



Holy Trinity

Lutheran Church

FALL 2018

September — November

Mission Initiative: Building Puentes with Caribbean Synod



Building Puentes

Building Puentes means building bridges – and is the name of a commitment between the ELCA Caribbean Synod and the

Metro D.C. Synod. As you all know, we are committed to Building Puentes with the Caribbean Synod and believe in mutual learning and growing in the process.

- Every congregation in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands was affected by last year's Hurricane Maria. Let us break through the chasms that divide and build bridges with fellow Lutheran siblings on the mainland and on the islands affected by storm devastation.
- Local leaders have been working tirelessly given their new reality. As part of the *Building Puentes*

call, we will build connections and true relationship with work trips and aid.

Recently, Pr. Leila Ortiz travelled to Puerto Rico for a Rostered Ministers Gathering. Upon her return, she reported to Pastor Mike that Santisma Trinidad needs sports equipment for their youth program and they need to replace the roof of their basketball court. See https://www.facebook.com/pg/ielsantri/photos/?tab=album&album_id=457084057960001. As we receive additional details, they will be included in the Sunday announcements as our Fall Mission Initiative.



Together, in Jesus' name, we will develop new and organic ways to connect and live into our mutual call to follow the Light no darkness can overcome.

CELEBRATING OUR 70TH ANNIVERSARY!

Remembering the First Worship Service at
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Breakfast at 8:00 a.m. Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.

More on
Pages 2-4

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Next issue in December
covering our Fall news and activities



Pastor's Peace

Time to Celebrate Who We are Today in Christ (Fall 2018)

The story of Holy Trinity began in the late 1940s when pastor Robert W. Long of Faith Lutheran Church, Arlington, Virginia, proposed to the Eastern District of the American Lutheran Church the organization of a mission congregation in rural Falls Church, Virginia. The proposal was accepted and three lots were purchased at the corner of Arlington Boulevard and Woodlawn Avenue. The Congregation first worshiped together on September 12, 1948, with 40 adults and 21 children in attendance at the Hillwood Square Community Hall.

How do we start to celebrate being God's community in Falls Church, VA, for seventy years? Maybe with gratitude. We could start with thanks and appreciation for the gift of Jesus Christ who binds us all together, and the Gospel that inspired a pastor and 61 children and adults to be a church. We could give thanks for the Holy Spirit that gave those first individuals and families the courage, strength and will power to gather on a weekly basis and invite others into their community.

We could also give thanks for the many generations and generous hearts who found Holy Trinity to be their church home, but also gave generously to respond to the needs of their growing community and expanded its building and footprint for us all to enjoy today.

We could also give thanks for the many ways Holy Trinity has impacted the local community and the world with the support of countless mission appeals, the support of people in need and the response to international concerns. Taking into consideration all the major world events, natural disasters and global changes over the past seventy years, Holy Trinity responded in incalculable ways.

With so much giving, we cannot forget the family members and friends who died in the faith and have joined the great eternal feast with Christ. Holy Trinity said goodbye to many loved ones and friends who were a blessing to us and to our faith community.

We will come together to celebrate our seventy years of faithful living as a community in Christ on Sunday, September 9th, but we also get to celebrate our calling to work together to be the church for our world today: a world that looks much different from the "rural" Falls Church of seventy years ago. Our calling is to continue to be faithful and generous, but also to be proactive and discern new ways God is calling us to be the church to an increasingly diverse and secular world.

Let us all come together and celebrate. Let us celebrate our beautiful past, our fantastic and vibrant present, and our hopeful and promising future.

Peace be with you,

Pastor Mike



September 9, 2018

8:00am Registration and Fellowship

8:15am Welcome
Pastor Mike Gutzler

8:20am A Walk Down Memory Lane
Lynn Tedesco

8:30am Invocation
Bishop Richard Graham

BREAKFAST SERVED

9:15am 70th Anniversary Special Gifts

9:30am Fellowship and Remembering

9:50am Process to the Church Sanctuary



Council News

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven"

--Ecclesiastes 3:1

One morning last week I walked out the door and it felt a little like fall (of course this week it's back to extreme summer!) and it got me thinking about seasons and change (hence Ecclesiastes!).

