



Trinity Tidings

OCTOBER 2024



A newsletter of Trinity Lutheran Church

63-70 Dry Harbor Road

Middle Village, NY 11379

Office – 718-335-7300

Sunday School	Sunday 9:30am
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. Auriemma, Jr, Minister of Music
Mrs. Renee Robertazzi, Parish Secretary
Ms. Doris Tegge, Sunday School Coordinator

Mr. Vincent Mele, Sexton
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



Photo by Trung Thanh

The epistle reading for the past few Sundays has been from James. This brief book is about faith in action and gives a lot of practical direction. One little nugget of wisdom is about taming the tongue. In today's world that could be expanded to mean social media as well as speech. Words can do great good as well as great harm. It is a most powerful force and is available to everyone. And, as James says, like a fire it needs to be controlled. James reminds us that our speech is to praise God not to curse human beings. Freedom of speech is a precious gift. Handle with care.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

In just a few weeks, we as Lutherans are once again reminded to tell the story of being a change people. For some of us, we sing *A Mighty Fortress is our God* as it marks us separate from the world. We are Lutherans, proud of our heritage and roots, our way. Others among us see the Reformation as the start of a new way to tell the story of faith and a misplaced pride in being not catholic. Some of us just see it as the right way to live the faith of the Reformation.

We get caught up in what we want, or think should be the “right way” the sermon is preached. We want it to be “our way”, not realizing that it stops us from hearing the Gospel that invites us to live and be more at peace with one another. Which hymn should a community sing? Should it be the same one over and over again because it is familiar? Or something new that recalls the wonder of the day? Or perhaps one that becomes an earworm that embeds itself into your heart, showing a path to Reformation. And change that reminds us Reformation is a work of faith that we live in the Means of Grace, Word and Sacrament to forgive and to be forgiven and change.

We hear about the Means of Grace but rarely or never do we engage what it means to use the Means of Grace. Better we find out how we might use the Means of Grace to journey in and the through our lives.

I invite you to ask questions about anything that you want to find clarity or simply don't understand about the Means of Grace. Understand that answers that are provided concerning the Means of Grace and the Reformation are inviting us to hear the call of the Spirit and Jesus to look where we are and even are not. To this goal, send your queries by the 31st day of each month as we explore the Triune God Acts in the Means of Grace in our community and our lives.

LOOK AT WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TRINITY!

UPCOMING DATES

- *October 20, Service of Healing at 10:30am*
- *October 26 through November 3, Early Voting in Ascension Hall*
- *October 27, Reformation Sunday*
- *November 3, All Saints Sunday*
- *November 5, Election Day*
- *November 5, Worship Committee at 7:00pm*
- *November 20, Trinity Women at 1:00pm*
- *November 24, Christ the King Sunday*
- *November 28, Thanksgiving Day*
- *December 1, Advent begins*

GROWING IN FAITH RETREAT



Deacons Lois Jenkins and Masayo Kagita attended the Growing in Faith Retreat in Huntington, Long Island. Doris Tegge also attended. We had two days of worship, fellowship, and peaceful walks around the grounds. We got to meet some of the teachers in the program. The food was also very good.

This was a great opportunity to connect with current students and graduates of the diakonia program. The retreat was open to others who are just curious or want to get to know Lutherans outside of their local community.

Contact Masayo Kagita at masayony@gmail.com for more information on Growing in Faith.

ASCENSION (FELLOWSHIP) HALL MAKEOVER

The peeling and flaking ceiling in the stage area has been repaired and repainted. The next project is refinishing the floor. After all the dust has settled, the curtains will be cleaned and re-hung. We also need to purchase and install rubber tips on all the chairs to protect the new finish on the floor. Please consider making a special donation to the property fund to help with the cost of maintenance.

TRANSITION TEAM

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to serve on the Transition Team. Trinity is required to have a functional Transition Team before it can proceed to call a permanent pastor. The team will work together to make sure everything is in order for the calling of a new pastor. Contact Pastor Lemke directly if you are interested.

