

# Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Newsletter

July August 2018

104 West Main Street, Stafford Springs, Connecticut 06076



**Dear Friends,**

The First Petition of the Lord's Prayer says, "Hallowed be Thy Name". Those who had studied (and passed) your Confirmation instruction know its meaning. After the dutiful Lutheran question, "What does this mean?" the answer is given in the Small Catechism, "God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also."

The word "holy" means "different" or "separate". It is unique and it is to be treated in a different way than we use any other name. This petition in The Lord's Prayer and the second of the Ten Commandments can be seen together. On Mt. Sinai God thundered, "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses His name."

Paul tells us how everyone, at some time in their life or at their death, will recognize the holy name of Jesus. He writes, "Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, in heaven and

on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” That name is holy, unique and separate.

In Luther’s *Large Catechism* he writes, “But how does it become holy among us? Answer, as plainly as it can be said: When both our doctrine and life are godly and pleasing.” His name is holy by all that He has done. But he further asks, “*How is God’s name kept holy?* God’s name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it.” If you claim to be a child of God, live like it! “Hallowed be Thy Name” in me! In you! Paul said that a consistent word of faith and a right life must go together. “You who preach against stealing, do you steal? You who say that people should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? You who brag about the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law? As it is written: ‘God’s name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you.’”

God’s name is already holy and it will always be holy. But we want His name to be made holy in our life. It should be shown in how you treat other people. It should be shown in how you respect and care for your children. It should be evident when you think of good ways to be



special to your spouse. His name is holy when you go out on Saturday night with your friends; holy when you go to work or when you spend time with your neighbors. It is like what James says, “Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do.” The Bible also says, “And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

Peace and Joy,  
Pastor Thomas

## **A Reverence For God's Holy Name Awakens Dormant Seeds**

A number of years ago I was an assistant service manager at a new car dealership. One Friday I had one of those good news, bad news days. My wife found a lump and I was told that I was going to be the service manager starting Monday. Over the weekend we prayed for a healing. I know many of you have had similar experiences. It reminded me of how much I loved my wife and how fragile life is and how dependent we are on the Lord. In a blink of an eye our lives can be turned upside down. When I returned to work on Monday morning I was met by the service director, who introduced me to "the new service manager". I was stunned! I could feel the blood rushing to my head. I was furious. I can in no time in my life remember wanting to hit someone or something more. The service director made an immediate exit and I was left with the new manager, Bill. I am now thinking to myself we need the health insurance, you can't walk out, you need to pull it together. Bill looked at me and said "I don't want to fire you and I don't want you to leave. You have one of the top CSI ratings in the country. I'm terrible with people, but I can make the shop produce. You work the desk and I'll run the back and we will make money!" I went for a drive, came back and accepted. At the time I felt trapped. We soon discovered that Bill was a member of the Hells Angels, he dressed in black and drove a big black pickup. He looked like Yosemite Sam and swore a blue streak, often taking the Lords name in vane. About a week after he started, he went on a foul rant I went up to him and said, "do you know why that car won't run?" He said "No! Why!" I said because you have asked God to dam it at least 6 times today!" He moved closer to me so we were nose to nose, a half inch apart and we just stared at each other for what seemed a very long time. While still nose to nose he said "Is that offensive to you?" "Yes." I said. We continued to stare. He then stepped back and said "I apologize ." He turned around and yelled at the top of his lungs "shop meeting everyone, right here right now!" So here we are 2 service advisors, 10 techs, 4 parts guys, and the women in the office(who swore like troopers) standing in the middle of the service isle, with customers waiting for service and Bill begins with "Swearing is offensive to Mike, so we will not swear any more!" I'm thinking o'boy this could go poorly. A swear jar was setup and after a couple of weeks and 1/2 Bill's paycheck everybody stopped swearing and magically the whole atmosphere of the shop changed. Technicians would part with a hug before leaving work! I began to treat my job as my ministry and the folks I worked with and customers began to seek me out with questions about scripture, personal issues and prayer, because they new where I stood. It was wonderful!

