

October 2017

Dear Friends of Trinity,

We are quickly approaching the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation! Praise God that what drove the Reformation hasn't changed for half a millennium.

So, what was the Reformation about? It's wasn't about Martin Luther. It wasn't about the Gutenberg printing press. It wasn't about popes, councils, and Diets (notice the capital D). It wasn't about those who followed in Luther's footsteps. It wasn't about change. It wasn't about revolution. It wasn't about protest and activism.

So, what was it about?

Jesus. Simply, Jesus. It was about what Jesus did for the salvation of humanity. And because of what Jesus did we are justified and forgiven by the grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ alone, and not by our works, lest anyone should boast.

For 500 years, that message hasn't changed. It has stood the test of time. God preserves His Word and promise, and with that, preserves His people in faith.

This year, we will celebrate Reformation Day with ONE service on October 29, instead of two services. The service will be at 9:00am. This is a day when we will all need to be together and celebrate that Almighty God abounds in grace, love, and truth, and sets us free from sin, death, and the power of the devil.

Faith alone. Grace alone. Scripture alone. CHRIST ALONE!

In Christ,
Pastor Hoag



2017 Newsletter

Cool weather means fall fun for everyone. Enjoy the fall leaves, pumpkins, hayrides, bonfires and football games. Come join us at some of our fall activities.

UPDATE FROM OUR CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT, JEFF MC DONALD

We saw a number of improvements around Trinity in September. Starting with the outside, the parking lot was resealed and re-stripped, which not only looks a lot better, but should help to preserve the life of our lot by preventing water from freezing in the cracks and breaking more of it apart. While this work does buy us some time, we expect that the next time this is needed we may need to have the asphalt replaced - possibly in stages. We hope to get another five years or more out of the current lot, but our long-range plans will involve replacing the lot.

Next is something you won't likely see with your eyes, but Dan Bay put in several days of work repairing sections of our building's roof where water leaks were occurring. We also hired Dan to install heating coils in our gutters in hopes of preventing ice from freezing in our gutters, which causes leaks and other damage. We hope our building is in good shape for the winter months now. Dan also invested considerable time working on our outside lights, although the conclusion there is that they likely need to be replaced. We are fortunate to have such a beautiful house of worship, but like any building of its age, there are always things in need of repair or replacement. Our property team does a lot to keep up the building, and their efforts are very much appreciated.

Moving indoors, you may have already seen that Pastor Hoag's new office carpeting is in and the plan is to physically move his office across the hall as soon as a phone line is run to the new office. The transformation from what used to be a youth room to what will soon be Pastor Hoag's new office is pretty remarkable. Our thanks to all who helped to fund this renovation as well as those who labored to make it happen.

To follow the theme of repair or replace, the next topic is our church copier. The machine we have now is obsolete and can no longer be repaired. We reviewed options for a new machine and council voted in September to approve the purchase of a new copier for the church. This will not only give us a more reliable machine for copies, but it will give us a machine that is more efficient to run as well. We were able to fund the purchase of this machine from our general fund, which is a testament to the generosity of our members.

Finally, our preschool was given an Oak tree sapling by the New Lenox Rotary Club and that has now been planted on the south side of the building. We hope to see this tree grow over the years and eventually provide shade to our preschoolers in the yard. Our thanks to Pastor Hoag for promoting this program by the New Lenox Rotary Club.

Visit us on the web at www.trinitynewlenox.org



Church Member Updates during the month of August/September, 2016

Baptisms:

Eleanor Joyce Perkins, birth date June 27, 2017, baptized September 24, 2017

Church Council Elections are approaching at the end of October.

If you have considered becoming more involved with the running of the church, please consider running for a council position. All positions are for a two-year term, beginning in January 2018. Council meets monthly (excluding summer months) on the second Sunday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the church library. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Pastor Hoag at your earliest convenience.



Chancel Guild's Annual Fall Salad Luncheon – Wednesday, October 4th from 11:30

a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The salads are made by the Chancel Guild members, and the desserts are made by the Women's League members. Carry outs available! Men are welcome! Tickets are still available for \$8.00 each. If you need tickets, please call the church office at 815.485.6973. Come and enjoy the delicious food, as well as the fellowship. Tickets will also be available at the door.



Living Lutheran – Exploring the Christian Faith. Mentors and Inquirers: We will be meeting in the gym on Sunday morning at 9:15 a.m. If you are interested in participating, please join us. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Hoag.



Trinity Pre-School

AM spots are still available for 2017-2018. Please tell your friends and neighbors! There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$60.00 per student. For the school year beginning September 2016 the tuition per month will be \$105 for two day students and \$130 for three day students. Children must have turned 3 by September 1, 2016. For further information, please call Trinity Lutheran Church at 815.485.6973.

Pre-School is looking for donations of empty white plastic frosting containers. If you have any you can donate, please bring them by.

Visit us on the web at www.trinitynewlenox.org

Pre-School Board Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 15, 2017 at 9:15 am in the Pre-School Room.



Confirmation classes are held on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. If you would like to enroll your son or daughter, would like more information, or have any questions, please contact Pastor Hoag or call the church office at 815.485.6973.



Wednesday Morning Bible Class meets each week from 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. in the Library. Please contact Pastor Hoag if you have any questions.

