



The Commitment

Newsletter of Trinity Reformed Church in Rochester, New York

A ministry of the Reformed Church in America

Seeking HIS Light ... Reflecting HIS Love

October 2019 · Vol. 27, No. 2

IN THIS ISSUE

- Upcoming Events.....1
- From the Pastor.....2
- Consistory Notes.....3
- Church News.....4 & 5
- Book Review.....6
- Calendar.....7



The annual **Friends in Fellowship Buffalo Bills game viewing party** will be held on Sunday, October 20th at the Greene's home. Kick-off is at 1:00 pm. Please sign up on the bulletin board and bring an appetizer or dessert (beverages will be provided). All are welcome!



The Buildings & Grounds Committee will be hosting a **Fall Work Day** on Saturday, October 26th from 9:00 am til 1:00 pm. There are many tasks to complete around the property. Please join us in this time of service and fellowship! See John Bernhard with any questions.

This year's **"Step It Up! 5K Walk"** is the 10th annual indoor 5K walk benefitting Pancreatic Cancer Research. The walk will be held on Saturday, November 16th, from 12:00 noon til 4:00 pm at the RIT Gordon Field House, with registration beginning at 12:00 noon and the walk beginning at 1:30 pm. It's a day of family fun with entertainment and activities for all ages! Our own Patricia Van Dussen will be walking in memory of her husband and to help raise money for pancreatic cancer research. Over 56,000 people are diagnosed annually. Pancreatic cancer has the highest mortality rate of all cancers - three out of four people diagnosed die within the first year and only 8.5% survive beyond five years.



Proceeds from the walk will support a comprehensive approach to fighting pancreatic cancer from diagnosis to research by supporting the development of a Pancreatic Cancer Center of Excellence at the University of Rochester Wilmot Cancer Institute. If you would like to support this cause, please make your check payable to Pancreatic Cancer Association of WNY. You can send your check to Patricia Van Dussen or donate online on her fundraising page: <https://www.classy.org/fundraiser/2351522>. For additional information and to register to participate in the walk, please visit their website at <https://www.pcawny.org>. Thank you for your support in helping us raise awareness, money for research, and hope for a cure!



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Grace and Peace to you from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ!

I wanted to take a moment to reflect on a few aspects of the ministry and culture at Trinity that I have been blessed to encounter in the past month and a half.



In September, I went to a training with the Interim Ministry Network, where the focus was mostly on the work of the pastor, not the work of the congregation. But I did notice that the training assumed some of the pit-falls and shortcomings of congregations that are in transition, and how to be a leader with those in mind. And I must say, reflecting on Trinity while at this training made me proud of this congregation and honored to be here!

For example: One of the key aspects of doing interim ministry, according to the training, is to connect the congregation to the denomination. Connecting congregations to their Classis, Regional, and General Synod is integral in helping them be aware of resources from the wider church for their aid, keeping them informed about national and international-aid efforts to consider, and fostering a sense of "togetherness" with other congregations. Trinity, and many of its leaders, are heavily invested in the work of the Classis and the Synod. What a notable gift that many of Trinity's members bring to the congregation, which in turn is a blessing to the wider church and me!

Another thing that I am continuously pleased and blessed by is how Trinity approaches prayer during their gatherings. Did you know that every Sunday the Elders pray with the Liturgist and the presiding preacher? Often at other churches this would mean that the pastor prays, by default. But at Trinity, it is always one of the Elders that prays with and for the worship leaders as they carry God's Word to the people and prays for the congregation as they worship God and hear God's Word. What a surprise and ongoing blessing to my ministry!

And I've noticed that this pattern of spirituality persists at Trinity. At each meeting I have been to, we have begun and ended in prayer which, again, in my experience defaults to the pastor in the room, but here is instead led by a committee member. At choir rehearsals, Alexis asks us if there are prayer requests and then leads the room in prayer about the choir's worship leadership, the life of the congregation, and whatever we have shared to be prayed about.

Since the Spirit is amplified when more and more of God's Children are included in prayer and worship, I give thanks to God for this gift that is so wonderfully exemplified by the people and culture at Trinity. And since the work of speaking a prayer at a gathering is so often carried out by someone else in the room, the silent prayer I add to their spoken ones has been this – "May God help me to never take for granted this special spirituality that Trinity enacts. Amen."

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Steve

Consistory Notes



The consistory is very pleased to have Pastor Steve as our minister for this next year. We look forward to doing ministry with him.

Our Operating Fund is remaining at a positive balance, although much of this is due to not having had to pay a pastor. Pledges are above budget, but the offering plate income is significantly below budget. Investments total \$171,843 and continue to increase in value.

