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# The Newsletter, January 2020



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
*Valley View, Pennsylvania*

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## Pastor's Letter

Grace and Peace to you in this New Year!

"A New Year, a New You."

I saw a bunch of people say this towards the end of 2019 heading into 2020. Some people were talking about old habits that needed to change, some were talking about diet and lifestyle adjustments that they need to make, and in general, it was a way of referring to New Year's Resolutions.

I want to look at this a bit differently. I don't think using the beginning of the New Year to initiate change works for many of us because it is, quite frankly, arbitrary. In fact, the labeling of calendar months and numbering of years, these are man-made things. It's all fairly arbitrary. Just because the calendar flips does not mean we stop being the people we were on December 31st.

We all have things we would like to change about ourselves. For myself, I wish I was better at being patient. I get frustrated doing things like waiting in line, anticipating an important date, and spending time trying to correct Timmy when he just won't get what I'm trying to say. He's 2.

But just saying, "okay, come January 1, I'm going to be patient", or even "come January 1, I'm going to act patient" doesn't work. I've tried the Weight Watcher thing too. The fact of the matter is we are all creatures of patterns that have been long in the making, and undoing those things is a much bigger matter than turning over the calendar to a new month and year. If you are trying something new, good for you, but don't fret if and when it doesn't work.

So here's what I think we should do about this as Christians: I think we need to first be honest with ourselves about who we are. We are sinners. We are beloved sinners created by a loving God, but we are sinners. And there are parts of what Martin Luther called the "old Adam" that we love. The part that gives in to instantaneous reward. The part that gives in to impulses. The part that betrays our better selves. The part that is okay with saying, "I know I should do this, but I'm going to do the other thing, or say the other thing, instead."

And after we are honest with ourselves, we should pray for God to change our hearts and minds to be more like the people he wants us to be. And then with that mind of prayerfulness and intentionality, proceed.

Then we need to forgive ourselves when we fail. And we will fail. We will eat the wrong foods. We will act on those bad thoughts that we know we should not. We will assume the worst of people- even the people we love. But we don't have to live into that and totally give into that. We can ask for forgiveness, from God and from each other, and then live another day. And in that other day, we hopefully can make the changes that we would like to see in ourselves.

That's what we have, my brothers and sisters in Christ. Another day, and another day, and more and more days. And in each day there is an opportunity to make the best of what God has given us so that we can live out God's love in a world so given over to anger and hatred.

Take that love and run with it!

See you along the way,  
Pastor Brian

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*In Memoriam* ✝

May the light and promise of the Resurrection shine  
in the lives of the family and friends of  
**Louise Mack, George Straub, Jr**  
**Jeff Snyder, Betty Hummel, and Carol Hoffman**

*Rest eternal grant them, Lord,  
and let light perpetual shine upon them.*

♥ **Louise Mack**, born March 21, 1929, entered into eternal life December 10, 2019. Pastor Brian shared this about Louise...When I think of Louise Mack, I think of someone who was possibly a more devoted Phillies fan than myself. I remember in December a few years after my arrival, she stopped in for my office hours and asked me if I watched the end of the season. I told her that no, I had gotten frustrated, and stopped probably about two weeks before the end of the season. She jokingly asked me if I was a fair-weather fan, and we continued the conversation from there. I often saw her for my Pastor's Lunches, especially when we ate at Traci's Place. She loved her son Kenny, her daughter-in-law Jody, and her grandchildren Alison and Ryan. She had a great sense of humor and enjoyed keeping up with her home until she had to move to Providence Place.

♥ **George Straub, Jr.**, born June 12, 1935, entered into eternal rest on December 24, 2019. Pastor Brian shared this about George...George Straub was a man who moved away from this community quite some time ago, but never left it in spirit. Despite not living near Trinity, he maintained his membership here and always sent in his offering. As his pastor, I would call him when I saw his offering arrived to thank him, as this was not a common practice. George and I would have a short but jovial conversation, and he always asked me how the weather was. He was compassionate, loving of his family and devoted to his wife Dianne.

♥ **In Sympathy** We note with sorrow the death of Jeffrey Snyder, son of Mary Dunkelberger, and offer our prayers and sympathies to the Snyder family.