At this season of the year, we would normally be preparing to move back to two services on Sunday mornings. Since I joined Holy Trinity, each summer when we moved to a single service I would see people who attended the late service and think "it's so nice to see them again!". And I would feel less rushed in the morning before service and think "this is kind of nice". And I would look around during worship and feel a different energy as we all gathered as a single body. In talking to other members of the congregation, I think many of us felt the same way about our summer schedule, but many of us also appreciated the different worship styles of our two services from fall through spring and the way the worship times fit into our schedules.

But this year, rather than returning to two services from our summer single-service schedule as we've done in years past, we will continue with a single service at 10 a.m. This change was the result of a great deal of discussion and individual discernment—by all of us on council, by the committee formed to survey the congregation about a potential change, and by each of you as you responded to that survey. I wanted to thank all of you who took the time to give us your views, as well as the entire congregation for your willingness to try this new way of worshipping together.

As we've noted in the announcements that have been in the bulletin during August, we're adopting the change as a one-year trial. At the end of the year we will again seek your input as to whether we should make the change permanent or return to a two-service schedule in the fall of 2019. And as we live into the change, all of us on council would welcome your thoughts on ways to improve the new schedule or any problems you may see—just drop us a note in the council mailbox in the church office.

The music and worship team is already working to make sure all worship styles are reflected in our new schedule, and a single service will ensure that our ushers, assisting minister, acolytes and other volunteers will be less stretched each week. We hope this change will be a positive for all of us and bring us closer together as part of the body of Christ!

In addition to this big change, Council has been working on some smaller changes—I hope you've had a chance to use the new water fountain and water bottle filler in the Fellowship Hall!—as well as continuing to manage more recent changes, as our daycare tenant continues to welcome more children, as we welcome our new vicar, Corey Bergman, and as we plan for events in the fall such as our 70th anniversary celebration, our continuing music series and the upcoming Octoberfest event.

Finally, I want to thank all of you for the opportunity to serve as our congregation's president and to thank my fellow members of church council for their service, including our newly elected treasurer, Joe Kile, and secretary, Terri Fleck, as well as Terry Bathen, Seth Clark, Karen Cockerham, Julie Davis, Pamela Kabati, Mark Kerr, Scott Sherard, Brent Stone and Lori Wicks.

Mary Minette
Council President

2018-19 CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS and MEMBERS

President: Mary Minette	Julie Davis	Mark Kerr	Terry Bathen
Treasurer: Joe Kile	Scott Sherard	Seth Clark	Brent Stone
Secretary: Terri Fleck	Pamela Kabati	Karen Cockerham	Lori Wicks



Vex the Vicar

by Vicar Corey Bergman



Hello Everyone! Thanks so much for your questions. I hope you learn from and enjoy my responses!

When is your birthday? I was born on February 24th in 1994. I've always been told that a blizzard hit the day I was born.

How many brothers and sisters do you have? I have one younger brother named Devin. He just turned 20 this past July. We get along better now that we are older and no longer live under the same roof. We also have voices and speech patterns very similar to my Dad's so we get confused for each other over the phone.

Dog or Cat person? Both? I grew up with dogs. When I was really little we had a small horse of a German shepherd named Monty. Then for most of my youth we had a Shetland sheepdog named Mack (well, technically his breeder/birth certificate said "Laird McGregor of the Hills" but we just called him Mack). Right now my parents have a small dog mix named Albus. That being said, I do like cats as well; my mom was just allergic so we never had them growing up. Recently my fiancée Maddie and I adopted two little sister kittens we named Eliza and Angelica.

What do you need the most hands on experience with at the congregational level and how can HT best help you with that? I think the two areas I need the most help with are administration (which Joan has been an amazing help with) and getting to know people. As an Introvert it usually takes me a while to get to know people, and in congregations a lot of the socializing seems to be done during large group things like coffee hour after service where I'm not at my most comfortable. This means the thing you can do that would most help me is exactly the invitation John gave when I was welcomed into Holy Trinity. Invite me to get to know you outside the walls of the church where you do your living. Of course I plan on making my own invitations as well; but you all know where you are your best self, and those are the places I want to meet you. It doesn't have to be at a dinner table it can be a swim meet, a coffee shop, or even your place of work. I want to get to know you, not just your face in the pew on Sunday morning.