FELLOWSHIP HALL RENTALS

Income from community use of the fellowship hall is becoming an important source of income for Trinity. The hall may be rented for private parties with the permission and approval of the church office. The office will ensure that there are no scheduling conflicts, and that insurance and financial requirements are met.

Anyone interested in using the Trinity campus space must contact the church office or email administration@trinitymiddlevillage.org



AUTUMN MARKET

A big THANK YOU to Sandy Boos for organizing and to all the volunteers who made the Autumn Market a great success. In spite of rainy weather, we had a good crowd. (I heard someone say the potato salad was excellent.)



“Volunteers don’t get paid, not because they’re worthless, but because they’re priceless.”

– Sherry Anderson

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

The Blessing of the Animals was held at Trinity on October 6. Once again, Trinity people and members of the neighborhood brought their furry family members to the church terrace for a special blessing. This event is held annually in honor of St. Francis of Assisi.



2024 ELECTIONS

The Board of Elections will hold early voting at Trinity in Ascension Hall from October 26 through November 3. Applications for voter registration must be received before October 26. To check whether you are registered to vote and for more information on times and locations go to <https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov>.

THRIVENT ACTION TEAMS



Thrivent Action Team gift cards were used to support the Autumn Market by paying for advertising and items for the food sale. We also got Living Generously T-shirts and name tags to use for the rummage sale. Action teams support activities at Trinity and help keep our costs down. Every single person who owns a Thrivent product can apply for two Action Teams per year. That's \$500! It all adds up.

Members of Trinity attended the Thrivent NYC area member event at Russo's on the Bay on October 2. We collected clothing and hygiene items for Covenant House and heard a presentation on Covenant House's mission.

Go to <https://www.thrivent.com/member-network/northeast/> for more information on Thrivent programs and free webinars. A webinar on *Staying Safe From Identity Theft and Cybercrime* is running through October 31. For more information on Thrivent and Action Teams contact Doris Tegge at doristegge@gmail.com

SPRITUAL REFLECTIONS – Our Fortress When Disaster Strikes

By Pastor Immanuel Ilagan

[editor's note: This was written May 2024, but appropriate for today as we face the catastrophe of hurricane Helene.]

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

“Be still and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!” The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. (Psalm 46:1-3, 10-11 ESV)

The Philippines is among the most disaster-prone and vulnerable countries in the world. The archipelago is located in the Pacific “ring of fire” and susceptible to earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. Around 20 typhoons usually hit the country every year. These have become more destructive as climate change causes their rapid intensification. The heavy rainfall triggers flooding and landslides.

Some of the disasters are man-made or made worse by human activity. Overcrowding in urban areas, lack of enforcement of engineering standards in building of houses and structures, construction of houses on riverbanks, and deforestation all contribute to the impact of disasters. These days the country is facing La Nina. With their limited resources government agencies and NGOs are preparing for its impact – cleaning of water ways, gearing up of disaster response teams, educational campaigns and so on.

As human beings we can only do so much. But God has given us His Word that when disaster strikes, we can call upon God Who is our refuge and strength. It is told that when Martin Luther would hear of some discouraging news he would say, "Come, let us sing Psalm 46". This psalm inspired him to write "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," a hymn of confidence in God that has found its way into many hymnals.

Human greed, injustice, pride, and selfishness have caused disharmony in nature. We live in a fallen world. But God knows our situation. God made a plan to rescue us – not only from physical disasters, but from the disaster of being eternally separated from our Creator.

God sent His Son Jesus into the world to ransom us with His own blood. By God's grace through faith in Christ we receive God's forgiveness and He makes us His children. We can therefore call upon Him for help as our Heavenly Father.

No matter what happens in the world around us, God assures us that all things will eventually work in our favor—always. La Nina and other disasters may come. But we can take refuge in God, our mighty Fortress, who tells us: "Be still. Know that I am God." May our loving God be exalted!

