

Tidings

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Volume 45 Issue 6

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

July/Aug 2024

Special Points of Interest:

- New Council Members/ Officers Elected
- Four High School Graduates Recognized
- WELCA finishes a great year
- ELCA Night at Nats Park coming August 31
- God's Work Our Hands set for September 8
- Additional Worship Volunteers needed for the Summer



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Message from Our Pastor

In June the Holy Trinity staff held a retreat day where we gathered, prayed and started planning for the programmatic year ahead. We also thought about having a theme and a theme verse for the year. After brainstorming we decided the theme we will use for the upcoming year is the theme for the ELCA National Youth Gathering for this summer.

"Created to be..."

Psalm 139:14

¹⁴I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

We are all created in God's image! We are all created to be in relationship with God and each other. We are all created to be amazing people of God! Let's celebrate this each day.

We plan to keep this theme in mind throughout the year as we go about planning and programming.

We also sat down with a calendar and planned many events that happen throughout the year. That calendar will be shared

with you soon. Our building is very busy almost every day so a reminder to committees and individuals: if you are planning an event please check with the church office before setting a date and room location.

ELCA Youth Gathering July 16-20!

Thank you! Thank you to everyone who has generously donated to helping our youth get to the Youth Gathering in New Orleans! We have met our goal! Please pray for us (Alli Murgia, Elena, Zoe, Jen Ward and Pastor Kristin) during the gathering and you can join in to watch the mass

gatherings each night at 7pm. (I think it will be live streamed on the ELCA Youth Gathering YouTube Channel.)

Thinking ahead to late summer and early fall...

- Sunday, August 18 – Blessing of the Backpacks.
- Sunday, September 8 – God's Work. Our Hands. (Service project day during Sunday School hour and after worship.)

(Continued on page 2)



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church



Pastor's Message, cont.

(Continued from page 1)

- Sunday, October 6 – Blessing of the Animals – Stop by anytime between 4:00-5:00pm with your pet/s or a picture of your pets for a blessing. This will be held outside.

God's Peace,

Pastor Kristin Hoyer

Looking for something fun to do this summer...

Metro DC Synod Community Events – Come join the fun! Check the website for more details. Metrodcelca.org

The Synod Block Party returns on Saturday, August 3, at Shepherd of the Hills in Haymarket, VA! Sponsored by the Faith in Action Racial Equity Network, the Block Party is a fantastic opportunity to get to know your neighbors, share food, music, games, and build relationships.

11:00am – 2:00pm

<https://metrocelca.org/event/metro-d-c-synod-block-party/>

Faith Night at Nats Park

All 73 congregations of the Metro D.C. Synod, ELCA are invited to join in a day of fun and fellowship as we cheer on the Nationals (or Cubs) together.

Saturday, August 31 – 4:05pm

Tickets are \$15

<https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Metrodc>



Looking *WAY* Ahead!



Sunday, September 8
Adults 8:45 AM

First Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, November 13
(Grades K-5) 6:00 PM

First Joyful Noise Sing & Ring Rehearsal

Wednesday, November 13
Middle School-Adult 7:00 PM

First Handbell Rehearsal

Youth Singers will begin rehearsals in September.
Time and date still being worked out!

Holy Trinity Staff

Kristin Hoyer,
Pastor

Nancy Fox,
Director of Music
& Family Ministries

Terry Sisk,
Organist/Choir Director

Debbie Harned, Interim
Preschool Director

Andrea Barron,
Office Administrator

Marcia Merry,
Organist Emerita

Russell Seymour,
Congregation President

Leadership Transition

A special thank you to Rita Sims, Jon Everhart and Gretchen Luebbe for their years of service on the council. Each of these individuals has not only dedicated their time and shared their knowledge but has served this congregation well.

The new Executive Team is as follows:

- Russell Seymour - President
- Ann Keigher - Vice President
- Alison Waters - Secretary
- Susie Tinney - Treasurer

We would also like to welcome new members Leesa Bell, Tammy Brende, and Jennifer Rohrbach to the council as well as Russell Seymour. Thank you to each of you for volunteering your time and talent to serve on the council. They will be joining returning members Adrian Mattina, Jana Murgia, Sandy Phillips, Randy VanEpps, Chuck Whitacre, Sandy Yancy, and Pastor Kristin to make up the 2024-2025 Council.



The new council is looking forward to the year ahead for new and exciting opportunities and is willing to work tirelessly to resolve any issues that may arise. Please feel free to reach out to any of the Executive Team with questions or concerns.



