

# Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Newsletter

May 2018

104 West Main Street, Stafford Springs, Connecticut 06076



**Dear Sisters and Brothers,**

All too often, “worship” becomes a synonym (or a euphemism) for many things: fellowship, teaching, service, or perhaps just attendance. Certainly all of these things can and should be done *worshipfully*, but they are not necessarily the same thing as worship.

When we come together as a church, or specifically as a congregation, it is primarily for worship. To worship God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—the Holy and Blessed Trinity for whom our congregation is named. Our Christian life flows out of worship and certainly involves learning, service, fellowship, and other such things, but they’re distinct from the worship from which they flow and which permeates them. In the interest of helping us understand and be able to grow in our worshipfulness and to worship well, let’s reflect on what worship is.

Jesus says in John 4:24, “*God is spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.*” When we become consumers of worship rather than full participants in it we

worry about what is pleasing to us rather than what is pleasing to God, that is to say, we start to desire the things that make us comfortable rather than the things that stir our spirits with desire for something greater. We introduce novelty just to say that we did or focus on individuals instead of focusing on our creator.

In worship we strive to imitate the heavenly worship which is described in scripture and which redirects our minds away from ourselves and to God instead. We strive to become open to the movement of God's Spirit and enriched by the things that God will call our attention to rather than those things we ourselves want to make a point of. When we worship we break away from the habits of a culture that has taught us to take in as much as we can for the sake of having and to make everything accessible for the sake of our ease. Instead we should invite God to overwhelm us in the best way. Rather than worry about what we've "learned" in a sermon or what we've "taken away" from the experience, we should allow ourselves to feel God's love and grow in love.

We worship because God is worthy of our attention, and our devotion. That should be enough. But what we "get" out of worship should be nothing less than an ever-deepening sense of wonder. More important than learning something new is regaining the sense of awe we so easily lose. Better than receiving instruction is falling deeper in love with the One who first loved us, and yearning for relationship with the God who captivates and makes us want more.

Worship is not primarily education. Worship is primarily a sense of wonder at who God is and what God is doing with us. With the patriarch Jacob (Genesis 28:17) we say, "How awesome is this place. This is the house of God and the gate of heaven."

Peace and Joy,

Pastor Tom



The above picture was taken at Tabgha where Peter was asked by Jesus three times "do you love me".

Click the link below to watch a short video for more information.

<https://youtu.be/o9Ok1--9Lz8>

## **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 will be on sabbatical. **May 6 – 10 and May 21 – June 5.**

During this time, he will return messages left to his phone (860-806-2440) and email as quickly as possible.

**In the event of an immediate need or emergency,** you may contact Pastor Ryan or Pastor Kathleen Mills (Holy Trinity Trumbull) at (203) 903-8352, or the synod office at (860) 482-6100.

If you'd like to write Pastor Tom via snail mail,

his address during this time is:

Revd. Thomas S. Drobená  
Selwyn College, Cambridge University  
Grange Rd  
Cambridge CB3 9DQ  
United Kingdom

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

Rev. Thomas S. Drobená  
President – Andrew Fisher  
Vice-President – Walter Kovaciny  
Treasurer – Catherine Lichanec  
Secretary – Amelia Hinchliffe  
Melissa Fisher  
Leonard Lichanec  
Michael Marvonek  
Patricia Marvonek

(Non-Council position)

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 Drobená, Melissa Fisher, Cathy  
& Leonard Lichanec

## **Shut-in Members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church**

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

Stafford Springs, CT 06076-4005

## **Thanks...**

**To everyone who helped make the Spring Dinner a success.**

## **May Birthdays**

05 – Sarah Bauer

06 – Soren Tremblay

07 – Madeline F. Bauer

07 – Henry R. Bauer

21 – Terry Hoss

28 – Richard 'Rik' Hayden

## **Anniversaries**

14 – Michael & Sheila Welch

15 – Richard & Carol Mottes

## **Happy 53<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary**

## May- June Service Schedule

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

### Tellers

### Ushers

### Worship Assistants Reader

#### **May 6, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. – The Sixth Sunday of Easter – Easter White**

Acts 10: 44 – 48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5: 1 – 6; John 15: 9 – 17

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

#### **May 13, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. – Ascension of Our Lord – White**

Acts 1: 1 – 11; Psalm 93; Ephesians 12: 15 – 23; Luke 24: 44 – 53

Michael Welch	Walter Kovaciny	Sheila Welch	Daniel Lichanec
Sheila Welch	Cathy Lichanec		

#### **May 20, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. – The Day of Pentecost – Red**

Ezekiel 37: 1 – 14; Psalm 104: 24 – 34, 35b; Acts 2: 1 – 21; John 15: 26 – 27; 16: 4b – 15

Cathy Lichanec	Daniel Lichanec	Cathy Lichanec	Cathy Lichanec
Leonard Lichanec	Leonard Lichanec		

#### **May 27, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. – The Holy Trinity – White**

Isaiah 6: 1 – 8; Psalm 29; Romans 8: 12 – 17; John 3: 1 – 17

Melissa Fisher	Walter Kovaciny	Cathy Lichanec	Daniel Lichanec
Walter Kovaciny	A Volunteer		

#### **June 3, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. – The Second Sunday after Pentecost - Green**

Deuteronomy 5: 12 – 15; Psalm 81: 1 – 10; 2 Corinthians 4: 5 – 12; Mark 2: 23 – 3: 6

