

Trinity Tidings for September, 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

Pastor Julie Osterhout, Deacon Carol Koch, Musician: Carla Seidel, Preschool Teacher/Director: Betty Lou Franzen,
Preschool Aide: Stefanie Steffey, Sexton: Roy Kline,



Could we have a drum roll please? Are you hearing it in your head? Great!

Because drumming is just one of the new things happening at Trinity this fall—but more about that in a moment. Trinity is simply bursting at the seams with new ideas and new things happening. As our congregation grows in numbers, we are also growing in opportunities to enrich our worship and our faith.

So drum roll please, and here we go

Enriching our Worship Life:

1. Our musician, Carla Seidel, will be starting a Drum and Rhythm Ensemble (no prior experience necessary) after worship once a month beginning October 1st. Sign up in the Narthex.
2. This year's bell choirs continue as Carolbells and Joybells—but in addition there will be a children's chime choir and, if needed, a colored bell choir for the youngest of us. More information on rehearsal times for these groups will be forthcoming but Carolbells will begin rehearsal on 9/10 following worship and the Chime Choir will also have their first practice following the Children's Message on 9/10. On September 17th there will be a bell choir potluck after worship for old ringers and new ringers—any who are interested in joining. Come for fellowship and to learn new ringing techniques for all to enjoy.
3. The Chancel Choir (called this because they sing in the Chancel area) begins practice on Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. AND new this year, Carla will be adding a Wednesday 2:00 p.m. choir rehearsal for those who are not comfortable driving at night or cannot make the 7:30 practice. Choir practices begin Wednesday, September 13th.
4. And, if you like to sing, but can't attend regular Wednesday rehearsals, then December 17th at 3:00 p.m. is just for you! On that Sunday, we will present our first Christmas Concert since Covid. If you are interested, you are invited to sing (and more) with the Chancel Choir for this special event. See Carla for details concerning music and special rehearsal times for just this concert. This concert is free to the whole community—so mark your calendars now! Refreshments will follow in the Social Hall.
5. But it doesn't end there! There are plenty of other celebrations ad hoc singers may be interested in as well: Christmas Eve, Easter—and any other time you'd like to join in for a tune or two. Just let Carla know.

Enriching our Faith Life:

1. Faith Formation for Grades 4 and up begins Sunday, September 24th at 9:30 a.m. We expect anywhere from 10 to 12 youth in our class this year as we focus on who we are as disciples of Christ and ways to

follow Jesus in this day and time. We will hear the stories of Jesus' teachings, healings, and ministry. Our time together is full of activities both fun and thought-provoking. (Confirmation is scheduled for Pentecost Sunday, May 19th, 2024 for any 8th, 9th, or 10th graders who feel ready to be confirmed).

2. Sunday School will meet after the Children's Message during the 11:00 service. Children of preschool age and up may attend. Older children are asked to assist with younger children or may remain in worship to experience the whole of the worship service.
3. And of course, all families of children and youth mark your calendars for Family Campfire Night at Pastor Julie's house Friday evening, November 17th at 6:00 p.m. Please bring something to share.
4. Adult Forum meets Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the Library. Come and dig deeper into each Sunday's gospel readings—and enjoy some fellowship, too. Summertime schedule varies.
5. There are two Women's Bible Study groups that meet the Second Tuesday of each month. One meets at 1:00 p.m. and the other meets at 7:00 p.m. Both meet in the Library. There will be a special kick-off luncheon on Tuesday, September 12th at 12:00 Noon. All women from both Bible Study groups are invited to attend as able.
6. Men's Group meets the 4th Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Furnace Creek Manor, 270 S. Freeman St. in Robesonia. If you are interested, see Bob Bashore. Also, if anyone is interested in starting a second men's Bible Study group, please see Pr. Julie or Jerry Jarsocrak.
7. AND because last spring's Lenten Soup and Study was such a success, we have had a request to do more. So, **beginning Wednesday, October 4th at 6:00 p.m.** we will begin an evening adult study group. We will meet every other Wednesday. No food will be served so eat dinner before you come, or brown bag it. This fall we will be digging deeper into our Lutheran heritage and identity. We will enrich our discussions with videos and activities. So, whether you're new to Lutheranism, want to refresh, or just crave theological/Biblical interaction and discussion, then this is the class for you. We will meet every other Wednesday, except in Advent and Lent when we will meet *every* Wednesday. Also in Lent we will serve soup each week.
8. And more. As we continue to open our eyes and ears to justice issues past, present, and future, we turn our attention to the Doctrine of Discovery and what it means to acknowledge the people who first lived on the land on which we conduct our worship services. The Northeast Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA passed a memorial at last spring's assembly encouraging congregations to learn more about land acknowledgments and how they might be used. Stay tuned for more information as we consider a time to learn more about this topic.
9. And who knows what other new and exciting opportunities for study, music, and fellowship may arise. So keep informed! Always check the newsletter, bulletins, emails, and eblasts for more information.

Just as Jesus spent time in the synagogue listening and learning, we, too, are called to follow his example. We come to our place of worship to listen, learn, discuss, and discern what scripture means for this day and age in this society, and how we as followers of Jesus are called to live faithful lives of ministry and mission in a world that is often violent and unjust. So, come join in. Make music, learn, and grow!



