

Trinity Tidings for August, 2023

Trinity Lutheran Church 130 S. Walnut St., Wernersville, PA, 19565, 610.678.1782,
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Pastor Julie Osterhout, Deacon Carol Koch, Musician-Carla Seidel, Sexton: Roy Kline

Finding Rest

Summer is flowing by us so quickly even though we have barely begun it. For many there will be vacations, summer camps, time at the pool, and simple time at home even amid the continuing work week.

Some schools will start up again mid-August and for teachers and students I am sure it will feel as though the summer has been cut short. Having been a teacher I cherished my summers as I took time to renew, travel, engage in professional development, and rest before jumping into the fall academic year.

With that in mind—and now as a pastor—I try to be mindful of the same kind of summer retreat and respite as we scale back meetings, Bible studies, etc . . . Even church families need time for renewal, rest, and travel. In doing so we are refreshed and ready for fall activities and holiday preparations as the church year presents them.

I am reminded of one particular summer camp experience at Camp Kirchenwald in Colebrook, PA. On the property of this Lutheran camp is an interesting place where an underground spring continuously bubbles up from the ground. I loved watching it. I remember sitting on a nearby perch while listening to the soothing burble of the clear water surfacing into a crystal pool. A sign read something like, “Quiet please. Holy Place.”

And it was. Maybe you can imagine it. Close your eyes and see it. Hear it. Feel the shade of the surrounding trees and the warmth of a summer afternoon. God’s presence was as clear as the spring water itself.

It is in these reflective moments when our bodies are silent and our minds are at peace that we rest in the knowledge that we belong to God and we are loved. Summer gives us time to slow down our thinking and look for holy times to be in the moment with the one who breathed life into us and loves us.

Jesus did. And like Jesus, we must seek out places of respite. There are any number of places in scripture where Jesus headed into the mountains to pray: in Mark after feeding the 5000 (Mk 6:46), before choosing his 12 disciples (Lk 6:12), when he took with him Peter, John, and James and was transformed (Lk 9:28ff), that time he realized a mob was going to make him king (Jn 6:15), and of course when he was faced with his own death he withdrew to the Garden of Gethsemane to find peace and answers.

And when faced with life stresses, difficult decisions, and general over-work, we can do that, too—find a place of rest. Time alone—or with others—spent in quiet reflection and gentle respite opens our minds and eyes to the whole of God’s creation, Christ’s accompanying presence in our lives, and the breath of the Holy Spirit reawakening us to the beauty of this gift of life God has given us.

Be at peace my friends,
Pr. Julie



God's Good Gifts

1 Wednesday Evening remains

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Dinner begins at 6.

August 2—Christ Lutheran Church, Reading Glenside

Sign up in the Narthex. Let us know if you want to carpool to Christ. "God's Good Gifts" are for everyone at this amazing intergenerational event. Adult-interactive Bible Study and fun learning activities for kids of all ages

Let's plan on car-pooling on August 2 to make travel easier for everyone.

Here's what to expect from 6:00—8:00 p.m. each time we meet:

6:00 p.m. Dinner

6:30 p.m. Large Group gathering for Singing, Scripture, and Prayer

6:45 p.m.—7:50 Adults gather for Bible Study with Pastors Bruce and/or Julie

6:45 p.m.—7:20 Activity #1 for Children and Youth

7:20 p.m.—7:50 Activity #2 for Children and Youth

7:50 p.m.—8:00 Closing with Songs, Sharing, and Prayer

Please join us as we explore "God's Good Gifts!"

Please remember in your prayers:

Members who are sick or recently hospitalized: Daniel Harman, Ryan Harman, and Janice Lamm.

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

The Military: Natalie Ketner, and John Kurtz.

Family and Friends: Barry Chapman, Arline G, Delores Hickernell, Jessey Homan, Shirley Kerchner, Tom Koerner, Danny Kuhn, Nathan Reschand, 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.

Ian Pirl passed away on Monday, July 17th. Please keep his sister, Leslie Pirl-Roth in your thoughts and prayers.

