

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Share the Gospel. Overcome Barriers. Connect One to Many.



158 Vreeland Ave., Nutley, 07110 / (973) 667-0256

htlcnutley.org / office.htlcnutley@verizon.net

Pastor Kathryn Irwin

Council Members:

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

Greg Sekula (member) / Karen Lewis (member)

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

Ruth Sekula (Treasurer)

NEWSLETTER / SUMMER 2017

From Pastor Kathryn...

My Beloved Siblings in Christ,

I recently turned on our family's digital camera and was greeted with a grey screen with the simple message, "Battery exhausted." The camera would not function, it needed to be charged. This may be how many of us are feeling right now. Our batteries may be exhausted. The end of the school year, the rising temperatures with summer weather ramping up, perhaps the prospect of vacation to somewhere relaxing, all of this seasonal stuff on top of a political climate that continues to be antagonistic from every side, violence and poverty and the other social sins of our world constantly rearing their heads, and our own daily personal struggles with family life, work life, financial stability, health concerns, and all the rest, all of these things might leave us, like the camera, with our faces blank with the message implied, "Battery exhausted."

As a Church, we are now in the season after Pentecost. We have celebrated our three major Holy Days, the birth of Jesus at Christmas, the resurrection of Christ at Easter, and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. We've run through the whole cycle of emotions and events, and perhaps as members of the congregation, too, we might sometimes feel that our batteries are exhausted.

This is not good!

We are called by God to care for one another and the whole of creation. We are given the charge to bear God's creative and redeeming word to all the world! We cannot do this work if our batteries are exhausted!

So let us find ways to help each other keep our batteries charged. This, too, is part of our baptismal calling and connection to one another. Let us find ways in which we can come together to support one another, to encourage one another, and to energize one another.

In these months of summer, months of (hopefully) rest and refreshment, in a season of our ecology where we see things grow and flourish and produce fruit, let us do the same. As a congregation, as brothers and sisters and siblings in Christ, we are called to be here for each other, to find the ways we can support and sustain each other. As we gather together each Sunday for worship, take some time before and after the service to reach out to your fellow members in Christ's body. If you can't come to worship and need someone to reach out to you, let us know with a phone call or an email!

When we care for each other, and reach out to each other in our needs,
we will find our batteries are much less likely to be "exhausted."

May God's Peace be with you,

Pastor Kat

Worship & Music

Installation of Council

On June 4 during worship we prayed for the newly elected members of our church council. We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these siblings will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

We also thank **Judi Lovas** for her many dedicated years as Treasurer and **Rebecca Lovas** for her time as Secretary.

Reformation Anniversary



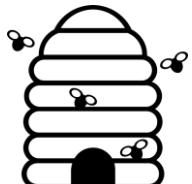
The year two-thousand seventeen marks the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and churches around the world are commemorating it in many different ways. We are encouraged to celebrate ecumenism and to rejoice in our similarities, rather than our differences. Our church is a reforming church! At Holy Trinity we have already begun to mark the occasion.

In October, we hosted a Reformation Book Fair and several of our members took advantage of half-price offers on books about Martin Luther and the Reformation. In October and November we sang two new settings of Psalm 46 (the basis for Luther's "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"), winning compositions from an Association of Lutheran Church Musicians contest. During Lent, our mid-week services were based upon Luther's Small Catechism. In the fall, we will be offering an adult education series called "By Heart," focusing on the delving deeply into Luther's Small Catechism, a fundamental source of our Lutheran tradition. Stay tuned for more information about this important year in our church's history.

Community in Christ

Easter Plants & Animals

Your Easter generosity purchased: **230 Chicks, 9 Beehives, and 2 Sheep.** These precious animals will be shared with our sisters and brothers in the U.S. and around the world and will equip them to support themselves, send their children to school, and share their gifts with others. Each family will also receive educational training in animal husbandry. You also purchased **8 Lilies, 5 Tulips and 6 daffodils** to beautify the Sanctuary and **8 bunches of pompoms** for our Living Cross. **Thank you!**



Food & Care For Us Who Are Hungry

Jesus said that when you feed the hungry and the outcast, you feed me. It is becoming increasingly difficult to ensure that all God's children are fed. You are encouraged to add **1 food and 1 care item** to your grocery list each month. Items can be placed in the blue bin in the front entryway.

June Food/Care Items: Rice / Razors

July Food/Care Item: Cereal / Shampoo & Conditioner

August Food/Care Item: Peanut Butter & Jelly / Deodorant

Items are distributed through the Nutley Family Service Bureau and Vincent Church Care Pantry.

Serving at the Vincent Care Kitchen

Holy Trinity help to serve at the Care Kitchen the last Saturday of every month. The Care 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.





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 call/email the office.

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 so that we may celebrate your birthday.

Holy Tomatoes

Will you help maintain our garden? Please find the sign-up sheet (or call/email the office) to help on one or more weeks. The tomatoes & herbs grown in the garden are given to the Vincent Care Kitchen.



BBQ On June 25

After worship Sunday, June 25, we will celebrate with a BBQ/Potluck. Please find the

sign-up sheet (or call/email the office) to bring food, help and to let us know you are attending.

Summer Lemonade Fellowship

Please join us after worship for Lemonade Fellowship downstairs in Fellowship Hall on July 9th, July 23, August 6 and August 20. July 9th is still available if you'd like to host.



Graduating?

 Know someone that is graduating this year? Let us know and we'll announce it in our next newsletter.

Cross Roads Giant Church Picnic

Sunday, August 20, 2017

Registration starts 2pm/Closing Worship, 6:30pm

Cost: \$12 per person/\$35 max per household

Join them for the annual End-of-Summer bash!

