



EST. 1850

CHURCH  
516.931.2225  
TrinityHicksville.org

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

40 West Nicolai Street, Hicksville, NY 11801

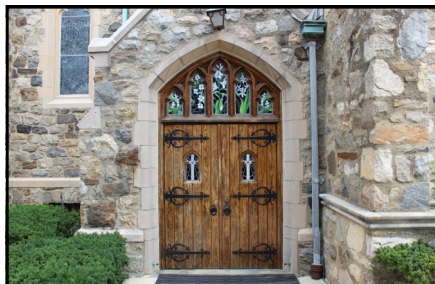
Rev. Dr. Johnson E. Rethinasamy, Senior Pastor  
Jennifer Forte – Principal   Seleena Seemangal – ECC Director



EST. 1954

SCHOOL  
516.931.2211  
TrinityLI.org

## ***The Good News***



**May 2024**

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### ***Worship Schedule***

Sundays 9:00am

Traditional

Live Streamed on Facebook

and YouTube

In Person

Sundays 10:45am

Traditional—1st and 3rd Sundays

Contemporary—2nd and 4th Sundays

Sunday School 9:00am



### **DEACON'S BENCH**



Pastoral care includes the work entrusted by God to the Church to be exercised through its pastors and through those under their supervision including Deacons. In the Lutheran tradition, pastoral care is all about personally applying the benefits of Christ to those who desire them in faith, and doing so

in the name of the Triune God.

When a Deacon visits, you should expect to pray, to hear the word of God's promises and fulfillment in Christ, to be blessed and comforted in the holy name of Jesus by His Word and the Sacrament of Communion. The Lord has called each Deacon and granted each the privilege to stand in His stead, to speak the promises and comfort of God for you, whether in your kitchen, den, living room, bedroom, hospital room, dorm room, or rehabilitation center. Christ Jesus brings his word and presence to where you are and he is even willing to do so through your personally present Deacon.

If you desire a visit, or you know someone who desires a visit, then let your request be known to the Church office. It will be through the means of grace, augmented by the presence of one who represents Jesus that God will deal with you in mercy and goodness because of his love for you in Jesus Christ.

*Deacon Anthony Cavaliere*

### ***Your Deacons***

**Anthony Cavaliere   Betsy Lazarek**

**Donna Haines, Deacon in Training**

**Peg Ruhs   Lynn Waldeck**

# ***Installation of The Reverend Dr. E. Johnson Rethinasamy Announcement***



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516.931.2225  
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## **TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL**

40 West Nicolai Street, Hicksville, NY 11801

Rev. Dr. Johnson E. Rethinasamy, Senior Pastor  
Jennifer Forte – Principal Seleena Seemangal – ECC Director



EST. 1954

SCHOOL  
516.931.2211  
TrinityLI.org



You are invited to the Installation of

**The Rev. Dr. E. Johnson Rethinasamy**

**as**

**Pastor**

**of**

Trinity Lutheran Church and School  
40 West Nicolai Street  
Hicksville, NY 11801

**on**

Sunday, June 30, 2024 at 3:00pm

Atlantic District Lay Deacons, LCMS Ministers of Religion–Commissioned,  
and LCMS Ministers of Religion–Ordained are invited to process.

The color of the day for vesting is green.

A reception will follow the worship service.

Please RSVP by email at [office@trinityhicksville.org](mailto:office@trinityhicksville.org)  
or by phone at 516-931-2225. Please RSVP by Friday, June 21.



*“O Day Full of Grace” LSB 503*

*“I will pour out my Spirit  
on all people.”*

Joel 2:28, NIV



What a joyous day a birthday is! Something to be celebrated every year, well until we hit that certain year, maybe it was 39? The Day of Pentecost, 50 days after Easter, is the Christian church’s birthday. The tongues of fire, the mighty wind, the disciples speaking in tongues, and 3000 being baptized, these were the outward signs that Jesus had sent his Spirit as he had promised. It is a day to be celebrated year after year.

