

Trinity Tidings for Oct., 2024

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, Preschool Teacher/Director:
Betty Lou Franzen, Preschool Aide: Stefanie Steffey, Sexton: Roy Kline

All that is Needed

The Apostle Paul writes to the Corinthians, *“^{16b} but even if our bodies are breaking down on the outside, the person that we are on the inside is being renewed every day. ¹⁷ Our temporary minor problems are producing an eternal stockpile of glory for us that is beyond all comparison. ¹⁸ We don't focus on the things that can be seen but on the things that can't be seen. The things that can be seen don't last, but the things that can't be seen are eternal. (2 Cor. 4:16b-18 CEB)*

It's that time of year again! You know, pumpkin spice, fall colors of red, orange, yellow, and brown, cable-knit sweaters worn on cool evenings around a campfire. Imagine yourself strolling down a damp leaf-strewn path covered by a canopy of changing foliage while startling blue sky peaks between a few newly barren branches. The aroma of someone's crackling wood stove wafts across your path and you breathe in deeply ready to head home for a cup of hot chocolate and a good mystery book while you curl up under your favorite soft afghan in front of your own sizzling fireplace.

I know. I imagine it all the time. And as much as I'd like it to be real life, my fall days are usually faced with trying to get through October without turning on the furnace until November 1st while I sigh over my datebook filled with evenings meetings, sermon writing, lesson writing—you know how it is. I watch and feel the days grow shorter and the nights longer as I yearn for lost summer days.

I see the holidays marching towards me at break-neck speed and I wonder where the year has gone. And I really do want to make myself a cup of hot chocolate and curl up with a good book. And though I might try to do that, I usually just fall asleep and the book never gets read. I also don't have a fireplace.

What I dream about, and the reality of life are not the same thing and sometimes I lament that. How about you? As the nights grow longer many people enter into a time of melancholy and depression and the burgeoning Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons can feel strained and filled with anxiety—especially as it becomes increasingly difficult to bring together extended family in the same place at the same time.

But here's the thing. I bring “it” on myself. My disappointment is born out of my inability to realize my own unrealistic expectations. I'm sure I'm not alone. We get upset when we can't create the “ideal” seasonal experience. We forget that ultimately We're not in charge. We're not the ones who make the season “bright” or the holidays happen.

We don't have that kind of control. But I know who does. And you do, too. (This is where you shout out, “Jesus!”) And I answer, “Yes! Jesus!” It is easy to forget that the simplest, easiest thing to do in our disappointment is to “Let go, and let God.”

As we enter this next month accompanied by busy schedules, and—more often than not—unreal expectations for how things should go . . . we will remember who it is that watches over us, accompanies us every step of the way, binds up my wounds and disappointments, and is gentle and understanding with me when I falter and fall. our covers us with his own warm blanket of love and provides us with all that is needed. Jesus Christ.

May we all walk into this season of fall and winter comforted by the patient, calming presence of our Lord Jesus Christ that we may be satisfied and filled with his love and may that be all we need.

Blessings,
Pastor Julie

September Council Highlights

- Forming a council nominating committee, need 1 person from congregation.
- Expenses for Budget Process (YTD expenses) is in basket above mailboxes.
- Constitution will be finalized on 10/22. A draft will then be sent to NE PA Synod office for final approval. Then will be approved by congregation.
- Executive committee is in charge of being sure audits are completed so will be reaching out to audit committee to make sure audit is started.
- Added sentence to flower sponsorship blurb in newsletter and bulletin to make it clearer.
- Next meeting Tuesday, October 15th @ 7:30 PM



November 24-Advent Fun Fair Meal and Crafts following worship
December 8-Annual Christmas concert followed by a light supper—3PM

Community Response Fund

Do you know family or friends or someone in our community who is going through hard times? You may or may not know that there are funds available through our Community Response Fund for people who may be experiencing financially debilitating illness, have experienced natural disaster, unexpected unemployment, or something else for which a small financial boost would be helpful. Our Community Response Fund serves not only the members of Trinity but those in our surrounding community as well. These funds are sustained by the proceeds raised from the Strawberry Festival

Volunteer Reading Tutors needed for Ready.Set.READ! Program

Help make a difference in a child's life! Volunteers are needed to tutor 2nd grade students who need extra support with reading at Conrad Weiser East Elementary on Wednesdays from 3:15 – 4 PM and West Elementary on Tuesdays from 11:45 – 12:45 PM. No previous teaching experience is required. This opportunity is for anyone interested in volunteering weekly for one hour during the 2024-2025 school year. Current background clearances are required prior to assignment. Please contact Darby Wiekrykas at United Way 610-685-4574 or darbyw@uwberks.org.

Please remember in your prayers:

Members who are sick or recently hospitalized: Mary Nace, and Ruth Rush.

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, John Stine, and Kay Weatherholtz.

The Military: John Kurtz.

