

Trinity Tidings for July, 2021

Trinity Lutheran Church 130 S. Walnut St., Wernersville, PA, 19565, 610.678.1782,
e-mail: tlcworship@aol.com, www.trinitywernersville.org, [facebook.com/trinitywernersville](https://www.facebook.com/trinitywernersville)
Pastor Julie Osterhout, Deacon Carol Koch, Musician: Nancy Moyer, Sexton: Jamie Black

This year the Fourth of July happens on a Sunday. It also fell on a Sunday in 1976. I remember that Fourth very well. It was the Bicentennial and my family and I headed down to the Ohio River for a big celebration. My dad was playing in a band that set up on a bandstand along what is called the Serpentine Wall because of the way it snakes along the river's edge. It was 90 degrees in the shade and mom had packed cold fried chicken and potato salad even so. We sat on a blanket listening to the music. On breaks my dad would come and sit with us. We enviously watched nearby kids splashing and cooling down in a bubbling fountain. As evening approached boats lined up along the river's edge ready to honk and blast their horns as fireworks set off from the Kentucky side of the river sprayed across the night sky. I remember what I was wearing that day—my black and white sun dress. I was 17 years old.

So this year the Fourth of July falls on a Sunday, also, as we celebrate the 245th anniversary of this country's Declaration of Independence. Thought this year's celebration may not be as memorable as a bicentennial, I am reminded how proud I am to live in this country even with all its faults and problems—its ups and downs, divisions, and mistakes. I am still happy to call this country home.

And yet I know that as a follower of Jesus my true freedom does not come from papers and declarations as these things can be taken away as quickly as given. My freedom comes in Christ. For followers of Jesus it does not matter where you live—or what country you call home—true freedom is found in the one who breaks the chains of sin and pours grace upon grace upon us.

It is this truth that can never be diminished, can never be taken away. This is especially true for our brothers and sisters in Christ who live in countries that oppress, are violent, restrict religious activity, and marginalize women, certain ethnic groups and gender orientations often under the threat of death. Even amid severe hardship and persecution the freedom found in Christ can never be taken away from them—or us—can never be destroyed. In fact in places where the freedom to worship openly has been denied, the people of God have thrived even more so in spite of it—or maybe because of it.

Oddly, there is comfort in this. There is comfort in knowing that as children of God our freedom does not come from paper and ink, but rather our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. This kind of freedom is not reliant upon governments or human authorities and leaders. As we come together to celebrate the birthday of our country let us remember from where our true liberty comes. It comes from the one who created us, breathed life into us, and sends us into the world to proclaim this same freedom to all who will listen.

Blessings,
Pr. Julie

Reminder: On July 11th we will be celebrating Holy Communion. We will sing two hymns at worship, a Gathering hymn and a Sending hymn. And as a result of the June 28th lifted mask mandate, pool noodles and tape will be removed from the pews, masks will be optional and plates used at communion will be optional. Offering will still be accepted at the door or electronically.

There will also (as indicated in last Sunday's bulletin) be a congregational meeting following worship on 7/11 to discuss selling of the rental property at 108/110 South Walnut St.

Mission Support for Education

I always think about June as being the month when we celebrate education —graduations and new beginnings quickly come to mind, but there's also the education that occurs at summer camps, with family vacations, and as new careers and/or summer jobs begin. Within in the church, we think of the ELCA supported seminaries, colleges, universities; of our missionaries and Young Adults in ministry who go out across the US and around the world to share the Good News and offer education/training for all ages in a variety of areas; of church affiliated camps (like Bear Creek) and Camp Noah which teaches critical resiliency skills for young children who have been affected by a natural disaster or life changing event; and Vacation Bible School in whatever form it may take. And the list could go on.

Trinity has always supported formal education at many levels with our mission support dollars. The first mention of this in our history book was in a reference that each congregation was asked "to support 3 new seminarians by giving \$5 a month over a 3-year period" ... that's \$180 for each of the 3 seminarians for 3 years!! Probably quite a large amount back then, but we managed to achieve that goal. There is also mention of the fact that, in 1905, Dr. Reuben Wenrich, a member of Trinity, set up an endowment at Muhlenberg to "further the educational work of *our dear Lutheran church* through our prayers and offerings."

Over the years, Trinity's support to 7 seminaries and 26 colleges and universities has continued through the mission dollars we send to the NEPA synod each year. Additionally, our own endowment has annually included the Lutheran Seminary at Philadelphia (now United Seminary) and the Lutheran Archives as a recipient of funds. Last year as the pandemic began, we received an SOS email from the chaplain at Muhlenberg asking for dishes and food prep items that were needed by international students who were stranded at the college and unable to return to their home country. Within hours, our members answered the call for help and several sets of dishes, utensils and pots and pans were on their way to help those students. In addition, our mission support dollars support on going campus ministry programs at Muhlenberg and Kutztown Universities. Several years ago, we learned about the Greater Reading Immigration Program (GRIP) and their need for funds to support young people who wished to further their education but were unable to get federal loans and/or grants. Trinity's members again met the challenge by having a special offering

Trinity's commitment to a variety of educational opportunities and support occurs every year as expenditures for the Endowment Fund are approved. This year, funds have been allocated for student loan grants; leadership and development for youth and adults; Bear Creek; Camp Noah; Global Missionary support; Godparents for Tanzania; Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services; and some funds allocated to other organizations will probably be used to support educational outreach in some way.

