

NEWSLETTER

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Rev. Kathleen Gorman-Coombs &
 Rev. Dr. Timothy Coombs
 185 SWAGGERTOWN ROAD
 Scotia, NY 12302

SUNDAY
10:00 AM

Sunday School and nursery available during worship. We are an accessible Church.

Do justice, love kindness, walk humbly with God.

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MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS

means Trinity is more Welcoming & Inclusive

A message from Pastor Kathy

Dear Friends:

On Sunday, September 30, about 25 folks gathered for the “Communal Conversations Lunch” that closed our sermon series on “Being Community in a Divisive World.” From what I’ve heard from folks (as well as my own experience), some good conversations were had about a variety of issues ranging from health care to how religion and politics relate . . . thank you to the moderators, Mariellen Boomhower, Liz Dobson-Davis, Louise Gundrum, and Rick Longhurst, and to the Deacons for providing the meal. And thanks to those who stayed and engaged in listening and sharing views with one another.

We move on now to the next sermon series of the fall, on “Spiritual Hungers.” Back in August, an e-mail went out asking folks to share what it is you hunger for spiritually . . . we got a few answers, and with those as well as some reflections of our own, have come up with a 6 week series (7 with the intro) that we hope will touch some of those spiritual hungers, help us all recognize what we yearn for, and perhaps urge us to be more intentional about getting those needs met in our lives. Here’s what we have planned:

Sunday, October 7: World Communion Sunday and Intro to the Series

Tim preaching

Sunday, October 14: Simplicity

Kathy preaching

Sunday, October 21: Giving

Tim preaching

(Stewardship packets will be available on this day ; -)

Sunday, October 28: Community

Kathy preaching

Sunday, November 4: Solitude

Tim preaching

Sunday, November 11: Harmony

Kathy preaching

Sunday, November 18: Losing Ourselves in Wonder

Tim preaching

And when that’s all over—it will be Thanksgiving! Hoping many will join us through this series, and if the themes have you thinking about your own spiritual hungers and yearnings, we are always open to hear about those and perhaps tuck ideas away for future series.

Blessings,
Kathy



Youth Group Outdoor Movie



YOUTH GROUP

We had fun with “The Last Jedi” for our movie. I think I even saw a Kylo Ren running about! As we head into October we have more fun planned. Join Darren and Cheryl on Sunday, October 14 for some games of trust and team work. Then on October 28 we join for “Pumpkins and Faith!” You’ll have to come to see what that’s all about. Each gathering is at 4:30. Bring a friend or two or three.

PARALLELS

The next service will be entitled “Holy Ghost Stories.” Come here or tell stories of the strange “God-incidences” in your life that you just can’t quite explain. The service will be Saturday, October 27 at 5:00 pm at the Charlton-Freehold Presbyterian Church.

MEN’S GROUP OUTING

Glenn Pietrow invites his fellow men of Trinity and their friends to Mountain Ridge Adventure Zip Line Park. Glenn has been working there for a good part of the summer and has reserved a time for us to either participate in the treetop challenge or have fun on the zip lines. Join us Saturday, October 20 at 1:00 pm. Mountain Ridge Adventure is on 300 Weatherwax Road in Scotia

PROJECTOR FUND

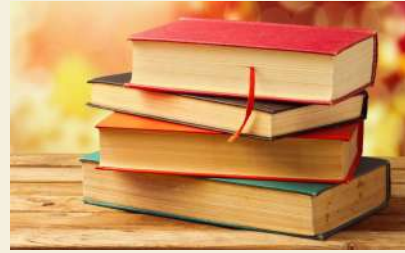
We are about half-way to our goal of buying a new projector. If you’ve been in worship lately you can see how, despite a new bulb, our 12 year-old projector just isn’t bright enough anymore.

The good news is that the cost of projectors has decreased since our current one was last purchased. Along with a long throw lens we can get a new and brighter projector for roughly \$4,500. (the old system cost more than \$7, 500).

If you have not contributed please write a check made to Trinity Presbyterian Church with “Projector Fund” in the memo line. Thank you.

INFORMATION FROM PASTOR TIM:

BOOK STUDY



BOOK STUDY

This October Tim will lead a study of Brian McLaren's book *The Great Spiritual Migration: How the World's Largest Religion is Seeking a Better Way to be Christian.*

In *The Spiritual Migration*, Brian McLaren argues that— notwithstanding the dire headlines about the demise of faith and drop in church attendance—Christian faith is not dying. Rather, it is embarking on a once-in-an-era spiritual shift. For millions, the journey has already begun.

