

Trinity Tidings for September, 2022

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Pastor Julie Osterhout, Deacon Carol Koch, Sexton: Roy Kline

“They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” (Acts 2:42 NRS)

How exciting to see so many new faces at Trinity on Sunday mornings. Some new faces are passing through, others are here to stay. The hope is that those who are passing through experience something in the gospel message that remains with them as they leave the building. And those who return, return because they want more and feel they have found it at Trinity.

Regardless of why a new person or family has visited, it is a Spirit-filled blessing to see so many new faces on Sunday morning.

For our part, it is important to know and reflect on how well we receive our guests—just how welcoming are we? Well, there is good news. The feedback I get from visitors is they have felt quite welcome and comfortable fitting in at Trinity. This is really important information.

Over the years, I have seen our church family grow in how to be a welcoming community. It is, after all, a learned behavior—an art we continue to refine and shape. Handing out prayer squares, speaking to guests, seeing that they are settled in a pew, making sure they can follow the service—connecting with them in common areas of interest are all important. Even more, extending an invitation to sign the guest book and come to fellowship events is so important.

As a pastor, I call or write to those who offer contact information in our guest book. Sometimes that information is not offered—and that is okay. Regardless, we must do our best to connect in words and actions. With that said, we must also be careful to not overwhelm people. If you sense someone needs time to quietly reflect and take in their surroundings and the service in their own time, then provide them that space. One can simply offer, “If you need anything, I am right here.” You might even want to sit nearby so they can reach out for assistance if needed.

Friendliness and fellowship come naturally to the people of Trinity. We eagerly connect with one another on Sundays and in other fellowship opportunities. We thrive on our support and love for one another.

It is a joy to hear the bubble and hum of conversation that fills our Nave and Narthex each Sunday morning. “Back in the day,” it was customary—even desirable—to keep silent before worship so as to instill a sense of reverence and contemplation. But thanks be to God those days are gone and we can openly rejoice in the voices and fellowship of God’s people laughing and talking with one another on Sunday mornings. I’ll let you in on a secret—it is why I begin each Sunday with, “This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.” It is my way of saying, “Let’s get started!”

Because our fellowship is a time to share and connect with those we care about, you can see why reaching out to guests with this kind of hospitality is so important. It feeds right into our plans for the Narthex expansion which will enable us to create a wider space for respite and fellowship. This will be the place to receive one another and our guests in conversation and community as we prepare to assemble for worship.

The gospel writer, Luke, understood this so well as he describes in Acts the life and community of the early church. He writes, “they listened to the teachings of the apostle’s, spent time in fellowship, broke

bread, and prayed together.” Two thousand years later we still listen to the word, engage in fellowship, break bread—in both community meal and the Lord’s Supper—and pray together. It is the strength of who we are as followers of Jesus. It is this strength and power of faith that we want to share with others.

May we continue to be and grow in our ministry of hospitality and invitation to others that all might find a place of community, fellowship, and discipleship as followers of Jesus.

Blessings,
Pr. Julie



FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation for Grades 5 and Up

Faith Formation will begin September 25th. Our classes will meet from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. each Sunday morning. We meet in the Sunday School Room downstairs. As in the past year, we will meet to read Bible stories, learn about the people of the Bible, explore questions, discuss our lives, and figure out the best way to be followers of Jesus in a world that needs love and grace. Hope to see you then! Pastor Julie is teaching.

Sunday School Age 3 through Grade 4

(Also, other grades are invited to attend as well.)

Students will meet in the Sunday School Room downstairs after the Children’s Message on Sunday mornings.

AND if there are any High School/Young Adults interested in developing a Sunday School class of their own, let Pr. Julie know.



Women’s Bible Study

...will begin again this Fall for the first time since Covid! Please stay tuned for dates and times!



