

# The Weekly Tidings

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Come Together, Grow in Faith, Serve the LORD

## **Safety Practices in effect as of 10/22/17**

Please look over the following Safety practices that have been added to our Church Safety Policy, provided by our newly formed Safety Task Force. For any further questions, please speak with Pastor George directly.

- Unless part of an organized sport (with adult supervision), all running, racing, jumping, etc., inside the church is prohibited. Organized dancing is permitted.
- The church is God's house and open to the use of all. Appropriate care, therefore, must be taken of furniture, liturgical goods, cooking equipment, computers and monitors, etc. This means, among other things, no jumping on furniture, marking walls or surfaces, etc.
- Parents are to be fully informed about the activities in which their children will be involved.
  - Toddlers and children under six need to be supervised by a parent or designated adult. Siblings may bring toddlers and children under six to the Wiggle Room when it is attended.
- Children younger than sixth grade should not be roaming the church during worship but rather stay with their parent or designated adult.
  - All activities with children and youth will be done in an open area or room and not in private office or closed areas.
- Upstairs rooms are only to be used for designated activities.



## **President's Article**

*Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever. Psalm 107:1*

It is a new season. Fall has arrived and New Hampshire is full of color. As much as I hate to see summer end, fall is beautiful. So, too let's remember that God is good and loving to us in every season.

October is very busy. The call committee has just spent a wonderful weekend with a candidate and his wife. They loved the area and the church and we loved them. The call committee has recommended this pastor to the council. Council is now working with the candidate and I will keep you updated on the progress. Things are optimistic so keep those prayers coming.

Things have been hectic for a long time here at Holy Trinity. We haven't really taken many breaks or time to relax. With that being said an Adult Fellowship is being planned for November 9th from 6:00-9:00. It will be held at the Community Oven in Hampton on Rte.1. It will include a buffet of salad, Caprese Bites and endless pizza) gluten free pizza will be offered to those who let us know ahead of time. Coffee and soft drinks will be supplied and a cash bar is available for those who want to try the freshly brewed beer. It will be a great time to just sit back, relax and talk to our friends. And the good part is the next day is a holiday so you don't have to get up to go to work. Well at least those of us who still work. So see myself or Dave Smith for information and to reserve your spot. We are collecting the money ahead of time. We need 20 people at least to hold the event. The deadline is Nov. 2nd to reserve your spot and it is \$25.00 a person.

You don't need to be a couple to attend, this is for everyone. I sure hope you can all make it. It will be nice to do something fun and stress free.

I will keep you updated on the progress of the council and the new candidate.

Please as always keep us in your prayers and get out and enjoy the beautiful weather.

Blessings to all,  
**Martha Belanger**  
**Council President**

## Pastor Grace's Article

Recently, I was meeting with a very devoted and involved member of this congregation about some plans for a ministry she is part of. As we were talking, and she was reminded that she had signed up to do a particular job that coming Sunday, tears came to her eyes and she told me, "I know I promised to do it, but it's just been such a stressful week, after a busy summer, and I really need some time away this weekend."

I was so glad that she had brought this up and been honest about it. So often, the church buys into the toxic assumption of the wider culture, that busy-ness is good, and that our virtue is proven by how many tasks we accomplish and how full our days are. This assumption is literally killing us, from stress, lack of sleep and overwork.

In contrast, the Bible literally *commands* us to rest. It's the Third Commandment: "Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy." We no longer treat this commandment with the dour seriousness of our Puritan forebears, but we ignore it at our peril. And we have been ignoring it. Our 24/7 work schedules, the instant availability of whole libraries of information at our fingertips, and all the activities with which we fill our scarce leisure hours, all conspire to eliminate Sabbath observance from our lives.



It's far too easy for church to become just another set of obligations and activities, to be crammed into the overstuffed calendar along with all the others. On the contrary, the church should be setting a countercultural example, by prioritizing rest and recreation.

Sabbath is about taking time off from our relentless DO-ing, to spend time just BE-ing. In some traditions (Judaism, Seventh Day Adventist) the parameters of Sabbath observance are well-defined and strict. In others, there is more leeway to define for oneself what feels like real Sabbath rest, as distinct from either work, or the kind of unhealthy rest that involves mindlessly eating junk food in front of the TV.

Sabbath rest is the kind of rest that puts you back in touch with God, and with what's really important in your life. It doesn't necessary have to be one full 24-hour period out of every

7 days, but once you get in the habit of carving out Sabbath time, you'll wonder how you ever survived without it.

