

The Tidings

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Come Together, Grow in Faith, Serve the LORD



We are happy to share the good news that Meghan & Eric Richter had a baby boy around 9:00 AM on April 1. Eli Richter came into the world weighing in at 8 lbs. 14.5 oz. Meghan was formerly our Minister of Families & Youth.



Happy Mother's Day to all of our mothers on Sunday, May 8th



Starting Sunday, June 5th through Sunday September 4th, we will only be holding one service at 9:30.

Thank you for donating

On behalf of the Congregational Council and all the members of Holy Trinity, we would like to acknowledge and thank an anonymous donor for their generosity and kindness that they have shown to Holy Trinity. Because of their donation to the church, the Altar Guild will be purchasing new robes and various other items needed for worship. The Tanzania Scholarship Fund will also profit from their donation. Because of their donation, many lives will be touched. Thank you again for this gracious gift.

Pastor George's Article "Gratitude"

A TV station here in New England decided to interview a woman who had turned 105. What was her secret, they asked. A typical laconic New Englander, she replied, "Gratitude." The German mystic, Meister Eckhart, once said "If the only prayer you pray is a prayer of thanks, that is enough."

Since Judy's untimely death during Holy Week, the word that comes regularly in my mind is "thanks." St. Paul said "I thank God every time I think of you," and I could say that about Holy Trinity as well. Since Judy's death, the outpouring of prayers, support and care has been enormous. I have received prayers from every church I have served as an intentional pastor. I have received hundreds of cards. There have been many gifts in Judy's name to Animal Shelters and the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill and even the gift of a friendship bracelet in Judy's name. All I can say to all is, "Thank you." Being lifted up by literally a thousand people in prayer makes a difference. Everyone who asks me how I and my family are doing, it makes a difference.

This does not mean that I am not grieving or that I don't feel the loss. I do not mean that I do not ask the questions that everyone asks at the time of death. These subjects I will cover in a wider ranging way in my blogs on *The Passing Parson* on our web site. But know that I am grateful for each one of you, for you are the Body of Christ in this place!

Blessings,

George

Volunteer Task Force

As co-chair of the Volunteer Task Force, I want to thank the members of the VTF for all of the hard work in planning and putting together the following special programs in April: GIFT- Discerning Your Spiritual Gifts; Volunteer Expo; and Sundae Sunday and Carnival: Sue Bridge, Betty Smith, Margareta Claesson, Dave Arrington, Dave Smith and Rob Leatherbee.

We want to thank the Faith Formation Team for the GIFT program, all of the team leaders who set up wonderful displays for the Volunteer Expo, and for all who helped with the Carnival: Bob Hollister, Bill Larson, the VTF team, and a very special thanks to Pastor George for the wonderful idea and all the games and prizes. It would not have been a success without his help!!

We want to thank each of you who filled out a Time and Talent Commitment Form. We were so pleased to see so many of you volunteering! Someone will be in touch with you within a few weeks. If you have not yet filled one out it is never too late. You may do so online or grab a paper copy at church. What response will you have to God's Blessings?

thank
you!

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!

Pastor Grace's Article

It's been quite a couple of weeks at Holy Trinity. In the midst of Holy Week and Easter, the congregation was shocked by the sudden death of Judy Koch. Then I got into a car accident on the afternoon of Easter Sunday, and we didn't even take a break for the traditional "Low Sunday" after Easter, but forged ahead with the transition process by having the presentation of the CAT survey results between services. So I can imagine that quite a number of folks are feeling pretty worn out. Holy Trinity has been going through a lot for quite a few months now, and Sunday's CAT presentation raised yet more issues about morale, direction, and possible simmering conflict.

With all of this floating around, I want to say again, and in much more detail, what I said at the CAT survey session, which is that while there are certainly issues that need to be addressed, Holy Trinity is fundamentally a wonderful, healthy community of faith.

