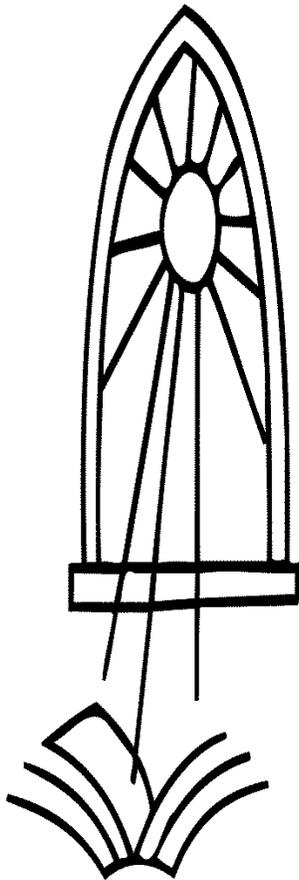


Holy Trinity Evangelical
Lutheran Church

Newsletter



WELCOME BACK TO YOU ALL!!

Pastor's Page(s)	p.1-2
Chairperson's Report	p.2-3
Worship & Music; B2CS 2018; Coffee House; Healing Service. .	p.3-4
Blessing of Animals; Sunday School	p.4
Jr. Confirmation; Adult Education.....	p.4-5
Oktoberfest; ELW; Fellowship Luncheons	p.5-6
Bazaar; FaithLife Chapter; Funeral Pre-Planning.....	p.7
Office Hours, Church Website.....	p.7-8
Community & Church Groups Using Building	p.8-9
Notes.....	p.10

*Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is a Gospel-centered community who worship and spread the Good News of God. **Our faith-based ministry is used to support our members and the community at large!***

From Pastor Rob's Desk

To begin, I would like to welcome all of you back to the September swing of life and ministry here at Holy Trinity! There is a lot of work to be done here this year, with many opportunities before us. Certainly, we face some uphill challenges. We also must begin to see and make the most of the opportunities all around us.

With this in mind, I would like to offer you the wisdom of our Synod Bishop, Michael Pryce, as words to ponder as we continue to seek new partnerships, opportunities and the future of this congregation:

Earlier this week I did something that my parents did several times a week but that I haven't done in at least six months. I wrote a cheque. I just don't use them anymore. I pay my all my bills online. I give my offerings to the church via pre-authorized remittance. As for cash, I seldom carry any. Why would I? Any expenses I might happen to incur can all be handled with a swipe or tap of my debit card. Some of my kids have never written a cheque in their entire lives! I suspect yours aren't much different.

In some of our churches, the vestry doubles as a "counting room." I often "di-vest" in the midst of a group of church elders who are dutifully tallying up the weekly offering of cheques, cash and a handful of coins. Most of those congregations have no other source of income. Consequently, anyone feeling motivated to support the ministry of that particular congregation has no other available means to do so. There's something wrong here.

But that's just one aspect of our churchly economy that needs to be revisited. For much of the latter half of the 20th century, North American churches functioned on the basis of

a simple but effective economic model. If a hundred or so middle class families gave a percentage of their income to the church (for Lutherans it was about 2-3%!), they would be able to provide a living wage to a pastor, maintain a church building, employ a few part-time employees and also pass along a portion of the offerings to fund denominational programmes and church-wide institutions. It was an effective model for its time. In fact, between 1950 and 2000, 90 new "mission congregations" were launched on the territory of the Eastern Synod based on that simple formula.

That model isn't serving us so well anymore. Participation rates have dropped dramatically. We've also witnessed a significant shrinkage of the middle class. Congregations are struggling to maintain their local ministries and reducing their support for church-wide ministries. At the same time the church is feeling properly motivated to launch new ministries and establish communities of faith with partners for whom our assumed economic model is unlikely to ever work. Should those individuals be denied an experience of the gospel because of an inability to pay? Of course not.

