

Trinity Trumpeter



TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, TOWANDA, PA

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER



News From Vicar Paul

Vicar Paul, according to the picture, is doing quite well and has found a great fishing hole! Sorry, we didn't get the location as you know that great fishermen don't reveal this! Could it be somewhere in Iowa or Wisconsin? He, Kelsie and Sayara are surely missed but wished a prosperous and healthy final year in

Child's Faith Service



What a wonderful service! The music, adult and children participation and bible readings were heartfelt. One couldn't help but feel the love and laughter of a child while worshiping together.

Don't miss the next Child's Faith Service on November 13th. It is guaranteed to lift your spirits!!!

Fall Bazaar and Basket Raffle



Friday, October 21, 2016 from 9:00 am—3:00 pm is our annual fall bazaar. At this event there will be crafts and miscellaneous items for sale. There will also be baskets to be raffled off. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6/\$5.00. A quilt hand-made by Peggy Cranmer will also be raffled. Quilt tickets are \$5.00 each. Tickets can be purchased from a Vesper Guild member.

Lunch will also be served offering chili and vegetable and chicken noodle soups. Our famous variety of homemade pies will be available too. Takeout's are available too.

In This Issue

News From Vicar Paul	1
Child's Faith Service	1
Fall Bazaar & Basket Raffle	1
Pastor's Message	2
The Question Box	2
Parish News	3
Adult Education	3
Junior Youth Group	4
Youth Group	4
Women's News	4
Caring and Sharing	4
Parish News Contd.	5
Calendars	6
Calendars	7
Directory	8
Synod News	9
Synod News	10

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Pastor's Message

Why #Blessed is Not Particularly Christian



**A Message From
Pastor Jira Albers**

"Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?'"

- Luke 12:19-20

I will say right from the start that if you do not use the social media platform Twitter, you probably have no idea what #Blessed is. So, before I tell you why I think it is not particularly Christian, I will explain what you are even looking at. If you understand hash tags, then you may skip the next two paragraphs.

Hash Tags...otherwise marked using a "#" are a way to index something written so that it can be found by others. For example, if you wanted to see pictures of cute puppies, on a social media site such as Twitter you would search using "#cute puppies". Doing so would result in a whole list of cute puppy pictures and stories coming before your eyes. If you wanted to add your own cute puppy picture to the millions of cute puppy pictures on the internet, you would type "#cutepuppies" after your picture.

So, when a person feels particularly blessed, that person may go to Twitter and type, "My adult children are the best. #Blessed" And, if you searched #Blessed, you would see a whole list of things about which people feel blessed.

So, why in the world would a Christian pastor have a problem with #Blessed? Are not followers of

Christ supposed to give thanks for all that they have been given?

Yes, of course we are supposed to give thanks to God for all of the gifts we have been given. But, I have a problem with comments such as: "Just bought my first sports car! #Blessed" or "I love my huge home! #Blessed."

The problem with such exclamations of blessing is that I am not certain that God would want us to be thankful for our blessings when we cannot see the poor man named Lazarus right outside of our door.

In the scriptures, people are not blessed individually with material wealth so that they can hoard it! We are blessed by God so that we can be a blessing to others. All that we have and all that we are belongs to God, and God wants it to be used for those things for which God cares about deeply; particularly caring for the poor and the oppressed.

Think of the rich young man who comes to Jesus and asks what he needs to do to obtain eternal life. Jesus tells him that he must sell all that he has, give the proceeds to the poor, and follow him. #Blessed is so often used to bask in the hoarding of blessings. Christian life is about sharing our blessings. #Blessed

The Question Box

(Questions About Our Christian Life)

"Can I lose my salvation?"

You cannot lose something that you did not work to find in the first place. Salvation is an undeserved, grace-filled gift from God, and that promise does not get lost.

We are saved by grace. – Pastor Jira



Parish News



Sunday, October 30! This day, the Sunday closest to October 31-the date Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses in Wittenberg In 1517, is celebrated in honor of the **Beginning of the reformation of the church.** An ethnic luncheon with a dish to pass will be held following service. Bring your favorite dish!



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, November 6! We will honor all saints, known and unknown. We will be remembering all saints who have died in the past year (since 11/01/2015). Please call or email the church office with the names of people you want remembered.



