

Tidings

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Volume 44 Issue 6

We care as friends, we love as family, and we serve as Christ

June 2023

Special Points of Interest:

- Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting - Sunday, June 4
- Bible Baseball - June 4
- New Council Members and Officers to be Elected this Month
- VBS Plans in Progress for next Month
- Classics Continue Regular Events
- Additional Worship Volunteers Needed



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Message from Our Pastor

Pastor Kristin Hoyer

Thank you!

Once again, I want to say "Thank you" to everyone who played a part and/or attended my installation service on May 7! It was a wonderful celebration of the beginning of our ministry together! I truly look forward to seeing where the Holy Spirit leads us in our call to love and serve God and our neighbors in the congregation, community, and the world.

Lutheran Basics 101: The Sacraments

In adult education and in confirmation we have been reviewing and learning about the sacraments and I thought I would share some information here for those of you who may have forgotten or never learned anything about the sacraments.

Here are some basics:

There are two sacraments in the Lutheran Church. (Our Roman Catholic sisters and brothers have seven sacraments – can you name them?)

Our sacraments include Holy Baptism and Holy Communion.

What makes a sacrament in the Lutheran church?

1) Gift of God's Grace (this is the most important – it is God's gift of grace, we don't do anything to deserve this gift of God's love, forgiveness, and new life)



2) Physical element attached (Water, Bread, Wine)

3) Commanded by Christ

a. Baptism: Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them

(Continued on page 2)

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church



Pastor's Message, cont.

(Continued from page 1)

to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

- b. Holy Communion (You can find where Jesus told us

to "do this in remembrance of me" in Matthew, Mark, Luke and 1st Corinthians)

Stay tuned for more Lutheran Basics 101 in next month's newsletter.

May you be surrounded in God's grace!

God's Peace,

Pastor Kristin Hoyer

Flower Chart



A flower chart for the remainder of this year is located on the table in The Commons. If you plan to provide them yourself, make a note of that. If you want us to provide, please write a check for \$40 to HTLC with a note that it is for flowers. Also, contact Peggy Everhart at 703-401-7548 or 4Peverhart@gmail.com.

Senior Recognition Sunday

Sunday, June 11

Parents of High School seniors please forward 5 pictures of your graduating senior to foxnansox@gmail.com by June 4. It is always fun to have pictures from various ages.

Be sure to include any future plans. We will use these pictures for our Senior recognition video!



Holy Trinity Staff

Kristin Hoyer,
Pastor

Nancy Fox,
Director of Music
& Family Ministries

Andrea Barron,
Office Administrator

Terry Sisk,
Organist/Choir Director

Marcia Merry,
Organist Emeritus

Debbie Harned, Interim
Preschool Director

Julianne Geyser,
Bookkeeper

Vacant
Treasurer

Vacant
Nursery Attendant

Kristin Shultz,
Congregation President

From our President

This is my last article as the President of the HTLC Church Council. I appreciate the opportunity to serve the church in this role and am proud of the good work done by the Council during my tenure. The past two years were very busy navigating COVID and all its associated risks and protocols. But, the biggest challenge and blessing during my time as President was calling a new Pastor. This tremendous effort looked easy because of the support and dedication of the Transition Team, Call Committee, and Church Council. Many hours were spent meeting, reviewing, discerning, and praying about the transition and I could not be happier with the selection of Pastor Kristin. She brings renewed energy and enthusiasm to Holy Trinity and will be a great leader for the growth and expansion of HTLC in our community.



I also give tremendous thanks to the church community that supported me and my family through the recent passing of my brother, Brady. Losing a loved one is never easy, but I am thankful for the generous support of the members of the congregation who helped set up, cook, serve, organize, and clean the reception after the memorial service. And, I offer thanks to the many of you who sent cards, offered words of encouragement, or just prayed for peace and healing. I feel fortunate to have a loving church family supporting me and my family when needed.

I am now looking forward to supporting the church from the sidelines while I spend more time with my family. I know the new Council and Executive Officers that will be elected will serve the needs of the church well and will do the good work of God. Thank you and God bless.

