

Trinity Tidings for February, 2023

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: Carla Seidel, Sexton: Roy Kline

Thank you

So, how many of you have completed your thank you notes for Christmas gifts? Maybe some have—maybe some haven't. Maybe you're like me and you get them out eventually, but lucky if you get them out before Lent starts! I know I am appreciative when I do get a thank you note—especially when it's completely unexpected. Sometimes I wonder if I should give a thank you for the thank you!

And of course there are so many places in scripture that demonstrate thanks giving to God, for each other, and for the work of God in our lives. The Apostle Paul often tells the early churches how thankful he is for them—and for their gifts as well. Paul writes in his second letter to the church in Corinth as they prepare to receive an offering for the poor of Jerusalem, “Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. . . You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us . . . for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.” It is because of our love and thanksgiving for all God has done for us that we respond by giving to others.

As we prepare for Generosity Sunday by prayerfully considering how we will each support God's mission in this world through the ministries of Trinity Lutheran Church, I want to say thank you. I am thankful for all of you who give of your time, talent, and treasures to the ministries of Trinity Lutheran Church here in Wernersville.

I want to send out a special thank you to those who support Trinity from afar. Often the mail brings envelopes to the church office that carry the names of individuals whom I have never met—people who are moved to give to and sustain the work and life of Trinity's ministries. To those people, thank you for your prayers, your gifts, and your love.

Generosity Sunday is coming February 12th. Dawn Baxter, newly retired from the West Berks Mission District, will preach that Sunday. Then we will pray, and we will offer up our estimated giving cards for the coming year. After worship we will gather for our annual group photo of all who attend Trinity, and then we will gather in the Social Hall for a catered meal. This meal is a way of saying thank you to each other for giving of our time, talents, and treasures so the work of Jesus Christ may flourish in ways that change the lives of all who hear and see Jesus Christ present and working in their lives.

I know it's been tough these last few years. Many are struggling to stay afloat. And so now, more than ever, we are grateful for the gifts that are received. Your gifts support the needs of Christian Learning, Worship, Music, Social Ministries, Fellowship, Outreach, Pastoral Care, and so much more. It is because of these gifts that we are able to continue the ministries that support God's mission in the world.

So, thank you. Thank you. And thank you.

Blessings,
Pr. Julie



A reminder to all Committee Chairs, task forces, etc. that the deadline for all reports for the Congregational Meeting is Sunday, February 12th. They can be e-mailed (preferred method) to the office-tlcworship@aol.com. Otherwise, a hard copy should be in Carol Koch's mailbox by the above date. The Annual Congregational Meeting for reception of reports and adoption of endowment and rental management budgets will be held @ 10:30 AM on Sunday 3/12.

First Communion Class Schedule
All classes are after worship and include lunch

Reminder: we need parents to provide lunches and help assist with classes and activities.

February 26: First Communion Class #1

March 5: First Communion Class #2 (Light family provides lunch)

March 12: Lenten Fair following worship

March 19: First Communion Class #3

March 26: No First Communion (Faith Formation Retreat at Bear Creek Camp for grds 6-8)

April 2 Palm Sunday of the Passion: First Communion Class #4

April 6 Maundy Thursday: First Communion at 7:30 p.m.

How are We Doing?

Trinity's Financial Summary for December

Average Weekly Giving in December, 2022: **\$6,244.94**

Total income in 2022: **\$170,896.53**

Total expenses 2022: **\$189,374.39**

Total income in December: **\$24,797.77**

Total expenses in December: **\$17,390.06**

Synod Mission Support for 2022--**\$19,308.96**, 100% of \$19,308.96

West Berks Mission Support for 2022--**\$600.00**, 100% of \$600.00.

Thank you for your generosity.

Lent is Upon Us

Though Christmas is still fresh in our minds, the days and months wait for no one. February 22 is Ash Wednesday. We invite one and all to participate in a thousand year old act of love and humility—the receiving of ashes on the forehead as a symbol of our mortality and brokenness. The ashes imposed upon our foreheads embolden the place where we were sealed by the cross of Jesus Christ at our baptisms. The 40 days that follow call us into places of both solitude and community, and quiet and proclamation as we engage in acts of prayer, service, and confession.

Note: The Ministerium will once again offer a rotation of Wednesday noontime Lenten services followed by lunch at our various congregations.

Mark your calendars for the following:

February 22 Ash Wednesday imposition of ashes

12:00 p.m. service of Holy Communion followed by a light lunch in the Social Hall

6:00 Soup and Study in the Library

7:30 p.m. Service of Holy Communion

March 1

12:00 Ministerium Worship at Zion Lutheran Womelsdorf followed by light lunch.

