



The Orbit

June 2017

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The Orbit



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ALTOONA PA
TrinityAltoona.com | Facebook.com/TrinityAltoona

June 2017

From the Pastor...

"Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, 'I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.' Laben said, 'It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.' So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her."

Genesis 20: 18-20

This story from Genesis is not one that many people may know. Even if they have heard it they probably do not remember it. The first thing we may notice about this story is that it is a love story. It is also a story about patience. Jacob had patience waiting for Rachel for seven years. He put in a lot of hard work in those seven years as well. He made sacrifices and compromises that is part of patience and love. The month of June will be a month of patience and love for the congregation of Trinity. As we say farewell to our secretary of 15 years, Brenda, it will take patience, love, hard work from volunteers and understanding to get through this transition. We may not have another secretary in place right away so I am asking for your patience and understanding with the church office. The necessary tasks will be taken care of, but some things we have gotten used to may be put on the back burner during the transition. Likewise, once a new secretary is in place, they may do things differently and that will take time to get used too. So, during this transition I ask you to use the example Jacob shows, because of your love for the church and its many ministries have patience (hopefully it won't take seven years).

Peace,
Pastor Eli

Our email address has changed
office@trinityaltoona.com



Lectionary Readings for the Month of June

June 4, 2017
Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:25-35,37
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
John 20:19-23

June 11, 2017
Holy Trinity

Genesis 1:1-2:4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20

June 18, 2017
Second Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 19:2-8a
Psalm 100
Romans 5:1-8
Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-23)

June 25, 2017
Third Sunday after Pentecost
Jeremiah 20:7-13
Psalm 69:8-10 (11-15) 16-20
Romans 6:1b-11
Matthew 10:24-39

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Mark Your Calendar Church Picnic August 27



The next Orbit Deadline is June 28th

Please get your article to the newsletter in one of the following ways:

- Email your article to:
office@trinityaltoona.com
- Drop your article in the Orbit mailbox inside the Christian Education office
- Call the office and dictate your article to the secretary or drop it off in the office

Please remember:

- **All articles will be included as long as space permits.**
- **Articles will be edited for grammar and/or clarity where needed.**
- **Any article turned in after the deadline will be included in the next month's Orbit.**

Thank You!

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

We had a council meeting last night and we opened with John 13:34-35. ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. This is a great reminder for us of what Jesus wants us to do in regards to each other.

We discussed change and how difficult it may be for some people, but sometimes we really need to make decisions for the congregation that may turn out to be positive change. The one change we are looking at doing for a short period of time was summer services. Our summer services are not always well attended, so we have discussed some ideas. The one idea we kept returning to was to have one combined service on Sunday morning. There are two reasons for this small change in the summer. One reason is to give us a chance to worship together as the Body of Christ. We have three services and many members don't routinely engage with each other in a meaningful manner. Another is cost savings. Having one service on Sunday will cut down on the amount of time we need to run the Air Conditioning units. On a typical Sunday, the units will run for nearly six hours to cool the church, as opposed to two hours for one combined service. A motion was made at council and passed unanimously to do a trail run of one service on Sunday in the summer. We agreed that we would have one service on Sunday June 18th and 25th. The service will be 9:30am on those dates and will include communion. The Saturday evening service will remain as usual!

We continue to discuss the church's financial situation every council meeting. The Stewardship Committee has been extremely effective at tracking and graphing our intake of funds and output. Unfortunately, our incoming funds continue to be lacking. This has led to withdrawing funds routinely from our reserves. As a result of our difficulties, we will continue to look at ways to cut costs and we invite members of the church to be active participants. Not just suggest things, make time and attend a council meeting to present an idea. If you aren't good with speaking to a group, do as Moses did and have your brother do it, or sister, or friend. Cost cutting may include cutting paper usage with electronic bulletins, online newsletter instead of mail delivery, combined services during certain times of the year, etc. We must also balance our need to continue to minister as we have and develop new ministries.

We welcome constructive feedback on anything we decide on in council. We prefer it be in a constructive and loving manner and not outright criticism. We must always keep ourselves reminder of what we are to be doing, and that is fulfilling our mission from God. We cannot fulfill that mission from God. We cannot fulfill that mission if we are negative and critical of each other. We must do as Jesus commanded us to do and that is love one another.