Calling All Lectors and Ushers



Thank you to all who give their time as Sunday morning ushers and lectors. We couldn't "do" worship without you! And now, for those who may be new at ushering/lectoring—or if needed, a refresher course for the more experienced:

Ushers

- Remember to keep an eye out for new guests. Make sure they receive a prayer square and are comfortable finding a place to sit. Invite them to sign the guest book. See that they (and everyone) receive a bulletin.
- Monitor the offering plate during Fellowship Time and place the empty bottom plate on top of the full plate as the service begins. Make sure the empty plate remains behind (some people give after worship) when bringing the full plate up to the altar after the sharing of the peace.
- Always look to see if anyone is in need during the service and assist when necessary.
- Remember to "fetch" the Sunday School class when it's time for Holy Communion.
- And it's okay to send people up for communion as soon as Pr. Julie steps away from the altar with the bread and wine/juice. You don't have to wait for her to come all the way down the steps. We'll all get there at the same time! Just be aware of timing—keep the folks coming!

Lectors

- Practice reading the readings in advance. There is actually a pronunciation guide inside the lectern if you lift the lid up (bet you didn't know it lifted up). Pr. Julie also has a pronunciation guide that has in it the proper pronunciation for every single proper name in the Bible. Or just ask her if you have a tough name to say (she can make it up just as good as the next guy!).
- When you come up to read make sure to adjust the microphone to your height. Keep it at mouth level.
- It is okay to use the lectionary (that book that sits up there) to read from. The print is larger. The only drawback is that it does not have the Psalm in it.
- Remember to speak loudly and clearly. It is okay to read with expression. It helps others to understand the content.
- The Lector reads the announcements at the end of the service. The announcements will always be tucked into the lectionary book. If you choose, you may pick them up before worship to look them over. Occasionally someone may want to add something. Feel free to write it in by hand.

- Most importantly, when reading announcements please come up to the lectern during the last verse of the Sending Hymn so you are ready to read them as soon as the hymn is over.
- It is a good idea to sit in a front pew on the lectern side if you are the lector for the day.

If you are interested in being an usher or a lector, please see Deacon Carol and she will add you to the list.

Blessings,
Pr. Julie



Thank you to everyone who shared special music during the summer worship services!

Carla Seidel

Thank you to everyone who donated a raffle item for this year's Strawberry Festival. I am so happy we decided to do this again. It was a great success!

Barbara Debiec, Chairperson – Raffles

Please remember in your prayers:

Members who are sick or recently hospitalized: Tedd Hickernell, Beverly James, Janice Lamm, Sandy Miller & Diane Shoumlisky.

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, Shirley Kerchner, Mary Kirkner, Tom Koerner, Danny Kuhn, Nathan Reschand, Wendy Wolfe & Betty Woodring.

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.

How are We Doing?

Trinity's Financial Summary for July

Average Weekly Giving in July, 2023: **\$3,048.63**

Total income to date in 2023: **\$109,517.67**

Total expenses to date in 2023: **\$119,919.50**

Total income in July: **\$15,243.13**

Total expenses in July: **\$16,201.15**

Synod Mission Support to date for 2023--**\$8,872.64**, 46% of \$19,290.00.

West Berks Mission Support to date for 2023--**\$350.00**, 58% 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 \$14,000.00 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.

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.



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 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 a Bulletin Sponsors for September 24th.**

Altar Flower Sponsors for September: 9/3-Ed Evans in honor of his birthday, 9/10-Carol Koch in memory of her wedding anniversary, 9/17-Connie and Terry Fritz in memory of their parents, 9/24-The Moyer Family in memory of Donald Moyer.

Bulletin Sponsors for September: 9/3-Carol Koch in memory of her wedding anniversary 57 years ago today, 9/10-Evans Family to the Glory of God, 9/17-Connie and Terry Fritz in memory of their parents, 9/24-available

Helpers for September

Altar Guild: Betty Schaeffer

Snacks: 9/3-Helen Hummel, 9/10-Franzens, 9/17-TBD, 9/24-TBD

Acolytes: 9/3-Sam Shoumlisky, 9/10-Alexis Shoumlisky, 9/17- Arianna Sitlinger, 9/24-Caidyn Schaeffer.

Lay Readers: 9/3-Beth Byler, 9/10-Betty Lou Franzen, 9/17-Ed Evans, 9/24-Kelly Light.

Communion Assistants: 9/3 & 9/10-Betty Lou Franzen, 9/17-Barbara Debiec, 9/24-Bob Bashore.

Ushers: 9/3-Lawrys, 9/10-Bashores, 9/17-Kurtzes, 9/24-Givens

Sound System: 9/3-Scott Frazen, 9/10-Stephanie Kurtz, 9/17- Wendell Byler, 9/24-Scott Franzen.

Counters: 9/3-Rapley/ Pirl-Roth, 9/10-Hummel/Jarsocrak, 9/17-Debiec/Rinehiner, 9/24-Franzens.

Bulletin Assemblers: 9/6-June Rapley, 9/13-Barb Debiec, 9/20-Jerry & Lynda Jarsocrak, 9/27-Helen Hummel

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 September

Ed Evans will be 84. Happy Birthday Ed.