6:00 Soup and Study Trinity Library

7:00 Evening Prayer with Holy Communion

March 8

12:00 Ministerium Worship at Trinity Lutheran Robesonia followed by light lunch

6:00 Soup and Study in Trinity Library

7:00 Evening Prayer with Holy Communion

March 15

12:00 Ministerium Worship UCC of Robesonia followed by light lunch

(Pr. Julie preaches)

6:00 Soup and Study in Trinity Library

7:00 Evening Prayer with Holy Communion

March 22

12:00 Ministerium Worship at Trinity Lutheran Wernersville followed by light lunch

6:00 Soup and Study in Trinity Library

7:00 Evening Prayer with Holy Communion

March 29

12:00 Ministerium Worship at St. John Hains UCC followed by light lunch

6:00 Soup and Study in Trinity Library

7:00 Evening Prayer with Holy Communion

April 2 Palm Sunday of the Passion 11:00 a.m.

April 6 Maundy Thursday 7:30 p.m. Holy Communion (First Communion)

April 7 Good Friday 7:30 p.m. Tenebrae Service

April 8 Easter Vigil beginning outside at 5:00 p.m.

April 9 Resurrection of Our Lord 11:00 a.m.

Please remember in your prayers:

Members who are sick or recently hospitalized: Daniel Harman, Diane Shoumlisky, and Joanne Stoudt.

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: Barry Chapman, Arline G, Jessey Homan, Shirley Kerchner, Tom Koerner, Danny Kuhn, Michelle Nordstrom, and Wendy Wolfe.

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

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

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL TASK FORCE forming--What's this? Time to get the Strawberry juices flowing to design, organize, and orchestrate the **June 10, 2023** Trinity Strawberry Festival. Do you have some suggestions?? new ideas?? old ideas to revive??. We will listen, adapt, and move forward. Please contribute a little time to get us rolling, **Monday March 6, 2023 at 7:30 pm** in the library at the church. Contact--BL Franzen 610-678-7330 or blou-clue@comcast.net.



Also, we will need **everybody's** help to prepare, contribute, execute, and/or clean up so please mark your calendar to share some time and talent during June 8, 9,10, or 12.

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 2/26. We need Bulletin Sponsors for all of February. Please sign up on the appropriate chart in the narthex.**

Altar Flower Sponsors for February 2/5-Roy Schaeffer in honor of Betty Schaeffer's birthday, 2/12-Barbara Debiec in memory of her mother Fern Ervin's birthday, 2/19-Diane Klinger in memory of her husband Bruce.

Helpers for February

Altar Guild: Betty Schaeffer & Anne Marie Rinehimer.

Snacks: All Sundays are open except 2/12-Bashore Family

Acolytes: 2/5-Kay Stout, 2/12-Sam Shoumlisky, 2/19-Arianna Sitlinger, 2/16-Tedd Hickernell

Lay Readers: 2/5-Cindy Hassler-Schappell, 2/12-Mary Nace, 2/19-Bob Bashore, 2/26-Allsion Glven

Communion Assistants: 2/5-Aislin Given, 2/12 & 2/19-Kathy Lawry, 2/26 & 3/5-Cindy Hassler-Schappell.

Ushers: 2/5-Lawrys, 2/12-Bashores, 2/19-Kurtzes, 2/26-Givens.

Sound System: 2/5-Wendell Byler, 2/12-Scott Franzen, 2/19-Stephanie Kurtz, 2/22 (Ash Wednesday)-Scott Franzen, 2/26-Wendell Byler.

Counters: 2/5-Franzens, 2/12-Rapley/Pirl-Roth, 2/19-Hummel/Jarsocrak, 2/22 (Ash Wednesday)-Debiec Rinehimer, 2/26-Franzens.

Bulletin Assemblers: 2/1-Linda Weiss, 2/8-Laura Krick, 2/15-Kathy Bashore, 2/22-Barb Debiec, 3/1-Jerry & Lynda Jarsocrak.

Children's Sunday School Teachers: 2/5-Kelly Light, 2/12-Karen Houck, 2/19-Harmony Wentzel, 2/26-Kerri Searfoss

Newsletter Assembly: Kathy Lawry

Council Devotions and Snacks: Dawn Hickernell

Church Council Members

Glen Given, President 484-955-1780
Jerry Jarsocrak, Vice President 610-670-0954
Beth Byler 610-781-2161
Betty Lou Franzen 610-781-8132
Tacy Grippon 484-878-9345
Dawn Hickernell 717-507-3549
Helen Hummel 610-678-1377
Cindy Hassler-Schappell 610-451-6131
Harmony Wentzel 610-390-9986

Happy Birthday *Birthday Milestones in February*

Ruth Rush will be 85. Happy Birthday Ruth.

Church Council Highlights for January

- Elected new officers-Glen Given president and Jerry Jarsocrak, Vice President.
- Selected new liaisons for committees and task forces.
- Set 3/19 @ 10:30 AM for congregational mtg, where we will approve 2023 Endowment budget and receive reports from staff, council president, committees and task forces for 2022.
- Set May 6th as date for council retreat.
- Next meeting is Tuesday, February 21st @ 7:30 PM