Month of May 2024

	Actual	Budget
Income	27,181.04	\$30,266.67



Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, August 18

10:00 AM

Start the School Year off with a blessing! Plan to bring your Backpacks, Laptops, Devices, or anything else that you will be using to learn or teach this fall to worship!

May 15, 2024 Council Meeting Highlights

Meeting held at HTLC and via Zoom

PASTOR'S REPORT

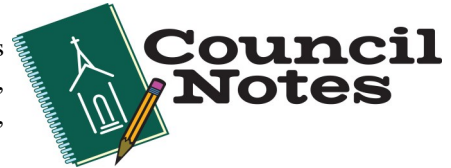
- Pastor Kristin reported that she officiated at Frank Buzzell's funeral at Arlington.
- We had new members join and Confirmation this week.
- Synod Assembly is June 1.
- VBS and Youth Gathering in New Orleans will be this summer.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Easement** – We are giving the town of Leesburg a 21-year easement over the strip of land to the west of the church parking lot. They will maintain responsibility for mowing and maintenance and will eventually take the land for road expansion.
- Reports for June congregation meeting – Due to office by May 19
- Agenda for the June Meeting – approve winter meeting minutes, Pastor's address, committee reports, vote for new council members, vote for nominating committee members, financial report.
- 60th Anniversary update – Fellowship committee will get a cake for coffee hour.

- Miller update – Pete and Amy Miller are leaving at the end of May or early June. We will send them off with a farewell.

- Council nominees - Leesa Bell, Tammy Brende, Jennifer Rohrbach and Russell Seymour have accepted the nomination to be council members, pending a vote at the June congregational meeting.



- Nominating committee members for 2024-2025 are Gretchen Luebbe, Jon Everhart and Rita Sims
- Property Update - Matt Shultz provided a property report. We thank Matt for his work and leadership on property. Passed our Fireline inspection. We continue to raise funds for a new roof. We solicited bids for window replacement. We hope to start livestreaming when we upgrade the WiFi.

Next Executive Committee Meeting: June 12, 2024

Next Council Meeting: June 19, 2024



Women ^{of the} ELCA 

The Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America at Holy Trinity completed a successful year with our final meeting on Tuesday, June 11. Growing from a membership of four to thirteen this year, we were glad to be able to pack bag lunches each month for the Leesburg homeless shelter, complete a book study of Alice Fryling's "Aging Faithfully", purchase gifts from the Angel Tree, and spearhead the drive to send funds for 1002 chicks to the ELCA Good Gifts. Our final outreach project was to sponsor a music therapy scholarship for a fifth grade student from Frederick Douglass Elementary to a summer camp at "A Place to Be" in Leesburg. It was a great year of fellowship and service!

In the September Tidings we will announce our Fall outreach project which will involve a clothing drive for children at Frederick Douglass. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, August 13 @ 10:00 AM and we welcome any interested women to join us as we begin a new season!

Enjoy your summer!

Pat Bailey, President



CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES! *On June 2, 2024, Holy Trinity celebrated with three of our four 2024 High School graduates. Pictured from left to right are: Isabella DeMark, William Just, and Kira Schneider. Not pictured is Amanda Whitney. We congratulate our graduates and wish them the best in their future endeavors. More information is available on page 8.*



