

## **Holy Trinity Lutheran Church**

***Share the Gospel. Overcome Barriers. Connect One to Many.***



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**The Reverend Kathryn S. Irwin, Pastor**

**J. Scott Jones, Cantor**

### **Council Members:**

Steve Oberndorf (President) / Greg Sekula (Vice President)

Terry Graney (Treasurer) / Emily Thomsen (Secretary)

Sally Bayhi / Karen Lewis / Doris Schulz

### **Newsletter / Time After Pentecost – Fall 2018**

#### **From Pastor Irwin...**

My Beloved Siblings in Christ,

As I return from my family leave, and settle back into the rhythms of congregational life, I look forward to seeing many of you also settling back in, after the many distractions of the summer months, and recommitting yourselves to the joyful work of living into the Gospel as the people of God at Holy Trinity.

Just before the birth of our child, I had a meeting with our congregation's Discernment Team (the members of council and Cantor Scott Jones) to continue our work of preparing to lead the whole congregation in a discernment process in 2019 to listen to God's call for our community and figure out how we can best live into that call. Chances are good that this will lead to some changes. Already, Holy Trinity has changed significantly in calling me two years ago as your first part-time pastor. But yes, more changes will probably be on the way. Some large, and some small, some easy, and some difficult. What I want to encourage you all to remember in this time of discernment and change, is that in all these things, we are not alone, but accompanied by a gracious, loving, and supporting God.

As part of all of this work, I am offering a Bible study series this fall called "**Living our Baptism – the Five Gifts of Discipleship.**" To make it as accessible as possible, I'm offering it both Thursday evenings at 6:30pm and Sundays at noon. You can read more about it in this newsletter, and I want to strongly encourage everyone to consider when they can make the time to commit to this five week exploration of who we are and what we are called and gifted to do as baptized members of Christ's body.

As we move through this process together and discover new or different things about God's call for Holy Trinity, we must keep central in our minds whom or what it is that we are holding most central, most important in our lives. The comfortable familiarity and trappings of "the way we've always done things" are good in their time, but if they do not serve to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, we may find that their time has come and gone. This may frighten us (or it may excite us!), but let us promise each other that we will not let our fear stop us from boldly following God's call for our congregation.

Also, please know that I am available and willing to meet with you as we move through this process should you need more information or have concerns to be addressed.

Your Sister in Christ,

*Pastor Irwin*

## WORSHIP LIFE

### Whole Wheat Communion Bread

All are welcome to make bread for communion here at Holy Trinity. Here is the recipe we use.

This recipe is courtesy of Jay Rochelle and takes less than 45 minutes from start to finish.

#### Ingredients:

1 ½ cups whole wheat flour

½ cup white flour

¼ teaspoon salt

¾ teaspoons baking soda

2 heaping teaspoons oil

¾ cup cold water

3 tablespoons molasses or honey or a mixture

Mix dry ingredients. Add oil and blend well. Add water and honey/molasses and mix. Knead about 2 minutes. Flour pastry board/sheet and hands. Hand knead first until dough does not stick to surface. With floured rolling pin, roll out to ¼ inch thick. Cut or hand-form into 6-7 inch rounds (making 3-4 flat loaves). Bake about 15 minutes at 350° on an ungreased cookie sheet.



### Baptismal Birthdays

Baptism is our birth into the Body of Christ, the Church. As brothers and sisters in Christ, let us celebrate these anniversaries with each other.



*If you haven't already done so, please let the office know of your date of baptism and your birthday, so that we may celebrate your special day!*

### Reformation Sunday Hymn Sing October 28<sup>th</sup>

Join us on Reformation Sunday for a special Hymn Sing service that follows the story of Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection as depicted in our sanctuary (worship space) windows. Hear the story through images, readings, and music of the One who formed us as the Body of Christ and who, through Baptism and Communion, daily re-forms us for service in Christ's Kin-dom.

### All Saints Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>



On All Saints Sunday, we remember all those who have gone before us and showed us the way of faith. As part of our All Saints celebration, we will read the names of those who have died and display their pictures in the sanctuary during worship. Please write clearly the names of those to be remembered in the Book of the Saints located in the entryway. Photos can be brought to the office **through Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>**. Please bring only one photo per person to remember, preferably framed. Photos will be returned.

