

# Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Newsletter

September-October 2019  
104 West Main Street, Stafford Springs,  
Connecticut 06076



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

This year our town is celebrating its tricentennial. Our own Slovak Zion Synod is celebrating 100 years of mission and ministry. In both of these, our congregation has been part of the story and has helped to shape the lives and stories of many people.

Part of being a Christian is recognizing that we are in a story that is bigger than ourselves. We are part of God's story, played out in history as we receive blessings and share a love that is bigger than anything we could shape ourselves. We are part of Jesus' story, sisters and brothers of the one who gave everything to make us a family and to give us an abundant and new life.

So much of our anxiety as human beings arises from wondering what people think of us, or what our legacy will be. As Christians we know that our worth is not determined by our education, or our salaries, or our popularity. Our worth is measured by Christ's love for us. Luther says that Jesus has "purchased and won me, not with gold or silver, but with his own precious blood... so that I may belong to him, live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in eternal righteousness, innocence and blessedness." Jesus brings each of us into a new life where we are free from our very human desires to try and cheat death, or keep up with the Joneses, or make a name for ourselves.

Everything we do, we are part of a bigger story. And so our successes are Christ's. We no longer serve ourselves and our own interests, but we serve Christ and those whom he loves. Likewise, and more importantly, Jesus' success is our own. His life is our own, his victory is our own. And so we are freed to let his love be our own, his charity our own.

As we celebrate the milestones of our communities, we give thanks for what we are blessed to be a part of. Let us strive to see ourselves and each other as in it all together, part of God's story, blessed with gifts we could never get by going-it alone, and happy to share a life of loving others as we have been loved.

One of the most beloved of our offertory hymns says:

*"Let the vineyards be fruitful Lord,  
And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown.  
That we may be fed with the Bread of Life.  
Gather the hopes and dreams of all,  
Unite them with the prayers we offer.  
Grace our table with your presence,  
And give us a foretaste of the feast to come."*

These words draw our attention to what happens when we gather to be nourished by God's word and the sacrament of Holy Communion. God has been hard at work, sowing seeds, giving growth, and making of us a pleasing offering. When we come to worship we are bringing all that we have: not simply our gifts and treasures, but also the greatest offering we can present, ourselves. Our hopes and dreams, our wants and our needs come to God in who we are and become an offering when we open our hearts and our wills to be transformed by meeting God in worship.

However, in our offering, in our giving of ourselves, we discover what is truly great and marvelous. When we are willing to offer all that we are to God, we find that God is in fact offering himself for us. When we open our lives to his, we find a God who does not take simply take our offering, but who adds to it. To our treasure God adds abundance, to our love God adds excellence, to our good works God adds perfection, and to our selves, God gives himself.

This is because we have a God who has shown us the measure of his love. In Jesus we see God who graces us with his presence. Who gives us a foretaste of the feast to come. Just as by Jesus' precious death upon the cross we are saved, by his resurrection we are justified, Paul says, and this same Jesus gives himself to us to be our food and our nourishment, to be our health and our salvation. God who was made known among us as Emmanuel, is God-with-us whenever we gather in faith where he has promised to be.

Let us joyfully offer our lives to God, so that we may receive always the abundance of Jesus' own life which was first offered for us.

Peace and Joy,

Pastor Tom





## **Pastoral Care**

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
7 Green St. Stafford Springs, CT 06076-1334  
Office Phone-860-684-7571  
Church – [htlc-church@att.net](mailto:htlc-church@att.net)  
Website – [htlcstafford.org](http://htlcstafford.org)  
Pastor Tom (860-806-2440)  
Email [tsd33@cam.ac.uk](mailto:tsd33@cam.ac.uk)

### **Members of the Council are:**

Rev. Thomas S. Droben  
President – Andrew Fisher  
Vice-President – Walter Kovaciny  
Treasurer –  
Secretary – Amelia Hinchliffe  
Melissa Fisher  
Leonard Lichanec  
Michael Marvonek  
Patricia Marvonek  
Financial Secretary – Leigh Maxa

### **Service Teams**

† Worship & Music Team: Leigh Maxa  
† Property Team: Andrew Fisher,  
Michael Marvonek, Adam Tremblay and  
Michael Welch  
† Learning & Youth Group Team:  
Rev. Thomas Droben, Melissa Fisher, Cathy &  
Leonard Lichanec

### **HTLC Shut-ins**

Attn: **Barbara Bulick**  
The Ivy at Ellington  
123 West Road Apt 115  
Ellington. CT 06029-5730  
**Ms. Shirley Kaba**  
7 High St.  
Stafford Springs, CT 06076-1215  
**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  
Stafford Springs, CT 06076-4005

