

Trinity Tidings for August, 2024

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

A New Creation

Last month we learned more about the changing church and some exciting new initiatives happening within our synod and mission district. The Apostle Paul's message to the Corinthians couldn't have been more fitting, "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: for everything old has passed away; see everything has become new!" (2 Cor. 5:17)

And though we are only mid-summer, September and all that it brings is fast upon us. In truth, school will have started before September even gets here. As schedules are solidified, vacations are completed, and fall routines slide into place Trinity is revving up for a new school year as well. So, get out your calendars and here we go! We are a new creation!

Sunday, September 8: "God's Work Our Hands Day of Service" Once again we offer our annual Spaghetti Dinner; but rather than just our usual blood pressure checks, we will be expanding to offer a Health Fair as well. Thank you to Cheryl Machemer for her great ideas and for heading up this aspect of GWOH Sunday Day of Service. 4-6 p.m. We will also have an anointing of health care workers during our morning worship.

Sunday, September 22: Installation of Teachers and Blessing of Vocations and Skills. Bring an artifact to place at the altar for blessing. This artifact should represent your vocation or a special skill that you have.

Sunday, September 29, Rally Day: Get ready for an exciting year of Faith Formation, Bible Studies, Adult Forum, and other learning experiences.

Sunday, October 6: Blessing of the Animals, Lector Exchange with Wernersville congregations, and Faith Formation and Sunday School begin.

Wednesday, October 9: Every Other Wednesday Study begins. Evening Women's Bible Study will be rolled into this study. We begin this year with the Book of Exodus.

Thursday, October 31: Trunk or Treat in the back parking lot—come decorate your car and give out the goodies! 6-7:30 p.m.

Friday, November 15: American Music Trip to see the Christmas show. 7:30 p.m.

Friday, November 22: Family Campfire at Pastor Julie's house. 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 8 or 22 (tentative): Trinity Christmas Concert 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 24: Christmas Eve Service 9:00 p.m.

I know what you're thinking, you've got this scheduled all the way till Christmas! Well, there will be more activities scheduled throughout the year, as well, but this will get us started. For we are a new creation—and everything is being made new!!

Blessings,
Pastor Julie



Thank you to all of the musicians and soloists for providing special music for our summer worship services!

Our Chancel Choir rehearsals will resume Wednesday 9/11 at 2PM and 7:30PM. We invite all teens and adults who like to sing to join us! Please come to the rehearsal time that works best for you. You do not need to attend the same rehearsal time each week. New singers are always welcome to join us at any time!

Our Joyful Rhythms rehearsals will resume Wednesday 9/18, alternating weeks with Bible Study, and the first Sunday of the month after worship starting on 10/6. All ages are invited to join us anytime! We also welcome anyone who would like to just come and try drumming to attend any rehearsal time.

Carla

Trinity Strawberry Festival 2024

What a beautiful day!
What an outpouring of volunteers!
What a crowd!
What a wonderful Festival!

Thank you to everyone who donated time, raffles, prizes, food, baked goods, jewelry, and came to enjoy the food, music, and games.

We will add \$3565.40 from the proceeds to the Community Response Fund to help those in need in our community.

Once again, our Task Force, 14 members strong, did an outstanding job of bringing together all the behind-the-scenes details that make the Festival run so smoothly. We look forward to next year's festival on June 14, 2025.

—Betty Lou Franzen, Festival Coordinator

Please remember in your prayers:

Members who are sick or recently hospitalized: Lori Shoumlisky & John Stine.

Members who are homebound or in care facilities: Mary DeLong, Sharon Gring, Joan Kava, Diane Klinger, Bob Kohler, Carolyn Kurtz, Janice Lamm, Betty Reber, Pat Sickles, and Kay Weatherholtz.

The Military: John Kurtz.

Family and Friends: Karen, Linda, Barry Chapman, Arline G, Delores Hickernell, Shirley Kerchner, Tom Koerner, True Portalatin, & Bill Rapley.

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.

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.

**Fellowship trip to American Music Theatre – Christmas Show
Friday, Nov. 15, 2024 - 7:30 pm show**

Helen Hummel will finalize our order the beginning of Aug. Cost \$43

How are We Doing?

Trinity's Financial Summary through May

Average Weekly Giving in 2024: **\$3,666.00**

Average Weekly Giving in 2023: **\$3,551.72**

Average Weekly Attendance in 2024: **96**

Average Weekly Attendance in 2023: **86**

Total expenses to date in 2024: **\$80,828.64**

Total expenses to date in 2023: **\$86,530.44**

Year to date giving: **\$76,986.03**

Percentage of increase in giving from 2023 to 2024: 1%

Percentage of Increase in expenses from 2023 to 2024: 0%

Synod Mission Support to date for 2024-\$6943.32, 41% of \$17,100.00 committed.

