



Voice of Trinity

Proclaiming Jesus Christ to the World

Trinity Lutheran Church, E.L.C.A.
1415 South McDuff Avenue
Jacksonville, Florida 32205

JANUARY
2018

Church Office: (904) 389-5341
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DreamLeaders Initiative

***Awakening Faith, Inspiring Hope,
Igniting Dreams in Today's Church!***

*By the power at work within us, God is able to accomplish
abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine...or dream!*

Ephesians 3:20

February 2nd - 4th

(see Pastor's article on page 2
for more information)



In Ecclesiastes, the writer, “the Teacher”, writes that:

“For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.” (Eccl. 3:1)

What is the “season”, the “time”, and the “matter under heaven” for which Trinity Lutheran should be about as we go into 2018 and for the next ten years?

I sense and know we have a lot of work to do in planting, sowing, building up, throwing away, gathering, and so forth if we are to be a vibrant congregation in the coming ten years. Our effectiveness in mission and ministry in the community is at stake and I would dare say even our existence as a congregation. Now is the time to begin to “Dream” and to seek the Holy Spirit’s lead, guidance, and strength to direct us as people of God and as a church of Jesus Christ.

To begin the task of dreaming again, I have arranged in consultation with Trinity’s Council for Trinity to take part in what is called a “DreamLeaders Initiative” to help “awaken faith, inspire hope, and ignite the dreams” for the people of Trinity and its leadership.

The DreamLeaders Initiative weekend will take place the weekend of February 2nd – 4th at Trinity beginning with a fellowship, getting acquainted meal, and initial workshop forum. The Rev. Jeff Linman (former pastor at Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church in Orlando and now pastor at his home congregation of First Lutheran Church in Monmouth, Illinois) will be our DreamLeaders coordinator and facilitator. On Saturday the six hour day will be spent in workshops to encourage, inspire, and challenge the congregation in where we are going and what are some concrete initiatives that we would like to implement for Trinity in the coming ten years. The weekend workshops are open to all members of Trinity. There is not a cost for the meals on Friday and Saturday and the cost of the event is being subsidized by a “Together in Mission” (TiM) grant through the Florida-Bahamas Synod. Look for the details of the weekend and how to sign up for it to come out in January.

I am asking and encouraging you to mark both Friday evening and Saturday to be a part of this DreamLeaders Initiative weekend. This weekend comes at a time when we as a congregation need to renew and update ourselves in our mission and ministry, in our leadership, and in our facilities as a resource for the proclamation of the gospel! (meaning worship, witness, ministry, and fellowship)

I pray for God’s Spirit to be a guide and strength for Trinity and for you in the coming year of 2018, and may we “Dream” dreams and be led in putting into action these dreams of God’s lasting work in mission and ministry as people of God.

In Christ’s service,

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Robert Kinley
Office Administrator	Kathy Stimmel
Organist/Choir Director	Kim Bloomer
Director of reSource Ministry	Jerry Johnson
Hostess	Rae Ettmyer
Nursery Attendants	Karen Brown Colleen Koehler

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

President	Sarah Knight
Vice President	Dwane Tyson
Secretary	
Treasurer	

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Tom Culverwell	Mary Bollingberg
Don Howard	Ruth Johnson
Sarah Knight	Joanne Martin
Joe Molenda	Casey Steel
Dwane Tyson	

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for February VOT Wednesday, January 24th

Editor’s Note:

Please provide the church office with your articles by the 20th of the month unless another date is specified. Please meet the deadline so that the VOT can be distributed on time. Bring your items to the office or email to:

kathy@trinity4jax.org
or
tlcjax@trinity4jax.org



Church Office Hours

M-Th 8:30AM - 2:30PM
F 8:30AM - Noon

Worship and Sunday School Schedule for 2018

Beginning **Sunday, January 7th**, Trinity's Sunday worship and Sunday School schedule will be as follows:

- 9 AM - 10 AM - reSource (contemporary) worship
- 10:05 AM - 10:55 AM - Sunday School for all ages: Children, Discipleship Training, Adult Sunday School, and Adult Takeaway (Takeaway begins January 14th)
- 11 AM - 12:10 PM - Traditional worship

Sunday Morning Takeaway is Back!

