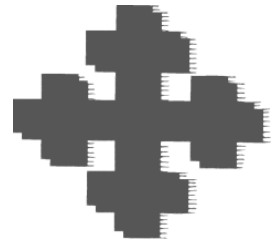


Holy Trinity Evangelical
Lutheran Church

Newsletter



HAPPY EASTER TO YOU ALL!!

Pastor's Page; Council Chair; Mutual Ministry	p.1-3
New Council; Lent & Holy Week Schedule.....	p.4-5
Worship & Music; Education; Youth; Pastoral Acts.....	p.6-8
Witness Committee; World Day of Prayer 2020.....	p.8-10
Lenten Reflection.....	p.11-12
Stewardship; Communications; Cleaning.....	p.12-13
LutherLyn Summer Camps.....	p.13-14
VARAK; Community Outreach Articles.....	p.15-16

*Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is a Gospel-centered community who worship and spread the Good News of God. **Our faith-based ministry is used to support our members and the community at large!***

From Pastor Rob's Desk

“The Power of Resurrection Living”

May the blessings and peace of resurrection be with you and all those you love!

The coming of Spring is a very special time of year for many reasons. Not only do the days begin to grow longer and warmer, but we are also treated to the lovely array of colour and fragrance that comes with the budding of trees and the blooming of flowers and the greening of grass. It is no wonder that the early Christians celebrated Lent and Easter in the Springtime. The signs of new life were all around, people felt good that the grey and cold days of Winter were gone, and this reminded them of what resurrection can feel like.

Even though the concept of resurrection has many meanings and interpretations, the basic idea and principles behind it are the same. Out of death and loss can come newness of life, renewal, even profound personal and communal transformation or rejuvenation. I think that we would be hard-pressed to say that this is not the case!

As we enter into the Lent and Easter seasons, how can we make that resurrection living more real? As I am sure you are all aware, there are many ways that resurrection living can be experienced and practiced in our everyday lives.

For some people, this resurrection living can only come when there is a very radical change that takes place in their lives...sort of like Saint Paul, who needed to have a powerful experience to shake him out of his prejudice and spiritual blindness. For others, the experience of resurrection comes in much less shocking ways...for example, when they look out their window every morning to see the sunrise, or when they work in their gardens, or when they spend time with a close friend or loved one.

Regardless of who we are or what we believe or how we interpret resurrection, the point is that we all experience it in our own ways. For some people it will be the small still voice which reminds them...for others it will be a completely life-altering experience which reminds them. This is the beauty of resurrection. This is the beauty of new life and the transformative power of the gospel. Jesus never said that it has to be done “this way” or “that way”...he only encouraged people to find and experience resurrection and new life in whatever ways they could.

The point is that we experience resurrection all the time...again, for some, it is gentle, for others it can be very jarring.

Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan describe this resurrection living in this way, *“Good Friday and Easter Sunday, death and resurrection together, are a central image in the New Testament for the path to a transformed self. The path involves dying to an old way of being and being reborn into a new way of being. Good Friday and Easter Sunday are about this path, the path of dying and rising, of being born again.”* (*The Last Week, p.210*)

Another very important point about resurrection living is that in order for resurrection to happen or to be experienced, a death, a dying, must first take place. Resurrection cannot happen without death (nothing changes without letting go). I encourage all of you to seek out and to experience those moments in life where you experience a sense of deep and profound love, peace and joy...essentially, the outward signs of resurrection and newness of life!

© Pastor Rob

Council Chairperson Report

To My Fellow Congregation Members and Friends,

We are at the dawn of a new decade. As we find ourselves entering into our 60th year as a congregation, we have a lot to be thankful for and reflect upon. The achievements are many.

Growing from a small group of like-minded Lutherans meeting in a private home filling a need to express our faith and beliefs to our present church family and facility much has changed. Gone are the days of seemingly multitudes of young and growing families, our congregation has now been supplanted with a mature and smaller faith community.

True, through that time we have lived and grown the congregation through the so-called baby boom. Today we find ourselves living in an age of millennials that have different interests, values and their own challenges. Life has seemingly become more complex filled with outside interests, critical thought, instant news and social media not to mention that time always seems to be short.

I believe that we recognize that the reality is that this is the nature of generational change. What was important to our parents and their parents before them and indeed ourselves as we raise our families is not necessarily the focus of today's society.