♥ **In Sympathy** We note with sorrow the death of Betty Hummel, mother of Brenda Leitzel, grandmother of Jamie Schwalm, and great grandmother of Jordan Schwalm. We offer our prayers and sympathies to the Hummel family.

♥ **In Sympathy** We note with sorrow the death of Carol Hoffman, sister of Pat Harner and aunt of JoEllen Fetterolf, and offer our prayers and sympathies to the Hoffman and Harner families.

♥ We give thanks to God for the gift Louise, George, Betty, and Jeff were to their families and friends. May God comfort all who mourn their loss, and may we be comforted by the hope of the resurrection.

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**TRINITY... SERVING, TEACHING, AND PROCLAIMING**

December **Highlights**

**Advent Craft Faire:** The Christian Education Committee continued our tradition of providing a wonderful Advent Craft Faire to celebrate the first Sunday in Advent. The children who participated enjoyed making a variety of Christmas-related crafts. We thank the Christian Education Committee, the

crafters who provided ideas supplies, and guidance, those who donated craft supplies, and those who attended. Always a good time!

**Advent Assistants:** We thank our families who served as Advent Assistants to lead us in our reading and candle lighting during advent. May the meaning of each candle on the Advent wreath stay with us all year long:

- 🕯 Hope - the inspiring and uplifting hope that Christ among us represents;
- 🕯 Peace - both the Prince of Peace himself and the promise of peace on Earth;
- 🕯 Joy - the joy the shepherds received at hearing the news of Christ's birth, or the joy that God brings into our lives;
- 🕯 Love - both God's boundless love for us and our love for one another;
- 🕯 "Christ" candle to celebrate the purity of Jesus and the joy felt on Christmas day;

**Trinity's Annual Christmas Covered Dish Social:** This year our Annual Christmas Covered Dish Social was combined with our Contemporary service providing a Christmas-themed Contemporary Service. We started the evening in the Social Hall with a delicious pot luck dinner. We then proceeded to the Sanctuary for our Contemporary Service followed by music by children from our congregation. Big thanks to the Fellowship Committee for organizing this special event, to our children for providing wonderful Christmas music – Ayla Huss, Hogan Troutman, Ava Kramer, Brenna Fetterolf, Tessa Neville, and to all who participated in this evening.

**Agape Community Meal:** On December 11<sup>th</sup> we enjoyed another Agape Community Meal with a menu of baked chicken pie, pepper cabbage, applesauce, rolls/butter, and Christmas cookies. Assignments will be made for the Agape meal serving/clean-up using the 2020 Time and Talent list. The assignments will start in January, 2020.



**Thank you, Cindy!** Again this year the attendees of our December Agape Community meal enjoyed homemade Christmas cookies compliments of Cindy Kramer. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Cindy for sharing her delicious treats with us.

**Children's Christmas Program:** Seeing our children learn and tell the story of Jesus Birth in their own way is one of the best parts of the Christmas Season. We always look forward to hearing their message and love seeing them grow in their faith as they participate in this program each year.

**DVDs of Christmas Services Available:** Copies of DVDs recorded of the Children's Christmas Program and the Christmas Eve Service are still available. We are asking for a \$5 donation. Please call the church office at 570-682-9373 to request a copy.



**Thank you** to Lisa Rodichok and Carolyn Dunkelberger for once again doing such a wonderful job selecting, directing, and coordinating the Children's Christmas Program;  
**Thank you** to our Sunday School teachers for helping with rehearsals;  
**Thank you** to our children for sharing the story of the first Christmas and their musical talents with us;  
**Thank you** to their parents who bring them to Sunday School and allow us to take part in their child's faith journey.  
**Thank you** to Phyllis Klouser for donating fruit for the children.

**Thank you** to Yvonne Specht and the Decorating Committee for the decorating the church. We appreciate how beautiful the church looks as we celebrate the Christmas Season.

