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516.931.2225  
TrinityHicksville.org

# TRINITY LUTHERAN C H U R C H   A N D   S C H O O L

40 West Nicholai Street, Hicksville, NY 11801

Reverend John Hopkins – Senior Pastor  
Jennifer Forte – Principal   Seleena Seemangal – ECC Director



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SCHOOL  
516.931.2211  
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## *The Good News*



**September 2022**

**Volume 6 No. 8**

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### ***Worship Schedule***

Sundays 9:00am

Traditional

Live Streamed on Facebook

In Person

Sundays 10:45am

Traditional—1st and 3rd Sundays

Contemporary—2nd and 4th Sundays

Sunday School 9:00am

### ***From the Pastor . . .***

#### **Beginnings**

Labor Day marks the end of summer. School is getting ready to start. All of that means the fall routine is to about to begin.

This fall, as compared to previous fall beginnings, Covid is not going to be affecting our routines as it has in the past. The CDC and the state of New York are getting things as near to normal as possible. Our school is doing the same. Church has been near as normal for some time now. That quite frankly is exciting.

For us, that means that we will be having more activities at church. Coffee Hour, that took the summer off, will start again on September 11! Sunday School returns September 11! Rededication of school teachers, Sunday school teachers, adult Bible study leaders, staff and Church Council will be on September 11 at the early service.

As we had the summer worship and picnic, look for more fun events to come. Why? Because we are getting back together do things at church just like we used to! Be a part of it... it can't happen without you... for you are the church!

If it has been a while for you to be here, make it a part of your routine. And if it is your routine already, invite your friends to come along. Haven't seen someone in a while, they are the perfect ones to call up. Get them back in the routine too! I am excited about this fall and I want to see you there to be a part of it!

Come and thank the Lord for all of the blessings He has given you! And we'll see you in worship!

Serving the Lord with you,

*Pastor Hopkins*

### What I Did Over the Summer

Children and teens are returning to school. Many will be asked to demonstrate their creative writing and grammatical skills with an essay about what they did on their summer vacation. Here is my answer to that question.

This summer I read a lot. I sat outside on my front porch when the weather permitted, which was not too often. We had to endure many days of excessive heat with little rain. But this summer I also studied the Scriptures intensively and composed three sermons.

We Deacons are sometimes called on to lead a Divine Worship Service. This summer I led three such services. One was here at Trinity Hicksville in mid-July. Pastor Hopkins was on vacation. The second was the First Sunday in August. Pastor Travis Yee needed someone to fill in for him at Trinity Glen Cove. He was training in Army Chaplaincy school in South Carolina.

The third service occurred two weeks later at the chapel at Gilgo Beach. Every year Deacons and pastors from our Long Island churches take turns conducting a service for the folks who live there in the summer. Members of Trinity have been doing this since the 1950s because, years ago, many of our members had summer homes out there. This was my fifth visit to Gilgo. But this year, due in part to COVID, there were only five in attendance besides me and John Doughty who assisted me and led the singing as the pianist had taken ill. But as the Lord has told us, wherever two or three are gathered in My Name, there am I in their midst. And it was so! I preached about Hebrews 12, how the Lord uses adversity to discipline us to increase our faith and our righteousness. He draws us closer to Him in times of stress and hardship so we will trust Him for all things.

The Lord uses adversity to weed out the things that are bad in us, to rid us of all the things we trust in to get us through tough times, such as money and possessions, medicine or medical technology, or as in these days of pandemic, self-proclaimed experts, media talking heads, and pontificating politicians. We seem to trust a lot of people who are ready and willing to tell us how to live the good life. We even trust ourselves to know what is best for ourselves. The Lord wants us to trust Him, and Him alone.