You might then ask why I am waxing about realities that you are already aware of.

To those of you reading this report and had the fortune of attending our annual general meeting, you were able to witness the challenges at hand. How can we fulfill our commitment to strengthening and sharing our

faith and supporting our members and the community at large?

Moving into the seventh decade, it is time to take stock as to where we are, where we are going and more so what we need to do to reach our next milestone anniversary.

More now than at any other time, there is a necessity for us to embark on a path of self-examination. Why are we a congregation? Is our mission consistent with our needs and goals? How we can be successful in a different world to that of the previous 60 years?

Through this quarter, council will try to find the answers to these questions. The challenge is how council can ask the questions such that each voice counts. It is through outreach. Not only to members that attend regularly but also to those who for a variety of reasons cannot attend or elect not to attend. The responses and outcome are going to be critical for us to understand ourselves.

What can we do in the meantime? "Participate". Participate in worship and fellowship, participate in learning, participate in events, participate in whatever you can. Everyone is endowed with talent, time and treasures to some degree. Sharing these gifts is essential to our future as a congregation. Your continuing generosity through participation is the keystone to our ability to sustain and grow our ongoing efforts.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Kanaya

Mutual Ministry Report

The Mutual Ministry Team at Holy Trinity is now up and running. The role of a Mutual Ministry Team (MMT) is:

- To support effective communication among the congregation, rostered ministers, and staff.
- To act as a confidential sounding board and support team for rostered ministers and staff.
- To work towards conflict resolution as it arises and involves the rostered minister or other staff members.

The Mutual Ministry Guide states, “Even in the healthiest congregation, there are times when conflicts arise. Tension in the life of the church is normal...In times of conflict it is essential that we focus on our own behavior: stay calm, listen carefully, and don’t get triangulated. The MMT can help in resolving conflicts by providing a safe, neutral space to discuss the issues that cause tension.”

Triangulation is “talking about feelings, opinions, or personal issues regarding some person or group with a third party instead of with the person or group actually concerned.” Reducing triangulation can help improve communications in a church family. It is sometimes said that “venting is good for the soul”, however, it is an unhealthy communication pattern that avoids dealing directly with an issue and can create more tension and bad feelings within a church congregation. The MMT helps avoid triangulation and venting by acting as a neutral third party to facilitate healthy conversations between the congregation, rostered ministers, and staff.

The Mutual Ministry Guide states, “It can be difficult to find our voice, especially when we

are feeling hurt, dissatisfied, or concerned. When we feel anxious, or sense that others are feeling anxious, it can be more difficult. At such times, it is tempting to use unhealthy communication such as gossip, avoidance, anonymous complaints, or personal verbal attacks. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we are encouraged to trust in on another’s good will and love as we seek understanding, forgiveness, and growth.”

Members of the MMT cannot consider anonymous opinions or concerns. However, the team will keep opinions and concerns confidential. This means that to bring something forward to the MMT the individual must consent to have their name known to the MMT. Opinions and concerns brought forward to the MMT should be surrounding something specific. The MMT will not consider concerns that are around something that someone “always” or “never” does. Concerns brought to the MMT must be directly from the individual concerned. Congregation members cannot bring forward opinions or concerns on behalf of someone else. The MMT can discuss items that are related to congregational life and ministry, not the business of the church.

The MMT will consider all opinions and concerns brought forward and may call or correspond with the individual who made the concern known to the MMT or may invite the individual to attend an MMT meeting. If the concern is not something that the MMT can process, it will be passed on to the appropriate committee (such as church council) or returned to the individual.

The MMT cannot handle situations where sexual harassment or abuse is reported or alleged. The ELCIC has a policy to deal with this. Recognizing the seriousness of such situations, congregational leaders are obliged to follow the operating guidelines in these circumstances.

Opinions and concerns can be sent to the MMT in person, in writing, by email, or by phone. The items will be given to the chair of the committee to be addressed at the next meeting.

Members of the Mutual Ministry Team are:

Jennifer May-Anderson (Chair)
613-242-9567
jmayanderson@gmail.com

Iris Hofmeister
613-966-4404
knu.chi@icloud.com

Ruth Kollars
613-962-5485
ruthkollars@gmail.com

Late one night a mugger wearing a ski mask jumped into a path of a well-dressed man and stuck a gun in his ribs "give me your money," he demanded. Indignant, the affluent man replied, "you can't do this – I am a United States congressman!" "In that case," replied the mugger, "give me MY money."

