

The Orbit

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ALTOONA PA

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March 2020

"On his return to Ireland Patrick traveled throughout the island, evangelizing tirelessly and organizing the churches and monasteries...Later legends had Patrick expelling snakes from Ireland, and explaining the doctrine of the Trinity by reference to a shamrock, and these have become his emblems."

The Wordsworth Dictionary of Saints pg. 189



From the Pastor:

On March 17th we will celebrate St. Patrick's Day. It is a day that we are all a little bit Irish. There are many traditions that go along with St. Patrick's Day, green beer, wearing of the green, parades etc., but I thought we would take a look at the real person of St. Patrick. St. Patrick has always been one to be known for his innovative methods of converting the pagans to Christianity. One of those examples is the use of the shamrock, found throughout Ireland, to explain the doctrine of the Trinity. It is also said that he came up with the Celtic Cross by putting the circle of the sun, something the pagans worshiped in the cross thus overlapping the two. St. Patrick shows us that we need to meet people where they are and use things familiar to them in order to expose them to the gospel of Jesus Christ. In the church today we need to be innovative in our approach to conversion. St. Patrick was gentle with the pagans using some of their own rituals and making them his own in order to appeal to the people of Ireland. Sometimes we can become too rigid in our thinking and we need to expand our ways of approaching others. Let us learn from St. Patrick another way to evangelize and spread the gospel message to those who may not have heard it. Be adaptive and accepting of others to gently lead them to Christ.

Peace,



From the President

As you read this, we are currently in the season of Lent. It is a time of reflection and soul searching. The last day before Lent has become “the last fling” of solitude before Lent. It may be called Shrove Tuesday or Mardi Gras. Lent begins on the seventh Wednesday before Easter.

There are 40 days in Lent, which represent a time of fasting from either foods or festivities. Some people give up something they like chocolate, eating out in a restaurant or actually donate time or money to a local charity.

Don't forget that Trinity has 2 services every Wednesday during Lent. 12 o'clock noon and 6:30 PM.

We are now preparing for Easter – the Resurrection of Our Lord, Jesus Christ.



Silly Days in March

- March 1- Caregiver Appreciation Day
- March 6- Dentist's Day
- March 12- Girl Scout Day- NOT silly
- March 13- Blame Someone Else Day or it's
Friday the 13th (beware)
- March 14- National Potato Chip Day
- March 17- Corned Beef and Cabbage Day
AKA St. Patrick's Day
- March 19- Absolutely Incredible Kid Day
- March 22- National Goof Off Day- Yay
- March 24- National Chocolate Covered
Raisin Day
- March 26- National Spinach Day
- March 30- I Am In Control Day
National Doctor's Day
- March 31- National Crayon Day



Trinity Social Ministry

The Committee met in February to discuss what we could do in March and April. It was decided that we will meet and send some “Thinking of you” cards to those we have not seen in church for a while.

In April, we will be delivering Easter flowers to the shut-ins.

Plans were discussed for another “singles” party. We have other ideas that will be discussed for future use.

God Bless

Sharon Kutz



Trinity Council Meetings Jan 20

Attendance

Present

Pastor Eli
 Sharon Kutz 2021
 Debbie Garritano 2022
 Ralph Grove
 Judy Hale 2021
 Nancy Honecker 2020
 Linda Hoover 2021
 Rose Hornberger 2021
 Bill Mallory 2020
 Tom Settle 2021
 Adam Counterman, 2022
 Geri Selfridge 2020
 John Ebersole 2022
 Chris Thompson 2022

Absent

Greetings/Devotions

The meeting was called to order by President, Sharon Kutz.

Pastor led us with prayer.

Minutes from last meeting.

Minutes from January 28 were read. Adam made a motion to approve the minutes. Tom seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The minutes will be put in the Orbit for the congregation to read.

