



Holy Trinity

Lutheran Church

JULY-SEPTEMBER
2019

Lifting Up • Reaching Out

OUR SUMMER II MISSION INITIATIVE:

Graham Road Elementary School

Backpacks and Books!!

Timeframe: July 28 through September 1

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Last year, Holy Trinity members were very generous during our Graham Road backpack donation and book fundraiser. We are doing it again this year! "Bright, colorful, trendy" backpacks are much enjoyed by the students. Last year we collected 80 backpacks can we equal or top that this year?



As you remember if you participated in (or read about) our book distribution drive last April, the students LOVE books! **This summer, we are again attempting to raise \$1,000 to provide a book for every child at Graham Road Elementary School.** Please use your weekly envelopes for cash—for checks, please designate Graham Road (GRES) Books on the memo line.



Graham Road Elementary School (GRES), the closest elementary school to the church, is a Title-1 school serving students from many low-income homes. The most recent statistics for their student body report 87% Hispanic students, with 58% classified as English learners and 86% receiving free or reduced price meals.

Once again we are partnering with Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) to obtain the books. The GRES reading specialist, with recommendations from the teachers, will select books from RIF's online catalog suitable for students in Head Start through 6th grade and at all reading levels.



Holy Trinity
volunteers at the
Graham Road
Book Distribution

April 12, 2019

More photos from
this event on page 9



Pastor's Peace

Lifting Up, Reaching Out!

When you think of our mini-mission statement – Lifting Up, Reaching Out – what comes to mind for you?

Take a moment and make a list. Put yourself in the picture. What does Lifting Up, Reaching Out mean to you?



What comes to mind for me is us singing in the sanctuary. Why? It's the words to the hymn *We Are an Offering*.

*We lift our voices
We lift our hands
We lift our lives up to You
We are an offering*

We do lift up our voices in song every Sunday, both individually and collectively. Now we may not lift our hand while singing in worship, we do lift our hands when we ask for God's blessing on individuals or families when they join the church, when we send them off, when we confirm youth and when we ask for healing. We also ask the ushers and acolytes to lift up the offerings we bring to God.

The lifting of our lives, that may be a bit different. I think that might be the transition in our mini-mission statement and in the hymn. The second part of our mini-mission statement to reach out is how we move out into the world from our congregational setting. We use the Word and Sacraments of worship to be sent back into the world and reach out to our neighbors. Here is the second verse:

*Lord use our voices
Lord use our hands
Lord use our lives they are Yours
We are an offering*

God works through us in the world to bring hope, love, peace and justice. Our voices, hands and lives are powerful agents of change in the world. We can only do so much as individuals, so God brings us into community so that we can offer a greater impact, but also a greater presence. Here is the third and final verse:

*All that we have
All that we are
All that we hope to be
We give to You
We give to You*

We sing these verses, but do we really realize what we are saying? All that we have, are and hope to be we give to God?! That is an amazing commitment. How fortunate are we to have fellow members of the church that can lift us up and reach out to us in our time of need. And then, that same love is passed on in our voices, hands and lives when others are in need of our help.

We are a faith community. A faith community that believes the God of grace lifts up and reaches out to us. So it is then our opportunity to think again how we felt when called as a community to lift up and reach out to our neighborhood – both locally and globally. What do you think God is calling us to do?

Pastor Mike



Council News

I hope everyone is having a good summer and is taking time to relax, unwind and abide in God's creation!

As I finish my term as council president, I wanted to thank you for your support and prayers over the past year, and for your continued blessings to our life together as a congregation.

And speaking of blessings...If you attended the spring congregational meeting, you heard that your church council was concerned that we might end our fiscal year with a budget deficit due to the unplanned repair of a leak in the church's foundation that had led to water damage in the Sunday Suppers office. However, I'm happy to report that thanks to your generosity as a body of Christ, we are ending the year in the black!

We are in a time of staff transitions this summer—as many of you have heard, we recently said farewell to Laura Rose, our long-time bookkeeper. I know that you all join in wishing her well and thanking her for her years of faithful service and stewardship of our congregation's financial resources. Although council has found an interim person to serve in her stead, we will be looking for a

permanent replacement over the coming months. We are also moving forward with plans to hire a family ministry developer, so if you know of someone who might be a good candidate for either position, please let Pastor Mike or any member of council know.