Kristin Shultz

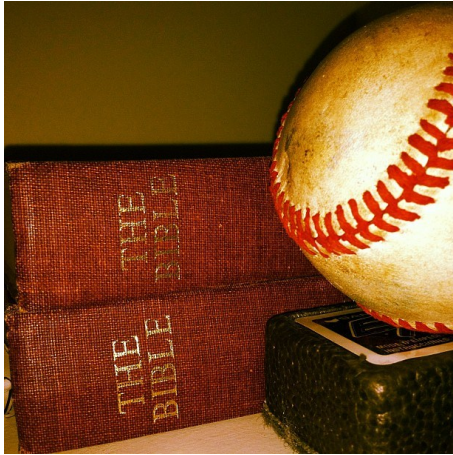
A new campaign, the *Sky is Falling* campaign,

is seeking to raise \$150,000 for the replacement of the church's flat (rubber) roof.

There has been significant damage over time, and well, time and sun has contributed to the deterioration.

This campaign will seek full funding in 24 months (May 2025). Without a sound roof on the building, there is nothing under it that can be protected.

Bible Baseball



June 4

8:45 –9:45 am

Plan to join us for our annual Bible Baseball game. Our teams have been learning all year long and are ready to face off in this game of Bible learning. Of course no baseball game is complete without some hot dogs and popcorn!

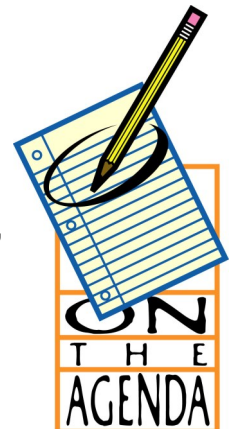
Bring the entire family!!

The game will take place on the **Faith Fellowship Hall** field.
Make sure to pick up a copy of the study questions.

Mark your Calendars:

Sunday, June 4, 2023, following worship
Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting

We will elect new Council members, a new Nominating Committee, and hear several team reports. If possible, please check the congregation report, available in the recent "On Your Door" emails, prior to the meeting.



Women of the **ELCA** 

WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Church in America) will meet Tuesday, June 13, at 10:00 AM. All are welcome to join in a Bible study followed by planning for our Fall service project—health and school kits! There is a tremendous need for these kits worldwide and Lutheran World Relief is eager for congregations to restart this outreach ministry. Please join us in June with creative thoughts and great energy.

Pat Bailey



SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2023...SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2023

May 17, 2023 Council Meeting Highlights

Meeting held in the HTLC Gathering Area

Alison Waters

PASTOR'S REPORT

- Pastor Kristin reported that there were 141 people at the Installation service and 10 clergy for a beautiful service.
- Pastor Kristin has attended two Tables of Eight and would like to visit with more members.
- Upcoming events: May 28 is Pentecost Sunday, and we will have new members joining on June 4. We may be able to have Graduation recognition on June 11.
- Christmas Eve planning has begun as Dec 24th is a Sunday this year.
- Stewardship planning may begin earlier this year.
- Preschool enrollment for next year is affected by families moving. We are waiting to hear on a grant for the preschool.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Financial Update: We received a donation for the preschool air conditioner, which has been ordered.
- We have a bit of a surplus now due to generous giving, which we will hold onto in anticipation of needing more repairs this summer.

TEAM REPORTS

- **PROPERTY:**
 - * Council approved the expenditure for new sound systems via a separate vote earlier. Sound system components have been ordered and we are waiting on the vendors.
 - * Terry Sisk would like to look at replacing springs on the organ.
- **FELLOWSHIP:**
 - * Food trucks on third Wednesdays in July, August and September.
 - * Blessing of the Backpacks will be in August, along with an ice cream social.
 - * Other planned events will be announced in "On Your Door" emails and Tidings.
- **NOMINATING:** Team has come up with four candidates for three vacancies on council. We can add an additional council spot per the constitution. A motion was made to move the following candidates forward: Adrian Mattina, Sandy Phillips, Susie Tinney and Sandy Yancy.