*Deacon Anthony Cavaliere*



### ***Your Deacons***

**Doug Brosky**

**Betsy Lazarek**

**Lynn Waldeck**

**Anthony Cavaliere**

**Peg Ruhs**

TRUST  
yourself  
TO THE  
God  
WHO MADE YOU



### **An Afternoon at the Movies!**

The Tuesday Evening Ladies Bible Study Group will be hosting a movie on Saturday, October 1 at 3:00pm. **“Esther, the Movie”** will be on the big screen! Watch the bulletin and Friendly Reminders for updates.

## ***From the Minister of Music***

### **Choirs Rehearsals Resume for the Fall**

On August 22, 1741, George Frederick Handel locked himself in his place of residence until September 14. It seems like an odd thing to do, but Handel had with him paper, ink, pens and a script of verses compiled from the King James Bible by Charles Jennens. When Handel emerged from his home, he had with him the music for his oratorio, *Messiah*, the two and a half hour piece was written in its entirety during that three week period. What a miraculous achievement, it was not performed though, until April of 1742. Why did such a great piece of music take so long to receive its first performance? No matter how good the musicians are, it takes time to learn the notes and turn the scribbles on a piece of paper that we call notes into music.

Trinity's choirs have been singing for services for many years, disrupted only by a pandemic. We spend many weeks working on each of our anthems to turn them into music to enhance worship. We still have Covid with us, but are hopefully, with new vaccines, going to start to put it in the rear view mirror and try to return to some normalcy.

Rehearsals for Trinity Choir will begin on Thursday night, September 22 at 8:00 p.m. We are hoping to sing on a more regular basis, and are praying that Covid doesn't interrupt us this year. This would be a great time for those of you that may have thought about singing with our choir to join in. We encourage you to do that. I am also very hopeful that Sounds of Praise, our children's choir for grades 2-6 unchanged voices, will also begin rehearsals on Thursday, October 6 at 3:30 pm. I am very much looking forward to having them rejoin our services, since we have not been able to rehearse at all during Covid. There will be a sign up form for Sounds of Praise in the church bulletin. If you have any questions on any choirs, please don't hesitate to drop me an email at [hdevries@trinityhickville.org](mailto:hdevries@trinityhickville.org) or call me at the church number, ext. 216.

Henry DeVries,  
*Minister of Music*

## ***Confirmation News***

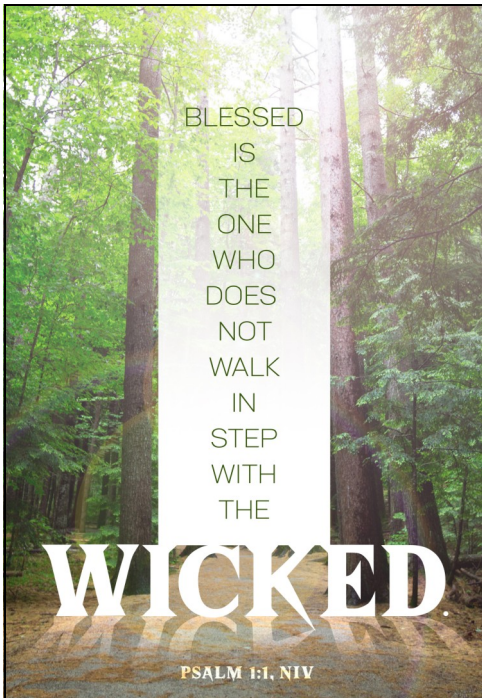
Confirmation Orientation for parents and students is Thursday, September 29 at 7:00pm. We will meet in the Sanctuary. Please enter via the courtyard entrance by Pastor Hopkins' office. This is for all 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and their parents. We will be talking about the upcoming year, expectations, and handing out the calendar as well. Confirmation classes will continue to be on Thursdays from 7:00pm – 8:00pm. Our first class begins October 6.

Confirmation typically begins with students entering the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. If your student would like to start and they are passed the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, no problem. Nothing like the present to begin! (Your student wouldn't be the first to do this.) If you would like to enroll your student and/or have not received any enrollment information, please feel free to reach out to Pastor Hopkins: [jhopkins@trinityhicksville.org](mailto:jhopkins@trinityhicksville.org) or 516-931-2225. We'll make sure your student gets registered.

