



The Trinitarian

*Trinity welcomes all to a community in Christ;
serving others, growing in faith,
living in hope, and reaching out in love.*

November 2018

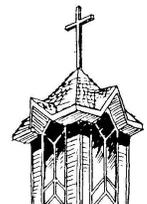
Coffee Devotion – October 2018

There's something comforting about coffee. Cool autumn days like this morning and this evening really make them special. It isn't just the flavor of that peppermint mocha or vanilla sleepytime team, but the process of preparing it as well. Grinding the beans, tamping the grounds, filtering the water, and brewing the espresso. Steaming the milk. Then bringing the coffee, the peppermint, the chocolate and the milk together and watching the milk gently billow in the cup with the perfect foam broken by the path of the spoon. With my fingers around the warm cup, the aroma of peppermint and coffee, taking that first sip and feeling that warmth and my tensions ease.

Going through this ritual helps me wake up in the morning, clear my head when I'm overwhelmed, and relax at day's end. Focusing on each step draws my attention to the task at hand. (though I may have cheated a bit this evening)

What would be the point of brewing a cup of coffee if we didn't take the time to enjoy it at the end? But sometimes, we do that in our spiritual lives. We sing the hymn, read the verse, or pray the prayer without actually engaging with God. Rituals and disciplines are meant to lead us into intimacy with God. Simply going through the motions of faith will not satisfy our thirst for God. I find myself in this rut every few years, and each time I've found myself re-focusing on the meanings of each of these activities to bring me closer to God.

"Coffee", continued on page 7



Trinity Lutheran Church 11200 Old Georgetown Road North Bethesda, MD 20852-3202
A Reconciling in Christ and a Stephen Ministry congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
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November Highlights

Saturday 3. Nov. Fall Back!
TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK 1 HR at
bedtime



Sunday 4. Nov. All Saints Sunday
8:15 am & 10:45 am Remembrance of the
Faithful Dead

Sunday 18. Nov. Commitment Sunday
Bring your Commitment Cards to worship

Sunday 18. Nov Pie Sunday

Community Family Life Services'
Annual Give-a-Gift Program
November 18 – December 9

Sunday 25. Nov. Christ the King &
8:15 & 10:45 am **Thanksgiving Sunday**
9:30 am Interger. Sunday School

Daylight Saving Time Ends Sunday 4. November

Set your clocks **BACK** one hour at bedtime on Saturday.



Congregation Council Highlights

- The Flood Repair Project is in its final days and may be completed by the end of October. Final pricing is being obtained for the tile flooring.
- The Covenant (Contract) with our new Interim Pastor was approved, with few modifications, by Council at the 9. October Council Meeting.
- The Chairwoman of the Music Director Search Committee reports good progress. Two inquiries have been received to date. The Position is advertised on the Trinity Web Site as well as those of several professional music organizations.
- Pastor Berner bid his Farewells to the Council and thanked them for their service. The Council in turn thanked Roger Berner profusely for his many years of service to Trinity. Pastor Berner's last Sunday as our Pastor is 28. October.



Bigger Than A Building! 2 (BTAB! 2)

A newly renovated education wing and new building with offices and meeting rooms...insulated ceilings, walls and new windows... a nursery

next to the sanctuary... restrooms that are warm and that accommodate disabled persons... a new lounge and library... additional parking.

Ten years ago improvements like these were just something we only dreamed about for Trinity. But through loans from the ELCA's Mission Investment Fund and Trinity's Mission Endowment Fund, we

were able to make them all a reality. And we've been enjoying them for several years now.

Through the two Renewing for Generations mission appeals, and the follow-on Bigger Than a Building (or BTAB!) mission appeal, we have paid down more than 75% of the loans. All that will remain at the end of December, when BTAB! ends, is \$345,000. We're now in the homestretch to finally paying off those loans.

Next month on Commitment Sunday 18. November, we will collect pledges not only for our annual stewardship campaign, but also for what we believe will be our final mission appeal... which will be called Bigger Than a Building 2, or BTAB! 2.

But in reality, we're simply looking at it as just a continuation of the current BTAB. This time we're not having a consultant come give us advice on how to run our mission appeal and we're not having any fancy dinners or events to promote it. We're totally focused on using every dollar to help pay off our debt.

If you've been making a weekly, monthly, quarterly or annual payment to BTAB, thank you so much for your ongoing commitment. Consider just continuing what you've been doing, with a similar pledge as we move into BTAB! 2. Or perhaps if you're feeling grateful for all the improvements we've been blessed with, then consider stretching a little by increasing your pledge for BTAB! 2. Or maybe you feel moved to make a major one-time donation, to help eliminate our debt even sooner.

Whether you've pledged before or have never pledged, this is your opportunity to be part of something very special...making Trinity debt-free! So give some prayerful consideration and bring your pledge card for BTAB! 2 on Commitment Sunday 18. November.

In Christ,

Jim K and Miriam M
Team Leaders, BTAB 2!