**Miles to Mend:** In December, we were able to give one family assistance through Miles to Mend through a gas card for use for medical transportation. Perhaps you know someone who is going through repeated treatments for a medical condition. If you know someone from the Tri-Valley school district who fits this bill, please use the nomination forms in the office entrance at the church, and we will give them a gas card to offset the transportation cost. **A BIG THANKS to Vernon Schlegel for taking care of all the Redners receipts and to everyone who brings them to the church. This is what makes providing this service possible.**

## Thank you, Joyce!



Our immense thanks to Joyce Schlegel for heading up Worship and Music for the past 35 years. She has done a tremendous job keeping everything related to worship services and music on track. This includes altar guild, worship assignments (lector, communion assistants, communion presenters, greeters, ushers), making sure we have enough candles and communion supplies, arranging for special services, recitals... you name it, she's done it! If it had anything to do with a service or musical event at Trinity, Joyce was a part of it. (Joyce is handing over the chair of Worship and Music to Cindy Kramer, who is counting on Joyce's help and guidance.) THANK YOU, JOYCE!!!

**Update on the Pill Bottle Donations:** We are happy to report that we collected and will be shipping 456 pill bottles to Matthew 25 to support their pill bottle project. We thank everyone who contributed. Keep them coming!

## What's Happening in January



**Food Closet at St John's United Methodist Church, Hegins:** For January, the Food Closet item at St. John's United Methodist Church in Hegins is **Salad Dressing and Croutons**. Please bring any varieties of Salad Dressing and/or croutons to the cabinet in the overflow and any other food donations you might have. They will then be transported to the collection at St. John's and used for disbursement for families in need. We again thank Sandy Wiest who is the person transporting our collection to St. Johns!

**Sunday School Resumes January 5<sup>th</sup>:** Children and Adult Sunday School classes will resume January 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM. Catechetical class will resume January 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 AM. Beginning January 5<sup>th</sup>, the

Adult Sunday School class will begin using the ELCA Daily Discipleship series for our discussions. The material corresponds with the Gospel, is more adult oriented than the Faith Lens series, and provides content and questions to lead discussion around a focus question. Travis Snyder, Beau Troutman, and Robin Otto will take turns leading the group. We are hoping more adults will want to participate in our Sunday School discussions this year. The more people, the more interesting the discussions will be as we share our perspectives and continue to develop our faith. Please join us at 9:30 AM in the church library.

The focus questions for Adult Sunday School discussions in January are as follows:

- ✚ January 5<sup>th</sup> –How do you describe grace? (John 1:10-18)
- ✚ January 12<sup>th</sup> –*What does it mean to you to follow God's Son?* (Matthew 3:13-17)
- ✚ January 19<sup>th</sup> –What does it mean to follow an innocent man of God who was sacrificed for our sins? (John 1:29-42)
- ✚ January 26<sup>th</sup> – When do you need Jesus to shine light on your path? (Matthew 4:12-23)

**Council Member Installation, January 5<sup>th</sup>:** Our Council members will be installed on January 5<sup>th</sup> during the 10:30 AM worship service.



**Agape Community Meal, January 8<sup>th</sup>:** January's Agape Community meal will be held on Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 PM. The menu for January is meatloaf, scalloped potatoes, roast carrots, coleslaw, rolls, cake. Mmmmm. Please join us! If you signed up to help set up, clean up and/or serve, please check the schedule emailed to you by Cindy Kramer to see when you are scheduled to help.



**Breakfast with the Bible, January 11<sup>th</sup>:** The next Breakfast with the Bible will take place at Mama Bear's in Branchdale on Saturday, January 11, 2020 at 8:00 AM. Come and join us!

**Contemporary Service, January 12<sup>th</sup>:** The next Contemporary Service will be held in the Sanctuary on January 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. Thank you for a wonderful experience in December with the addition of our youth performing Christmas music! This month, we will have a fuller band, so come and see what we are up to!

**Church Council Retreat, January 18<sup>th</sup>:** Members of Trinity's church council will meet on Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM at Trinity for a retreat to identify goals for Trinity in 2020.

**Soup Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>:** On Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, our visitor from Haiti (see below) will speak about water accessibility in Haiti at our 10:30 AM worship service. Following the service we will have our first Soup Sunday of the year. Please plan to join us.