Prayer: Almighty God, help me to grow in Your Word so that when storms come into my life I will trust that You are in control of everything and that you are always with me. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Reflection: How difficult is it for you to "Be still" when you face big problems or when things go wrong? What difference does it make to know that God is in control of what is happening?

PRAYER, BIBLE STUDY, AND FELLOWSHIP

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

We are a small group of women from various churches that meet every 2nd Friday of the Month at 12:00pm. Bring a sandwich and we'll provide coffee and tea and something sweet. Contact the church office 718-335-7300 for more information.

TRINITY WOMEN

Trinity Women meets for fellowship on the third Wednesday of the month at 1:00pm.

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

Bible study has resumed. We are studying verses that "Contradict, Condemn or Confuse."

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.

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 with setting out and putting away altar paraments and communion vessels.

Contact Lois Jenkins at council-president@trinitymiddlevillage.org if you are able to assist in any way. _

FINANCIAL

Support needed to continue ministry is estimated at \$3,500 per week to cover salaries, insurance, utilities, and repairs. Checks must be made out to “Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church”. You can also donate electronically using the DONATE link on trinitymiddlevillage.org or by scanning the QR code below. Sunday offerings may be placed in the glass bowl in the narthex.

Stewardship is part of the Christian life. We are asked to give as God has blessed us. Please be generous.

E-GIVING



You can make your donation to Trinity from your phone, tablet, laptop, or computer using the tithe.ly link. You can give just one time or register yourself on tithe.ly and set up automatic giving. You can designate your contribution to different funds like Property or Memorials. Tithe.ly complies with the highest security standards of the financial industry, so you can be assured that your donation is safe. You will receive an email thank-you receipt and each donation is tax-deductible. How easy is that? If you have any questions about using tithe.ly please see Masayo Kagita or Doris Tegge. Try it right now!! Scan this QR code with your phone camera.

PROPERTY

Please consider making a special donation towards the repair and maintenance of the Trinity campus. These donations are especially appreciated when the need for unexpected repairs arises.

FUTURE MINISTRY TECHNICAL SUPPORT

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. If you are technically inclined and would like to assist in streaming services, please contact us at information@trinitymiddlevillage.org

NOTES ABOUT PEOPLE



Kay Neuendorf celebrated her 95th birthday on August 26, 2024

We remember those who have recently gone to rest in God's eternal presence.

- Eleonora Firneis, mother of Bob Firneis - October 3, 1936 - September 29, 2024
- Ken Bosshart - February 15, 1945 – September 17, 2024

We join in the joy with those who celebrate. We pray for healing for the sick. We share the sadness of those who mourn.

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:pm, 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. All meetings are in the lower-level Education Center. Pray for their ministry of healing.

BOY SCOUTS TROOP 106

Boy Scout meets Fridays 7:30pm in the Education Center. Contact Anthony Zalak at tony2819@aol.com for more information.

CUB SCOUTS PACK 106

Cub Scouts meet Fridays 7:00pm in the Education Center. Contact Alicia Brosky at

Communications.pack106@gmail.com for more information. Website: <http://cubscoutpack106.weebly.com/>

GIRL SCOUTS TROOP 04633

Girl Scout meets Friday evenings in the Education Center. Contact Alicia Sciortino at aliwrap76@gmail.com for more information.

GIRL SCOUTS BROWNIE TROOP 4641

Girl Scout meet Mondays 3:30pm in Ascension Hall. Contact Adriana Cuffaro at adrianacuffaro@gmail.com for more information.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Anyone interested in using the Trinity campus space must contact the office or email adminitration@trinitymiddlevillage.org **No one must use the space without written clearance from the church office.**

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

A copy of the council minutes is available on request. Email information@trinitymiddlevillage.org

PEOPLE WANT TO KNOW



Q: How can I stay fit over fifty?

A: Growing older is a privilege. But we don't just want to accumulate years, we also want to stay active and healthy. Here are some tips for health at any age.