Social Ministry Invitation

The Social Ministry Committee invites you to attend its regular meeting on Sunday 18. November, after the late service, to learn more about our work and projects. Share your ideas for new ways we can serve our community while enjoying delicious snacks. Please speak with any of our members for more information: Kathy T, Lynn B, Marilyn G, Margaret F, Robyn K, or Susan S. We hope you will be able to join us!



Community Family Life Services' Annual Give-a-Gift Program

November 18 – December 9

The holidays are a time of giving and sharing. This is a wonderful opportunity to share with many children in need and give them a real Christmas. In fact, your gift may be the only one a child receives.

Trinity is collecting new toys, games, books and clothes for children infant through 18 years old for Community Family Life Services. Toys should be new and in their original packaging, but not wrapped. There is a special need for gifts for children 12-18 years. Look for the brick papered box in the Social Hall.

CFLS hosts a free holiday store so parents can choose gifts for their children. If you are interested in assisting, you may contact CFLS: 202-347-0511 (ext. 3200).

Pie Sunday 18. November

Bake a pie, make a pie, buy a pie, but BRING A PIE TO SHARE at coffee hour. Sweet or savory. Dessert or brunch. Apple, pumpkin, sweet potato, berry, or your own favorite. Or a quiche, frittata, strata, or your special brunch dish.



Any questions? Contact Lynn B.



I grew up in Hong Kong and attended a Missionary school ran by the Seventh Day Adventists. I was baptized into the faith.

After I got married, my family had to move once every 3-4 years to live in Tokyo, Singapore, Indonesia, and Hong Kong, before finally settling down in the US.

During the "nomadic" years, my children and I attended many inter-denominational churches, as well as Baptist and Episcopal churches before finally coming to Trinity and stayed for good. This is my ninth year in this church.

I have always trusted in God to take care of me and my family, especially during my darkest days (divorce and other losses). Sometimes I would question/doubt His will and intent, but I have never wavered in the conviction that He knows what is best for me and my family.

I love Trinity because of its many and varied outreach programs. It is a very spiritual, caring and compassionate church, and I am happy to be a part of it.

Annie A



Junior Youth Group & High School Gathering - Please check your email!

Advent Pageant Meeting - 17. November. Anyone who is interested in the Advent Pageant is invited to come to a meeting to begin working on the pageant.

Youth Group - 18. November. We will be meeting for dinner at 6 pm, and then doing a service project. We will also have an opportunity to meet the new interim pastor.

Intergenerational Sunday School - 25. November - During Sunday School, we will be making Personal Care Kits for Lutheran Social Services.

Looking ahead

8. December - Kids Morning Out

9. December - Youth Group

16. December - Advent Pageant (during 2nd service)

Anita S

Director of Youth & Family Ministry

The Men's Group will meet at Mike J's home at 1:00 pm on **Wednesday 14. November**

Contact Mike for more information.



Office of the Keys

What is the "Office of the Keys"? It is that authority which Christ gave to his church to forgive the sins of those who repent and to declare to those who do not repent that their sins are not forgiven.

What are the words of Christ?

Our Lord Jesus Christ said to his disciples: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." - John 20:23

"Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatsoever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." - Mt 18:18

The Lesson: Matthew 16:13-19

The Hymn: "O Christ, Our Hope" ELW 604

Prayer: *We know that you take away the sin of the world so seriously, gracious God, that your Son Jesus suffered and died on the cross. We know also that you have appointed the church to announce forgiveness to all who turn from their selfish ways and seek your loving embrace. Give us courage to call to repentance those who by choice or ignorance live in sin and so destroy themselves by living contrary to your will. We pray in the name of Jesus, who first forgives. Amen.*

Thanksgiving Weekend – Intergenerational Sunday School Preparing Personal Care Kits for LWR

On 25. November during the Sunday School hour, Trinity members will prepare personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR). LWR delivers the kits to people around the world who have lost everything from a natural disaster or life-threatening violence or who are struggling with the long-term effects of poverty.

Each kit contains 1 bath towel, 2 bars of soap, 1 toothbrush, 1 comb, and 1 nail clipper. Trinity will purchase the towels, combs and nail clippers. We ask members to bring in the following donations to make 144 kits:

- 288 bars of soap (bath size)
- 144 adult toothbrushes in individual pkgs

It costs LWR \$2.65 to send one personal care kit to a person in need. By covering shipping costs, we can

strengthen our support of LWR in helping to ship over 150,000 kits each year. If you would like to help cover shipping costs, or help to pay for the towels, combs, and nail clippers, please make a check out to Trinity with "Personal Care Kits" in the memo line.

Please contact Anita S or Kathy T with questions.