Bring your family, friends and congregation to this fun filled day! Experience all your favorite camp things: giant swing, rock wall, canoeing, worship, awesome food and your favorite picnic games! Stay till the end of the closing camp-style worship featuring a performance by the incredibly talented **Rachel Kurtz**.



For more info and to register, visit:
www.CrossRoadsRetreat.com

Cross Roads Camp & Retreat Center
29 Pleasant Grove Rd., Port Murray, N.J. 07865
(908) 832-7264

Summer & Fall Book Studies

Summer Soup & Study - Heaven & Hell

July 20, 27, August 3, 10 at 6:30pm

Join us for a Soup & Study series this summer on heaven and hell. There are many images and ideas in our popular culture of what we can expect to see after we die. But what does the Bible actually say about these things? Find out this summer! Sign up in worship or contact Pastor Irwin.



Fall Soup & Study - What Makes Us Lutherans?

Thursdays in September and October at 6:30pm

In preparation for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, let's review what makes us particular as Lutherans, using a resource called *By Heart: Conversations with Martin Luther's Small Catechism*.

In Our Community

In Memoriam

Grace F. Viola, 92, of Nutley, N.J., passed away on Saturday, May 6, 2017, at her home. The Funeral was held at Holy Trinity on May 11, presided by Pastor Kathryn Irwin. Born in Jersey City, N.J., the daughter of the late Henry and Clara (Adler) Fiedler and stepdaughter of the late Ella Fiedler, Grace came to Nutley when she was two years old.

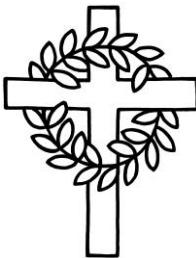
Grace was a longtime member of her beloved church, Nutley's Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, where she became our sister in Christ through baptism on December 21, 1924.

She graduated from Nutley High School in 1943, and received her R.N. from Newark City Hospital in 1946, where she trained as a cadet nurse in preparation for the war. Grace worked subsequently in several hospitals in Essex County. She was a member of the Rotarians of Nutley. Grace received the prestigious Paul Harris Fellow Award from the Nutley Rotary Club and was a gold card member of the Alumni Association of Newark City Hospital. The former Nutley Chapter of the Red Cross Chapter presented Grace with the Clara Barton Award for her long service at the blood bank. In recent years, Grace volunteered at the Nutley Family Service Thrift Shop.

The beloved wife of 50 years of the late Joseph J. Viola, and mother of their late infant daughter, Laurel, Grace is survived by her daughters, Claire Menza and her husband, William, and Lynne Viola, Ph.D., and her partner, Colleen Craig, and her beloved grandchildren, Justin Menza, Timothy Menza, M.D./Ph.D., Jessica Menza, and Gillian Menza and her wife, Ashley Kean.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions were made to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church or the Rotary Scholarship Fund.

Grace's family recently sent us this note: "To the members of the Holy Trinity Congregation: Recently, because of Grace's illness, our family



came to know many of those in the Holy Trinity community. Without exception, those we met were caring and supportive people. Because of those interactions, we came to understand why Grace was so devoted to both her church and her fellow parishioners. We thank you for all you have done for both Grace and our family."

The Menza and Viola Families

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Mrs. Sigrid (nee Marby) Spinelli, 87, of Nutley, NJ, passed away on Monday, May 8, 2017 at Doylestown Hospital, Doylestown, PA. There was a funeral service celebrated at the Biondi Funeral Home, Nutley, presided by Pastor Kathryn Irwin.

Mrs. Spinelli was born in Berlin, Germany and resided on Crescent Terrace, Belleville for over 65 years. For the past five years she was a resident of the Parkside Apartments, Nutley. Past employers included Westinghouse Corporation, Bloomfield, and Muir's Department Store, East Orange. For over 15 years she was the senior sales associate in the men's department of Hahne & Company's main store in Newark. She was a member of the Bethany Lutheran Church, Belleville for over 60 years where she was a member of the choir and the altar guild. Since 2014 she has been a member of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Nutley. She was a longtime and active member of the Belleville and Nutley Senior Citizens Clubs.

She is survived by her beloved children Jeanne Velardo of Tequesta, Florida, Larry Spinelli of Arlington, VA and Janet Griego of Furlong, PA; and also her five cherished grandchildren and two precious great-grandchildren. Mrs. Spinelli is predeceased by her husband Frank Spinelli and her brother Ernst Marby.

Martin Futyma Jr, of Glen Ridge, passed away on May 21st, 2017. He was 73.

Martin was the proud owner of Ferti-Soil Turf Supply for 35 years, and a longtime member of both New Jersey Turf Grass Association, and The Golf Course Superintendent Association of New Jersey. He enjoyed spending time with his family, furry companions and his trips to Atlantic City.

Martin was predeceased by his parents Martin and Rose Futyma, and his daughter Catherine Futyma-Brown. He leaves behind his wife of 53 years, Elizabeth, daughter Stacy Christopoulos and her husband Peter, a son-in-law Michael Brown, along with his five grandchildren; Matthew, Alyssa, Victoria, Nicholas (Christopoulos), and Maddy (Brown). He also leaves behind his sister, Rose Marie Petronaci and her husband Tony, along with two nephews Anthony and Tommy. A funeral service was held on May 25th at the Halpin-Bitecola Brookdale Funeral Home, Bloomfield.

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Congratulations!



On May 28, 2017, we welcomed ***Ellie Rose Reiss***, daughter of Rick Reiss & Alicia Rose Hudnett into God's family

through the sacrament of Holy Baptism. As Ellie's new sisters and brothers in Christ, we have committed to pray for and encourage Ellie in her life of faith.

Sally and Martin Mueller Updated Contact Information

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