Day in the Life (of a Vicar) Paraphrasing the Beatles "I read the news today, oh boy..."? To be quite honest I'd never heard this song before so I had to look it up before I could respond to the question. My parents are more Genesis/Journey/Styx listeners than Beatles listeners. I mean, my hair doesn't really need a comb so I usually just throw some pomade in it (insert Jonathan from Queer Eye gif here) and run out the door coffee in hand, to burst through the office doors about 5 minutes before I'm supposed to start my day. I'm not a breakfast person, so I usually find myself eating a Pop Tart in the office around 10:30. I check in with Pastor Mike and Joan when I get into the office, and so far that is about the only consistent part of any of my days. I've met with people, and read some books but, yeah, still attempting the whole set schedule thing. Check back with me in April and I should have a better answer for you.

D.C. vs. Minnesota? I'm going to take this as a compare and contrast question instead of a competition because I don't want to hurt anyone's feelings. I think the biggest difference for me is that the history out here is a lot more national versus in Minnesota a lot of the places have local history if any history at all. I see a lot less water here too; I think I've seen one river the whole time I've been here and at home I can't even leave my development without having to pass by a large pond/small lake. I think the last big difference I'll mention here is that the number of Methodist churches is comparable to the number of Lutheran churches in Minnesota and vice versa (at least that's how it feels).

What, as a result of your own personal gifts and talents do you hope to leave with us as your contribution to our growth and well-being during the coming year? In the grand scheme of things, I'd love to contribute more to the well-being (I'm making 0 promises or hopes on the growth piece) of the youth programming here than anything else. Mostly because that is where my talents and experiences are but also because I think there are parts of my story that might resonate more with the youth here than other Pastors/volunteers/adults. And those parts of my story give me a different perspective on the Gospel that they might find easier to engage with. I know what it is like to grow up in the pressure cooker that is a modern high school in a well-to-do area. I remember feeling (as far back as 3rd grade) as if it was a competition to get into special classes and groups, and that getting in to them was a measure of my worth as a person. I think the part that really makes me unique, though, is that I could be labeled as having "failed" when it came to all that competition if you compare me to some of my peers, but I also like to think the system failed me instead. In all honesty, I'm not sure what my impact will be but I look forward to finding out alongside all of you. Peace,

Vicar Corey



Getting Connected

During our 70th anniversary year, we will feature Holy Trinity's history by decades.

This article covers the 1940's and 1950's.

HOLY TRINITY'S EARLY HISTORY

In the late 1940's the pastor of Faith Lutheran Church in Arlington proposed the organization of a mission church in the then rural area of Falls Church. In the fall of 1947 the American Lutheran Church purchased three lots at the corner of Arlington Boulevard and Woodlawn Avenue for this future church. In the spring of 1948 a call was extended to Rev. Edward Yost to serve as a temporary assistant at Faith Lutheran for the purpose of developing the new mission church.

The new mission church's first service and Sunday School were held on Sunday, September 12, 1948, with 40 adults attending the service and 21 children enrolled in Sunday School. The location of the first service was Hillwood Square Community Hall, a "temporary" defense building near Cherry Street in Falls Church. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church was formally organized on January 24, 1949.

The congregation outgrew its temporary location and starting in April of 1949 met at Jefferson Theater (now the Goodwill Retail Store and Donation Center) on Annandale Road near Arlington Boulevard.

On October 22, 1950, Pastor Yost was installed as pastor of Holy Trinity. The groundbreaking ceremony for a church building (the current Rothenberg Hall) was held on March 4, 1951. In that same year Holy Trinity began its sponsorship of Boy Scout Troop 140 and a Couples Club was formed. Shortly after its formation, the Couples Club sponsored a refugee family from Germany, the Rothenbergs.