Also in July we said goodbye to Vicar Corey and his wife, Maddy—I will miss his presence and energy in our council meetings and in our congregational life, and I know you will as well!

We also say goodbye to council members Pamela Kabati (who is embarking on a year of amazing travels—ask her where she's going if you haven't already!), Terry Batten and Terri Fleck, welcome new members Charles Luoma-Overstreet, Beth Search, Rob Young and Lynn McKay, and thank incoming congregation president Lori Wicks for agreeing to serve.

Finally, I know we say this to each other each Sunday, but really you can't say it enough—God's peace be with you all!

Mary Minette

Council meets in the library on the second Monday of each month

2019—2020 CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS and MEMBERS

President: Lori Wicks
Julie Davis
Beth Search

Vice President: Scott Sherard
Seth Clark
Charles Luoma-Overstreet

Treasurer: Joe Kile
Karen Cockerham
Lynn McKay

Secretary: Mary Minette
Brent Stone
Rob Young

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO THE CLASS OF 2019

Sam H	Completing Cosmetology School; beginning classes at NVCC.
Emily K	Attending the University of Mary Washington.
Alex S	Bachelor of Fine Arts (Musical Theatre), Cincinnati Conservatory of Music; pursuing theatre career in NYC.
Eric H	Attending the University of Illinois, Gies College of Business, in Urbana-Champaign. He plans to major in Accounting.
Gary G	Attending VA Tech to study Computer Science. He'd like to design computer games.
Vincent T	Heading to South Korea to study Animation; will return to the U.S. next March.
Jackson A	Attending Roanoke College in Salem, VA; plans to study History.
Ethan K	Taking a gap year to travel internationally with his family, and then attend Butler University in Indianapolis, where he plans to major in Business Entrepreneurship and minor in Music Industry Studies.
Carolyn L	Attending William and Mary; plans to study International Business.
Yuki S	Attending George Mason University in the Fine Arts Program; plans to pursue her studies in Art Education and Art Therapy.





Corey's Corner *by Vicar Corey Bergman*



I Was Your Vicar

Dear Holy Trinity,

This year I have used my space in the newsletter to tell the story, or at least the best parts of the story, of how I became your Vicar.

It is weird to me that we are already at the point in time where I am writing a goodbye letter to you, planning my last sermon, and turning in my final evaluations. I know it is cliché, but it really does feel like just yesterday that Joan showed me around the church for the first time. I remember standing in the front of our empty sanctuary that day and being so excited for my first opportunity to preach there, worship there, and meet the people who sit in those pews.

From there kicked off quite the year for me, and I can honestly say my excitement was well placed. Working at Holy Trinity, and being your Vicar this past year has been amazing. Not only because of how patient and kind you've been with me as I learned, sometimes awkwardly, pastoral presence, and how to be a leader, but you've also been so very caring. It is no secret that my personal life has had its ups and downs this year. From getting married, to spending a week with my wife in the hospital, there have been plenty of Sundays where I came to church tired and distracted. During that time, you all cared for me. You lifted me up and supported me when I needed it, and for that I am forever grateful. I wish I could go over every wonderful memory I made with you all and say thank you for each one, but that would be a very long letter. Instead, I will opt for brevity.

I thank you all for everything—from teaching you, to working with the youth, to letting me walk alongside you during the ups and downs of your own lives. I will miss you all very dearly but I am also looking forward to the next steps in my own journey.

I now have to finish school and then hopefully get called to a church of my own. You all have so many exciting things in your future too, and I look forward to seeing how your God will bless the ministry of this place for years to come.

Once again, thank you so very much for everything this past year. Goodbye Holy Trinity, it has been a wonderful year being your Vicar.

Peace and Blessings,

Vicar Corey





Invite a Friend

Free Music Time for Young Children

All are welcome to join us on **Tuesday mornings** from **10-10:30** in the **narthex**, for songs, movement, and rhymes. Caregiver participation is required. If you would like more information, please contact class leader Sammi Miller at Sammi2290@gmail.com.



