



# The Trinitarian

Our **Mission** is to **Worship... Learn... Serve...**  
Our **Vision** is to **Seek, Serve, and Accept All.**

November 2019

Dear People of God,

Several events of note unfold for Trinity during the month of November!

- **Sunday, November 3 – All Saints Sunday**

In our worship we will once again give thanks for the witness of saints who have died since last November 1.

- **Sunday, November 10 – Commitment Sunday and Homecoming**

Who hasn't caught the excitement and enthusiasm of Greg and the Stewardship Team? Invite everyone you know to worship - your family and friends - bring your commitment card to return during worship, and stay for the feast of barbecue that follows the second service.

- **Congregation Retreat – Friday & Saturday, November 15-16**

Under the theme *All Things New*, we will work to redefine the values that unite the people of Trinity in mission. (See announcement in this newsletter, p. 8) RSVP to the church office.

- **Sunday, November 24 – Christ the King Sunday**

The church year comes to a close with this celebration of the lordship of Jesus Christ over the church and the world.

Our nation and our world are in upheaval as 2019 rushes to a close. Anxiety and anger seem to confront us at every turn. It takes a great deal of effort and discipline to exercise the faith that is in us, and insist that God's grace and love will have the last word. During the month of November, Trinity will be

deciding what kind of congregation it will be going forward. It is important that you participate and add your voice to the chorus that will become the mission dream of the congregation. There's a place for everyone at the table of grace. Come, let us break bread together.

*Pastor Kern*



## SUNDAYS THIS FALL

Worship	8:15 & 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Adult Ed	9:30 a.m.

**Homecoming Weekend**  
**November 10**

BBQ and FUN  
Join the Celebration  
Bring family, friends,  
and neighbors



Father, I pray that all people who believe in me can be one. You are in me and I am in you. I pray that these people can also be one in us, so that the world will believe that you sent me.

*John 17:21 (ICB)*

## Homecoming Weekend

On **November 10** following the late service, join us for some BBQ and frivolity as we celebrate the conclusion of our **We Are Trinity** stewardship campaign. There are several ways for you to participate:



- Invite a friend, neighbor, former Trinity member, or a long-lost family member to join in our celebration (all are welcome).
- Prepare a side-dish or dessert (sign-up sheet in the social hall)
- Volunteer to set-up the social hall prior to the event or clean up afterward
- Reach out to Greg Fitzwilliam if you'd like to participate in the "holy smoking"!

We look forward to seeing you on November 10!

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## Youth News

### Youth Group! (6th - 12th Grade) - November 10

We will go to A Wider Circle for a service project with our friends from Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Bethesda. Watch your email for times and more details.

### Intergenerational Sunday School - December 1

Please come to Sunday School (9:30 a.m.), and help us make personal care kits for refugee camps around the world. We will also make some dog toys for the Montgomery County Humane Society.

#### Looking Ahead

Youth Group	December 8	5 p.m.
Kids Morning Out	January 4	
Epiphany Pageant	January 5	

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## Rides to Church

Have you missed Trinity events because you lacked transportation? Trinity has missed you too and the following members of the congregation would like to provide you with a ride to Trinity events:

- 20886 Carol B
- 20850 Margaret F
- 20854 Peggy & Dick J
- 20854 Miriam M
- 20853 Nancy N

Zip codes are provided to aid in finding a driver close to you. Do not hesitate to call. If you would like volunteer to drive, call Dick J.

## Pie Sunday – November 24

Bake a pie, make a pie, buy a pie, or thaw a pie! Bring your pies to share at Pie Sunday coffee hours on November 24.



Try out your Thanksgiving pie or brunch recipes. Sweet or savory—quiches, stratas, dessert pies. The more pies the better! Please cut your pie for serving.

Any questions? Call Lynn B.

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## Calling Cooks and Bakers

On **Sunday, December 15**, Trinity will serve a meal for 35 at the Interfaith Works Women's Center in Rockville. We will need help from members of our congregation to prepare and serve the meal:



- Cooks to prepare a mashed potato casserole (recipe provided)
- Bakers to make pumpkin and apple pies
- 3-4 people to serve the meal that evening (6:00 - 7:30 p.m.)
- People to contribute other food items (see the sign-up sheet in the social hall)

Please contact Lynn B or Kathy T with questions.

