

# The Orbit

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF  
TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ALTOONA PA

TrinityAltoona.com | Facebook.com/TrinityAltoona



April 2020

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High, God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns. The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge."

Psalm 46:1-7



## **From the Pastor:**

This is one of my favorite Psalms and it is especially relevant now as the nations are certainly in an uproar. We are experiencing an unusual time and we have all been effected by the government closures and "shelter in place" orders throughout our country. It means different things to different people. For some it means not being able to visit loved ones, for others it means grocery stores are low on items we need or they are not there at all. Others are out of work, some for the time being others permanently. Small business are feeling the struggle as they are mandated to shut down. It is to say the least a scary time for us all. Yet, we are reminded that God is our refuge and strength. God will see us through. God is with us, no matter what and we can go to God with our thoughts and prayers and find strength in the one who was strong enough to send Jesus to suffer and die for us. It feels unnatural that at a time when the church would be the place to go for strength and hope our buildings are closed, but it is just that, our buildings are closed, but the church is still alive. Our faith in the Lord does not waver, prayers are still being offered up, and God is in our midst. We preach that God is everywhere with us and I firmly believe that to be true. So even if we cannot gather as one body in our building we can be the body of Christ in the world. Thinking of others, doing for others, loving others, that is what the church is. Let us stay connected with each other through worship on our Facebook page or YouTube, phone calls, cards, and prayers. We will be back together one of these days and that will be a celebration for sure. Until then remember your church is still working, praying, forgiving, and loving you, and God is with us.

Peace,



## From the President

Welcome to the 4<sup>th</sup> week of self-quarantine. I really miss seeing all my Church friends. I have done more cooking and cleaning these past weeks and its time this stops. I'm ready to get back to my regular routine, as I'm sure all of you are. And I think the kids are ready to go back to school. Oops, I think the parents are ready for the kids to return to school. In the meantime, please be safe and follow all the Covid-19 guidelines.

We are not sure that the Church will be open for Palm Sunday, Holy Week or Easter. The Pastor has some ideas for Easter service. We will keep everyone informed.

Did you know that Easter is always the first Sunday after the full moon that falls on or after March 26. The full moon is April 7, therefore Easter is April 12. If we are unable to celebrate Easter together, please remember what it represents. The rising, of our Lord Jesus Christ, from the dead. Remember to sing His praises.

Also, you can still attend the Wednesday Lenten services at noon and our Sunday service at 9:30am by logging onto the Trinity Facebook page. Pastor Hess is doing a great job leading us in these services.

GOD BLESS

Sharon Kutz

### Silly Days in April

- April 1 – Haha April Fool's Day
- April 2 – Peanut Butter & Jelly Day
- April 3 – Fan Dance Day
- April 6 – Hostess Twinkie Day
- April 7 – No Housework Day
- April 11 – Catch & Release Day
- April 14 – Gardening Day
- April 17 – Blah! Blah! Blah! Day
- April 21 – Chocolate Covered Cashews Day
- April 25 – Mani-pedi Day
- April 26 – Help a Horse Day
- April 28 – Superhero Day
- April 30 – Bugs Bunny Day





## Pastor's Updates

**EASTER SERVICE:** It is looking like we will still be closed for Easter, however we will live stream the Easter service in it's full glory. Easter will come no matter what and we will celebrate the resurrection the best we can.

Easter Flowers: We will still have our Easter flowers to decorate our church on Easter Sunday. If you ordered flowers you will be able to pick them up throughout the week from 8:30-11:30 am.

---

### **PLEASE REFER TO THE PULSE FOR UPDATES ON THE CHURCH BUILDING CLOSURE:**

We will be following Governor Wolf's recommendation on when we can resume church worship and other activities. If you do not receive the Pulse you may sign up through the church office with your email address; 943-3972. Thank you all for your understanding in these trying times.

This has been a hard time for the church, not being able to hold worship. We are doing our best to live stream worship and also make it available on facebook and youtube. Please know that your church staff is working hard on keeping people connected. If you would like to help your church in these trying times please think about sending in your regular offerings. We will take a financial hit with the loss of worship but the more we can lessen that hit the better. I would also ask that you keep Trinity in your prayers. Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to being back together face to face in the future.



## Trinity Council Meetings Feb 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  
 Sandy Mallory, guest

#### Absent

### Greetings/Devotions

The meeting was called to order by President, Sharon Kutz.  
 Sharon led us with prayer.

### Minutes from last meeting.

Minutes from January 28 were read with a correction made to the reading of the last months minutes. Tom made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction. Linda 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. There will be \$2824.80 in the checking after payroll. We still need to money to pay Benevolence. As of January 31, the balance in investments was \$221, 047.61.

We have spent \$1369.08 on the Memorial Building. Adam said that he needs \$560.00 to finish the project. We discussed several fundraiser ideas and decided to place envelopes in the pews for additional donations to the project.

Debbie also suggested using our Thank Offering envelopes for specific projects throughout the year. Stewardship committee will discuss this further.

John E. noted that we almost made budget in last weeks offerings. There is an increase in offering the first and third week of the month because that is when Simply Giving comes in.

Adam made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Geri seconded the motion. Motion passed.



**The Orbit**

## Trinity Council Meetings Feb 20

### **Pastor Hess' Report**

Pastor's report was presented as written. Ralph commended Pastor on wonderful sermons. He said Pastor always preaches the Gospel.

### **Committee Reports**

Committee reports were presented as written.

