

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Newsletter

January 2016
104 West Main Street, Stafford Springs, Connecticut 06076



*Within this sphere abides the memories
of seasons past and the seeds of dreams
to come.*

*Photo & Caption
Michael J. Welch*

The First Petition of the Lord's Prayer says, "Hallowed be Thy Name". Those who had studied (and passed) your Confirmation instruction know its meaning. After the dutiful Lutheran question, "What does this mean?" the answer is given in the Small Catechism, "God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also."

The word "holy" means "different" or "separate". It is unique and it is to be treated in a different way than we use any other name. This petition in The Lord's Prayer and the second of the Ten Commandments can be seen together. On Mt. Sinai God thundered, "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses His name."

Paul tells us how everyone, at some time in their life or at their death, will recognize the holy name of Jesus. He writes, "Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." That name is holy, unique and separate.

In Luther's *Large Catechism* he writes, "But how does it become holy among us? Answer, as plainly as it can be said: When both our doctrine and life are godly and pleasing." His name is holy by all that He has done. But he further asks, "*How is God's name kept holy?* God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it." If you claim to be a child of God, live like it! "Hallowed be Thy Name" in me! In you! Paul said that a consistent word of faith and a right life must go together. "You who preach against stealing, do you steal? You who say that people should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? You who brag about the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law? As it is written: 'God's name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you.'"

God's name is already holy and it will always be holy. But we want His name to be made holy in our life. It should be shown in how you treat other people. It should be shown in how you respect and care for your children. It should be evident when you think of good ways to be special to your spouse. His name is holy when you go out on Saturday night with your friends; holy when you go to work or when you spend time with your neighbors. It is like what James says, "Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do." The Bible also says, "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

Pastor Tom

Dormant Seeds by Michel Welch

A number of years ago I was an assistant service manager at a new car dealership. One Friday I had one of those good news, bad news days. My wife found a lump and I was told that I was going to be the service manager starting Monday. Over the weekend we prayed for a healing. I know many of you have had similar experiences. It reminded me of how much I loved my wife and how fragile life is and how dependent we are on the Lord. In a blink of an eye our lives can be turned upside down. When I returned to work on Monday morning I was met by the service director, who introduced me to "the new service manager". I was Stunned! I could feel the blood rushing to my head. I was furious. I can in no time in my life remember wanting to hit someone or something more. The service director made an immediate exit and I was left with the new manager, Bill. I am now thinking to myself we need the health insurance, you cant walk out, you need to pull it together. Bill looked at me and said "I don't want to fire you and I don't want you to leave. You have one of the top CSI ratings in the country. I'm terrible with people, but I can make the shop produce. You work the desk and I'll run the back and we will make money!" I went for a drive , came back and accepted. At the time I felt trapped.

We soon discovered that Bill was a member of the Hells Angels, he dressed in black and drove a big black pickup. He looked like Yosemite Sam and swore a blue streak, often taking the Lords name in vane. About a week after he started, he went on a foul rant I went up to him and said "do you know why that car won't run?" He said "No! Why!" I said because you have asked God to dam it at least 6 times today!" He moved closer to me so we were nose to nose, a half inch apart and we just stared at each other for what seemed a very long time. While still nose to nose he said "Is that offensive to you?" "Yes." I said. We continued to stare. He then stepped back and said "I apologize ." He turned around and yelled at the top of his lungs "shop meeting everyone, right here right now!" So here we are 2 service advisors, 10 techs, 4 parts guys, and the women in the office(who swore like troopers) standing in the middle of the service isle, with customers waiting for service and Bill begins with "Swearing is offensive to Mike, so we will not swear any more!" I'm thinking o'boy this could go poorly. A swear jar was setup and after a couple of weeks and 1/2 Bill's paycheck everybody stopped swearing and magically the whole atmosphere of the shop changed. Technicians would part with a hug before leaving work! I began to treat my job as my ministry and the folks I worked with began to seek me out with questions about scripture, personal issues and prayer, because they new where I stood. It was wonderful.

Now here is ware it gets interesting. Sheila's lump went away of its own accord and I worked for Bill for a couple of years and he moved on and I became the service manager. About 3 years after Bill left I found myself out of work, when I received a call from Bill. "heard your out of work. I need someone to come and calm the advisors and he offered me a job with more money than before. He then said there is just one catch the owner wants to interview you first. I said Ok and we setup the interview. I met the owner shook hands and sat down. He began to ask me a series of questions, when he swore. He immediately sat up in his chair and said "I'm sorry Bill said if we hire you we have to stop swearing! One of the young ladies who worked with me the first time I worked with Bill called me up out of the blue about 2 years ago, which is 11 years after the last time we had spoken and said the time you spent with me changed my life. "will you marry me?" I said I can't, I'm already married" She laughed and said "Mike I would be honored if you would perform the service, because you taught me to respect myself and what to look for in a man."

Who knows how long seeds may lay dormant. The key is to plant them in faith, Trusting in our LORD's living water to nourish and bring them forth in His due season. When we Hallow Gods name we are granted favor and His Word does not return void. Amen.