### Worship Assistants Needed

Would you like to help in worship? We are in need of Communion Assistants & Assisting Ministers. There are "Holy Trinity Worship Assistants" guides on the table in the entryway that explain in detail the responsibilities of each worship area. You will be trained for the position you sign up for and will be scheduled to serve approximately once a month (sometimes less if we have enough people scheduled for each position). If you cannot serve your assigned date, we ask that you please find someone to serve in your place and to notify the office. Please see Pastor Irwin or Scott Jones if you are interested.



### Altar Flowers

If you would like to honor or memorialize someone or a special date with altar flowers, the cost remains \$30; the sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in the front entryway, or you may call or email the office.



We will also accept donations (in any amount) to add to our Altar Flower fund. This fund will assure that we occasionally have flowers during the months that no one signs up.

## LEARNING OUR FAITH

### Living Our Baptism

#### Adult Bible Study – Sundays OR Thursdays

Starting Thursday, September 27 at 6:30pm & Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at noon, join us as we study **“Living Our Baptism – Five Gifts of Discipleship.”** The studies will go through October 25 (Thursday) and October 28 (Sunday).

In our rite of Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation), the pastor asks those affirming their baptism the following question:

*Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism:*

*To live among God's faithful people,*

*To hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,*

*To proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,*

*To serve all people, following the example of Jesus,*

*To strive for justice and peace in all the earth?*

*If so, answer,*

***“I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.”***

This five week series will explore what happens after we say “I do,” and just how God is helping and guiding us to live into those five gifts of discipleship inherent in our baptismal calling.

On Thursdays we will start with a Soup Supper at 6:30pm, then the book study immediately after **(please find the sign-up sheet or contact the office to provide soup and/or bread or to sign up for the study (nothing to purchase).** On Sundays we will start at noon with the study and your brown bag lunch.

### Sunday School

As a new school year begins, so does a new *Sunday School* year here at Holy Trinity! Starting September 9<sup>th</sup>, we will be offering Children's Faith Formation on the second, third, and fourth Sundays of each month during worship. Children aged 3 ½ through 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be invited to join their teacher at the back of the worship space after the reading of the Gospel and will return to worship in time to receive



Holy Communion (or a blessing) with the congregation. The first and fifth Sundays of the month will be opportunities for the children to remain in worship with the whole community for the entire service and receive a Children's Sermon right after the reading of the Gospel.

We have three phenomenal leaders for our Children's Faith Formation: **Sally Bayhi, Julie Franchino, and Ruth Sekula.**

All of these activities will be based around the *Sundays & Season's* Children's curriculum, which follows along with the lessons appointed for the day and will teach them about the same things we are hearing about in worship.

Please feel free to speak to Pastor Irwin with any questions you may have.

### Cross Roads Camp & Retreat Center Fall Events for Adults

Visit camp this Fall for some wonderful retreat opportunities! More information can be found at: [www.crossroadsretreat.com](http://www.crossroadsretreat.com)

HTLC has scholarship money available for camp programs, please do not let finances be a barrier to enjoying time in God's beautiful creation!



### WEDNESDAYS AWAY

*Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.” -John 6:35*

Are you hungry for a deeper relationship with God? Do you thirst for a more meaningful prayer life?

Join us for Wednesdays Away, a time of spiritual renewal on the first Wednesday of the month, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Christ Center. Throughout the year we will gather with a variety of spiritual directors who will focus each month upon a different spiritual practice.

Our time together begins in community with prayer and conversation, which will be used to ground your day and guide your personal retreat time. A

spiritual director will be also be available throughout the day for one-on-one conversation, prayer, and spiritual companionship.

### WOMEN'S RETREAT

September 28 - 30, 2018 OR October 12 - 14, 2018  
Choose the date that works best for you!

When we pray, we connect with God and one another in holy conversation. Let's broaden that conversation and share our experience of prayer through the lens of Ann Lamott's little book Help, Thanks, Wow! Lamott's insight, humor, and deep faith will enrich our prayer and strengthen our connection to the loving God who is always with us and to those among whom we live on this earth. Participants are encouraged but not required to read the book prior to the retreat.

### RALLY FOR CROSS ROADS & INTERGENERATIONAL RETREAT

Retreat: Oct 5 - 7, 2018 Cost: Free!

Volleyball Marathon: Oct 6 - 7, 2018 Cost: Free!