Thank you, Trinity for all that you do, be it "hands on service" or by providing financial resources. You provide needed support which continues to allow a variety of educational opportunities for those in our congregation as well as mission support in the NEPA Synod, the ELCA here at "home" and abroad. Your generosity is appreciated!

Diane Brown

Mission Interpreter

Western Berks Shepherding Ministry help needed

We are getting busier with client transports but have lost some volunteers this past year. We really could use a few new faces to help us keep up with the transport requests.

Anyone who is interested in signing up or would like more information, should call our main number (484-294-7394) or can email us at westernberksshepherding@gmail.com.

Thank you for your help!

Jodi Eisenhauer, Executive Co-Director

Western Berks Shepherding Ministries, Inc. 484-294-7394

How are We Doing?
Trinity's Financial Summary for May

Average Weekly Giving in May 2021: **\$2,953.60**
Average in May, 2020: **\$3,100.20**
Total income to date in 2021: **\$76,235.00**
Total income to date in 2020: **\$76,428.73**
Total expenses to date in 2021: **\$74,194.33**
Total expenses to date in 2020: **\$68,965.72**
Total income in May: **\$14,768.00**
Total expenses in May: **\$14,224.82**

Percentage of Mission Support for 2021: to Synod: **42%**, to Mission District: **42%**
Thank you for your generosity.

Please remember in your prayers:

Members who are sick or recently hospitalized: Eleanor Brossman, Allison Given Diane Klinger, Janice Lamm, and Sandra Miller.

Members who are homebound or in care facilities: Joan Kava, Rosie Putt, Betty Reber, Pat Sickles, and Kay Weatherholtz.

The Military: Rena Butcavage, Natalie Ketner, and Justin Klinger.

Family and Friends: Wanda Barnett, Carolyn Bryant, Fred DeLong, Marge Dietrich, James Given, Peggy Guido, Glenn Helbert, Kali, Betty Kauffman, Shirley Kerchner, Hannah Kramer, Destiny Olivarares, Jake Powers, Clairre Putt, Tom Reppert, Jerry Zachousk, and Ann Zimmerman.

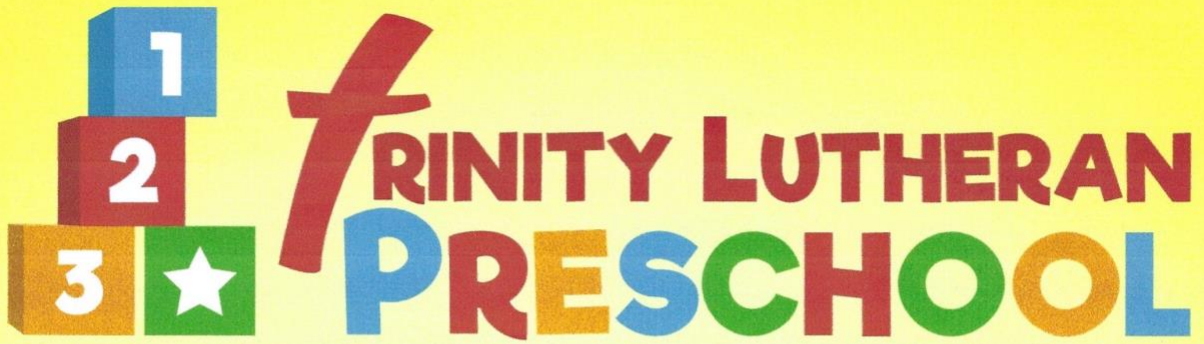
Special Ministries: Our missionary in Tanzania-Dr. Stephen Friberg and his Family.

Please let us know when our prayers are answered so we can keep our prayer list current.

Thank You



Thank you to all who
donated to Opportunity House.
We couldn't continue this
vital program without your
help. The residents are so
appreciative for the meal
we provide.



Register now for Fall 2021
2-day, 3-day
Morning Classes for ages 3-5
years
plus Full-day PreK Thursdays
—Afternoon STEAM curriculum

—Tuition Scholarships available—

A faith-based Education Program of
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
130 S. Walnut Street, Wernersville, PA

610-678-1791 tlcworship@aol.com

www.trinitywernersville.org

 @TrinityLutheranPreschoolWernersvillePA

New families welcome!

— Trinity Lutheran Preschool admits students of any religion, race, color, national and ethnic origin.