Congratulations to Richard Roth who recently received his M.Ed. in Teacher Leadership from Edinboro University (now known as PennWest Edinboro)

Council Highlights

- Shed is coming (has arrived since council meeting as you can see from pictures on following pages).
- Fellowship is planning a potential Bingo evening on 10/15.
- Committee budgets are due 10/2.
- A portion of the Community Response Fund money was approved to be used for educational purposes for a family in need.
- Wires were run for the organ to be moved to the front of the nave, awaiting moving date for the organ.

Next council meeting will be Tuesday, September 20th.

How are We Doing?

Trinity's Financial Summary for July

Average Weekly Giving in July, 2022: **\$2,698.52**

Average Weekly Giving in July, 2021: **\$4, 888.50**

Total income to date in 2022: **\$95, 241.60**

Total income to date in 2021: **\$110, 673.00**

Total expenses to date in 2022: **\$111,754.08**

Total expenses to date in 2021: **\$110,689.42**

Total income in July: **\$13,492.60**

Total expenses in July: **\$14, 634.75**

Percentage of Mission Support for 2022: to Synod: **58%**, to Mission District: **58%** **Thank you for your generosity.**

Our sincere sympathy to Dawn Hickernell and her family. Her brother, Kevin Hartman, entered the Church Triumphant on Saturday August 27th. Please continue to keep them in your thoughts and prayers as well as Dawn's sister, Wendy Wolfe, who is also having serious health issues.

Please remember in your prayers:

Members who are sick or recently hospitalized: Kathy Baver, Barbara Debiec, Bonnie Giamotti, Karen Houck, Bob Schappell, and Carol Yachnik.

Members who are homebound or in care facilities: Joan Kava, Diane Klinger, Carolyn Kurtz, Rosalie Putt, Betty Reber, Pat Sickles, and Kay Weatherholtz.

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

Family and Friends: Robin Balog, Wanda Barnett, Carolyn Bryant, Fred DeLong, Marge Dietrich, Glenn Helbert, Tara Hills, Betty Kauffman, Shirley Kerchner, Tom Koerner, Hannah Kramer, Donald Long, Jake Powers, Tom Reppert, Melissa Shoumlisky, Stefanie Steffy, Wendy Wolfe, Jerry Zachousk, and Ann Zimmerman.

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

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

Mission Trip Opportunity

to Western Kentucky

October 17-21, 2022

Assist in rebuilding homes destroyed by the December 10, 2021 tornado.

We have reserved 20 volunteer spots through Crossroads Missions.

Volunteers who are both skilled workers (electricians, plumbers, construction, etc. . .)
as well as simply eager to learn and help are needed.

**Accommodations are provided by
First Christian Church in Princeton, KY.**

There is no cost except travel expenses.

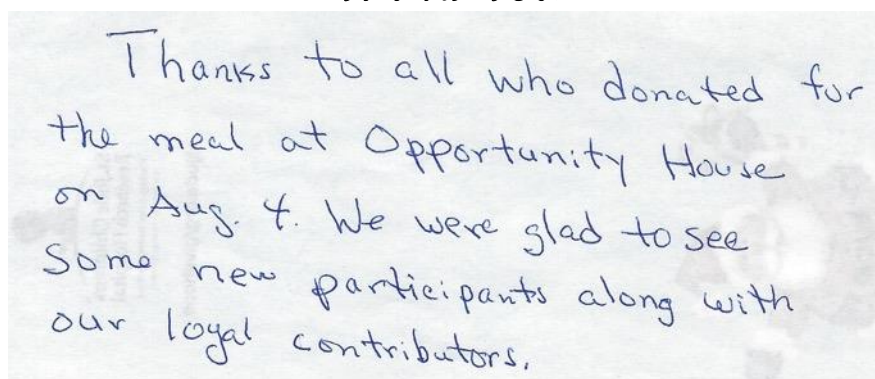
Travel: It is an 18 hour drive. Some volunteers may choose to make the drive in one day,
others two days. There are tentative plans to leave on October 15th.
We will meet closer to the trip to complete travel plans.

If you are interested and want more detailed information, please contact:

Pastor Julie Osterhout ,Trinity Lutheran Church Wernersville

k25music@aol.com cell: 717-687-8682 church: 610-678-1782

Thank You



Thanks to all who donated for
the meal at Opportunity House
on Aug. 4. We were glad to see
Some new participants along with
our loyal contributors.