In spite of our present challenges, we are the richest Christians who have ever lived on planet Earth. Much of that wealth, however - to usual a biblical image - is being "stored up in barns." Our accumulated congregational assets of real estate, much of it under-utilized, has a total self-reported value of well over 200 million dollars. My guess is that number is extremely conservative.

It's time to consider doing a reset of some of our primary economic models. We need to assess, consolidate and utilize our assets intelligently and creatively for the sake of mission. We need to liberate ourselves from a slavish devotion to economic models that are no longer serving, and may well be impeding,

our ministries. We need to move beyond chequebooks and churches. And I think we need to do it together. Revolutionary? I suppose so. But so, too, is the gospel.

Wise words Bishop Mike.

Your Holy Trinity Council should be commended for its excellent work in cutting expenses in many ways. As we seek to find new revenue streams, Council will be looking at new and various partnership opportunities with community groups, church groups and other community organizations which furthers the work of this congregation and provides us with a chance to live out the very best of our Mission Statement. To refresh your memories, just in case you have forgotten it, our Mission Statement is: ***Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church (HTELC) is a Gospel centered community who worship and spread the Gospel News of God. Our faith based ministry is used to support our members and the community at large.***

Let us not forget these underlined words as we continue to seek our way forward out of a very difficult situation. There are many opportunities out there for us. Now we really need to do the work of finding them and making them happen! We have so much going for us as a congregation (welcoming and loving people, an amazing building, excellent learning programs, engaging worship, community events, to name a few) and it is time to showcase these wonderful things to our community and beyond.

We will continue to seek your support and ideas as none of this can happen without you!

Wishing you all a re-invigorated Fall season!

Grace and peace to you all!
Pastor Rob ☺

Council Chairperson Report

The transition of summer into fall presents a good opportunity for reflection. Holy Trinity continues to engage in projects and activities that are consistent with our mission statement. Our mission is to be “a Gospel centered community who worship and spread the Gospel News of God. Our faith based ministry is used to support our members and the community at large” is self fulfilling.

Some projects have been highly successful and others less so but in my observations, we are pointed in the right direction. Can we do more? God willing, of course we can. Our members have never backed away from the goals and challenges that present themselves be they small or large.

Collectively, our congregational community offers a broad spectrum of skills and abilities, ambition and desire and most importantly, the building blocks to sustain and grow.

Whilst the church building is made of bricks and mortar, Holy Trinity Church is defined by the people who attend, worship and contribute both internally and to the surrounding communities.

This report brings news of changes within council. Dale Holland has elected to exercise a well- earned time out to recharge his batteries. Thank you, Dale for the many years of service on church council leading and participating in countless church activities.

Be reminded you that your church council consists of your friends and co-congregants selected, elected and renewed through the

established constitutional processes. As such, the council members represent the voice of the congregation but cannot function in the absence of support, input and participation of the congregation.

Council works to address the needs of our community making decisions, guiding activities and looking for opportunities that will further define the mission statement. They need to do this transparently and with respect even when facing the tough decisions that arise from time to time. The council is the lens that provides focus to the endeavours of our congregation but its efforts mean nothing without the guidance of congregation at large.

Upcoming through the end of 2018 are activities such as Oktoberfest, fall clean up, the bazaar, perhaps a second coffee house and a home grown cantata. Add to this the various seasonal drives and support to outside organizations. We as a congregation have a lot to be proud of. Kudos and thank you's to the numerous members who have contributed to the success of these initiatives.

Not to be forgotten, later in the year, part 1 of the annual meeting will be conducted. If you feel so inclined and ambitious, consider stepping up and participating on council. Your congregation will benefit by your contribution.

Respectfully,

Rick Kanaya

Thank you Dale for all of your hard work and passion for the mission and ministries of Holy Trinity! It is very much appreciated!

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Coffee House

The first Holy Trinity Coffee House was a huge success for everyone involved, performers and audience alike. The variety of entertainment was outstanding - folk, classical, musical theatre, Celtic, pop, country as well as poetry and humorous readings.

The support from the community at large as well as the church community contributed to a truly enjoyable afternoon. And, yes, we will be doing it again!

