



The Tidings

www.htelc.com

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Come Together, Grow in Faith, Serve the LORD

Worship Schedule

Our Contemporary Worship will be Sundays at 8:30am and our Traditional Worship will be at 11:00am with GIFT occurring the second Sunday of every month (worship will be held at 9:30am on GIFT Sundays). Don't forget our Midweek Worship on **Wednesdays at 6:00pm!** Worship Schedule for October is as follows:

Sunday, October 4:

8:30am Contemporary Worship
(9:45am Fellowship)
11:00am Traditional Worship

Sunday, October 11: GIFT

9:30am Combined Worship for GIFT Sunday
(10:15am Fellowship)
Followed by GIFT Gathering

Sunday, October 18: Commitment Sunday

8:30am Contemporary Worship
(9:45am Fellowship)
11:00am Traditional Worship

Sunday, October 25: Reformation & Confirmation

9:30am Combined Worship
(10:15am Fellowship)

Faith Formation Team

GIFT Gatherings: Our first GIFT Gathering will take place on **Sunday, September 13th and Friday, September 18th.** On Sunday, our congregation will gather for **one, short worship service at 9:30am,**

and our time together will flow into GIFT. We'll have brunch together; serve as the audience for an interactive game show called "Who's That Disciple?" And then we'll break into age groups to explore what it means for us to follow Jesus in our daily lives. When we come back together, we'll have an opportunity to share what we learned, to talk about how to take faith practices home with us, and to pray together. Friday evening will follow a similar pattern and will begin at 6pm. One of the best gifts that God has given us is each other, and we hope that these gatherings will be a gift for you and your family. Please sign-up on the Kiosk in the Gathering Area. We hope you will join us!

Pastor's Article

What about FAITH?

The world in which we live and breathe focuses most of our time and efforts on what we do. Give two grown men the opportunity to meet and someplace in the conversation will come the question, "so what do you do?" I suspect that the same sort of question is somehow asked by women as well. Doing is truly the focus of our existence in so many ways. Even the trend of vacationing is now to be an experience that focuses on the doing.

Yet faith is a gift from God and is not about doing at all! Faith is trusting God's promises for us as real and true for our lives. And the promise is that we are loved into eternal life by God's own doing-- because, this is God's way of being. God loves us! Specifically, God loves you!

Jesus speaks to our hearts and minds in John 6, inviting us to take into ourselves himself – we are called upon to eat his flesh and drink his blood. Martin Luther understood eating and drinking to mean believe—to trust. And, this is faith-trusting God's promises for our lives. And in trusting we live lives shaped and formed by God's Good News for us. Pope John XXIII said, "Christian faith is this: Serenity and inner calm while offering oneself to God." Those words speak volumes for us – serenity and inner calm are aspects of our being loved by God. Peace beyond understanding that holds us as we live through life – both the easy and not so easy experiences.

As we enter into GIFT (Growing In Faith Together), may we "come together" as God's people in this community. May we "grow in faith" – grow in the serenity and inner calm found in Jesus' love for us. And from this may we go forth to "serve the Lord."

Peace in Christ our Lord,

Reverend Richard A. Rhoades

President's Article

If you haven't visited our new website, you are in for a treat. We owe such a debt of gratitude to Mark Edwards and Holly and Heidi Scammon for the exciting updates and to Ray and Sue Masse for the foundational work. In this new day and age our website will be the first impression many of our future friends and members will have of Holy Trinity. And it's a colorful, lively, informative and most importantly engaging first impression.

I especially appreciate the ability to get in deeper and read the reasons behind the faith, the Liturgy, the history of Christianity and to peruse the wealth of resources that Mark Edwards has so thoughtfully laid out.

It is also a wonderful reference for Council and Ministry Team members detailing team missions, interactions and members. Soon we won't need to carry around those 4" binders anymore!

On September 13 we begin our new "Grow In Faith Together" journey - an effort in the works since the 2010 Visioning Cottage meetings with major pieces brought together each year since. Till then, look for mailings, brochures and your friendly Council members/GIFT leaders with the "Ask me about GIFT" buttons to learn more informally about what it's all about. God meant for us to share and grow in faith together, for Him, with gentleness and respect.