Thanks David!

Let's take a moment to introduce the members of Church Council for 2020. As always, if there are any questions, concerns, ideas, suggestions that you have, please let one of the following people know!

Our 2020 Council Executive members are:

Council Chairperson – Rick Kanaya
Vice-Chairperson – Rod Gram
Council Secretary – Joanne Gwynne
Financial Secretary – Ruth Kollars
Treasurer – Ian Koellner

Liaisons to Council representing our different Ministry Areas are:

Learning & Youth – Ruth Kollars

Service – Joanne Gwynne

Property – Jeff O'Neil & Glenn May Anderson

Worship & Music – Glenn May Anderson

Witness – Isabel Schneider

Support – Glenn May Anderson & Rod Gram

Communications – Ruth Kollars

Personnel – Katherine Gauthier

As always, to make sure that lines of communication flow properly and without confusion, Council asks that if you have a question please direct it to the proper liaison of Council.

The Lenten season is a time of deep reflection and introspection, a time for us to understand and realize once again the radical nature and the depths of God's love for humanity and creation. Although tradition holds that Lent be a time of sacrifice and solemn prayer, it can also be a time of profound epiphany and deep joy. With this in mind, please join us for any of the following Lenten and Holy Week events and services.



Wednesday, February 26 – Lenten Dinner at 6:00 pm, Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 04 - Lenten Dinner at 6:00 pm, Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 11 - Lenten Dinner at 6:00 pm, Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 18 - Lenten Dinner at 6:00 pm, Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 25 - Lenten Dinner at 6:00 pm, Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00 pm

Wednesday, April 01 – Lenten Dinner at 6:00 pm, Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00 pm

Sunday, April 05 – Palm Sunday Service at 10:30 am – meet in Hall for Blessing of Palms

Thursday, April 09 – Lenten Dinner at 6:00 pm; Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00 pm

Friday, April 10 – CrossWalk @ 9:30 am beginning at Holy Trinity; Good Friday Service held at Holy Trinity at 10:30 am

Sunday, April 12 – Easter Sunday Service at Holy Trinity at 10:30 am

From CLWR

Thank you for helping change lives in 2019! Your support was felt by people in need around the world, and we want to share with you some of the ways your gifts made a difference this year.

Because of your support, 113,699 people received life-saving assistance after being struck by emergencies like Cyclone Idai. In places like Ethiopia, 2,200 farming families received agricultural training and support, helping them combat food insecurity and feed their families.

Here in Canada, your generosity helped 104 refugee families settle into new homes across the country. Thanks to those involved in our We Care program, 12,589 quilts, milk bag mats and blankets were sent overseas to places like Cameroon, where they were gratefully received by Nigerian refugees living in the area. None of this would be possible without the support, compassion and generosity of Lutheran congregations like yours.

Thank you for your partnership!

A little girl finally got to attend a wedding. She asked her mother why the bride was wearing

white. Her mother replied, "White represents happiness and joy. This is the happiest day of her life."

The little girl thought about it and asked, "Then why is the groom wearing black??"

The Holy Trinity Choir practices at 12:30 p.m. every Sunday. New members are always welcome. All you need is a love for singing.

Got a talent you want to share? Tell Sharon!

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Music at Holy Trinity

The Holy Trinity Choir will be hosting its third annual Coffee House on May 29 at 2:00 p.m. The past two Coffee Houses have been very successful, with a variety of performers from the community, as well as the choir, providing a casual afternoon of entertainment. All are welcome and there will be a freewill offering box at the door. Coffee and goodies will be available.

For those not familiar with the idea of a Coffee House, these types of venues sprung up across North America in the late 1950s and 1960s and were often housed in local churches. Belleville even once had a "Christian Coffee House" in the late 1960s and early 1970s! A coffee house offers a small, intimate space where audiences and artists can interact and create local communities around music – a place that brings together people, things, and ideas.

So, mark May 29 on your calendars and be prepared for a wonderful afternoon of music from a wide variety of styles – classical, popular, folk, Celtic, country, musical theatre, sacred – or even spoken word. You never know what you will find at a coffee house, but you will always have a good time.