And the church member who teared up during the meeting because she was so frayed and stressed out? I'm glad to say that we quickly found someone else to cover her Sunday commitment, and she spent a refreshing weekend at the lake, which was the Sabbath that her soul needed in that moment. May we all follow her example!

In God's peace,

***Pastor Grace***

### **Operation Blessing**

Operation Blessing is also accepting clothes in good condition, household items, (towels, sheets, pillow cases, dishes, etc.) Also in need are pots and pans and small kitchen appliances. Gift cards, such as gas and grocery cards are also appreciated, as well as cash donations as this is a grassroots organization and depend upon donations for operating. You may bring food and small items to Holy Trinity and place under the mailboxes in the green buckets. Barry and Phyllis Philbrick kindly deliver the items to OB on Thursday's. (Thank you Barry and Phyllis.)



If you have a bag or bags of items, you may deliver them to OB which is located on Lafayette Rd, Next to the Crossroads Shelter. The items can be dropped off Wednesday, Thursday and Friday's from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you have any questions you can call or email me, Lois Laurence at 603-580-1612 or [ljlh@comcast.net](mailto:ljlh@comcast.net). Thank you for all you do to help this organization.

***Lois Laurence***

## Faith Formation

Our faith formation programs are off to a great start in fall 2017! You've probably noticed a lot more children at the 8:30 service, and we celebrate the presence of these young Christians in our community, and give thanks for the parents and grandparents who are bringing them, and the teachers who are helping to pass along the faith!

We had a terrific All-Ages Forum on October 8 (make sure to check out the "vines" on the Gathering Area wall before they're taken down next week!).

We also want to make sure that everyone knows about the upcoming Celebration Dinner for everyone involved in children's and youth formation, from 5:30-7:30 PM on Friday, November 10. Childcare will be provided and parents, teachers and supporters will have a chance to reflect together on how things are going, learn from each other about best practices in teaching children in a faith context, and generally have a conversation in complete sentences! The Faith Formation Team will provide a main dish (including gluten-free), and attendees are invited to bring a salad, side dish or dessert. We hope that you'll come!



## FAITH FORMATION

Meanwhile, I couldn't resist sharing this blog post from the past week:

### ***Rules for children in the worship service:***

**One.** If you find that you're sitting in front of a child and they can't see, lean to the side.

**Two.** If the children seated behind you are rustling papers, hand them a crayon.

**Three.** If there is a baby that is crying, offer to take it from its parent and walk to the back of the church and rock it for a while. The parent really needs a break.

**Four.** If the teenagers are whispering give them some Smarties. The rustling and crinkling will replace their whispering.

**Five.** If an adult complains to an usher about the noisy children near them, offer to trade seats with that adult and then apologize to the parents of the children.

**Six.** When a child is running around giving everyone high-fives during the time of passing the peace/greeting your neighbor, make sure to give them an extra fun high-five, and then high-five the next five adults that you see.

**Seven.** If a child has worn tap shoes to church and is dancing on the wood portion of the floor, slip the sheet music for "The Entertainer" to the pianist and roll with it.

**Eight.** When the children can't hear because an adult around them won't take off their puffy jacket and it keeps squeaking and distracting the children, offer to help them off with their jacket and go hang it up for them where it goes.

**Nine.** When the three-year-old insists on standing on the front pew turned backwards looking at the rest of the people, give the child a pair of very dark glasses. That will prevent the child from catching any adult's eye, which would lead to distracting them. This will protect the adults who as we know have very short attention spans and are easily distracted.

**Ten.** When a child in front of you is very squirmy, and then they finally turn around and you realize suddenly, "Oh, it's Jesus!" take it in stride and play Got Your Nose till he turns around to the front again.

***(From Cindy Beal, Justice and Peace Consulting)***

In God's peace,

***Pastor Grace***

## Stewardship Campaign

Dave stated that “even though our income had not changed, we had more than enough to do everything we needed to do and most of what we wanted to do. There was nothing we lacked”.

My husband and I have had similar experiences when we decided to take the leap and trust in God. Three verses have been chose for our Stewardship Campaign; the one that means the most to me is verse 7: *Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.* In my opinion, if one gives more to receive more, they may have missed the point. God blesses us when we give because we want to give and trust that he will provide. It is not easy to increase ones pledge, but as our faith and trust in God grows, I think we become “cheerful givers” and isn’t that what God wants us to be?

### **Jill Larson**

*The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, “He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.”*

– II Corinthians 9:6-9

## STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN SCHEDULE, 2017

Sunday, October 22: Stewardship Talk in worship

Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>: Mailing out the Stewardship Campaign Letter - Please watch for it in your mailbox.