Treasurer's Report

Ralph presented the report as written. He stated that everything is up to date but payroll. The taxes are due and Pastor's health insurance increased from \$1,809.00 to \$1847.00. Ralph will have to withdraw \$8,457.50 from reserves to pay Synod for benevolence. John questioned whether the money paid to Synod reflected expenses for last year or 2020. It will go on 2020. Adam asked that 2018 would be reported on 2019.

Ralph reported that last year's income was \$242,054.81 and the expenses were \$239,793.65 leaving a profit of \$2,261.16. Ralph reported that he has Quick Book 2012 on his computer and will set up 2020. Tom S. will be helping with the set up. We discussed where to set up an office for the computer for finances. Ideas were – Situation room, upstairs office, lounge – Tom suggested that the computer be downstairs near the router, the lounge. Ralph reported that there is \$23,090.78 in the Endowment Fund. We need \$27,000.00 to invest.

Bill made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Tom seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Pastor Hess' Report

Pastor's report was presented as written. Ralph commended Pastor on a wonderful service for the funeral of Shannon. He said the sermon was beautiful.

Committee Reports

Committee reports were presented as written.

Sharon asked that each Council member be a part of a committee. We went around the table and volunteered for committees. (See attached sheet.)

Geri discussed more about the Youth trip and ideas for fundraisers.

Old Business

Souper Bowl Party – thanks to Angela Counterman for a wonderful event. There were 17 different kinds of soup and 50 + people attended. Everyone had a great time.

Girl Scout Troop – Adam did meet with the leader to get the key.

New Business

Geri will write an article for the Orbit for the committees.

Pastor requested the surveys for the Synod. Mail them in or bring them to the office.

Ralph reminded everyone that he needs a copy of the Camp Sequanota applications so he can turn them in to the Cook Fund.

Adam needs monetary help with the youth building. We discussed how he can ask to receive Thrivent funds.

Bill made a motion to adjourn and Tom seconded it. The meeting was then adjourned.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Garritano

Next meeting: February 25, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.



Trinity Worship and Music

Worship and Music March 2020

Many thanks to those who sponsored our palms: Terry Boyd, Carol Paul, Jane Eamigh, Bill Kolbe and other. Also, thanks for those who sponsored our music stand: John Ebersole and Carol Forney.

We are now in the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday was the first day of Lent. Ashes are a reminder of death: "earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust." Ashes are made from palms from the previous year. Lent is the forty-day season of preparation for Easter. Paraments for Lent are purple, the color of penitence. Flowers, a symbol of joy, are omitted during Lent. All of the crosses are covered in black because Lent is a time for austerity and purification.

Please join us on Wednesday at 12:00 noon or 6:30 for worship as we look at the villains.

Don't forget to place your orders for Easter flowers. Envelopes are in the back of the church. Flowers are \$10.00 and orders are due by March 29th.

Worship and Music committee meets every other month on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Our next meeting is March 10th at 6:30 p.m. Please come join us as we discuss the worship of our congregation and the music that we use.



Trinity Triniteens

TRINITEENS FUNDRAISERS

The Triniteens are hard at work planning some fundraisers that will help defray the cost of next year's trip to the ELCA National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN. The fundraisers are:

- □□□□□□□□ SPAGHETTI DINNER on Palm Sunday, which is Sunday, April 5th, 2020. This dinner will run from immediately following the 10:45 worship service until 2pm in Trinity Hall. The cost is \$5.00 per person. This is an "Eat In" or "Take Out" dinner so if you already have plans you can grab some food to go. This dinner includes spaghetti, meatballs, salad and roll. Please plan on attending to celebrate Palm Sunday as well as support Trinity's youth!
- □□□□□□□□ Everyone's favorite candles are back and for sale!! Linda Hoover so graciously organized a candle sale to help benefit the Trinity youth going to Minneapolis next year. The candles are \$10 each and are located on the table outside the cry room.
- □□□□□□□□ Another great fundraiser will be **Chocolate Peanut Clusters** just in time for Easter! The kids, along with the help of adult leaders, will be making the candy on Saturday, March 28th. One pound bags of candy will be available beginning Sunday, March 29th, and will be located on the table outside the cry room. Cost is \$5.00 per bag.