1. Keep your muscles strong: Muscle mass naturally diminishes with age even in mid-life. You can counteract this trend by regular exercise such as walking, jogging, cycling, tennis, dancing or pickle ball. Choose something that you enjoy doing. It is also important to include structured resistance exercise twice a week.
2. Keep your joints healthy: Regular movement keeps your joints lubricated and mobile. Practice gentle stretching daily.
3. Keep your balance: A strong core will improve your posture and help prevent falls.

Bird-dog, dead-bug and planks are good exercises for your abdominal and back muscles.

4. Keep your bones strong: Bones become more porous with age. This is true for men and women alike. Eating a healthy diet with calcium rich foods and regular weight bearing exercise will help keep your bones healthy.
5. Keep a positive attitude: Getting older can be accompanied by depression, especially if one is isolated. Join a group at church or take a class at a senior center. Volunteer. Exercise with friends. Attend worship on Sunday. Praise God for your blessings and submit your worries to the Lord in prayer.

If you have a question or subject of general interest, please submit it to information@trinitymiddlevillage.org

TRINITY TIDINGS BOOSTERS

Marilyn Adamo
Kenny Ash
Joyce Beaudoin
Jo-Ann Benini
The Boos Family
Boy Scout Troop 106
Eva Calov
Muriel Didee Davis
Colleen Dockery
Joan Dowdle
Ted & Laura Fackelman
Bob Firneis
Lori Grill
Jim & Ann Haase
Egbert & Dorothy Hardin
Renate Hertel
Lillian Hoffmann

Nilda Janacek
Gloria & John Krebs
Dorothy Kummer
Pastor Don Lemke
Carole McMullin
Henrietta & Erwin Markisch
John Maysonet
Rev. Thomas Mugavero
Kay Neuendorf
Joyce Norgalis
Frances Passantino
Emma Richter
Frank Richter
Janet & Jerry Rugg
Edna Schwenk
Rev. E. Phillip Sebastian
Linda Swiatocha

Marilyn Tier
Eleanor Tuohy
Marie Wengert
Anthony Zalak

IN MEMORIAM:

Ezio Benini
Olga Finneran
Elsie H. Johnson
Florence & Henry Limbach
Pastor Leo E. Longan
Rev. Paul J. Pfadenhauer
Dorothy Rentel
Kathleen Treiling
James J. Tuohy





AUTUMN



Q L W E J M E D I R Y A H K Z B N U T C V P
 H N P G I B T S C U E T S O R F D R O S A M
 R B S A Z D E P Q N J W I V G X T L E K F H
 Y Q U I L T K J F U B H O A E C O L Q D B S
 A K X L C V N R E D I P S L M R B H U Z I F
 V W D O E J A P B G Z R Q H F A S M I T Y C
 M O G F T W L E V S N B R U T N I A N P H Q
 X R V R A K B Z J C H I L E P B U F O G W N
 T C E J R H S A U Q S Y G W L K O S X H D M
 D E H A G L I U M T F E B N O S R N E J P U
 S R J C I Q P N O H V L U C A D M E F O K T
 G A F K M J D L T U C S E O N H L P B I X U
 U C R E T A E W S P D F M Z I B C O H N R A
 J S M T P N F C Z R O I W Y A Q H D I L U E
 I D Y U N S E V A E L Z C R H P O K M Q S B
 B Z R A K E Q H D M X N R E S J P I C E T O
 E I L S H Y C B G U K O P T D M F L A R L Z
 P F R Q Y R O T X Z W J N B U L A S E M I D
 W X B D O J H A R V E S T P C I O Q Y S N L
 L H Z M S I J F W O R C A Q Y N K B P U G X

apples
 autumn
 birds
 blanket
 bonfire
 changing
 cider

colorful
 cozy
 crow
 deciduous
 equinox
 flannel
 foliage

frost
 harvest
 hayride
 jacket
 leaves
 migrate
 orchards

pumpkin
 quilt
 rake
 rustling
 scarecrow
 season
 spider

squash
 squirrel
 sunflower
 sweater
 trees
 vegetables
 wheelbarrow