The consistory expressed appreciation to Deb Halsey for the time and energy she has put into getting the Sunday School rooms in the lower level of the Education Building cleaned out and cleaned up. Deb can use some help, so please let her know if you are able to put in some time. We also need to get rid of some old furniture and equipment. If you can help with this task, talk to Deb. In addition, we are very grateful to Marilyn DeVisser with her organization and work with the Trinity Cares Ministry.

Members of the consistory are very appreciative of the people who provided pulpit supply during the period of time that we were without pastoral leadership. A collection was taken and a donation has been sent to CaringBridge in honor of these people and in support of Kailee Kwiecien.

Stewardship Sunday will be on November 3rd, with Stewardship Emphasis Sundays preceding that date.

~*Sharon Hann*
Consistory VP

2019 CONSISTORY

Elders:

Jana DiPiazza
Sharon Hann, VP
Bonnie Harris
Lesley Holloway

Deacons:

Bill Almekinder
Greg Halsey, Clerk;
Larry Scheerens
John Stratton



CONSISTORY MEMBER OF THE WEEK

Oct. 6: Lesley Holloway
Oct. 13: Bill Almekinder
Oct. 20: Jana DiPiazza
Oct. 27: Greg Halsey

CHURCH OFFICERS

Treasurer: Marge Magans
Benevolence Secretary:
Michael Holloway
Financial Secretary:
Greg Halsey



Please submit items for Trinity Times by 9:00 am, Wednesday mornings. You may email TRChurchSecretary@gmail.com, or call the office at (585) 381-5330.

Please continue to respect the office as a shared work environment. Return materials to where you found them so the next person can complete their tasks in an organized space.

~ *Michaela Johnson*,
Secretary

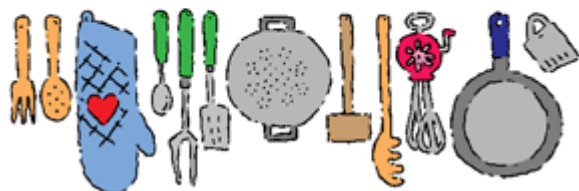
TRC Thursday Senior Breakfasts

Contact John Stratton with questions or concerns at (585) 267-7535

Date	Location	Note
Oct. 3	East Ridge Diner & Steak House	East Ridge near Pep Boys
Oct. 10	George's Restaurant	Panorama
Oct. 17	Browncroft Family Restaurant	At Blossom
Oct. 24	Country Club Diner	East Ave. near Wegman's
Oct. 31	Morningstar Greek & American	Merchants Road

Reminders From the Kitchen

- Any help with Coffee Hour is greatly appreciated! See Jacquie Greene with any questions. Feel free to keep it simple!
- If you have any dishes in the church kitchen, please retrieve them as soon as possible!
- As we prepare for the Cookie Sale, please bring any jam/jelly jars to the church kitchen.



Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf



- Canned Soups
- Tissues
- Paper Towels

Please place donations in the basket in the Narthex. Thank you!

COMMUNION



SCHEDULE

October 6 th	December 8 th
October 27 th	December 15 th
November 3 rd	December 22 nd
November 24 th	January 5 th
December 1 st	

**schedule subject to change*

Stewardship Task Force

“Stewardship” is really the governance of time, treasure, and talent. We see each of these in our commitment to God and to our church. This month, we will spend some time focusing on each of these. On these days, please come to church ready to listen for a short time about each of these areas of focus:

- Oct. 13th - Stewardship of **Time**
- Oct. 20th - Stewardship of **Treasure**
- Oct. 27th - Stewardship of **Talent**

Stewardship Sunday will be November 3rd, allowing us to have a budget ready by the Annual Meeting.



A new monthly adult Sunday School class entitled “**What Are Hymns and Worship Music Really Saying?**” is set to begin on Sunday, October 20th. This month, our focus will be on the following songs:

- *Broken Things* (Matthew West)
- *Maybe It's Okay* (We Are Messengers)
- *Healer of Our Every Ill* (Hymn #795)
- *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* (Hymn #275)



Participants are strongly encouraged to listen to these multiple times before we meet. Really focus on the words and see what God is saying to you through them. We will try to draw parallels between the songs, so thinking of a common theme may be helpful in your study. If you have any questions, please see Michaela Johnson. Hope to see you there!



TRWM: Our October meeting will be held on Friday, October 11th at 1:00 pm in the Lounge. After a brief business meeting and a time of prayer, we shall have a study on THE BOOK. God is eager for us to read the Bible, as it teaches us about God and our salvation. Refreshments will be served by Marilyn DeVisser as we have our time of fellowship together. ALL women are invited to join us.