I know this when I see:

- Scott Carson being the narrator at GIFT in March and interacting with the kids at the front of the sanctuary (and, in general, adults building relationships with children and youth from different households).
- Jill Schock and Judy Evans (and many others) jumping into action to help Judy Koch after her collapse on Maundy Thursday.
- A whole table of people at the February GIFT electing nine-year-old Nathaniel Wesley to be their table leader as though it's the most natural thing in the world, and then gently helping him through the role.
- The many people who have sympathized with my difficulties as a single clergy mom, and have been kind to and helpful with Peter,

even when he's having very loud and public meltdowns.

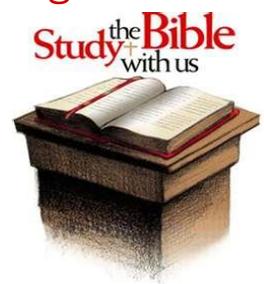
- Franklyn Vosburg spontaneously organizing a prayer circle for Pastor George at the end of worship, before he traveled to Pennsylvania to bury Judy.
- Martha Belanger, without batting an eyelash, arranging babysitting and a hotel for me and Peter so I could be fully present for the funeral and the following morning's worship.
- Pat Woollett buying fruit, and Gisela Wemple making a casserole, to take the burden of grocery shopping and cooking off their hobbled pastor.
- The many people who have thoughtfully responded to my sermons and made it clear that they were engaging with scripture more deeply as a result.
- The simple fact that people step forward to take on necessary tasks; have good ideas and follow through on them; and when they say they're going to do something, actually do it.

This all may seem like business as usual to you, but in many congregations that's not the case.

Of course there's still work to do, and of course there are times when we disagree and screw up – the church is, after all, made up of people, who by definition are not perfect. But the fundamentals are very sound. And I am very much looking forward to walking with you all through some hard but necessary conversations, and continuing to be surprised by the amazing ways you live out your faith in your life together!

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

All are welcome to join in as we continue our study. Classes typically run from 9:30am to 11:00am.



President's Article

Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future.

Proverbs 19:20

April was a very busy and exciting time here at Holy Trinity. We are exploring all of our new options and changes the Volunteer Task Force has suggested and also celebrating the past volunteers and the new challenges we are going to try. Some of these may be successful, some might be failures, but either way it is alright that we tried. We also heard some of the results from the CAT Survey. It's interesting how some of the results correspond to the "Joys and Concern" we collected in December.

The CAT Survey and our adult forum on "Joy and Concerns" is just the beginning of our conversation on how we want to



proceed and where we want to go. We know where God wants us to go but we need to figure out how he wants us to get there. Talking to one another is important. Yes, we have conflicts but all organizations do. Conflict is normal in any human relationship, and the church is no exception. The ideal of perpetual peace in the church—without conflict—is unscriptural and unrealistic. Differing viewpoints are perfectly normal and there is no right or wrong answers. Everyone's opinion is important. A conflict occurs because people choose to look at matters in different ways and it is important that we express our ideas so we can look at everyone's way.

One thing that I do encourage everyone to do is to talk to council members or members of the transition team. Let them know your thoughts and ideas. If you don't let anyone know how you feel, we can't help. You may not be the only one feeling

that way. We are trying to address all issues and concerns but we can't if we don't know them. If you do put a reply to a blog or a comment in the box please put your name on it so we know who we can speak to. You may have a great idea but we may not know how to implement it, and if we don't know who made it, we can't ask for help.

It's like if someone gives me a recipe and all they give me are the ingredients, I probably won't be able to make it, but if I know who gave me the recipe, I can ask for the directions and then I can start making the recipe. The same occurs with your comments; if we know who has made them, we would like to speak to you and make sure we know exactly what you are saying. Remember, we are all family and every comment or concern is important to us. The transition team is looking for everyone's input as they begin their process of filling out our Ministry Site Profile. Please speak to them if you have any comments or concerns.

It is important that we listen to what the Lord has told everyone. He might be telling me one thing and telling you another, so let's hear all he has to say.