Mary Young



The new academic year for Preschool begins September 7, 2022. We are excited to welcome last year's PreSchoolers who will begin their PreK year, three new families beginning their PreSchool or PreK experience with us and three younger siblings of past preschool students.

We still have openings for PreSchoolers (age 3 by Sept 1) and PreKindergarten students (age 4 by Sept 1). Classes are Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to noon.

Provided we have enough student interest, we hope once again to offer our Thursday Full-day PreK afternoon enrichment sessions for children 3.5 by Sept. 1. In addition to the Thursday morning session, children bring their lunch and stay till 3:00 p.m. During that session children explore Science, Literature, Health, or Nature topics through a variety of activities.

The tuition for 2-days a week is \$115.00 and for 3-days a week is \$155, per month. The afternoon session is an additional \$80 per month. Thanks to funds from our Endowment Fund, we are able to offer families partial tuition discounts, based on income and number of dependents.

As always registration forms, brochures, and more information about tuition, fees, and class schedules are available on our website www.trinitywernersville.org. --
Mrs. Franzen

Presenting Our New Shed before doors were attached.



And from the Front of the shed



Flower and Bulletin Sponsorship

The cost of sponsoring the flowers is \$40.00. The cost of sponsoring the bulletins is \$15.00. If you are sponsoring the flowers or bulletins, please note that there are blank envelopes in the narthex below the sign up lists. Please put your check (payable to Trinity) or cash in the envelope (be sure your name is on the envelope) and place in the offering plate. We need Altar Flower sponsor for September 4th, 11th, and 18th. We need bulletin sponsors for September 4th, 11th, and 18th. Please sign up on the appropriate chart in the narthex.

Altar Flower Sponsors for September: 9/4, 9/11, and 9/18 are all available, 9/25-

Bulletin Sponsors for August: 9/4, 9/11, and 9/18 are all available, 9/25-

Helpers for September

Altar Guild: Barbara Debiec

Communion Assistant: Allison Given

Acolytes: 9/4-Quentin Light, 9/11-Barb Debiec, 9/18-Tedd Hickernell, 9/25-Alexis Shoumlisky

Lay Readers: 9/4-Kelly Light, 9/11-Deacon Carol, 9/18-Kathy Lawry, 9/25-Ed Evans

Pianists-9/4-Betty Lou Franzen, 9/11-Pastor Julie, 9/18-Deacon Carol.

Ushers: 9/4-Kurtzes, 9/11-Bashores, 9/18-Lawrys, 9/25-Givens

Sound System: 9/4- Scott Franzen, 9/11- Stephanie Kurtz, 9/18- Scott Franzen, 9/25-available

Counters: 9/4-Rapley/Pirl-Roth, 9/11-Hummel/Jarsocrak, 9/18- Debiec/Rinehimer, 9/25-Franzens

Bulletin Assemblers: 9/1-Kathy Lawry, 9/7-Mary Jane Evans, 9/14-Tony Ludovice, 9/21-June Rapley, 9/28-Connie Fritz.

Newsletter Assembly: Kathy Lawry

Church Council Members

Harmony Wentzel, President 610-390-9986

Glen Given, Vice President 484-955-1780

Izannah Bashore 610-488-0520

Betty Lou Franzen 610-781-8132

Tacy Grippon 484-878-9345

Dawn Hickernell 717-507-3549

Jerry Jarsocrak 610-670-0954

Elwood (Woody) Noll 484-638-2057

Cindy Hassler-Schappell 610-451-6131

Happy Birthday
Birthday Milestones in September

Ed Evans will be 83. Happy Birthday Ed.

Volunteer or volunteers needed



We need an additional volunteer to be trained to operate the sound system. Training would be available in September and the volunteer would be needed 9/25. More than one person is welcome to learn. Please see Scott Franzen or call the office if you would be interested.

An added benefit is you get to sit in the balcony