West Berks Mission Support to date for 2024-\$150, 25% of \$600.00 committed.

Thank you. It is your giving that enables Trinity to continue to do ministry as well as provide for the cost of insurance, salaries and benefits, heat, air conditioning, worship and learning opportunities, engage in outreach and evangelism initiatives and 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.

Please note a change in the labeling of offering envelopes. What was once labeled "Maintenance and Repair," is now labeled, " Major Property Expense Fund". Hopefully, this clarifies any confusion as to how this fund is used. Its purpose is not for everyday maintenance but rather extraordinary building expenses such as a new furnace should the need arise.



God's Good Creation

Join us for this intergenerational event beginning with dinner at 6:00 p.m. this Wednesday, August 7.

Special Guests from Widoktadwen Center for Native Knowledge

There will be a study for adults and activities for kids: crafts, music, and lots of other creation fun.



Northeast PA Synod Walk for Hunger @ Conrad Weiser on June 22nd. Betty Lou and Scott Franzen, and Bob Bashore participated.



Michael Weiler (Front, left) attended the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans from 7/16-7/20. Mike gave us a very enthusiastic report following worship on Sunday, July 28th.

Flower and Bulletin Sponsorship

The cost of sponsoring the flowers is \$45.00. The cost of sponsoring the bulletins is \$15.00. If you choose, you may decide how you want to sponsor flowers. There are any number of ways to do that: cut your own when appropriate, provide potted plants or flowers like mums, poinsettias, lilies, etc. . . . You are free to design your own arrangements. As always you may take your arrangements home with you after worship. Or please feel free to purchase them the traditional way: simply sign up, put \$45 in an envelope, and place it in the offering plate. **Most importantly, you must indicate on the flower sign up if you are going to provide flowers yourself so Barbara knows not to order them from Royer's.**

Envelopes for bulletin and flower sponsorship are under the sign up sheets. During renovation the sign up sheets and envelopes are on the back window sill in the nave.

Altar Flower Sponsors for August: 8/4-Barbara Debiec in memory of Richard Debiec's birthday, 8/11-Carol Koch in memory of her father, Rev. William H. Marburger, 8/18-Rick & Kathy Lawry in honor of their wedding anniversary, 8/25-Charlotte Moyer in memory of her mother's birthday.

Bulletin Sponsors for August: 8/4-available, 8/11-Pat Zerby in honor of her birthday, 8/18-available, 8/25-available

Helpers for August

Altar Guild: Anne Marie Rinehimer

Communion Assistant: 8/4-Barb Debiec, 8/11 & 8/18-Dawn Hickernell, 8/25 & 9/1-Jerry Jarsocrak.

Acolytes: 8/11-Alexis Shoumlisky, 8/18-Cindy Hassler-Schappell, 8/25-Sam Shoumlisky

Lay Readers: 8/4-Betty Lou Franzen, 8/11-Mary Nace, 8/18-Dawn Hickernell, 8/25-Beth Byler.

Ushers: 8/4-Lawry, 8/11-Bashore, 8/18-Kurtz, 8/25-Given,

Sound System: 8/4-Wendell Byler, 8/11-Scott Franzen, 8/18-Caidyn Schaeffer, 8/25-Stephanie Kurtz, 9/1-Scott Franzen

Counters: 8/4-Hassler-Schappell, 8/11-Rapley/Pirl-Roth, 8/18-Hummel/Jarsocrak, 8/25-Debiec/Rinehimer.

Snacks: 8/4-no snacks/church picnic, 8/11-Byler, 8/18 & 8/25-available.

Bulletin Assemblers: 8/7-Jerry and Lynda Jarsorak, 8/14-Sharon Black, 8/21-Helen Hummel, 8/28-Marilyn Weatherholtz.

Newsletter Assembly: Kathy Lawry

Church Council Members

Bob Bashore, President 484-336-3638

Betty Lou Franzen, Vice President 610-781-8132

Beth Byler 610-781-2161

Dawn Hickernell 717-507-3549

Helen Hummel 610-678-1377

Kevin Kurtz 610-413-5240

Rick Lawry 610-670-1401

Cindy Hassler-Schappell 610-451-6131

Stefanie Steffey 484-721-1161

Happy Birthday

Birthday Milestones in August

Kay Hassler will be 84, Laura Krick will be 81, Nancy Moyer will be 82, and Bob Wilkinson will be 81.
Happy Birthday to all of you.

There was no council meeting in July.