Have a great month.
Martha Belanger
Council President

College Graduate Celebration

If you know of any college students graduating this year, please contact Helen Goransson. There will be a celebration on the first Sunday of June and we would like to make sure we invite all college graduates and their families.



Vacation Bible School

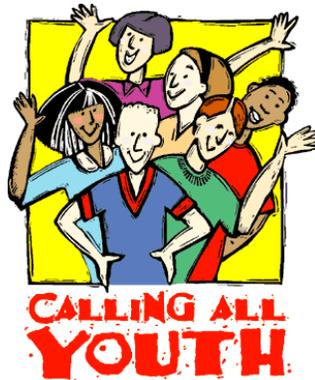
What is going on in 2016?

Vacation Bible School 2016 will take place Sunday July 24th through Wednesday July 27th. This year we will begin every day of VBS at 5 p.m. and end at 7:45 p.m.

Registration forms will be available in May at the kiosk, so grab as many forms as you need for your family (or to invite your friends and neighbors). Spark Curriculum for Summer 2016 is in and the theme is water.

The stories highlighted will be:

- NOAH'S ARK
- JONAH AND THE BIG FISH
- JESUS WALKING ON WATER
- THE WOMAN AT THE WELL



Simple supper is to begin at 5 p.m. and end at 5:30. Children, parents and volunteers will gather in the sanctuary for prayer and song. Activities will be rotated from BIBLE STORY, CRAFTS, GAMES & SNACKS, grouping our children for a total of 4 sessions for each age group.

At 7:30 pm each night, we will gather in the sanctuary to sing, praise and send; with parents picking up at 7:45 p.m.

If anyone wishes to volunteer every day, a single day or for a particular area; please let me know as soon as possible. If you have great memories of VBS and want to participate, but haven't in the past... that is okay; I am certain you can join in! For everyone who has volunteered already or worked in the past, we want you.

Warmest appreciation to those of you who have already stepped forward. It is impossible for us to give this gift, to the children without you; thank you.

If anyone asks you if their grandchild, neighbor or friend can bring their child; the answer is always, "YES, THEY CAN!!" And if they ask if they can come only one night or have to come all 4 nights, the answer is, "We want the children to experience God's word as much as possible!" Please bring them as many nights as possible. We will be thrilled to have them!

We will just need a registration form so we can properly plan! If you have any questions, please call or email Debbie DeBeck.

**Warmest blessings always,
Your sister in Christ,
Debbie DeBeck, VBS Coordinator 2016**

OPERATION BLESSING

We continue to need food and paper towels, dish detergent, soap, diapers for babies, and any other every day item. Operation Blessing also gives out household items so any silverware you may not need along with serving spoons, can openers or any type of kitchen appliance is needed. Pots and pans are also needed along with sheets, blankets, rugs, etc.



Please think of those clients who are dependent on food at Operation Blessing to get by each day when you are shopping. Put some items in your basket and bring them to Holy Trinity and place in the green tubs under the mailboxes. We have donated many items in the past and we still want to help today. Thank you. -Lois Laurence

Transition Team

Update #1, [4/17/16] Why undertake an Intentional Interim period?

Over the next few weeks, your transition team will be keeping you informed about the subjects on which we are working and will be asking for your input and insights as we work toward a common vision of Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church (HTELC) in the future. We will also be holding sessions periodically in which all members who want to share their insights will be given a chance to do so. More on that to come....

The first subject in this series is why Holy Trinity has decided to undertake an intentional interim period, under the guidance of Pastor Koch, rather than hire a new pastor as soon as we could find one.

We believe the wisdom of the Council's decision to engage in an intentional interim period has been underscored and validated by the results of both the Joys and Concerns Survey conducted by the Council before that vote and the CAT survey conducted recently.