NEW BUSINESS

- Property Proposal—New Security Vendor: We looked

into canceling ADT as their service has not been adequate. We received a quote from Fireline to add security monitoring for \$689.93 per year. After discussion, a motion was made to approve the new vendor. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

- Congregation Meeting for June – The materials are under way for the June 4 meeting.
- Summer Tidings – Gretchen Luebbe discussed combining July/August issues and how to present August events. We will continue to announce summer events at service and include in "On Your Door" emails. We will try to distribute the September Tidings a week or so before Labor Day.
- Designation of Offering from Installation – A motion was made to split the offering received at Pastor Kristin's installation between Caroline Furnace and Mar-Lu Ridge, to commemorate the role that outdoor ministry played in her life. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.



Council Notes

OLD BUSINESS

- St. Gabriel's: Pastor Kristin will meet with Father Daniel in June.
- Council Meeting 6/14/2023 - All four officer positions are up for election.

Executive Committee Meeting: June 7, 2023

Next Council Meeting: June 14, 2023.

Previous Council Email Business - Sound System

On May 4, 2023, Council President Kristin Shultz brought a proposal to the Council via email for discussion, motion, and vote. The proposal outlines the need and costs to replace and upgrade our existing sound system in the sanctuary, which will include the ability to livestream events with better quality. Our existing system frequently shorts out and has poor quality. A team within the church evaluated the system and recommended repairs in the amount of \$800.19 and upgraded equipment in the amount of \$689.93, plus sales tax. The amount has been funded by members of the church.

After time for online discussion, a motion and second was made to approve the proposal. The motion passed and the proposal approved.



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Leesburg, Virginia, invites you to participate in our 2023 Vacation Bible School, **BABYLON: Daniel's Courage in Captivity!**. We will explore our Bible stories through art, movement, drama and music. And of course there will be time for snacks and recreation!

Our week of VBS will be **July 10-14, 2023** and will run from **9:00 AM - Noon**. The week will culminate with a Sunday Worship Celebration on **July 16 at 10:00 AM!** Students who will be turning 4 by September 30, 2023 through rising fifth graders are welcome to join as Campers. Students who are rising Sixth Graders are invited to join as Junior Crew. Junior Crew is a wonderful place to have fun and learn some leadership skills to prepare for volunteer opportunities in the future. Middle and High School students and adults are invited to volunteer !

Space is limited! **Registration is open until June 18, 2023** or until we reach capacity.

To register campers and junior crew visit the church's website or follow this link:

<https://forms.gle/6rjmNamP3SNMhQAv6>

To register as a volunteer visit the church's website or follow this link:

<https://forms.gle/cocCK958hjtUe1PM9>

Classics - Details for the Summer

The Classics Group has formed a planning committee comprised of Peggy Everhart, Debbie Harned, Kim Mill and Judy Willeke. Plans have been made for the next few months and details will follow.

In May, 14 of us enjoyed a terrific tour of Leesburg Presbyterian Church, led by HTLC organist, Terry Sisk, and followed by an enjoyable lunch at The Branch Restaurant (pictured below). There is also a group of nine who finished the month by seeing the play, "The Honky Tonk Angels" at the Totem Pole Playhouse in Franklin County, Pennsylvania.

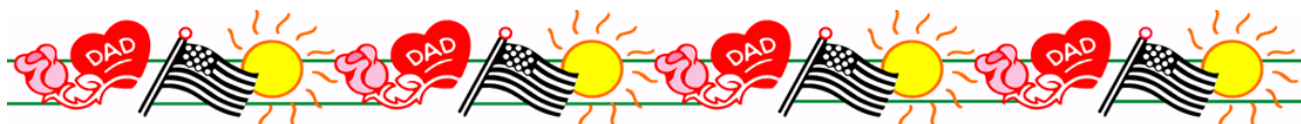
Look for sign-up details for the June 22 outing. We will have lunch at the Bungalow Lakehouse in Sterling.

Debbie Harned



Additional Worship Volunteers Needed

Please review the June Worship Volunteer schedule on page 10. There are several positions yet to be filled - indicated by TBD. If you or a family member are available to fill any of the positions, please contact the church office. A link to the schedule in Excel format, is also available from the "On Your Door" email sent to members each week. For June, and most likely through the rest of the summer, we particularly need Acolytes/ Crucifers, Coffee Hosts, and Tellers. Training is always available to anyone new to any of the roles. Thank you for any assistance you can give.