Your confirmation teachers for the 2022-2023 confirmation year are: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher – Pastor Hopkins, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher – Mrs. Janice Jones, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher – Mrs. Erika Skoch.

## From the Board of Outreach

*"If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul." (Ezekiel 33:8-9)*



Evangelism is one of the primary missions of the Church. We are each called to be watchmen, to sound the warning to the lost, to share the gospel with them. But some believers are unaware of the necessity for evangelism. Or some think that they are poor speakers, or claim "It's not my gift." or "It's not my ministry." Or maybe they feel that criminals, prostitutes, and perverts deserve the life they lead and are not worthy of our efforts.

Every Christian is commissioned to preach the gospel, in different ways to different people at different times for there, as the prophet Ezekiel indicated, great urgency. And that urgency has to do with the consequences that befall the people who do not believe because they have not heard the gospel, or more likely, heard only words of condemnation or hate from the mouths of Christians: the torments of Hell for all eternity. A lot of people, even many who call themselves Christian do not like to think about Hell. Some may even think "Hell! Get real! That's so medieval! There's no such thing. Hell is only a story, a fairy tale meant to frighten kids so they will mind their manners and obey their parents." Or some might say as many Christians do "God is so forgiving that He would never send anyone to Hell."

This idea of universal salvation is quite common in our culture. Everyone likes to think that their deceased loved ones are all in heaven. This is especially true when that deceased person is a child or is someone who has died tragically in a car accident or terrorist bombing or at the hands of a psychopathic killer. The common belief is that the loved one went straight to heaven simply because of the violent, unexpected, and tragic way they died. Such a thought comforts the grieving and enables them to carry on in their lives for the alternative is really very scary and demoralizing. No one knows what is in store for them. Who knows that maybe the person you greet this afternoon at the supermarket or the restaurant might not be plunged into Hell before tomorrow morning. It is vital that we carry out the great commission and bring the gospel to the lost before it is too late. And that means telling them about the need for faith in Jesus who died for their sins so they can enjoy with Him forever the glories of His eternal Kingdom of Heaven.

*Deacon Anthony Cavaliere*

**NewsLetter**  
**DEADLINE**

Newsletter submissions and articles for the October 2022 edition of *The Good News* are due to the church office by noon on  
**Thursday, September 22.**

Thank you!



## ***From the Board of Stewardship***



### **CONSECRATION SUNDAY**

*Next month, Trinity's Board of Stewardship will sponsor a Consecrated Stewards Program. This will culminate in Consecration Sunday on October 16 with one service followed by brunch. On that Sunday, we, the members of the congregation will have an opportunity to renew our weekly monetary pledges and, if possible, increase them. This we do every Autumn as it is harvest time and we honor the Lord as we remember His blessings and give Him thanks for them all.*

Luther's Small Catechism gives us some fundamental reasons for consecrated giving. These speak to the motivation and the call to stewardship as an aspect of discipleship.

#### **The First Article: Creation**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean? I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

#### **The Second Article: Redemption**

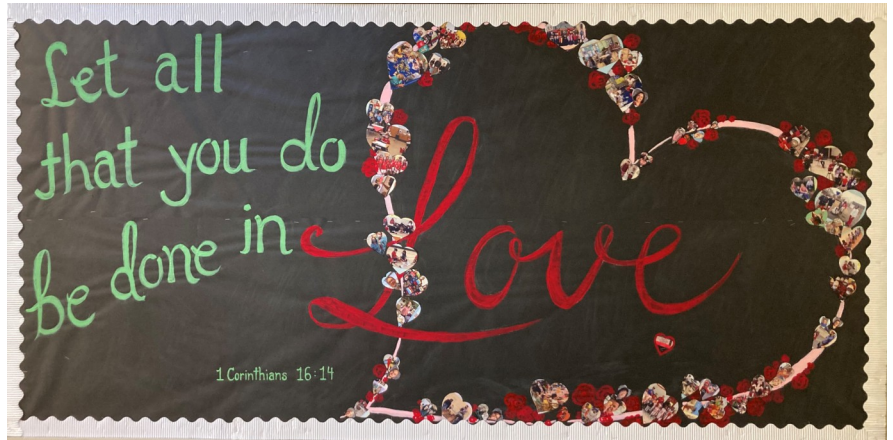
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean? I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