Drawing from his work as global activist, pastor, and public theologian, McLaren challenges readers to stop worrying, waiting, and indulging in nostalgia, and instead, to embrace the powerful new understandings that are reshaping the church. In *The Great Spiritual Migration*, he explores three profound shifts that define the change:

- Spiritually, growing numbers of Christians are moving away from defining themselves by lists of beliefs and toward a way of life defined by love
- Theologically, believers are increasingly rejecting the image of God as a violent Supreme Being and embracing the image of God as the renewing Spirit at work in our world for the common good
- Missionally, the faithful are identifying less with organized religion and more with organizing religion—spiritual activists dedicated to healing the planet, building peace, overcoming poverty and injustice, and collaborating with other faiths to ensure a better future for all of us

McLaren puts into words what we have been experiencing and thinking for some time now at Trinity. The study will begin on October 21 after worship where we will talk about the preface and introduction. The study will continue chapter by chapter on Sunday evenings either online through a “zoom” video conference or face to face. Our schedule to begin is:

Sunday, October 21 After worship – Preface and Introduction

Sunday, October 28 Evening “Zoom” video conference (details to follow)

Chapter 1

Sunday, November 4 After worship – Chapter 2

Sunday, November 11 After worship – Chapter 3

Sunday, November 18 Evening “Zoom” video conference Chapter 4

Sunday, November 25 After worship – Chapter 5

MISSION COMMITTEE NOTES

Our Weekend Backpack Program at Scotia-Glenville Schools will kick off the week of October 15th. We have a staff of dedicated volunteer drivers picking up the food on Wednesdays and bringing the boxes to Trinity. From now until the end of December we will be packing the food in individual bags on Thursdays at 6:30 and delivering them to Lincoln and Sacandaga Schools in the village. **We would greatly appreciate YOUR HELP with the packing and delivering. It takes less than an hour to get the bags packed and delivered. With that in mind we are having a very brief volunteer training on Sunday, the 14th right after the service. It is pretty easy, always fun and a great opportunity for you and your family to help us out. (We would also appreciate your donation of used plastic grocery bags for the food.)**



Our new project, providing food for Scotia-Glenville High School students at a Food Pantry, is running smoothly. We are now on our second delivery of food and personal items for the teens in partnership with First Reformed Church of Scotia.

Many thanks to those of you who have supported the denomination-wide **Peace and Global Witness Offering**. There is still time to donate to this local and global ministry. The offering will be dedicated on World Communion Sunday, October 14th.

Reflections on Crossroads, Inc. Training on Racism Shared by Jeannette Storch

Tim, Kathy, and I attended a pre-Synod workshop on Racism. It was a follow-on to a conference we attended a year or so ago, and was run by Crossroads Antiracism Organizing & Training, an organization which assists organizations with their anti-racism work.

Kathy asked me to describe my thoughts about the conference.

The sessions were led by a woman of color and a white woman. The first part of the conference went over systemic racism and how it affects all of us. Much of this material built upon the previous conference. We discussed how institutionalized racism came about and how it is reinforced by our culture, how we are very good at remembering the things we want to remember (Plymouth Rock, 1776, etc.) and not good at remembering things which make us uncomfortable (treatment of Native Americans, slavery and its aftermath, treatment of immigrants). We talked about what constitutes the dominant culture, and how many of us don't exactly fit in, but try our best to, and tend to accept its ideas. There are many ways to be different. Gender, skin color, religion, sexual orientation, disability ...The dominant culture has defined what is 'other', and the 'other' is not valued. Often the perception is that the 'other' needs to be fixed to fit into the dominant culture. However, fixing reinforces the idea that the 'other' is wrong. Thus, well-meaning folks of the dominant culture often are not helping with the issue.

One of the key points was that Racism is not just individual race prejudice, but the combination of prejudice with the misuse of power by systems and institutions. This is where the systemic part comes in. Redlining, differences in treatment of children in school, differences in sentencing offenders, are examples of misuse of power.

We discussed different stages in an individual's understanding of racial identity, from the point of view of a person of color and a white person. As a white person, this was particularly helpful for me, since it identified not just the stage where a white person realizes the extent of the problem and feels shame and guilt, but also stages where a white person can take some action to improve the situation.

One of the most powerful presentations was a video of an experiment I had heard about but never actually seen. The original experiment was in a classroom in the late 1960s; the video of a reunion that took place 15 years later. Children were divided into blue-eyed and brown-eyed, and one day the blue-eyed group was told they were better than the brown-eyed group, and the next day it switched. The rapidity with which the children accepted the 'rules' and reacted to their status was illuminating. It demonstrated that prejudice is learned. If it can be learned, it can be unlearned.

