

# TRINITY NEWS

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September 2018

Trinity Reformed Church  
North Plainfield, N.J. 07063

Rev. Scott R. Harris, Pastor  
Ginger Smellie, Editor

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Members & Friends,

Summer is quickly drawing to a close and the start of a new program year at the church is upon us! I have found Trinity Reformed Church to be unique. In most churches I have served, in the Summer months, not a whole lot happens; there is less work to be done and the building sits idle and empty. Here at Trinity we are actually busier during the Summer months than in any other season of the year!

A lot of that has to do with the Agape House Summer Youth Enrichment Program which is a great opportunity for us to be fruitful; a way in which we can live our lives in such a manner that the community around us experiences something of the rich, generous and loving nature of God. And while the Consistory doesn't officially meet during July and August, there are matters of business that need to be attended to. And this year those of us working on the Focus Church Development Process continued to meet over the Summer as well!

Something that came out of the Focus Church Development Process meetings was the realization that Jesus tells us that He is the Vine and we are the branches and that our job is to bear "much fruit". (John 15:1-8) Jesus also said in Matthew 7:17 that every good and healthy tree bears good fruit. The whole reason why we are doing this Focus Church Development Process is that we want to be fruitful and multiply! We want to grow! So it makes sense then, to focus on our health as a congregation so that we might be a healthy tree that bears much good fruit. But how do we do that? This is the question we keep asking.

An answer has presented itself. There is an organization run by the Mennonites. If you don't know who the Mennonites are, think "Amish Lite". (Notice that I didn't spell that "Amish Light" as that would be a kerosene lamp – Amish don't have electricity!) Not as strict but just as peaceful! This organization specializes in working with congregations like ours to help them in various ways and is called the "Lombard Mennonite Peace Center" and is located in Lombard, Illinois. They come in and present Workshops on topics specific to that congregation. The workshop typically begins on a Friday evening and runs all day that Saturday. One of their workshops is "Healthy Congregations" and we believe that God, by the Holy Spirit is guiding us towards having them work with us by presenting this workshop in the Fall, potentially on Friday November 2<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday November 3<sup>rd</sup> if the scheduling works out!

If we do this, we will want and need every member to participate in order for this to be successful in helping us find the path toward growth. I am taking this opportunity to not only INVITE you to participate, but to ask you to please, please, please come out and participate. More details will be passed on to you as soon as they become available. Thank-you.

Grace & Peace,  
Pastor Scott

In the Summer months of May, June and July Pastor Scott gave the following sermons: (and I'm keeping these brief so that the Editor of the Newsletter doesn't tell me I'm taking up too much space!)

On May 6th our Bible texts were 1 John 5:1-6 and John 15:9-17 and our sermon title was "Love One Another."

On May 13th our Epistle lesson was 1 John 5:9-13, the Gospel lesson was John 17:6-19 and the sermon title was "Whoever Has the Son Has Life."

On May 20th which was Pentecost Sunday, our Old Testament lesson came from Ezekiel 37:1-14 and the New Testament lesson came from Acts 2:1-21. The sermon title was "The Breath."

On May 27th which was both Trinity Sunday and Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, our Epistle lesson was from Romans 8:12-17 and the Gospel lesson was John 3:1-17. The sermon was "Spirit Or Flesh?"

On June 3rd the Old Testament reading was Deuteronomy 5:12-15, the Gospel was Mark 2:23-3:6 and the sermon was "But ... the Law!"

On June 10th Pastor Scott was away and Pastor Rosalyn Barnes, the student from Princeton Seminary that works with Agape House led worship.

On June 17th the Epistle lesson was from 2 Corinthians 5:6-17, the Gospel lesson was Mark 4:26-34 and the sermon was "From Small Things, Great Things One Day Come."

On June 24th the Old Testament lesson was from Job 38:1-11, the Gospel lesson was from Mark 4:35-41 and the sermon title was "You KNOW Who This Is!"

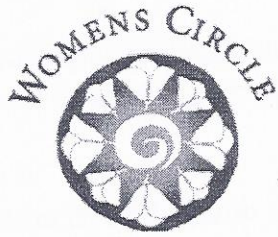
On July 1st our Old Testament lesson was 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27, the Gospel was from Mark 5:21-43 and the sermon was "Death Isn't What God Wants."

On July 8th the Old Testament reading was from Ezekiel 2:1-5 while the Gospel was Mark 6:1-13 and the sermon was "The Hard Job of Being a Prophet."

