

## **Holy Trinity Lutheran Church**

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



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**Pastor Kathryn Irwin**

**Council Members:**

Steve Oberndorf (President) / Ken Geiselman (Vice President)

Greg Sekula (member) / Karen Lewis (member)

Terry Graney (member/Treasurer) / Doris Schulz (member/Treasurer)

Ruth Sekula (Treasurer)

**NEWSLETTER / TIME AFTER PENTECOST / FALL 2017**

### **From Pastor Kathryn...**

My Beloved Siblings in Christ,

This year marks the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran (and greater Protestant) commemoration of Reformation Day, the legendary day in 1517 that began the Protestant Reformation with Martin Luther supposedly nailing his 95 Theses to the church door in Wittenburg, Germany. In our history as Lutherans, we have at times used the Reformation as a thing to celebrate, much like a younger sibling reveling in the things that set it apart from an older sibling, the Lutheran church has celebrated the Reformation as all the ways we aren't Catholics, sometimes with the suggestion that we are somehow superior to our brothers and sisters in Christ who have different doctrine than we do.

This year, however, as we mark 500 years of Lutheranism, but also 500 years of schism in the Church, I invite you to join me in a commemoration of the Reformation that does not celebrate it, but rather recognizes it for the moment it was, one of wonder and good news, but also one of division and suffering. This is, truly, the way of the Gospel. The message of Jesus is never one that is easily absorbed into the status quo. Listening for God's call in our lives, as Luther did, as many did before him, and many have following him, will almost always lead us through times of struggle and place us in the midst of folks who disagree with us.

Marking this anniversary of the Reformation, then, can be a time for us to not only look back at the work that Luther and his colleagues did 500 years ago to expand the reach of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the world. This can also be a time for us, as people of God, and as the congregation of God's people at Holy Trinity, to take stock of who and where we are, to consider God's call for our lives and our congregation, and to look not just back, but forward to where and how we as members of the Body of Christ are being called to serve the Gospel in the world.

To this end, as you join us on Reformation Sunday, October 29th, you will find yourself enjoying a worship service that acknowledges not only the historical roots of the Lutheran church in German and other European contexts, but that engages with the multicultural and international reach of our particular flavor of Christianity in our world today, all of which can help center us on the question of how are we being called by God today to continue the reforming spirit of the Church into the future.

The congregational council and I have entered a period of daily prayer practice to begin a discernment process which will eventually engage the whole congregation very intentionally with these questions of who we are

and where we are and how we are being called by God. To that end, I would like to invite you to also begin praying with us the prayer that follows, adapted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, our common worship book of liturgy and hymns.

May you hear the voice of our reforming God speaking to you in reply!

**God Almighty, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Grant us, we pray, to be grounded and settled in your truth by the coming of the Holy Spirit into our hearts. Give us a vision for our congregation's life and work. That which we know not, reveal; that which is wanting in us, fill up; that which we know, confirm; and keep us blameless in your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Peace be with you,  
Pastor Irwin

## WORSHIP & MUSIC

### Reformation Anniversary

October 31, the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation, is quickly approaching! We will recognize this special anniversary and "Global Church Sunday" on October 29. Our worship will use *All Times and Places*, a service reflecting our place in a global church that is always reforming. (Please see Pastor Irwin's letter.) Global Church Sunday will recognize and help support ELCA missionaries throughout the world. Over 225 ELCA missionaries serve in more than 40 countries. We have direct ties to Reverends Eric and Wendolyn Trozzo, missionaries in Malaysia, and our former Pastor, Kristin Engstrom who is supervising Young Adults in Global Mission in Senegal, West Africa. There is a Global Church collection jar on the back table in church and we will have a special offering on the 29<sup>th</sup>. You may also send a check to church or donate online:



[community.ELCA.org/globalchurch](http://community.ELCA.org/globalchurch)

Our 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary activities have included Lenten mid-week worship based on Luther's Small Catechism and our fall study of By Heart: Conversations with Martin Luther's Small Catechism. Since September, we have shared a weekly bulletin insert about Luther, his writings and work and the spread of Lutheranism to the world. A PDF (in color) of the twelve inserts is available electronically from the church office. We have a limited number of printed copies.