On Pentecost this year, May 19, we will sing one of the great Pentecost hymns of the church, “O Day Full of Grace.” It is still fairly new for us here, but a hymn that is surely memorable, with a text that speaks to us from year to year. It comes to us from Denmark, the earliest versions of it date to 1450. However, the version known and sung in current hymnals was assembled by Danish hymn writer and pastor, Nikolai Gruntvig. It was written to celebrate the millennium of Christianity in Denmark. The hymn highlights the word grace, or the giving of something not deserved. We receive God’s love and mercy through Jesus sacrifice on the cross.

The text of the hymn, like many hymns from Scandinavia, references light and darkness, which makes sense for countries that are covered in darkness through much of the winter, and the return of light, was celebrated. The first two verses trace God’s grace in Jesus to be promised to us, as we celebrate in Advent and by Jesus birth to us at Christmas, again with the references to the darkness of sin, and the light of Christ. “God, shine for us now in this dark place; your name on our hearts emblazon” (v. 1), “How blest was that gracious midnight hour when Christ in the flesh was given... then rose o’er the world that sun divine which gloom from our hearts has driven” (v. 2). We are then brought to the cross, where Christ’s work of salvation was completed by his death and the empty tomb. “Christ bore our sins and not his own... and then he arose and moved the stone, that we... might join with angelic hosts to raise our voices in endless singing.” (v. 3). In verse 4, Pentecost is described as God coming to us. “God came to us then at Pentecost... all darkness for us dispelling.” Finally, in the last verse, we are brought to the end of our lives, and into eternity, reminding us that the Spirit’s work is to strengthen us and keep us in God’s Word. There in heaven, “we will gather in song, all joy of heaven sharing, and walk in the light of God’s own place, with angels his name adoring.” (v.5). This powerful hymn takes us through the life of Christ and shows us the wonders of God’s grace. Here is a link to hear this powerful hymn of promise. It was prepared during Covid, and musicians sent in their solo performances, which were then assembled into one performance. In the end over 1300 musicians participated in this video, including a couple from our own church, can you find them?

Here is the link: <https://youtu.be/on8ng-vyjEk?si=hfLNB-sDrdhvEMyn>

Henry DeVries,  
Minister of Music

May 19, 2024  
**PENTEC**  **ST**  
SUNDAY

## ***From the Board of Outreach***

***“Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.” Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates. Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.*** (Revelation 22:12-15)

These days with all the violence and bloodshed going on in the Middle East over Israel as well as in our own country, many see these events as precursors of the return of Jesus. Add in the terrible storms raging across the globe, volcanic eruptions, and solar eclipses and many think this is the beginning of the end. This may be why we can find great comfort in these words that close the book of Revelation. They provide comfort and hope to believers. Unfortunately, they serve as a warning to others of the end result of their sin and unbelief: eternity outside of God's Kingdom.

What non believers claim to believe and how they live indicate that they are opposed to the tenets of the Kingdom of God. Such opposition is characteristic of the ideals of the United States and most of the nations of the world. Sure they may espouse freedom from oppression, want, hunger, and fear for all but, in practice, most rulers, politicians, and governments lie. Those who seize power by force or mob rule, or are elected or appointed to positions of trust, power and responsibility, invariably become greedy, proud, and corrupt. For all human efforts, all human striving to produce a peaceful and perfect world have failed and continue to do so.

True freedom or joy is found not in laws that are designed to promote equality, autonomy, and self-determination. The source of joy and true freedom is found in these closing words of the Book of Revelation: surrender and total submission to God who loves us. Here He encourages us to remain faithful, to persevere in loyalty to Him in the midst of persecution, suffering, sacrifice, and loss. God's outpouring of wrath upon sinful humanity will shortly occur, indeed, it may already be occurring as we see in these dark days of pandemic, lawlessness, and violence. We need to hold fast to the light of Christ and that vision we have seen of our reward. If we persevere, we will receive blessings and joy beyond what we have ever imagined that will more than make up for what we have lost for the sake of faith in Christ.

Jesus Christ alone has the only true and permanent solution for all the world's troubles. And He has entrusted that key to us, His church: the gospel of salvation found only in the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. May we ever be faithful to uphold and preach this truth.



### **MEAL PREPARERS NEEDED**

Occasionally we provide meals for fellow members following surgery, during illness or to lend a hand to a caretaker. Would you be able to help out by making a meal? We will deliver them. Please call Lynn (x230) for more information if interested. Thank you!