Child's Faith Service, November 13!
Let's worship like we were kids again!
Bring a friend and enjoy music and bible readings combined.



Advent Services Wednesday evenings starting November 30, December 7, 14 & 21. We will start at 6:00 pm with a soup supper and service will start @ 7:00pm. Come and invite friends for Holden's Evening Prayer service.

Worship Highlights

**Sundays
After Pentecost
October 2-23
November 6 & 13
9:30 AM**

**Reformation
Sunday
October 30**

**Child's Faith
Sunday
November 13**

**Christ the King
Sunday
November 20**

**First Sunday in Advent
Sunday
November 27**

Adult Education Opportunities

	Afternoon Fellowship Studying Romans while enjoying each other's companionship
Every Tuesday at 12:30 PM In The Hart Center	

	Facebook- Bible Study at Trinity Towanda Bible Readings, Topics, Tips & Video
Join and add your comments	

	Wednesday Night Book Club Reading and talking about faith issues Broken For You By Stephanie Kallos
2nd meeting Oct. 5th at 7:00 pm In The Troup Home – Monroeton	

	Group Event-Anyone for a Bible Study- Oct. 17 & 24 At Chris Griffith's home- 6:30-8:00 pm Faith questions put in a hat & drawn & answered relating to the Bible.
All are welcomed! Held at 200 Thomas Street, Towanda	



Parish News Continued



Junior Youth Group

Saturday, October 15-Youth trip to Knoebel's. Please meet at the church at 1:00 pm.



Youth Group

Saturday, November 19. Youth overnight retreat at the church.



Women's News

Willing Workers are busy preparing for our Annual Fall Bazaar on October 21. We will be in need of homemade pies and any other baked goods. Vegetables are also need for the soups.



Caring and Sharing

A huge thank you from the Champluvier family for all the cards, prayers and the prayer quilt. Sincere gratitude to Pastor Jira and Vicar Paul for the beautiful funeral and their many visits in the hospital and at our home. We are very grateful for all our friends and church family.

Thank you all for welcoming me back as your church's secretary/treasurer. Thank you Peggy Cranmer for teaching me all the new tricks & trades of the computer. You are certainly a hard act to follow! My office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 8:00 am—Noon. I will certainly do my very best and hope if you have any questions or concerns to please contact me. Sincerely, Cindy Estelle

Columbarium Space Available

As you make your end of life arrangements do not forget that the church has columbarium space available.

Call (570) 265-5322

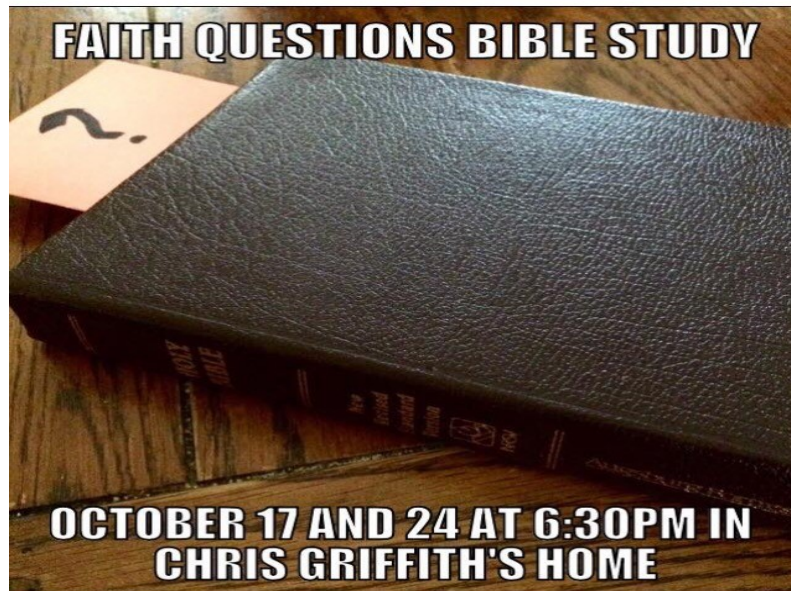
Thank You Members Of Christ!

