

Trinity Talk

February 2018

A Word From The Shepherd



It's been quite a year. I'm especially proud of how our congregation has continued to "Thrive" and to be "All in" in ministry. This year saw the beginning of a Confirmation Class, a Horseless Horse Show and many other ministries that we've always done.

We decided to fully rely on God and have our parking lot paved. We had the excitement of being without an elevator for a while and you have stepped up as God's people and made these things happen!

2018 may be a little bit challenging financially but I believe we have the resources that our congregation can continue to grow and thrive. Sadly we have had to say goodbye to the Fracker and the Geschke families, but have been blessed to welcome some regular visitors.

It is my honor and privilege to be your pastor and I'm so thankful for your care during the last month of the year. I would thank the congregation for your care, cards and concern. Remember that was only one month and we will continue to do great things in the name of God. Also remember that our congregation is small enough to care but big enough to make a difference!

May God lead us to new ways to make a difference in 2018.

Pastor Carolyn

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

7:30pm At Our Saviour Lutheran Church In Hinckley

WOMEN – SAVE THE DATE April 6 & 7

Pastor Carolyn will be leading a women's retreat at Camp Mowana Friday April 6 – Saturday April 7, 2018. The retreat fills up fast and all are welcome! Cost for a double room is \$85 per person and for a single room \$150. Partial scholarships are available. A deposit of \$40 (made payable to Faith Lutheran Church) needs to accompany your reservation. To reserve your spot, please email Pastor Carolyn cjwaggs@aol.com or call the church office.

GRIEF RECOVERY GROUP

Will meet the first three Mondays in February:

February 5th , 12th , and 19th at 10:00am (weather permitting)

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Luncheon

11:30am

February 11, 2018

Following the Late Service

We're Wild About Each Other!

All women of Holy Trinity are invited to join in the fun.

Wear anything with an animal print, get a treat!

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Life Bottles For Babies



The Oaks Family Care Center in Brunswick, has provided baby bottles for you to take home and fill with loose change, bills, and/or checks and return them to church on February 11th. Life bottles help The Oaks stay open to save babies' lives.

About the Oaks Family Care Center

The mission of Oaks Family Care Center is to affirm the sanctity and quality of life by expressing the love of Jesus Christ through services that support and strengthen family life and values.

www.oaks-family-care.org , www.oakswomensclinic.org ,e-mail: oakscares@aol.com
or call: 330-220-7777

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“Loving Lutheran Ladies Lunch”

All ladies are welcome to join.

We get-together on the third Thursday of the month, at various restaurants in the area. Besides having a great lunch, we talk together about many things and enjoy GREAT FELLOWSHIP!

Our next “LLL Lunch” will be February 15, 2018 at 11:00am.

The place to meet is Panera Bread in MEDINA 4065 Pearl Rd, Medina.

Feel free to bring your friends, neighbors, or relatives. ALL are welcome!

We are The Loving Lutheran Ladies!

For more information call Karen Shepherd at 330-.225-8245

Annual Report of the Council President

Another year in the books! WOW! I can't believe how fast it goes! 2017 for Holy Trinity had its share of triumphs and challenges.

In 2017 we were saddened to find out that we could no longer hold a Benefit Horse Show at Achin' Acres Farm. Instead we had a Horseless Horse Show, which benefitted the church to an equal degree as if we would have held the show! It was fun to see all the cowgirls and cowboys with numbers, and it was fun to play some games and get awarded ribbons to the game winners. Look forward to a repeat of that fundraiser again. It was a great deal of fun.

We raised funds to resurface our parking lot, (part of it anyway). This was so expensive, but necessary. HTLC members came through with the support and funds to make it possible

One of our challenges for the year was the breakdown of our elevator! Who would have ever known that it would break down just after we spent loads of money on our parking lot? Well, with courage and perseverance we were able to fund the repairs.

Our biggest challenge happened around Thanksgiving when our beloved interim Pastor, Pastor Carolyn suffered a small stroke. Our prayers went out to her and we dealt without having her at church for a month! We were so excited to see her come back for Christmas Eve services, and it is a true blessing to watch her get better and better every week!