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## Personal Care Kits for LWR

On Sunday, December 1, - Thanksgiving weekend - during the Sunday school hour, we will prepare 144 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 a bath towel, two bars of soap, one toothbrush, one comb, and one nail clipper. Because LWR requires the items to meet

certain specifications, the social ministry committee will purchase all the necessary items, but asks members to make cash donations toward this effort if they are able. Checks can be made out to Trinity with "Personal Care Kits" in the memo line.

Please contact Anita S or Kathy T with questions or suggestions.



## Faith Story

My faith story takes me back to the early 1970's, when I was ten years old or so. On an indoor basketball court somewhere in Rockville, I stood behind

the foul line to take two free throws. With the basketball tucked underneath my arm, I put my hands together and said a quick prayer, asking God to help me and my teammates. I made the basket, to the delight and cheers of the crowd. Having seen their reaction, I then feigned a prayer, for the sole purpose of garnering the same reaction from the crowd. Naturally I missed.

Now, you don't have to be much of a skeptic or mathematician to observe that my experience could have occurred as randomly as flipping a coin twice and getting two different results. But that is faith. It's real to me because of my faith... and faith is the reason I can recall this story some 40 years later. My faith is with me because of my parents and upbringing. It is also with me because of the decades of stewardship from fellow congregants at Trinity. I recall fondly the many saints in this place who had a seminal influence on my faith. I am further inspired by many of you who continue, year after year, to share in your gifts as we navigate through this faith journey together.

Greg F

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## Trinity Men's Group

The November meeting of Trinity Men's Group will be held **Wednesday, November 13**, at Dick J's house starting at 1:00 p.m.

Please let Dick know if you are planning to attend.

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## Council Summary, September 17, 2019

The Council had a full agenda including discussions on constitutional amendments and updates, results from the single service survey, and the upcoming unity retreat.

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## Trinity Lunch Bunch

**Thursday, December 12, 12:30 p.m.**  
Normandie Farm Restaurant  
10710 Falls Road, Potomac, MD 20854  
R.S.V.P. to [office@TrinityELCA.org](mailto:office@TrinityELCA.org)  
or Steve S

## Tilden Project

Twice a year, Trinity welcomes a number of youth from Tilden to come over after school on half-days for service projects. We have packed food for Bethesda Help, packed meals for So Others Might Eat, and made welcome kits for refugees moving into their first apartment. This time around, we made dog toys for the Montgomery County Humane Society, and we sorted things for Suburban Hospital.

When Margaret suggested this last activity, I had no idea what she was talking about until I saw the project. The hospital staff saved all of the caps for meds and other equipment that they use. Now, they are sorting the caps, to make a mosaic. The inspiration for the mosaic is that all of the little things can turn into one great and beautiful thing.

That is Trinity. Some of us usher, or sing in the choir, or are on a committee or team, or help with the gardening. We all do things here, and we all come together to be this community. We are all a part of the great mosaic that is the body of Christ.

Anita



## Annual Give-a-Gift Program

**November 17 - December 8**

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 Bria Washington at CFLS: 202-347-0511 or [brwashington@cflsdc.org](mailto:brwashington@cflsdc.org).

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## Gifts of Hope— Shop, Receive and Give:

Would you like to give a unique gift to your loved one this Christmas season?

Would you also like your purchase to benefit those in need? You can do both with a purchase of a Gift of Hope. The Gifts of Hope Catalog has 42 different gifts, with prices ranging from \$10 to \$300. These gifts support the mission and programs of area Lutheran social ministry organizations, camps, college or seminary, and our Synod's companion synods abroad. Your Gifts of Hope purchases will bring hope to others while you honor those on your gift list. View all the participating organizations on the back of the catalog or on the web at [www.GiftsofHopeDC.org](http://www.GiftsofHopeDC.org).

There are a wide variety of gifts such as a week at camp, transportation for women going to job interviews, nutritious meals, and backpacks with healthy snacks for foster children. For each gift you select from the catalog you will receive a beautiful Christmas card and a description of the gift you purchased and of the beneficiary organization. Your Gift of Hope is guaranteed to benefit those in need and to please those on your shopping list.