**Polka Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>:** Polka Sunday will be held on Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. All hymns and liturgy music will be to polka/German tunes. Please spread the word, and plan to attend this unique service.

**Movie Night, February 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Join us on February 22 for a movie night at 7:00 PM after the Saturday Night service. Our brothers and sisters from Friedens Lutheran Church in Llewellyn will be with us, so come and join us for a wonderful film!

**Music Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>:** Music Sunday will be held Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for special music participants for this service. Sacred music pieces may be vocal or instrumental. A “Special Music” sign up list will be posted on the bulletin wall in April.

**Visitor from Haiti:** Mike Welgosh, trainer at TVHS, is working with a friend of his from Haiti. Archelet is coming to our community to speak about issues of water accessibility in Haiti. He will be visiting individuals and churches to gain support of a water reservoir project initiative through Passion Rescue Mission ([www.passionrescuemission.org](http://www.passionrescuemission.org)). He will be in the area for 2 weeks beginning January 14th and will be speaking at Trinity during our January 19th service.

**Mission Trip 2020 Update:** The destination for our Mission Trip 2020 is Wayne County NY from July 12-17, 2020. We have 22 people who will be going, and the registration is now closed. If participants for the Mission Trip have not already paid the initial \$50 fee, that is due to the church office immediately. On December 21, participants in our upcoming Mission Trip sang to all those who were nominated for Carol Grams. Thank you to all who nominated someone, as we sung to nine requested people and raised \$120 doing so. A meeting for all participants will be held on Monday, January 27th at 7:00 PM to discuss the financial implications for the trip as well as to go over the initial group info.

**Junior Youth Group Activity:** Thank you to Joe Fogarty, Carolyn Dunkelberger, Robin Otto, Vernon Schlegel, and Joan Klinger for driving our youth group to Providence Place in Pine Grove on December 18th! The youth group sang a selection of Christmas Carols to the residents there in three different areas, including in the home of Lewie and Eleanor Miller. Forms to join our group are available at Trinity’s office entrance and on our website at [www.trinityinthevalley.com](http://www.trinityinthevalley.com)

**Bible Study:** Our Bible Study group continues discussion of the book of Luke. Come and join us in the Church Library on Monday mornings at 9:45 AM.



**Pill Bottle Donations:** We’re still collecting used pill bottles from old prescriptions to send to Matthew 25 Project in Blue Ash, OH, where they will be sent to third world countries for use there. In these developing countries, medicines—when actually obtainable—are often dispensed into hands, pockets, leaves or any other available container. Matthew 25 Ministries accepts donations of clean, unlabeled pill bottles to help the poorest of the poor in many ways: Medicine can be distributed in sterile containers. Pill bottles that are not appropriate for shipping are recycled for cash that goes towards Matthew 25: Ministries’ programs. Before donating, please remove labels and wash out the bottles. Bottles can be placed in the box marked “Pill Bottles” located in the overflow.

**Birthdays and Anniversaries:** To help celebrate birthdays and wedding anniversaries, we would like to project pictures on the screen at the time of singing. Anyone interested should submit a photo two weeks ahead of the date. Just give it to Pastor Brian, Lillie, or put it in the door of the church office. Surprise your loved one with a photo from the past!

## Congratulations

Beginning this year, we are adding this new feature to The Newsletter, a section where we share good news and accomplishments (retirements, promotions, awards, honors, etc.) of our members, former members, or friends and family of members.

This month we are featuring Kathleen Harring, daughter of Dr. Maynard and the late Lois Harring. Kathy was a member of Trinity from birth until she moved away after college graduation. She is a 1976 graduate of TVHS. Here is information taken from the Muhlenberg College website regarding their new President, Kathleen Harring. Congratulations, Kathy. We are so proud of you.

### **Kathleen E. Harring, Ph.D, President of Muhlenberg College**

Kathleen E. Harring, Ph.D., was named to a two-year term by the College's Board of Trustees in December 2019. Harring had been named the interim president of Muhlenberg College on June 19, 2019. A member of the Muhlenberg College faculty since 1984, Harring most recently served as the College's provost.