10/1	Ben Cooper
10/1	Michael Holloway
10/4	Patricia Van Dussen
10/7	Pati Peters
10/8	Carol Stimus
10/9	Rebekah Cooper
10/10	Arlo Turnquist
10/14	Lesley Holloway
10/14	Pat Hughes
10/15	John Lasher
10/19	Paul DeVries
10/24	Ramona Curtis
10/26	Jerry McCarthy



10/1/1981	38 years	Ted & Joyce Marston
10/8/1983	36 years	Jim & Barb Stoops
10/8/2011	8 years	Phillip & Tiffany DiPiazza
10/11/1987	32 years	John & Joan Bernhard
10/13/2007	12 years	Bill & Kristin Shuman
10/15/1989	30 years	Don & Diane Rutherford
10/17/1981	38 years	Dick & Barb Schild
10/28		Alex & Christine Perc
10/29/1983	36 years	Greg & Debbie Halsey
10/30/1971	48 years	Bill & Cathy Almekinder

Christian Book Review

By Marion Crump Spencer

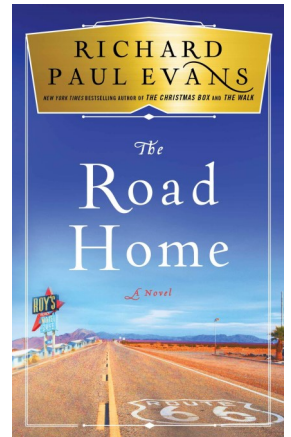
Have you ever considered how different your life would be if you could have a "life do-over"? Why are things so much clearer in hindsight? Richard Paul Evans addresses these issues in The Road Home, which is the final book of a trilogy. In this fascinating tale of redemption, Charles James, a billionaire celebrity, embraces humility and it changes his life. I anticipated this final book and was not disappointed.

Charles James was reported to have died. At the last minute, he was denied admission to his plane, which crashed on the runway killing all of the passengers. Instead of letting someone know he missed the plane, James decided to stay "deceased". This life altering event quickly changed Charles. Attending his own memorial service transformed Charles into a new person seeking redemption. He decided to walk the famous Route 66 from Chicago to California to gain more clarity.

Each chapter has an insightful diary entry and a quote from the Bible or a famous author. By this third installment, James' reason for the walk has changed. Now he is walking back to his ex-wife, Monica, from Amarillo, Texas to Santa Monica, California. He let his personal assistant, Amanda, know he survived the plane crash, who then informed him that Monica was engaged to be married, leaving Charles with 1,100 miles to walk and time to think. Through his journey, we get a glimpse of all of the landmarks and small towns along the way. We meet many people who are driving the route and decide to help James on the way. These people have no ulterior motives except to help a fellow human find life's meaning. Although he has money to spare, James keeps that information under wraps and enjoys the generosity of these strangers. Paying them back in a major way became his goal on this journey.

When he finally arrives at Monica's house, he is overwhelmed with grief as he meets their son for the first time. This moves him to make peace with his own family of origin, another life changing event. He begins to pay his debts to all the folks who helped him knowing there was no chance of repayment. Luke 14:13-14 was Charles' model and a great lesson for us all. Amazing results accompanied each of the recipients and Charles, as well, for his generosity.

By the book's end, Charles is a different person. From the poor young boy with an abusive father, to the cocky, hardened business tycoon, to the humble, appreciative, family man, in The Road Home readers live a journey of redemption with Charles James. And God is this good all the time if we follow His lead on the road home to Him.



"But when thou makest a feast, call the poor...And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee:...for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection." Luke 14:13-14

Please call Barb Stoops at (585) 506-5559 with **prayer requests**, or with information about people for whom we are praying.



October 2019

*calendar items
subject to change

Trinity Reformed Church

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 6:15p- Bells	3 9a- Sr. Breakfast 6p- Finance 7p- Deacons	4 7p- Manuele Bible Study	5 10a- Crafts for a Cause
6 10a- Worship 12:30p- CAYA 6:30p- Discipleship Group	7 7p- AMPS	8	9 5:45p- Music & Worship 6:15p- Bells 7p- Choir	10 9a- Sr. Breakfast 7p- Consistory	11	12 10a- Crafts for a Cause 12p- Dahlia Society
13 10a- Worship 12:30p- CAYA 6:30p- Discipleship Group	14  Columbus Day	15 11:45a- Men's Lunch  DEADLINE: Newsletter Articles	16 6:15p- Bells 7p- Choir	17 9a- Sr. Breakfast	18 7p- Manuele Bible Study	19 10a- Crafts for a Cause
20 10a- Worship 12:30p- CAYA 1:00p- Bills Game 6:30p- Discipleship Group	21	22	23 6p- Mission 6:15p- Bells 7p- Choir	24 9a- Sr. Breakfast	25 6p- Come to Dinner 	26 9a- Fall Work Day 10a- Crafts for a Cause
27 10a- Worship 12:30p- CAYA 6:30p- Discipleship Group	28	29	30 6:15p- Bells 7p- Choir	31 9a- Sr. Breakfast  Halloween		





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