- *Thank you to Wes Poole for filling in for Consecration Sunday. We so enjoyed your Sermon & wonderful voice!
- *Thank you to Judy Epler for the great catered meal on Consecration Sunday.
- *Thank you to Joyce Detharidge for maintaining the rock garden..
- *Thank you to Dave Estelle for hanging our new sign.
- *Thank you to Peggy Cranmer for her years of service in the church office and for her great quilting talents!



Parish News Continued

Mark your calendars!



Come join us at 200 Thomas Street, Towanda!

Faith questions will be put in a hat and randomly drawn
and answered relating to the Bible!

Grace Connection's shelves are empty! We gave fire victims all the bed rolls & blankets that we had. If your congregation makes ugly quilts or could donate blankets, we will put them to good use. One of the fire victims told us that we were the most compassionate & generous of all the agencies. That's because we work in the Lord's name. Thank you for your continued support. Grace Connection.

ATTENTION! October 9 after church service, we will be cleaning up the church grounds! Please help if you can. Shrubs need to be shaped and tree limbs need to be cleared. Chris Griffith & Dave Estelle will be here with their truck & trailer to put the debris in. PIZZA party will follow!!!

Starting Wednesday, November 30 at 6:00 pm, we will be having our "soup supper" before our Advent service at 7:00 pm. The "soup nazi" promises to have a wonderful variety of some great soups! Please come join us and stay for a beautiful service of Holden's Evening Service.

October 2016 Birthdays and Anniversaries

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Eric Thomason
2	3 Korrie Kunkle	4 Donald Feusner Alan Seaberg, Jr.	5 Allie Champluvier Miranda Clark Kristen Zukerman	6	7	8
9	10 Ron & Ruth Russell	11 Ed Grant Jacob Manchester	12 Echo Denniston Marian Feathers Merlin Horn Merlin & Barbara Horn	13 Elizabeth Benninger Matthew & Brianna Brimmer	14	15 Nathan Chilson Carol Cunfer
16 Kristy Feusner	17	18 Anita Bennett	19 Ed & Joyce Grant	20 Bryan Champluvier	21 Bella Grace Clark	22
23	24	25	26	27 Rose Renninger David & Sharon Weed	28	29
30	31 Jessamine Manchester					

November Birthdays and Anniversaries

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 Larry & Maurine Gehring	4 Torrance Marrotti Bonnie Stoudt	5 Elisha Troup
6 Sven Thomason	7	8	9	10	11 Ron Allis	12
13	14 Cindy Estelle	15 Carol Zukerman	16 Paul & Agnes Cook Harold & Rose Renninger	17 Gary Kelly Thomas Lineberry	18 Peter Hart	19 Larry Gehring
20 Aaron Albers Nichole Albers	21	22	23 Duane Carrington Jasmine K. Brown	24 Jan & Laurie Kapson	25 Pastor Jira Albers	26
27 Michael Dunn Mauree Engelhard	28 Trinity Pugh	29 Bob Fleck Jim Smith Skylar Yoder	30			

October 2016 Meetings and Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4 9:30 W. Workers 12:30 Bible Study	5	6	7	8
9 Pastor Appreciation Day	10	11 9:30 W. Workers Wysox Lunch	12	13	14	15 Jr. Youth to Knobel's
16	17 Set-up for Bazaar 6:30 Bible Study	18 Set-up for Bazaar Day	19	20	21 FALL BAZAAR	22
23	24 6:30 Bible Study	25 9:30 W. Workers 6:00 Council Mtg.	26	27	28	29
30 Reformation Day Ethnic Luncheon	31					

November 2016 Meetings and Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 9:30 W. Workers Pastor @ Bishop Conf.	2 Pastor @ Bishop Conference	3	4	5
6 ALL SAINTS DAY	7	8 ELECTION DAY	9	10	11	12
13 8:30 am Worship/ Prayer Mtg. CHILDS FAITH	14	15 9:30 W. Workers 12:30 Bible Study	16	17	18	19
20 CHRIST THE KING	21	22 9:30 W. Workers 12:30 Bible Study 6:00 Council	23	24	25	26
27 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	28	29 9:30 W. Workers 12:30 Bible Study	30 6:00 Soup Supper 7:00 Advent Service			

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Faithapalooza 2016

November 11-13

Youth in grades 9 - 12 are invited to participate in this year's synod youth leadership training event, Faithapalooza. The theme is "Weaving Together God's Story and Ours."