The Sunday Morning "Takeaway" returns on **Sunday, January 14, 2018** at 10:05 a.m. in the Hall of Memories. See you then!



THE TRINITY LUNCH BUNCH

Trinity's "Lunch Bunch" will meet on Tuesday, January 23rd at 11:30 a.m. at Bahama Breeze, 10205 River Coast Drive (St. Johns Town Center). Please sign up on the list in the Hall of Memories or cross your name off the permanent list if you do not plan to attend. Let Kim Bloomer (766-9858) know by Monday, January 22nd, if you need a ride.



Prayer Walkers!

The prayer labyrinth will be available Saturday, February 10th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Hall of Memories.

The labyrinth walk will assist you in Christian meditation and prayer. It was used in the Middle Ages as a way for people to participate in a pilgrimage without the expense or time required in actually going to another place. The labyrinth represents a journey to our center and back again out into the world.

Walking takes 30 - 45 minutes. We also have scheduled the labyrinth for Sunday, February 11th to be used after the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. Come walk and pray with us!

Trinity Prayer Ministry Team



Love Offering for January

Our January "Love Offering" to be received Sunday, January 7th, will be for our Honduras Medical Mission Trip. Love Offering envelopes will be available on January 7th. Make any checks payable to Trinity with a notation "Love Offering."

Women

WELCA Board Meeting

WELCA Board will meet at 12 noon on Monday, January 8, 2018 in the Cecil Poole room.

CIRCLE MEETINGS:

Martha Circle: Thursday, January 11, 10:30 a.m. - Cecil Poole room
Kitty Howell 387-0152

Hannah Circle: Tuesday, January 23, 7:00 p.m. - home of Paula Jean Burney, 2965 St. Johns Ave.
Mary Bollingberg 403-1557

Young Women's Lydia Circle

Call or text Pastor Janis for time and date.

Financial Position Changes for 2018

As of December 31, 2017, Trinity Treasurer/Book-keeper, Rosemarie Tyson, will be stepping down after five years of service. Gini Strasser will be starting as the financial book-keeper and check writer for Trinity. Council is in the process of developing a new structure of positions for the Financial/Accounting/Treasurer for Trinity.

We thank Rosemarie for her service these past five years and Gini for her willingness to step into the position of book-keeper/check writer.

Food Pantry News



During November 2017 we served the following numbers of people in the food pantry:

<u>MONTH</u>	<u># PERSONS</u>	<u># HOUSEHOLDS</u>
NOV	3,629	982

We distributed 37,218 lbs. of food during the month and we spent \$1,895.76 on food. Our average cost per pound of food was five cents. In addition to food costs we spent \$386.22 for paper and plastic bags and trash bags. In 2017 so far we have served 11,608 households, consisting of 42,659 persons. We have distributed 419,586 pounds of food so far in 2017. We're always looking for volunteers to sort out boxes of food and put it on the shelves. If you can help, please contact Tom Culverwell.

The commercial refrigerator that Lutheran Social Services donated to us in 2006 finally quit. But God provided for His food pantry once again with funding to purchase a new refrigerator. The new unit has been received and is in operation at the food pantry. God gives His food pantry everything we need to continue to serve His needy people.

Thank you for the donations of paper and plastic bags. We continue to have to purchase paper and plastic bags. Your donations of paper and plastic bags will help us by lessening the number of bags we will have to purchase.

At present the Lord has blessed us with an abundance of food at little to no cost, and has provided a great group of volunteers to carry on in His food pantry. We are truly blessed by this ministry.

We appreciate any food donations, but we can stretch a dollar a lot farther than you can by buying food from a supermarket. By partnering with Feeding Northeast Florida Food Bank and Waste Not Want Not, we are able to get approximately over \$20.00 worth of food for every \$1.00 donated.

In addition to your financial support, a total of 895 man-hours were donated to the food pantry this month. Each volunteer hour has a value of \$18.85 on each volunteer hour performed, so the 895 volunteer hours donated in November is equal to a donation of \$16,870.75.