In 1952, Holy Trinity purchased its first parsonage and opened a Christian Day School. The first kindergarten class of 29 pupils graduated in 1953. On Holy Trinity's 5th anniversary (1954) its status changed from mission church to full church status, with communicant membership at 217 and Sunday School enrollment at 350 children. A new two-story education building (currently the pastors' offices, church office, and library/conference room) was dedicated on August 28, 1955.

HOLY TRINITY 1948-2018

PASTORS

Edward F. Yost; Pastor 1948-1963

William L. Nies; Pastor 1963-1974

Douglas Langholz; Assistant Pastor 1970-1975
Pastor 1975-1980

Stephen DeGweck; Assistant Pastor 1975-1978

Steven Swonger; Assistant Pastor 1978-1982

Larry Shoberg; Interim Pastor 1980-1981

Larry M. Cantu; Pastor 1981-2000

Arnold Holgersen; Associate Pastor 1983-1987

Jason Burns; Youth Pastor 1984-1987

Craig Endicott; Associate Pastor 1988-1998

Ralph Piper; Pastor Emeritus 1990-1998

Jennifer Zima; Assistant Pastor 1998-2002

William Zima; Assistant Pastor 1998-2002

John W. Bengston; Interim Pastor 2001-2002

Brent Thalacker; Interim Pastor 2002

Douglas Ryniewicz; Pastor 2002-2006

Jane Halpern; Associate Pastor 2003-2007
Pastor 2007-2015

Jim Heinemeier; Interim Associate Pastor 2006-2007

Margrethe Kleiber; Assistant Pastor 2008
Associate Pastor 2010-2012

Tom Montgomery; Interim Pastor 2015

Michael Gutzler; Pastor 2015-present

Krista Vingelis; Pastor of Youth and Family
Ministry 2017-2018

VICARS

Donald McCash 1966-1967

Timothy Nehis 1967-1968

Richard Gilbert 1968-1969

Richard Browder 1969-1970

Kelli Shepard 1993-1994

Tyson Wood 1994-1995

Douglas Ryniewicz 1995-1996

Jeff Lindsay 1997-1998

Scott Seeke 1998-1999

Gerard Johnson 1999-2000

Laura Johnson 2008-2009

Daniel G. Shantu 2009-2010

Suzanne M. Stierwalt 2013-2014

Daniel Rinehart 2016-2017

Cory Bergman 2018-

Many thanks to Mary Bowen for providing this historical information



Invite a Friend



October 6 – Mark Your Calendar

It's a busy time at HTLC! It turns out our RIC team will be conducting one of their most important outreach initiatives in our community on September 29, NOVA Pride (see page 9).

To that end, we've moved Oktoberfest back to its original date of Saturday, October 6. Watch the bulletins for more info...but for now mark your calendar for **October 6, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Getting Connected

MEET—LEARN—FELLOWSHIP

Listed below are some of our monthly gatherings. All are welcome to attend.
If you are interested in joining us or have questions, please contact the church office.

- ♦ **Needlecrafters—Second and fourth Wednesdays** at 10:00 a.m., in Rothenberg Hall.
- ♦ **OWLS—First Wednesday** at 11:30 a.m., in Fellowship Hall. Fun, food & fellowship and celebration of birthdays!
- ♦ **Women's Bible Study Groups—Miriam/Lydia** meets on the **third Friday** of each month at 1:00 p.m., in the Youth/Community Room. **Naomi** meets on the **fourth Sunday** of each month at 5:30 p.m., in the Library.
- ♦ **Men's Breakfast—First Saturday** at 8:30 a.m. Held at a local restaurant near HTLC.
- ♦ **Women's Book Club—First Saturday** at 8:30 a.m. Location varies between Holy Trinity or a member's home. If you are interested in joining us, please contact coordinator Linda Beaty at linda.beaty@writeme.com



OWLS News

Wednesday, September 5 at 11:30 in Fellowship Hall—Instead of potluck, we will have pizza. If you would like to bring a salad to have with the pizza, please feel free. We will also celebrate any September birthdays. After lunch, we will play 'white elephant' bingo. Bring something from home that you are ready to part with, to be used as prizes. Also, if anyone has recently taken an interesting trip and would like to share it with us, please contact Leona Badger or Jean Strandlee.

