

Trinity Tidings for November/Mid December, 2022

Trinity Lutheran Church 130 S. Walnut St., Wernersville, PA, 19565, 610.678.1782,
e-mail: tlcworship@aol.com, www.trinitywernersville.org, facebook.com/trinitywernersville
Pastor Julie Osterhout, Deacon Carol Koch, Musician: Carla Seidel, Sexton: Roy Kline

With a Voice of Singing by Martin Shaw

*With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia!
Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered His people, Alleluia!
O be joyful in God, all ye lands.
O sing praises to the honor of His name, make His praise to be glorious.
With a voice of singing, declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia!*

I remember this old chestnut of an anthem so well. Though I have sung it in many worship settings, I first came to know this anthem as a student and member of the Carthage College Choir in Kenosha, Wisconsin. We learned it for our Florida choir tour in the spring of 1980. The melody is lively and contagious—the words provocative and uplifting. It can get your foot tapping.

Most importantly, it rejoices in the proclamation that God has delivered God's people and is to be delivered with joyous singing! I don't know about you, but I missed singing all through Covid. I missed the old hymns that spoke to my heart and the new ones—yet unsung—that might speak to my senses. Martin Luther expounded on music as something just as important as the word itself. That music—in its own right—can and does preach the gospel just as well as the spoken word.

Lutherans have a strong and solid tradition of sung liturgy and hymnody—one that walks with us even now into a new future of music and worship. In many ways, Covid has upped the ante on what is new, inspiring, and life-changing when it comes to how we worship. A lot has changed since March of 2020. We have learned what is most important in worship—Word and sacrament—and the joy of singing!

And so, as we move forward into a new chapter of post-Covid worship, we find ourselves entering a territory that is both familiar and new. Beginning in November we will begin using a more traditional (pre-Covid) order of worship, but with new sung liturgy. (The With One Voice liturgy we currently use and have used throughout Covid is the liturgy we normally used only in the summer.)

So here is the plan:

November 6: All Saints Sunday—we begin weekly communion.

November 13: We learn a new "Kyrie" and begin using it each week.

November 20: Christ the King Sunday—we learn a new "Alleluia" and begin using it each week.

November 27: Advent I—we learn a new "Lamb of God" and begin using it each week.

And of course, we invite anyone who has a voice for singing to talk to Carla Seidel, our new musician—about singing opportunities. With a Voice of Singing! Declare ye this and let it be heard! The Lord hath delivered his people! Alleluia!

*Blessings,
Pr. Julie*

We have so much for which to be thankful! We are a growing, active and vibrant community of believers with a strong sense of Mission! As I write this I am preparing to leave for Princeton, Kentucky to help rebuild homes destroyed by tornados last December. In the past, we have had other mission teams who have traveled to Eastern Kentucky, Puerto Rico, Honduras, and El Salvador. This is nothing new to us as we look for opportunities to do God's work with our hands.

And yet, like so many others, we have been through difficult times in the last two and a half years: the isolation of the Covid lockdowns, the loss of loved ones, some getting the disease themselves and in other cases the fear that we might be next; and of course, the economic dislocations caused by Covid and a terrible land war in Europe that has caused even more financial strain. More recently we have seen horrible devastation caused by hurricanes in Florida and Puerto Rico.

But we do not live as those who have no hope, because we know we belong to Christ. We look at those fearless people in Ukraine resisting in the face of nearly insurmountable odds, facing a foe who seems to have no regard for human life. Compared to what they are suffering our problems are miniscule.

There is no question Covid has devastated so many congregations—people have not returned to their church families—and we are beginning to realize they are not going to come back. The cost of living has increased dramatically—but incomes have not. The bills we paid before Covid look a lot different than the same bills post-Covid. We are all feeling financially pinched, and our reserves are wearing thin—both financially and spiritually. It sounds dismal.