Together, these surveys strongly suggest that our congregation is made up of multiple interest groups. Examples include: some believe we are a welcoming congregation while others do not; some believe that the Bible is the literal Word of God, while others do not; some are willing to adapt our worship to the needs and circumstances of people we want to reach, while others do not think that is necessary.* Our diversity of opinion is a good thing, for it means we have members who are engaged enough to have an opinion and to care about HTELC.

It also means we have work to do, together, before we call our next pastor. We need to talk amongst ourselves, recognize and respect our differences—

and then figure out our common mission path. This is work for us to do—not our next pastor.

It may seem a daunting task, but it can also be an uplifting and energizing one. Once we have done our work, have found our common ground; have established our mission paths—then we can look for the pastor who can lead us on it. Following this plan gives us the best chance to have our various interest groups working together, to have our next pastor be able to lead us forward in the direction we have decided together, and to have Holy Trinity thrive in the years ahead.

As you consider this message, think about these questions: 1) What are some of the interest groups here at Holy Trinity that you can identify? 2) What do all of us here at Holy Trinity have in common despite our differences? 3) What are the most effective ways you can think of for a church's members to find common ground and work together for a common purpose? 4) What positive power do you see from having a congregation filled with a diversity of opinion and life experiences?

*You can view a video discussing our CAT (Congregational Assessment Tool) results at <http://htelc.com/home/our-congregation/in-transition/cat-1>. You will need to enter your Holy Trinity member password for access.

Movie Night



Join us in the upstairs classroom on the third Tuesday of every month for movie night. This month, it will take place on Thursday, *May 19th* at 7:00 PM. There will be snacks and a discussion following the film. More information about the event will be included in an upcoming Sunday service bulletin. Please contact Dot Kasik for more information.

Volunteer Opportunities

Over the last three weeks of April, the Stewardship Team along with the Volunteer Task Force offered three programs:

- Discerning Your Spiritual Gifts through activities with the help of the GIFT Team
- Volunteer Expo where you could find out about all of the volunteer opportunities there are at Holy Trinity
- Sundae Sunday and Carnival as a thank you to all who have volunteered during the past year and for those who have volunteered this coming year through the Time and Talent Commitment Forms

Although the special programs have ended for this year, volunteering continues throughout the year. It is never too late to sign up for any of the volunteer opportunities. God has blessed each of us with spiritual gifts and as we live our lives with attention, we discover new gifts that God has given us. So as the year goes by and you feel a spark in something that is going on at Holy Trinity or even in your community, may you take heed to that and consider if it is something God wants you to do. Maybe in September you see that the Coffee Group is working very hard to serve you coffee and healthy, delicious snacks, and you feel the nudge to help, just speak with one of the volunteers and offer to try it out. Or perhaps in November you are touched by the Stewardship Campaign and you begin to consider joining the team or offer to give a Temple Talk on your stewardship journey.

We are ALL a part of the body of Christ and as members we each have a part to fill. When you use your gifts where there is a need, it becomes a spiritual gift and will bring you great joy. Please keep your eyes and ears open to see where there is a need. If you feel a spark about this need or volunteer opportunity, then jump on it and help us

light the world! Just speak with one of the team members or anyone on church council and we will be happy to assist you.

Faith Formation Team

Walking Our Faith Journey Together

The Faith Formation Team would like to extend sincere gratitude and appreciation to our Holy Trinity church family for all your support and participation in GIFT. You served in so many ways and it wouldn't have been the same without you! You were table leaders, kitchen help, and tech support. You skyped, cooked, and set tables. You were designers, singers, and photographers. You were readers, bakers, and ushers. You set up tables and chairs, and packed them away. You were actors. You bussed tables. You prepared materials. You wore costumes. You taught, shared, played, wrote, colored, discussed, smiled, laughed, cried, celebrated, learned, prayed, and loved. Through it all, we saw glimpses of a connection between the wisdom of the elder and the wonder of the child. The Faith Formation Team thanks you for helping us all grow in faith together.