## *More Than a Negative*

Even if you've never had to testify in court, a thousand TV shows have made you familiar with the question, "Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?" Why not just make people swear to tell the truth? Or make them promise not to lie?

Any parent who has ever had to interrogate a child about a broken cookie jar or a scuffle over a toy knows the answer. There are plenty of ways to try to get out of trouble without *technically* lying. You tell *just enough* of the truth to skate on by.

We often play the game of seeing *how close* we can get to sinning without *technically* going over the line. But in our heart of hearts we know that this is not what God intended when He gave us the commandments. He's not giving us a merely negative rule and challenging us to just barely stay away from this or that. There is much more to each commandment than a prohibition. We shouldn't just avoid murdering people: we should be of service to our neighbor, doing good to promote their welfare and safety.

For each negative prohibition in the commandments there is a positive good that we are to cherish and protect. In the Eighth Commandment, that gift is the reputation of our neighbor and our relationship with him:

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

*What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

Your relationship with your family members (who are your nearest neighbors), the other members of your congregation, your coworkers and your friends is one of the most precious gifts you have been given. You need to exercise good stewardship with this gift just as much as you need to exercise good stewardship with your life, resources, time, and income. This is an especially fragile gift because it's easy to ruin a relationship with slander and talking behind someone's back.

But speaking well of your neighbor in Christian love is absolutely free; it costs you nothing, yet it pays you great dividends. If you find this challenging at times, if you are tempted to speak ill of others, just remember that this other person is also a beloved child of God for whom your Lord Jesus suffered and died. Your Lord Jesus loves you both.

**NewsLetter**  
**DEADLine**

Newsletter submissions and articles for the June 2024 edition of *The Good News* are due to the church office by noon on **Friday, May 24, 2024.**

**Thank you!**

## Trinity Lutheran School News

Dear Trinity Families,

Whether this is your first time hearing about Wingo or you are its biggest fan, Wingo is Trinity's biggest and best night of fundraising. Wingo is scheduled for Friday, May 3 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM. It includes bingo games, raffle baskets, and prizes, such as a \$1000 tuition discount! So far, we have over 50 baskets to raffle off. It is also a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and a way to connect with your Trinity community. If you are able to make a donation for our concession stand that evening, please do so by using this link. <https://www.target.com/gift-registry/gift/wingo2024> Donations of all kinds are greatly appreciated! Wingo is a night of fun for all, so feel free to bring dinner with you and invite your family and friends to come. If you have not already done so, please order your Wingo tickets to reserve your seats!



Our Spring Concert for grades K to 8 is also coming up on Tuesday, May 14 at 7:00 PM. All of our church and school families are invited to attend.

In His Service,

Mrs. Jennifer Forte  
Principal



## Early Childhood Center Update

April Showers bring May Flowers - and our little ones are blossoming! With only a month and a half left of the 2023-2024 school year, we have seen so much growth in our ECC students. Our hallways are decorated with butterflies, raindrops, flowers, frogs, and everything that represents spring.

We are getting ready for our Special Person's Day on May 9 and 10. The students will build bird houses and planters with their special person and then we will celebrate the day with an ice-cream party.

We also have our annual End of Year Picnic on May 31 at Theodore Roosevelt Park in Oyster Bay. It is one of our favorite days as all of our ECC families come out to spend time with each other.

Our little ones will celebrate all their accomplishments this year during their "Moving up Ceremonies" during the second week of June. As we get ready for all the activities that lead up to the last day of school, I'd like to leave you with this, "See, children are a gift from the Lord. The children born to us are our special reward." Psalm 127:3, New Life Version



Blessings,

Mrs. Seemangal  
Director, Early Childhood Center



Our President Helen Peter is adjusting and making improvements in her recovery at home. Her daughter Sue is still here with her and helping her mom make the adjustments with her mobility issues. Thank God for the progress she is making.

In March, we had a collection to support Momma's House, a local home in Levittown for young mothers in need of help. We collected a total of 129 pieces or items of paper goods and cleaning products and these had been delivered to this organization. Thank you all for the generous donations. They were much appreciated.