Getting Connected



OWLS potluck lunch on July 3. The group was treated to a variety of songs (on guitar and ukulele), including sing-alongs and originals written and performed by Ethan Kabati. Thanks, Ethan, for a great time! All are invited to join us on the first Wednesday of each month. All ages are welcome — we also celebrate monthly birthdays!



NeedleCrafters gathering on July 10. All are welcome to join these happy knitters! See page 8 for more details.

Summer music opportunities... did you know that you don't have to be in a music ensemble to offer your musical talents over the summer? During this relaxed period, it's really up to individual members to provide music for the summer services, not ensembles. All you need to do is sign up! Both Greg Bloy and I are always more than willing to help you practice, or just bounce ideas around. Let us know! Contact us at josh@holyltrinityfallschurch.org or gregbloy@holyltrinityfallschurch.org.

Find our Summer Music Sign Up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080e4eae2fa2f85-summer1>



Getting Connected



Thank you to our Christian Education volunteers and special recognition to Amy Loar for 27 years of teaching Sunday School!



MUSIC SUNDAY: MAY 5

Our talented ensembles:

Christus Choir
Christus Bells
Christus Consortium
HT Wind Ensemble
The Praise Project
Sunday School Singers

Accompanists: Brent Stone,
Bill Richards, Greg Bloy

Choir Director: Joshua Brown;

Handbell Director: Jeremy
Cochran

Thank you, Holy Trinity, for being so supportive of the music program! Our Music Sunday this year featured more performers/ensembles than ever as we took you



through a journey of American music. Our music program could not exist as it is without the gracious time given by our talented volunteers, and those who support them. Joshua Brown



Getting Connected

A special thanks goes out to Jill Cockerham, Lori Wicks, Joan Buscher, and Marcia Ihnen for their help with the concert series this year. We just had our final installment this June with Mosaic Harmony. We had around 100 people show up for the concert, many of whom were visiting Holy Trinity for the first time.



Concerts at Holy Trinity Presents

Josh Brown, Music Director

Mosaic Harmony Interfaith Community Choir

June 2, 2019

From concert attendee Susan Richmond:

Thank you for very much for the WONDERFUL concert by the Mosaic Interfaith Community Choir. It was exciting, lively, uplifting. Audience participation was so much FUN.

Thank you Josh for inviting this VIBRANT group to perform at Holy Trinity. Thank all the "behind the scenes" people who prepared the great reception after the concert. My mind has been replaying the fantastic Gospel Music.

THANK YOU MOSAIC INTERFAITH COMMUNITY CHOIR!!!



NeedleCrafters – About a dozen Holy Trinity and neighborhood women gather in Rothenberg Hall from 10 am to noon on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays each month. Participants enjoy a variety of needle crafts: knitting, crocheting, quilting, counted cross-stitch, smocking, mending, garment-making, etc. **Our upcoming meeting schedule: July 10 and 24; August 14 and 28; September 11 and 25.** Contact Judy Baker at 703-237-8717 or (judybaker2825@yahoo.com) for additional information.