Anatomy of a Mobile Phone SMS (text) based Scam



Hello all, I am sharing with you a mobile phone text scam I received so that you can be aware of potential future scams that may involve yourself, family and friends. Above is a screenshot of the actual scam message. The email address has been reported to Google as a fraud and will hopefully be taken down, but that will not stop criminals from trying to steal – even from churches.

Here are the highlights (by the numbers) of why this is a scam request.

1. luthernachurch946(at)gmail[.]com is not a valid email address for Pastor Gerry. (The email address was modified here so it will not work from clicking on it).
2. There are not too many people you know well that will begin a text on a phone with your name. It is implied the text message is for you – it's your phone
3. The word “discreetly” indicates that this matter should be kept quiet. Unless you have been in an ongoing conversation (in person) with your pastor, you will not receive an initial text about anything being discreet.
4. Seeing “going to a meeting, no calls” – this implies that you will have to communicate directly via text and will not be able to confirm who exactly is on the other end of this communication. This is a standard tactic.
5. Closing – no one closes a text communication – however since this is a new text from an email that you would have never seen before, they have to put something in there to indicate who it is from. This is not even the way Pastor Gerry closed e-mails, so again fraud.
6. Notice that “This sender is not in your contact list” – indicates a new person is trying to reach you. In this case from a free and disposable Gmail account.

It is recommended you do not engage with fraud texts and emails. Delete them and report as SPAM/Fraud with your respective provider. Also, please do not forward the messages (to me or anyone else). No need extending the fraud messages with possible malicious links to others.

Lastly, if for some reason you accidentally engage the criminal actor(s), the next step will very likely be them asking you to obtain gift cards for some kind of “emergency”. They may then ask you to send them the numbers via email.

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Preschool Finishes the School Year

The preschool has had a blessed, successful year. We began our year with 12 and ended the year with 18 little blessings! The happy, smiling, shiny faces that came down the stairs each day got the best that we could give.

In May, we had an Art Show, a great Mother's Day Tea, some great Chapel singing with anticipation for the 25th, our last day for the year. We are so thankful for this delightful year and the support of the congregation to this ministry.

Debbie Harned



Mother's Day Tea in The Commons



Chapel Singing with Pastor Kristin



Mobile Phone Scam, cont.

(Continued from page 8)

Scams this this are a terrible waste of our precious resources, and I hope that you do not receive such an invitation, but if you do, you are now prepared to handle the event.

Often scammers and criminals will obtain email addresses from organizational websites, publications, meeting minutes, and other potentially publicly available information. Tying your email address to your church is an attempt to legitimize the ask, and charging the event by keeping the information discreet and only communicating over text (no phone) places urgency on the request making you want to respond.

From HTLC, Pastor Kristin, the Council, and any of the Committees – you will never see such a request – either via email or text. Always double check. Call the church to confirm any questionable email or texts with Andrea or Pastor Kristin.

In God's Grace, Matt Shultz



<i>January - April 2023</i>		
	Actual	Budget
Income	\$155,438.74	\$143,272.00
Expenses	\$154,700.34	\$143,137.10
Net	\$738.40	\$134.90

Both our actual income and expense figures for the first four months of 2023 were over budget, with our income exceeding the expenses. We have had an influx of designated income for the air conditioners and the sound system, and the expenses include some of these items. We are current on all our bills and our mortgage balance is \$1,011,978.11.

Julianne Geysler, Bookkeeper

Is Your Pledge Up To Date?

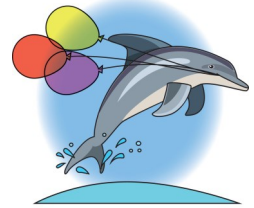
Worship Volunteers - June 2023

	Jun 4	Jun 11	Jun 18	Jun 25
Asst Min / Prayers	Mike Geysler	Laurie Dieffenbach	Tammy Brende	Laurie Dieffenbach
Lector	Lynnette Mergler	TBD	Peggy Everhart	Tammy Brende
Acolyte / Crucifer	TBD	Hope and Joy Mattina	TBD	TBD
Ushers	Ron & Cathy Root	Adrian & Dan Mattina	TBD TBD	Fritz Scholz TBD
Altar Care	Deb Wenk Debbie Harned	Effie DeGroot Sharon Williams	Karen Blodgett Peggy Everhart	Tammy Brende Judy Willeke
Coffee Host	TBD	Mattina Family	Laurie Dieffenbach	TBD
Tellers	Laurie Dieffenbach Cathy Root	Laurie Dieffenbach Karla McGovern	TBD TBD	Laurie Dieffenbach TBD
Lawn	Geysler - Johanneck - Smiley - Verhalen	Duellman Family		Buzzell - Harvey - VanEpps

Please find a substitute if you are not able to serve on an assigned day. Thank you.