The Gifts of Hope catalog will be available at the Gifts of Hope table in the Social Hall after worship services Nov. 17 – Dec.15.

### *Passages and Milestones*

#### **November Birthdays**

- |                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 01. Amanda M   | 19. Atticus D     |
| 03. Tom M      | 19. Logan D       |
| 10. Barbara B  | 22. James K       |
| 11. Brian S    | 23. Christopher S |
| 14. Yulie N    | 24. Roger B       |
| 16. Catya B    | 24. Rebecca P     |
| 16. Mary D     | 27. Matthew B     |
| 16. Mark J     | 29. Angela B      |
| 16. Marjorie W | 29. Robert P      |
| 18. Susan A    | 30. Christine B   |

#### **November Baptismal Days**

- |                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| 01. Andy B     | 23. Sarah G  |
| 03. Stella B   | 24. Laura T  |
| 06. Brian S    | 24. Mary W   |
| 08. James J    | 27. Linnea S |
| 09. Nicholas C | 27. Luke W   |
| 10. Barbara B  | 27. Sophia W |
| 11. Gina C     | 28. David K  |
| 16. Leslie S   | 29. John B   |
| 18. Alissa C   | 30. Diana B  |

#### **Birth**

Ethan Dale, September 19  
(parents Hagen & Kristina)

#### **Deaths**

Pr David P +Sept 15, 2019  
(supply clergy at Trinity, summer 2016)  
Carol B +October 5, 2019 (former member)  
Wayne P +Oct 7, 2019  
(cousin of Julie N)  
Tim R +Oct 11 (nephew of Len S)

### **The Mission Endowment**

The Mission Endowment Team will meet next on Tuesday, November 5, at 7:00 p.m.

Nominations for Mission Endowment Awards will be accepted beginning December 1.

### **Trinity Mailbag**



Dear Trinity Lutheran Church members,

My brother Dave and I were blessed to have met you! We felt love and compassion while my brother James was in the hospital. We enjoyed talking with you all. James and Sunhee are blessed to have found a caring, loving church. "Anyone who is to find Christ must find the Church. How could anyone know where Church is and what faith is in him unless he knew where his believers are?" – Martin Luther

With Love and Gratitude,  
Lisa

Dear Faith Partners,

Simple items can make an enormous difference to those who cannot afford to purchase everyday necessities.

Your thoughtful, in-kind donation on 8/30/2019 will help ensure that another child or family can access some of life's basic essentials.

Because of our donations like yours, we were able to welcome 559 refugees and provide wellness education for 153 youth and family members last year. Your donation to Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area (LSS/NCA) provides for basic needs, permitting our staff to focus on offering deep, holistic care to local families and children in need.

Regards,  
Susan J. Haine, Grant Development Director

## Assisting in Our Worship – November 2019

		<b>Nov 3</b>	<b>Nov 10</b>	<b>Nov 17</b>	<b>Nov 24</b>	
<b><i>Acolytes</i></b>	8:15 10:45	Matthew B Anders S	TBD Colin G	TBD Anusha A	Matthew B Vincent M	<b><i>Acolytes</i></b>
<b><i>Assisting Ministers</i></b>	8:15 10:45	Nancy N Jim K	Sarah M Len S	Jonah W Carol B	John B Miriam M	<b><i>Assisting Ministers</i></b>
<b><i>Children's Church</i></b>	8:15 10:45	TBD Jane R	Margaret F David C	TBD Nicholas C	TBD TBD	<b><i>Children's Church</i></b>
<b><i>Greeters</i></b>	8:15 10:45	Phil, Noralyn D Trevor H	Dan, Rob S Susan S	Jonah W Hagen, Kristina S	Nancy J Linnea A	<b><i>Greeters</i></b>
<b><i>Lector</i></b>	8:15 10:45	John B Leslie C	Sarah G Sabrina R	Nathan L Christine B	Tom K Len S	<b><i>Lector</i></b>
<b><i>Ushers</i></b>	8:15 10:45	Joan E, Mike J Greg, Margaret F	Steve, Donna S Paul D, Robert P	Joan E, Mike J David C, Henry C	Joan E, Mike J Mike J	<b><i>Ushers</i></b>
<b><i>Coffee Hour</i></b>	8:15 10:45	potluck potluck	TBD Homecoming BBQ	Phil, Noralyn D TBD	TBD Bud, Lynn B	<b><i>Coffee Hour</i></b>
<b><i>Altar Custodians</i></b>	8:15 10:45	Marilyn G Carol B	Marilyn G Carol B	Marilyn G Carol B	Marilyn G Carol B	<b><i>Altar Custodians</i></b>
<b><i>Tellers</i></b>		Bud, Lynn B	Thor N, Petra T	Dick, Peggy J	Annie A, Mina	<b><i>Tellers</i></b>

