



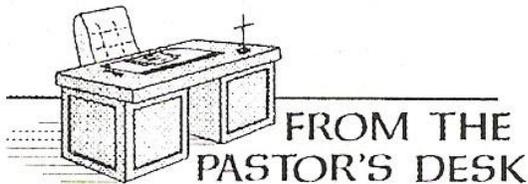
The Messenger

June 2018

A Publication of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Excerpt from Pastor's Sermon - Holy Trinity

When you think of God...the Father/Creator: what do you think of? When you think of Jesus...the Son/Redeemer: what do you think of? When you think of the Spirit...of Pentecost/Sustainer: what do you think of?

Chances are - that you were able to come up with a visual for each of the three persons that I mentioned above - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We have been well conditioned through art, literature, song and stained glass...to visualize our God in these ways. As a creator who watches over us with wisdom and might. As a redeemer who shepherds us with loving and tender care. And as a sustainer who guides the church in faithful and continued service.

But what about the Holy Trinity?

Well, and as I see it...we have two reasonable options. (1) We could ignore it. We could give in to its baffling and perplexing nature...and relegate the Trinity to the dusty back corners of our faith experience. Forgotten and ignored. OR, (2) and as an alternative, maybe we could embrace the Holy Trinity as an expression of perfect relationship.

Because maybe, just maybe, the Trinity is not so much about who God is; but rather, perhaps it's about what God does. Yes, God is God, God is Jesus, God is Spirit -- that's the who.

But together, it's all about relationship. Our God is a relational God. It's central to what God needs the church to be.

Imagine if the church...and our government...would choose to labour together to respond to the needs of others.

Dream of what might happen, if Lutherans...Anglicans...United...Pentecostal...Baptist...Catholics... Presbyterians...and the list goes on: were to focus on what unites us...instead of what divides us.

Consider the possibilities that exist should people of faith choose to define themselves by the quality of their relationships instead of the height of their respective walls.

Envision a world that places unity and solidarity at the heart of who and what they strive to be.

For that, dear friends, is the world, and church, and focus which we encounter on this Holy Trinity Sunday. An expectation...a hope...and a trust that to confess the Trinity boldly proclaims that just as God is present in the relationship of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit...so too will God always be committed to a relationship with us. This is a story that was written before the world began...but this morning, we have been once more invited to join in its dance.

May the Trinity fill us with holy bafflement. And out of such chaos, may we be inspired to labor to build relationships in the name of our Triune God. **Amen!**

Pastor Adam

+ VON Programs

Our local Lunenburg County VON has a vibrant history of providing much needed assistance to local residents. Recently, South Shore Helping Hands came under the VON umbrella. Additionally, VON also offers two meal programs. Wheels to Meals takes place at St. James' hall once per month, and there are also a wide selection of nutritious, low-sodium, home-style meals available through the Frozen Favourites program. For more information, please contact Elisabeth Bailey by calling (902) 624-0318.

+ Stewardship Committee

Recently the congregational council has received increased support for fundraising/stewardship events at St. John's! We are tremendously excited by this prospect. As such, we are seeking interested individuals who would lend their time and talents to a *new* Stewardship Committee. This committee would function as an extension of the council, and would work to brainstorm/develop ways to support the wider ministry of the congregation. For more information, or to offer your gifts to this initiative, please speak with Pastor Adam.

+ Grocery Gift Cards

Thank you to all who so faithfully participated in our May Grocery Gift Card fundraiser, and to those who organized and facilitated this program. Gift Cards can be picked up at St. John's on Sunday, June 3.

+ Father's Day Memorials

Anyone wishing to place a Father's Day Memorial is asked to contact the Church no later than June 12th so that the memorial can be listed in the Bulletin.

+ Stay Connected!

Are you a member of the Atlantic Ministry Area - Lutheran ELCIC Facebook page? (@atlanticlutherans) This page posts events offered by Lutheran churches across the Atlantic Ministry Area. The posted events are your invitation to attend.

To find out more information and what's happening around the Eastern Synod here is the link to their current electronic newsletter.

<http://www.easternsynod.org/content/tesl-april-2018>

+ Adult Ed: Living Justice

Thank you to all who attended our Spring Adult Education program. It was a great time of fellowship and reflection.

+ Rev. Gini Cookman Anniversary

On Saturday, June 9 you are invited to join your brothers and sisters from the Chester Parish in celebrating Rev. Cookman's 25th Anniversary of Ordination. This celebration will be held at the Chester Baptist Church at 5pm. RSVP REQUIRED! If you are interested in attending, please speak with pastor Adam by June 2.

+ Share Your Gifts

On Pentecost Sunday, Pastor Adam invited the congregation to *share their gifts*, and ideas! Included in the bulletin (and also on the table in the Narthex) were found a checklist of ways in which you might be spirit-led to contribute to the life and ministry of St. John's. Please take the time to pray, think, reflect, and then complete the form. Once you're ready, please return the form by leaving it in the offering plate on Sunday or dropping it off at the church office.

+ Parish Weekend

Our Parish Weekend has been scheduled for Friday, August 24-Sunday, August 26. To register please speak with Robert & Heather Hirtle.

