

 Trinity  
**DOVE**

JULY/AUGUST 2019



**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
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# Sabbaths and Celebrations



## Sunday, July 7

### 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

- Community Worship at 9:30 am
- Coffee, Juice, and Conversation

## Sunday, July 14

### 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

- Community Worship at 9:30 am
- Coffee, Juice, and Conversation

## Sunday, July 21

### 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

- Community Worship at 9:30 am
- Coffee, Juice, and Conversation
- Anglican/Lutheran Worship at Nithview at 1:30 pm

## Sunday, July 28

### 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

- Community Worship at 9:30 am
- Coffee, Juice, and Conversation

## Sunday, August 4

### 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

- Community Worship at 9:30 am
- Coffee, Juice, and Conversation

## Sunday, August 11

### 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

- Community Worship at 9:30 am
- Coffee, Juice, and Conversation

## Sunday, August 18

### 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

- Community Worship at 9:30 am
- Coffee, Juice, and Conversation
- Anglican/Lutheran Worship at Nithview at 1:30 pm

## Sunday, August 25

### 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

- Community Worship at 9:30 am
- Coffee, Juice, and Conversation

# Sacraments and Seasons



On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, Lillian Evelyn Krause was welcomed at the font for the sacrament of Holy Baptism.

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, the Day of Pentecost, four Trinity young people participated in the Rite of Confirmation: Brayden Smith, Jacob Durrer, Grace Becker, and Kennedy Faulhafer.

On June 13<sup>th</sup>, Pastors Tanya and Helen presided at the funeral of Carl Hallberg at Trinity.

# Milestones

Trinity recently extended birthday greetings to Margot Popp who turned 90, Mary Trussler who turned 80, and Betty Murray who turned 85. Also, Anne and Cliff Wootton recently celebrated their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

Congratulations, friends!



# Diaconal Ministry in the 21st Century

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SISTER ANNE KEFFER

“Ask the rostered leader”, an adult ed session in May, brought forth some questions concerning diaconal ministry, and me as a deaconess. I have titled this page as I have, because diaconal ministry began many centuries ago... and the deacons were chosen in the very early church, among them Stephen, who became the first Christian martyr... see the book of Acts, chapter 6.

Let's skip to today. The ELCIC has a small cadre of deacons, both men and women, spread across this country. Most are in the west, the largest number in Alberta. There are five in Ontario: Sister Jean Widmeyer in Stratford, retired; Deacon Scott Knarr in Waterloo; Deacon Pam Harrington in Orillia; Sister Sue Lembke, Owen Sound, on disability; and me, Sister Anne Keffer, retired.

Why the “sister” and why the “deacon”? I became a deaconess in 1964 when I was consecrated in this church. I had received a B.A. from Waterloo College, and a diploma after 2 years of study and an internship from the now defunct Baltimore Deaconess School. It was, at that time, the only way a woman could become a full time, recognized “church worker.” Becoming a woman pastor was just being dreamed about! I was given the title “sister” in an Investiture service some two years prior, when I joined the Deaconess Community. No vows, simply a decision and acceptance. The Deaconess Community was part of the structure of the Lutheran Church in America at that time.

Fast forward to 1986 and the beginning of the ELCIC (the result of a merger of previous Lutheran church bodies); no decision had been reached about the diaconate, except that deaconesses would be recognized and able to serve in Canada as well as the USA, just as they had been doing since the 1940s. A study was formed, ending in 1995 with the simple decision that “this new church would have bishops, pastors and diaconal ministers” — further study being mandated. Later, our national church grand-parented onto this new “roster,” all deaconesses working/living in Canada. This was new territory, for it included another, independent community of deaconesses, originally with ties to the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Recently, it was agreed that the title for persons doing diaconal ministry would be “Deacon”, no matter the gender.

At this year's National Convention in Regina, July 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>, the ELCIC will decide if deacons will be ordained. The word “ordination” has been reserved for the setting apart of pastors, and conferred responsibilities for the administration of the sacraments. Deacons and deaconesses were “consecrated” to “Word and Service”, and could administer the Sacrament of Holy Communion only when given special permission by the bishop. All members of our church can assist at Holy Communion and can baptize (especially in “emergencies”). All this is our Lutheran understanding of “good order.” There is nothing Scriptural or theological that determines how the rite of ordination should be used. Lutheran Churches in other countries ordain their diaconal ministers. This summer, the ELCIC will be deciding if the Spirit is moving us to join with them.

The document to be acted on at the convention in July is one that “invites us to live into a new and fresh vision of our church.” Called *Reimagining Our Church – Public Ministry in the ELCIC\**, it is a powerful expression of both diaconia and forward thinking about church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It contains the proposal that deacons be ordained, among other powerful proposals. “Diaconia” (from Greek) invites us to do what Jesus commanded as he washed his disciples' feet the night before he was crucified. While all Christians are called to serve our neighbours, some individuals respond to that call by becoming a deacon/deaconess/diaconal minister, and so spend years learning both theology and skills to empower the whole people of God to be effective Christ-followers.