Monday, November 6: Mailing out the Second Stewardship Campaign Letter - Please watch for it in your mailbox.

Sunday, November 12: Commitment Sunday *During the service there will be a time for everyone to come forward and place your financial pledge card for the coming year in the cornucopia. Then between services we will celebrate your generosity and commitment with a Celebratory Brunch.*

## Photo of the Week: October 22

Nearly 60 years to the date, the following photo is a look at the Bulletin on the first Holy Trinity Reformation Sunday, dated *October 27, 1957*. We apologize if parts of the liturgy may be hard to read, as the ink from the original printing has faded over time. We did our best to touch up a few parts to make it easier to read.

### REFORMATION SUNDAY.

October 27, 1957

10:30 A.M. Divine Worship Service.

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\*Organ Prelude Violet Erickson Linné  
The Office of the Candles. \*Opening Hymn No. 266  
The Invocation, Confession of Sins Page 688 or 669  
The Introits: The Lord is with us: THE GOD OF JACOB IS  
OUR REFUGE. Therefore we will not fear, though  
the earth be removed: AND THOUGH THE MOUNTAINS  
BE CARRIED INTO THE MIDST OF THE SEA. God is our  
Refuge and Strength: A VERY PRESENT HELP IN  
TROUBLE.  
The Gloria Patri, The Kyrie Eleison  
Gloria in Excelsis Deo, The Salutation, Collect  
The Epistle Romans 1:16-17  
\*The Gradual Hymn No. 415  
The Holy Gospel Matthew 11:25-30  
The Confession of Faith in the Nicene Creed  
Anthem The Children's Choir  
The Sermon Hymn No. 375  
The Sermon Dr. Eskil Englund, Bishop of Conference  
The Votum, Church Announcements  
Offertory "Create in me a clean heart, O God"  
WORSHIP GOD BY TITHES AND OFFERINGS  
Response "We give Thee but Thine own" No. 182:1  
Adult Baptism and Adult Confirmation Dr. Linné  
The Rite of Inception Dr. Englund & Rev. Lundeen  
The Sacrament of Baptism to children Dr. Linné  
The Prayers of the Church, Benediction  
Chaplain Stanley Emerson  
The Office of the Candles, Closing Hymn No. 382  
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\*Late-comers will be seated at these times.

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Dr. H. Allison Janney, Board Missionary  
Dr. Eakel Englund, Conference Bishop  
Rev. Reuben Lundeen, Regional Director,  
Board of American Missions  
Rev. Stanley Emerson., Air Base Chaplain

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Ushers: Dr. Heinz Hoenecke, Ronald Edin, Carl Rogalski  
Acolytes: David Heinse and Nelson Fearson, Jr.

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Today, 5:00 p.m. Business meeting, please attend.  
Next Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Church school for all ages.  
10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Service.

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Last Sunday: Worship Service Attendance 88

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## Property Team

Fall has arrived and the big tent is down and stored for the winter. Of all the unlikely things to bring some controversy this year, the tent would have been low on my list. We have used it for years without issue, but then State of New Hampshire regulations found us in the form of a required permit from the Newington Fire Department. As it happens, a large tent such as ours (greater than 600 square feet) requires an inspection and permit. We have the permit which will require renewal in 2018. Who knew?

Beginning this spring, we have been working to resolve some fire code compliance issues in the "garage" and the boiler room. This work has primarily involved addition and repairs to drywall and sealing pipe penetrations through the walls. This work should be completed by winter.



This spring, the library team requested improved lighting for the library area. In response to that request the existing fluorescent lighting in that area has been repaired and redirected. About half of the existing lights were out of service due to failed ballast. The ballast has been replaced and all of the fixtures have been turned upward to provide more effective indirect lighting. LED track lighting has been added to provide direct lighting for the book shelves, tables, and displays in the library.

Holy Trinity now hosts an open mic acoustic music event (The New Grounds Coffee House) on the third Friday of each month. To support this event we applied donated equipment to implement a fully portable and effective sound system for use in the gathering area. The system provides up to eight instrument and microphone inputs to a mixer board, and uses the existing overhead speakers in the gathering area.

We have seen the first "church mouse" of the season. It is not unusual to see these little visitors as the season turns colder. We typically let our pest control service know they have arrived so we can take some preventative action. Be aware of their potential presence and take care to avoid leaving food crumbs and such that will attract them.

We recently replaced one of the overhead bulbs in the sanctuary. This has been a reasonably rare event since we made the change to LED bulbs.

***David Mercer, Property Team Leader***