The team has already begun to look forward to Fall 2016 and discuss how we can improve upon faith formation at Holy Trinity. Our first meeting was focused on GIFT and the changes we need to make to do it better, as well as other faith formation opportunities in the future. We welcome and value your input for ideas and overall goals for Christian formation at Holy Trinity as we continue to walk our faith journey together.

Peace in Christ, The Faith Formation Team

The Search for Young Families

Sue Bridge found the article below and sent it on to the Transition Team and Church Council. The topic is timely, especially as it discusses an area that was identified as a top congregational priority in the CAT survey. The article is used with permission from *The Center for Lifelong Learning at Columbia Theological Seminary*.

WHEN CHURCHES WANT A PASTOR WHO CAN "BRING IN YOUNG FAMILIES"

By Jan Edmiston, DMin '01
March 12, 2015

Almost every church I've ever known has wanted to Attract Young Families. The reasoning behind this includes the following:

- If we don't regenerate, everyone will eventually get old and die.
- It's energizing to have young people around.
- Younger members can do the work that older members can't/won't do anymore.
- Older members tend to be on fixed incomes and younger working members are needed for their pledges.
- Young families (i.e. mom, dad, and kids) remind us of church when we were (or wish we were) part of young families.

There are a few things wrong with this reasoning, including the fact that "attracting" people in general feels manipulative – as if people are "targets" to be used for our own purposes. Yuck. Let's be honest about the "why?" Are we saying that we want these rare and valuable Young Families for what they can give to us? What if – instead – the "why" of this demographic quest was about feeding souls and sharing authentic community? I always hoped – as a young mom – that church would provide adults that could help me nurture my children. I always wanted to

know that – if my kids couldn't come to me or HH with a problem – they would have other trustworthy adults to whom they could go (and they did.)

Young families are great. Old families are great. Families made up of child-free couples are great. Families of single people are great. Imagine if every church simply wanted A Pastor Who Could Bring In Broken People. Now that's a church.

Also, the days are gone when Young Families were present in worship every Sunday. The statistics are in about how the definition of "regular worship" has changed since the 1950s. ("Regular" used to mean weekly. Now it means once or twice a month.)



Instead of seeking a Pastor who can bring in those vaunted Young Families, we need to call a Pastor who knows how to shift congregational culture. The culture in which we live and move and have our being has changed, but we are killing ourselves trying to maintain a dated congregational culture.

News flash: Most pastors will fail at "Bringing in Young Families." Families of every kind are drawn to communities that are in touch with real life. For example, check out Carey Nieuwhof's recent post about why even committed Christians do not worship as regularly as they did in previous decades. At least two of his "10 Reasons" specifically impact cultural changes connected to Young Families.

So how can we be the kind of congregation that welcomes Young Families for more than their energy and wallets? We can:

1. Be real. Deal with real issues in sermons, classes, retreats, conversations, prayers.
2. Listen to parents' concerns. Listen to children's concerns.
3. Ask how we can pray for them. And then pray for them.
4. Allow/encourage messiness. Noses will run and squirming will ensue. There might be running. There will definitely be noise.
5. Check our personal Stink Eye Quotient. Do we grimace when a baby cries? Do we frown when the kids are wearing soccer uniforms?
6. Refrain from expecting everyone to be the church like we have always been the church.
7. Help parents, grandparents, and all adults become equipped to minister to children and youth. How can we learn to offer such loving hospitality to the younger people in our midst that they will always experience church as home?
8. Do not use children as cute props. Yes they say the darndest things during children's stories, but they are not there to entertain us.
9. Give parents a break. Really. Help struggling parents get coats and hats on their kids. Hold an umbrella. Assist in wiping spills.
10. Give parents a break administratively. Make it easy to participate. Minimize the unnecessary.

It's also okay not to have Young Families in our congregations depending on the context. Some neighborhoods have very few young ones living nearby. But there are still people who crave some Good News.