BUT THERE IS GOOD NEWS: TRINITY IS GROWING! And ministry IS going strong. You are a blessing to Trinity and we are glad you are a part of the mission of God's people in the world. As Trinity rides the waves of all these challenges, we ask you to consider how you might support Trinity's growth in mission and ministry—ministries like worship; the preschool; the trip to Kentucky for disaster relief; community outreach like Trunk or Treat, Spaghetti Dinner, Christmas Angel Tree, and so much more; as well as the Strawberry Festival which raises money for area families in need; Needles of Love (our sewing ministry); our Mission Support to the greater church; and more. And of course there are all the physical resources that go into supporting these ministries (staff, building, curricula, music, etc. . .)

We realize things are difficult right now, and that's why we are asking each person to prayerfully consider how they might better financially support Trinity's growing ministries. With generous hearts—and if you are able—perhaps there is something extra you can put towards these ministries that together we can continue to do God's work with our hands, feet, and voices. For we are Christ's. We are beloved and cherished by God. We are showered in grace. We are the church.

Peace and grace to you,
The Generosity Team

Women's Bible Study Groups

Daytime Women's Bible Study will hold an organizational meeting on Tuesday, November 8 at 1:00 p.m. and Women's Evening Bible Study will hold an organizational meeting on Tuesday, November 8th at 7:00 p.m. Both groups will meet in the church library for the first meeting. Those who signed up for either daytime or evening should attend evening Bible Study so we have a group of seven. The daytime group will be a group of ten. Anyone else who is interested may join either group at any time.

Our Sincere Sympathy to Jim Giamotti and his family on the loss of his wife, Bonnie. Bonnie entered the Church Triumphant on Sunday, October 23rd. Please remember her family in your thoughts and prayers. A Memorial service was held on 10/29 at the church.



On November 7th we will remember the following persons who entered the Church Triumphant since the last All Saint's Sunday.

Donald R. Dissinger	1/29/22
Peggy Guido (Lori Shoumlisky's mother)	1/28/22
Jo Ann Till Burns (Stephanie Kurtz's mother)	2/14/22
Sandra Moyer Miller	4/2/22
Ted Stoudt	4/2/22
Kenneth Triest (Kelly Light's father)	4/11/22
John Richard Ketner	5/2/22
Joe Sickler	5/24/22
Kevin L. Hartman (Dawn Hickernell's brother)	8/27/22
Bonnie Giamotti	10/23/22



Congregational Meeting following worship on Sunday, Dec. 12th for election of council members and approval of 2023 budget.



On December 4th we will have our annual Advent Fun Shop following worship. We will begin with a light lunch and then proceed to the craft tables to make Christmas items. This is a family event. Sign-up sheets to will be in the narthex on November 6th . We are asking you to sign up by 11/27 if you plan to attend so that we have a general idea of how much food to provide. We ask that each family bring a dessert. All other food will be furnished through a Thrivent Grant.

At this point we have at least 6 craft tables but we hope to get to 8. If you are interested talk to Deacon Carol.

Remember they have to be easy enough for our kids to do with a little adult help.

Council Highlights

- 2023 budget was reviewed and approved
 - There was a preschool open house on October 17th.
 - WBMD Fall Assembly at St. John's Lutheran Church in Sinking Spring on 11/10 @ 7 PM
 - Pews were moved in narthex and balcony to make handicap accessible seating in the narthex.
 - Very pleased with number of children attending Sunday School this year.
- Next council meeting will be Tuesday, November 15th.

- Sign up to sponsor Poinsettias will begin on 11/6. The cost is \$6.00. Sign up at the table in the narthex. Sign up sheets for Christmas wreaths and trees will be out a week or two after that. The cost for wreaths is \$25.00. We do not have a tree price at this point.
- The 2023 Flower and Bulletin charts will be available in the Narthex soon.

How are We Doing?