Why should we give our resources to the Church? The Lord God has blessed us by giving us all we have. We glorify Him by using His blessings to both encourage the faithful and preach the Gospel of faith in Jesus Christ to unbelievers.

“The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. . . He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.” (2 Corinthians 9:6-8, 10)

## *A Word from the Principal*



As we enter our 69<sup>th</sup> year of educational ministry, our Bible verse for this school year comes from 1 Corinthians 16:14 "Let all that you do be done in love." God's unconditional love abides in us through our relationship with Jesus Christ. God's love is the driving motivation behind everything we do. We want our students to know that no matter where we are and who we are with, that we are compelled by love, cultivating love, pursuing love, and most importantly demonstrating love to others.

We have a number of exciting events coming up in September. On September 1, we have our new student orientation and our Back to School Barbeque with the Blessing of the Backpacks. September 7 is our opening day of school for K to grade 8 and we look forward to a wonderful school year, where love and kindness is the motivation behind all we do.

Jennifer Forte,  
*Principal*

## *Early Childhood Center Update*



Let all that  
you do be  
done in love."  
-- 1 Corinthians 16:14



Trinity Lutheran School  
Early Childhood Center  
2022-2023



The Early Childhood Center teachers and staff are getting ready to welcome all the little children to Trinity for another great year of preschool, nursery school, and toddler school. We can't wait for happy faces, joyful laughter, and curious minds to fill the classrooms. Trinity is blessed to have many dedicated staff members who go above and beyond each day for the children and families we serve.

We have wonderful activities planned for the children as we teach them about the love of Jesus and the skills they need to prepare for kindergarten. We wish all our students and families a wonderful and joyous 2022-2023 school year filled with love and blessings!

Seleena Seemangal,  
*ECC Director*

## LWML News

The summer certainly flew by and we are ready for business again. I want to take the time to thank everyone for the many birthday wishes and donations made in my name over the course of this past month. I had a restful and enjoyable time with my family while I was away. On a sad note, we are grieving for one of our long time devoted members, Johanna Cognato. She was an important member of our LWML board and was so active in our activities. She will be sorely missed. We are in need of someone willing to take on the position of Treasurer. Please let me know if anyone is willing to step up in this role.

Our next event scheduled for September will be the Garage Sale. The date has been changed to September 10 instead of September 17, to be held at Helen's at 33 Winding Rd, Hicksville. This is an important annual fundraiser for mission funding. We can use some physical helpers in the setup or cleanup for this event. If you can volunteer an hour or two, please let Helen know at (516) 938-6914. We appreciate any help! Also in September we will have the bake-less cake sale, a cake sale that does not involve putting on pounds but is an important fundraiser as well. Notices will be sent out on that.

Reminder that the Fall Retreat at Tuscarora is October 14 to 16. Registration starts September 1. You can go online at [adlwml.org](http://adlwml.org) or email to [atlanticlwml@gmail.com](mailto:atlanticlwml@gmail.com) for more information. It promises to be an interesting time with Pastor Justin and Neina Vetrano as the retreat leaders.

And looking ahead, our annual pork roast will be around the corner to be held on November 5, as a drive-thru event. Stay tuned!

Hope everyone have had an enjoyable summer and are ready to be busy again.