TRINITEENS UPDATES

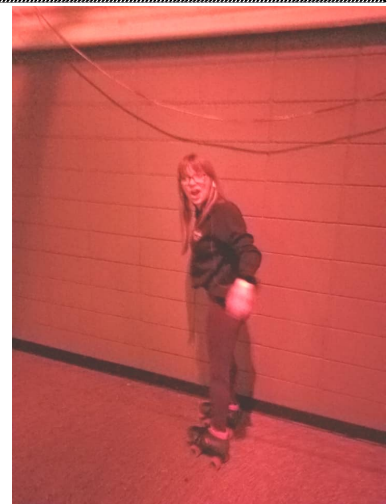
The Triniteens went roller skating on Friday, February 7th, in Martinsburg and had a blast . . . a lot of them spent their time hugging the wall or landing on the floor! Please enjoy some photos of their roller skating experience! .

If you are a Trinity teen and would like to join in on the fun, please come to our next meeting on **Sunday, March 8th, 5pm – 6:30pm**, to find out what more we will be planning. All are welcome!!



The Orbit

Trinity Triniteens





Trinity Committees

**WE ACCOMPLISH MORE WHEN WE WORK TOGETHER, SO
PLEASE GET INVOLVED!**

Christian Education Committee

Geri Selfridge, Rose Hornberger, Debbie Garritano, Chris Thompson, Angela Counterman

Evangelism Committee

Adam Counterman, Rose Hornberger, Tom Settle, Nancy Honecker,

Fellowship Committee

Angela Counterman, Nancy Honecker

Finance Committee

Barb Gosnell

Personnel Committee

Sharon Kutz, Linda Hoover, Judy Hale

Property Committee

Bill Mallory, Adam Counterman

Stewardship Committee

John Ebersole, Debbie Simpson, Judy Hale, Adam Counterman, Chris Thompson, Debbie Garritano

Social Ministry

Sharon Kutz, Linda Hoover

Worship and Music

Debbie Garritano, Adam Counterman, Les and Patty Bennett, Charon Claybaugh, John Ebersole



Trinity Evangelism Committee

Evangelism Committee Meeting Minutes from January 28, 2020

Present: Nancy Honecker, Rose Hornberger

Absent: Adam Counterman, Tom Settle

Discussion took place regarding the committee's need for new participants and some guidance. The last activity the committee headed was the Treats from Trunks on trick or treat night. The event was well received from the public and thank you's were expressed to all who helped to make it a success. At the meeting tonight; the two members present made out birthday cards for some upcoming birthdays.

Tom S. continues to put out the mid week (Wednesday) email broadcasts and is doing a fabulous job.

Participants on the committee helped Angela C. out with the Souper Bowl" clean up as the Evangelism Committee indicated that would help out with fellowship activities while a Fellowship committee is trying to be put together.

The February meeting is cancelled due to the Pancake & Sausage dinner.
Next meeting: March 24, 2020 at 6:00 pm here at Trinity Hall.

Help Wanted!!! Help Needed!!!

The Evangelism Committee is looking for people to participate in the committee. No prerequisites needed; just folks with ideas as to how to spread the love of the Lord with our Trinity family and our community. The committee has been meeting the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm but that time and date is negotiable. Any person interested please show up at the next meeting to be held on March 24, 2020 at 6:00 pm. Can't make the meeting, that's okay talk to Nancy Honecker any Sunday at church or call her home (814) 515 - 2369 and leave a message.



Also Worth Mentioning

SANDY EBERSOLE IS BACK!!

Sandy will be back on Friday, March 20th to continue her presentation on caregiving, identifying and managing stress, relaxation techniques, benefit programs and many other issues. If you were at the first presentation you know it was so interesting and informative with such good questions we went overtime. If you came to the first presentation please bring the resource folder Sandy made for everyone.