Peace and Blessings

Ted Williams
Council President

KIDS BIBLE WORDSEARCH

Kids Bible Wordsearch ANIMALS IN THE BIBLE?

Fit the words in the list into the diagram below reading forward, backward, up, down, diagonally, always in a straight line. Puzzle #2



ANTELOPE
APE
BADGER
CALF
CHAMELEON
CROCODILE
DEER
FOX
FROG



HEDGEHOG
HEIFER
MULE
PORCUPINE
RAM
SCORPION
STAG
WHALE



<http://biblewordgames.com>

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Prayer List

Please keep the following people in your prayers ...

Trinity Members

Jim Aungst
Tyler Bennett
Tina Chestney
Sondra Deffibaugh
Carol Forney
Debbie Gracey
Paul Hamilton
Kathy Hatch
Kristina Henderson
Jason Kutz
Arlene Leonard
Jaden Rhode

Trinity's Homebound Members

Jo Ann Boyd
Chris Burda
Bob Nearhoof
Joan Rhiver
Arlene Roessing
Bill Sauserman

Those Serving in the Armed Forces

Sarah Brown
Jason Buck
Nathan Frank
Peter Quinn
Justin Patz

Robert Streightiff
Joan Stout
Bev Thompson
Bert Watchey's
Family
Jason Smith
Eric Sweet

Family Members and Friends

Ken B. Myers
Ray Nycum
Dave Olinyk
Gene/Joyce Otto
Margaretta Perry
Ruth Ann Saleme
Donna Williams
Church Health
Team
Janet Aungst
Baby Allison
Jim Andrews
Rose Balasco
Kris Bennett
Michael Bennett
Casey Bondarenka
Pat Burk
Michael Butcher
Ron Clawson
Deb Civiello
Denise Condo
Peg Corle
Baby Cowan
Sandy Fishell
Abby Fownef
Andrew Fundack
Haley Gehret
Gerstenberger Family
Jack Grassmyer Child
Ron Green
Richard Gunsallus
Bob Hamilton
Ann Hanczaryk
Zack Hart
Don Haslam
Pastor Peter Helmers
Joe Hershel
Bob Himes

Robert Hutchison
Charles Kelly
Jim Kutz
Becky Lardieri
Janelle Lehr
Dylan McGilvary
Jane Messner
Harry Miller Sr.
Sharon Myers &
Family
Caydan Noel
Joe Pacifico
Sal Randazzo
Joe Roub
Connie Sooy
Elaine Stetser
Gayle Streckland
Jess Stellabote
Nancy Stuart
Sane Zeiders



Please know that you may add someone to our prayer list at any time by calling the church office (943-3972). If it is appropriate to remove someone from the prayer list, again, please inform the church office. Names of family and friends will remain on the prayer list for two weeks. You may keep someone's name on the list by calling the church office and giving us a brief update so that we can continue to effectively pray for your loved one.

Congratulations, Graduates! 2017

Congratulations, Graduates! 2017

We salute the following Trinity members who recently earned their diplomas. Please keep these young people in your prayers as they move on to their next series of challenges.

HIGH SCHOOL

Hannah Brown- Altoona Area High School
Jarod Kutz-Altoona Area High School
Sarah Musselman-Altoona Area High School
Lily M. Smith-Altoona Area High School
Marissa Thompson-Altoona Area High School
Christian A. Wilkins-Altoona Area High School
Logan Woodring-Altoona Area High School

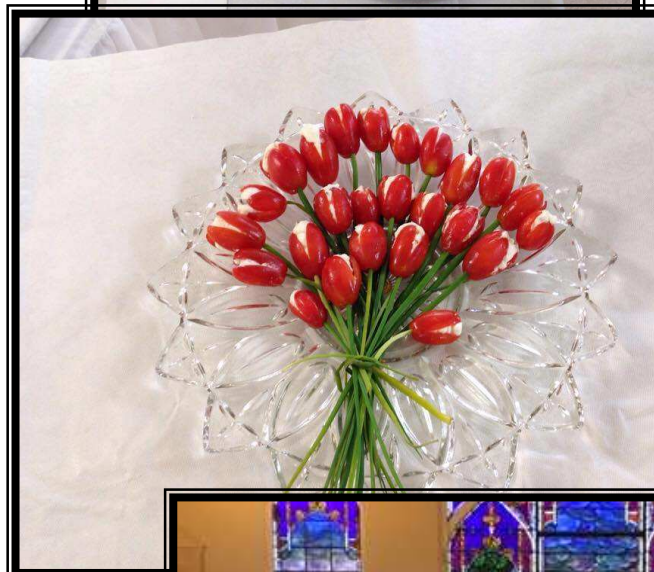
COLLEGE

Joshua Kutz-Juniata College
Kyrstin E. Dittenhafer-Swartz-Robert Morris University
(Masters Degree)
Sara Christine Woodring-George Mason University-
(Masters Degree)

If we inadvertently missed any graduates, please call the church office.