EDUCATION & YOUTH

Sunday School

The winter Sunday School session has begun. We are fortunate to have registered two new students, who happen to be sisters! This brings the total number of students registered for Sunday School to five, with usually two or three children arriving each week for their lessons. Our thanks to teachers Karen O'Neil and Ross Danaher for their dedication to the Sunday School Program. Thanks also to Natalie O'Neil and Leah Danaher for their kind assistance.

Junior Confirmation

Junior Confirmation will resume in 2020 with our one confirmand. He will be learning and exploring the stories and parables of the New Testament.

Adult Education

Adult Education is an opportunity for deeper adult exploration into the Bible and our Christian faith. Learning happens at all stages of our lives, even into adult-hood and beyond.

Holy Trinity has been fortunate to host a number of learning program opportunities over the years.

Our Monday evening group has decided to take a small break

and will resume our program in March 2020.

The next topic will be "One Strange Rock". A National Geographic based program exploring the interconnections of our planet from the perspectives of astronauts on the International Space Station.

DATE AND TIME TO BE DECIDED...Please check back in late February...



From the award-winning team of filmmaker Darren Aronofsky ('Black Swan') and producer Jane Root ('America the Story of Us'), this 10-part cinematic event series explores the fragility and wonder of planet Earth -- one of the most peculiar, unique places in the universe. Host Will Smith guides viewers on an unprecedented exploration, bolstered by an

elite group of eight astronauts who provide unique perspectives and relate personal memoirs of the planet seen from a distance. Hourlong episodes delve into monumental events such as genesis, cosmic violence, human intelligence and alien life, oxygen, and survival vs. destruction. We will explore the beauty, fragility and interconnectedness of all life on this planet from both the perspectives of science and faith. Each session will include the hour long episode, plus discussion and other media. All are welcome to join us.

Adult Confirmation

If anyone is interested in participating in an Adult Confirmation please let Pastor Rob know. This program would take those who attend through the key stories of the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament. We will also explore Lutheranism and Lutheran theology.

This program is an excellent way for each of us to learn more about our faith and beliefs, our history and to re-commit ourselves to moving forward into the future.

Youth Group

Under Karen O'Neil's leadership, the Youth have been actively fundraising over the past few months. The second year of the "Christmas Cookie Sale" was a huge success, raising several hundred dollars. Many hours were spent in the O'Neil kitchen, baking and packaging cookies, with the new personalized cookies turning out to be the 2019 favourites. Many thanks to the O'Neils and Rose Wilm for their contributions to this fundraising project.

In partnership with Congregation members, the Youth Group offered a Soup Luncheon at the AGM in February. A delicious array of soups, fresh bread and desserts were served in the Fellowship Hall just prior to the beginning of the AGM. With over forty in attendance, the Luncheon was an opportunity for fellowship and was enjoyed by all in attendance.

PASTORAL ACTS

Funeral Pre-Planning

The life of any congregation is filled with many celebrations and commemorations, not the least of which are baptisms, marriages and funerals.

If you, or a family member or friend, are interested in requesting a baptism, wedding or funeral, please see Pastor Rob for more information.

Very few of us want to think of end-of-life decisions or pre-planning our own funeral service. However, having some of or all of these requests pre-planned are very helpful to both family and clergy as they work together to celebrate and remember the life of a loved one.

If you are interested in this sort of pre-planning, you may make an appointment with Pastor Rob at any time.

WITNESS COMMITTEE

Fellowship Luncheons

Our pot-luck luncheons, as you probably know, are held on the first Tuesday of every month, unless there is another reason we have to change the date to a different time. We also take a break for the summer months of July and August.

On Tuesday, March 3rd, Christine Stevenson, the Executive Director of Community Partners for Success will be our guest speaker. This organization covers a wide range of activities to benefit our community, one of them being the Day Care at Holy Trinity.

Richard Hughes, President of the Hastings County Historical Society has agreed to speak to our group on April 7th, and share some more of his knowledge on the history of Belleville. He spoke to us two years ago and it was a most interesting presentation.

Guests for the months of May and June have not been confirmed as yet, but I will keep you informed.

So please join us for some interesting speakers, and lots of good food and fellowship.

Irene Risto

“Remember When” Movie Afternoons...

These entertaining movie afternoons will continue throughout the winter and spring.