## **September**

### **Birthdays**

07 – Pat Kovaciny  
11 – Nan Hayden  
12 – Pauline Valery  
13 – Caleb Tremblay  
16 – George Pallanck  
19 – Shirley Pufahl  
30 – Donna Palacko

### **Anniversaries**

01 – James & Diane Bulick  
02 – William & Elizabeth Mottes  
04 – Neil & Terry Hoss  
09 – Gary & Cynthia Brown  
19 – Tim Mercier & Amelia Hinchliffe  
28 – Bryan & Leigh Maxa  
29 – James & Carol Schraffenberger

## **October**

### **Birthdays**

01 – Bryan Maxa  
14 – Owen R. Baarck  
19 – Jonathan ‘Jon’ Hayden  
20 – Andrew Fisher  
21 – Craig Fisher  
28 – Barbara Bulick

### **Anniversaries**

05 – Jevon & Jenny Baarck  
05 – Craig & Stacy Fisher  
05 – Emil & Evelyn Kucko

### **Happy 73<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary**

## **Harvest Sale**

A Harvest Sale committee was formed during the July council meeting. This year in order to attract some additional traffic and revenue, we will be offering tables and/or spots for vendors to sell their own items. The thought is to offer spaces outside the church while keeping space inside for the luncheon, raffle, and donated goods. Hopefully you are interested in helping with the Harvest Sale and/or donating items. Additional information will be in the weekly bulletins and newsletters.

## Slovak Synod Celebrates 100 years

As part of the Assembly that was held August 25 to 30, 2019 t-shirts celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary were designed and offered for sale. The shirts are silkscreen on the front and back sides.

### Borderless Shirt

The cranberry crew neck shirt boasts the synods non-geographic nature. The front of the shirt has the “ELCA symbol and words Borderless & *Without Walls* Since 1919” and the back side of the shirt heralds the jubilee year with the words “Celebrating 100 Years. The Slovak Zion symbol is inside the 00 of 100. Available in adult sizes S – 3XL and children’s sizes YS (8); YM (10) and YL (12).

### Theme Shirt

The navy blue crew neck shirt shows off the theme of the synod’s theme of the 2019 Assembly with the words “A Century RESILIENCE and God’s Blessings” on the front with the words “Celebrating 100 Years”

on the back of the shirt. The Slovak Zion symbol is inside the 00 of 100. Available in adult sizes S – 3XL and children’s sizes YS (8); YM (10) and YL (12).

### Facebook Shirt

The royal blue v-neck shirt boasts the synods non-geographic nature, with the words “We were NON-GEOGRAPHIC before facebook made it cool” with the ELCA symbol surrounded with a circle on the front side. The back of the shirt has the words “Celebrating 100 Years” with the Slovak Zion symbol inside the 00 of 100. Available in adult sizes S – 3XL and children’s sizes YS (8); YM (10) and YL (12).

Our church will be taking orders during the month of October with payment due at time of delivery. Payment is due at delivery because the exact price isn’t known at this time. The price may be \$25.00 each. The more shirts sold, the price will be less. You may contact Walter Kovaciny to place your order.



# September *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church* 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1. The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Social Hour	2	3 <b>Gregory, Bishop</b>  <i>Pastor's day off</i>	4 5:00 p.m. Bible Study led by Pastor Nicholas Ford	5	6	7
8 <b>The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Council meeting	9 Deadline for submitting information for the October newsletter	10 <i>Pastor's day off</i>	11 5:00 p.m. Bible Study led by Pastor Nicholas Ford	12	13  <b>John Chrysostom, Bishop</b>	14 <b>Feast of the Holy Cross</b>  9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Safe Net Distribution
15 <b>The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	16 <b>Cyprian, Bishop</b>	17 <i>Pastor's day off</i>	18 5:00 p.m. Bible Study led by Pastor Nicholas Ford	19	20	21 <b>Matthew, Evangelist</b>
22 <b>The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	23	24 <i>Pastor's day off</i>	25 5:00 p.m. Bible Study led by Pastor Nicholas Ford	26 8;30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. W.I.C.	27	28 <b>Wenceslaus, Duke of Bohemia and Martyr</b>  9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Safe Net Distribution
29 <b>Saint Michael and All Angels</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion  4:00 p.m. Worship Service led by Pastor Nicholas Ford	30 <b>Jerome, Translator</b>					