News From All Around the Church



SPRING FLING

"THANK YOU"

The Spring Fling committee would like to extend a very sincere "Thank You" to all persons who helped in making Spring Fling 2017 a success. There were so many ways for people to be helpful and the committee greatly appreciated everything that everyone did; it is way too many to attempt in naming. Again, a big THANK YOU.

A personal thank you also goes out to Walker R., Victoria M. and Jacey K. & her girlfriends for their help in running the games and handing out prizes. The children had a good time and lots of fun playing these games.

Another personal thank you from the Spring Fling committee goes out to Harry; your dedication and assistance was greatly valued and appreciated.



News From All Around the Church

MARK YOUR CALENDAR WITH THESE DATES

August 6-10
Time 6:00PM-8:00PM
Vacation Bible School



August 27- Church Picnic
11:00 AM



SPRING FLING

Spring Fling 2017

Well, Trinity has done it again; another successful Spring Fling took place on May 20, 2017 despite the somewhat cold, cloudy and at times windy weather. Oh yeah, I shouldn't forget about the rain, but at least it only rained in the morning this year. Church and community members alike showed up and patronized the event. Nothing spoiled the day, good food was had and plenty of entertainment held people's interests to stick around and have fellowship with one another.

The sound of JOY filled the neighborhood of the church as various artists provided music. Hands in Motion started the event off, followed by the Gospel Sounds Duet (Steve and Apryl Caldwell). Next up was The Heirman Quartet, led by Leon Zook and ending the event was Rodney & Friends. In the church facility there were also vocalists sharing their singing talents; one of the talented young ladies is a Trinity member (Alaina Stevens).

Children's voices and laughter were heard as they ran from game to game and collected prizes. People of all ages (not just the young ones), stopped and petted the goats and learned some interesting facts about the animals. Face painting was a big hit as was the drawing for tickets to an Altoona Curve baseball game. Service men (Army recruiters) offered free "give aways" (water bottles, balls, magnets, etc.). Officers came to show off Logan township's "Bob Cat" which was parked right down the street from the church to add more excitement to the event.

The food must have been quite tasty, (or so I was told), as it was gone before the event ended. Doesn't that tell you it was "goood"? The menu was dressed up a little this year in that macaroni & cheese was added and some of the salads were not your traditional potato or macaroni salads. Pop corn was a fabulous snack; so much so that our volunteers operating the popcorn popper had a hard time keeping the machine full at times due to having so many customers. Popcorn poppers, you really rocked it! Ice cream sundaes, believe it or not, were also a big hit, despite the not so hot temperatures.

Well, that about sums it up. When you see one another at church, share your thoughts about Spring Fling and let the committee members know what you think as well. The committee would love to hear opinions from Trinity. Just let me end with saying, I was happy to be a part of such a wonderful way of sharing God's love and witnessing others doing the same. Way to go Trinity family!!



News From All Around the Church

Sunderman Memorial Concert: What a success!

Many thanks to everyone who made our April 30 Sunderman Memorial Concert a huge success! If you weren't there, you missed outstanding music including the "Sunrise" Quartet by Haydn, the "American" Quartet by Dvořák, and a performance of Bach's "Air on the G String" as a special tribute in memory of Dr. Sunderman. We almost didn't have a concert because our cellist, Kim Cook, fell after Thursday's rehearsal and brook her right ankle, sprained her left wrist, and scuffed up her nose. So thanks to her for being a trooper and playing in spite of pain and a splint on her wrist. Special thanks to members of the Fellowship Committee, Vickie Knisely (Trinity's very own Martha Stewart), Harry Yeager (Trinity's Jacques Pepin), Joanna Lewis (our Julia Child), and Nancy Honecker (our Dorie Greenspan). The reception after the program was both beautiful and delicious. Everyone raved! I extended our thanks to the musicians. Their replies are below. Paula Ford

