

Newsletter of  
**TRINITY EVANGELICAL  
COVENANT CHURCH**

9230 S. Pulaski Road  
Oak Lawn, IL 60453  
Phone 708-422-5111

E-mail: [office@trinitycovoaklawn.org](mailto:office@trinitycovoaklawn.org)

Website: [www.trinitycovoaklawn.org](http://www.trinitycovoaklawn.org)

**October**

**Ushers**

Clarence Rosengren – Captain  
John & Joyce Gorney  
Greg & Janice Goetz

**Greeters**

2 Paula Cassady, Jeff Blust  
9 Matt & Barbara Mateer  
16 Tom & Denise Sullivan, Hannah, Emily  
23 Joel & Nancy Mondry, Keith  
30 Tom & Barbara Dorl

**Nursery**

2 Angie Panush,  
9 Pat Klutarch, Marcia Lellos  
16 Kari Devine, Heidi Weszely  
23 Denise, Emily, Hannah Sullivan,  
30 Pam Polcar, Pam Ramano

**Counters**

Barbara Mateer  
Clarence Rosengren  
Gary Kozak

**Birthdays**

2 Diana Nilsson  
3 Jim Strickland  
3 Carol Raines  
3 Karen McShane  
5 Brianna Khan  
12 Joy Gaw  
12 Michelle West  
13 Cody Devine  
14 Priscilla Swanson  
16 Ginny Almer  
19 Lois Flaws  
19 Pam Polcar  
20 Phil Cavallone  
22 Mary Almer  
22 Madelyn Ford  
24 Kirsten Torling  
27 Jay Hanson  
29 Michael Davies  
30 Lorraine Weszely  
31 Judy Gilbert  
31 Matthew Panush

***If we missed your birthday, please  
let the office know so that it will be listed  
in the future.***

# *The Messenger* October 2016

## **Over the Pastor's Shoulder**

“Pray then in this way...” (Matthew 6:9-15)

There is one word I failed to mention in our recent sermon series on the Lord's Prayer. That one word is “Amen”. It is a Hebrew word meaning “right on” or “so be it”. It is a Biblical way of saying, “This is true.” In the Gospels Jesus often says, “Amen I say to you,” usually translated in our English as, “Truly I say to you.”

When we end the prayer with “Amen”, it is a final affirmation that the prayer is true. What we have in The Lord's Prayer is not so much a set of beliefs, but rather truth as embodied in Jesus of Nazareth, the One in whom we believe to be, “the way, the truth and the life.” This truth is a person, personal. We would not know how to pray had Jesus not taught us.

I'll never forget the time as a young pastor I was preaching in a nursing home. The worshippers were mostly elderly people; many seemed to be unaware of where they were. I preached enthusiastically, but my enthusiasm was met with blank lifeless stares. The song leader didn't fare any better than me. He enthusiastically sang, but again there was little response from the nursing home congregation. But then as I concluded the service I said, “Let us pray. Our Father...”. Suddenly everyone joined in. There was a congregation after all. Their bodies remembered the prayer and their faith was embodied in the prayer.

Another image, in a prison camp in World War II, on a cold dark evening after a series of beatings, after hundreds of prisoners of war had been marched before the camp commander and harangued for an hour, when the prisoners were returned to their dark barracks and told to be quiet for the rest of the night, someone, somewhere in one of the barracks began saying the Lord's Prayer. Some of his fellow prisoners lying next to him began to pray with him. Their prayer was overheard by prisoners in the next building who joined them. One by one, each set of barracks joined in the prayer until, as the prayer was ending with, “Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory”, hundreds of prisoners had joined their voices in a strong, growing, defiant prayer, reaching a thunderous “Amen!”

And then the camp was silent, but not before the tables had been turned, the prisoners had thrown off their chains and a new world had been sited, signaled and started.

There is something quite helpful in hearing the whole congregation, at the end of the Lord's Prayer, thundering forth with one great “Amen”. In praying to “Our Father”, we ask for forgiveness of “our sin”, we pray for “our daily bread”. None of us could make it in this faith alone. We need sisters and brothers in the church, the saints down through the centuries to teach us to pray. We keep getting it all wrong, praying to the wrong gods, asking for the wrong things. We keep being disappointed when God does not answer our pray as we thought God ought. We are forever mumbling through the prayer in some disconnected pious act that we have carefully detached from life. Therefore, we desperately need one another. We can't pray as Jesus taught us without the church. Amen.