Since every pound of food received has to be carried into the food pantry, the receipt of food is a very labor intensive activity. If you can help in any way, it would be greatly appreciated. Even if it is only sorting out boxes of food, your participation would be greatly appreciated. Monday: retail pickup and bread pickup. Also the first and third Monday of each month we receive our USDA food, once again a very labor intensive event. Wednesdays we receive a "route end" delivery from Feeding Northeast Florida. The truck seldom arrives before 11 a.m. and much help is needed on these days as well. Lastly, on Thursdays we receive another retail pickup. If you can help on any of these days, it would be greatly appreciated.

This is God's ministry and He wants it to be successful. You are all God's angels for making this happen. God bless you all. To show how much He loves His food pantry -- we are on track to distribute almost 457,000 pounds of food in 2017. This would not be possible without your fantastic support.

Tom Culverwell
Director

Gary Hautau
Operations Manager



Honduras Mission 2018

The 2018 Honduras Medical Mission Team has been set and is again ready for your support. Here are upcoming ways you can help support the team:

First - Prayer:

Please keep team members in prayer as they make preparations and raise funds for the trip which is Saturday, February 24 - Saturday, March 3, 2018.

Second - Helping Hands Gloves:

Pick up a Helping Hands Glove from the table in the Narthex and stuff it with change and bills. Plan on returning your glove before Sunday, February 18th.

Third - January Love Offering:

The January Love offering will again be designated for the Honduras Mission.

Fourth - Medicines, Shampoo and Toothpaste:

Trunks will be set up in the Narthex and Hall of Memories to collect items for the trip. See a list of items below.

Fifth - Annual Chili Cook-off/Silent Auction/Quilt Raffle:

Mark Saturday evening, January 27th for the annual Trinity Lutheran Chili Cook-off, Silent Auction and Quilt Raffle.

The 2018 Honduras Team members from North Florida are: **Dwane Tyson, Barbara Wittwer, Pastor Robert Kinley, Ruth Johnson, and Sue Geiger.** We will again be joining the group from Christ the Rock Lutheran Church, Rockford, IL and from Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church, Seneca, SC.

Items Needed for Honduras

Acetaminophen (Tylenol) Extra Strength (500 mg) and PM
 Naproxen (Aleve 220 mg)
 Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin) (200 mg)
 Adult Vitamins, Vitamin C and E
 Lice **Killing** Shampoo (8 oz bottles)
 Girls' hair "pretties" (barettes, flowers, scrunchies, etc.)

Aspirin (81 mg)
 Hydrocortisone, Benadryl cream
 BenGay cream
 Prenatal Vitamins
 Small and Travel size toothpaste
 Toothbrushes (children and adult)



Communion Elements

7 K.Billy/
14 Stimmel/
21
28

7
14 Stimmel
21 Stimmel
28 Molenda

Traditional Worship Service



Lectors

7 Josef Molenda
14
21 Michael Phillips
28

Sunday Morning "Takeaway" Leaders

14 Pastor Janis
21 Dwane Tyson
28 Rusty White

Councilperson of the Month

Communion Assistants

Assisting Minister

Dwane Tyson



Date 10:00 AM Coffee Servers

7 Darlane Valentine/ & Joanne Martin
14 Leah Kelly
21 Berni Tomaszewski
28 Marie & Alex Bogh

Sunday Visitor

7 Joanne Martin
14 Kitty Howell
21 Paastor Janis Kinley
28 K.Bloomer & C. Valentine

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																										
	<p>1</p> <p>Happy New Year! Church office closed</p>	<p>2</p> <p>5:10 PM RPC Basketball</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5:10 PM RPC Basketball</p>	<p>5</p> <p>5:10 PM RPC Basketball</p>	<p>6</p>																																																																																										
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DISCIPLESHIP CLASS
DISCIPLESHIP
TRAINING
STUDENTS

Discipleship Training students meet every Sunday morning in the upstairs Sunday School/Youth area beginning at 10:05 a.m.