Growing in Faith

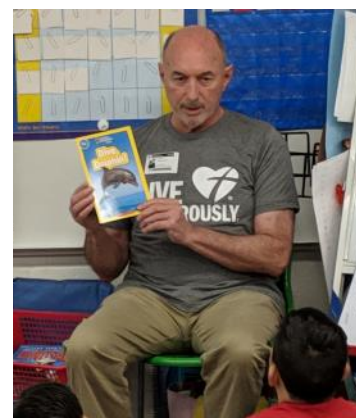
LEARN—SHARE—GROW

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

- ♦ **Sunday Morning Bible Study—8:45 a.m., in the Library.** Resumes in September; watch the bulletins for details.
- ♦ **Faith Outside the Box—7:00 p.m., in the Youth/Community Room.** We will meet Monday, July 22 to watch and discuss a video. **All are welcome join us.** For August and September discussion topics and dates, check the Sunday bulletins or visit www.holytrinityfallschurch.org
- ♦ **Reconciling in Christ** —The RIC Committee meets on the third Sunday of each month after church in the Youth and Community Room.
- ♦ **Acolytes needed**—Students fifth grade and up (who are not already acolyting) are needed on Sunday mornings (adults are welcome, too). This is a very important part of the Sunday worship services. You would be serving with another person, lighting the candles, and helping with offering and communion. Each acolyte is scheduled to serve approximately once per month. There will be a training some time in September. Jean Strandlie prepares the schedule. If you have any questions or are available to serve, please contact her at jeanstrandlie@gmail.com or let her know at church. Thank you.
- ♦ **Beginning in September, Holy Trinity offers Sunday School for all ages during the Christian education hour.**



Serving Our Neighbor





Serving Our Neighbor

— With sincere appreciation to our members and volunteers —

- to Holy Trinity members for collecting over 50 bags of grocery items for the FCS food pantry; to Vicar Corey, Peg Corl and Pr. Mike, for delivering our donations to the Knox Food Pantry
- to Leona Badger, Gloria Hviding, Judy Baker, Wanda Mikovch, and Beth Search, for sprucing up our kitchen
- to Genie and Craig Davis, for repotting the narthex palm plants
- to Dave Badger, for installing the AED cabinet in the narthex
- for volunteers who assist with funeral, special Sunday and concert receptions
- to the Sunday lay ministers, greeters, altar guild, acolytes, ushers, sound system operators, coffee klatch members
- to the leaders of Bible study, youth and adult Christian education groups
- for the numerous ways that Holy Trinity members volunteer— in whatever way—one time or recurring—if you have contributed behind the scenes, financially, or through prayer, know that **we recognize and appreciate you!**



Reconciling in Christ (RIC) News

The RIC Committee is taking July off to rest after a busy Pride month. By marching in DC's Capital Pride Parade on June 8 and holding RIC Sunday on June 30, Holy Trinity showed our welcome and love for our LGBTQ+ kin.



But that love shouldn't begin and end in June. We need your help to continue to develop more ways to show our welcome to the community. We have a dedicated account, RIC Initiatives, that could use contributions.

Our committee meets next on Sunday, August 18 at 11:30 a.m. and we'd love to hear your ideas. If you have a passion for social justice and a kind spirit, join us!

Laura Daugherty laura.daugherty@verizon.net
 Rob Young rbyitguy@gmail.com

New usher teams are forming! Please consider joining a team to help out with ushering for our church services. Duties include distributing bulletins, collecting offering, and assisting with communion.

Each team has an usher leader and teams are assigned a month to cover. If you have to miss a week or two of your assigned month, no worries! We all work together to make sure that someone will be able to fill in.

If you have any questions or would like to sign up for this easy, yet important part of our Sunday morning service, please contact Linda Williams at linda.williams9314@gmail.com.



Sundae Sunday is happening in August! Thanks to our Sunday Supers for hosting. Watch the Sunday bulletins for specific details. We look forward to seeing you!



An Automated External Defibrillator (AED) has been installed in the narthex.



PLEASE NOTE: Our next issue will be Oct-Nov-Dec.

Please send your submissions to eugeniamdavis1@gmail.com by September 15



We are thrilled to announce the graduation of our daughter
Jillian Stierwalt
from Nansemond River High School

Proud Parents,
Joe and Suzanne Stierwalt

*Jillian will be attending
Norfolk State University,
majoring in Music
Education, and will be a
member of the Spartan
Legion Marching Band.*



Pastor Suzanne fondly remembers her HTLC friends and sends everyone her prayers and best wishes. She also reported that Joe has been promoted to CDR, USN. We extend our congratulations to Joe and Jillian!

Milestones

Congratulations to Erin Hoyt and Christopher Popelier, confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, June 9. Congratulations to Lisa Taylor and Travis Reznik, who were married at Holy Trinity on June 15.

Welcome home to Gracia Luoma-Overstreet, who has returned after serving for a year in Argentina with YAGM (Young Adults in Global Mission), an ELCA service, mission and growth opportunity for young adults. We look forward to hearing about Gracia's experiences.