The conference ended with a discussion of strategies to interrupt racism. The main message was that since it is an institutional problem it can be most successfully addressed by groups of people acting together.

The attendees came from a variety of backgrounds. Many white folks, but also folks of color and immigrants. Folks originally from Korea and South Africa, Native Americans, African-Americans, LatinX Americans, all with unique experiences and viewpoints. The white folks had varied backgrounds as well. We benefited from the sharing of experiences and viewpoints.

For Your Information...

Mark your calendars

-The second Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, to be held this year on Sunday, November 25 at 7 PM at the Muslim Community Center in Colonie. Watch for more information-- this was an amazing experience last year and we are hoping for a gathering of even more of our brothers and sisters of many faiths. See Kathy or Tim for more info.

-Women's Spirituality Gathering!

Sunday, November 4 at 5pm. Art & Sip with Adrienne

The exact nature of the project and medium is still in process, but Adrienne is putting her creative talents to work in leading us to create . . . be watching for more information! See Kathy, Laraine, or Adrienne for more info!

THANK YOU TO...

- Melissa Peterson, Amy and Linda Rockinger for working with the children in Sunday School this month.
- The Deacons for providing for the Community Conversation Luncheon
- Bill and Carole Palmer for donating a new desk for our secretary, Sarah Stygles.
- Also to Bev Burnett and Tim Coombs for the pick up and delivery.
- The Youth Group for hosting the movie night.
- John Hutchison for patching the space between the stairs and the Annex walkway.
- Tom Helenek for mowing the lawn all summer and Tim Coombs for edging
- Bill and Carole Palmer for tending our gardens.

October Birthdays

- 4th- Nicholas Garvey
 5th- Kernan Davis
 7th- Rina Bell
 10th- Marge Giaminelli
 16th- Brian Clune
 18th- Lindy Sue Czubernat
 20th- Wendi Brandow
 22nd- Eileen Hutchinson, Kevin Pietrow
 25th- Bev Burnett, Barbara Kausch
 27th- Tracy Cayer
 29th- Ruth Quinn
 31st- Kathy Hargis

Announcers

- Oct. 7- Don Wheeler
 Oct. 14- Mariellen Boomhower
 Oct. 21- Melissa Peterson
 Oct. 28- Linda Rockinger

October Counters

- Oct. 7- D & P Wheeler
 Oct. 14- D & P Wheeler
 Oct. 21-
 Oct. 28-D & P Wheeler

October Ushers

- Oct. 7- Sean and Gina Casey
 Oct. 14- The Masucci Family
 Oct. 21- Rick and Laraine Longhurst
 Oct. 28- Cara Molyneaux & Linda Rockinger

October Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 5:30pm- Women's Spirituality Gathering	4 7:30pm- Choir	5	6
7 Worship 10 am	8 Knights of Columbus- Charity Golf Classic	9	10	11 7:30pm- Choir	12	13
14 Worship 10am 11am-Brief Congregational Meeting 11:10am- Backpack 11:30am- Mission 2pm-Bridge	15	16 Selah	17 7 pm Session	18 12pm Scotia Clergy Luncheon 7:30pm Choir	19	20
21 Worship 10am Brian McLaren Study	22	23 selah	24	25 7:30pm Choir	26	27 9am-12pm- Fall clean up 12p-worship com 5-Parallels
28 Worship 10 am "We're Welcoming, now what?" 1-4:30Fellowship 4:30p- Youth G 7- McLaren	29	30 Deacons- 7 PM	31			

A Note from Pastor Kathy...

This year as part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the YWCA is presenting Eve Ensler's The Vagina Monologues, a very moving set of readings depicting the lives of many women throughout the world. Some are funny, some are disturbing, combining into a moving performance worth seeing. I will be reading one of the monologues. I would love for Trinity folks to come and see it, though I understand if some are uncomfortable. If you are interested, tickets are available at the Proctor's website, www.proctors.org (it will be in the GE Theater). Regular price for tickets are \$28, but if you put in the code "YWFriend" you will get a \$3 discount. Please see me if you have questions; all of the proceeds from the event will go to support the YWCA's Domestic Violence services, for which I work as Counseling Coordinator.

Thanks!

Date: Monday, October 22, 2018 7 PM
(come at 6 for Happy Hour & appetizers)