Thursday Night Bible Class meets each week at 7:00 p.m. in the library. Please contact Pastor Hoag if you have any questions.



Choir practice is held each Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. Please join us - both male and female voices are needed. If you have any questions, please call Julie Verchimak, at 815.723.1429 or the church office at 815.485.6973.



9th Annual Trinity Craft and Vendor Fair – Saturday, October 14, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Come on out to the craft fair and bring along a friend! We need plenty of shoppers to make this event a success. We have new crafters and vendors this year, plus a bake sale, so come out and do some early holiday shopping. Free admission! Hope to see you there!

Youth and parents please sign up on the bulletin board for a volunteer slot.

Visit us on the web at www.trinitynewlenox.org



SCRIP GIFT CARDS – This is a fundraiser for the Youth Group. These cards are the same gift cards that you can purchase from retailers, including over 300 brand-name grocery, department stores, restaurants, gas stations, hotels, home improvement etc. We order the gift cards at a discount and you pay face value for the gift cards. Order forms are on the hallway table below the Youth bulletin board. You may place your order/payment in the gold envelope which is hanging on the end of the desk credenza in the church office. If interested in placing orders online, you will need an enrollment code. Ask Angie Minett for the code or stop by the church office. Direct any question you may have to Angie Minett at minett411@yahoo.com or (815) 467.2537. **Deadline for turning in orders, along with payment is Monday October 2nd at noon.** Pre-ordered gift cards will be available for pick-up the weekend after the order is placed.



Trinity will be sponsoring a blood drive on October 16, 2017 from 3 – 7 PM. Blood is always needed. Your donation saved lives! Thanks to Deb Aiken for coordinating this with Heartland Blood Centers.

Coffee

DO YOU ENJOY THE COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP AFTER THE 8:00 A.M. SERVICE ON SUNDAYS? We can use your help! We need someone for the fourth Sunday in October and November. Please contact the church office to sign up.



Prayer Chain:

Thanks to Ginny DeCarlo and Pat Fuerst for heading up this very worthwhile organization. Please feel free to contact Pat or Ginny via the telephone to leave a prayer request, or Ginny via email to get a prayer started. Contact information: Pat 815 485 6441, Ginny 815 485 2001 or ginny@vdecarlo1952@gmail.com

Bulletin Prayer List: Please inform the church office when you or a family member's status change, or are well enough to be removed from the Prayer List. Thanks!



Thrivent - is also matching donations made to hurricane victims up to \$3 million dollars. This opportunity will run until the \$3 million match is met or until December 31, 2017, whichever comes first.

You can make a personal donation on Thrivent.com. To donate, simply click the name of the organization to which you wish to personally donate. Thrivent Financial will pay the processing fees associated with the personal donations.



Readers and Greeters:

Readers - The signup sheet for October is in the hallway. We have many open Sundays left. Please consider signing up for one dates as a reader.



Greeters -

Have you ever gone somewhere where you didn't know anyone? Imagine you are looking for a new church home and one of the churches on your list is Trinity. You show up on Sunday morning and no one speaks to you except the Pastor. Will you be coming back? Take a turn at greeting at one of our services and the result might be very surprising. Signup sheet for October is in the hallway.



MORNING STAR MISSION SERVING. If you are interested in helping serve a meal at MorningStar on the 1st and/or 3rd Monday of each month, please sign up on the sheet on the hallway table. You need to be at MorningStar by 3:45. If you have questions, please call the church office. The dates for this month are October 2nd and 16th.

Church Council Meeting, Sunday, October 8th at 7:00 pm

Social Ministry Meeting – Monday, October 9th at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Jeanine Welsh. If you can't make the meeting, please let Jeanine know by phone, text or messenger.

Women's League Meeting, Tuesday, October 24th at 12:30 p.m. The October meeting will be to fill the chemo bags for **#Better Every Day**. The donations you all have provided will be used to fill these bags. Ray Koehler will have a presentation on his art at this meeting also. Hostesses will be Cheryl Koenig and Karen Dickson.



Sponsored by The New Lenox Area Historical Society. "All You Can Eat" German Dinner at the Harry Andersen VFW Hall, 323 Old Hickory Road on October 11, 2017 from 4 – 8 PM. There will be a silent auction of various items donated by local businesses and friends of the society. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children 10 and under and free for children under 3 years. Tickets may be purchased at the door or in advance by calling 815-485-5576. Carry outs will be available.



"Healing Hearts" Survivors of Suicide Support Group Meeting – Monday, October 16th from 7:00- 8:30 p.m. at the New Lenox Village Hall, 1 Veterans Parkway, New Lenox. **Guest Speaker: Pastor Troester, St. Paul evangelical Lutheran Church, Matteson. Topic: "Surviving the Holidays"**



St. John's Annual Turkey Dinner, Saturday, November 4th from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Location: St. John's United Church of Christ, Christian Community Center, 11046 Second St., Mokena.
Tickets sold at the door: Adults \$12; Children 5-11 \$5.00; Children 2-4 \$2.00 Carry outs available at the church.



Walk to End Alzheimer's -October 7, 2017 at Rock Run Forest Preserve on Black Rd in Joliet. The walk starts at 10:00 am with ceremonies at 9:30 am. All are welcome even dogs!



Church office hours are **Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9-1 PM.**