2018 SIGNUP SHEETS

Would you like to participate in 11:00 a.m. traditional worship by being a lector or communion assistant? If so, see the bulletin board in the Hall of Memories for the new sign-up sheets for 2018 which are now posted.

2018 sign-up sheets for dedications of Altar Flowers or Communion Elements are also posted. There are two dedications available for flowers and one for communion elements each Sunday. Dedication for flowers is \$25 per vase, and the cost for dedication of Communion Elements is \$10. Your donation for flowers and communion elements dedications helps us stay within our budget. **If you wish to keep the flowers on your Sunday, please check the box following your name on the sign-up sheet.**

Did You Know...?

Did you know that our church held a Congregational Meeting this past Sunday? The purpose of the meeting was to answer any questions regarding the proposed budget for the upcoming year, make changes if any were needed, and then to obtain the congregation's approval of the 2018 budget. In addition, Mr. Don Howard was elected to serve on the Church Council, and Ms. Rosemarie Tyson was elected to serve on the Permanent Endowment Committee.

Also, before the meeting adjourned, we were informed about the receipt of bids to replace the leaking church roof, and of different methods of financing being contemplated. All things considered, this was a very important meeting, and your thoughts and your input were badly needed.

What happens to make a church member uncaring about the business of their LORD's house? What could have been so important that over half of the church's worshippers that day felt they didn't have an extra thirty minutes to devote? More importantly, what can and must be done to reverse this trend?

We are facing some important decisions in the months ahead and we will need your valuable input on them. Please get involved.

Overheard on Monday afternoon: "Apathy hurts." Yes, it does. -- *Joanne Martin*



Tenth Annual Chili Cook-Off, Silent Auction and Quilt Raffle

Join us on Saturday, January 27, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. for Trinity's 10th annual Chili Cook-off and Silent Auction and Quilt Raffle in the Hall of Memoires.

Dust off your favorite chili recipe and enter! (or just come to eat and vote for your favorite). Admission is adult: \$5, child under 12: \$3.

Get your raffle tickets from the Women of the church. Look for them after worship.

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING RETREAT

Many of the Discipleship Training students (**Alex, Cooper, Rebecca, John, AJ, DJ, Quinn, Connor, and Kylie**) will be attending an annual Confirmation Retreat at Luther Springs the weekend of January 12-14 (MLK Jr. weekend). **Pastor Robert, Pam Piersall, and Sarah Knight** will be attending as adult chaperones.



The Quilters meet each Monday in the Cecil Poole room at 9:30 a.m. and work until noon. No experience is needed. Both men and women are welcome. We would love to have you join us! *Sincerely, Trinity Quilters*



DreamLeaders Initiative

DreamLeaders Initiative Weekend

Mark the weekend of February 2nd – 4th as you are invited to participate in the upcoming DreamLeaders Initiative Weekend at Trinity. Please read Pastor Robert's article on page 2 to learn what the weekend is about. Here is an outline for the weekend:

- Friday evening Feb. 2nd – Catered dinner, Get acquainted and initial workshop. Starting time to be announced.
- Saturday morning Feb. 3rd – DreamLeaders workshops (lunch included) Starting time to be announced.
- Sunday worship services at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. with the Rev. Jeff Linman preaching. Sunday Adult forum 10:05a.m. – 10:50a.m.

A sign-up will be posted in the Hall of Memories beginning in January so that Council may know for how many to prepare for the events. You are encouraged to attend both Friday evening and Saturday events.

By the power at work within us, God is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine...or dream!
Ephesians 3:20