Now here is where it gets interesting. Sheila's lump went away of its own accord and I worked for Bill for a couple of years and when he moved on I became the service manager. About 3 years after Bill left I found myself out of work, when I received a call from Bill "heard your out of work. I need someone to come and calm the advisors", and he offered me a job with more money than before. He then said there is just one catch the owner wants to interview you first. I said Ok and we setup the interview. I met the owner, shook hands and sat down. He began to ask me a series of questions, when he swore. He immediately sat up in his chair and said "I'm sorry Bill said if we hire you we have to stop swearing! "



One of the young ladies who worked with me the first time I worked with Bill called me up out of the blue, about 11 years after the last time we had spoken. She told me “the time you spent with me changed my life and asked, “Will you marry me?” I said “I can’t, I’m already married” She laughed and said “Mike I would be honored if you would perform the service, because you taught me to respect myself and what to look for in a man.”

Who knows how long seeds may lay dormant. The key is to plant them in faith, Trusting in our LORD’s living water to nourish and bring them forth in His due season. When we Hallow Gods name we are granted favor and His Word does not return void.

What is God’s name? When asked most people say Jehovah this or Jehovah that, but those are names given by us to Him to describe His attributes. Moses asked God what is your name? God said *"I Am that I Am it is enough"*. He is the Great I Am. The power of His name is demonstrated in the garden by Jesus at His arrest. They asked who is Jesus and He said ***"I Am"*** and they all fell down. Why is it that so many Christians even members of the Clergy take the Name of the LORD in vain. When do we do that you might ask? When we say I Am sick; I Am incapable; I Am stupid; I Am ugly; I Am fat; I Am unwanted; I Am useless; I Am unloved. We are created in God's image and when we say these things we are saying that He is insufficient. This is taking the LORD's name in vain. We are inadvertently cursing ourselves and speaking into existence those things we do not want. I Am the child of the King, wondrously made.

Blessings,  
Michael Welch



## **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.

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. Drobena  
Selwyn College, Cambridge University  
Grange Rd  
Cambridge CB3 9DQ  
United Kingdom

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

Rev. Thomas S. Drobena  
President – Andrew Fisher  
Vice-President – Walter Kovaciny  
Treasurer – Catherine Lichanec  
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 Drobena, 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

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

## **July Birthdays**

08 – Anna Mandak  
15 – Bill Mottes  
20 – Carl John “Jack” Mercier  
20 – Janet Renn  
21 – Catherine Hoss  
21 – Jamie Murray  
23 – Melanie Mordasky

## **July- Anniversaries**

07 – Rob & Dawn Titus  
26 – Derek & Sarah Bauer  
28 – Michael & Patricia Marvonek

## **August Anniversaries**

15 – John & Joan Fittz  
31 – Donald & Barbara Hoffman

## August Birthdays

05 – Madeleine E. Mercier  
07 – Adam Tremblay  
14 – Rob Titus  
17 – John Fittz  
18 – Brittaney Titus

19 – Carol Schraffberger  
23 – Cynthia Brown  
27 – Judy Titus  
28 – Alex Hoss  
29 – Patricia O'Brien

## July 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

#### **July 1, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. – The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost – Green**

Wisdom 1: 13 – 15, 2: 23 – 24; Psalm 30; 2 Corinthians 8: 7 – 15; Mark 5: 21 – 43

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

#### **July 8, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. – The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost – Green**

Ezekiel 2: 1 – 5; Psalm 123; 2 Corinthians 12: 2 – 10; Mark 6: 1 – 13

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

#### **July 15, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. – The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost – Green**

Amos 7: 7 – 15; Psalm 85: 8 – 13; Ephesians 1: 3 – 14; Mark 6: 14 – 29

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

#### **July 22, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. – The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost – Green**

Jeremiah 23: 1 – 6; Psalm 23; Ephesians 2:11 – 22; Mark 6: 30 – 34, 53 – 56

Melissa Fisher	Walter Kovaciny	Cathy Lichanec	Daniel Lichanec
Walter Kovaciny			

#### **July 29, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. – The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost – Green**

2 Kings 4: 42 – 44; Psalm 145: 10 – 18; Ephesians 3: 14 – 21; John 6: 1 – 21

Mike Marvonek	Walter Kovaciny	Leigh Maxa	Daniel Lichanec
Walter Kovaciny			

## August – September 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

#### **August 5, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. – The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost – Green**

Exodus 16: 2 – 4; 9 – 15; Psalm 78: 23 – 29; Ephesians 4: 1 – 16; John 6: 24 – 35