Wednesday, October 3—Meet in Fellowship Hall for car pools to The Falls Church Episcopal Church for a one hour historical tour. It will be led by a member of the Archival Ministry, and will include a room holding nearly 350 years of archives. Lunch after tour at Applebees. If you plan to attend, please call Leona at (703) 573-1708 or Jean (703) 354-5610. All are welcome.

REMINDER: St. Jude's Children's Hospital would love to have your old greeting cards. Just tear off the fronts and place in small box on shelf in narthex. Please NO card larger than 5" x 7", and NO Hallmark, Disney or American cards. OWLS members will gather cards and mail to the hospital. For more information, see Jean or Leona or visit: <https://stjude ranch.org/recycled-card-program/>



Holy Trinity Day at Nat's Park (July 22)



Getting Connected



Parents Brandon and Katie Blomquist, with sponsors and Pastor Mike at Evelyn's baptism (June 17, 2018)

Pastor Mike with a very cooperative Jeremiah. The Young Family: Rob, Libby & Jeremiah, and Grace (July 29, 2018)



Dear HT family,

Thank you all so much for the visitation stoles (Amy- they're perfect!) and for the lovely white stole. I certainly felt your presence with me during my Ceremony. It was wonderful to see Joan, John, & Anne Kress and, Colin & Chuck - they passed along all of your hugs and love AND THOSE AWESOME CARDS!

Unfortunately we will not be able to join you on Sept 9- I'm a little busy on Sunday mornings! But I'll see whoever will be at Harry's committal. Continue to love each other well & to be a blessing in Falls Church & the rest of the world. - I love & miss all y'all!

Blessings!

Pastor Suzanne



Newly ordained Pr. Suzanne Stierwalt with daughters Lainey (L), Jillian and granddaughter Zara Belle. (July 28, 2018)



Yes, Pr. Suzanne has bobbleheads in her office!



Former HT Pastor Jane Halpern and Joan Buscher with Pastor Suzanne at Suzanne's parish church, St. Andrews.



Getting Connected

Eagle Scout Project

by Christopher Boose

Saturday, August 11—Thanks to all of you for contributing to this project! Here is an initial report on today's event for documentation.

8:30 am--station was set up.

9:00 am--first volunteers arrive, rock removal and weeding begins. Weeds were trashed, rocks disposed of.

10:00 am--18 volunteers total have shown up. Most large rocks have been moved out. Weeds are gone. Work begins on major roots and flattening the terrain.

11:30 am--23 volunteers in total have signed in. Victory over the largest stumps is achieved.

12:00 pm--terrain mostly flattened. Soil builder is applied to the ground.

12:30 pm--Vocelli's fails to delivery pizzas, morale wavering. Grass seed is also applied as work begins on digging holes for new shrubbery. Brick edging put in.

1:00 pm--Pizza arrives for remaining volunteers.



1:30 pm--Holes dug into ground for shrubbery, watering and clean up begins.

Some work will continue to ensure adequate watering, but largely the project is done. Total volunteer man-hours of labor: 71 and 10 minutes (roughly) -- not including preparation time.

Special thanks to Betty's Azalea Ranch and Karen Cockerham for the plants, Craig Harner for transporting soil builder, Dave Badger for coordination with the church, and Jeffrey Ihnen for advising along the way. And also to my father for putting up with me (but he doesn't need to know I said that).



Mosaic Church Playgroup—For the past year, we have hosted a Thursday morning play group for young children at a meeting room

in the Mosaic District. Our numbers have steadily grown and on the last Thursday in August, we had 19 children and 13 caregivers/parents attend! We sing fun songs, do silly finger plays, read interactive stories and move to music. We end with a prayer and a time for visiting. The children enjoy being together and having fun while interacting with songs and stories, and so do we! *Pastor Mike, Vicar Cory, Karen Davis*

UPCOMING MISSION INITIATIVES:

SIGNS OF THANKSGIVING

- **November** — FACETS
Thanksgiving Food Drive
- **December** — FACETS Angel Tree
Coordinator: Kristi Poreda



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Saturday, December 1
9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

PEW PAL — You, too, can be one. If someone familiar to you has been among the missing on Sunday mornings, why not give them a call. Perhaps they have been ill, in the hospital, or just simply out of town.