*\*You can perform an internet search using the title and you will find both reader's guide and the document*

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## Confirmation Teachers

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Pastor Tanya is looking for partners in teaching confirmation classes this fall on Sunday mornings after worship.

Do you like to teach? Are you excited about sharing your faith with our young adults? Do you like digging into the stories in the Bible and exploring Luther's Small Catechism? Then please consider partnering to teach confirmation! For more information, please speak to Pastor Tanya.



# God is Already at Work in the Change

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LYNN THOMPSON, CONGREGATIONAL PRESIDENT

As I sit down to write an article for this year's summer Dove, I reflect on what I've written in past summers. My messages were always about slowing down, relaxing, enjoying — making some changes in order to find some peace in the warmth of summer. This is good advice for all of us, regardless of age or stage of life. However, as I listened to Pastor Tanya's sermon a few weeks ago, it struck me that change is at the centre of all we do in this world, in every season. Whether we like it or not, our lives, our situations, our experiences will change over the years. Some of us have our lives mapped out and focus on following those plans no matter what happens. But along the way, those maps will have to change, as change is inevitable. Others among us tend to take life in stride, go with the flow, react to whatever situation arises. Sometimes panic can set in, our stress levels can soar, as we attempt to go with the flow. Pastor Tanya reminded us to "embrace the unknown, acknowledge the change, and the impact the change will have" on us. This is not always easy. I was struggling with some issues of my own, and when she said, "trust that God is already at work in the change, with us", her message hit home. We never have to go it alone. God is always walking alongside us. These are comforting, reassuring words that we need to hold dear. Many of you will be familiar with the poem entitled *Footprints*. It tells of a man who had a dream. In it, his life flashed before him. Through many changes and challenges, he saw the Lord walking beside him on the beach. But sometimes, when skies were the greyest, the man saw only one set of footprints. When he asked the Lord why the man was alone at those times, the Lord replied, "My precious, precious child, I love you and I will never leave you. In those moments that you could see only one set of footprints, it was because I was carrying you".

Do you know persons who exemplify trust in God, no matter what? I know they exist right here at Trinity. These are the people to whom life sometimes throws a nasty curve, a curve that would throw many of us off centre. Yet the person who truly lives and walks alongside God does not allow faith to waver, but stands strong in the knowledge that God is right there through this and every change. We are fortunate at Trinity, to have pastors ready to walk with us too, to hold

us up when we might falter, to remind us that God is at work in the change, with us.

Pastor Tanya, in her sermon, talked about our mission as a church. We are charged to "bring hope to the lost, healing to the broken-hearted, light to those who know only darkness, peace to those who tremble in fear. This is our mission." In other words, we need to walk with each other through all of life's changes. We at Trinity do this quite well much of the time, I think. We support many outreach projects every year. We have sponsored folks from other countries, we pack hampers, we bake cookies for delivery to those in need, etc. But change is always just around the corner, and we must be ready — to reach out more than ever, to go beyond delivering cookies — in order to truly be a Christ-centered community, to, in the words of Pastor Tanya,

"Walk out into the world

Walk beside one another

Walk in the promise of the Gospel of God's faithful and unfailing love

Be an active participant of the gospel that changes people's lives

Whatever the ebbs and flows of life —whatever the changes may be — we are not alone.

God is already at work in the change — with us."

## Strawberry Social

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The Nithview Auxiliary would like to thank Anne Hammer, Mary Ann Keller, Reta Klaassen, Kathy Eichler, Nancy Brodrecht, and Edna Buehlow, for helping to serve strawberries at the recent Strawberry Social. All proceeds go to enhance the quality of care for residents in Long Term Care at Nithview.

## Bible Study

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What thoughts and feelings arise in you when you hear these two words: "BIBLE STUDY"? The group that meets weekly to study the coming Sunday's texts describe their experience:

*What an alive experience. We sit around the table in animated conversations, hearing different perspectives, each person's words accepted and valued. It is a safe and friendly group; I can say my feelings and allow myself to be vulnerable. We study the Gospel for the following Sunday usually, and often the many side conversations and tangents weave together to make the whole experience even more meaningful. I learn from all who come. My understanding of God's Word becomes larger. My love for God and for God's creation is becoming stronger. The sermon on Sunday is certainly more meaningful. It has been written in the context of important conversation with people who both care and want more, people who are hungering for how God is involved in this world and my life.*

So, come join us in September. An experience of relationship, laughter, serious conversation and a delight in the Spirit's work in us. An experience of becoming free.

## Church Council News

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JUDY GUEGUEN, CHURCH COUNCIL SECRETARY

Council met on Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>.

We have received word that the road repair that was set to begin on Church and Wilmot streets has been postponed until 2020. Great news for us!

You may have also noticed a sink hole in the parking lot. It was determined that this is actually the site of the old church well. We will wait for service locates before any type of repair is made. The remainder of the glass window repairs are also scheduled for July. Over the summer we will also be compiling a new summer work list. We are always looking for volunteers with all different skills.