Amelia Hinchliffe

Walter Kovaciny

Leigh Maxa

Leonard Lichanec

Michael Marvonek

Pat Marvonek

#### **August 12, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. – The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost – Green**

1 Kings 19: 4 – 8; Psalm 34: 1 – 8; Ephesians 4: 25 – 5: 2; John 6: 35, 41 – 51

Michael Welch

Walter Kovaciny

Sheila Welch Leonard Lichanec

Sheila Welch

Cathy Lichanec

#### **August 19, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. – The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Green**

Proverbs 9: 1 – 6; Psalm 34: 9 – 14; Ephesians 5: 15 – 20; John 6: 51 – 58

Leonard Lichanec

Daniel Lichanec

Cathy Lichanec

Steve Marvonek

Patricia Marvonek

Leonard Lichanec

#### **August 26, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. – The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost - Green**

Joshua 24: 1 – 2a, 14 – 18; Psalm 34: 15 – 22, Ephesians 6: 10 – 20; John 6: 56 – 69

Melissa Fisher

Rick Bednar

Cathy Lichanec

Michael Welch

Walter Kovaciny Walter Kovaciny

#### **September 2, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. – The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost - Green**

Deuteronomy 4: 1 – 2, 6 – 9; Psalm 15; James 1: 17 – 27; Mark 7: 1 – 8, 14 – 15, 21 – 26

Amelia Hinchliffe

Walter Kovaciny

Leigh Maxa

Daniel Lichanec

Michael Marvonek

Pat Marvonek

# July *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church* 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1 The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost</b>  10:00 a.m. Holy Communion  11:20 a.m. Social Hour	2	3 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	4	5	6  <b>John Hus, Martyr</b>  <i>7:30 pm Vespers</i>	7
<b>8 The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost</b>  10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Church Council meeting	9	10 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	11  <b>Benedict, Abbot</b>  Bible Study 7:00 pm	12	13	14 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Safe Net
<b>15 The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost</b>  10:00 a.m. Holy Communion  Vacation Bible School 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.	16  <b>VBS 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.</b>	17 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>  <b>VBS 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.</b>	18  <b>VBS 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.</b>	19  <b>VBS 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.</b>	20	21
<b>22 Mary Magdalene, Apostle</b>  10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	23	24 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	25  <b>James the Elder, Apostle</b>	26  WIC 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	27	28 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Safe Net
<b>27 The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost</b>  10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	30	31 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>				



## August *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church* 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1  7:30 p.m. Bible Study	2	3	4
<b>5 The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:20 a.m. Social Hour	6  <b>Transfiguration of the Lord</b>  7:30 p.m. Vespers	7 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	8	9	10  <b>Lawrence, Deacon</b>  7:30 p.m. Vespers	11  9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Safe Net Distribution
<b>12 The Twelve Sunday after Pentecost</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Church Council meeting	13 Deadline for submitting articles / information for the September newsletter	14 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	15  <b>Mary, Mother of the Lord</b>  7:30 p.m. Vespers	16	17	18
<b>19 The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	20	21 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	22	23 WIC 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	24  <b>Bartholomew, Apostle</b>	25  9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Safe Net Distribution
<b>26 The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 2:00-5:00 p.m. <b>Church Picnic</b>	27	28 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	29  <b>Martyrdom of John the Baptist</b>  7:30 p.m. Bible Study	30	31	

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

## July

- 1 – Social Hour – 11:20 a.m.
- 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 – Pastor's Day off
- 6 – John Hus, Martyr Vespers – 7:30 p.m.
- 8 – Church Council meeting – 11:15 a.m.
- 11 – Bible Study at the Parsonage 7:00 p.m.
- 14 & 29 Safe Net food distribution – 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
- 15 to 19 – Vacation Bible Study at United Methodist Church – 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

## August

- 1 – Bible Study at the Parsonage - 7 p.m.
- 5 – Social Hour – 11:20 a.m.
- 7, 14, 21 & 28 – Pastor's Day off
- 10 – Lawrence, Deacon Vespers – 7:30 p.m.
- 11 & 25 – Safe Net food distribution – 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
- 13 – Deadline for submitting articles for the September newsletter
- 15 – Mary, Mother of the Lord Vespers – 7:30 p.m.
- 26 0 Church Picnic – 2 to 5 p.m.
- 29 – Martyrdom of John the Baptist, Bible Study – 7 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