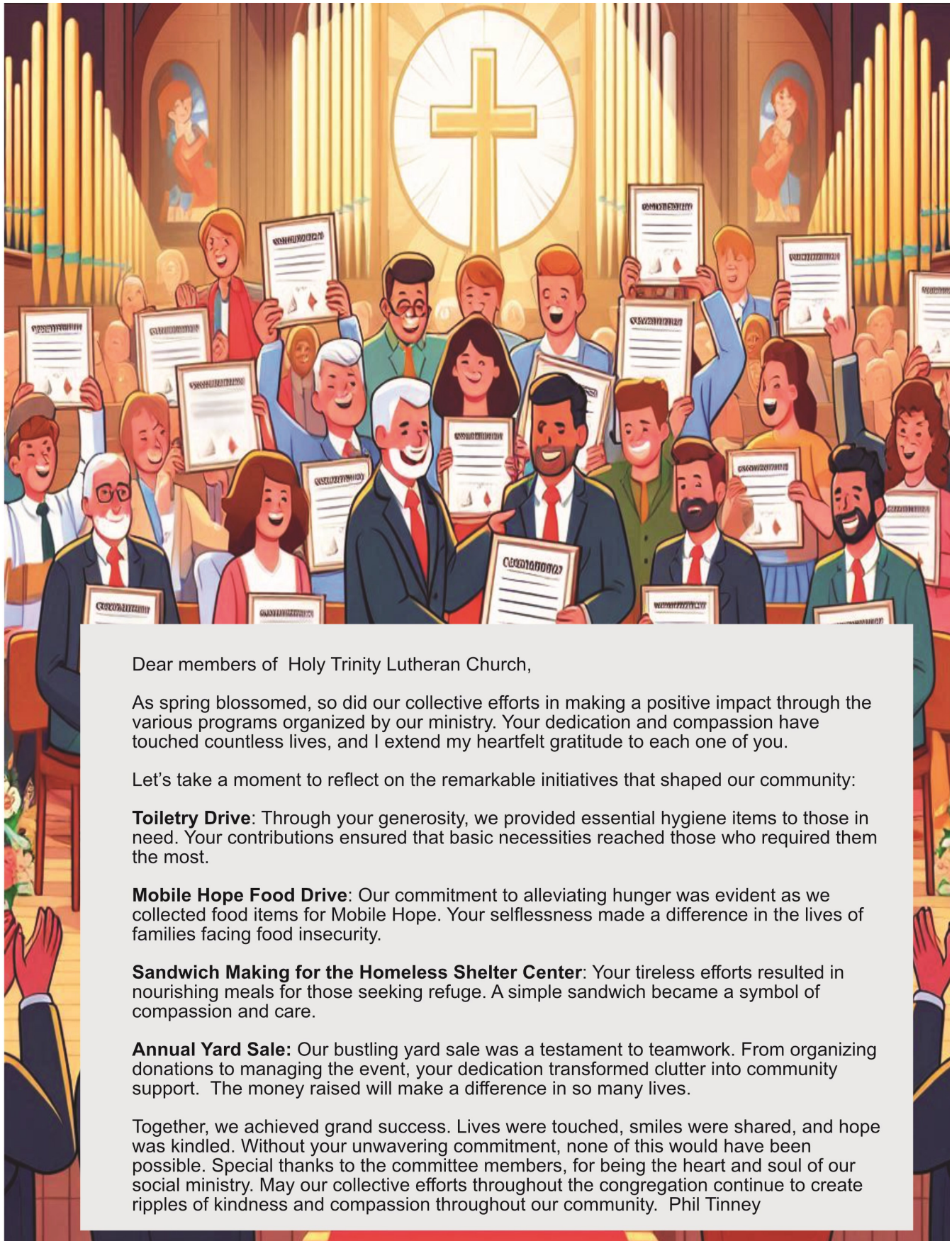
CLASSICS GROUP: Fourteen people from the Classics carpooled to see The Pump Boys and the Dinettes on June 4th at the Totem Pole Playhouse in Fayetteville, PA. We had lunch at The Flamingo Restaurant prior to the play and after the play we went to a farmers market and creamery for ice cream.

June 30th a few of us are going to see Fiddler on the Roof in Winchester.

We hope you will consider joining us on future outings. Keep watching for info for the fall. Please share your ideas. Food is always involved!

Enjoy your summer!

Peggy Everhart



Dear members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church,

As spring blossomed, so did our collective efforts in making a positive impact through the various programs organized by our ministry. Your dedication and compassion have touched countless lives, and I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each one of you.

Let's take a moment to reflect on the remarkable initiatives that shaped our community:

Toiletry Drive: Through your generosity, we provided essential hygiene items to those in need. Your contributions ensured that basic necessities reached those who required them the most.

Mobile Hope Food Drive: Our commitment to alleviating hunger was evident as we collected food items for Mobile Hope. Your selflessness made a difference in the lives of families facing food insecurity.

Sandwich Making for the Homeless Shelter Center: Your tireless efforts resulted in nourishing meals for those seeking refuge. A simple sandwich became a symbol of compassion and care.

Annual Yard Sale: Our bustling yard sale was a testament to teamwork. From organizing donations to managing the event, your dedication transformed clutter into community support. The money raised will make a difference in so many lives.

Together, we achieved grand success. Lives were touched, smiles were shared, and hope was kindled. Without your unwavering commitment, none of this would have been possible. Special thanks to the committee members, for being the heart and soul of our social ministry. May our collective efforts throughout the congregation continue to create ripples of kindness and compassion throughout our community. Phil Tinney



**God's work.
Our hands.**

**Sunday,
September 8**

This will also be the first day of Sunday School!

Students will work with their teachers and classmates on a service project from 8:45 to 9:45 AM Then all are invited to go out into the community to serve after worship!

“God’s work, our hands; working together, building a future, repairing the world,...Bless God, our hands as we work in your name, sharing the good news of your gospel!”