Thanks to all who helped in non-performing ways as well, with coffee and goodies and setting up.

Please check future bulletins and the narthex board for date and time. All are welcome!

Back to Church Sunday (B2CS)

On Back to Church Sunday, church-goers invite friends, neighbours, and family members to join them for Sunday worship. For some visitors, it is a return to church. For others, it is a new experience. Back to Church Sunday, held in Canada on **Sunday September 30**, is a worldwide event started in England by Michael Harvey. In September 2018, Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran will join over 50 Christian denominations in 17 countries will be inviting people to church. Back To Church Sunday began as a movement to invite everyone in their community back to church by empowering and motivating church members to invite their family and friends to come with them to a special service hosted by the local church. The movement was spurred on by a couple of

statistics: "82% of the unchurched are at least somewhat likely to attend church if invited" and "Yet only 2% of Christians EVER invite someone to church!"



Pastor Rob invites all of you to church for Back to Church Sunday and to invite a friend or family member to church with you! Please look for more information on the bulletin board in the narthex, outside Pastor's office and in the bulletins!

Let's celebrate the beginning of another church year by inviting someone to share in the many good things happening here!

Healing & Communion Services

The Healing Service will NOT take place this fall as attendance was very low last year. It is my hope that we can re-start this service in 2019 on a new day and time in order to accommodate those who wish to attend.

Please look for more info in future bulletins and narthex board in early 2019.

Blessing of the Animals

Are you a pet or animal lover? Have a cat or dog, pig or bird? How about a lizard or a spider? Join us on **Sunday, October 14** at 9:30am for a special Blessing of the Animals service to commemorate the anniversary of St. Francis of Assisi. All pets are welcome! Humans welcome too, of course!

EDUCATION & YOUTH

Sunday School

If you have a child or grandchild between the ages of 4 and 12, they are welcome to join our Sunday School which will begin with its blessing and hot dogs after church on **Sunday, September 09.**

Junior Confirmation

Confirmation classes will resume in September 2018...with our group of 2 confirmands! In the past year our confirmands have been exploring and learning the famous and important stories and parables of the Old and New Testaments. This coming year they will study Lutheran history, the Small Catechism and faith in our modern world. We will continue to help our young people learn more about and grow in their faith and traditions...and...to help them grow into the person that God has called them to be.

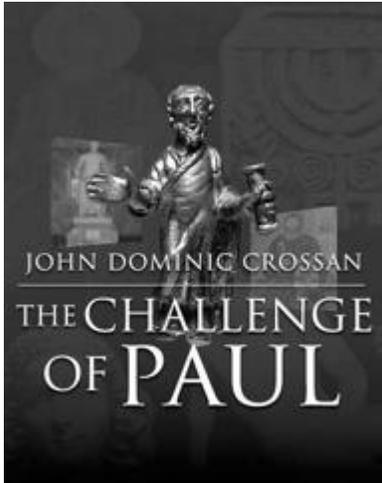
If you have a child or grandchild between the ages of 12 and 15 who would like to participate in confirmation, please contact Pastor Rob at the church office (613-969-1257).

Our first class is on **Sunday, September 16 at 9am** in the Library / Board Room.

Adult Education

The Challenge of Paul is an educational video series of 18 lectures (15 to 18 minutes each) featuring renowned historical Jesus scholar, John Dominic Crossan, who guides participants through the three-dimensional world of Paul's time and place. Crossan pushes past generations of doctrine and dogma to reveal the real-life character of Paul

who shaped a generation of courageous Christ-followers to boldly challenge the greed and violence of the Roman Empire, the overlord of the first century Mediterranean world.



Paul is one of Christianity's most impactful, yet most debated and misunderstood figures. In "The Challenge of Paul," John Dominic Crossan gives us the benefit of his lifelong search for the Paul of history to create a new understanding that sheds new light on Paul and why he is more relevant than ever today.

John Dominic Crossan brings Paul "alive" with his distinctive presentation style. In this provocative series, Crossan confronts our traditional understanding about Paul that seems to support anti-homosexuality, slavery, patriarchy, and the subjugation of women.