Comedies are usually featured, but sometimes a drama is chosen for variety.

Join us on the third Thursday of each month from 1-4, for an afternoon of laughs, movie magic and light refreshments. Food donations to Gleaners or free will offering is appreciated.

All are welcome!

February 20	“Three Amigos”
March 19	“Leatherheads”
April 16, May 21, June 18	TBA

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2020



May we hear the words of this compassionate God and the Prince of Peace to act upon the healing of ourselves and our communities to bring peace and reconciliation into the world.

The 2020 WDP Service will be held locally on Friday, March 6 at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church at 2PM.

Hope to see many of Holy Trinity's members there!

The WDP 2020 program is based on Jesus' encounter with a person who, although positioned for healing, had not acted upon the opportunities given (John 5:2-9a). Jesus asked –“Do you want to be made well?” You are faced with this life-changing question. What are you going to do? Use this opportunity to reflect with your WDP group, community and ecumenical partners. Prayer and action are what links us together around the globe.

The country of Zimbabwe continues its search for peace during its political transition. The change in government, that occurred when the WDP materials were written, continues to bring Zimbabwe to the frontlines of the media. The economy crashed the dreams of many, Mugabe died at 95 years old, protests are met with violence, and a massive cyclone has flooded some communities.

However in all moments, WDP women, churches and ecumenical organizations have not lost hope.

“Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk,” said Jesus. Our sisters from Zimbabwe are taking Jesus' encounter to be a call to act in love for peace and reconciliation. “The action verbs suggest that we should not be afraid to act on the word of God. God is offering us the steps for personal and social transformation.” This is the time for change!

Holy Trinity (Evangelical) Lutheran Women

Our Evangelical Lutheran Women's group continues to be vibrant and very active in all activities in our church – being in mission for others and helping out wherever there is a need. We meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 2PM in the parish hall and all ladies are welcome to attend.

2019 has again been a busy year for us. In the Spring, the ladies put together 4 layettes for CLWR and in June provided food and help at the St. Martin's choir meals which were quite enjoyable and uplifting. What a great group they were.

The start of fall is our busiest time. Along with help from the congregation 6 hygiene kits, 24 living and learning kits, many items towards a teachers kit – paper, pencils, crayons, 2 calculators, 2 soccer balls and 2 pumps were sent on to CLWR. As well 12 sundresses and numerous knitted bears were also sent. In October/November, again with help from the congregation, 86 items were collected on the mitten tree and taken to the Christmas Sharing office for distribution where they are eagerly awaited. Any remaining items are taken to the Salvation Army.

November saw our ladies running the tea room at the bazaar and in December we coordinated the Christmas Sharing program and purchased and delivered 11 poinsettias to our sick and shut in members. Together with the congregation, we were able to deliver 6 food baskets and 4 gift cards. Thanks to everyone who participated in this. All recipients were quite appreciative.

Along with the various projects and events, ELW purchased supplies for the church like tea, coffee, sugar, juice, place mats, serviettes and hand soap to name a few, donated money to our deficit, sent money to the Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots (LAMP) to provide materials for Vacation Bible School in most northern communities and to the Fellowship of the Least Coin project of the Women's Interchurch Council of Canada. Lastly we provided money for the St. Martin's choir food, Oktoberfest and Christmas Sharing.

I would like to thank all our ladies for their continued support, dedication and energy. May everyone have a healthy and blessed 2020.

Wendy Glendinning

Christmas Bazaar & Tea 2020

Joanne Gwynne, 13 year organizer of our Christmas Bazaar & Tea is stepping down for a well-deserved break. Joanne will remain on the Committee and concentrate on the success of our Craft Table.

Many heartfelt thanks to Joanne for her dedication to making the HTELC Christmas Bazaar & Tea the go-to destination in Belleville for November.

Isabel Schneider will be taking over Joanne's role as Chairperson. Isabel is looking forward to working with you all in continuing this wonderful tradition.

As a former auctioneer and antiques-dealer the White Elephant Table is of particular interest to Isabel. Our 2019 table raised \$321.10 which is great but many items remained unsold. In hopes of increasing sales and reducing the number of unsold items, Isabel proposes we try something new this year. In past years donations have been received by the boxful the day before and the day of the Bazaar. This year we will be asking for small donations throughout the year (quarterly). During the first quarter of 2020 (from now until the end of March) donations of porcelain, glass and Christmas items would be greatly appreciated. We hope by the end of March to have collected 3 boxfuls of interesting items.