Congratulations to our 2024 High School Graduates



Isabella DeMark

Woodgrove High School

College: University of Virginia – Linguistics and Environmental Science

William C. Just

Tuscarora High School

College: Southern Methodist University – Business

Kira Schneider

Loudoun County High School

College: Virginia Commonwealth University - Nursing

Amanda Lee Whitney

Riverside High School

College: Ole Miss

Sunday Volunteers



**Thanks to our
SUMMER
VOLUNTEERS!**

Thanks to all of our new and returning volunteers for filling our various Sunday morning responsibilities!

Special thanks to our Altar Care and Lawn Care teams who are able to determine their schedules quite far in advance! Weekly volunteers are going to be a continual need, especially during the summer months. You'll notice the tables on the next page still have many slots that need to be filled for the next few months. Fortunately, we are able to fill them more rapidly than a few years ago during the height of COVID. Also, we realize that many members have not yet finalized their summer plans.

If you and/or your family can fill one or more of these spaces, please use the link that comes out with the On Your Door email. Or, call the church office to have your name (s) added to the tables. Coffee hosts, ushers, and acolytes/crucifers are most in need right now. We will provide training if you've never done it before or need a refresher. And for new volunteers, we will gladly provide training and pair you with an experienced member. Thanks again for everyone's help!

Worship Volunteers - July / August 2024

	Jul 7	Jul 14	Jul 21	Jul 28
Acolytes / Crucifers	Grace and Joy Mattina	TBD	TBD	TBD
Asst Min / Prayers	Laurie Dieffenbach	Laurie Dieffenbach	Tammy Brende	Karla McGovern
Lector	Tammy Brende	VBS Sunday	Peggy Everhart	Lynnette Mergler
Ushers	Adrian and Hope Mattina	TBD TBD	TBD TBD	TBD TBD
Coffee Host	Dan Mattina	VBS Sunday	TBD	TBD
Altar Care	Debbie Wenk Debbie Harned	Effie DeGroot Sharon Williams	Karen Blodgett Peggy Everhart	Tammy Brende Judy Willeke
Tellers	Laurie Dieffenbach TBD	Laurie Dieffenbach TBD	TBD TBD	Karla McGovern TBD
Lawn	Scott - Willeke - VanEpps	Johanneck - Smiley - Buzzell		Duellman Family

	Aug 4	Aug 11	Aug 18	Aug 25
Acolytes / Crucifers	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Asst Min / Prayers	Tammy Brende	Laurie Dieffenbach	Laurie Dieffenbach	Tammy Brende
Lector	TBD	Tammy Brende	Peggy Everhart	Lynnette Mergler
Ushers	TBD TBD	TBD TBD	TBD TBD	TBD TBD
Coffee Host	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Altar Care	Debbie Wenk Debbie Harned	Sharon Williams Effie DeGroot	Karen Blodgett Peggy Everhart	Tammy Brende Judy Willeke
Tellers	Karla McGovern TBD	Laurie Dieffenbach TBD	Laurie Dieffenbach TBD	TBD TBD
Lawn	Duellman Family	Bland - DeMark Family		Scott - Willeke - VanEpps

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



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

May 24, 2024

Thank You

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
605 W Market St
Leesburg, VA 20176-2506

Dear Holy Trinity Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$1,020.00 to ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) through ELCA Good Gifts.

"[Jesus said,] 'Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' [The lawyer] said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'"
(Luke 10:36-37)

As a church, we are freed by the transformative life of Christ, and this freedom emboldens us to love and serve our neighbors just as Christ has shown us. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA help people around the world feel the power of God's love.

Your Good Gift is a very good gift indeed. Through resources such as seedlings and seminary courses, vaccinations and vegetable gardens, Bibles and blankets, you equip God's people — around the world and around the corner — with what they need to live abundant lives.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God shines through you.

With gratitude,

Rachel Wind

Rachel Wind
Executive for Development



Let Freedom Ring!



**SORRY IF YOU MISSED IT, BUT WE MANAGED TO
PULL OFF A GREAT AFTER CHURCH PICNIC DESPITE
THE SEARING HEAT!
IT HAD ALL YOUR FAVORITE DISHES.
THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED TO
THE SUCCESS OF THE DAY.**



Happy Summer Birthday to . . .