Our Monday evening Adult Education Bible Study learning program will begin on Monday, September 17 at 7 pm.

Please join us. All are welcome!

As a kid I want to be an astronaut and fly to the stars, but my parents said, "The sky's the limit".

SERVICE & WITNESS

We are currently swamped with milk bags so please refrain from bringing more in until our supply dwindles. Thanks. Marilyn Kirkman is still doing a great job at making our milk bag mats for CLWR. We currently have another 12 to be sent out.

Oktoberfest

Come one! Come all! Bring your appetite!

Oktoberfest 2018
Friday, October 12, 2018 at 4:00 -7:00 pm

Adults - \$15.00, Children (6-14) - \$7.00
5 and under - FREE

As in other years help is needed to set up, cut pies, pour juice and other odds and ends to have everything ready for the dinner. Help is also needed afterwards for cleanup. If you can assist with any of this, speak to Wendy Glendinning.

Wendy will be contacting people again about the food that is needed. This is a great fund raiser for us so we need everyone's continued support and attendance. Thank you!

This Fall try to increase the food donations to Gleaners food bank as their numbers are increasing. Food can be placed in the basket at the bottom of the stairs in the narthex any time.

Used stamps, glasses and ink cartridges as well as can tabs are still being collected.

Holy Trinity (Evangelical) Lutheran Women

The first fall meeting will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, September 13 at 2pm. Everyone is welcome.

Starting now until October 28th, with the help from the congregation, we are putting together Living and Learning and Hygiene Kits for CLWR. Items needed are on slips posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. If you wish to donate money instead of shopping for Kit items, please give it to Carolyn Hildebrandt.

On October 7th we will be putting up the mitten tree to collect mittens, gloves, hats and scarves for the Christmas Sharing program. Deadline is November 4.

On November 25, the Christmas Sharing poster will be put up to collect food items for our Christmas baskets. So help out those on assistance at this stressful time of year. If you prefer to donate money this can be given to Carolyn Hildebrandt or Wendy Glendinning. Makes cheques out to ELW.

Open Door Café

We continue to support the Open Door Café with the loose offering from the first Sunday of every month. The Café offers a nice lunch every Wednesday to those in need of food or to those who just need fellowship. Monetary donations are accepted. Usually around 100 people show up every week so the lunch is popular. It is the only one in the East End of Belleville. Any questions about it can be directed to Carolyn or Harold Hildebrandt as they are regular volunteers there.

A Laugh to Brighten the Day

A man was about to undergo surgery by a doctor named Dr Error. "Don't worry" said the doctor, "At least I am no longer a Major in the military!"

Gleaners Baskets

The Gleaners provides food baskets to people who need assistance. Besides food however, other items are handed out. We have been told they are always short on toilet paper and shampoo, so if you have extra you can bring it along to church and put it with the food basket. Thanks!

Fellowship Luncheons

We have already had our first pot luck luncheon for the Fall season, and everyone enjoyed Leah Morgan's talk about The Three Oaks Foundation and their work in the Belleville area.

On Tues, Oct. 2nd, Elder Twigg, who is a missionary for the Latter Day Saints Community will be our guest speaker, and he will have some interesting stories to tell us.

Tues. Nov. 6th, our own Harold Hildebrandt will tell us about his journey to Canada years ago. and his life's adventures and challenges.

I want to once again thank everyone who helps out at our monthly luncheons to make this a very enjoyable time of Fellowship.

If you have some suggestions for topics or guest speakers, please feel free to bring these ideas to my attention.

Irene Risto .

Christmas Bazaar

Our fall bazaar will be held on **Saturday, November 17, 2017 from 9am to 3pm**, so keep the date open. There will be crafts, baking, a white elephant table and a tea room. See you then! More information will be provided in the next newsletter and in the upcoming bulletins!