Thank you very much and peace be with you.

Isabel Schneider

Mrs. Smartt was fumbling in her purse for her offering when a large television remote fell out and clattered into the aisle.

The curious usher bent over to retrieve it for her and whispered, "Do you always carry your TV remote to church?"

"No," she replied, "but my husband refused to come with me this morning, and I figured this was the most evil thing I could do to him legally."

Holy Week Day-by-Day Reflection

To help us get into the reflective spirit of the Lenten season I thought it might be appropriate to examine the day-by-day story of Holy Week as found in the original Gospel, Mark. Mark provides us with the earliest story of Holy Week. Perhaps, as a supplement to your devotional or reflective time, each day's story can be read and reflected upon.

But first, some context...Jesus lived during a very tumultuous time in Roman-occupied Israel. The Romans, in cooperation with the authorities in the Jewish temple had set up a system of economic and political domination that caused a few, elite in the cities to become very rich, while economic conditions in the countryside were worsening dramatically. As we have learned in recent sermons, Jews had a love/hate relationship with the Temple – they were dependant on the system of sacrifices that occurred there, but those in charge of the temple endorsed, and even benefitted from a harsh system of oppression. Jesus' ministry was almost exclusively directed at the impoverished masses in the countryside. His message may have been deeply theological, but it was also profoundly political – it taught that the "Kingdom of God" treated the poor and marginalized with justice and equality. For Jesus to enter Jerusalem, followed by a large crowd of downtrodden followers, must have frightened those in charge of the Temple!

To walk through Holy Week by reading Mark requires us of the 21st century to be confronted by the same Jesus...and...to reflect on the ways that we may ourselves be involved (knowingly or not) in modern-day versions of domination systems...and then to further reflect on what it means to oppose those systems from a Gospel-centered point of view.

Here are the readings and reflections for Holy Week:

Palm Sunday (Mk.1:1-11) – Jesus' entry into Jerusalem is a planned political demonstration which invokes Zechariah 9, in which the Shepherd King / King of Peace rides into Jerusalem on a donkey. It should be contrasted with the display of force that is involved when Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate, also rides into Jerusalem, mounted on a war horse, and surrounded by a Legion of Roman soldiers.



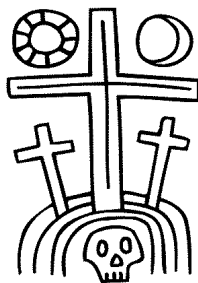
Holy Monday (Mk.1:12-19) – Jesus goes into the Temple and shuts down the process of converting currency, something that is very necessary (and legal) for the Temple system of sacrifices to take place. He condemns the authorities openly, accusing them of using the Temple as a 'den' while they undertake 'robbery' outside the Temple. To understand more about this reference to a 'den of robbers' please read Jeremiah 7. If one engages in injustice outside the Temple, one cannot expect God's protection inside it. This story is sandwiched between a two-part story of a fig tree cursed by Jesus, and then withers...which symbolically suggests that in the same way that the fig tree withered, so too would the corruption of the Temple.

Holy Tuesday (Mk.1:20-13:37) – In this very long text, Jesus is confronted by the people in charge of the Temple, who question his authority, and then attempt to humiliate him by asking him 'trick' questions that are meant to trap him in his words. But it does not work. The destruction of the Temple by the Romans in 70 CE was probably happening during the time that Mark was written, or shortly before.

Holy Wednesday (Mk.14:1-11) – On this day, a woman pours very expensive perfume on Jesus in an act of devotion, an event which Mark views as Jesus’ preparation for his burial – a sign that his fate is now sealed. Notice how, when the disciples object to such extravagance, Jesus makes a statement which assumes that his disciples will always be present in the midst of poverty.

Maundy Thursday (Mk.14:12-72) – Notice again the elaborate plans Jesus has already made for Passover, as his disciples are led, in an almost clandestine way, to the place where the meal is to be shared. There, Jesus tells them of his coming death, and its meaning, but alerts them that he will be raised, and that he will later meet them in Galilee. Also note how everyone eventually deserts Jesus...even Peter, his most devoted friend and disciple. Though later editions of this story (Matthew, Luke and John) will add other stories, this is the last time that we see the eleven in Mark’s original version.