From Kim Cook, cello: Dear Paula, Thank you for your message! And thank you for making us feel so welcome in the church! My foot is healing quickly and I am feeling much better. I appreciate your concern. It was our pleasure to play on your series to such a warm, receptive audience! The acoustic is wonderful for us, and makes it even more rewarding to perform this music! I also want to thank the people who arranged the elegant reception!! The cupcakes were almost too beautiful to eat. We took a few home and enjoyed them later! Thank you again. I look forward to next time! I hope that this will be just a beginning for the Allegheny Quartet! Best wishes, Kim

From Lela Tsinadze (viola) and Genaro Medina (first violin): Dear Paula, Thank you so much for the kind words. We certainly enjoyed very much the performance and the warm welcome from the community. Indeed Kim's accident was unfortunate; nevertheless, we were very inspired by her bravery keeping on going with the project. Lela and I are very sorry that we did not say a proper goodbye, after sharing a moment with everyone and having the trip back home in mind we missed you. So, it shall be a see you soon!!!! Thank you Paula! Lela and Genaro

From Jeremy Klapper, second violin: Yes, thank you Paula - I think we all enjoyed playing for you very much, and look forward to doing it again. And thanks again to Kim for pressing ahead in the face of adversity. Regards, Jeremy

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children's Sunday School wraps up another great year

By Tom Bradley

Trinity's highly-successful and motivational Children's Sunday School program will conclude yet another fantastic year on Sunday, June 4.

Children who achieved perfect attendance during the month of May will be honored as well as the boys and girls who never missed a Sunday all year.

What has been the key to our success? It's our dedicated teachers who show up every week prepared to instruct the children about stories from the Old and New Testaments of the Bible.

We extend special thanks to the parents and grandparents who brought their children to Sunday School on a consistent basis throughout the year! Their efforts did not go unnoticed – by us teachers or by God!

I would be remiss if I did not sincerely thank **Amanda Pierannunzio and Marissa Thompson**, who taught the preschool/ kindergarten class for the first time this year. I also offer a tip of the cap to our "seasoned veterans," **Geri Selfridge** (first and second grade class); **Tom Gutshall** (third and fourth grade students); and **Lisa Gutshall** (fifth and sixth grade children).

I encourage all members of our congregation to offer thanks to these teachers who help make Trinity's Sunday School one of the best in the Allegheny Synod.

Sunday School will resume on Rally Day, Sunday, September 10.



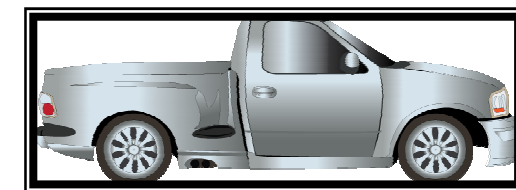
Ten children achieved perfect attendance in April. They were: First row (left to right): **Annalisa Counterman (6)**, **Avalynn Counterman (5)**, and **Lydia Thompson (8)**. Middle row: **Emma Morgan (7)** and **Brayden Conway (7)**. Top row: **Lukas Bartlebaugh (8)**, **Elisha Selfridge (3)**, **Maura Thompson (8)** and **Aiden Yarnell (8)**. **Harper Seiler (5)** was absent when the photo was taken. The number following each name indicates how many perfect attendance months have been achieved since September.

News From All Around the Church

HONORING THE 20th YEAR OF OUR PASTOR'S ORDINATION

The Social Ministry Committee will be honoring the Pastor's milestone by collecting items for the Central Pa. Humane Society. All items will be accepted and we hope to **FILL HER TRUCK AGAIN.**

Dog and puppy food, cat and kitten food, treats, cat litter, kitten food, various toys, newspapers, spray bleach, paper towels, antibacterial hand soap and hand sanitizers are a few of the ideas. We will start this project on June 1 and will continue until June 30. Let's all do our part to celebrate with the Pastor. And here are a few more ideas: blankets, towels, dog shampoo, flea and tick protectants.



Memorial gifts are received...

In recent weeks, additional memorial gifts have been received by our church.

