



Message from Pastor Christine

Last month’s congregational meeting was filled with good things. At that meeting we voted to hire a congregational ministry coach through the organization Healthy Churches. Many of you asked insightful and mindful questions, and conveyed your excitement and understanding for this proposal. I share the congregation’s view that we want to ensure the learnings and ideas which are gleaned are implemented, and don’t end up only in a report that lives on a hard drive. We as a congregation understand that this is a complex time universally for churches and by taking this proactive step we are being good stewards. Last week I spoke with Michelle (who will be our coach and whom you all will have the opportunity to meet in the coming months) and we are sketching out a plan for gathering information and meeting with the council and congregation through focus groups, conversation, and surveys. When opportunities arise for engagement in the process, which will likely be towards the end of July, I encourage you to participate as fully as you are able. Everyone’s thoughts and experiences are valid and important. Additionally, in the past ten years and especially in the past three years, so much has changed in church life (this is true both for Trinity and all congregations). I’m excited about the work before us!

Deep peace and joy,
Pastor Christine

June 12th - In recognition of World Refugee Day, a representative from Lutheran Social Services will be with us to talk a bit about LSS's work. Joining them will be a Burmese couple who will share their story which led to them fleeing their home country and their experience in the States. Please join us at 10:45am in the sanctuary. Due to the sensitive nature of the story

shared, it will not be live streamed, nor are photographs permitted.



**Social Ministry Opportunities to Serve:
Food Collection on June 18, 2022**

The most needed non-perishable items are:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Cold cereal | Canned peas |
| Oatmeal | Canned fruit |
| Shelf stable milk | Cooking oil |
| Canned black beans | Canned chicken, |
| Canned corn | Canned tuna |



June Birthdays:

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 04. Inna S | 25. Gavin W |
| 04. Meredith D | 25. Pamela B |
| 07. Nancy N | 26. Lindsey D |
| 20. Maggie H | 26. Henri H |
| 21. Miriam M | 27. Vincent M |
| 23. Emma G | 30. Ana N |
| 23. Ben R | |

June Baptism Birthdays:

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 01. Luis H | 10. Andrei S |
| 01. Colin G | 10. Wayne D |
| 03. Reid D | 10. Nathaniel C |
| 06. Pamela B | 16. Philip S |
| 08. Jacob M | 27. Joan E |
| 09. Gregory F | 29. Petra T |
| 09. Elizabeth W | 30. Mark J |
| 09. Karen W | |



The Montgomery County Interfaith 5K is a unique race that brings together people from all walks of life, religious backgrounds, ethnicities, and fitness levels. But, what everyone has in common is a desire to come

together to foster relationships and unity, while giving back to the community and building a more inclusive and healthier Montgomery County.

The 5K can be run or walked, and strollers are welcome! Let's gather a group together and make public witness to our commitment to care for our community, share information about our congregation, and enjoy meeting others!

Profit made by the race is DONATED to two area beneficiaries: Gaithersburg HELP and C-4 Clothing Closet. Find out more about the MoCo Interfaith 5K here: www.mocointerfaith5k.org or on FaceBook at: <https://www.facebook.com/mocointerfaith5K>.

Questions? See Pastor Christine or Angela B.

Race is on September 5 at 8am!



Coffee Hour is Back!

It's been 2 long years without coffee hour. With all the changes; one thing hasn't changed - the need for coffee hour hosts. Please consider selecting a Sunday (or a few) and volunteer to host. Nothing elaborate is needed... light snacks; if baking isn't your "thing", store bought is perfect. On Sundays before our monthly food drive we will have "Hunger Sunday" as a simple reminder of food insecurity in the world. Hunger Sunday coffee hour will be limited to coffee, juice and water – no snacks. Hosting involves simple set up and tidying up afterwards. If this is your first occasion there are plenty of veterans to help show you the ropes (complete written instructions are stashed in the cabinet too). If you prefer to share the responsibility, we can help find you a partner. To select a Sunday that is convenient for you, a Sign Up Genius has been set up for dates in April and May; please use this link to sign up <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e4caba82f4-coffee>. If you have questions or need help signing up, please reach out to Margaret F at gmitzwm85@gmail.com or Chelsea Y at chelsea.kiehl@valpo.edu See you at coffee hour!

UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVES

Upcoming Blood Drives at Trinity

In March 2022, Trinity hosted a very successful Blood Drive with the American Red Cross. We exceeded the ARC's goal for the drive thanks to over 40 members of the community and Trinity member's participation.

Given the continued need for blood and our success, two additional drives are scheduled at Trinity: **Thurs, June 9, 1-6 pm and Thurs, August 11, 2-7 pm.**

To donate sign up here: RedCross.Org.