Rob Leatherbee

Council President

BEHIND THE SCENES AT GIFT

For the last nine months or so, members of our faith community have been hard at work dreaming about and preparing for GIFT. By now you've probably heard that GIFT is coming. At this point, though, I am guessing there are still some questions about what GIFT is!

GIFT (Growing in Faith Together) is a fun and different way of doing faith formation at Holy Trinity. GIFT is structured around time for everyone to play and learn together and share a meal together. We have time for everyone to break out into age groups, and time for us all to share what we have learned as a large group. On Sunday mornings for the next couple of weeks, we have members of our Faith Formation Team and Church Council available to answer questions you have about GIFT after worship in the Gathering Area.

What we have realized as we have wrestled with how God is calling us to learn about the Bible and living our faith in the world is that we learn best when we are together. One of the best gifts God has given us is each other. While it's important for adults to spend time with other adults and for teenagers and children to spend time with other teens and children, God is at work in exciting ways when we are together. Spending time learning together is the heart of our GIFT Gatherings. The youngest among us teach us joy and childlike faith. Teens are amazing at the way they bring important questions to the table about who God is and *just what is this really about, anyways?* The current generation of young adults have so much to teach us about serving others and getting outside of the church building. Adults of so many ages give the gift of perspective and have stories to tell about how God has been at work in their lives. One of the best gifts the adults of our community can give is to show us that even at 40, 50 or 80 years old – they still have questions, too. God has so much to teach us in and through each other, and we are excited to learn together.

Behind the scenes, things have been picking up speed as we prepare for our first GIFT Gatherings on Sunday, September 13th or on Friday, September 18th. Our Property Team has

created a huge backdrop to be used for our skits and All-Ages Learning. In September, this will be the backdrop for our game show "Who's That Disciple?" (Please note: this is going to be awesome! You won't want to miss it!)

Members of our Faith Formation Team have been decorating the backdrop, ironing details for our meal together (Leslie Darling's famous chicken!), gathering people to serve at GIFT, and even creating a new GIFT Information Center. You'll find the details of everything you need to know (menu, schedule, and events) for each upcoming GIFT Gathering at the new rolling board in our Gathering Area.

More than anything else going on behind the scenes, our leaders have been praying for GIFT. We pray that this time of growing in faith together would be a blessing for our faith community. We hope for new friendships to be formed and for old ones to be strengthened, for you to know that you are an important part of our faith community and that God shows up in exciting ways when we are together. We can't wait to see what God will do through all of us at GIFT, and we hope to see you there!



God's Work. Our Hands Day of Service 2015!

God's Work Our Hands will be held on Sunday, September 20 in which we will all join together to do service projects. If you participated last year you know how rewarding this can be. This year the projects are:

1. **Cleanup at Mt. Agamenticus**, located about 25 minutes from the church on Mountain Rd., York, ME. Bring a picnic lunch, gloves

and water. Picnic will be at 12:30 and there will be a Safety orientation at 1:00. More details to follow.

2. **Singing at Rochester Manor** in Rochester, NH. The Nursing/Rehab Center is located on Whitehall Rd., behind Frisbee Memorial Hospital. More details to follow.
3. **Quilt Tying at the Church.** The quilts are donated to individuals and organization in our community.
4. **Food Items for Homeless.** We will be collecting materials and assembling the kits at church. More details below.
5. **Supporting the projects by lifting us up in prayer** as we undertake the projects. Last year we had several people supporting us with prayer. Perhaps you felt the support.

Locate your tee- shirts. Start planning what you want to do!

Food Items for Homeless:



FEED THE HUNGRY

With a resounding victory you as a congregation chose as number 1 making bags to feed the homeless for a service project on September 20. The list follows and we would appreciate it if you could bring in any of the items listed. **We will not be collecting for OB in**

September but will be collecting items for homeless bags. Please put the items in the boxes under the mailboxes. Thank you so much.

Food Items for Homeless:

Canned or vacuumed packed:

- Meats
- Fish
- Beans (baked and other beans)
- Vegetables of all kinds
- Fruits of all kinds
- Pasta meals in a can
- Can opener

Cartons, bottles, or cans (nonperishable)

Milk

Juices

Water

Peanut butter & Jelly

Cereals of all kinds

Personal Items for the homeless:

Tooth brush & tooth paste

Mouthwash & dental floss

Bar soap

Razors & shaving cream

Face cloths or luffas

Shampoo & Conditioner

Small brush & comb

Deodorant

Q-tips

Feminine products

Wednesday Morning

Study ^{the Bible} with us

Bible Study



Bible Study will reconvene on Wednesday, September 9 at 9:30 am. The group will meet on Wednesdays from 9:30-11:00 am. All are welcome!