NOVEMBER

Birthdays

1	Juliana C	16	Togi S
	Amanda M		Marjorie W
3	Tom M	19	Atticus D
8	David M		Logan D
9	Susan D	22	Jim K
	Lisa S	24	Pr. Roger B
10	Barbara B		Rebecca P
11	Brian S	26	Amanda M
14	Yulie N	27	Matthew B
15	Sarah B	29	Robert P
16	Catya B		Angela B
	Mary Louise D	30	Christine B
	Mark J		

Baptismal Days

1	Andy B	23	Sarah G
3	Stella B A	24	Laura S
6	Brian S		Mary W
8	Jim J	27	Linnea S
9	Nicholas C		Luke W
10	Barbara B		Sophia W
16	Leslie S	28	David K
	Lisa S	29	John B
20	Salama N	30	Diana B

Wedding Anniversaries

3	Lisa S & Michael V
13	Ginger H & Paul S
15	Donna & Steve S

The Majesty of the Heavens Doth Proclaim

by Douglas J. L.

© 2013

One cloudless night a boy did gaze into the sky and ask
 Father, if God did make the heav'ns above and earth below,
 The stars, the moon, eight weighty planets - no easy task,
 Why do they sit so idly by, and not let man and woman know?
 Why, son, your eyes do fail for lack of understanding,
 The limits of your jaded mind do block your sight,
 Now is the time to end all doubt and cease demanding,
 that God re-justify his celestial wonders and delights,
 But for a moment play a doubting Thomas,
 Take you my hand for one brief moment and behold,
 The star that blazen'd up the sky - a fiery furnace,
 To herald in the greatest story every told,
 See you not the heavenly angels, as they sing and dance up in the sky,
 Doth not the luminance of Venus, the brightness of a sea of fish that ply,
 The hallowed wisps of supernovas, the pulsing strobes of quasars by and by,
 The chariots of comets on ice-blazed wings of fire defy,
 Our wildest imagination, the cleverest thought or fathomed need,
 Let the sounds of jubilation, resounding shouts of joy and faith implead,
 Our paths of human journeys with the sojourns of the steeds,
 That do gallop through the ages proclaiming God in name and deed

"Coffee" continued from page 1

Making a cup of coffee and savoring the experience is a model for practicing spiritual disciplines. Each day we can turn simple actions into times of intentional connection with God. As we go through the day, we may pray, read scripture, read a devotion, or in my daughter's case sing the songs Ross has taught her. With each step we work our way toward the desired outcome: a closer relationship with God.



Heavenly Father, every time we open our eyes we see the thing that you have given us – food and clothing, homes and families, a free country, luxuries from science and industry; and every time we hear your word, we see more gifts from your loving hand – a well-planned world, promises for guidance, protection from evil, forgiveness for all our sins, and the promise of eternal life through your son, Jesus Christ.

Yet we know that we do not think about these things enough in our busily lives. Give us thankful hearts that we may be more conscious of your daily love. Help us to find renewed joy in our daily spiritual disciplines that we may grow closer to you in our faith. In Jesus name we pray. AMEN

The Village at Rockville Annual Fall Festival



A National Lutheran Community

Saturday 10. November
9:30 am to 2 pm
9701 Veirs Drive, Rockville

Offerings include the Gift Shop, Jewelry, Books, Plants, Stamps, Silent Auction, Grandma's Attic, Christmas Décor, and a Bake Sale.

Lunch: 11 am–1:30 pm | Tours: 11 am, Noon & 1 pm
Chorus and Chimes Resident Concert | 2 pm

All proceeds benefit the residents.
Cash or Checks only.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Bigger Than A Building!

In Memory of
David S

Given by
Margaret & Greg F

Mission Endowment Fund

In Memory of
Elaine D
David S

Given by
Susan S
Jerald B
Elaine E
Thomas & Margaret F
Rose & Bernard G
Rafael M
Robin R
Kathy T
VanNess Feldman LLP
Michael S
Zidi B

Anne S
Bruce S

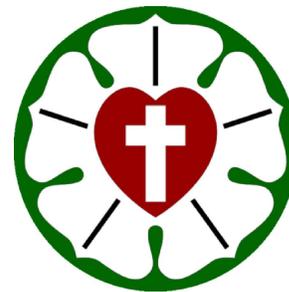
Memorials

In Memory of
Elaine D
Raymond H
Fred K

Given by
Wayne D
Cassandra M
Ann B
Megan K
Elizabeth S
Otoniec B
Russell C
Nancy C
Feraina G
Vimala P
James S & Wei Y

David S

Bruce S





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Date Mailed
 29. October 2018

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Sunday 25. Nov. Christ the King & Thanksgiving Sunday
 8:15 & 10:45 am Intergen. Sunday School
 9:30 am



Poinsettias, Wreaths, and Garland to adorn Trinity at Christmas

Order Deadline: 16. December 2018

I wish to order: *Poinsettias: \$10 each*

#__ RED poinsettias

#__ WHITE poinsettias

#__ RED/WHITE mixed

#__ Door Wreaths @\$16 each

#__ Sanctuary Wreath @\$30 #__ Garland (25 yds) @\$28 each



In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Given by _____

___ I will donate my poinsettias