Trinity's Financial Summary for September

Average Weekly Giving in September, 2022: **\$2,849.75**

Total income to date in 2022: **\$117,066.10**

Total expenses to date in 2022: **\$141,861.79**

Total income in September: **\$11,399.00**

Total expenses in September: **\$15,701.60**

Synod Mission Support for 2022--**\$14,481.72**, 75% of \$19,309.00.

West Berks Mission Support for 2022--**\$450.00**, 75% of \$600.00.

Thank you for your generosity.

Please remember in your prayers:

Members who are sick or recently hospitalized: Audrey Eshbach, Joan Kava, Lori Shoumlisky.

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: Arline G, Shirley Kerchner, Nathan Kline, Tom Koerner, Danny Kuhn, Michelle Nordstrom, True Portalatin, Tom Reppert, and Wendy Wolfe.

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.



One of our members, Donna Youtz, has an almost new walker with a seat and brakes, that she would like to donate to someone in need. If you, or someone you know, could use this, please call Donna @ 610-927-0575.

Thank You

Thank you to the loyal participants who generously enable us to provide a nutritious meal for Opportunity House. We would appreciate some new faces to help with this outreach. Please consider signing up for the December meal. Thank you in advance.

The Opp House Team.

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 Sponsors for 11/13, 11/20, 11/27, 12/ 4, 12/11, and 12/18. We need Bulletin Sponsors for 11/13, 11/20, 11/27, 12/4, and 12/18.** Please sign up on the appropriate chart in the narthex.

Altar Flower Sponsors for November: 11/6-Cindy Hassler-Schappell in memory of her son Heath Hassler.

Bulletin Sponsors for November: 11/6-Cindy Hassler-Schappell in memory of her son Heath Hassler.

Bulletin Sponsors for December: 12/11-Mary Young in memory of her husband's birthday.

Helpers for November/December

Altar Guild: Barbara Debiec (November), Anne Marie Rinehimer (December)

Communion Assistant: Dawn Hickernell and Cindy Hassler Schappell (November)

Acolytes: 11/6-Tony Ludovici, 11/13-Arianna Sitlinger, 11/20-Sam Shoumlisky, 11/27-Kay Stout, 12/4-Aislin Given, 12/11-Alexis Shoumlisky, 12/18-Owen Wentzel

Lay Readers: 11/6-Beth Byler, 11/13-Helen Hummel, 11/20-Charlotte Moyer, 11/27-Dawn Hickernell, 12/4-Betty Lou Franzen, 12/11-Anne Marie Rinehimer, 12/18-Kay Stout.

Ushers: 11/6-Lawrys, 11/13-Bashores, 11/20-Kurtzes, 11/27-Givens, 12/4-Lawrys, 12/11-Bashores, 12/18-Kurtzes.

Sound System: 11/6- Wendell Byler, 11/13-Scott Franzen, 11/20-Stephanie Kurtz, 11/27-Wendell Byler, 12/4-Scott Franzen, 12/11-Stephanie Kurtz.

Counters: 11/6-Hummel/Jarsocrak, 11/13-Debiec/Rinehimer, 11/20-Franzens, 11/27-Rapley/Pirl-Roth, 12/4- Hummel/Jarsocrak, 12/11- Debiec/Rinehimer, 12/18- Franzens.

Bulletin Assemblers: 11/2-Barb Debiec, 11/9-Jerry & Lynda Jarsocrak, 11/16-Helen Hummel, 11/23-Sharon Black, 11/30-Marilyn Weatherholtz, 12/7-Amy Strunk, 12/14-Mary Young.

Children's Sunday School Teachers: 11/6-Kerri Searfoss, 11/13-Karen Houck, 11/20-Carol Yachnik, 11/27-no Children's Sunday School, 12/4-Advent Fun Shop after church, 12/11-Kelly Light, 12/18-Betty Lou Franzen.

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 November

Carol Koch will be 81, Ron Rush will be 84, Betty Reber will be 98, Connie Fritz will be 80, Diane Klinger will be 83 and Kay Weatherholtz will be 84. Happy Birthday to all of you.