Trinity needs a few volunteers for each drive to welcome donors. If you are willing to help, please contact Margaret F at gmitzwm85@gmail.com



Save the Dates:

June Blood Drive | Thursday June 9 | 1-6 pm

LSS Presentation | June 12 | 10:45 am

August Blood Drive | August 11 | 2-7pm

Week of Service | August 7-13

Interfaith 5K | September 5 | 8 am

Another Message from Pastor Christine

Dear siblings in Christ,

For those of you who listened to my sermon on May 22nd, either in person or via YouTube, you will know that I shared about a concerning situation within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), of which we are a part. As I mentioned, I feel it is my duty to make sure you are aware of things that are happening within the broader church. Because the situation in the Sierra Pacific synod is so complicated, I wanted to share a few articles with you, so that you have the opportunity to read and digest for yourself.

I also want us to be careful not to contribute to the spread of gossip, not to slander, or assume guilt on

either side. We cannot know the full facts. In truth, they are not ours to know. I trust that the noise this situation, and others like it, have made will help the ELCA become a fuller expression of Jesus. My best hope is that necessary change will happen and healing will take place.

Two of the articles I am sharing are clearly written in support of Pastor Nelson Rabell-Gonzalez and one is from the Synod Council of the Sierra Pacific synod, and one from their Bishop. There is an enormous amount of written support available for Pastor Rabell-Gonzalez. Not as much is available from the Synod Council or Bishop Roher on their position (this can be for a variety of reasons, including privacy, interpretation of law, and investigation). Some comments and suppositions made in these articles and others, do, at times, border on slander and hearsay, so please keep that in mind when reading.

You'll also note that I'm sharing articles from a few sources to demonstrate that this isn't just a topic within Lutheran circles, another reason I believe you should at least be aware of what's out there. I believe this situation will be a topic of discussion at Synod Assembly in June. I will share any action that the Metro DC synod takes. In the meantime, let us continue to pray for the health of the church. I am reminded of what Paul says in his letter to the Galatians: "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

<https://www.worldcatholicnews.com/why-the-elca-needs-to-investigate-the-case-of-rev-nelson-rabell-gonzalez/>

<https://www.spselca.net/post/synod-council-statement-regarding-misi%C3%B3n-latina-luterana>

<https://www.patheos.com/blogs/ecopreacher/2021/12/elca-fires-whistleblower-rev-nelson-rabell-gonzalez/>

<https://www.spselca.net/post/open-letter-to-the-delaware-maryland-synod>

[https://mcusercontent.com/32bc1324bd8d6bf3bb730e935/files/76c58166-92f1-35be-9121-02a71f241a14/To the Elders of the Church.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0AdlvAjaqFnaP4QzW2QEUzxe2hrKAPAAc7_GCUc0GIAX18kGiWV4Kzb_U](https://mcusercontent.com/32bc1324bd8d6bf3bb730e935/files/76c58166-92f1-35be-9121-02a71f241a14/To%20the%20Elders%20of%20the%20Church.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0AdlvAjaqFnaP4QzW2QEUzxe2hrKAPAAc7_GCUc0GIAX18kGiWV4Kzb_U)

<https://www.spselca.net/post/announcement-from-presiding-bishop-elizabeth-eaton>

<https://www.spselca.net/post/announcement-from-presiding-bishop-elizabeth-eaton>

<https://mobile.twitter.com/mmrohrer/status/1533951457791123456/photo/1>

Remember in Your Prayers

THE CHURCH

our synod & bishops: Bishops Elizabeth E & Leila O

our missionaries: Stephen D & Marta G, Cent. America

our congregation: Trinity Church **THE NATIONS:**

Afghanistan, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Korea, India, Iraq, Israel, Mexico, Myanmar, Namibia, Palestine, Somalia, Spain/Cataluña, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, United States, Venezuela

THE SICK AND SUFFERING

nursing/rehabilitation center:

Martha R (Bethesda H&R)

Philip T (Manor Care Potomac)

Yulie N (Village at Rockville)

Anya N

home

Tigist G, Margo W, Lineth M, Isabel F, Gio S, Valerie and Mike M, Vimala P, Marilyn C, Lisbeth N-D, Bill B, Brian A, Ana S-G, Jim McN, Dick J

family and friends*

Lonnie B, *friend of Carol B*

Donald B, *brother of Marilyn C*

Jameson Family, *friend of Sunhee P*

Linda M, *choir member and friend of Trinity*

Lamar K, *friend of Tom K and Sarah M*

Jake M, *son of Leslie S*

Carl S, *father of Dan S*

David T, *brother of Sunhee P*

Cronin Family, *sister of Jim McN*

Mark K, *brother of David K*

first responders

Lisbeth N-D

Greta S & Linda A, *sister & sister-in-law of Anita S*

Vanessa B, *friend of Elizabeth & Ben R*

deaths

Jean Anne Cronin + May 16, sister of Jim Mc Nerney