# October *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church* 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <i>Pastor's day off</i>	2 5:00 p.m. Refuge Church Meeting	2	4 <b>Francis of Assisi,</b> <i>Renewer of the Church</i>	5
6 <b>The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Social Hour	7 Bible Study at Parsonage 7:30 pm	8 <i>Pastor's day off</i>	9 5:00 p.m. Refuge Church Meeting	10	11	12 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Safe Net Distribution
13 <b>The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:00 a.m. Council meeting	14 Deadline for submitting information for the November newsletter	15 <b>Theresa of Avila,</b> <i>Renewer of the Church</i>	16 5:00 p.m. Refuge Church Meeting	17	18 <b>3-6pm</b>  <b>Harvest Sale Drop-off</b>	19 <b>9am-1pm</b>  <b>Harvest Sale</b>
20 <b>The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	21 Bible Study at Parsonage 7:30 pm	22 <i>Pastor's day off</i>	23 5:00 p.m. Refuge Church Meeting	24 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. W.I.C.	25	26 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Safe Net Distribution
27 <b>Reformation Sunday</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 4:00 p.m. Refuge Church Meeting	28	29 <i>Pastor's day off</i>	30 5:00 p.m. Refuge Church Meeting	31		

## September – October Service Schedule

These readings are from Series C and can be found in the front of the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal.

### September 22, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. – The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Green

Amos 8: 4 – 7; Psalm 113; 1 Timothy 2: 1 – 7; Luke 16: 1 – 13

Melissa Fisher      Walter Kovaciny      Leigh Maxa      Daniel Lichanec  
Walter Kovaciny      \_\_\_\_\_

### September 29, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. – The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Green

Amos 6: 1a, 4 – 7; Psalm 146; 1 Timothy 6: 6 – 19; Luke 16: 19 – 31

Walter Kovaciny      Walter Kovaciny      Leigh Maxa      Daniel Lichanec  
Michael Marvonek      \_\_\_\_\_

### October 6, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. – The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost – Green

Habakkuk 1: 1 – 4; 2: 1 – 4; Psalm 37: 1 – 9; 2 Timothy 1: 1 – 14; Luke 17: 5 – 10

Amelia Hinchliffe      Walter Kovaciny      Leigh Maxa      Daniel Lichanec  
Michael Marvonek      Pat Marvonek

### October 13, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. – The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Green

2 Kings 5: 1 – 3, 7 – 15; Psalm 111; 2 Timothy 2: 8 – 15; Luke 17: 11 – 19

Sheila Welch      Walter Kovaciny      Sheila Welch      Daniel Lichanec  
Michael Welch      \_\_\_\_\_

### October 20, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. – The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Green

Genesis 32: 22 – 31; Psalm 121; 2 Timothy 3: 14 to 4: 5; Luke 18: 1 – 8

Catherine Lichanec      Daniel Lichanec      Leigh Maxa      Daniel Lichanec  
Leonard Lichanec      Leonard Lichanec

### October 27, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. – Reformation Sunday – Red

Jeremiah 31: 31 – 34; Psalm 46; Romans 3: 19 – 28; John 8: 31 – 36

Melissa Fisher      Walter Kovaciny      Leigh Maxa      Daniel Lichanec  
Walter Kovaciny      \_\_\_\_\_

### November 3, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. – All Saints Sunday – White

Daniel 7: 1 – 3, 15 – 18; Psalm 149; Ephesians 1: 11 – 23; Luke 6: 20 – 31

Amelia Hinchliffe      Walter Kovaciny      Leigh Maxa      Daniel Lichanec  
Michael Marvonek      Pat Marvonek

This symbol, \_\_\_\_\_, means a volunteer is needed as an Usher for a specific service.  
Please consider offering your talents and volunteer. Thanks.





**Safe Net Ministries** - Many of our great volunteers graduated in 2019. They are moving on to college, new jobs and to serve in our military. We need to bring in new volunteers to fill our ranks and do God's work.

Volunteers are especially needed on the 2nd and 4th Saturday 8:30-1:00 pm for distributions each month, the 2nd and 4th Friday 10:30-12:30 pm for stocking and set up and the 2nd and 4th Monday mornings 8:30-10:30 for Food Share deliveries.

We pray for the success and safety of our graduates. We hope to see you when you are home for visits, holidays and "breaks."

***Want to help?*** Please contact us by calling and leaving a message at 860-851-9987.

## **\*\*\* Coming Events \*\*\***

### **October**

- 6 – Social Hour – 11:15 a.m.
- 7 – 21 – Bible Study at the Parsonage- 7:30 p.m.
- 12 & 26 – Safe Net Distribution – 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
- 13 – Council meeting – 11:15 a.m.
- 14 – Deadline for submitting information for the November newsletter
- 18 – Harvest Sale Drop-off 3 – 6 p.m.
- 19 – Harvest Sale – 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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

Web site address  
[www.holytrinitystafford.org](http://www.holytrinitystafford.org)  
Slovak Zion Synod – ELCA  
Address Correction Requested