## November 2019

November is Stewardship month

**Friday, November 1, 2019**

All Saints Day

**Sunday, November 3, 2019** All Saints Sunday

Lectionary 31 / 21 Pentecost

Daylight Saving Time ends

Coffee Hour Potluck (names A-L)

8:15am **Holy Communion**

9:30am Adult Forum

9:30am Sunday School

9:30am Congregation Council

9:30am Transition Group

10:45am **Holy Communion**

12:00pm Trinity Singers choir rehearsal

**Monday, November 4, 2019**

7:30pm Heavenly Handbells (Wor)

**Tuesday, November 5, 2019**

1:45pm Staff Meeting

6:30pm Stephen Ministry Supervision (10)

7:00pm Mission Endowment Team

7:00pm Stephen Ministry Training (11)

7:30pm Stewardship Team (Lib)

**Sunday, November 10, 2019**

Lectionary 32 / 22 Pentecost

Commitment Sunday

8:15am **Holy Communion**

9:30am Adult Forum

9:30am Sunday School

10:45am **Holy Communion**

12:00pm Trinity Singers choir rehearsal

12:15pm Homecoming BBQ Lunch by Stewardship

12:15pm Worship & Music Team (11)

6:00pm Youth Group

**Monday, November 11, 2019**

Veterans Day

7:30pm Heavenly Handbells (Wor)

**Tuesday, November 12, 2019**

1:45pm Staff Meeting

7:00pm Stephen Ministry Training (11)

**Wednesday, November 13, 2019**

1:00pm Trinity Men's Group (off-site; Dick J res.)

**Friday, November 15, 2019**

Trinitarian December Newsletter Deadline

**Fri-Sat, November 15-16, 2019**

Congregation Retreat "All Things New" (see article, p. 8)

**Sunday, November 17, 2019**

Lectionary 33 / 23 Pentecost

CFLS Give-A-Gift; Gifts of Hope

8:15am **Holy Communion**

9:30am Adult Forum

9:30am Sunday School

10:45am **Holy Communion**

12:00pm Trinity Singers choir rehearsal

12:15pm Social Ministry Team (Lib)

1:45pm Bethesda H&R (Stewardship)

**Monday, November 18, 2019**

7:30pm Heavenly Handbells (Wor)

**Tuesday, November 19, 2019**

1:45pm Staff Meeting

7:00pm Stephen Ministry Training (11)

7:30pm Congregation Council (10)

**Sunday, November 24, 2019**

Christ the King / Lectionary 34

CFLS Give-A-Gift; Gifts of Hope; Pie Sunday

8:15am **Holy Communion**

9:30am Adult Forum

9:30am Sunday School

10:45am **Holy Communion**

12:00pm Trinity Singers choir rehearsal

**Monday, November 25, 2019**

9:15am Trinitarian mailing

7:30pm Heavenly Handbells (Wor)

**Tuesday, November 26, 2019**

1:45pm Staff Meeting

7:30pm Mutual Ministry (11)

**Thurs-Fri, November 28-29, 2019**

Thanksgiving Holiday (church office closed)

See the full, up-to-date calendar any time at [www.trinityelca.org/calendar](http://www.trinityelca.org/calendar)

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



October 15, 2019

Dear fellow members of Trinity,

The theme for our stewardship campaign this year is **We Are Trinity**. In one sense, the campaign theme is an acknowledgement that the “face” of our church for many years, Pastor Berner, has left. The transition, while sometimes uncomfortable, is an important reminder that a church isn’t solely defined by its pastor. **We Are Trinity**. In time a new pastor will be called; yet still **We Are Trinity**.