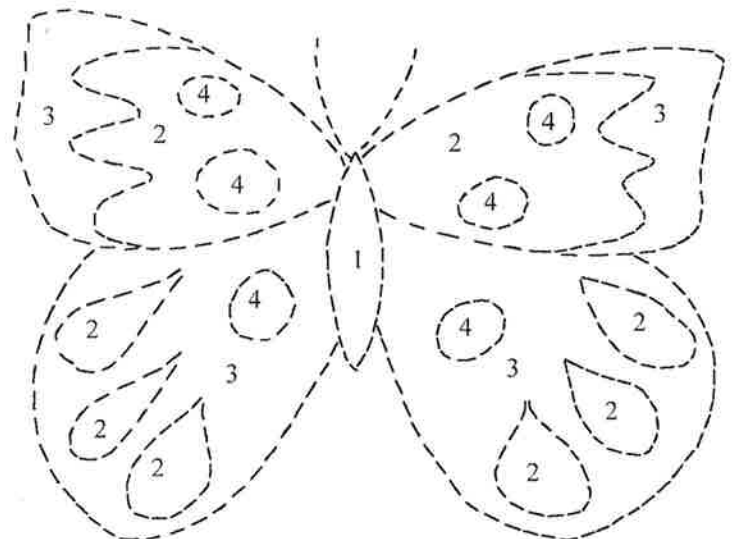
Kids' Klips

Connect the Lines

Butterflies are a symbol of new life. Connect the dotted lines and color the butterfly with the colors listed below, or your choice of colors.

Color

- 1 = Black
- 2 = Blue
- 3 = Purple
- 4 = Green





Joanne,

Hi there - I hope this email finds you well. Thank you so much for allowing us the opportunity to come out to Trinity Lutheran and spend time with your congregation. We were able to collect 9 donations and will be able to provide a life-saving gift to 27 patients in our local hospitals. We would love the opportunity to come out again.

Thank you again for your help and support.

Kind regards,
Karen Patterson

District Community
Development Coordinator
LifeSouth Community
Blood Centers

Property Thank You

Many thanks go to several people who have done some special projects around the church this fall:

- **Steve Tomaszewski**, who has taken on the project of cutting down and trimming the bushes and growth along the property lines of the church property across the streets of the main church property.
- **Karen Heirs**, who has taken on the weeding and upkeep of the flower beds around the church buildings.
- **Gary Hautau and Steve Montouri**, who have done some roof patching over the colonnade and have worked on the well water pump in the basement.
- **Jerry and Ruth Johnson and Rusty White** for their work on the roof evaluation project.

Christmas Thank You

Special thanks again go to all who have worked to prepare the church for the Advent and Christmas seasons:

- **Gini Strasser and her sons, Taylor, Ryan, and Clifton Strasser and their spouses and children** for putting up the Christmas Tree and decorating the Sanctuary and building for Advent and Christmas.
- **Linda Culverwell and Karen Warner and all who serve on the altar guild** in setting up for Sunday morning worship. Special thanks to **Linda and Karen Brown** for the Christmas Eve preparations.
- **Pastor Robert and Linda Culverwell** for setting out and lighting the luminarias around the church for the Riverside-Avondale Luminaria night on Sunday, Dec. 17th. Thanks to the **Discipleship Training students** for making up the luminaria bags.
- **Maureen Onstott, Berni Tomaszewski, and Karen Kuebler** for directing and coordinating the Children's Christmas program. The program was again heartwarming to see the precious children share the Christmas story.
- **Rae Ettmyer** for arranging the poinsettias in the church sanctuary for Christmas Eve and for her preparations, set-up (**with Mary Bollingberg**), cooking, and clean-up (**with Linda Culverwell**) for the Children's Christmas program.



We extend our Christian sympathy to **Paula Jean Burney** upon the passing of her uncle **Cubby (Charles DeCorsey)**, on Monday, December 11, 2017.

Pastor Janis and I would like to thank the members and friends of Trinity for the blessing of all the cards, gifts, and well wishes we have received this Christmas. We again thank you for the monetary gift that you provided for the staff of Trinity this year. May God's blessings and peace be with you in the New Year!

Pastor Robert

Thank you to **Taylor and Clifton Strasser** for their donation in honor of their mother, Gini Strasser, for the special Christmas Eve music at traditional worship. Also thank you to **Bill and Karen Hiers** for their donation to the special Christmas Eve music as well. Our apologies for omitting this from the worship bulletin that night.

Dear Trinity Lutheran,

Thank you so much for your recent gift to City Rescue Mission of \$190.00. You are such a blessing!