Prayer Chain

If someone you know– or you yourself– are in need of prayer, allow us to add your prayer request to our daily prayers. Prayers will always remain confidential. Prayer requests may be as detailed or as anonymous as you prefer. Ex. "Pray for my Aunt Nellie who has cancer," or "Pray for healing for a friend." To activate the prayer chain, please call Mary Young at 610-678-4470. If there is no answer, please leave a message or call at a later time if you are not comfortable leaving a message. Your prayer request is important and we do not want to miss it.

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

Average Weekly Giving in June, 2023: **\$4,034.16**

Total income to date in 2023: **\$94,274.54**

Total expenses to date in 2023: **\$103,718.35**

Total income in June: **\$16,136.64**

Total expenses in June: **\$17,187.91**

Synod Mission Support to date for 2023--**\$7,548.24**, 39% of \$19,290.00.

West Berks Mission Support to date for 2023--**\$250.00**, 42% of \$600.00.

Thank you. It is your giving that enables Trinity to continue in outreach, evangelism, and learning opportunities; support staff; provide worship; and engage in any number of missional programs. These are difficult times for everyone—including our church family—as the cost of living, even basic necessities, is rising. So if you are able—please consider how you might give in the weeks ahead.

It is important to know that, to date, our giving is up \$10,000.00 over this time last year.

Thank you for participating in the mission of Jesus Christ through your gifts to Trinity. How gifts may be received: ***Online giving via Trinity's website: www.trinitywernersville.org**



Or scan the QR-code with your phone camera to connect to Trinity's Donate page. There you can securely make a one-time gift or set up recurring donations.

*Regular mail: 130 S. Walnut St., Wernersville 19565

*Vanco Mobile App. using debit or credit.

*To make changes to automatic withdrawal use invite code hpfk34.



We need cans for altar flowers. Please return any you may have used and/or bring new ones. Place them in the sacristy on the counter. Thank you from the Altar Guild.



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

Mary Young



The Women's Daytime Bible Study Group is having a luncheon at noon on **Tuesday, 9/12**. Please come and bring a covered dish. The group welcomes all women of the church to this event.



The Bell and Chime Choirs of Trinity will have a covered dish luncheon following worship on **Sunday, 9/17** in Fellowship Hall. We will enjoy each other's company as we discuss and demonstrate some of the newer ideas and techniques we learned at the Area 2 Conference at Lancaster in June. All ringers are invited as well as anyone who is interested in what ringing bells and chimes is all about.

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 Bulletin Sponsors for all the Sundays in August.**

Altar Flower Sponsors for August: 8/6-Barbara Debiec in memory of Rich's birthday, 8/13-Deacon Carol in memory of her father, Rev. William H. Marburger, 8/20-Rick & Kathy Lawry in honor of their wedding anniversary, 8/27-Mary Young in memory of her wedding anniversary.

Helpers for August

Altar Guild: Anne Marie Rinehimer & Barbara Debiec

Snacks: 8/13-Beth Byler, 8/20-Barbara Debiec, 8/27-open

Acolytes: 8/13-Quentin Light, 8/20-Stefanie Steffey, 8/27-Owen Wentzel

Lay Readers: 8/6-Kathy Lawry, 8/13-Anne Marie Rinehimer, 8/20-Kay Stout, 8/27-Jerry Jarsocrak.

Communion Assistants: 8/6-Kevin Kurtz, 8/13 & 8/20-Cindy Hassler-Schappell, 8/27-no communion.

Ushers: 8/6-Lawrys, 8/13-Bashores, 8/20-Kurtzes, /27-Givens

Sound System: 8/6-Stephanie Kurtz, 8/13-Wendell Byler, 8/20-Scott Franzen, 8/27-Stephanie Kurtz.

Counters: 8/6-Hummel/Jarsocrak, 8/13-Debiec/Rinehiner, 8/20-Franzens, 8/27-Hassler/Schappell.

Bulletin Assemblers: 8/2-Connie Fritz, 8/9-Marilyn Weatherholtz, 8/16-Laura Krick, 8/22-Kathy Bashore, 8/30-June Rapley, 9/6-Diane Shoumlisky.

Newsletter Assembly: Kathy Lawry

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 August

Kay Hassler will be 83, Laura Krick will be 80, Nancy Moyer will be 81 and Robert Wilkinson will be 80.
Congratulations to all of you.