Our campaign theme is also a call to action. Running a church requires passion. Running a vibrant and flourishing church requires a lot of passion. To carry us through our pastoral transition and move our ministry forward requires an abundance of passion and commitment. In other words, “we” are required in **We Are Trinity**.

Let’s face it: stewardship is hard. As we go day to day in our busy lives, it’s easy to assume that the person next to you will volunteer to provide some service to the church. Or someone else has the financial means to further our ministry. But most everything in life that is good is also hard. To quote Tom Hanks, “It’s the hard that makes it good.”

And here’s the beauty of stewardship: the returns will outweigh the gifts. There are an abundance of opportunities for personal fulfilment and spiritual growth by offering your time and talents. Consider the impacts of Stephen Ministries, Music, Christian Education, Social Ministries, Worship, and Parish Life to name a few. What passion and commitment will you bring to **We Are Trinity**?

Stewardship is faith in action; 100% participation will be a true sign of our commitment to Trinity.

May God’s grace and peace be with you.

*Greg F*

Stewardship Committee Chair

*Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Corinthians 9:7)*

**We Are Trinity!**  
**we**  
**Worship, Learn, & Serve**  
**by**  
**Seeking & Accepting All**

**All Things New**  
**A Unity Retreat**  
**November 15, 16, 17, 2019**

As a follow up to our sure-to-be-successful Commitment Sunday/Homecoming on November 10, this retreat invites all members into an intentional conversation about the beliefs and practices that unite Trinity Lutheran Church.

Through worship, music, presentation, and most of all face-to-face conversation, this retreat will explore the core values of the congregation.

Through this process, Trinity will:

- affirm its Mission and Vision for the future
- gain a clear understanding of the bedrock values and principles that direct its life
- be able to take a fresh look the congregation's mission and spending priorities in 2020
- on the basis of shared beliefs, begin to forgive one another for past slights and hurts so that the congregation will have the energy to truly welcome all going forward

## Retreat Schedule

### Friday, November 15

6:30 pm – An Evening with David Ludwig

*Many will remember David's presence with us in the spring. Our time together begins with a devotional, worshipful evening as David leads us musically and scripturally into our theme **All Things New**. What better way to begin than through the gifts of this exceptional musician and theologian.*

### Saturday, November 16 - A Day in Three Parts

8:30 – Gather

8:45 – Opening Worship

David Ludwig

9:00 – Part 1: Spiritual Leadership

Susan Feldhausen

*Susan is a member of King of Kings Lutheran Church, Fairfax, VA where she has served as council member, president, and chair of the call committee. She is the former chair and presently active member of the Metro DC Synod Candidacy Committee.*

The church shares many traits with other organizations, movements, and businesses. But baptized leaders in the church have a different starting point. Discernment always begins by listening for the Holy Spirit and asking the question, Where is God leading us now? and not simply, What do we want?

10:15 – Musical reflection

David Ludwig

Break

10:45 – Part 2: The Values of Trinity

Council Member Table Guides

We begin with an honest assessment of what Trinity actually values now. As we develop that list, discussion at tables will take the next step and begin to identify the values that will be important to implement the mission and vision of the community.

Noon – Midday Song

David Ludwig

12:15 – Lunch

12:45 – Part 3: We Are Trinity – 3 Action Steps

Table Guides

With a renewed sense of the Spirit's calling (discernment) and greater clarity of what's really important to Trinity (values), we conclude our day by coming to agreement on three, specific actions the congregation will initiate in 2020 that reflect the mission and values of the community.

2:00 – Closing worship

On **Sunday, November 17**, David Ludwig will be our musical guest, under the direction of Angela Small, Minister of Music.



**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**11200 Old Georgetown Road**  
**North Bethesda, MD 20852-3202**

Address Service Requested

301-881-7275  
office@trinityelca.org  
www.trinityelca.org  
facebook.com/TrinityELCA

Date Mailed  
Oct 28, 2019

Non-profit Org  
US Postage Paid  
Permit #34  
Suburban, MD 208

## Homecoming Weekend November 10

**BBQ and FUN**  
Join the Celebration  
Bring family, friends,  
and neighbors

See bulletin and Tidings for more info.



*The Trinitarian* deadline  
is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the prior month.

**Sunday bulletin** deadline  
is 9:00 am Tuesday.



# Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.