On another note, this will probably be the last annual report from me. I am going to be stepping down from office at the end of this term. I have been honored to help lead this congregation, but it's time for me to pursue other ways to serve this congregation. I am sure that whoever is elected in April, will do a great job. My prayers and support will always be with whoever is chosen.

Blessings to all,
Robin Brown, President

2017 Property Report

First, I would truly be remiss if I did not give a big THANK YOU to all the Property Board members for their help this past year. Property Board members are Don Foltz, Brian Ousley, Phil Dell'Anno, Chris Schenk, Tom Thiffault, Pete Geschke and Don Shepherd. A big THANK YOU also goes to Paula and Paul Hudak, Lynn Koch, Robin Brown, Laura Foltz, Debbie Geschke, Dewey Whitt, Steve Humphries, Don Moll and Jerry Sensel, for their help in many areas of the Church grounds inside and out. If I left anyone out I do apologize.

2017 did not start out well, as we had a water main line break in our vault near Pearl Road. Thank GOD the repair was not too expensive and all the damage was an ice skating rink on Pearl Road and our parking lot.

HTLC also did maintenance and warranty work on our Hustler lawn mower and purchased a new weed eater and leaf blower.

The summer brought more bad news as our elevator's main control valve broke and required major replacement and state certification. Thanks to Ross Elevator for working with us to repair and allow us to make payment arrangements.

In the meantime, HTLC had a parking lot fundraiser to replace approximately 30% of the driveway. I was amazed, as were others, by the resolve and fortitude of HTLC members during these major obstacles we had to overcome this year. Then again, it does not amaze me because we have GOD on our side working with us always.

There are quite a few things on our to do list, painting upstairs and down, replacing the carpeting in the main entrance, finishing work on the pavilion, seal coating and striping the parking lot to name a few.

The Property Board is always looking for volunteers, so if you feel a calling don't hesitate to contact me.

Thanks, David Darling

Social Ministry 2017 Annual Report

Each year we reach beyond ourselves to support the needs of not just within our walls, but our neighbors in the community near and far. This year was no exception.

We continually have baskets under our mail boxes to collect non-perishable items for the Brunswick Food Pantry, and have 4 Pack-The-Pantry Sundays each year to raise awareness for their needs. The 2nd Tuesday afternoon of each month volunteers from our church, staff the pantry. Lynn Koch and Cindi White are our point persons, and they can always use extra volunteers. Bob and Phyllis Siedler serve as co-directors of the BFP, and wisely use resources to combat the hunger needs in our community.

We served 6 free Community Meals on alternating months that were open to the public. We have served between 40 and 60 guests consistently at the meals, and will eventually grow to a monthly event when we have enough volunteer resources. Linda Sensel and Becky Nester guided the great meals our volunteers provided.

In August we held our 14th Back to School Rally, coordinated by Chris Garapic and Ardy Thiffault. It is amazing how our church comes together to do such a large community outreach each year. Volunteers shopped for supplies, canvassed the community for funds and door prizes, packed backpacks, registered families, parked cars, cooked food, set up and cleaned up for this event. We were prepared with close to 400 back packs, and 260 were distributed the night of the rally, and more given out later. There were 103 families that came for the rally, most of whom were from the Brunswick area. Those who did come were treated to a lot of useful information available in our county as well as supplies to start the

school year. We were financially supported by Brunswick Education Foundation, Szarka Financial Management, Turnmac Inc, Wolff Family Trust, Ellbrook OES, Brunswick Kiwanis, and very importantly Holy Trinity members.

Edna in the Philippines is the young lady we have supported through Child Fund International. She is working on her teaching degree. She will probably age out when she finishes her degree. We will not take on another child, as funds have diminished greatly to support a child.

At Christmas we supported 3 families with a total of 6 children through the Giving Tree. The families came to us from the Salvation Army. Each child received clothing and toys their families would not have been able to provide. Ardy Thiffault coordinated the Giving Tree. The hats, mittens and scarves also went to social services within our county.