Jan Edmiston is the associate executive presbytery for ministry in the Presbytery of Chicago, where she has served since 2011. Prior to that she served congregations in northern Virginia and New York. She completed her MDiv at Andover Newton Theological School and her DMin in Christian Spirituality at Columbia Theological Seminary in 2001. She has graciously agreed to let us repost some of her blog entries (including ones from guest bloggers) from A Church for Starving Artists.

Men's Group

The Men's Group meets the first Saturday of every month at 7:30am at Holy Trinity. Men of all ages are invited to attend!



END 68 HOURS OF HUNGER

Through this program, food is packaged in "backpacks" for students in schools who may experience hunger between the free lunch they receive in school on Friday afternoon and the free breakfast they receive in school on Monday morning. The chapter of E68HH that Holy Trinity is affiliated with serves students in the Portsmouth area. Our chapter packs 100+ bags per week and the organization as a whole packs over 700 bags per week.



Many hands make light work, and this program is a great way to work alongside other church members and serve our community.

Holy Trinity participates by packing "backpacks" on Thursdays about every six weeks. We pack at the United Methodist Church in Portsmouth. The work is fairly easy and quick (we're usually done within one hour of time). If you'd like to participate, please contact Nicholas or Mariah Kirsch.

Bible Study Fellowship (BSF)

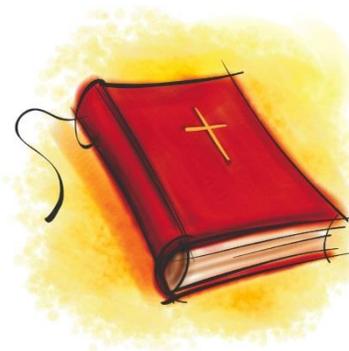
Below is a brief summary of what we've learned in our Revelation Study during the month of April...

Rev. 20:11-21:8: The Final Judgment and a New Heaven and New Earth - Rev. 20:11-15 John saw a great white throne, and earth and heaven fled from His presence. Those whose names are not in the book of life experience a second death. Rev. 21:1-8 The first heaven and earth pass away and are replaced by a new heaven and earth. The new heaven and earth has no pain, death or mourning. Review: John saw the dead judged and God dwelling with His people in the new earth. God will perfectly renew the world through judgment, removal of sin and dwelling with His people.

Rev. 21:9-22:5: God's Holy City - Rev. 21:9-10 John was carried away in the Spirit to a vision of the Holy City. Rev. 21:11-21 John sees the glorious richness of the new Jerusalem. Rev. 21:22-27 Only the light of God shines in the city. Rev. 22:1-5 John sees the river of life and garden in the city. Review: An angel reveals to John the magnificence of the new Jerusalem. God's great purpose for His people is to live with Him in eternal glory.

Heaven: The Believer's Hope - John 14:1-4; 1 Corinthians 2:9; 13:12; Rev. 21:1-5 The Bible gives us hints of what heaven is like. **Romans 8:18-23** Sin brought decay, destruction and death to the world, which longs for redemption. **1 Corinthians 15:42-49; 1 John 3:2; Rev. 22:1-5** God promises eternal riches to those who believe in Him. **Matthew 28:19-20; John 13:31-36; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; 1 Peter 1:13-16; 2 Peter 3:10-14; Hebrews 12:28** While the eternal kingdom looms, God calls on His people to act in faith today. Review: God promises a glorious future for those who believe in Jesus Christ. Living with God eternally is the glorious inheritance of every believer.

Rev. 22:6-21: Come, Lord Jesus! - Rev. 22:6-11 The Lord promises His return and blessing to those who keep His Word. Rev. 22:12-16 The Lord promises His imminent return, reward and judgment. Rev.



22:17-21 The Spirit of God offers the free gift of the water of life. Rev. 22: 6-21 The Lord promises He is coming soon. Review: God unveils the consummation of His plan of

redemption for His people. Jesus' people are to live in the light of His return. Only Jesus can satisfy the thirst in every heart.