JULY

- 2 Will Nau
Audrey Szebalskie
- 5 Mike Brende
- 6 Trudy Kearney
- 7 Molly Graham
John Harvey
Karen Paul
- 9 Chris Ward
- 10 Paul Serice
Jim Truxel
- 11 Liz Miller
Jeff Nau
Spencer Verhalen
Kimberly Williams
- 12 Gloria Borgrink
- 16 Kirsten Nau
- 17 Chaye DeMark

- Debbie Wenk
- 18 Sophie Burke
Linda Knepp
- 19 Jennifer Steeprow
- 21 Elizabeth Marcheschi
- 22 Danielle Everhart
- 24 Erik Prinz
- 25 Haley Dunn
Brian Lo
- 27 Jake Feeney
Caleb Graham
- 28 Kira Schneider
- 29 Kyle Struckmann
- 30 Jane Keigher
Leigh Muse
Randy VanEpps

AUGUST

- 2 Mackenzie Kapsiak

- 4 Joe Dooley
- 5 Blake Critz
- 6 Brandi Krytusa
- 9 Todd Sims
- 10 Olivia Biggs
Ian LoSchiavo
Jennifer Rohrbach
- 12 Peter Feeney
Robin Prinz
- 13 Jill Marney
- 14 Taylor Morrell
- 15 Pam Landis
Kira Whitacre
- 16 Jessica Taylor
- 18 Zoe Benton
Jim Covell
Kristi Sieber
- 19 Mark Bland
Chloe Lane



- Evelyn Lane
- Steven Nelson
- 23 Ava Bates
Geoff DeMark
Lynnette Mergler
Scarlett Petterson
- 24 Marsha Little
- 29 Ken Bland
Rachel Dooley
Elayne Mergler
Luke Willeke
- 30 Jordan Davis
- 31 Matt Davis

BAPTISM

JULY

- 1 Paul Albers
Elizabeth Bland
Colin Byrne
Gretchen Luebbe
- 2 Amy Fox
Chloe Lane
Evelyn Lane
- 4 Nancy Fox

- 7 Ryan Dudak
- 13 Evan Bollinger
Derek DeMark
Russ Seymour
- 21 Hope Mattina
- 25 Zain Green
- 28 Carol Boehler
- 29 Declan Bailey
- 30 Jerry Harned

Debbie Harned

AUGUST

- 1 Jim Truxel
Elana Ward
- 7 Owen Szebalskie
- 8 Olivia Biggs
- 13 Chris Gall
- 14 Matthew Willeke
- 15 Campbell Feeney

- 17 Jim Covell
- 19 Johannes Stracener
- 24 Alexis Young
- 26 Cindy Johanneck
- 27 Alec Miller
- 29 Brandon Hare
- 31 Becky Seymour
Todd Sims
Christopher Kerr

Celebrating

An Anniversary This Month



- 7/10 Carl & Audrey Gerber
- 7/11/2009 Debbie & John Wenk
- 7/21/2012 Mark & Liz Adams
- 7/21/1999 Doug & Kori Lord
- 7/31/2004 Stacey & Daniel Byrne
- 8/02/1986 Pete & Amy Miller

- 8/04/1963 Clara & Clyde Brill
- 8/05/2000 Magdalene & Sandy Yancy
- 8/06/2004 Debra & Andy Hare
- 8/08/1998 Alison & Jason Waters
- 8/10/2005 Katie & Mark Kapsiak
- 8/14/1999 Eric & Kristine Jacobson
- 8/16/1969 Carol & Dennis Boehler
- 8/17/1963 John & Pat Gibbs
- 8/29/1981 Debbie & Jerry Harned

**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:

Tuesday - Friday 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM
Emailing or calling ahead is recommended to
make sure someone is available to help you.

Phone: (703) 777-4912

Email: office@HolyTrinityLeesburg.org



www.HolyTrinityLeesburg.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Volume 45 Issue 6

ELCA Foundation

The ELCA Foundation doesn't just envision a future; it's building one where intentional generosity and stewardship have allowed the mission and ministry of the ELCA to grow beyond our expectations. Our goal is to create a vibrant culture where intentional giving fuels the expansion of the ELCA's work in the US and around the world.

We're on a mission to grow ELCA ministries by empowering individuals, congregations, synods, and other entities with the tools they need to maximize their financial potential.

But what does that mean for you?

Imagine having a trusted partner who not only helps you navigate the complexities of gift planning and administration but also provides expert guidance on how to invest in the future of your ministry. That's where the ELCA Foundation steps in. Whether you're considering leaving a legacy through an endowment, navigating estate planning, or exploring creative ways to support your congregation, we're here to make the process seamless and straightforward. Best of all, our gift planning services are completely free for you and your ministry.

Ready to take the next step in growing your congregation's culture of giving? Connect with your local ELCA Foundation representative today and discover how together we can make a lasting impact. Visit **Foundation.ELCA.org** to get started.



Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America