+ Sunday School Ice Cream Social

Sunday School will wrap up for the year on Sunday, June 10. Following service, everyone is invited to gather outside (weather permitting) for a build-your-own-SUNDAE party! As always, a warm thank you to all those who so graciously supported the Sunday School this year through your participation, donations and prayers. We had a fantastic year filled with great learning, laughter and a growing group of children!

+ Camp Mush-A-Mush

The summer is quickly approaching - and so is the camping season at Lutheran Camp Mush-A-Mush! There is still plenty of time to register by visiting www.campmush.ca!

Camp Sunday (70th Anniversary) will be held on July 15. Enjoy a wonderful opportunity to worship with brothers and sisters from throughout Lunenburg County while enjoying an afternoon at our camp!

+ Eastern Synod Assembly

Pastor Adam & Brian Parnall will be representing St. John's at the Eastern Synod Assembly from June 21-24. Please pray for all those who gather in convention, asking the Holy Spirit to guide the deliberations.

+ Vacation Bible School

Anyone interested in assisting with the 2018 VBS at Mt. Calvary is invited to please speak with Pastor Adam or Margie Carver. This annual event draws on the skills, talents, and gifts within our Shared Ministry. As always, any children are warmly invited to participate. Registration information will be available in our summer newsletter.

+ Communion Cards

The recording needs within our congregation have changed. As such, you will no longer be asked to complete a Communion Record Card on Sundays when we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion. In their place, a new Visitor Card will be added to our pews welcoming visitors and providing them with information about our congregation.

+ Summer Newsletter

Our Summer 2018 newsletter will be our first attempt at a Shared Ministry Newsletter. As we grow in communion and fellowship with our friends in Upper Northfield, we recognize the need to better share information between our congregations. One way that we hope to facilitate this is through a combined newsletter. Please submit any contributions to the church office by Friday, June 22.

+ Thank You!

As our Choir and Handbell Choir conclude their musical ministry until the fall, we wish to extend a heartfelt word of thanks. We are truly blessed at St. John's to be enriched by the talents of our Music & Handbell Directors, and of our choirs. Your gift to us enlivens our worship and fills us with the joy of community. Thank you for all that you do. May the summer provide rest and refreshment!

+ Coffee Break

We will gather for a Coffee Break on Wednesday, June 27 at 10:30am at the Biscuit Eater Cafe. A Coffee Break is an informal time to gather for fellowship and refreshment. Consider joining us as we *take over the cafe*.

+ 3CF Strawberry Social

Following worship on Canada Day you are invited to a Strawberry Social in support of the Three Churches Foundation. This event will bring together our three faith families, as well as our wider community, in support of a great cause! Please mark your calendar and plan to attend! Location: front lawn of the Anglican rectory.

+ Joy Journal

Birthday greetings are extended to the following in the month of June:

June 4	David Soeder
June 6	Mervyn Joudrey
June 8	Wesley Demone Chad Veinotte Pamela Eisnor
June 10	Aaron Sanford
June 15	Cody Barkhouse Sarah Knickle Sylvie Aulenback
June 16	Doreen Wentzell
June 17	Vickie Joudrey
June 18	Kaitlyn Ernst
June 19	Raymond Hiltz
June 25	Florence Slauenwhite Lloyd Conrad
June 26	Brett Daurie
June 28	Judith Hamm

Anniversary Wishes are extended to the following:

June 2	Beverly & Donnie Eisnor
June 8	Marilyn & Gary Wentzell
June 18	Michelle & Adam Boyd
June 19	Sheila & Paul Barkhouse
June 30	Gale & Derek Lohnes
June 30	Colleen Joudrey-Tanner & Mitchell Tanner

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church + June 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Additions to the calendar will be printed in the bulletin. An updated calendar can be viewed on our church website. Announcements for the July/August 2018 calendar are due to the church office by <u>June 22</u> .					1 9am-2pm – Office	2 2pm - Graveside Service Marguerite Whynot
3 <i>Pentecost 2</i> 11am - Worship (Service of the Word) 11am - Sunday School	4	5 9am-2pm – Office 7pm - MCO	6 5pm - VON Meeting	7 9am-2pm – Office	8 9am-2pm – Office 4pm - 3CF Annual Meeting (Joanne's Market)	9 5pm - Rev. Gini Cookman 25th Anniversary of Ordination
10 <i>Pentecost 3</i> 11am – Worship (Communion) 11am - Sunday School 12pm - Ice Cream Social	11	12 9am-2pm – Office 7pm - Camp Board 7pm - MCO	13 6:30pm- VON AGM	14 9am-2pm – Office	15 9am-2pm – Office	16 11 am – Rebecca Rock Piano Recital
17 <i>Father's Day</i> <i>Pentecost 4</i> 11am – Worship (Communion) 12pm - Fellowship	18	19 9am-2pm – Office 7 pm – Council	20 11am - Mahone Nursing Worship	21 9am-2pm – Office	22 9am-2pm – Office Newsletter Announcements Due	23
24 <i>Pentecost 5</i> 11am - Worship (Service of the Word - Alex Grabowski) <div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Pastor Away</div>	25	26 9 am-2pm - Office	27 10:30am - Coffee Break (Biscuit Eater)	28 9am-2pm - Office	29 9am-2pm – Office	30

Eastern Synod Assembly - Pastor Adam Away

Save The Date

Three Churches Foundation Strawberry Social - July 1 (*following worship*)