NEW ENGLAND SYNOD COMPANION TRIP TO JORDAN AND THE HOLY LAND

December 29 – January 14

Registration Deadline: Sept. 1



Later this year, the New England Synod will reaffirm its partnership with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land with a two-week companion trip to the Middle East. The trip is planned for Dec. 29, 2015-Jan. 14, 2016. The all-inclusive cost is \$3,700.

How is the trip planning going?

Pastor Tim Keyl is consulting with ELCA colleagues and Palestinian contacts to map out an itinerary. We will have a guide for most of our trip and a chartered bus. We will stay in Lutheran or Christian Guesthouses, based on double occupancy (you can pick a roommate or Pastor Keyl can pick one for you). If you request a single, the cost will be slightly higher.

What does the \$3,700 cost cover?

The cost covers lodging with breakfast, and the total cost includes round-trip airfare from Newark Airport, dinners, room, tips, and all other fees. Any additional costs will be for lunch, and flight from a different originating airport. Once we book the flights, Pastor Keyl will provide information about travel insurance, which will incur additional cost. For previous trips, Pastor Keyl made arrangements for most in the group to travel by van or train from his church, Bethesda - New Haven, Conn., and will be glad to do that this time.

The only documentation you will need to bring on the trip is a current passport. Please provide Pastor Keyl with the name that is on your passport, the passport number, your mailing address, and phone number(s).

An initial \$500 down payment (check payable to the New England Synod, memo "2015/16 Companion Synod Trip") is due by Sept. 1. Two additional payments of \$1,700 are due Oct. 1 and Dec. 1 to the same address with the same memo. Send to New England Synod, P.O. Box 13, Worcester, MA 01614-0013

To learn more about our Holy Land partnerships, see www.elca.org/peacenotwalls and www.elcjh.org



J.O.Y. GROUP

Welcome to all past, present and potential J.O.Y participants as we start a new year of events. As mentioned in the August Tidings, we will be meeting

on the 3rd Tuesday of the month this year (with a few unavoidable exceptions). The first fall meeting will be held on **Tuesday, September 15 at 12 noon.** Dave Mercer will be sharing his music with us for this first meeting of the year – having a chance to hear from someone who performs and writes inspirational music will be a blessing for all. Lunch will be a pot-luck – **please sign up on the Kiosk** in the Gathering Area telling us whether you're able to bring a main dish, salad, or dessert, and if you can help set up or clean up.

Reserve October 13 (2nd Tuesday of the month) on your calendars for a trip to Calumet. We've been advised that if we were to wait until later in the month, the foliage would not be as spectacular. Details will be forthcoming later in September. We look forward to seeing those who have been with us in past years, as well as those who might want to give it a try for the first time.

Immanuel Indonesian Lutheran Church

Once upon a time in 2000, three Indonesian families (Datau, Mewengkang and Pakasi) + Mario Sumolang & Tommy Monareh, after having some conversations about their wishes to have Sunday worship in Indonesian language, decided to form an Indonesian Fellowship. On Sunday, September 10, 2000 – the first Immanuel Indonesian Protestant fellowship was held in a function room of White Cedars, Portsmouth, NH.



Tommy Monareh came to the U.S. when he was a church council / elder in a Protestant Church in Jakarta, Indonesia. Sample documentations were sent by the church as part of helping the foundation of a new church. The first church councils / elders were Ethmy Pakasi, Vonny Datau, John Mewengkang, Eliazer Pentury (died in 2015), Yenny Pitoy and Tommy Monareh. They invited Indonesian Pastors who were in the U.S. to take turns doing the Sunday sermons.

After several months of holding Sunday worships in the function room of an apartment building and hotel, Ethmy Pakasi visited Holy Trinity Lutheran Church where she was received pleasantly by Pastor Opderbecke and we were invited to have the worship at Holy Trinity in the afternoon. Since then, Imanuel Indonesian Protestant Church has Sunday worship regularly. The congregation of Holy Trinity has continually through the years been very open and helpful to Imanuel. Bill Clapp and Linda Edwards were among others who helped the Imanuel congregation in many ways including having English classes.