Property

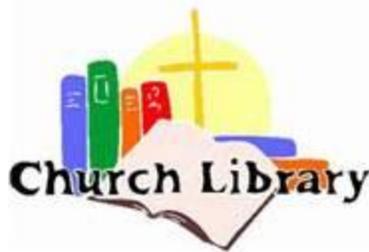
Winter is over from a Property Team point of view. I know this because we have successfully fueled and started our lawn

mowers, drained the fuel from the snow blower, and "summer-ized" it. We have put away the winter things and deployed the warm weather gear. If it snows or freezes again, it will just have to melt! Grass mowing, trimming and such have begun. The busy spring season is here, and we will be focusing much of our attention on the various outdoor tasks, both the routine and tasks such as tree trimming and paving which will involve vended services. Work by vendors may well impact access on certain days. We will make every effort to minimize disruptions.

Dave Mercer, Property Team Leader

Library News

My friend Zeph Lyamuru in Tanzania e-mailed me last week and asked for my recommendations for his library. Zeph was a first-year law student of mine at Tumaini



Lutheran University when Russ Hilliard and I taught their spring semester a few years back. He's an enterprising young man from Upuni, a small town near Kilimanjaro; he's a practicing attorney for an association that brings international artists to Tanzania; and he's the head of a large family. He's not a father yet, not even married, but as the oldest son in a family without a father, he's responsible for many people, notably five younger siblings, three of whom are sisters. It's still a challenge for girls to pursue an education in parts of Tanzania. When money is available, it goes to educate boys first, and girls often get left behind. Zeph recognized this early on, so when he was still in high school, he organized "after school" for his sisters, bringing home to share whatever he was learning in school. He could teach them, but the one thing he couldn't do was provide books for them. He realized they needed a library. So, he made an appointment with his District Commissioner (a political position comparable to our state governor) and asked for a library. He was given six books and a shelf in the Commissioner's office. That was the beginning. Today there's an actual Upuni Town Library.

If Zeph and his sisters could see the BG Library, they'd be amazed. If they knew we had an actual budget that allows us to order books at readers' request, they'd be doubly amazed. I was thinking of Zeph when I made out our last Amazon order. First on the list is *What Is the What*, a fictionalized story of one of the "Lost Boys" of the Sudan. To

write it, author Dave Eggers spent several years interviewing and following the life of one of these heroic young men as he makes a life for himself here in America. Zeph has not had to live through wartime, and yet I can see similarities between his life and the struggles of the Lost Boys. I think again about Zeph as I tap "complete your purchase" for *Hidden America* by Jeanne Marie Laskas. To write her account, Laskas embeds herself in hidden jobs—like those of African immigrants picking blueberries in Maine. I think of Zeph too as I'm making my way through Diana Butler Bass's *Grounded*, another recent BG acquisition. Bass describes how "traditional" Christianity as we experience it in America is on the decline (note that God isn't on the decline, but rather the way we *experience* God) and I contrast that with the way traditional Christianity and Lutheranism are exploding across Tanzania.

I'm making plans to see Zeph in June when Kurt and I go back to the university to teach. I'm going to bring along a few books for the Upuni Town Library, paperbacks, of course, because they weigh less. I'll make out a list of recommendations to order as funds become available: Shakespeare, Johnson, Thoreau, Twain, Austin, Welty, Potok....etc.

It's going to be a long list.

Back to the Beach

On Saturday, June 18th from 9:00am to 2:00pm, Holy Trinity will be holding a "Back to the Beach" Yard Sale and Silent Auction. Stay tuned over the next month for additional details.





Mark your calendar for Tuesday, May 17th at Noon. The J.O.Y. Group will visit the Homeless Shelter at Cross Roads on Lafayette Rd. The facility is fairly new and as one of

the social service areas Holy Trinity supports, it is of special interest to us. It is fully handicapped accessible. We will get a brief tour and short presentation by their community outreach coordinator, Jessica.