Lenten and Advent boxes and the Spare Change Jug provided funds for the Social Purpose Fund. This helps the Pastor to assist members in financial crisis.

Our congregation has been blessed with a spirit of giving time and talents and resources to the needs of our community beyond our church walls. I am grateful to everyone who has supported our work, especially this very active board: Mary Ellen Chirdon, Chris Garapic, Laura Foltz, Lynn Koch, Barb Mueller, Becky Nester, Linda Sensel, Ardy Thiffault, and Cindi White.

In Christ's Love. Ruth Wallaart

Liaison Report to the Congregation 2017

We now have five liaisons on our Parish Planning Council. Each of us has a different responsibility. Sue Ashworth and I continued to be in contact with the chairpersons of our operating committees. They shared information on their activities and ministries with us, and we in turn took the information to the monthly PPC meetings to keep Council up-to-date on the happenings of the Congregation. We report on the Food Pantry, the Community Meal and other Social Ministry projects as well as other church ministries. We have continued to try to make communication more effective so everyone is aware of all we are doing! We are blessed here at HTLC to have so many amazing volunteers working to serve our LORD, our Congregation and our community. Chris Freeman communicates information about our cluster happenings. George Haley keeps us informed on Worship and Music decisions and Kim Ousley continues to work on our Youth programs.

Your Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Sue Ashworth
Lynn Koch
Chris Freeman
George Haley
Kim Ousley
PPC Liaisons

Gift Card Program 2017 Annual Report

This past year (2017) the Gift Card Program sold \$58,709.50 in gift cards. The church's cost for these cards was \$56,575.29, leaving the Church with a profit of \$2,134.21, which is a 3.8% profit.

I want to thank Linda Sensel for helping after the first service. I also want to thank Pete, Debbie and Kasie Geschke for helping with this program after the second service, and when we have been on vacation. They have moved on and will be missed.

This means, I am looking for someone to help with, 'AFTER Second Service', sales of the gift cards. All they have to do is:

1. Log in which gift cards are sold and who bought them
2. Collect the checks, or cash, for the cards that were sold
3. Log the checks and cash that were collected

If so inclined,

1. I would also train them with using the churches computer, Excel program spreadsheet, to help with getting all the monetary totals necessary for the sale and filing totals
2. Printing the new order form for our files
3. E-Mailing the order form to CPO, where we get the gift cards from.
4. Filling out the cash deposit slip for the bank and church treasurer
5. Filling out the payment request form, for the invoicing from CPO, for our church treasurer

If anyone is interested in helping out, please contact John Wallaart, the help will be greatly appreciated. The work is not that difficult, especially since the spreadsheet does most of the work for you.

John Wallaart

Our Shut-ins

Each of our shut-ins have expressed delight whenever they receive a card or a visit from a Holy Trinity member. Drop a card in the mail to brighten their day!

NOTE: John Oravec has moved from home into Willowood with Emily.

Judy Lowe

c/o Life Care Center
2400 Columbia Rd
Medina, OH 44256

John Oravec

c/o Willowood Care Center of Brunswick
1186 Hadcock Rd
Brunswick, OH 44212

Emily Oravec

c/o Willowood Care Center of Brunswick
1186 Hadcock Rd
Brunswick, OH 44212

Margaret Wood

c/o Pontchartrain Health Ctr
P.O. Box 338
Mandeville, LA 70470-0338

Pastor Terrie Ellwitz

c/o Plum Creek
891 Marks Rd
Brunswick, OH 44212

Bernice Severson

c/o Elmcroft Assisted Living
1046 N. Jefferson St. #204
Medina, OH 44256

Phyllis Deeter

c/o Pearlview Rehab Wellness Center
4426 Homestead Dr
Brunswick, OH 44212

BRUNSWICK FOOD PANTRY

Hunger is happening next door. Hunger is happening right now.

How Much Need Exists in Brunswick?