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

#### **June 10, 2018; - 10:00 a.m.; The Third Sunday after Pentecost – Green**

Genesis 3: 8 – 15; Psalm 130; 2 Corinthians 4: 13 to 5: 1; Mark 3: 20 – 35

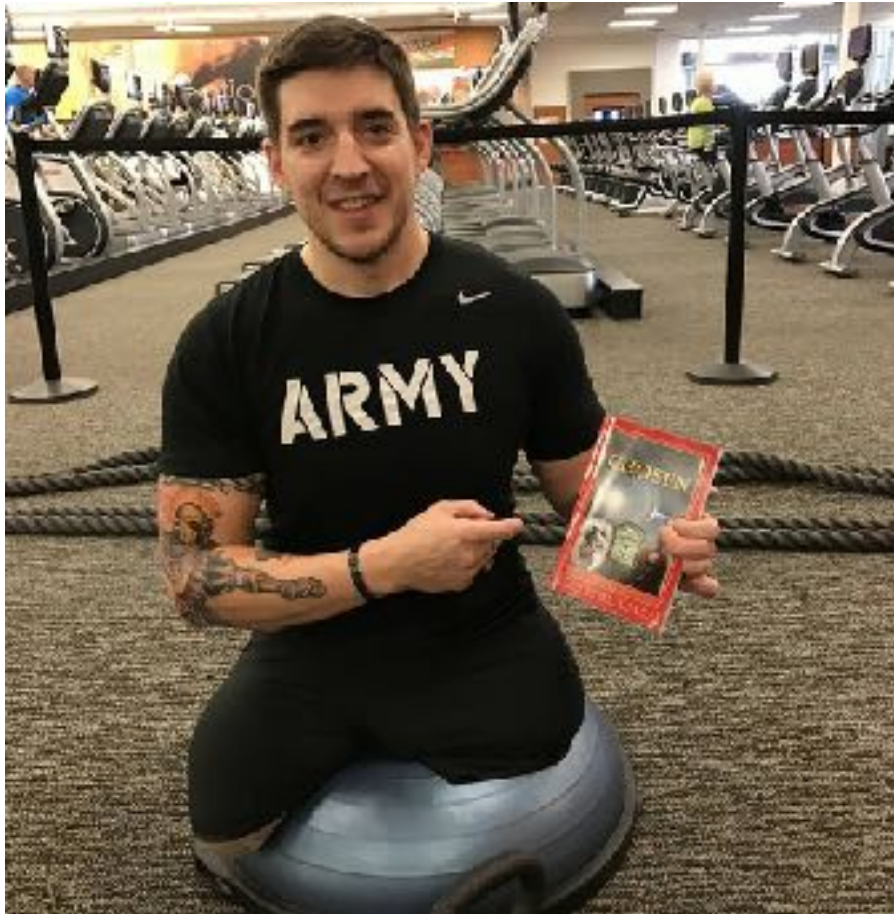
Mike Welch	Walter Kovaciny	Sheila Welch	Daniel Lichanec
Sheila Welch	Cathy Lichanec		

# May *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church* 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <b>Philip and James,</b> <i>Apostles</i>	2 6:30 p.m. Troop 81 Cub Scouts	3	4	5
<b>6 The Sixth Sunday of Easter</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion  11:20 a.m. Social Hour	7	8 <b>Julian of Norwich,</b> <i>Renewer of the Church</i>	9 6:30 p.m. Troop 81 Cub Scouts	10	11 <b>Matthias,</b> <i>Apostle</i>  7:30 p.m. Vespers	12 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Safe Net
<b>13 Ascension of Our Lord</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Church Council meeting  <b>Mother's Day</b> 😊	14 Deadline for submitting articles / information for the June newsletter	15 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	16 7:30 p.m. <b>Bible Study</b>	17	18	19
<b>20 The Day of Pentecost</b>  10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	21	22 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	23 6:30 p.m. Troop 81 Cub Scouts	24	25	26 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Safe Net
<b>27 The Holy Trinity</b>  10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	<b>28</b>	29 <b>Juraj Tranovsky,</b> <i>Hymnwriter</i>	30 6:30 p.m. Troop 81 Cub Scouts	31 <b>The Visitation</b>  7:30 p.m.		



# Chosen



## **Retired Staff Sergeant Timothy Payne, Motivational Speaker**

He accepted the Lord as his personal Savior and now travels around spreading stories of hope & healing.

**Join us at Saturday, May 12, 2018**

**At 1pm with a reception to follow his presentation.**

**At First United Methodist Church**

**8 Church Street, Stafford Springs, CT 06076** *For more information contact Cathy Lichanec at 860.684.7894 or 860.336.7322*

**Sponsored by Stafford Area Clergy Association**

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

### May

- 2, 9 23 & 30 – Troup 81, Cub Scouts – 6:30 p.m.
- 6 – Social Hour after church – 11:20 a.m.
- 11 – Matthias, Apostle, Vespers – 7:30 p.m.
- 12 – Timothy Payne presentation / talk at United Methodist church – 1:00 p.m.
- 12 & 26 – Safe Net distribution – 9:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
- 13 – Church council meeting – 11:15 a.m.
- 14 – Deadline for submitting articles / information for the June newsletter
- 16 – Bible study – 7:30 p.m.
- 31 – The Visitation, Vespers – 7:30 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