Not only that, the Kasiks assisted our efforts to become part of the ELCA. As an introduction to Indonesia, Imanuel gave a performance of Indonesian culture, dances and music (kolintang) at the 2005 Global Mission Assembly in Amherst, MA. Imanuel's 20 minute performance became the lead way a conversation in the ELCA especially in the New England synod. After a long process, Imanuel was received as an ELCA congregation in 2007 and formally introduced in the New England Synod Assembly. With God's help, as well as Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Imanuel Indonesian Lutheran Church will celebrate its 15th anniversary. May God bless us all.

Reach the Beach

Camp Calumet Annual Fundraiser

Holy Trinity has been asked by Camp Calumet to serve as a sponsor for this year's "Reach the

Beach" fundraiser. Holy Trinity has been paired with a female runner, Kim Connor who has prepared a special video to thank us. If you would like to view the video, please go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L86u00jjJco&feature=youtu.be>. We will include Kim in our prayers and will also conduct a free will offering for the fundraiser on **Sunday, September 20**.

Reach the Beach is an annual race that is organized to help raise funds for Camp Calumet's Annual Fund. The race will occur Friday, September 18 – Saturday, September 19.

If you would like to know more about the fundraiser, you can visit their website at <http://www.calumet.org/rtb2015>.

Confirmation

Confirmation is back in full swing! We are looking forward to learning and playing with our confirmation students and their families on the 2nd Sunday and 4th Sunday of each month. We've got a great year planned, and a retreat coming up in Wells, Maine at the end of September. Holy Trinity's prayers for our 7th and 8th grade confirmands are always appreciated!

Men's Group

The Men's Group will resume their monthly breakfast on Saturday, September 12 at 7:30 am. Men of all ages are invited to attend!



Dover Friendly Kitchen



Holy Trinity serves at the Dover Friendly Kitchen at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Dover on the **4th Tuesday of every month**. If you would

like to bake cookies or serve, please contact Bonnie Sanders or Jill Schock. All are Welcome!

Letter of Thanks



Thank you for your prayers, cards and calls during my recovery. It has been truly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Leah Waldschlagel

Visitation Ministry



Visitation Ministry

The Holy Spirit has graciously bestowed upon each one of us unique spiritual gifts. If you have the gift of compassion, mercy, or helping, then please consider being one of our visitors. You might find

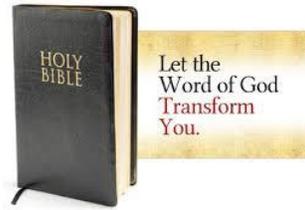
it difficult to believe that by making a simple visit you can transform a person's day from just another day, to a day of joy. This is exactly what often happens when one makes a visit to a shut-in.

The Visitation Ministry is a program which is a part of the Caring Ministry. It was designed to help those who are unable to get out on a regular basis, to know that we, at Holy Trinity, care for them and that they are not forgotten.

We never know when we will be adding new people to our list so it would be nice to have people who are interested and waiting to make a visit. If you have not been a visitor before, please prayerfully consider giving it a try. To those who have taken the time to make a visit, THANK YOU!

If you would like more information, please call Jill Larson

Bible Study Fellowship (BSF)



Women's Evening Bible Study

Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) is an in-depth, interdenominational

Bible study for women of all ages and backgrounds. For those who travel, you can get lessons online. If you have any questions or want more details, please contact Sharon Stone. To learn more about BSF, visit their website at www.bsfindernational.org.

We will be meeting in Portsmouth (location to be determined) Starting Thursday, September 17 from 6:45pm - 8:30pm. Hope to see you in class!

Sharon Stone

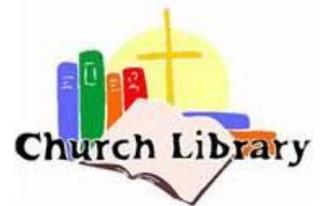
Library News

Dear Friends,
I will be leaving the position of Librarian at the end of December. It has been a privilege to serve you in our Library for over 11 years. I will miss visiting with you there on Sunday mornings.

I leave with a sense of accomplishment and the satisfaction of seeing one cast-off bookshelf grow into a lively place where learning and growing in faith are fostered. My prayer is that the Holy Trinity Library will remain alive and well.