Growing in Faith

LEARN—SHARE—GROW

All are welcome to attend. If you are interested in joining us or have questions, please contact the church office.

- ♦ **Sunday Morning Bible Study**—10:00 a.m., in the Library. Studying Acts. Leader is Deacon Deb Haynes.
- ♦ **Acolyte Training - Sunday, September 16 at 8:00 a.m.** Past, new acolytes, and any one interested in becoming an acolyte are invited. Meet us in the church.
- ♦ **Adult Forum** resumes on Sunday, September 16 at 8:45 a.m. in Rothenberg Hall. Coordinator is Jeffrey Taylor.
- ♦ **Women's Bible Study Salad Supper Kickoff** with the new Bible Study is **September 17** at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Our leader is Deacon Deb Haynes, introducing the next 3-month *WELCA* study on the topic of repentance.
- ♦ **Faith Outside the Box—Select Mondays—September 24 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the Youth/Community Room. We will begin our discussion of "Unbelievable," the last book by Bishop John Spong. For future meetings, check the Sunday bulletins or visit www.holytrinityfallschurch.org
- ♦ **Women's Bible Study Groups**—**Miriam/Lydia** meets on the **third Friday** of each month at 1:00 p.m., in the Youth/Community Room. **Naomi** meets on the **fourth Sunday** of each month at 5:30 p.m., in the Library.

Holy Trinity offers Sunday School for all ages during the Christian education hour beginning at 8:45 a.m., on Sunday, September 16

Children aged 7 and under are invited to gather in the Sanctuary with their parents for a musical opening at 8:45 a.m. Following the opening, kids aged 4-7 are encouraged to attend Sunday school class in Fellowship Hall, while younger children and their parents are invited to attend a devotional led by Pastor Mike.

A separate musical opening followed by grade-level Sunday school instruction will begin at 8:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall for youth in 3rd through 6th grade.

A Confirmation class is offered in Fellowship Hall for youth in grades 7 and 8, while High School students enjoy topical discussions in a laid-back atmosphere in the youth room.

If you have questions or need more information, please contact Martha Kile or the church office.

Serving Our Neighbor

RIC News—The Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Committee will meet the third Sunday of each month after church in the Youth and Community Room. Our next meeting will be at 11:30 a.m., on September 16. Please join us as we explore ways to be more welcoming to members of the LGBT community.



On **Saturday, September 29**, Holy Trinity will be hosting a table at NOVA Pride. This is a wonderful family and dog-friendly event. We need volunteers to join the fun. If you're willing and able, please contact Rob Nichols at rob.Nichols1@outlook.com or Laura Daugherty at laura.daugherty@verizon.net. Also look for the sign up board in the narthex.

This year's NOVA Pride theme is "United in Pride," and organizers are "inviting everyone in the pro-equality community to attend our festival united by our shared appreciation for diversity and acceptance."

"Our community's incredible diversity, capacity to embrace intersectional issues, and just overall resiliency in the face of adversity... it's inspiring. I look forward to the entire Northern Virginia community to come set an example, being United by Pride during such a divided time in our history."

- Brian Reach, President & Executive Director of NOVA Pride.



For more info, visit <https://www.novapride.org/festival>
2018 Northern Virginia Pride Festival
United in Pride
9-29-18, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Bull Run Special Events Center



Serving Our Neighbor

Human Trafficking

Maryland News WTOP by Kristi King 8/9/2018:

Maryland ramps up fight against human trafficking with funding, new state position

Maryland is accelerating its fight against human trafficking with millions of dollars in state funding to support or create multiple initiatives that help victims and go after criminals. Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan said as a father, he finds human trafficking despicable. "I'm heartbroken for these daughters and sons who are being victimized and brutalized," Hogan said, his voice choked with emotion.

During a news conference Thursday in Rockville, Maryland, Hogan signed an executive order to create the position of "Anti-Human Trafficking Director," who will engage with and coordinate with communities that are addressing the issue throughout the state.