Helen Peter  
*Trinity LWML President*



## Board of Property Update

The Board of Property continues to maintain the Church and School. Here are some of their recent activities:

- Provide a water source to the proposed Community Garden
- Repair sprinkler system
- Repair and paint interior of church
- Repair plumbing in ECC, School and Parsonage
- Install new air conditioner in Parsonage.
- Replace ceiling tiles in school and Stammel Center
- Repair broken windows in school
- Replace security camera on west side of school
- Replace outside floodlight in courtyard
- Trim trees in courtyard





# Comfort Dog Ministry



This summer has truly been the dog days of summer. The Comfort Dog ministry has been on tour with Vacation Bible Schools, summer camps, LWML conferences, pastoral conferences, on top of our regular visits.

We have been at National Night Out with Beloved, attended the funeral of a son of a pastor in Rochester with Abraham, and then went over to Buffalo to visit the Tops Supermarket and to Camp Joy, a camp at Our Savior Lutheran for children of the families impacted by the shooting. We will be live on Facebook with Project Thank a Cop for their night of mental health awareness on August 25. As September rolls around, the visits will increase to add Mill Neck Manor, The Arbors of Westbury, and some additional new locations. The ministry is also planning for Trunk or Treat for October 22 with a rain date of October 29. The Town of Oyster Bay has approved the use of the town lot.



Do you have an hour or two weekly to volunteer your time? Now that the comfort dog ministry has expanded we are in need of more helpers, specifically ministry partners. Ministry Partners are not Handlers or Caregivers. Lutheran Church Charities encourages the ministry to send people out in teams of two. One person can handle the LCC K-9 Comfort Dog and a second person (Ministry Partner) can help those being served. The Ministry Partner continues the relationship with those being reached. The ministry may also find other ways for Ministry Partners to serve that are not directly connected to ministry visits with the LCC K-9 Comfort Dog. As a Ministry Partner, the most important responsibilities are to be present with people approaching the LCC K-9 Comfort Dog. Other responsibilities include passing out ministry cards, taking photos, crowd control, and assisting the handler. Please talk to Donna if you are interested.





## Sunday School Announcements



REGISTER FOR  
**Sunday SCHOOL**

We're so delighted to begin a new year of Sunday School! Registration will take place on September 11 following the 9:00am worship service. Questions? Contact Roberta O'Connor at [rjoc3255@gmail.com](mailto:rjoc3255@gmail.com). Hope to see you then!

Could you be called to serve His little ones? We are in need of Sunday school teachers and helpers. Your commitment could be as little as once a month, only eight days this school year. For more information contact Roberta O'Connor at [rjoc3255@gmail.com](mailto:rjoc3255@gmail.com)



## Bible Study Info

A New Members Class will be starting on September 12 at 6:30pm via Zoom. All those who are interested, please contact Anthony immediately via [ACavaliere@trinityhicksville.org](mailto:ACavaliere@trinityhicksville.org) There is a workbook which will be used: *Concordia Publishing Basic Bible Teachings* which will be provided by the church.

The Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study will resume on September 6. The group meets at 3:30pm in the Stammel Center. All are welcome. They will be completing a study of the Book of Revelation and then begin looking at the Parables of Jesus. Contact Doug Brosky at [Doug.brosky@gmail.com](mailto:Doug.brosky@gmail.com) or at 516-822-3942 for more details or if you have questions.

The Tuesday Evening Ladies Bible Study group will be resuming their study on the Book of Esther via Zoom on September 13 at 7:00pm. If you would like to join in the study you can email Linda for a Zoom invitation at [hebrews3@yahoo.com](mailto:hebrews3@yahoo.com).

Pastor Hopkins' online Bible study on the book of 1 John continues on Wednesdays at 7:00pm via Facebook and Zoom.

Staying consistently connected with other Christians (especially those who are growing and grounded in God's Word) is vital for your own personal faith journey. As we grow in His Word on our journey, won't you please join us? The Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible Study begins on September 14 with a communion breakfast. Bible study begins on September 21 at 9:30am in the Stammel Center.