## WORSHIP & MUSIC

### Worship Assistants Needed



We are looking for people to assist in all areas but are especially in need of Assisting Ministers and Communion Assistants. 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 Kathryn, Scott Jones or contact Tina in the office if you are interested. Thank you.

Thanks to those already serving in worship!

### Whole Wheat Communion Bread

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

(instructions on next page)



## WORSHIP & MUSIC

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!*

## Altar Flowers

If you would like to honor or memorialize someone or a special date with altar flowers there are many dates available. The cost remains \$30; the sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in the front entryway or you may contact the office.



*Altar Flowers*

## All Saint's Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>



On All Saint's 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 November 2nd**. Please bring only one photo per person to remember, preferably framed. Photos will be returned.

## COMMUNITY IN CHRIST

### CROP Walk

The Nutley CROP

(Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) Walk will be held on **Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>**, in the Nutley Oval on Franklin Avenue. Registration is at 1:30pm, the walk is from 2-3:00pm. Last year the Township raised \$5,000.00!



**Barbara Mascola is our congregational representative. Speak to Barbara to walk or support her by making a donation.**

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 20, at 7:30 at Vincent United Methodist Church** located at 100 Vincent Place in Nutley. Rev. David LeDuc of Vincent Church will be preaching, area clergy will participate, there will be the blowing of the shofar, Mayor Scarpelli will give remarks, a Nutley Congregations Choir will sing, and the Vincent Church Wesley Ringers will play. The evening's offering will go to the new Community Overnight Respite Center, which will provide emergency overnight respite in Nutley for the homeless on frigid winter nights in a safe and caring environment. The Nutley Clergy Fellowship cordially invites the entire community to join them in lifting thanksgiving to God for our many blessings.

## COMMUNITY IN CHRIST

### Advent Music: "The Quiet Center"

Composer/pianist Thomas Keesecker will present an hour of Advent music, song and reflection on **Wednesday, November 29 at 7:30 pm.** Program will take place at Sacred Heart Church, 76 Broad St., Bloomfield.



### Fall Book Study

 Every Thursday through October 26<sup>th</sup>, join us as we study "By Heart, Conversations with Martin Luther's *Small Catechism*." We will start with a soup supper at 6:30pm, then the book study immediately after. It's not too late – we have ordered extra books if you are still interested!

### Food Pantry Update

 The Nutley Family Service Bureau is in the process of renovating their building – this will make it difficult for them to accept canned goods/toiletries (they will temporarily house their existing pantry items at St. Paul's church). They are requesting Shoprite/Target or Money Gift Cards during the transition. If anyone here is interested in donating cash (EVEN A VERY SMALL AMOUNT) please use a pew envelope and mark it "Food Pantry". Of course, you can also purchase your own gift cards. Tina will accumulate any monetary donations and purchase the gift card(s). Thanks!

### 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 and caring conversation 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. Thanks to those who help!



## IN OUR COMMUNITY

### God's Big Table Garden



Thanks to **Jay Mascola** for planting and tending our Big Table Garden this year! The vegetables/herbs grown in the garden were given to the *Vincent Care Kitchen*.

### Thank you!

Tina received the following note from the **Nutley Family Service Bureau**: *"Dear Tina, please allow us to thank you for your kind donation to Nutley Family Service Bureau (NFSB). Your generosity allows NFSB to support the nutritional needs of our food pantry patrons. Your contribution makes a meaningful difference to our local community."*



Thanks to **Boy Scouts Troop 22** for their generous canned goods donation during their annual talent show held at Holy Trinity!



We received the following note from **ELCA Mission Advancement Director, Christina Jackson**: *"Dear Holy Trinity Lutheran Church: Thank you for your recent gift of \$690.00 to support the mission and ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) through ELCA Good Gifts. Thank you for responding to God's call to walk with our brothers and sisters in Christ's name."*

### Congratulations!

**Austin Thomsen and Emily Jones Thomsen**, daughter of Scott and Debbie Jones, were married at Holy Trinity on Friday, June 30, 2017, presided by Pastor Kathryn Irwin. Austin is head of IT for the Montville Public Schools and Emily is an elementary music teacher in Jefferson Township.

A note from **Ellen Stoklosa**:

*"Just want to tell everyone that the wedding of my daughter Nicole and now her husband Jimmy was wonderful...weather, food and music was all great. And fun to have family together for such a happy event!"*