Good Friday (Mk.15:1-47) – Today, Jesus is executed and buried. Notice, during this reading, how God’s judgement now comes on the Temple. The land becomes dark (see Amos 8:9), and the Temple curtain is torn in two, seeming to suggest that God has ‘left’ the Temple. Jesus himself quotes from Psalm 22 in which it at first appears that God has deserted him too, but which later indicates that God will vindicate him.



Easter Saturday (nothing) – Nothing is said in Mark’s Gospel about the Sabbath Day. This is a day to sit in silence, reflecting on the sober reality of Jesus’ mortality. He lies silent in the tomb.

Stewardship 2020

Stewardship is often something that can be difficult to talk about. Probably because the most common definition of stewardship revolves around money and giving. As I am sure you are all aware, stewardship is about so much more. It also includes our time and our talents...and how we take care of or give of those gifts, to our congregation, our community and our world-at-large.

HTELC will strive to be good stewards of the many gifts and talents that are given generously in this congregation.

Church Cleaning

Thanks goes out to everyone who has stepped up to do the cleaning of the church. If we all do a little bit everything will get done.

The Tuesday Coffee group have volunteered to do the weekly cleaning of the kitchen and the

handicapped washroom. Thanks so much ladies.

Thank you!

A quick thank you from Pastor Rob to everyone in the congregation for all of the hard work, participation, support and kindness that has been displayed for all of our various ministries, programs and projects this past year! It has been and continues to be a privilege to work with and among you in this place. We have a great year planned ahead of us...let's keep this ship moving in the right direction by working together for the good of this place, its people and of our wider community.

Communications Report

HTELC is on the Internet!

Holy Trinity has a website through a local Belleville Company which meets our needs to be found on the Internet. The website www.htelc.ca provides visitor's information about where we are and what is going on at the church on the home page. If the visitor wishes any more in-depth information there is various pages. Please visit our website and if you have any suggestions please e-mail admin@htelc.ca.

The website is also where the various e-mail lists are securely stored, such as the newsletter list, council lists and the public e-mail addresses for the church contacts.

The church also has a social media presence with a Facebook Page @ <https://www.facebook.com/Holy-Trinity->

Evangelical-Lutheran-Church-1714558515432735/. Please if you have not already done so check our sites.

Dale Holland

Summer Camp Save the Date!

LutherLyn 2020



Lutherlyn enjoys a long history of providing quality programs for children. Enjoy all Lutherlyn has to offer by registering for one of our weekly camps.

One Week Camps (ages 8-15)

A week long experience for children ages eight through fifteen. Each daily theme offers outdoor activities, worship, group reflections, crafts, campfires and more. Our well-trained program staff lead all activities. Chaplains serve each week to facilitate worship and study. Classic small-group camping in a Christian community!

2020 Programs:

One Week Camps– (age 8-15) \$375.00 per week

- Week one – July 7-12
- Week two- July 14-19
- Week Three- July 21-26

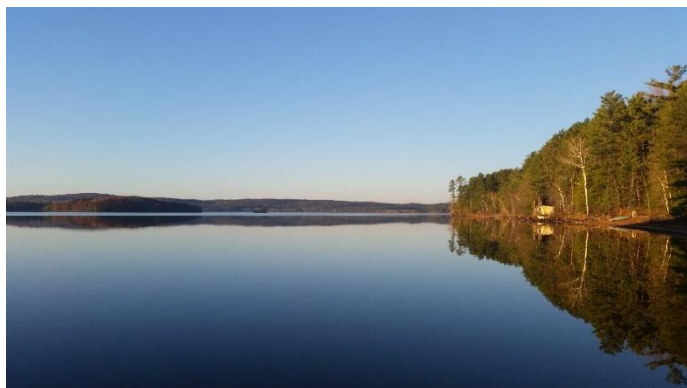
Leaders In Training (age 15+) \$450.00

This hands-on leadership development experience combines training sessions and practical opportunities. This training can be applied to all employment situations, school and church leadership and peer service.
LIT Camp- July 7-26, Sunday to Friday each week

Team Camp \$375.00

This camp is designed to develop leadership skills and self-reliance for young people who will soon be entering the work force. The program includes the usual fun camp activities – swimming, campfire, new friends, worship activities, and has a special focus on outdoor camping skills.