In teaching us to pray, Jesus is making us more truthful, more faithful, Jesus is making us his disciples. In praying, our lives are being bent from their natural inclination – toward God. We are becoming the very holiness, obedience, forgiveness for which we ask for in the prayer.

This is what it means to have the gift of this prayer. We find our little lives caught up in the great drama of God's redemption of the world, we are swept into an adventure more significant than our lives would have been if left to ourselves, heaven is open, the kingdom is come, and we shout, “Amen!”

Grace and Peace,

*Pastor Jim*

## Adult Sunday School

Our Adult Sunday School class will continue



with the topic "Onward Christian Soldiers" dealing with the Crusades with our own Greg Goetz teaching for the first two weeks in October. Join us in the Fireside Room at 11:15 A.M. for this riveting subject.

Starting October 2 in the Overflow Room, Rich Hood begins his study on the Book of Romans.

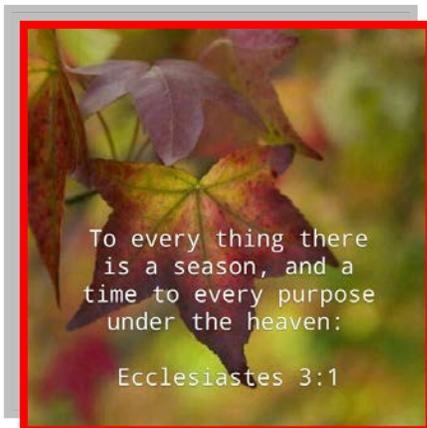
## With Sympathy



As a church family we extend our sympathy to the family of Pastor Jim and Charlene Sandberg on the death of Juanita (Nita) Sandberg, wife of Duane Sandberg, Pastor Jim's dad. Juanita entered the life eternal on Sunday, September 11. A funeral service was held in Galesburg, IL on Thursday, September 15. Peace be to the

memory of Juanita.

As a church family we extend our sympathy to the family of retired pastor William Herbert Liljegren, former visitation pastor at Trinity, who entered the life eternal in August 27. A Celebration of Bill's life will be held in Paradise Valley, AZ, on Saturday, October 1 and in Turlock, CA, on Sunday, October 9. Peace be to the memory of Bill.

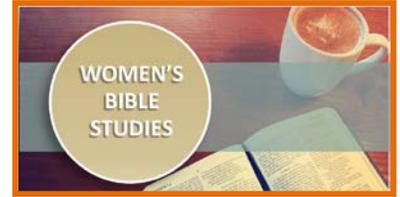


## Altar Flowers

If you would like to celebrate or honor someone on a given special date, please see the sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex. Flowers are \$40 and you are invited to take them home following morning worship.

## Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study

The Autumn season "took off running" with our new study concerning God's plan to further introduce His



messengers to guide and give hope for our trials this day. He connects the "then" with the "now" in ways giving direct insight into the adage, "There is nothing new under the sun."

The burdens, the baggage, the substance of our days are not compromised as we witness the historical and spiritual evidence of times given through The Word. We are part and parcel of the "then" as well as the "now" as our study will attest. The fact is that we are cemented and inter-locked – a given. No argument.

To date we have looked at and heeded the balance taking place with cameos of Isaiah, Esther and Daniel and his three Hebrew boys. In coming weeks, Paul, Philip, Cornelius, Timothy, Priscilla and Aquila and Apollos will be placed on the scales of the past with how their challenges and faith meet and influence us thousands of years later producing and providing guidance, help and hope.

As we study our Bible lessons from the past we recognize the "fit" as we are guaranteed how, in retrospect and in continued planning still in the "works", we are blessed, secure and safe knowing our Head Shepherd is all-seeing, all-knowing, all-powerful and ever present.

A new segment to our Tuesday morning gives the opportunity of sharing the joy of an unexpected "surprise happening" during the past week. Joys, surprises, miracles are within reach from His unlimited storehouse. Seek the moment.

We look forward to another month and a new season as we gather together to ask the Lord's blessing. Quoting Dr. Seuss, "Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."