Holy Trinity's FaithLife Chapter 75012

Please keep your eyes open for upcoming events sponsored by our local FaithLife Chapter. With matching grants Holy Trinity has been able to increase the amount of charity and ministry it has done in recent years. We thank our local chapter and FaithLife for the partnership in ministry! Looking forward to more generous ministry in the future!

Pastoral Visitation & Pastoral Acts

If you would like a visit from the Pastor please let him know! Pastor Rob is hoping to do much more visiting throughout the fall and winter months. The best way to get a hold of him is to call the church office and leave a message!

If you require a pastoral act (baptism, wedding, funeral) please contact Pastor Rob at the church and arrangements can be made!

Funeral Pre-Planning

The life of any congregation is filled with many celebrations and commemorations, not the least of which are baptisms, marriages and funerals.

If you, or a family member or friend, are interested in requesting a baptism, wedding or funeral, please see Pastor Rob for more information.

Very few of us want to think of end-of-life decisions or pre-planning our own funeral service. However, having some of or all of these requests pre-planned are very helpful to both family and clergy as they work together to celebrate and remember the life of a loved one.

If you are interested in this sort of pre-planning, you may make an appointment with Pastor Rob at any time.

Pastor's Office Hours

In this Fall season, a slight change has been made to Pastor Rob's Office Hours, in order to provide pastoral care to certain shut-in and hospitalized members more effectively according to their wakeful times and energy levels. These hours also reflect his need to drop Micah and Edwin off and pick them up from school and day-care every day.

Pastor Rob is available during regular office hours and can be reached for any reason during the following times (except for days off):

Monday – 1:30 – 9:30 pm

Tuesday – 10:30 – 4:15 pm

Wednesday – 10:30 am – 4:15 pm

Thursday – 10:30 pm – 4:15 pm

Friday & Saturday – Days Off

Sunday – 8:00 am – 1:00 pm (program dependant)

Of course, if there is a pastoral emergency (death, hospitalization, accident, fire at church) Pastor Rob can be reached at his emergency cell-phone number: 613-922-8261. Please reserve this emergency contact number for emergencies only.

Please also be aware that there are those occasions where Pastor Rob is called away to the hospital, to a pastoral visit or other church related meetings, and may not be in the office at the advertised time. Please leave a message, either under his office door or on the answering machine, and he will get back to you ASAP.

Church Website

If you have access to the internet at home or at work, and are interested in what services, programs and events are being offered here and when, please visit our congregational website: www.htelc.ca

You will find information about our Outreach and Mission work, a brief history of the congregation, educational opportunities, worship and music programs and events, seasonal services info, fellowship events and a calendar of events.

Please visit the website often and make use of its resources and as a way to keep up-to-date and in touch with the congregation.

Council Members Needed

Please consider volunteering for Council in 2019. We will need new members to join us as continue to guide, lead and respond to the needs of the congregation. Please see Rick Kanaya or Pastor Rob if you are interested.

Community & Church Groups Using the Building this Year

As in years past, there are a number of community groups and church groups using the church building this coming year. This information is being shared now so that should the need arise to use a part of the building for any function, event, program or service, we can all be aware of when the building is in use or not.

If you require a room, the sanctuary or the Fellowship Hall for an event, function, service or program please be in touch with Pastor Rob.

The following is a list of which groups will be in the building this year and when:

- Quinte Woodcarvers – Mondays @ 1-4 pm, Thursdays @7-9 pm
- Student Woodcarvers – Tuesdays @ 1-4 pm
- Another group who cannot be named due to Protection of Vulnerable Peoples Act – Tuesdays @ 6-8 pm
- HTELC Coffee Fellowship Group – Tuesdays @ 10 am – 1pm
- Fellowship Luncheons – 1st Tuesdays of month @ 12 noon -2 pm
- Adult Education Bible Study – Mondays @ 7-9 pm
- Junior Confirmation Classes – Sundays @ 9-10 am

- HTELC ELW – 2nd
Thursday of month @ 2-4 pm

- Quantum Quinte –
Wednesdays @ 11:30am to 1pm

- HTELC Choir – Sundays
@ 12:30 to 1:30pm

NOTES....