During her tenure as provost, Harring was instrumental in guiding a number of important initiatives, including serving as co-chair for Muhlenberg's 2017 strategic planning process, implementing procedures to support the College's diversity initiatives and overseeing planning for new post-graduate programs.

Harring has held several additional senior leadership roles, including vice president and dean of institutional effectiveness and planning and dean of institutional assessment and academic planning. Her service to the College has also included terms as psychology department chair, as a founding member of the College's Faculty Center for Teaching and as a member of numerous faculty and staff committees. She has led accreditation activities, overseen general education reform and acted as the architect of internal assessment systems at Muhlenberg.

Harring is the recipient of the Muhlenberg College Chairman's Award, the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching and the Paul C. Empie Memorial Award for Teaching and Service. She frequently presents nationally and internationally on topics as diverse as teaching and learning, outcomes assessment, shared governance and professional development in higher education.

Earning her B.A. in psychology from Franklin and Marshall College, Harring received her M.A. and Ph.D. in social psychology with a minor in quantitative psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is married to John Wittenbraker, who serves as managing director and chief science officer at Ipsos, a global market research and consulting firm. They have one daughter, Carolyn, who lives in New York City.



## Did You Ever Wonder...

about the relationship with the church

## and New Year's Day?

Some congregations do indeed serve Pork and Sauerkraut on New Year's Day, but in the early church, it wasn't so easy.

Romans looked forward to the free food and games that occurred at annual New Year's celebrations, but early Christian clerics were not as keen on the revelries. Long before the "war on Christmas," there was the war on New Year's Day.

The non-Christian Romans called January 1st the Kalends of January. The Kalends is what gives us the modern word "calendar." The Kalendae Ianuariae was a time of particular hope and anticipation for the coming year. It was filled with celebrations and religious rites that focused on the health of individual Romans and of the state.

Romans literally got off on the right foot by leading with their right leg as they entered temples, houses and other doorways on this and many other days. One's right foot was considered far more auspicious than their sinister foot (left foot), and one always wanted to begin auspiciously in a new year.

Following the victory of Constantine at the Battle of the Milvian Bridge in 312 CE, Christianity was made the religion of the day and then encouraged by the emperor until his death in 337. With the Roman emperor as its visible patron, the relatively small religion grew mightily over the next few decades. In turn, Christian clerics also became more powerful figures within Roman cities as more people converted. And yet New Year's remained a time for pagan religions.

As Christian influence grew even more, the Christian priests decided to replace a New Year's celebration with another one. Thus, they introduced the Festival of Christ's Circumcision (I am not kidding), which was supposed to be the celebration on January 1. To celebrate Kalends, or New Year, was to align oneself with the pagan religions, so this was very much discouraged, and in some cases, outlawed.

Regardless, smaller New Year's celebrations continued. It never really went away. It finally got to the point where now, we celebrate Christian holidays and New Year's as well. And thankfully, your pastor doesn't have to preach about Jesus' circumcision.

## Save the Dates

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Events</u>
January 5, 2020	Sunday School resumes
January 5, 2020	Council member installation, 10:30 AM Worship Service
January 8, 2020	Agape Community Meal, 5:30 PM
January 11, 2020	Breakfast with the Bible, 8:00 AM at Mamma Bear's
January 12, 2020	Contemporary Service, 6:00 PM
January 18, 2020	2020 Council Retreat, Trinity, 8:00 AM
January 19, 2020	Visitor from Haiti speaking at 10:30 worship service
January 19, 2020	Soup Sunday following worship
January 27, 2020	Mission Trip Participants Meeting, 7:00 PM
February 9, 2020	Polka Sunday






<u>Dates</u>	<u>Events</u>
February 22, 2020	Movie Night, 7:00 PM in Trinity's Sanctuary
February 26, 2020	Ash Wednesday Service at Trinity, 7:30 PM
May 5, 2020	Music Sunday
July 12-17, 2020	Mission Trip to Wayne County, NY

## Important Reminders





### Worship Services - Everyone Welcome!






-  Saturday Evenings, 6:00 PM
-  Sunday Mornings, 10:30 AM
-  Contemporary Service – 6:00 PM on the second Sunday of the month.