Barbara Johnson

Tuesday, Fireside Room – Trinity

Bakery 9:00 – 9:30

Study – 9:30 – 10:45

Lunch – continued fellowship

## Congregational Vitality

38 members and friends participated in the Congregational Vitality seminar September 23 and 24. The November Messenger will review the highlights of our collective experiences. For now, suffice it to say we found it to be a helpful first step on the Vitality pathway.

## Mitch's Musings

Hello Friends of Trinity!



What an incredible summer I had! I didn't even have time to write in the Messenger! To catch you up to speed with the transitions of my personal life: I did my Clinical Pastoral Education this summer at Swedish Covenant Hospital. Here I worked many hours from June 1 to August 10 visiting patients, answering emergency, code blue, code red and other types of pages. There were five of us from North Park all working alongside each other in various shifts. Together, we had four hours of group supervisions every Wednesday morning. We also had individual supervision with both our mentor on staff at Swedish and with our group supervisor, who works in his own private practice as a counselor.

I flew up to Warroad, MN to help Jena pack up her apartment and load it all into the U-haul truck. She and I drove it down to Chicago and got her all moved into what would become our new place by July 25. We made the decision to leave Nadia and Emmi up north with family during the Roseau County Fair. This was a good time for all – it allowed Jena's family to spend some quality time with the girls before the big move and it freed us up to tackle many practicalities, such as drivers license, bank accounts, etc, here in Chicago.

Then Jena flew up north alone and spent a couple nights, said their goodbyes and she and the girls drove down here in her car. We were able to get the house set up completely so the girls could walk right in to their new room, new place, etc. They were jumping up and down excited as they peeled through the new apartment! I think we even got a video of it!

I finished up CPE, as I mentioned on August 10, my hours at Trinity started to increase a little bit, and before you knew it, we had family coming in for our wedding! We got married on North Park's campus in Nyvall Hall, with a reception in Hamming Hall. It was a perfectly wonderful and deeply emotional day for all! We were so blessed to have our family and friends make such a long trip from northern Minnesota to share our day with us!

As school started, we decided that maybe now was a great time for Jena to go back to school as well, so she's enrolled full-time at North Park University! I'm so excited for her! The girls also started at Peterson Elementary after Labor Day and they are LOVING it! Some mornings and some afternoons, I'm able to walk them to school or pick them up in the afternoons with Jena, which is wonderful. It's great to have such an amazing school so close to our place.

Now that fall has come, and all of the routines are locked in place, the schedule at Trinity is picking up! I'm so excited to be spending more time with the youth here and I've loved being able to sit down and talk with them, as well as play some music again with them! We're planning some events as you read this, including a winter retreat to Covenant Harbor, a trip to the Corn Maze, another Laser Tag event, and hopefully an OVERNIGHT 30 Hour Famine Event, where we partner with

World Vision and fast to raise money for those who need it. I know I don't need any extra pieces of pizza or Johnsonville bratwurst 😊

Lastly, I want to write an over-arching THANK YOU to Trinity ECC. You all have been so incredibly supportive to me and now to my new family. Thank you all so much for throwing such a thoughtful and generous wedding shower for Jena and I. We brought our gifts and cards home and opened them up – we were so moved by your overwhelming generosity! THANK YOU! (Thank you cards are coming your way!) We were so humbled. We are sincerely grateful to call you all friends. It means so much to me for you to extend such a hospitable and generous hand to Jena and the girls. You're all amazing!

Stay tuned for many upcoming events!!

Mitch Haaby



## **KINGDOM KIDS' CHRONICLE**

*Our Kingdom Kids Sunday School had a glorious beginning on Sunday, September 11 with class followed by a picnic and inflatable obstacle course, games and sno cones! Thanks to teachers Mrs. Kellie Lee and Mrs. Karen McShane, the students have learned about creation through stories, word games, art, and crafts. We have had at least 15 in attendance including two new pre-school families. Children will be awarded for perfect attendance monthly. The following kids have won prizes for September:*

*Mikey Devine  
Cody Devine  
Alyssa Devine  
Ally Ford  
Ariel Kurzweil  
Nadia Neumiller  
Emmi Neumiller  
Lucy Panush  
Ryan Panush  
Dominic Panush  
Joey Robertson*

*Make sure you join us for the October study of the Lord's Prayer.*

Monday  
October 10



## 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Exceptional Music for Exceptional Families Concert

On Saturday, October 15, North Park University Concert Band will present the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Exceptional Music for Exceptional Families for families of children with autism and special needs. This is a Free event and includes a pre-concert "instrumental petting zoo" at 7 P.M. The concert begins at 7:30 P.M. in Anderson Chapel (at the corner of Foster and Spaulding Avenues). The evening will bring music to this special audience in a most welcoming and safe surrounding. Members will be encouraged to freely enjoy the enriching power of music through listening, dancing and hands-on activities with various instruments.