If you weren't able to make that one it's to your benefit to come March 20th. We meet in Trinity Hall at 10:00 a.m. This is not just for Trinity members, feel free to bring a friend. If you have questions or need more information contact Linda Hoover through the church office. 943-3972. Healthy You is fortunate to have Sandy and some future presentations you won't want to miss. Want to join us at Healthy You? Tuesday and Friday at 10:00 a.m., just show up and see what fun we have!

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers. They have a very special meaning to me. I was to deliver flowers on Sunday. Earlier in the month I had called Patty to cancel delivering flowers. Canceling out on Patty, was something that I really did not want to do; but she quickly agreed to take over for me and deliver flowers on my assigned Sunday.

Imagine my surprise when flowers arrived Sunday afternoon. Not only had Patty agreed to deliver flowers for me, but she and Lester delivered flowers to me. Patty and Lester's kindness and willingness to help me, and the thoughtfulness of the flowers; are God's continued good works through the efforts of the wonderful congregation at Trinity. Thank you so much. Debbie Simpson

St Andrews Pre-School Wish list:

Big O and small o glue sticks, scotch tape, juice boxes, stamps, paper lunch bags, hand sanitizer, tissues.

Thanks so much for all of the donations! We are very well stocked with Lysol/Clorox wipes and baby wipes.

Much appreciation from St. Andrew Preschool.

Prayer List

Please keep the following people in your prayers ...

Trinity Members

Jim Aungst
Ted Baird
Tyler Bennett
Tina Chestney
Don Corl
Church Council
Church Health
Team
Sondra Deffibaugh
Jane Eamigh
Jim Gosnell
Debbie Gracey
Paul Hamilton
Ron Heiss
Kristina Henderson
Martha Jones

Trinity's Homebound Members

Chris Burda
Ron Green
Ken Kumpf
Marie Laich
Dawn Mangus
Bob Nearhoof
Arlene Roessing
Robert Streightiff

Those Serving in the Armed Forces

Sarah Brown
Jason Buck
Kyle Eberhart
Nathan Frank

Justin Patz
Jason Smith
Eric Sweet

Janet/Charlie Aungst
Scott Aungst
Sandy Badorrec
Deb Bender
Frank Bennett
Kris Bennett
Pat Burk
Dorothy Bush
John Bush
Scott Corl
Sandy Daddorck
Jim Dieffinaugh
Jordan DeFrancisco
Audrey Deiluliis
Miles Dunkelbarger
Bill & Nancy Filler
Elisie Fogel
Haley Gehret
Dawn George
Ann Hanczaryk
Barbara Hann
Charles W Harpster
Don Haslem
Wyatt Hite
Dave Hogan
Jack Hoyne
Tom Klevan
Kaylee Kruse
Pastor John Klingerman
Lucya Kunkel
Jean Lane
Jenelle Lehr
Viljo Lind Family
Janet Luciano
Linda Mardula
Sharon Mayers

Family Members and Friends

Barb McConnell
Bob McConnell
Eddie McGee
McGilvery Family
Sharon McKeehan
Janelle Messner
Denny Miller
Harry Miller Sr
Morning Family
Rudy Muccitelli
Bob Noel
Zach Porta
Abby Remendowski
Katie Riggleman
Roub Family
Carl Ruckinger
Michael Ruckinger
Melvin Settle
C. Richard Shaffer
Beth Shultz
Harper Sigrist
Sharon Sitts
Denny Sullivan
George Sultage Sr
Robert Thomas Family
Paul Wallis
Mary Walter
James Wilt
Steve Wood



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.



The Orbit

March 2020

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Lectionary Readings for the Month of March

March 1

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Psalm 32
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11

March 8

Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17

March 15

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 95
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42

March 22

1 Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41

March 29

Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11
John 11:1-45

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Also worth mentioning...

The next Orbit Deadline is March 24th

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

- Email your article to:
office@trinityaltoona.com
drgeesey@verizon.net
- Drop your article in the Orbit mailbox inside the Christian Education 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!