Participants will have the opportunity to:

- Learn how to tell a Bible story through music, poetry, art or storytelling
- Explore scripture through wonder and imagination
- Reflect on their own life stories and see where they intersect with biblical themes and stories
- Get to know the stories of others at this gathering
- Have fun

Faithapalooza 2016 will be held at Crossroads Camp and Retreat Center, 29 Pleasant Grove Road, Port Murray, NJ 07865.

The event begins at 8:00 pm on Friday evening and concludes at 11:00 am on Sunday morning.

The Early Bird registration fee (through October 24) is \$140. After October 24 the registration fee is \$160.

For more information and to register, please visit the synod website at <http://nepasynod.org/event/faithapalooza-2016>.

Always Being Made New: Campaign for the ELCA

The Congregations of the Northeastern PA Synod are supporting *Always Being Made New: Campaign for the ELCA*. Campaign contributions can be directed to any of ten ELCA ministries. One of those is the International Women Leaders Initiative.

"As part of *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, we are boldly investing in established and emerging women leaders from our global companion churches. Your gifts will help support the education of 200 additional international women through educational seminars, south-to-south exchanges, in-country study programs, and degree programs at ELCA colleges and universities." [ELCA website]

Because some synod donors have identified this ministry, we recently received the following note of thanks.

Dear Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA,

As a current scholarship recipient, I would like to thank you for your support of the International Women Leaders initiative! Your gift helped to support me and my fellow scholarship recipient colleagues.

Thank you!

Melissa Neo Pei Shi



The synod campaign goal, established by Synod Assembly action in 2014, is participation by 100% of our congregations. This is a realistic and attainable goal which can be met and sustained through January 31, 2019 with your support! If you need additional information about the campaign, contact Guy Ehler, Synod Campaign Coordinator at relhew@verizon.net; or call the synod office at 610-266-5101.

Bishop's Conference - November 1-2

St. Francis Retreat House, Easton

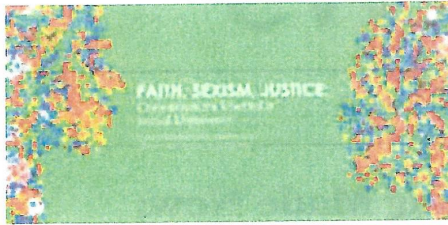
Speaker: Kay Stewart, M.Ed.

Stillwaters Mindfulness Training

For info and to register, visit the synod website at <http://nepasynod.org/event/bishops-conference-2016>



Women and Justice



"The ELCA is a church that believes God is calling us into the world – together. As part of this call, we seek the common good for society, provide moral vision and are committed to addressing social and cultural injustices and issues." [ELCA website: Faith & Society]

One way in which the ELCA addresses such issues is by releasing social statements from time to time. Two more recent statements were on "Genetics" and "Human Sexuality."

In 2009, the Churchwide Assembly authorized the development of a social statement on women and justice. The ELCA Task Force on Women and Justice is now in the process of drafting the statement, which will be presented to the 2019 Churchwide Assembly.

During this study phase of the process, the task force is encouraging and hosting listening events in order to hear about the insights, hopes, and concerns of ELCA members across the country. You are invited to join in this process!

For more information about the process and the location of the listening events, please visit the ELCA website at <http://www.elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Current-Social-Writing-Projects/Women-and-Justice>.

James Jennings Elected to ELCA Church Council

As a newly elected member of the ELCA Church Council, I want to thank you for supporting my nomination, and share with you my excitement about this opportunity to represent our synod at the national level.

In many ways we find ourselves at a turning point in the life of the Church. As we prepare to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we look back on the roots of our Lutheran heritage while simultaneously looking forward to what the vision of the ELCA will be for the future. My hope is that together, local congregations and national leadership can draw strength and meaning from Luther's teachings and find innovative ways to apply his principles in 2017 and beyond.



I would also like to tell you a little about myself. I am a life-long member of Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bangor, PA. Over the years, I have been an active participant in a variety of ways, including committee work (Mutual Ministry, Finance, Call, Worship & Music), Council (multiple terms as President, Vice President and Secretary), and various roles in worship support (Communion Assistant, Usher, special music). I am employed as Senior Manager of Planning and Allocation with Party City Corporation. My wife Kim is a teacher, and we have two sons, Cory and Owen.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible during my tenure and hope to share news from across the ELCA as we go forward. Thank you again for your support, and I pray for you and your congregations.