Of all my tasks in my 43 years here, this has been my favorite. Many thanks to you for believing in the Library Ministry and for encouraging and helping me to care for our precious books.

Most Sincerely, Barbara Galle

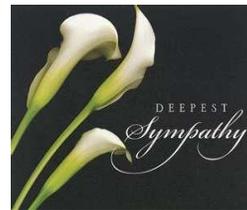


August Worship Attendance

8/2/15	148
8/5/15	22 (midweek)
8/9/15	166
8/12/15	15 (midweek)
8/16/15	152
8/19/15	17 (midweek)
8/23/15	165
8/26/15	11 (midweek)
8/30/15	160

Church Office Hours are:
Monday – Friday 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Christian Sympathy:



Christian Sympathy: To Nancy Hansen, Bill Clapp and family upon the death of Nancy's mother, Alice Giesler, on Tuesday, September 8, 2015.



September 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6-7pm Summer Choir Rehearsal	2 6pm Midwk Worship	3 8:30am Thurs Group	4 7:30pm AA	5 8:30-10:30am AA
Visitation Sunday 6 9:30am Worship 2:30pm Imanuel	Labor Day 7 Office Closed 6pm Sounds of Seacoast 6pm Stewardship	8 6-7pm Summer Choir Rehearsal 7pm A/V Team	9 9:30am Bible Study 6pm Midwk Worship	10 8:30am Thurs Group	11 7:30pm AA	12 7:30am Men's Breakfast 8:30-10:30am AA
BPClinic 13 9:30 am Worship 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am GIFT Gathering 2:30pm Imanuel	14 6pm Sounds of Seacoast	15 Noon JOY Group 6-7pm 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 7-8pm 11:00 Choir Rehearsal	16 9:30am Bible Study 6pm Midwk Worship	17 8:30am Thurs Group 5:30pm Worship Team Meeting 6pm Church Council	18 6-8pm GIFT Gathering 7:30pm AA	19 8:30-10:30am AA
Bring A Friend Day 20 8:30am Worship 9:45am Fellowship 11am Worship "God's Work Our Hands" Service Day 2:30pm Imanuel	21 6pm Sounds of Seacoast 6pm Worship Team	22 6-7pm 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 7-8pm 11:00 Choir Rehearsal 4pm Dover Friendly Kitchen	23 9:30am Bible Study 6pm Midwk Worship	24 8:30am Thurs Group	25 7:30pm AA <i>Confirmation Retreat</i>	26 8:30-10:30am AA <i>Confirmation Retreat</i>
27 8:30am Worship 9:45am Fellowship 11am Worship 2:30pm Imanuel <i>Confirmation Retreat</i>	28 6pm Sounds of Seacoast	29 6-7pm 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 7-8pm 11:00 Choir Rehearsal 4pm Dover Friendly Kitchen	30 9:30am Bible Study 6pm Midwk Worship			

Assistant Treasurer: Barry Philbrick – Disbursement and financial reports.
Financial Secretary: Nancy Johnson – Receipts and individual member giving reports.
Property: David Mercer – Maintenance and improvement of the church property.
Worship & Music: Leslie-Lynne Darling – Arrangement of worship service and associated music
Caring Ministry: Judy Evans & Sue Althof – Promote the care and wellbeing of members and their families.
Social Ministry: Elinor Young – Response to human needs outside of the congregation.
Adult Fellowship: Tom & Michelle Bernth– Care and fellowship activities for members.
Welcoming: Linda Edwards & Ed Mallon– Christian witness and addition of new members.
Faith Formation Team: Joe & Sue Reny – Intergenerational gatherings for our congregation.
Visitation Ministry: Jill Larson – Outreach program for those who can't regularly attend worship.
Stewardship: Russ Hilliard – Coordinate the spirit of giving & stewardship campaign.
Pastor: Rev. Richard A. Rhoades
Minister to Families & Youth: Meghan Richter
Office and Communications Coordinator: Jennifer Kunz – Newsletters, bulletins, and Church Office.
Bishops: Rev. James Hazelwood – New England Synod.
Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Eaton – ELCA Presiding.

Church Council Members –

President: Rob Leatherbee
Vice President: Martha Belanger
Treasurer: Dan Scammon
Secretary: Vacant
Council at Large: Scott Carson, Nancy Hansen, Jerry Schock
Past President: Don Sweet

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