Sincerely,
Penny Kievet
Executive Director



Congratulations again to several people who performed in two of the Jacksonville Nutcracker performances for the city:

- **The Steel family (Casey, Cheryl, Chase, and Chelsea)**, who danced in the Community Nutcracker at the Florida Theater. **Chase** was the Nutcracker Prince.
- **Sydney Alpaando**, who danced for the first time in the Community Nutcracker as a mouse.
- **Kelly Liddicoat**, who again danced in the First Coast Nutcracker at the Moran Theater. She danced in five different scenes including as one of the Snowflakes.

On November 24, 2017, Trinity lost one of its long-time members and faithful churchmen in Charles "Chuck" Rudeen. At the funeral service for Chuck was a blessed send-off for a member who will be dearly missed. Below is the eulogy shared by Beverly Davis at the service that well describes who Chuck was to Trinity and Trinity to Chuck. Thank you, Beverly, for sharing these words.

Words of Sharing by Beverly Davis at Funeral Service for Chuck Rudeen, December 1, 2017

I was asked if I could put together some words that talked about Chuck and what he meant to the people of Trinity. That sounds like that would be an easy task, but I was having difficulty saying anything other than some history and facts and that Chuck was a pretty OK guy...pretty much what Chuck wrote in his own obituary...so I talked it over with my husband who suggested that I look at this from Chuck's point of view...what did Trinity and its people mean to him.

If Chuck were standing here today he would tell you that, after his family, Trinity meant everything to him. Trinity was the place he went to worship God and to do what needed to be done for God's house and for His people...and to do those two things as often as he could, which pretty much meant every time the doors opened.

He would remind you that he loved the fun stuff at Trinity like Wednesday night WHAT suppers, dances, birthdays, special events, the Christmas pageant, house parties, card parties, and parties for no good reason, weddings, baptisms, etc., etc.

Calling everyone on their birthday first thing in the morning to make sure he was the first person to sing "Happy Birthday" to them was one of his favorite things to do. "Fellowship" is what some people might call it. Chuck would want you to know that he looked at it as spending quality time with his family...his Trinity family.

He loved greeting people and was an Usher, then Usher Emeritus, for longer than some people have even been alive.

Chuck liked to look good when he was at the doors of the Church welcoming everyone into God's house. He would dress in the colors of the season...green for Christmas, red for Pentecost. He would wear his original 1940's Navy uniform shirt on Veterans' Day. It fit him perfectly, which ticked off any number of men in the congregation! Easter was an especially festive time for Chuck who would wear his traditional dress of white belt and matching white shoes. He took all the ribbing with good humor.

Chuck would want you to know that he took his responsibility as a child of Christ and a member of Trinity very seriously by assuming leadership positions as trustee of Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, church council, committees. He wanted to see Trinity thrive and knew that could only be accomplished by hard work.

Chuck would want us to remember him as a good man who did his part, and we do.

But he might be surprised that he and the way he lived his life is thought of as an example of courage and faith. When he lost his wife, Dot, and his son, Charlie, his sight, his hearing, then acquired the burdens of an aging body, he still soldiered on. He managed with grace, and an acceptable amount of grouching, an incredibly complicated and demanding existence that would defeat most of us. But, he would want you to know that he couldn't have done it without you - his Trinity family. The family who remembered to give him a ride, bring him coffee, shake his hand, or put their arms around him to give him a hug or to lead him out of harm's way.

The family who loved him as he loved them.

Children's Sunday School



Children meet from 10:05 a.m. - 10:55 a.m. on Sunday mornings. We are studying from the Spark curriculum.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday School led by Joe Molenda meets in the Cecil Poole room from 10:05 - 10:55 a.m. Please join us.

Sunday Morning "Takeaway"

Adults and Senior Youth meet in the Hall of Memories from 10:05 to 10:55 a.m. to study the day's Gospel text.



Worship Schedule

reSource Worship
9:00 a.m.

Adult Sunday School
10:05 a.m.

Children's Sunday School
10:05 a.m.

Adult/Senior Youth
"Takeaway"
10:05 a.m.

Discipleship Training
10:05 a.m.

Traditional Worship
11:00 a.m.