"This is going to be a multidisciplinary collaboration," said Glenn Fueston, executive director of the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention. "We're going to be able to move forward, so it's working across those lines of public safety, public health (and) victims services." Informed, evidence-based strategies: A half-million dollar grant will help the University of Maryland create a Crime Research and Innovation Center for the state that will develop strategies for law enforcement, prevention and victim services. "In order to show progress, move things forward, develop programs that are evidence-based, measure the impact — and repeat," Fueston said.

Data mining to target criminals: A new pilot program to include Maryland's U.S. attorney's office and multiple police departments and agencies will analyze 2,000 criminal cases "to develop timely, accurate and actionable intelligence to help take down human trafficking networks," Hogan said.

Helping victims: The \$5 million to help victims of human trafficking will go toward things such as emergency shelter, a 24-hour talk-line, housing assistance, GED and vocational training, help getting a driver's license or transportation to and from appointments, and legal help.

To learn more about human trafficking in Maryland, or to find resources, please visit:

- [The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention on human trafficking;](#)
- [Maryland Human Trafficking Task Force](#)
- [National Human Trafficking Hotline: Maryland.](#)

Support existing efforts: More than \$4 million in new grants will go to localities participating in the Maryland Criminal Intelligence Network that targets gangs and violent criminal networks. Montgomery County received \$257,400 in funding, and Prince George's County was awarded \$195,160. A participating Hyattsville coalition was awarded \$387,116.

Proposed legislation: Hogan is among state officials who want to increase penalties against human traffickers by classifying the offense as a violent crime. Legislation to do that failed in 2018. "The Senate voted unanimously to pass this legislation. Unfortunately, and inexplicably, the House failed to pass this common sense proposal," Hogan said. During the state's next legislative session that begins in January, Hogan will try again and introduce the Felony Human Trafficking Act of 2019.

"Give justice to the weak and fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked." (Psalm 82:3-4)



Dear God we know that the root causes of human trafficking are many and run deep. We know that addressing them is long, difficult work. Lord, we pray for legislators who are working to pass laws to protect victims and provide law enforcement and the judicial system with the tools they need to end sex trafficking. We pray for law enforcement officers and judges who deal compassionately with victims and get them the help they need. Help us to remember your unfailing strength, hope and forgiveness. We ask for your guidance so we might make a difference. In your loving name we pray. Amen.

National Hotline for reporting and getting help: 1-888-373-7888

Our Commitment:
We, the Women of the ELCA, are committed to help eradicate human trafficking by creating awareness in our communities, advocating for more protection and rehabilitation for victims, and participating in anti-trafficking campaigns in our churches, schools, and neighborhoods.



Serving Our Neighbor

Volunteer Opportunities at Graham Road Elementary School

We continue to support Graham Road Elementary in many ways and they greatly appreciate our contributions of time, materials and funds! Some volunteers regularly support a classroom for an hour or so a week. They read with students and have students read to them. Other support can include being an extra pair of hands in class, and assisting students with skill practice - no previous education experience needed.

Volunteers also share their time through Mentoring. Mentors are connected to an individual student and have lunch with them weekly, chatting and getting to know them better. All students could benefit from another caring adult in their lives!

If you have time to share and would prefer administrative tasks over working with students, tasks such as copying, laminating, bagging weekend food donations or putting take-home papers in weekly folders, can save staff valuable time to plan.

Consider sharing your time with Graham Road School! We'll walk you through the steps. Contact Judy Baker at judybaker2825@yahoo.com or 703-237-8717.



Thank you from Graham Road Elementary School

- **Books**—Thanks to your generosity, all of the monetary donation cards in the sanctuary have been picked and **we exceeded our \$1,000 goal — raising \$1,300.00**. The school staff will choose the books to purchase. Watch future bulletins for details on when the books will be distributed to the students and how HT members can participate!
- **Backpacks** — **Holy Trinity members donated 56 backpacks and 400 pencils** for the students. Ms. Jacqueline Camargo, Family Liaison Coordinator, (at L) sends thanks on behalf of all the school community.

Milestones

Baptisms: On June 17, Evelyn Blomquist and on July 29, Jeremiah (JB) Young. Photos on page 7.