Afterwards we will go down the road for lunch at the Bratskeller, located at 980 Lafayette Road. Parking may be a little tight, we would do well to carpool. See the kiosk for carpool information and sign up please.

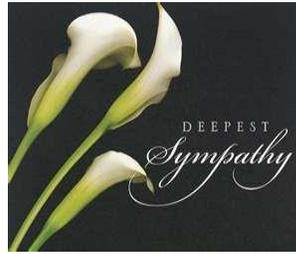
TANZANIA

A big word of thanks to all who helped support and grow the Tanzania Scholarship Fund. The fund is supported in a couple of different ways: most comes from pledged support given by individuals, the remainder is realized from Lenten dinner donations and loose offerings given during Wednesday evening services in Lent. There have also been several generous gifts from outside of our congregation. While a few pledges are still outstanding, we are making excellent progress to reaching our goal.

Our students and their families are immensely grateful for this support. Without it their education would end after 7th grade. Making secondary school possible for them offers hope for a better future.

May God bless you for your generosity.

Christian Sympathy:



To John Larkin and Family upon the death of John's mother, Frances Larkin, on Saturday, April 16th, 2016.



Church Office Hours are:

Monday – Thursday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

April Worship Attendance

4/3/16	125
4/6/16	17 (midweek)
4/10/16	127
4/13/16	8 (midweek)
4/17/16	186
4/20/16	18 (midweek)
4/24/16	143
4/27/16	15 (midweek)

May 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30am Worship 9:45am Fellowship and Church Clean Up 9:45am Letter Writing 11:00am Worship 2:00pm Imanuel 4:30pm Confirmation	2 6:00pm Sounds of the Seacoast 6:00pm Transition Team	3 6:00pm 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Faith Formation	4 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Wednesday Service	5 8:30am Thurs Group 6:45pm BSF 6:45pm Worship and Music Team	6 7:30pm AA	7 7:30am Men's Bfast 8:30am AA 4:00pm Indonesian Bible Study
8 9:30am Worship 10:15am Fellowship 2:00pm Imanuel	9 6:00pm Sounds of the Seacoast	10 6:00pm 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm Church Council	11 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Wednesday Service	12 8:30am Thurs Group	13 7:30pm AA	14 8:30am AA 1:00pm Plant Sale
15 8:30am Worship 9:45am Fellowship 11:00am Worship 2:00pm Imanuel 4:30pm Confirmation	16 6:00pm Sounds of the Seacoast	17 Noon J.O.Y. Group 6:00pm 8:30 Choir Rehearsal	18 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Wednesday Service	19 8:30am Thurs Group 7:00pm Library Movie Night	20 7:30pm AA	21 8:30am AA 4:00pm Indonesian Bible Study
22 8:30am Worship 9:45am Fellowship 11:00am Worship 2:00pm Imanuel	23 6:00pm Sounds of the Seacoast	24 4:00pm Dover Friendly Kitchen 6:00pm 8:30 Choir Rehearsal TIDINGS Due Date	25 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Wednesday Service	26 8:30am Thurs Group	27 7:30pm AA	28 8:30am AA
29 8:30am Worship 9:45am Fellowship 11:00am Worship 2:00pm Imanuel	30 6:00pm Sounds of the Seacoast	31 6-7pm 8:30 Choir Rehearsal				

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.
Library Team: Dot Kasik & Pam Shaw – Maintain church library.
Adult Fellowship: Robert Refsdal– 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.
Senior Intentional Interim Pastor: Rev. George Koch
Associate Transitional Pastor: Rev. Grace Burson
Office Coordinator: Mark Donahue – Newsletters, Bulletins, and Church Office.
Bishops: Rev. James Hazelwood – New England Synod.
Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Eaton – ELCA Presiding.

Church Council Members –

President: Martha Belanger

Vice President: David Smith

Treasurer: Dan Scammon

Secretary: Scott Carson

Council at Large: Erik Johnson, Nancy Hansen, Jerry Schock

Past President: Rob Leatherbee

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