On July 15th our Old Testament lesson was 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12-19, the Epistle lesson was Ephesians 1:3-15 and the sermon title was "A Generous God."

On July 22nd we continued with the book of 2 Samuel in the Old Testament, reading 2 Samuel 7:1-14 and the Epistle reading was Ephesians 2:11-22 and the sermon was "God's House."

On July 29th the Old Testament reading was 2 Kings 4:42-44 and the Gospel was John 6:1-21 and the sermon title was "Barley Loaves."



BROEK CIRCLE – will meet on Tuesday September 11th at 11:00 p.m at the home of Joanne Nuber.

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BROEK COOKS will have Creamy Potato and Italian Flag Soups available on October 21st. An order form is on the hall bulletin board.

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JACOBA CIRCLE – will meet on Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30pm at the home of Barbara Conly. Barbara Conly, Hostess.

Also ladies, as we prepare for the Seaman Church Institute trip to Port Newark in October, supplies needed are toiletries and bags of candy!

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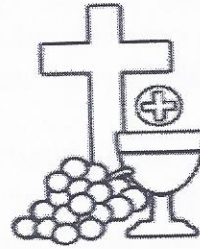
Happy Birthday!



September, 2018

13. Gordon Wich

18. Joel Kenderdine



Celebrate with the rest of the world on World Wide Communion Sunday October 7, 2018 At 10:00 am in the Sanctuary

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*In Memoriam*

Dorothy "Dee" Cox

At rest, August 11, 2018

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Watch this space for important Choir news!

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October, Newsletter Deadline, Monday, September 17th.



## **SEA BRIGHT SOLAR SYSTM NON-PROFIT REFERRAL PROGRAM**

**NOW that Trinity's Solar System is fully functional, consistory would like the congregation to note the following. We have not mentioned this before because we did not want to make this part of our solar evaluation process.**

IF you are interested in installing a solar system, and IF you would like to understand what Sea Bright Solar can provide, then please read the following. We are not endorsing Sea Bright Solar, nor SunPower solar panels. You are free to obtain a quote from Sea Bright Solar or not. But if you do, Trinity Reformed Church could benefit if you decide to consider Sea Bright Solar in your decision-making process. See the program specifics below:

Affiliation with the SunPower by Sea Bright Solar Non-Profit Program is not an endorsement. Our concept is that NJ homeowners have considered solar, so we simply give your members another choice while researching. As a result, your non-profit could receive support!

SunPower & Sea Bright Solar have almost 50 years combined solar experience! We'll offer your members ownership or a lease. Either option is better than paying ever-rising utility costs. Our no pressure, educational presentation will help your members make an informed decision. Much of our process is qualifying since many homes do not meet program requirements.

**We believe in supporting community-minded organizations like yours. For each qualified member we'll donate to your nonprofit as follows:**

- **\$50 Qualified Consultation**
- **\$500 Sea Bright Solar Installation**

Kevin Jackson, SunPower by Sea Bright Solar Non-Profit Program Director, is also an Associate Pastor, so he appreciates your vision! If you are interested in solar power for your home contact Kevin as follows:

Email: [kevinj@seabrightsolar.com](mailto:kevinj@seabrightsolar.com)




Phone: 732-450-8852

Address: 23 Cindy Lane Bld #1 Ocean, NJ 07712

URL: <https://www.seabrightsolar.com/>

# SEPTEMBER

Sun                  Mon                  Tue                  Wed                  Thu                  Fri                  Sat

|  |  |                                 |                              |     |     |   |
|--|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-----|-----|---|
| Every Sunday<br>10:00 a.m.<br>Worship in<br>Broek Chapel |  |                                 |                              |     |     | 1.  |
| 2.   | 3.<br>                  | 4.<br>Consistory<br>7:30pm      | 5.                           | 6.  | 7.  | 8.  |
| 9.   | 10.<br>Jacoba<br>7:30 pm   | 11.<br>Broek Circle<br>11:00 pm | 12.                          | 13. | 14. | 15.   |
| 16.  | 17.<br>Newsletter<br> | 18.                             | 19.                          | 20. | 21. | 22.<br>Autumn<br>Arrives<br> |
| 23.  | 24.  | 25.                             | 26.<br>Bible Study<br>7:30pm | 27. | 28. | 29.   |
| 30.  |  |                                 |                              |     |     |   |