For tickets contact Karen Dickelman at 773-244-5625 or register online at: [www.northpark.edu/exceptional](http://www.northpark.edu/exceptional).

## Noah's Ark Preschool Pizza Night Fundraiser

Join Noah's Ark Preschool for their annual Halloween Pizza Night Fundraiser on Friday, October 28, in Peterson Hall, from 5:30-7:30 P.M. All you can eat pizza, salad, drinks and desserts! Games and crafts too. Children can dress up in their favorite costume. Cost is \$6 per person (children under age 3 are free).



Are you able to help out and donate a basket for the raffle? If yes, please contact Christina Palazzolo or the church office at 708-422-5111. Thank you for your support!

## Pryme Tymers

Join us in October for two fun programs:

**October 13, 11 A.M.:**

Entrée: Beef Stew

Program: *Annual Benefit Fashion Show*. This year we will be wearing Fall and Winter selections from CHICO's in Orland Park. A Pretty Girl is Like a Melody...!

**October 27, 11 A.M.:**

Entree: Roast Pork Loin

Program: *Octoberfest with Eddie Korosa*. We meet in Peterson Hall this morning for song and dance with Polka king – Eddie Korosa, Jr. Bring a friend! Let your hair down and your lederhosen up!

Make your reservation by the Friday BEFORE the event. The cost per meeting is \$7. Be sure to bring two canned goods for the Salvation Army Food Pantry as there is always a great need.

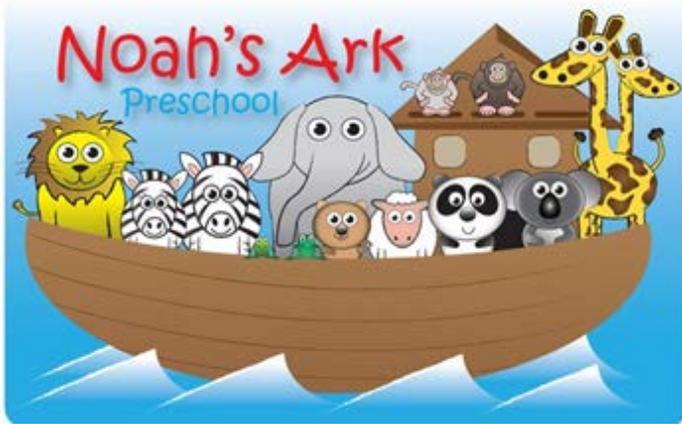


## New Address:

Margaret Morrissey  
6525 W. 63<sup>rd</sup> St., 2e, Chicago, IL  
60638

[migs365@sbcglobal.net](mailto:migs365@sbcglobal.net)





# October Newsletter 2016



## Dates to Remember

**Friday, October 7**  
Grandparent's Day  
10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Monday, October 10**  
No School-Columbus Day

**Friday, October 14**  
Picture Day  
+  
PPO Meeting – Pre-K Classroom @ 12:00

**Monday, October 17**  
Picture Viewing Day

**Friday, October 28**  
Halloween Pizza Night Fundraiser

**Monday, October 31 + Tuesday, November 1**  
Classroom Halloween Parties

## A note of Thanks!

Thank you to all of our families who have donated items to our classrooms. The supplies are much needed and will be put to good use!

Thank you to our wonderful readers who have shared their time reading to our preschoolers.

Pastor Jim, thank you for sharing the wonderful story about Amber Lamb. The children enjoyed learning about her first day of school.

**During October we will focus on...**

### **Math**

- Fall Patterns

### **Science**

- What's inside a pumpkin?
- Making play dough
- Fire Safety

### Pre-K Classroom

During the month of October, the children will focus on the letters Oo, Tt, Ll, + Bb and numbers 0-6.

### 3's – 4's Classroom

During the month, the children will focus on letters Cc- Dd and numbers 0-3.