Probably more than most people realize, so let's look at the numbers: from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 we served 2,265 families. These families are made up of 7,014 individuals, of which 1,977 were children. We provided each person three meals a day for three days for a total of 63,126 meals served. In 2017 we served 781 more people 7,029 more meals than in 2016.

Where is the Pantry Located?

Our address is: 1255 North Carpenter Road Brunswick, OH 44212
We are located in the Brunswick Athletic Training facility. Our entrance is around the left at the back, look for our sign.

Contact Us: PHONE: 330-220-8299

EMAIL: contactus@brunswickfoodpantry.org

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Gift Card Program



There is a long list of Gift Cards that are available by special order, along with the regular list of cards. Special orders take about two weeks to process but include about 75 companies.

The profit from these cards is used to purchase items for property that are not covered in the budget. The gift card order forms are available on our website (www.htlc.org) or in the Welcome Center near the entrance of the sanctuary. So far for the month of January we've profited \$227.67 Thank you for your support!

The Contact for the gift card ministry is John Wallaart 330-273-3758 if you have any questions



Pastor's Blog.....

Check out Pastor Carolyn's blog! As part of her call at Faith, Fairlawn, Pastor Carolyn does a short essay every week or so.....and you can read them too!



Simply go to Holy Trinity's website- www.htlc.org There is a link just below her photo on the main page. You will find her most current offering as well as an entire list of past essays



PARKING LOT Pave the Way Campaign! UPDATES

As you may have noticed our parking lot has been repaired and resurfaced BUT it is NOT totally paid for! We still need more funds to finish paying for the job that has been done SO PLEASE consider donating what you can So far we have raised over \$18,000, but we still need more.

Please consider donating extra every month for the care and maintenance of your church home. Please help us in working towards the next step to get our parking lot paid!!

**WOMEN'S
RETREAT
April 6 & 7
Pastor Carolyn will be
leading a women's
retreat at
Camp Mowana
Contact Pastor
Carolyn:
cjwaggs@aol.com**

The Mission of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
is to use our gifts to serve God by:



*Hearing,
Teaching and
Loving
Christ*

Fellowship Sunday



Fellowship next month will be on
March 4th
Please bring a dish to share



fel·low·ship (noun)

1. friendly association, especially with people who share one's interests.

The Next Community Meal is Sat. March 17th

from 5-6 PM.

Watch for a signup sheet
**VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS
APPRECIATED!!**
**Cooking, Set up,
serving, cleanup**



Invite your friends and
neighbors to join you every
Sunday for Worship.



Worship Times

Traditional Worship 8:00am
Contemporary Worship 10:00am

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
1600 Pearl Road
Brunswick OH 44212
330-225-4148

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Carolyn Wagar Hier
Phone: 216-403-8779
e-mail: cjwaggs@aol.com

Office Hours: Mon thru Thurs
10:00am- 2:30pm
e-mail: office@htlc.org
<http://www.htlc.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/226604414289/>

Upcoming Dates to remember and look forward to!:

- Feb 4 FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY
- Feb 5 10:00am Grief Recovery
- Feb 7 7:00pm Praise Band
- Feb 11 11:30am Secret Sister's Luncheon – ALL WOMEN INVITED!
- Feb 12 10:00am Grief Recovery
- Feb 13 1pm Brunswick Food Pantry
- Feb 14 ASH WEDNESDAY--- 7:30pm Services at Our Saviour Hinckley
7:00pm Praise Band
- Feb 15 11:00am Loving Lutheran Ladies Lunch
- Feb 16 10:00am Grief Recovery
- Feb 17 9am Property Team
- Feb 18 PACK THE PANTRY
- Feb 21 7:00pm Praise Band
7:30pm Finance
- Feb 26 Church Council
- Feb 28 7:00pm Praise Band
- Mar 7 7:00pm Praise Band
- Mar 13 1pm Brunswick Food Pantry
- Mar 14 7:00pm Praise Band
- Mar 15 11:00am Loving Lutheran Ladies Lunch
- Mar 17 9am Property Team
5pm Community Meal
- Mar 21 7:00pm Praise Band
7:30pm Finance
- Mar 25 PALM SUNDAY
- Mar 26 7:00pm Church Council
- Mar 28 7:00pm Praise Band
- Mar 29 Maundy Thursday
- Mar 30 Good Friday
- Apr 1 EASTER SUNDAY
- April 6 &7 Women's Retreat—Camp Mowana