Skip, Ann and Helen Boyles sent a gift in memory of **Lois Tussey.**

Additional memorial gifts for **Mary Olinyk** were remitted by:

Rick and Carol Auker
Debbie Simpson

Each donor received a letter of thanks/receipt from the church and the families received the names of the donors.

Thank you for your cards, prayers, support and love during the illness and passing of our Mother & Grandmother. Bert Watchey.

A special thanks to Pastor Eli for all that she did for our family throughout this whole journey.

Also thank you to the funeral dinner committee for an exceptional meal-(without my help).

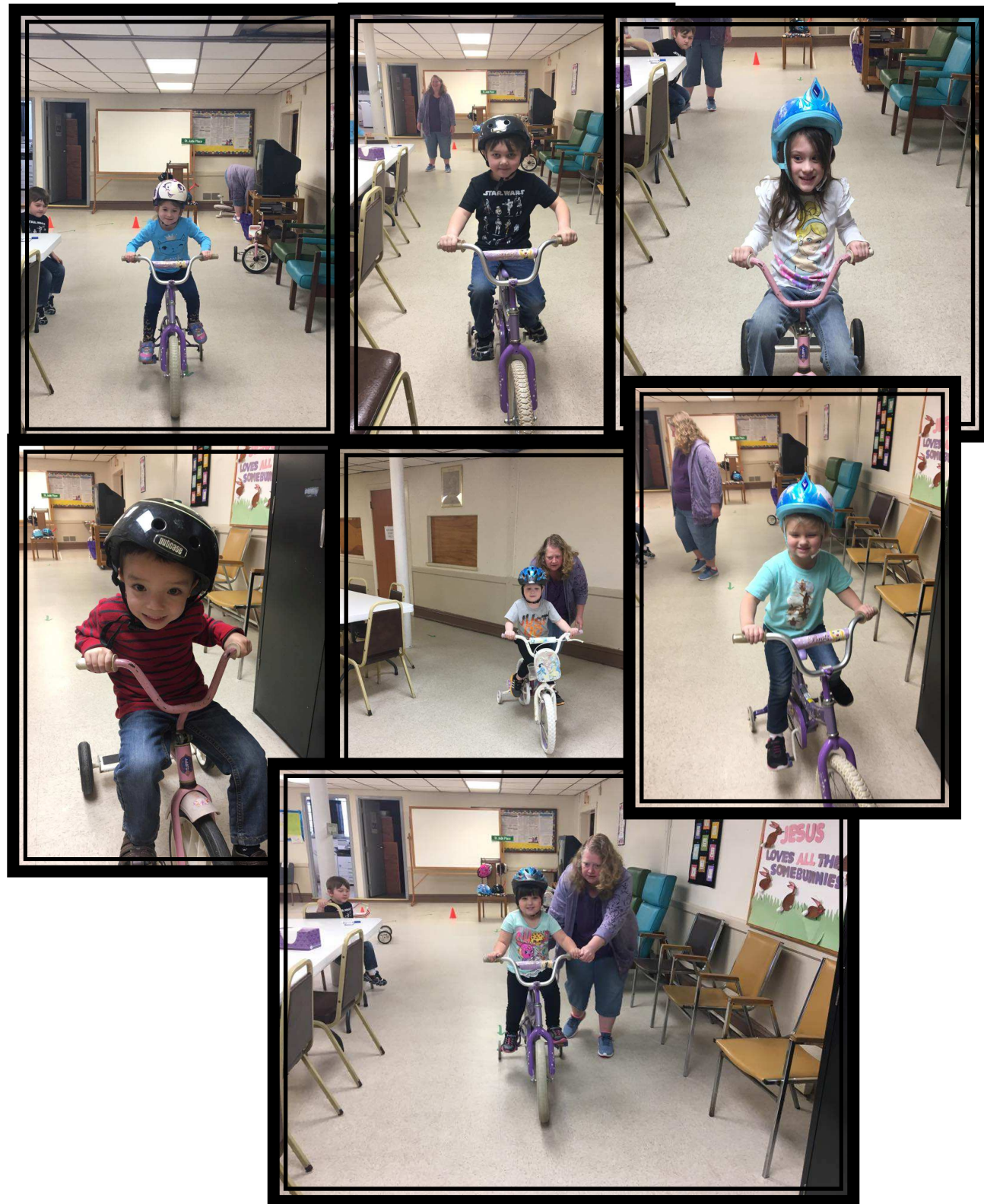
Linda Hoover
John Watchey & families



ST. ANDREWS PRESCHOOL

🚲🚲🚲🚲🚲🚲🚲 Ready. Set. Go. 🚩

From start to finish our students are simply the best! Here they are helping raise bicycle safety awareness and collecting donations for St. Jude's during our Trike-A-Thon at St. Andrew Pre School.