In Memoriam: Long time HT member, Nancy Bernot, on August 28. Her memorial service will be held at HT on September 8, with interment at National Memorial Park; former member Jim Cooper, on August 20. His service will be held at HT on September 12, with interment at Arlington National Cemetery, at a later date.



September: Vincente & Barbara Galindo, Donald & Marcy Leverenz, Patrick & Linda Murphy, Jeff & Laura Daugherty, John & Mary Bowen
October: Oscar & Pamela Kabati, Brenton & Linda Stone, Tim & Heidi Veltman, Dick & Helen Myhre, Leslie & Minnie Tom Meyer, John & Anne Kress, Jerry Lemens & Julie Strandlie-Lemens, Dan & Becky Schneider, Eric Chancellor & Denise Meister
November: Marcus & Jean Artman



September: Mary Alice Adelberg, Marcus Artman, Leona Badger, Maurice Bakke, Robert Becker, Mary Bowen, Seth Clark, Christopher Engquist, Julia Gajewski, Margaret Gore, Sonny Gore-Guynn, Peter Grutzik, Ethel Handler, Jerry Lemens, Marcy Leverenz, Phillip Loar, Nicholas McKay, Patrick Mellett, Donald Mikovch, Richard Myhre, Susan Richmond, William Sherard,

Tim Veltman, Kathleen Wells
October: Judith Baker, Terry Bathen, Edwin Bornemann, Erin Chancellor, Jeff Daugherty, Craig Davis, Terri Fleck, Charlene Franke, David Franke, Rodney Hansen, Oscar Kabati, Pamela Kabati, John Kress, Katharine Kurtz, Donald Leverenz, Charles Luoma-Overstreet, Denise Meister, Linda Murphy, Liselotte Shelton, Scott Sherard, Patrice Shibuya, Katherine Stone,

Steve Wake
November: Jean Ball, Ilse Bornemann, Kateleigh Clark, Donna Cook, Stella Daniels, Laura Daugherty, Eugenia Davis, Sierra Elliott, Lynde Engquist, Nathanael Green, Eric Hegemann, Peggy Johnson, Emily Kile, Kevin Konort, Lisa Konort, Matthew McKay, Caleb Merkel, A. Phoebe Meyer, Clare Murphy, Benjamin Reno, Wallace Rohrer, Kandace Thomas



Holy Trinity
Lutheran Church

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A Reconciling in Christ
Congregation



2018-2019 AT A GLANCE

September

3—Labor Day holiday
(Church Office closed)
9—70th Anniversary
10—Council meeting
15—Merrifield Fall Festival

October

6—Octoberfest @ HT
7—Animal Blessing (TBD)
8—Columbus Day holiday
(Church Office closed)
Council meeting
28—Reformation Sunday

November

4—All Saints Day
Daylight Savings ends
12—Church Office closed for
Veteran's Day holiday
12—Council meeting
18—Fall Congregation mtg
22—Thanksgiving Day
26—Christ the King Sunday

December

1—Breakfast with Santa
2—Fair Trade Shopping
10—Council meeting
16—Christmas Pageant
19—Advent Concert/cookies
24—Xmas Eve @ 4, 7, 9 p.m.
25—Christmas Day
(Church office closed)
30—Lessons/Carols 10 a.m.

January 2019

1—Church Office closed
6—Epiphany Sunday
7—Council meeting
14—MLK holiday
(Church Office closed)

February

11—Council meeting
19—President's Day holiday
(Church Office closed)
23—Jazz Coffee House

March

2—9 Hypothermia Week
3—Blanket Sunday
6—Ash Wednesday
10—Daylight Savings begins
11—Council meeting

April

8—Council meeting
14—Palm Sunday
18—Maundy Thursday
19—Good Friday
21—Easter Sunday
22—Church Office closed
26-28—WELCA Retreat

May

5—Youth Sunday
12—Mothers Day
13—Council meeting
19—Music Sunday
27—Memorial Day Holiday
(Church Office closed)

June

2—Spring Congregational mtg
9—Pentecost Sunday
10—Council meeting
14-15—Synod Assembly

July

4—Independence Day
holiday (office closed)

August