Play volleyball all night long to raise money for Camp! Bring a team or play on your own—as long as we keep the court busy all night! Volleyballers and the young at heart are invited to dig deep, recruit sponsors, and play hard to keep Cross Roads affordable for all. When you're not playing, you can enjoy music, games, and even a campfire. The marathon starts Saturday, October 5, at 9 pm and ends Sunday, October 6, at 9 am. Volleyballers are welcome to spend the whole weekend, free of charge, at an intergenerational retreat full of fun, fellowship, and faith in support of Cross Roads.

## COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP

### CROP Walk

The Nutley CROP  
(Communities  
Responding to  
Overcome



Poverty) Walk will be held on **Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>**, in the Nutley Oval on Franklin Avenue. Registration is at 1:30pm, the walk is from 2:00-3:00pm. Last year the Township raised \$3,000.00! In addition to overcoming hunger, this year CROP is

focusing on personal hygiene, clean water for schools, gardening supplies, seeds, tools and the training needed to accomplish this mission.

**Barbara Mascola is Holy Trinity's representative; please contact her with any questions.**

Walkers commit to completing the walk (rain or shine) and collect donations from sponsors before or after they walk. It is a way for people of all ages to help make a difference. There will be music and fun activities, especially for the children, in a safe environment in the Oval. The walk is being sponsored by the churches of Nutley.

### Nutley Thanksgiving Service



The Nutley Community Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will be held on **Monday evening, November 19th, 7:30pm at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church**, located at 120

Prospect Street. Area clergy will participate, there will be the blowing of the shofar, Mayor Scarpelli will give remarks, and Nutley Congregations Choir will sing.

The Nutley Clergy Fellowship cordially invites the entire community to join them in lifting thanksgiving to God for our many blessings.

## STEWARDSHIP GOD'S RESOURCES

### Stewardship of Our Work Life

*And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*  
—Colossians 3:17

The priesthood of all believers has been characterized as Martin Luther's most underappreciated theological insight. Simply put, Luther observed that God calls all Christians – not just pastors – to lives of holiness. Every one of us, not just priests, accomplishes God's holy work, regardless of what we do for work, whether employed or working at home.

It's a simple idea, and one that certainly elevates our "job" to a new status, but it can be hard to live out. Here are some tips:

**Think *disciple*:** You may know to be a disciple in church, but prayerfully imagine how you can be a follower of Jesus at work, too!

**Think *excellence*:** There's satisfaction in doing your best. Knowing that your work is holy can provide not only incentive but also a satisfaction boost.

**Think *relationship*:** They're not just your coworkers, they're also the neighbors whom Christ commands us to serve and to love as ourselves.

**Think *service*:** Every workplace holds challenges for your employer, coworkers and customers. How can your experience and gifts help?

**Think *priest*:** You are called to be a holy person 24/7. How does this awareness invite you to change your behavior and attitude toward your work?

We spend so much of our lives in our jobs, we can't park our faith at the door. Instead, we bring the light of Christ to the workplace as holy people of God's reign!

--Rob Blezard

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## Commitment Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup>

On Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, we will spend some time during worship considering how we are feeling called as individuals to give back to God in thanks for all that God has first given us. Please take some time to consider how God is calling you to give of your time, talent, and financial resources, to support the holy work of the Body of Christ at HTLC.

## Steward Stories from the Pews

One Sunday a month for 2018, we have had the opportunity in worship to hear a story from one of our siblings in Christ about their own sense of stewardship of the gifts God has given them. We are very thankful to all those who have shared stories and look forward to those who will share in

the coming months. When asked to share, our fellow members were given the following questions to guide their talk, and you are invited to consider them for yourself as well:

- What brings you to church? Who/what was a major influence in your faith journey?
- How has your faith shaped your life?
- What gifts/talents do you have? As you reflect on the gifts/talents you have been given, how do you/might you use them to further God's work here in our congregation and community?
- What gifts do you see in our congregational community at Holy Trinity? How are we as a congregation gifted by God to serve?

If, after reflecting on these questions, you find you feel moved to share some thoughts with the congregation, please feel free to write a reflection for a future newsletter.

## Thrivent Choice Dollars

Did you know that if you have financial products with Thrivent Financial, you may be eligible for their Choice Dollars program, through which you can direct them to financially support Holy Trinity? With Thrivent Choice, you can recommend where some of Thrivent Financial's charitable outreach funds go. Since 2010, more than \$370 million has been distributed to churches and nonprofits nationwide.