TEEN Camp – July 28 – Aug 2



Violence Awareness & Random Acts of Kindness Program

We are excited and very pleased to be celebrating the 24th Annual Violence Awareness and Random Acts of Kindness Week to be held **February 16 to 23, 2020.**

Once again each church in the region is being invited to consider participating in the planned events and promoting this special week.

The purpose of this program is to promote positive energy to counteract the negative effects of senseless violence, through acts of kindness. Our program is offered to 62 area elementary schools, 15 high schools with over 24,000 students invited to participate as well.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Our Congregation has been encouraged by Synod representatives, Pastor Riita Hepomaki and Reverend Joel Crouse to reach out into the community to share news of Holy Trinity’s activities. Here are a couple of articles that appeared in local papers during the holiday season.

Christmas Cantata (2019) at Holy Trinity

A Christmas miracle took place at Holy Trinity on Sunday, December 15 as our Sanctuary was transformed into a barn to set the stage for a performance of the Christmas Cantata “The Night the Animals Talked”. Holy Trinity’s Director of Music, Sharon Wickett, explained, “I based the Cantata’s musical story on an old Norwegian legend about the birth of Jesus...because of the legend’s comical twist! The barn animals tell the tale after they are magically given the power of speech for just one night - the night baby Jesus is born. Fans of George Orwell’s “Animal Farm” will also recognize elements of his story in the Cantata, but with a very positive ending”.

By taking on these various animal voices, Holy Trinity’s Choir members and children of the Congregation shared the story of Jesus’ birth through songs and readings. Musical accompaniment was provided by Wickett and Pastor Rob Wiesner. The production began with great hilarity as the Choir members, in their barn animal roles, provided the usual barn cacophony of mooing, clucking, oinking and

braying. Suddenly, the animals were astonished to hear themselves able to speak and sing like “humans”. Their opening number “All God’s Creatures Have a Place in the Choir” was followed by “Little Grey Donkey”.

This led to the arrival of a Choir member playing the role of Mary and Joseph’s donkey. The “donkey” requested shelter for his masters, explaining that Mary was “with child”. Unaccustomed to speaking in human voices, the barn animals’ conversation was sprinkled with humour as they debated whether they had room for Mary and Joseph and whether strangers were welcome in the barn.

The Congregation and guests were invited to participate in the production by joining in on the singing of the Christmas carols, “Joy to the World” and “Once in Royal David’s City”, which were woven into the story. Everyone’s hearts were melted in the finale, when the barn animals sent Pastor Rob Wiesner’s eldest children, Micah and Edwin, into the audience. Dressed as doves, it was their mission to find Mary and Joseph and invite them to shelter in the barn. “Go Tell it on the Mountain” was sung by all as the Cantata came to an end. With the realization that everyone is welcome, that everyone is equal, the animal’s overnight gift of speech faded to the usual sounds of animals in a barn.



This is the third Cantata created by Sharon at Holy Trinity. She commented “I happened to find the Italian cartoon “The Night the Animals Talked” on YouTube and after researching its origins, I was keen to adapt its Christmas message of peace and inclusivity into a family friendly Cantata for our Church and our community”. The event was well attended with many already looking forward to next year’s Cantata creation by Sharon.

Christmas Cheer for Quantum Quinte Youth

Holy Trinity shared a Social Infrastructure Grant from the City of Belleville with Quantum Quinte, a local non-profit, which uses Holy Trinity’s facilities each Wednesday as part of Quantum Quinte’s high school “lunch hub” program. Thanks to the Grant, the Christmas season was made a little brighter for fifteen of its “at risk” students who each received a Christmas gift bag filled to the brim with winter gloves, warm socks, personal care items, plus treats donated by members of our Congregation.



Notes....

Gift bags were presented in our Fellowship Hall by Wendy Glendinning and Ruth Kollars to Quantum Quinte's Holly Read-Fleming, Youth Worker and its Co-op Student, Shellorna Sooley. Ms. Read-Fleming shared that "the students from Eastside Secondary School who participate in the lunch hub program were overwhelmed with gratitude and definitely felt the Christmas spirit!"



Through Quantum Quinte's counselling, mentoring and food support programs, its "at risk" teen participants are provided with the supports they need to help them graduate from high school and find employment as young adults.