### A NOTE FROM...

Mrs. Palazzolo & Mrs. Wojcik

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Autumn brings new colors! What a great time of the year to discover the beautiful color changes of the leaves on the trees.

Each child has done a wonderful job adjusting to our class schedule and routine. Each is eager to learn new things each day! Our ticket chart has been a great success and the children are excited when it is treasure box day!

For the month of September, we focused on the vowels. The children learned the vowel song. Ask your child to sing the vowel song to you! We also had fun making and sharing a fruit salad with our friends and learned about Johnny Appleseed. The children enjoyed measuring toys in our classroom with apples.

As we progress through the month of October, the children will continue to work on letter sounds and recognition. We will continue to focus on the vowels and learn letters Oo, Tt, Ll, and Bb.

Please work with your child daily. Reinforcing what your child has learned at school will help them build these required skills to help promote reading readiness.

We are so proud of each and every one of the children. They have worked so hard this past month with printing their name and learning the letters in their name. Please remember when working with your child at home, remind them to hold the pencil properly and to always start at the top of the line when printing. Also, using flashcards is also a great way to help

your child work on letter recognition and sounds, shapes, colors and numbers.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Palazzolo  
Mrs. Wojcik



### A NOTE FROM...

Ms. Amanda & Mrs. Theo

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Happy Fall and October! School is in full swing and we are really getting into our routines and adjusting nicely.

October will be a wonderful month of learning for our class. We have learned so much already! The children have done a wonderful job learning the basic shapes and colors, numbers 1 and 2 and letters Aa and Bb.

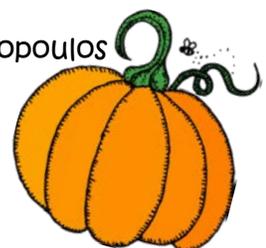
This month we will continue on with the alphabet and focus on letters Cc and Dd. The children will become familiar with the letter sounds and the formation of these letters. We will continue to work on counting 1-10 and begin to recognize numbers 2 and 3 as well as working on basic shapes and colors.

The children enjoy working on their crafts every day and are learning how to follow step by step instructions.

Looking forward to the rest the school year!

Sincerely,

Ms. Amanda and Mrs. Theodossopoulos



# October 2016

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	 <b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>						

## On-going Ministry

### Sunday Mornings

**10:00 AM** Worship

**10:00 AM** Nursery for Infants/Sunday School Pre-K – 6th Grade

**11:15 AM** Confirmation, Sr. High, Adult Classes

(childcare will be provided for parents who want to attend Sunday School)

Noah's Ark Preschool – Mon. – Fri., 9 AM – 12 P.M.

Women's Bible Study – Tuesday, 9:30 AM, Fireside Room

Pryme Tymers – 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 11 AM

## Notes:

2: Together We Cope retiring offering

4: Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room (9:30 AM)  
Ronald McDonald House supper (4:30 PM)

7: Noah's Ark Grandparents Day, Peterson Hall (10:45 AM)

10: Columbus Day – Noah's Ark Preschool Holiday

11: Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room (9:30 AM)  
Deacons meeting (6:30 PM)  
Trustees & CE Board meetings (7 PM)

13: Pryme Tymers resumes (11 AM)

18: Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room (9:30 AM)

19: **Articles for October Messenger due**

23: SKF meeting, Fireside Room (3 PM)

25: Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room (9:30 AM)

27: Pryme Tymers (11 AM)  
Church Board meeting (7 PM)

28: Noah's Ark Pizza Night Fundraiser, Peterson Hall (5:30 PM)

31: **Happy Halloween**

**Trinity Evangelical Covenant Church**  
9230 South Pulaski Road  
Oak Lawn, IL 60453  
708-422-5111  
Website: [www.trinitycovoaklawn.org](http://www.trinitycovoaklawn.org)  
E-mail: [office@trinitycovoaklawn.org](mailto:office@trinitycovoaklawn.org)

**Reverend Dr. James R. Sandberg**

*Senior Pastor*

**Mitch Haaby**

*Pastoral Intern*

**Nate VanDerMale**

*Interim Director of Music and Worship*

**Betty Aardema**

*Organist*

**Stuart Seale**

*Pianist*

**Christina Palazzolo**

*Director – Noah's Ark Preschool*

**Karen Christakos**

*Secretary*

**Joe Michalowicz**

*Custodian*

Articles for the  
November Messenger  
are due October 16