On April 13, a well attended group of 11 from Trinity Hicksville, plus the comfort dogs, went to the Spring Rally at Trinity Glen Cove. We gathered a nice collection for their in-gathering to support the reserves at the 1174<sup>th</sup> Deployment and Distribution Support Battalion located in Ft. Totten, Queens. Thank you to all who donated towards this. A nice time of fellowship and a nice brunch was enjoyed by all who attended!

Our final event before the summer is our annual High Tea, scheduled as a drive thru on May 4. Please remember to pick up the meals you've ordered on that Saturday, by the ECC door between 11:00am-1:00pm.

Blessings,

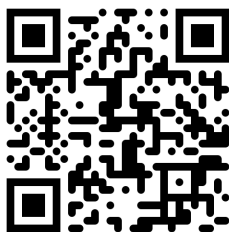
Faye Wong

*Trinity LWML Secretary*



**TRINITY QR CODES** QR codes (or Quick Response codes) are two-dimensional codes that you can scan with your smart phone. The code contains information, usually a site address, and once you scan it, the code connects you with a resource on the web. Below are Trinity's two codes, one is for a direct link to our church website and the other code will take you to Trinity's PushPay screen for making your offering or giving a monetary gift. Give them a try!

Trinity website:



Trinity giving:





## Comfort Dog Ministry



The Comfort Dog Ministry had the honor to attend the vigil and funeral of Officer Jonathan Diller. With over thousands in attendance at each event representing all divisions of first responders, along with the organization Project Thank-A-Cop, Abraham and Beloved provided comfort to those in attendance and a sense of respect to the fallen officer.

Seven of the Hearts of Mercy crosses were assembled and delivered to Baltimore and Team Kezia to have on hand for any memorial needs due to the Key Bridge collapse. At the time of this update there are two workers still missing and a possible memorial service being planned for April 16 or 17. At that time, the Southeastern District LCMS feel all search options would be exhausted and it would be an appropriate time to memorialize the lost.

Over the next few weeks the dogs will be visiting various churches and schools in the district and beyond to be part of children's sermons and special events. So begins the Tour de Dogs for Spring 2024. For the month of March only on Fridays did the dogs not have a visit scheduled. In May the dogs will be traveling to Keene, New Hampshire to visit Trinity Lutheran School for the day. Pastor Harkey of this congregation was part of the deployment of dogs to Maine during a shooting that took place in October of last year. We are currently the only active dog team in the Northeast and requested for this visit.





## ***Board of Youth News***

### **Trinity Youth Group 2.0 - More Faith, More Fun!**

Get involved with Trinity Youth Group! If you have kids or grandkids - make sure to drop them off at events!

VOTY - ages, grades 1 through 5

JR and SR Youth - Grade 5 and up



If you want to help out or join the Board of Youth - email [youth@trinityhicksville.org](mailto:youth@trinityhicksville.org)

Follow us on Instagram @trinitylioyouth

Follow on Facebook @Trinity Lutheran Church Youth Group

Remember to check church bulletins, the Youth Board in the hallway and your emails to know what events are coming up! Email [youth@trinityhicksville.org](mailto:youth@trinityhicksville.org) if you have any questions.

## ***Confirmation 2023***



Sunday, May 5 is Confirmation Sunday at Trinity! The following young people will be confirmed into the Lutheran faith at the 9:00am service:

Gavin D'Amato

Lucia Fabrizio

Natalia Ferro

Luke Leone

Melanie McGill

Gianna Pellechia

Callum Stevenson

Cora Stevenson

Keep them in your prayers as we celebrate with these young people and their families.

### **LIVE STREAM NOW MULTI-CASTED**

Our live streamed worship services are now simultaneously streamed to both YouTube as well as Facebook. Therefore, you can choose to watch the Live Stream on either site. Trinity's channel on YouTube is @TRINITYHICKSVILLE The Direct link to the live stream on Facebook is [FBLive.TrinityHicksville.Org](https://www.facebook.com/FBLive.TrinityHicksville.Org) The Direct link to the live stream on YouTube is [YTLive.TrinityHicksville.Org](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YTLive.TrinityHicksville.Org) We hope this additional platform will accommodate the many as-sorted devices in use. "Like & Subscribe!"