Founded in 1982



Second and final session of this year's Intergenerational Vacation Bible School



Wednesday, July 28

6:30 to 8 PM

Fellowship Hall

Assembling Fleece blankets for Camp Noah

Sign up sheet will be in the narthex on the music stand for Meal

Student Loan grants are available this year from the Endowment Fund. Applications are available from Pam Moyer @ 610-670-5896 or the church office. Once an application is completed please turn it in to Pam Moyer's mail slot at the church or the church office. Applications must be received by July 31st. Thank you



LET'S CELEBRATE!!

August 8th kicks off Trinity's year long 125th anniversary celebration! Not only will we begin singing three hymns that Sunday, but our new bishop, Bishop Christopher deForest, will be our guest preacher. A reception will follow in the Social Hall. This will be our first fellowship gathering in over a year and will be a wonderful time to meet and greet our new bishop.

It will also be a time to share "Reflections of Our Past." What favorite pictures do you have of old Trinity events and people? There will be a bulletin board set up in the Narthex (like we did for Traveling Luther) for us to display our old photos--or rather, "Reflections of Our Past." So stay tuned. As we grow closer to August 8th there will be more reminders and information of our upcoming celebration.

St. John's (Hain's) U.C.C.

591 N. Church Rd., Wernersville

PICNIC

In The Grove

Saturday, July 10

Entertainment by Ringgold Band

5-8 p.m.

Children's activities start at 4 p.m.

Kitchen opens 4 p.m.

Burgers, Hotdogs, Pork BarBQ Sandwich, Soups,
French Fries, Beverages & Ice Cream

Pre-orders Available: Wood-smoked BBQ Chicken
Dinner by David Shefter of Penn Werner Catering.

(Includes ½ chicken, BBQ sauce, baked potato,
applesauce, roll & butter) **\$11.00**

Call to preorder chicken 610-678-7471 by 6/25.

Rain or shine

www.stjhains.org

Flower and Bulletin Sponsorship

The cost of sponsoring the flowers is **\$38.00**. If you are sponsoring the flowers, please note that there are flower envelopes in the narthex beside the sign up list for altar flowers. Please put your check (payable to Trinity) or cash in the envelope and place in the offering plate. The cost of sponsoring the bulletins is **\$15.00**. We also want to remind you that the week you are an altar flower sponsor, please call the office, Nancy Moyer, or contact the altar guild person listed in the bulletin if you want to keep the flowers. Otherwise, the flowers will be given to the sick, shut-ins, or others in need. Thanks. **We need an altar flower sponsor for 7/25 and bulletin sponsors for all the Sundays in July. Please sign up on the appropriate chart in the narthex.**

Altar Flower Sponsors for July: 7/11-Franzens in memory of Pauline and Sylvan Colove, 7/18-Pam Moyer in memory of Annie McKinney, 7/25-available.

Bulletin Sponsors for July: All Sundays available

Helpers for July

Altar Guild: Nancy Moyer

Communion Assistant: Betty Lou Franzen

Acolytes: 7/11-Sammy Shoumlisky, 7/18-Aislin Given, 7/25-Kay Stout, 8/1-Jocelyn Enck.

Lay Readers: 7/11-Anne Marie Rinehimer, 7/18-Aislin Given, 7/25-Charlotte Moyer

Ushers: 7/11-Bashores, 7/18-Kurtzes, 7/25-Givens,

Sound System: 7/11-Scott Franzen, 7/18-Wendell Byler, 7/25-Stephanie Kurtz.

Counters: 7/11-Hummel/Jarsocrak, 7/18-Debiec/Rinehimer, 7/25-Franzens.

Bulletin Assemblers: 6/29-Connie Fritz, 7/7-Kathy Lawry, 7/14-Bonnie Giamotti, 7/21-Laura Krick, 7/28-Kathy Bashore.

Church Council Members

Harmony Wentzel, President 610-390-9986

Glen Given, Vice President 484-955-1780

Izannah Bashore 610-488-0520

Wendell Byler, 610-670-8512

Scott Franzen 610-781-7674

Dawn Hickernell 717-507-3549

Jerry Jarsocrak 610-670-0954

Elwood (Woody) Noll 484-638-2057

Cindy Hassler-Schappell 610-451-6131

Church Council Highlights for June

- Discussed and approved request from TOPS (take off pounds sensibly) to use fellowship hall for weekly meeting on Tuesdays from 5 to 7 PM. They will pay a user fee of \$40.00 a month.
- VBS will be held on 2 Wednesdays-6/23 & 7/28. It will be intergenerational and will be comprised of a meal, devotions, and assembly of fleece blankets for Camp Noah.
- Will continue to follow CDC protocols and state guidelines. E-mail was sent regarding our plans after 6/27. Continue to monitor e-mails for any future updates.
- Discussed what is next step on our rental property. Must notify congregation of meeting 2 weeks in advance of such meeting.
- Next meeting on Thursday, 8/12 @ 7:30 PM in person and with snacks.



Mike Renzo will be 83. Happy Birthday Mike.