Pastor

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Members of the Council are:

President Michael Welch
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Vice-President – Leonard Lichanec
Acting Treasurer – Sheila Welch
Secretary – Amelia Hinchliffe
Financial Secretary – Leigh Maxa
Andrew Fisher
Cathy Lichanec
Michael Marvonek
Patricia Marvonek

Service Teams

† Worship & Music Team: Leigh Tremblay
† Property Team: Andrew Fisher,
Michael Marvonek, Adam Tremblay and
Michael Welch
† Learning & Youth Group Team:
Rev. Thomas Drobeno, Melissa Fisher, Nan
Hayden, Walter Kovaciny, Cathy & Leonard
Lichanec

January Birthdays

01 – Allison Verney
13 – Vera Marko
13 – Olga M. Panciera
15 – Ellen Lichanec
15 – Steve Marvonek
15 – Eric Mercier
15 – Paul Mercier
21 – Bob Titus
22 – Leonard Lichanec
26 – Michael Marvonek
27 – Ashley Titus

Shut-in Members of Holy Trinity

Attn: Mr. Harold Barton

Fox Hill Center
1253 Hartford Tpke. Room #49A
Vernon, CT 06066-4560

Attn: Mrs. Barbara Bulick

Brookdale
1715 Ellington Rd. Room # 212
South Windsor, CT 06074-2702

Ms. Shirley Kaba

7 High St.
Stafford Springs, CT 06076-1215

Attn: Ms. Barbara Kovaciny

Evergreen Health Care Center
205 Chestnut Hill Rd., Room # 1101
Stafford Springs, CT 06076-4005

Mr. Paul C. Kovaciny

242 East St.
Stafford Springs, CT 06076-3923

Ms. Anna Mandak

21 Old Monson Rd.
Stafford Springs, CT 06076-3343

Mrs. Tonia Marvonek

Evergreen Health Care Center
201 Chestnut Hill Rd., Rm. # 2107

Baptism of Elena Kay Markell.

Parents Lauren and Kyle Markell
Godparents Matthew and Kimberly
Mordasky



January/ February Service Schedule

With the new church season starting, the reading for the next year are from Series C. These readings are from page 21 to 26 in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal.

Tellers

Ushers

Worships Assistants

Reader

January 3, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. – The Second Sunday of Christmas – White

Jeremiah 31: 7-14; Psalm 147: 12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14 John 1: [1-9] 10-18

Stacy Fisher

Melissa Fisher

Stacy Fisher

Stacy Fisher

Walter Kovaciny

Walter Kovaciny

Sheila Welch

January 10, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. – Baptism of Our Lord – White

Isaiah 43: 1 – 7; Psalm 29; Acts 8: 14 – 17; Luke 3: 15 – 17, 21 – 22

Amelia Hinchliffe

Walter Kovaciny

Stacy Fisher

Ruth Boyles

Cathy Lichanec

Cathy Lichanec

January 17, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. – The Second Sunday after Epiphany – Green

Isaiah 62: 1 – 5; Psalm 36: 5 – 10; 1 Corinthians 12: 1 – 11; John 2: 1 – 11

Walter Kovaciny

Daniel Lichanec

Cathy Lichanec

Steve Marvonek

Michael Welch

Leonard Lichanec

January 24, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. – The Third Sunday after Pentecost – Green

Nehemiah 8: 1 – 3, 5 – 6, 8 – 10; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12: 12 – 31a; Luke 4: 14 – 21

Cathy Lichanec

Melissa Fisher

Cathy Lichanec

Daniel Lichanec

Leonard Lichanec

Walter Kovaciny

January 31, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. – The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost – Green

Jeremiah 1: 4 – 10; Psalm 71: 1 – 6; 1 Corinthians 13: 1 – 13; Luke 4: 21 – 30

Cathy Lichanec

Walter Kovaciny

Michael Welch

Daniel Lichanec

Leonard Lichanec

Sheila Welch

February 7, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. – Transfiguration of Our Lord – White

Exodus 34: 29 – 35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3: 12 to 4: 2; Luke 9: 28 – 36

Stacy Fisher

Melissa Fisher

Stacy Fisher

Daniel Lichanec

Walter Kovaciny

Walter Kovaciny

Sheila Welch

Typist

January – Stacy Fisher

February – Leigh Maxa

January

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 The Second Sunday of Christmas 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Church Council	4	5 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	6 7:30 p.m. Epiphany of Our Lord	7	8	9 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday Camp 8:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Safe Net Distribution
10 Baptism of Our Lord 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	11	12 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	13	14	15	16
17 The Second Sunday after Epiphany 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion Today is the deadline for submitting your report for the Annual Report.	18 Deadline for submitting articles for the February newsletter	19 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	20	21	22	23 8:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Safe Net Distribution
24 The Third Sunday after Epiphany 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:00 a.m. Annual meeting	25	26	27	28	29	30
30 The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion						

Notice

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday January 24 2016 11:00 AM immediately after Worship Service.

Please Plan to attend so you may have a a say in the future of our church.

The Financials

Through December 2015

Annual Budget	\$75,199
Budget to date	75,199
Regular Income	40,596
year to date expense	69,325
Net regular income	(28,729)
Special Donations	5,607 *
Net Income	(\$23,121)

*\$3,600 Mcgurn Challenge

2015 Christmas Party





Coming Events

Annual Congregational Meeting

January 24, 2016

11:00AM Immediately After Worship Service

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 104 West Main St. Stafford Springs, CT 06076

Web site address www.holytrinitystafford.org

Address Correction Requested Slovak Zion Synod – ELCA