If you have phoned into the office lately, you may have noticed a change to our phone system. This new system is user friendly and offers a lot of wonderful features, and cut monthly phone bills by 50%.

Congratulations to Pastor Tanya on being appointed Interim Co-Dean of the Nith Valley Ministry Area until December 2019.

## Worship Art

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Thank you to Phil and Carolin Heinze for creating our wonderful worship art, which we have been enjoying since the Day of Pentecost! The temporary art that the Heinze's have created have been welcomed additions to our worship space. The tongues of fire and descending doves will only be in the worship space a little while longer. Check it out!



Lynn Thompson, president ▪ Tanya Ramer, pastor  
Helen Toman, visitation pastor ▪ Brian Racho, sexton  
Jamie Courtney, parish administrator & minister of music  
Ron Leonard, honorary assistant pastor ▪ Gywin Murray, emerita director of music

# July 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>Don't forget to pick up your copy of the Worship Rota, now available at Trinity.</i></p>	<p><b>1</b> CANADA DAY (Church Office Closed)</p>	<p><b>2</b> 9:00 am TOPS</p>	<p><b>3</b> 7:30 pm AA</p>	<p><b>4</b> 1:00 pm Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b> 7:30 pm AA</p>
<p><b>7</b> 4th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Community Worship 10:30 am Coffee, Juice, Conversation</p>	<p><b>8</b> 6:00 pm TOPS  BRIDGES VBS BEGINS</p>	<p><b>9</b> 9:00 am TOPS</p>	<p><b>10</b> 7:30 pm AA</p>	<p><b>11</b> 1:00 pm Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p><b>12</b>  BRIDGES VBS ENDS</p>	<p><b>13</b> 7:30 pm AA</p>
<p><b>14</b> 5th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Community Worship 10:30 am Coffee, Juice, Conversation</p>	<p><b>15</b> 6:00 pm TOPS</p>	<p><b>16</b> 9:00 am TOPS</p>	<p><b>17</b> 7:30 pm AA</p>	<p><b>18</b> 1:00 pm Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b> 7:30 pm AA</p>
<p><b>21</b> 6th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Community Worship 10:30 am Coffee, Juice, Conversation 1:30 pm Anglican/Lutheran Worship at Nithview</p>	<p><b>22</b> 6:00 pm TOPS</p>	<p><b>23</b> 9:00 am TOPS</p>	<p><b>24</b> 7:30 pm AA</p>	<p><b>25</b> 1:00 pm Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b> 7:30 pm AA</p>
<p><b>28</b> 7th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Community Worship 10:30 am Coffee, Juice, Conversation</p>	<p><b>29</b> 6:00 pm TOPS</p>	<p><b>30</b> 9:00 am TOPS</p>	<p><b>31</b> 7:30 pm AA</p>	<p><i>Vacation Bible School</i> runs from July 8<sup>th</sup> to July 12<sup>th</sup> at Martin Luther University College. Thank you to all volunteers, including lots of Trinity folks, who make this program possible!</p>		

# August 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>Confirmation Camp</b> begins at Camp Kintail on Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, and continues to Friday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. Please hold our confirmation campers, counsellors, and pastors in your prayers during this exciting week of faith formation.</p>				<p><b>1</b> 1:00 pm Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b> 7:30 pm AA</p>
<p><b>4</b> 8th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Community Worship 10:30 am Coffee, Juice, Conversation</p>	<p><b>5</b> CIVIC HOLIDAY (Church Office Closed)</p>	<p><b>6</b> 9:00 am TOPS</p>	<p><b>7</b> 7:30 pm AA</p>	<p><b>8</b> 1:00 pm Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b> 7:30 pm AA</p>
<p><b>11</b> 9th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Community Worship 10:30 am Coffee, Juice, Conversation</p>	<p><b>12</b> 6:00 pm TOPS</p>	<p><b>13</b> 9:00 am TOPS</p>	<p><b>14</b> 7:30 pm AA</p>	<p><b>15</b> 1:00 pm Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b> 7:30 pm AA</p>
<p><b>18</b> 10th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Community Worship 10:30 am Coffee, Juice, Conversation 1:30 pm Anglican/Lutheran Worship at Nithview</p>	<p><b>19</b> 6:00 pm TOPS</p>	<p><b>20</b> 9:00 am TOPS</p>	<p><b>21</b> 7:00 pm Church Council 7:30 pm AA  <i>Dove Deadline</i> (September Issue)</p>	<p><b>22</b> 1:00 pm Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b> 7:30 pm AA</p>
<p><b>25</b> 11th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Community Worship 10:30 am Coffee, Juice, Conversation  <b>Confirmation Camp at Kintail Begins</b> 2:00 pm Drop Off Campers</p>	<p><b>26</b> 6:00 pm TOPS</p>	<p><b>27</b> 9:00 am TOPS</p>	<p><b>28</b> 7:30 pm AA</p>	<p><b>29</b> 1:00 pm Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p><b>30</b> <b>Confirmation Camp Ends</b> 11:00 am Pick Up Campers</p>	<p><b>31</b> 7:30 pm AA</p>