

The Weekly Tidings

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Come Together, Grow in Faith, Serve the LORD

We Are Each Others Keepers

Holy Trinity has always been a giving and helping Church. We have always responded to help a need or cause.

As an example, earlier this year we were all asked to keep an eye out for members missing in church on Sundays and alert Caring Connections to provide assistance. Times have certainly changed and in today's world we know there are many additional people needing different types of assistance.

Bishop James Hazelwood's Sunday Sermon pointed out we are all interconnected and dependent on each. He mentioned that New England Lutherans are especially good at rising to the occasion and reaching out to our neighbors.



At the end of this past Sunday's Service, Joan Bauer showed how she is reaching out to others and how you can too. You should have also received a letter explaining how the Social Ministry Team will distribute funds to those in need locally. Nationally, charitable giving is down 34% this year. A donation to Holy Trinity either by check or online, noted for Social Ministry, will allow us to give the funds sorely needed in our local community.

Holy Trinity is responding to the need of others and your help will allow us to be able to assist those in need.

President's Article

How many times have you thought about the changes that have occurred since Bishop Hazelwood's visit on March 1st? As I write this, I wonder how our "new normal" will continue to change our lives? I could start to guess, but the bottom line is it really doesn't matter. We still need to learn, adjust, and carry on with determination, strength, and resilience alongside feelings of fear, uncertainty, and loss of what use to be. During this Liturgical season of Easter, we are reminded of Jesus's agony, abandonment, and pain. But through his resurrection we are renewed with God's grace to share compassion, faithful living, and love. We can also reflect upon how current Christians live during this crisis. We hear of others struggling and offer support. We are told to change and we accept and find goodness. We discover inequality and facilitate new choices. We feel despair and are comforted through prayer. We yearn for tradition or sameness and accept that God's calming hand is a constant.

Since our church service at Holy Trinity on March 15, we have learned new ways of staying connected with our faith, friends, and the liturgy. This has been easier for some people than for others depending upon factors of health, technology, family and community support. The Caring Connections Committee has begun a Shepard's program of phone calling our members. The Church Council will be discussing what additional opportunities can help us stay connected. Please continue to notify the Church's office, Pastor Tim, or a Council member should you or someone you know have a need.



Some people would love to know when we will be "back to normal," while others wonder how different the new normal will be? We can only imagine the many emotions Jesus felt leading up to his death and resurrection. I'm confident we will also move through these changing times, knowing that the strength of our faith, support of family and friends, commitment by our greater community, talents of Mark in the Church's office, and Pastor Tim's pastoral leadership will carry us to brighter days.

A Message from Pastor Msungu

(Church Office note: this is the word-for-word email message from Pastor Msungu. Please excuse his grammar & spelling)

Hello

I greet you in the Name of Jesus Christ, On behalf of Isimani Parish, I present a lot of greetings filled with love, Peace and Gods Bless, I trust you, youre family and community as well experienced a blessed Easter and are still rejoicing in the Easter season. Even though you're not able to meet the church and the world experienced the time of stress and DANGER due to CORONA VIRUS DESEASE. But I Trust on God who have done no men has done, We hopeful that things will change soon.

Tanzania we are still fighting the way on how to overcome this battle, the Ministry of health reported and confirmed 20 positive Cases, The Virus has hit in Dar Es Salaam and Zanzibar, we Thanks Lord in our area not yet.



Our Government closed all primary school , Secordary school and all university Many students and other families are experiencing difficulties, Businesses are suffering, shortly we are filling a different world. Outing trip are canceled, also we Thanks Lord our Church building are not closed still now we are meeting and worship together. Every day we are praying for you

We are very Happy with my wife that cannot be expressed in words sometimes we are wonder on what great things God has been doing to us, he full fill our Long time dreams 02/4/2020 : 12:30pm It was the Day when Our First Born (BABY BOY) was arrival safety for normal delivery.

Thank you for you're prayer (I mean it so much to me) The health of my Wife SPORAH and my Son BETHANY has gone well. Last ..We are very sorry for rescheduling you're trip to Tanzania this Summer due to Coronavirus, we are praying this situation will change soon, and we meet again for you're next trip KARIBUNI SANAAAAA (You're worn Welcome).

We Love you all.

Pastor Livingstone Msungu.

Isimani Parish.

Social Ministry Donations

If you're interested in making a one-time donation to support our Social Ministry Programs, you can do so on the Elexio App or Elexio Website by looking for Social Ministry on the funds pull-down menu. You can also make a donation by texting Give to 207-222-7676 followed by the dollar amount with Social Ministry (Example \$25 Social Ministry).



CaringConnections

During this time of a 'new normal' I wanted to let you know there is one constant.. CaringConnections is still there and offering support to our church community! We have received many prayer requests that have been shared with the EPrayer team. Meals were provided for a couple weeks for a church member, along with daily phone calls. Visitations are different, we have had to be creative with them but they are still continuing! Shawls are still providing comfort and support! We are communicating with those in need through various means!



So although things are different CaringConnections is still here for you! Stay Well!
Prayers and peace to you all!

Operation Blessing

Operation Blessing was asked by the city of Portsmouth to provide a place to shower for the homeless. So, they have installed a shower at their facility. What they are requesting is used towels. Since they will only be used once and thrown away, they need not be in perfect shape. If you can contribute they can be dropped off at Operation Blessing on Route 1 in Portsmouth, next to Crossroads the Homeless Shelter. The hours they are open are Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 10-4. You can place the towels on the drop off ramp on the right side of the building. They are open only to provide food for those in need. They are also delivering to seniors who are in need of food. If you can help with towels, it would be greatly appreciated. I know I will go through my towels- some are not good enough for donating normally but certainly ok for a one time use. Thank you.