Family and Friends: Rich Campbell, Barry Chapman, Arline G, Delores Hickernell, Shirley Kerchner, Karen Kline, Jodie Long, True Portalatin, Karen and Linda.

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

For confidential prayers for yourself or others,
call Mary Young at 610-678-4470 to activate the prayer chain.

How are We Doing?

Trinity's Financial Summary through August

Average Weekly Giving in 2024: **\$3,607.00**

Average Weekly Giving in 2023: **\$3,631.00**

Average Weekly Attendance in 2024: **76**

Average Weekly Attendance in 2023: **71**

Total expenses to date in 2024: **\$126,344.84**

Total expenses to date in 2023: **\$133,382.41**

Year to date giving: **\$119,017.83**

Percentage of increase in giving from 2023 to 2024: 0%

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

Synod Mission Support to date for 2024-\$11,217.32, 66% of \$17,100.00 committed.

West Berks Mission Support to date for 2024-\$450, 75% 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.

Note:" Major Property Expense Fund" is for large, future, expenses.

The Ecumenical Committee of Wernersville which brings you the Memorial Weekend Grove Worship Service and other events sponsored by our local churches is hosting a new event this fall **A Celebration of Musical Gifts** on November 10, 2024. We are inviting musicians of all skill levels and ages to share their gift of inspirational music at a 3:00 pm afternoon concert. The concert will be hosted at Trinity Wernersville this year. The first 12 to 15 registrants will be accepted to make up an approximately 90-minute program. A run-through type rehearsal will be held on Saturday November 9 at Trinity. A free-will offering will benefit the Reading

Musical Foundation programs for providing refurbished instruments, scholarships, and lessons for young musicians. More information and a registration form are available on our website www.TrinityWernersville.org If you have any questions contact Betty Lou Franzen 610-781-8132.

Hosted by the Ecumenical Affairs Committee of Wernersville
at Trinity Lutheran Church
130 S. Walnut Street, Wernersville, PA
on November 10, 2024
3:00 pm



A Celebration of Musical Gifts



Trinity Lutheran Church
Events | Trinity Lutheran...
www.trinitywernersville.org

All inspirational musical talents welcome. Please register by October 10, 2024, so a program can be planned. Registration forms available at www.trinitywernersville.org click Events.

Free admission ~ a free will offering for the Reading Musical Foundation providing refurbished instruments, scholarships, and lessons for young musicians

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. You may also request we use our own artificial flowers and donate the \$45 to the general fund. 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 October: 10/6-Cheri & Ron Giangiacomo in memory of Dawn Giangiacomo, 10/13-Pat Zerbe in memory of her stepmother, Jean Stein, 10/20-Betty Lou & Scott Franzen in honor of the birthdays of Laura and Kara, 10/27-Helen Hummel in memory of her husband, Dick.

Bulletin Sponsors for October: 10/6 and 10/13-Stefanie Steffey and family, 10/20-Terry & Connie Fritz in honor of their 63rd wedding anniversary, 10/27-Helen Hummel in memory of her husband, Dick.

Helpers for October

Altar Guild: Betty Lou Franzen

Communion Assistant: 10/6 & 10/13-Kathy Lawry, 10/20 & 10/27-Bob Bashore

Acolytes: 10/6-Caidyn Schaeffer, 10/13-Tedd Hickernell, 10/20-Arianna Sitlinger, 10/27-Cheyenne Loring

Lay Readers: 10/6-Jane Foster (Hain's UCC), 10/13-Charlotte Moyer, 10/20-Carol Yachnik, 10/27-Kay Stout

Ushers: 10/6-Lawry, 10/13-Bashore, 10/20-Kurtz, 10/27-Given

Sound System: 10/6-Caidyn Schaeffer, 10/13-Scott Franzen, 10/20-Stephanie Kurtz, 10/27-Wendell Byler

Counters: 10/6-Franzens, 10/13-Hassler-Schappell, 10/20-Rapley/Pirl-Roth, 10/27-Hummel/Jarsocrak,

Snacks: 10/6-Pat Zerby, 10/13-Pat Zerby 10/20-Bashore, 10/27-Stefanie Steffey

Bulletin Assemblers: 10/2-Kay Hassler, 10/9-Mary Young, 10/16-Mary Jane Evans, 10/23-June Rapley, 10/27-Connie Fritz

Children's Sunday School Teachers: 10/6-Kelly Light, 10/13-Deacon Carol (Music), 10/20-Lori Shoumlisky, 10/27-Deacon Carol (Music)

Newsletter Assembly: Kathy Lawry

Our Sincere Sympathy to June Rapley. Her husband, Bill, entered the Church Triumphant on Monday, September 16th. Mass was held for him @ St. Ignatius Roman Catholic Church on Friday, September 20th. Please keep June and their family in your prayers.

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 October

Marge Stine will be 83, Albert Pfennig will be 87, John Stine will be 85, Eleanor Brossman will be 87, and Daniel Hoppman will be 94.

Happy Birthday to all of you.