For more information about this program, and to use your Choice Dollars to direct Thrivent's support toward Holy Trinity, contact your Thrivent representative or visit:

<https://www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/living-generously/thrivent-choice/>

Holy Trinity is grateful for those who have given through this program in the past and those who continue to do so. Giving is sent directly from Thrivent and we are not notified on whose behalf it comes.

## Support HTLC with Amazon Smile!

Do you often shop on Amazon? Be sure to sign up for Amazon Smile to support our ministry at Holy Trinity! Amazon Smile will donate 0.5% of the cost of eligible purchases to Holy Trinity. To sign up, visit <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-2205690>, sign in with your regular Amazon username and password, and start helping Holy Trinity as you shop! (Donations earned through Amazon Smile will not be sent to HTLC in lump sums, and we will not know who has earned them. They will therefore not be able to be recognized in any formal way, but we give thanks for all of you who participate in this program!)

## SERVING COMMUNITY & WORLD

### Food Pantry

We have collected \$125 in food pantry donations which were turned into *ShopRite Gift Cards* and given to the *Nutley Family Service Bureau*. Thank you!



### Holy Trinity Garden



**Jay Mascola** again generously oversaw our garden. As in the past, the crops were shared with the *Vincent Care Kitchen*, which provides meals 4 times a month for those in need. Crops were also shared with members of the congregation. Thanks, Jay!

### Serving at the Vincent Care Kitchen

Holy Trinity helps to serve at the Care Kitchen the last Saturday of every month. The Kitchen provides a nutritious meal every Saturday (except the first Saturday of the month) at Vincent United Methodist Church in Nutley. Everyone is welcome.



If you would like to help serve, please talk with Julie Franchino or Greg Sekula. Thank you!

## Called to be a Public Church

*The following is taken from:*

<https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Publicly-Engaged-Church/ELCAVotes/Called>

### How are we called to civic engagement through participation in the electoral process?

Voting is one of the most important ways Americans can be involved in our representative democracy. Through the simple act of casting an informed vote, we have the opportunity and responsibility to help make decisions that will affect our lives and the lives of our families for the next two to eight years.

### What does civic engagement mean for the church?

Scripture reveals God's presence in all realms of life, including political life. This church understands government as a means through which God works to preserve creation and build a more peaceful and just social order in a sinful world. The electoral process is one way in which we live out our affirmation of baptism to "serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus," and "to strive for justice and peace in all the earth."

For the church, the effort must include Bible study and consideration of faithful decision-making. But it also involves facilitating voter registration programs, getting people to the polls, encouraging poll watching and monitoring, instigating issue discussions, and providing holistic voter education opportunities. As citizens of the United States, we have the right, the privilege, and the responsibility to be involved in the political process. As people of God, we have been freed to love our neighbor, seek peace and justice, and care for God's creation. Faith should inform not only our participation but also how we look at public issues and interpret what is happening in political life.

Our Christian faith compels us to attend to the world through the lens of our relationship to God and to one another. As a public church, we have a responsibility to step outside our comfort zones and challenge ourselves to address issues that affect families, communities and neighbors throughout the world. As a church body, the ELCA

uses its prophetic voice boldly to address important political, social and economic issues that affect local and global communities. This work grows out of our theological understanding of God at work in the world and is articulated in the social statements of this church, which you can find at [ELCA.org/socialstatements](http://ELCA.org/socialstatements) on the Web.

**The importance of nonpartisan civic engagement:**

An important part of faithful civic engagement is abiding by the law: Any participation by churches in the electoral process must be strictly nonpartisan.

With this understood, it is still important to acknowledge that we have an amazing opportunity to strengthen the public debate around the electoral process by allowing our faith to ground our political ideals. As long as we educate ourselves about the laws surrounding our participation in electoral affairs, there are many activities that we can conduct that are both demonstrations of our Christian faith and are extremely valuable to our community and our nation!

The simple act of casting your vote can have a powerful effect. Your vote means that your elected officials are accountable to you. As a result, by voting you become an advocate for all of the change or consistency that you want to see in this country. This is the beauty of our electoral system.

