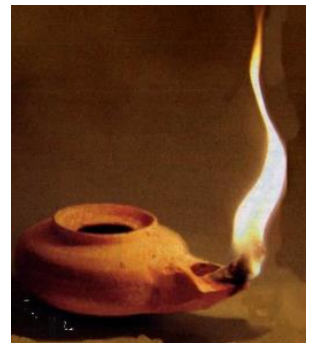


Honorees at the Juniper Valley Civic Association Celebration

NOTES and REFLECTIONS

THE OIL IN OUR LAMPS

Recently while speaking with a friend, she asked me what I was doing with my life now that I am retired. I told her that I am involved in many ministries of my Church to which she replied, “That is a wonderful thing but remember to always keep the oil in your lamp burning.” Days after I thought of what she said and reflected on the parable of the ten Virgins in Matthew 25:1-12, five of whom were wise, and five were foolish. Those that were wise took oil in their lamps to be able to meet the Bridegroom (our Heavenly Father) but the five that were foolish did not have oil in their lamps and were not able to meet the Bridegroom at the Wedding Feast.



The Lamp symbolizes our life, obedience, and righteousness. The oil is our Spiritual journey and relationship with God. Just like the pilot light on our stoves and ovens keep burning, we must endeavor to keep our lamps (our life) burning with oil (which is Hope, Faith, Trust, Love for God and one another) and to serve God, our Congregation and Community.

Every week Pastor Lemke encourages us to “serve as children of God, invite the stranger, to pray for the conversion of those who harm themselves and others and to journey well”.

May we keep the oil in our Lamps burning forever.

- Muriel Didee Davis

IT'S GOOD TO BE BACK

In the “old days” church attendance meant getting up on a Sunday morning, traveling to a church building and sitting in a pew. Then COVID-19 happened, and we were forced to find a way to bring people together for worship without convening in a physical place. Zoom and our technology team sustained us through those difficult times. After COVID-19 restrictions were lifted, we found that live streaming connected Trinity to people who lived far away, were on vacation, or were physically unable to travel. Now live streaming is a regular part of Trinity’s worship program. At the same time, the pews are no longer empty. People come to be together, to exchange smiles or to give a hug. We sing together, pray together, and receive the sacrament together. It is good to be back. Attending church on Zoom from the comfort of your couch is very convenient. Yes, you can pray and worship in your home. You can wear pajamas and munch on a bagel. Still, making the effort to worship in person has benefits. God made us to be for each other, and we need to be present for others as well as to feel the presence of others. Physical isolation can lead to loneliness. The surgeon general of the United States, Dr. Vivek Murthy, recently published a paper on the effect of loneliness on public health. He writes that social disconnection decreases life expectancy. People need to be together. So, if you can, come to church. Streaming is great, but being present is better. See you on Sunday! - Doris Tegge

“Let’s see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out, not avoiding worshipping together as some do but spurring each other on,” (Hebrews 10:24-25, The Message)

PEOPLE WANT TO KNOW

Q: *Why don’t we come up to the altar for communion?*

A: For now, we aren’t, simply because Covid is becoming more infectious. Add that to the fact that our members are less able to go to the table. Distributing the sacrament to the pews can be seen as God coming to us, meeting us where we are.

Q: *Where are the hymnals and bibles that used to be in the pews?*

A: They are boxed up and awaiting a book truck so we can gather them up and sanitize them.

Q: *Why is there a bright yellow stripe on the Dry Harbor Rd side of the church?*

A: What? Do you mean the yellow corner on Penelope and 81st Street or do you mean the bright yellow wall on Dry Harbor and on Penelope? If you mean the first, it means watch your step. It’s a safety notice. If you mean the second, this is a section of the wall that used to be blank and empty. Now it is filled with color. Yellow is a bright color that is easily noticed. It is used in traffic signs to alert people. It says, “Attention, there is an important message here!” So, isn’t that an appropriate color for Trinity? The intention is to signal that there are things happening here.

If you have a question, please submit it to information@trinitymiddlevillage.org

IMPORTANT DATES

- **OPPORTUNITY FOR SACRISTY SERVICE OCTOBER 11 AT 10:30 AM (AND THE SECOND TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH)**
- **SERVICE OF HEALING OCTOBER 22 AT 10:30 AM**
- **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS NOVEMBER 5. SET THE CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR.**
- **ADVENT BEGINS DECEMBER 3.**

PRAYER, BIBLE STUDY, AND FELLOWSHIP

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

We are a small group of women from various churches that meet every 2nd Friday of the Month. Bring a sandwich and we'll provide coffee and tea and something sweet.

TRINITY WEEKDAY PRAYER GROUP

Monday through Friday, 12:15pm – 1:15pm, on Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/7183357300> password = 11379

MORNING TRINITY BIBLE STUDY WITH REV. DON LEMKE

Thursdays, 10:30am, on Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/7183357300> password = 11379, Dial-up +1 646 558 8656.

WESTERN QUEENS CONFERENCE PRAYER MEETING

Wednesdays, 7:00pm, on Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/6370126621> password = 062145

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH BIBLE STUDY WITH HOWARD COHEN, BILL GATI AND DONNA KUHNER

Tuesdays, 7:30pm, on Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/2729059246>, Dial-up +1 646 8769923

DAILY PRAYER LINE WITH DCN. INGRID COMPTON

Monday through Friday, 6:00am, Phone# 605-468-8820, access code = 1885702

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

TRANSITION TEAM

The process of calling a permanent pastor to Trinity requires the formation of a Transition Team. We need people to participate in this effort so that our congregation can move forward. No previous experience is required. If you would like to participate, please contact the church office or email information@trinitymiddlevillage.org

HELP – THE ROOF IS LEAKING!