YOUTH GROUP



Elementary Youth Troop

The Elementary Youth group met on Friday, May 5, 2017. The month of May was somewhat hard to choose a topic as so much happens in May; there's Mother's Day, Armed Force's Day, Memorial Day and of course, there's the Son of God everyday. Well, we talked about what the common factor may have been and the children decided that God, mothers and people in the various branches of the service protect us and provide for us. So, that was what we talked about, and then the children engaged in spin art to create life savers for the bulletin board. If you haven't taken the time to go down to the lower level of the church, please do so. The elementary children of Trinity work hard each school year to make bulletin board scenes. Well, other than spin art, (which by the way was a big hit), the children shared a meal of tacos. Hulabaloo was the game of choice this month. That's about it; the evening came to an end. With people's busy schedules and school coming to an end, it has been decided that elementary youth troop will come to an end for this year as well. Pastor Eli and I wish everyone a safe and happy summer. Have fun everyone!!!

News From All Around the Church

I would like to thank everyone for their support while I was your secretary, for the past (15) fifteen years. I would also, like to thank everyone for my cards, gifts, flowers, and especially all the hugs and well wishes. I have been blessed with so many new friends.

I would also like to thank everyone again for their support while my husband was so sick. The update with him is good and we are still trying to get his throat better so he can eat and have the peg tube taken out. They've been stretching his throat a little at a time, and he has been able to eat a little. We go back in July to have it done again.

I have decided to retire a bit early and take time to enjoy my great grandchildren. My last day of work will be Jun 2. Again thank you so much for your support.

God Bless
Brenda Hancuff



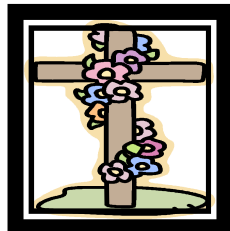
We rejoice and celebrate with Natalie and Michael Hamilton on the baptism of their daughter, Madison Rose Hamilton, who was baptized at Trinity, May 7 at the 10:45 service.



Please pray for our new member who has recently joined by baptism and welcome her into the family at Trinity when you see her.

With Sympathy...

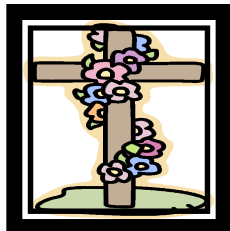
Our prayers and condolences go out to the family of Mary Olinyk who went to be with our Lord on April 22,2017.



With Sympathy...

Our prayers and condolences go out to the family of Bertha C. Watchey who went to be with our Lord on May 18,2017.

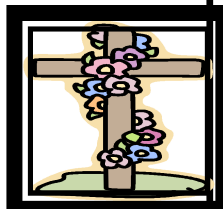
Mother of Linda Hoover
Grandmother of Jessie Hoover



With Sympathy...

Our prayers and condolences go out to the family of Gloria J. Kimmel who went to be with our Lord on May 1,2017.

Sister of Linda Gibbons



TRINITY'S TEMPO

By Cynthia E. Finnegan
Director of Music

I begin this month's Tempo with words of thanks. Our service of music on May 21st was a beautiful morning of worship. To John Ebersole and the members of the Youth and Adult Chime Choirs who played inspiring selections of praise...thank you. To the members of the Youth and Adult Vocal Choirs who sang with joy and thanksgiving...thank you. And to our soloists, Hannah Brown (piano), Shane Brown (French horn), and Craig Cameron (guitar)...thank you. Everyone in attendance at this service felt the Lord's presence as the congregation worshiped together in music and song. It is my hope to make this an annual service for the Trinity congregation.

In the coming months, (June, July, and August), we will be hearing more special music.

Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord all the Earth. Sing to the Lord, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day. Psalm 96:1-2

Please contact me regarding all things music.
Cindy

We are thankful for music to raise our hearts and minds to God.

Singing is the great unifier in the church.