IT'S ALL ABOUT PRAYER ~ Many opportunities to pray at Holy Trinity

PRAYER CHAIN~To get prayers on our electronic prayer chain, please contact Robin Brown: rbrown177@neo.rr.com Or Lynn Koch: mlpkoch@roadrunner.com

For prayer emergencies call Lynn at 330-273-4573

PRAYER SHAWLS ~ If you have someone who needs the comfort of a prayer shawl, please contact Pastor Carolyn cjwaggs@aol.com or leave a message at the church office 330-225-4148

If you like to knit or crochet we need your help! We can provide patterns, instruction, or even yarn. Contact Pastor Carolyn

PRAYER LETTERS ~ This ministry is for people in times of grave challenge or great joy– either our members or folks beyond our walls. When we have those situations, there will be a letter to sign and you will know on Sunday morning.

PRAYER JOURNAL ~ Check out our new “prayer podium” in the welcome center. On it you will find a prayer journal where you can write a *brief* description of a prayer need. Others will read, see & pray

Thrivent Financial Associate Advisors: www.thrivent.com

Douglas Rogers, FIC ---(330) 722-6757

doug.rogers@thrivent.com

Ronald Hoover ron.hoover@thrivent.com

(330) 722-6757



Congregational Advocates Continue Their Important Job - They will continue to be liaisons between Thrivent and congregations to help get the word out on Thrivent information and important updates. **Tom Thiffault (330-483-5991)** is the Congregational Advocate for Holy Trinity.

Action Teams - Last year Thrivent introduced the new concept of “Action Teams” to our area. Thrivent invites eligible Thrivent members to lead a team of people, an Action Team, to make an immediate impact to benefit a non-profit/individual/or a family in need. A grant of up to \$250 is available for activities that are fund-raisers, educational events or hands-on service. The funds are not to be used as a gift! Benefit members are eligible to lead two action teams per year and Associate members can lead one action team per year. It is easy to apply at thrivent.com/actionteam. If you have not been on the Thrivent site before, you will need to register for access.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church White Pages

TYPE OF BUSINESS/INTEREST	NAME	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
BASKETS	Lynn Koch	Variety of personalized and hand-made baskets	330-273-4573
DARLING GREETINGS, INC	Rhonda & David Darling	Greeting Cards & Business Stationary	216-299-5675 (cell) darlinggreetings@aol.com
LORDZ CONTRACTING, LLC SKIDSTER FOR HIRE	Gail Goodall	Any dirt moved, stone, grading, Landscaping Work, Tree Work, Certified Arborist	216-403-3161
MARY KAY COSMETICS	Rhonda Darling	Skin Care & Cosmetic Products	216-299-5675 (cell) rdarling@marykay.com www.marykay.com/rdarling
NOTARY	Jan Moll	No charge for church members	330-225-6307
OLDE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION & REMODELING	Marty Marcellino	Basement/kitchen/bath remodels, custom fireplace remodels & mantles, custom bars, exterior stone decor, patio/screen/entry/interior doors (guaranteed lower install rate than the local home improvement store), many other remodeling-related projects. 18 years exp union master-carpenter	330-421-9780
STAMPIN' UP	Robin Brown, Independent Demonstrator	Schedule your workshop, specializing in handmade greeting cards and scrapbook layouts.	330-723-2890 or 330-241-2909 http://robinbrown.stampinup.net
TUPPERWARE	Rebecca T. Nester Consultant	Tupperware is the leading marketer of products to include storage and serving solutions for the kitchen and home	216-759-9220 Beck44111@yahoo.com Website: rebeccatnester.my.tupperware.com

If you own a business and would like to advertise in the Holy Trinity White Pages, please email or call the church office. office@htlc.org or 330-225-4148