Happy June Birthday to . . .

1 Josh Auten	10 Julianne Geysler	16 Zach Johanneck	21 Sophia Serice
Sarah Biggs	11 Debbie Harnard	17 Carol Boehler	23 Derek DeMark
2 Rebekka Prinz	Kristin Williams	Susan Borgrink	24 Maddie Fortin
3 Matthew Gloger	Sembler	Christopher Kerr	Britta Jones
4 Cody Stepp	14 Verena Albertin	Phil Tinney	Karla McGovern
Judy Willeke	Audrey Gerber	18 Alexis Young	25 Paul Albers
6 Brad Burke	15 Elaine Farrar	19 Kierman Byrne	Lory Gustafson
Everett Steeprow	Seth Lord	Ann Keigher	Chuck Whitacre
7 Allison Auten	Sandy Phillips	Korbin Petterson	Matthew Willeke
Isabella DeMark	Fritz Scholz	Stasia Whitacre	27 Morgan Begley
9 Kyle Bollinger	Heather Service	20 Jim Pratt	Alen Gloger
Brady Morrell			Alec Miller
			28 Jerry Harnard
			29 Jack Bollinger
			Dylan Everhart



JUNE
BIRTHDAYS

June Baptism Anniversaries

1 Christopher Duellman	15 Kelly Frye	Alex Miller
7 Amber Szebalskie	16 Isabella DeMark	25 Daniel Scharpf
12 Ryleigh Dooley	19 Rebekka Prinz	28 Sawyer Eamyck
Alex Seymour	20 Joy Mattina	Kelly Mill
Ron Shepherd	21 Josh Auten	Turner Truiett
13 Zander Kapsiak	Rita Sims	30 Ava Bates
Emily Lord	22 Brian Everhart	Daniel Mattina
	23 Kate DeVault	



Celebrating

An Anniversary This Month



6/03/2000 Jennifer & Peter Feeney	6/26/2010 John & Dana Dunn
6/07/2003 Jesse & Monica Morrell	6/27/1998 Paul & Heather Serice
6/08/2002 Brian & Gretchen Fish	6/27/2009 Kyle & Stephanie Bollinger
6/11/1983 Ron & Lynn Shepherd	6/29/2019 David & Berniece Harvey
6/14/1969 Ron & Cathy Root	6/30/1979 Chuck & Stasia Whitacre
6/18/1983 Bonni & David Krytusa	6/30/2007 Mike & Julianne Geysler
6/24/1994 Dan & Liz Miller	6/30/2000 Gary & Stephanie Szebalskie
6/26/2016 Sarah & Landon Biggs	

**HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
(ELCA)**

605 West Market Street
Leesburg, VA 20176-2506

Sunday School: Returns in the Fall

Sunday Worship: 10:00 AM

Coffee Hour: Following worship

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Phone: (703) 777-4912

Email: office@HolyTrinityLeesburg.org



www.HolyTrinityLeesburg.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Volume 44 Issue 6



Table for 8 (+2) Dinner

Early last month, Laurie Dieffenbach, and her husband, Jon, hosted a dinner in their home to help welcome Pastor Kristin to the congregation. Laurie and Jon specifically invited members living in West Virginia.

Stacia and Chuck Whitacre hosted a similar dinner last month, as well. The Whitacres geared their dinner toward charter members and other early members of Holy Trinity.

These dinners gave Pastor Kristin an opportunity to start to get to know some of our members with a few characteristics in common. We hope to continue such dinners or similar gatherings over the next several months. If you would like to host a dinner, or obtain more information, please contact Pastor Kristin or Stacia Whitacre.