The ELCA Church Council is composed of 34 elected members (lay and ordained) from across the ELCA. Members of the Council come from a variety of backgrounds, among them: the social services, the legal profession, accounting and financial management, and medicine. Two youth members who were high school students at the time of their election are Council members. The Council deals with a broad range of issues, much of the work done by four committees in preparation for Churchwide Assembly action. It meets at the churchwide office in Chicago twice a year – April and November – for three or four days. The four officers of the ELCA and the chair of the Conference of Bishops are also part of the Council. In addition, nine Conference of Bishops liaison representatives attend the meetings.

Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA
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Trinity Leadership Directory

Officers & Staff:

Pastor – Jira A. Albers, MDiv 265-5322
Organist - Kay Champluvier..... 746-3641
Vice President – Cathy Bellanca 265-6049
Office Manager – Peggy Cranmer 596-7055
Treasurer – Peggy Cranmer 596-7055
Fin. Secretary – Doreen Secor 265-3832
Ministers—All the members of Trinity

Council Members:

Chris Griffith 268-4123
Cassidy Estelle..... 268-4123
Cathy Bellanca..... 265-6049
Maureen Engelhard..... 247-2678
Debbie Philippi 247-2353
Dave Estelle 265-5184

Contact Trinity

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Homepage: <http://www.trinluth.com>
Email: trinluth@epix.net
In case of emergency, you can contact Pastor Jira at his home: 570-363-2951

Serving us in worship:

The Rev. Jira A. Albers, presiding minister

Altar Guild– October

Thelma Allis & Peggy Cranmer

Alter Guild– November

Maureen Engelhard & Carol Cunfer

October 2—Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

Acolyte– Olivia Champluvier
Lector– Cathy Bellanca
Communion Assistant– Cathy Bellanca
Counters– Cassidy Estelle & Chris Griffith
Ushers– Ron & Ruth Russell

October 9—Twenty-first Sunday After Pentecost

Acolyte– Tanner Kunkle
Lector– Bill Serfass
Communion Assistant– Bill Serfass
Counters—Maureen Engelhard
Ushers– Thelma Allis & Nate Chilson

October 16—Twenty-second Sunday After Pentecost

Acolyte– Brock Champluvier
Lector– Mary Lou Vanderpool
Communion Assistant– Mary Lou Vanderpool
Counters—
Ushers–Bill Serfass & Doreen Secor

October 23—Twenty-third Sunday After Pentecost

Acolyte– Emily Chilson
Lector– Cindy Estelle
Communion Assistant– Cindy Estelle
Counters—Dave & Cindy Estelle
Ushers– Lois & Duane Carrington

October 30– Reformation Day

Acolyte– Allie Champluvier
Lector– Dave Estelle
Communion Assistant– Dave Estelle
Counters– Cathy Bellanca
Ushers– Paul & Aggi Cook

November 6—All Saints Sunday

Acolyte– Kynlee Kunkle
Lector– Cathy Bellanca
Communion Assistant– Cathy Bellanca
Counters– Chris Griffith & Cassidy Estelle
Ushers– Dave & Cindy Estelle

November 13—Twenty-six Sunday After Pentecost Child's Faith Service

Acolyte– Rachel Champluvier
Lector– Bill Serfass
Communion Assistant– Bill Serfass
Counters–
Ushers– Janet Seaberg & Peggy Cranmer

November 20–Christ the King Sunday

Acolyte– Delaney Carrington
Lector– Mary Lou Vanderpool
Communion Assistant– Mary Lou Vanderpool
Counters–Cathy Bellanca
Ushers– Ron & Ruth Russell

November 27– First Sunday of Advent

Acolyte– Kate O'Connor
Lector– Cindy Estelle
Communion Assistant– Dave Estelle
Counters–Cindy & Dave Estelle
Ushers– Lois & Duane Carrington

Trinity Lutheran Church
908 South Main Street
Towanda PA 18848

TRINITY TRUMPETER

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

“Challenged to witness and share Christ’s love with all”

Sunday Morning Schedule
Service of Holy Communion at 9:30 AM

Spreading Christ’s word of peace to all through service.