**The general election is November 6<sup>th</sup>.  
If you need help getting to your  
polling place, please contact Pastor  
and she will find you a ride!**

## LIFE PASSAGES

### BIRTHS

#### Terrence H. Irwin-Pernini

Terrence Howard Irwin-Pernini was born on May 18, 2018 to Pastor Irwin and her spouse, Pastor Carmine Pernini. He is named after his paternal grandmother, Theresa Andreychak, and a dear friend and mentor of his parents, The Rev. Howard Bryant. Parents Kathryn and Carmine and siblings Tucker, Tillie, and Thomas, have delighted in the adventure of welcoming their newest family member. His baptism will be at HTLC on Sunday, October 14 during worship. Family friends Nora Melley and Jamie Konowal will be his sponsors. All are invited to join in welcoming our newest little sibling in Christ!

### DEATHS

#### Otto J. Mayr

Otto J. Mayr was born on February 17, 1917 in Augsburg, Germany to the late Otto and Friedericke (Endres) Mayr. He retired as an automotive stylist from Stauffer Chemical Company, Carlstadt, NJ, previously Toscony Corporation, NYC. He served in the German Navy during World War II as a Chief Radio Operator. After WWII, Otto worked for the United States Army Intelligence in the post war denazification program. He was a water color artist and a former member of the Clifton and Rutherford Art Associations. He was also a member of Edelweiss Passaic Folk Dance Group.

Mr. Mayr attended Pratt University, Brooklyn, NY. He moved to Nutley 59 years ago from Queens, NY. He was predeceased by his beloved wife Hedwig (Born) Mayr, a daughter Astrid, a son Bernd, a grandson John J. Jernstrom and two sisters, Walburga Keller and Fredericke Rieger. He is survived by his son Gerald R. Mayr, a daughter Birgit Jernstrom, a granddaughter Jennifer Pena and three great grandchildren: Zak Jernstrom, Zoe and Jamie Pena.

The funeral was held at Holy Trinity and presided over by Rev. Jill Fenske.

## Anne Marie Erwin

Anne Marie Erwin, 52 of Nutley, passed away on Thursday July 12, 2018. Born in Rendlesham, England, UK, she had lived in Brooklyn before coming to Nutley 16 years ago. She was predeceased by her mother, Maureen (Grant) Erwin. Anne Marie leaves her companion, Chris Amlung, her father, Phillip Erwin and his wife, Felicia, her brother, Phillip Erwin and his wife, Lucinda and her brothers, Christopher and James and her sister, Amanda, nieces, nephews, her grand-niece and many dear aunts, uncles and cousins.

Relatives and friends were received and the funeral conducted at S.W. Brown & Son Funeral Home. Cremation was private.

### THANK YOU!

#### Thanks from the Irwin-Pernini Family

*From the whole Irwin-Pernini family, I would like to share our gratitude to all of our siblings in Christ at Holy Trinity who have helped us in welcoming Terrence into our family. The surprise "sprinkle" baby shower back in April was a delight, and the gifts given invaluable. Also the meals offered and brought have both fed our stomachs with food and our hearts with good cheer. We are ever so grateful for all you have done for us!*

*With love,*

*Pastor Irwin, Pastor Pernini, Tucker, Tillie, Thomas, and Terrence*

#### A Note from Pastor Nancy Truscott

Dear friends at Holy Trinity,

*"I cannot thank you enough for all your kindness during Pastor Irwin's family leave. I truly enjoyed worshiping with you! The gift of flowers on the last Sunday stayed beautiful for a long time, amazing! I want to especially offer thanks for the Potluck/BBQ -- to Evelyn and Steve Oberndorf for hosting it and to all who provided the delicious food! And even if you came without food, thanks for coming and being a part of it!! May God bless everyone at Holy*

*Trinity as you continue to share and proclaim God's amazing love and grace through Jesus Christ!!!"*

~Pastor Nancy Truscott

## Thank you!

Thanks to those of you that helped in any way since our last Newsletter. We could not do it all without you!

## Summer Lemonade Fellowship

We had another successful Lemonade Fellowship this summer - thanks to those of you that hosted!



### KEEP IN PRAYER

Kent, Kate, Steve, Cynthia, Rich, Leona, Susan, Margaret, Sandra, Marilyn Krivak, Doris, the unemployed, under employed, people of 12-step programs, those we will tell the story of Jesus the Christ.

People are kept on the list for 3 months; please update the office with changes. Give prayer slips to an usher or the pastor before service or place in the offering plate for the following weeks' service.