### Sunday School for all ages: Sunday mornings, 9:30 AM

-  **Children's Sunday School:** Sunday School for our children ages 2 to 18 is held every Sunday morning from **9:30 to 10:15 AM**. There are classes for Nursery; Kindergarten-2<sup>nd</sup> Grades; 3<sup>rd</sup> -4<sup>th</sup> Grades; Pre-teens (5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grades); Confirmation.
-  **Adult Sunday School:** Our adult discussion Sunday School Class is held every Sunday morning **9:30 to 10:15 AM** in the church library. The class uses the ELCA Daily Discipleship for discussion of the Word of life and the Word among us.



### Contact Us:

-  Trinity Lutheran Church, PO Box 153, 1220 West Maple Street Valley View, PA 17983
-  Office Phone: (570) 682-9373
-  Visit us on the web at: [www.TrinityintheValley.com](http://www.TrinityintheValley.com)
-  Email address for Trinity: [TrinityLuthvv@gmail.com](mailto:TrinityLuthvv@gmail.com)
-  Follow us on Facebook

#### **Pastor Brian's Contact Information:**

-  Church office: 570-682-9373
-  Pastor Brian's cell phone: 570-516-1787

#### **Pastor Brian's Office Hours:**

-  Mondays - 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM
-  Pastor Brian is also available by appointment

**Church Secretary's Office Hours:** Lillie will be in the office on Tuesday and Wednesday from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon and Thursday from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Bulletin deadline is Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM for the current week's bulletin. Bulletins will be available for folding from late Thursday evening on. If you need anything at a time other than Lillie's regular hours, please let her know at 570-682-9373 (office) or 570-682-8217 (home).

**Pastoral Visitation:** Due to health privacy laws, hospitals do not automatically call the church office to tell us when our members are hospitalized. If you or someone in your family is hospitalized, please call Pastor Brian to ensure a pastoral visit. Pastor Brian strives to visit members in nursing homes at least once every six weeks. **If you feel your loved one would benefit from more frequent pastoral visitation, please contact Pastor Brian.**

**Community Aid Bins:** The two Community Aid bins at the west end of the parking lot are waiting for donations. Trinity receives 3 cents per pound back for whatever is donated which in turn is used to support our Miles to Mend Program. The items we donate support Community Aid's mission.

**Newsletter Distribution:** Please call the church office at 570-682-9373 to let Lillie know if you would like to receive the newsletter via email or U.S. mail or if you would prefer a LARGE PRINT version. You may also pick up a copy inside the office entrance or on the shelving unit to the right of the glass case across from the Nursery classroom.

**Electronic Online Donations to Trinity:** Online contributions can be debited automatically from your checking or savings account, or processed using your credit or debit card. Vanco Payment Solutions is the administrator of the Simply Giving Program endorsed by Thrivent Federal Credit Union. To participate, go to Trinity's website at [www.TrinityintheValley.com](http://www.TrinityintheValley.com), scroll to the bottom of the home page and click on the box titled "Electronic Giving". Or if you would like to speak with someone, please contact Alex Zimmerman at 570-617-3911 or Pastor Brian.

**Tree of Life:** Leaves in honor or memory of loved ones or special events such as weddings, confirmations, baptisms are still available. The cost is \$60 per leaf with proceeds designated for Christian Education. If interested, please complete a Leave Your Legacy form for each leaf.

**Amazon Smile:** AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. When you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. Trinity is registered with the AmazonSmile program to receive donations from Amazon when purchases are made from Amazon accounts. To shop at AmazonSmile enter [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) in the web browser on your computer or mobile device. To choose Trinity as the recipient, enter "Lutheran Church Valley View" (do not enter PA) in the charity search box. Trinity Lutheran Church Valley View PA should appear after you press enter.



“Love is patient and kind; it is not jealous or conceited or proud; love is not ill-mannered or selfish or irritable; love does not keep a record of wrongs; love is not happy with evil, but is happy with the truth.”

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

## God's Work, Our Hands

### Mission Statement Trinity Lutheran Church

Trinity Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and is called to carry on the serving, teaching, proclaiming ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ to all people through our life as a congregation and through our daily lives as individual Christians.