Moving: Ilse and Ed Bornemann have relocated to Georgia, to be closer to family.

Baptism: Kai Beesam on June 2.

New Members: Troy Martin, James, Autumn & Nolan Kendrick; Rita Juhasz, Mike and Alli Martin on June 9. We welcome them to our community of faith.

In Memoriam: HT member Richard Evans passed away on March 18. A service celebrating his life was held on June 18. Former HT pastor William Neis (1963-1974) passed away in Florida on July 3.

JULY, AUGUST & SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

JULY

Jonathan Allsman, Mary Bakke, Kaden Ball, Carol Barney, Linda Bathen, Robert Beaty, Joan Buscher, Kathy Chelsen, Karen Cockerham, Wilma Dublin, Bruce Hegemann, Martha Kile, Roger Kiver, Lida Krause, Robert Krause, Julia Kreider, Katelyn Kreider, Kris Luoma-Overstreet, Olivia Martin, MinnieTom Meyer, Eva Novak, Joshua Paparella, Ellis Popelier, Kristi Poreda, Grant Rohrer, Dan Schneider, Rebecca Sechrist, Caroline Sherard, Robert Tedesco, Olivia Turner, Heidi Veltman, Chris Wells, Ruth Winning

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Arnold & Judy Baker; Tad & Amber Ferratier; Brian & Terri Fleck; Jeffrey & Marcia Ihnen

AUGUST

Anne Bang, John Bowen, Eric Chancellor, Joel Cook, Pam Crum, Greg D'Addario, Max Daugherty, Brian Fleck, Glenna Fleck, Vic Galindo, Emma Gutzler, Gloria Hviding, Jeffrey Ihnen, Aurelia Khorsand, Terri Konort, David Kreider, Anne Kress, Jim Lloyd, Gracia Luoma-Overstreet, Logan McCann, Amanda Mills, Jeff Person, Gabby Rohrer, Jane Sparnon, Julie Strandlie, Tracy Strunk, Carol Sukow, Joan Tortorelli, Joy Wells

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Ed & Ilse Bornemann; Craig & Karen Davis; Pastor Mike & Emma Gutzler; Ray & Jane Sparnon; Joy & Bruce Wells

SEPTEMBER

Mary Alice Adelberg, Marcus Artman, Leona Badge, Maurice Bakke, Robert Becker, Kimberly Boeckmann, Mary Bowen, Seth Clark, Christopher Engquist, Julia Gajewski, Margaret Gore, Sonny Gore-Guynn, Peter Grutzik, Ethel Handler, Rita Juhasz, Carole Kitt, Jerry Lemens, Marcy Leverenz, Phillip Loar, Nicholas McKay, Patrick Mellett, Donald Mikovch, Richard Myhre, Susan Richmond, Will Sherard, Tim Veltman, Kathleen Wells

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

John & Mary Bowen; Jeff & Laura Daugherty; Vincente & Barbara Galindo, Don & Marcy Leverenz, Patrick & Linda Murphy



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A Reconciling in Christ
Congregation



AT A GLANCE

September

2—Labor Day holiday
4—Christus Bells rehearsals begin
5—Christus Choir rehearsals begin
8—Rally Day
9—Council meeting
15—First day of Sunday School, Adult
Forum, Bible Study
23—WELCA Joint Meeting & Salad Supper

- ◆ The Rev. Michael Gutzler, Pastor
- ◆ Joan Buscher, Parish Administrator
- ◆ Josh Brown, Director of Music
- ◆ Greg Bloy, Accompanist
- ◆ Eugenia Davis, Newsletter Editor
- ◆ Felicito Arana, Custodian
- ◆ Yuki Shibuya, Nursery Attendant

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TRUSTEES: Jeffrey Ihnen, John Person, and
Lynn Tedesco

MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND MEMBERS:
Jeffrey Taylor, Alfie Rulis, Lynn McKay, and
John Bowen, Tracy Strunk

MISSIONARY: Stephen Deal (Latin America
and the Caribbean) ELCA Division for
Global Mission