## ***Additional Important information!***

### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**



Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Hicksville, seeks an experienced Accounting/Finance professional to replace its 20-year Director of Finance. This position requires experience and working knowledge of GAAP policies, procedures and reporting requirements, including special rules for a not-for-profit entity. Responsibilities will include bookkeeping, managing cash and accounts receivables/payables, maintaining general ledger accounts and journals, payroll processing, internal financial reporting and working with a CPA on compilation engagement for annual financial statements. Also supporting the church and school staff in managing Trinity's temporal affairs as needed. If interested, or for further information, please send your contact information via email to Trinity's Finance Office at [finoff@trinityhicksville.org](mailto:finoff@trinityhicksville.org) attention John Doughty, Treasurer.

### **NEW COMMITTEE FORMING**

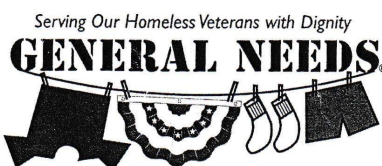
Who doesn't like fun, fellowship and something to look forward to? But to make that happen on an ongoing basis, we need a committee. Come join the planning stages of a new Trinity committee, help create a catchy name for the group and plan upcoming events. All are welcome. Meeting time is immediately after the 9:00 Sunday service on May 5, in the corner of the cafeteria. Come and bring your ideas and enthusiasm!



# BOY SCOUT COLLECTION DRIVE FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

A member of Trinity's Boy Scout Troop 291, Daniyal Asim, is doing a service project collecting items to fill Veteran toiletry and cleaning kits in conjunction with 'General Needs' an East Northport non-profit service organization providing assistance to local homeless veterans. A GN collection box is placed across from the pastor's office next to the Scout's display case beginning today through Memorial Day for our Trinity church family to donate some of the items listed on the flyer below. Further information about the organization is available at [www.GeneralNeeds.org](http://www.GeneralNeeds.org).

General Needs  
297 Larkfield Road, #761  
East Northport, NY 11731  
Phone: 631-266-1672  
[info@generalneeds.org](mailto:info@generalneeds.org)



[www.GeneralNeeds.org](http://www.GeneralNeeds.org)  
Facebook.com/GeneralNeeds  
EIN # 47-393082  
Suffolk County Charitable  
# 2023-2024 / C

## General Needs Drive / Collection Items Needed

ONLY NEW ITEMS WILL BE ACCEPTED

### General Needs Drive:

- 5 Pk Men's Underwear Sizes M, Lrg, XL  
&/OR
- 5 Pk Men's Tee Shirts Sizes M, Lrg, XL  
&/OR
- 5 Pk Men's Socks Any type/Size 6-12

### One Veteran Toiletry Kit Includes these 10 Items:

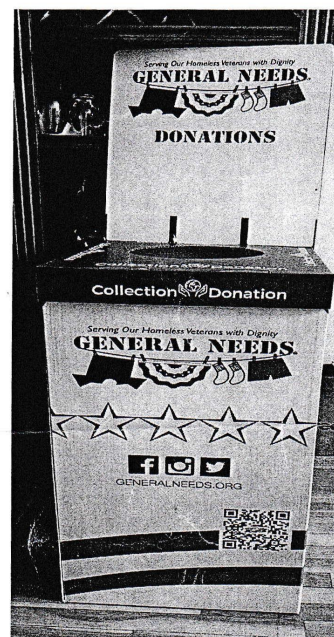
- 1 Shampoo
- 2 Conditioner
- 2 Shaving Cream
- 4 Men's Razors
- 5 Soap (5 Bars)
- 6 Deodorant
- 7 Toothbrush
- 8 Toothpaste
- 9 Mouthwash
- 10 Hairbrush / Comb

Dollar Store, Dollar Tree Etc.  
Full Sized Toiletries Preferred  
Packaged in ULINE Bag # S-7456

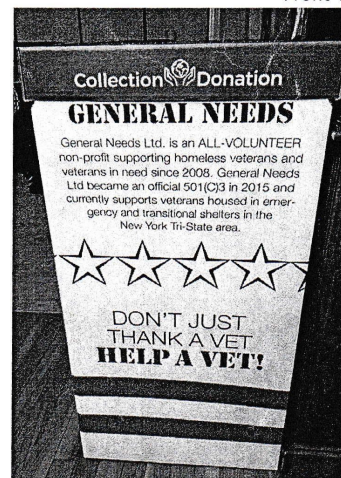
### One Veteran Cleaning Kit Includes these 10 Items:

- 1 Mop Bucket
- 2 Sponge Mop
- 3 Floor Cleaner
- 4 Broom/DustPan
- 5 Toilet bowl Brush/Holder
- 6 Toilet bowl Cleaner
- 7 All Surface Cleaner
- 8 Cleaning Gloves
- 9 Sponges (5 Pack)
- 10 Dishwashing Liquid

Walmart / Dollar Store Items



Front View



Side View



PLEASE JOIN US FOR  
TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL'S  
ANNUAL

FUN FOR  
THE WHOLE  
FAMILY

W I N G O

FUNDRAISER

FRIDAY  
MAY 3

\*BINGO GAMES\*    \*RAFFLES\*  
\*FOOD AND DRINKS FOR SALE\*

\$10 to win \$500 or a \$1000

Tuition Discount!

EMAIL - [Laurel.omara@gmail.com](mailto:Laurel.omara@gmail.com) to purchase  
raffle tickets in advance

BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!  
INDIVIDUAL—\$10  
TABLE (8) - \$60  
Every ticket gets 2 BINGO  
Cards/Marker  
& DOOR PRIZE

6pm-8pm

BINGO STARTS AT 6:30PM

RAFFLES CLOSE AT 7:30PM

2024 Trinity Lutheran School WINGO Ticket Order:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ STUDENT: \_\_\_\_\_

# of TICKETS: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10.00 Per Person

# of TABLES: \_\_\_\_\_ 8 Tickets @ \$60.00

TOTAL ATTENDING: \_\_\_\_\_

CASH OR CHECK ONLY

\* CHECKS PAYABLE TO : Trinity Lutheran PTFA  
(\$10 minimum check amount) \*

\* PLEASE EMAIL: [LAUREL.OMARA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LAUREL.OMARA@GMAIL.COM) WITH ANY QUESTIONS\*

# Celebrate Summer 2024

Trinity Lutheran's Celebrate Summer offers an affordable program for children in a caring Christian environment.

**Celebrate Summer includes:**

- Organized Sports
- Technology
- Science
- Fun with Food
- Arts & Crafts
- Music & Movement
- Water Play
- Academic Enrichment
- Live Animal Programs



**Celebrate Summer is for students entering Pre-k to Grade 2**

Sign up now for all six sessions or mix and match your weeks according to your schedule.

<b>SESSION 1:</b>	Helpful Heroes	June 24-28
<b>SESSION 2:</b>	Stars and Stripes (Closed July 4th)	July 1-5
<b>SESSION 3:</b>	Aquatic Adventure	July 8-12
<b>SESSION 4:</b>	Playful Pirates	July 15-19
<b>SESSION 5:</b>	Creepy, Crawly Creatures	July 22-26
<b>SESSION 6:</b>	Sports Stars	July 29-Aug 2

You may choose your sessions and pay by week.

Payments must be made at least a week in advance.

**PROGRAM FEES:** \$400 per week (5 full days) or \$200 (per week 5 half days)  
\$100 non-refundable registration fee with application (this will be applied to your first week of camp).

Parents are responsible for lunch (if full day) and transportation.  
Children MUST be toilet trained.

For more information or to register call 516-931-2211 or contact Mr. William Mallon at [CelebrateSummer@TrinityLI.org](mailto:CelebrateSummer@TrinityLI.org)

**REGISTER ONLINE:** [trinityli.org/celebrate-summer/](http://trinityli.org/celebrate-summer/)



**SAVE 10%**

if you register and pay  
for your weeks on or before  
April 15

**SIBLING DISCOUNT**

\$50 off weekly fee  
for additional child/children

## PROGRAM HOURS

Full Day  
8:00am-4:00pm

OR

Half Day  
8:00am-12:00pm

**SPACE IS LIMITED. REGISTER EARLY.**

Located within walking distance of the Hicksville train station.

40 West Nicholai Street, Hicksville, New York 11801  
516-931-2211 or email Camp Director, William Mallon at [CelebrateSummer@TrinityLI.org](mailto:CelebrateSummer@TrinityLI.org)