As every homeowner knows, a leaking roof can cause significant damage to a building. This needs to be fixed as soon as possible. Please consider making an extra donation to help cover these repairs.

TRINITY WORSHIP

Volunteers are needed each Sunday to read the lessons in person or on Zoom.

Volunteers are needed to assist with the Eucharist, usher, and deliver communion.

Volunteers are needed to help prepare the sanctuary for worship. Training session is October 11 at 10:30am.

Contact Lois Jenkins at council-president@trinitymiddlevillage.org

CLOTHING BOX DROP

The large orange container is near the church entrance on Dry Harbor Road. Please do not leave items next to the container. The container is emptied multiple times each week.

FINANCIAL

Support needed to continue ministry is estimated at \$3,500 per week to cover salaries, insurance, utilities, and repairs. Currently weekly donations are falling short of the required amount, requiring that money be withdrawn from the endowment account to pay bills. Please be generous.

Income from renting the fellowship hall to individuals or organizations is becoming an important source of income for Trinity. Please spread the news that we have a good space to rent (and there is good street parking).

PROPERTY

Several significant leaks have been discovered in the sanctuary and parish hall. A professional has been contacted to assess the damage. Repairs will have to be made as soon as possible to prevent further damage.

One of the two compressors that support our air conditioning has broken down. The property committee (Helmut and Rick) are looking for someone with expertise to fix it. Otherwise, a new one will need to be purchased. If you can help, please contact the church office at 718-355-7300.

FUTURE MINISTRY

Donations continue to be needed to support our technical ministry. This includes sound and video equipment, streaming, WIFI, and online hosting. The technology enables Trinity to reach out to a wide range of people.

STEWARDSHIP

Please make checks out to TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH. You must write the name in full so that our bank can process the deposit. In addition to worship service offerings, donations can be made online by clicking the DONATE button on trinitymiddlevillage.org or going directly to [tithely](http://tithely.com)

IN THE COMMUNITY

STACEY'S PANTRY

48-08 91st Place, Elmhurst

Saturdays, 8:00am – 10:00am

Contact 917-533-1679 or stjacobspastor@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/Staceyspantryelmhurst/>

FOOD MINISTRY AT ST. JAMES – ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

119-15 135th Avenue, South Ozone Park

Thursdays 3:00pm-4:00pm, sign up by Wednesday

Contact 718-845-8770 or foodin11420@gmail.com



ON THE CAMPUS

AA

AA continues meeting on our campus on Mondays & Wednesdays at 10:30am (open discussions) and Tuesdays (beginners) & Thursdays (step meeting) at 7:30pm. Pray for their ministry of healing.

BOY SCOUTS

Boy Scout troop 106 meets Fridays at 7:30pm in the Education Center.

GIRL SCOUTS

Girl Scout troop 4633 meets Fridays in the Education Center.

Girl Scout troop 4641 meets Mondays at 3:30pm in the Education Center

CUB SCOUTS

Cub Scout Pack 106 is back in full force for the 2023-2024 season! With almost a 100% return rate, our scouts, grades kindergarten through 5th, are ready for another year of fun! Our scouts are trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent...and we can't wait to see what adventures they have this year!

Email: Communications.pack106@gmail.com Website: <http://cubscoutpack106.weebly.com/>

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Board of Elections Training is being held from September 25 thru October 25.

Board of Elections Early Voting is being held from October 28 thru November 5.

MEMORIALS

In loving memory of **Margaret Pfennig** by
Juergen and Anni Schroder

In loving memory of **Katherine Eriksen** by
Lillian Hoffmann
Henrietta & Erwin Markisch

TRINITY LEADERSHIP

Rev. Don Lemke
Dcn. Lois Jenkins - President
Dorothy Russo - Vice President
Lillian Hoffmann - Treasurer
Doris Tegge - Secretary

Joyce Beaudoin
Sandy Boos
Rich Eichinger
Muriel (Didee) Davis
Dcn. Masayo Kagita

Nancy Keicher
Bill Muller
Cyndy Rooney
Karin Spykerman

PEOPLE OF TRINITY

- Katherine Eriksen passed away on September 9, 2023. She was loved and cherished by many people including: her parents, Eleanor Roper and Theodore Roper; her husband Doug; her son Scott; her daughter-in-law Christine; her grandson Thomas; her daughter Jennifer; and her granddaughter Dorothy.
- Kay Treiling passed away on October 4, 2023. Her wake will be held at Leo Kearns Funeral Home on Sunday/Monday, October 16 & 17.

TRINITY TIDINGS BOOSTERS

Joyce Beaudoin
Jo-Ann Benini
The Boos Family
Eva Calov
Muriel Davis
Joan Dowdle
Bob Firneis
Lori Grill
Jim & Ann Haase
Egbert & Dorothy Hardin
Lillian Hoffmann
Nilda Janacek

Gloria & John Krebs
Dorothy Kummer
Pastor Don Lemke
Henrietta & Erwin Markisch
John Maysonet
Kay Neuendorf
Joyce Norgalis
Rev. Paul J. Pfadenhauer
Emma Richter
Janet & Jerry Rugg
Edna Schwenk
Rev. E. Phillip Sebastian

Linda Swiatocha
Eleanor Tuohy
Marie Wengert

IN MEMORIAM:

Ezio Benini
Olga Finneran
Pastor Leo E. Longan
Kathleen Treiling
James J. Tuohy

HELP SUPPORT THIS NEWSLETTER – BE A TRINITY TIDINGS BOOSTER - \$10.00

NAME(S): _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Please make check payable to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 63-70 Dry Harbor Rd., Middle Village, NY 11379