Angela Counterman said that Fellowship committee is planning an Easter breakfast. Please sign up for donations or to volunteer.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

Geri thanked everyone who helped with the pancake dinner tonight. They served 114 people and raised \$570.00. They also received \$175.00 in donations. All of this will go to help with the trip to Minneapolis. Cost will be about \$1,000.00 per person. There may be 12 people going on the trip. The Youth group has \$2,000.00 to date. Geri also thanked Linda for helping the group with fund raising ideas. Pastor reported that the Synod Assembly will be June 5-6, 2020. We need representatives. Sharon, Judy, Linda and Adam volunteered to represent Trinity. Debbie volunteered as an alternate. Cost to attend the assembly is \$300.00 per person, \$15.00 for lunch and \$25.00 for banquet.

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: March 24, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**



# Trinity Worship and Music

## *Worship and Music March 10, 2020*

Pastor Eli, Debbie Garritano, Adam Counterman, Cindy Finnegan, Patty and Les Bennett, Patty Edavane, John Ebersole

### **Upcoming dates:**

March 22, Baptism, Jim Wilson  
 April 5, Palm Sunday  
 April 9, Maundy Thursday, 12:00 noon, 6:30 p.m.  
 April 10, Good Friday, 12:00 noon, 6:30 p.m.  
 April 11, Easter Saturday, 6:30 p.m.  
 April 12, Easter Sunday, 6:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.  
 May 14-26 Pastor's vacation  
 May 16-17, Ralph Hammer will officiate  
 May 23-24, Peggy Thatcher will have a Memorial Day Service  
 May 31, Pentecost, Confirmation  
 June 7, Trinity Sunday  
 June 14, Music Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

### **Service**

We discussed the Wednesday Lenten services. There has been great attendance. The theme is the Villians of the Crucifixion.

During the Easter season we will be using the full service of the Lutheran Book of Worship, setting 1.

Summer schedule – it was decided that there will be a congregational vote to see if we go to an abbreviated service for the summer or continue with the same schedule. Congregation will vote by ballot on May 2-3.

### **Flowers**

Orders are being taken for Easter Flowers. \$10.00 for each order. Please note what flower you want and if you are taking them or donating to the shut ins.

We need flower deliverers. Please contact the church office or Patty Bennett if you would like to help.

Claire Goon will arrange the altar flowers for Easter.

Social Ministry Committee will be delivering the Easter flowers.

### **Music**

Cindy reported that the choirs are going well. Attendance has been good and regular. Angela Counterman will be singing a solo and the adult and youth choirs will sing for Easter.

Family choir will be singing on March 29. Shane Brown will be playing the French horn at the 10:45 service.

June 14 is Music Sunday. Cindy has musicians set to play. She is really looking forward to this.

Debbie thanked Cindy for having Jack Kuhn fill in for her on January 23. He did an excellent job. Debbie thanked Cindy for encouraging students to learn about church music and liturgy.

### **Altar**

**Next meeting: May 12, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.**

# Prayer List

Please keep the following people in your prayers ...

## Trinity Members

Jim Aungst  
 Ted Baird  
 Tyler Bennett  
 Bob Brubaker  
 Tina Chestney  
 Church Health  
 Team  
 Don Corl  
 Gary Crownover  
 Sondra Deffibaugh  
 Jane Eamigh  
 Jim Gosnell  
 Debbie Gracey  
 Paul Hamilton  
 Ron Heiss  
 Kristina Henderson

## 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  
 Tracee Corl  
 Sandy Daddorck  
 Jim Dieffinaugh  
 Jordan DeFrancisco  
 Audrey Deiluliis  
 Miles Dunkelbarger  
 Bill & Nancy Filler  
 Elisie Fogel  
 Haley Gehret  
 Dawn George  
 Amanda Gregg &  
 Daughters  
 Ann Hanczaryk  
 Charles W Harpster  
 Don Haslem  
 Danielle Hatfield  
 Dave Hogan  
 Jack Hoyne  
 Judy Johnson  
 Tom Klevan  
 Pastor John Klingeman  
 Kaylee Kruise  
 Lucya Kunkel  
 Jean Lane  
 Jenelle Lehr  
 Vijo Lind Family  
 Janet Luciano

## Family Members and Friends

Linda Mardula  
 Sharon Mayers  
 Barb McConnell  
 Bob McConnell  
 Eddie McGee  
 McGilvery Family  
 Sharon McKeehan  
 Janelle Messner  
 Denny Miller  
 Harry Miller Sr  
 Moore Family  
 Morning Family  
 Debbie Muccitelli  
 Rudy Muccitelli  
 Wyatt Nite  
 Bob Noel  
 Zach Porta  
 Abby Remendowski  
 Katie Riggleman  
 Roub Family  
 Carl Ruckinger  
 Michael Ruckinger  
 Melvin Settle  
 C. Richard Shaffer  
 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

April 2020

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Altoona, PA  
PERMIT 56

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church  
408 North Sixth Street, Juniata  
Altoona, PA 16601  
Phone: (814) 943-3972  
Fax: (814) 946-7001  
Email [office@trinityaltoona.com](mailto:office@trinityaltoona.com)



**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

*Visit us online at* [TrinityAltoona.com](http://TrinityAltoona.com) and [facebook.com/TrinityAltoona](https://facebook.com/TrinityAltoona)

## Lectionary Readings for the Month of April

### April 5

Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Psalm 31:9-16  
Philippians 2:5-11  
Matthew 26:14--27:66

### April 12 EASTER

Acts 10:34-43  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
Colossians 3:1-4  
Matthew 28:1-10

### April 19

Acts 2:14a, 22-32  
Psalm 16  
1 Peter 1:3-9  
John 20:19-31

### April 26

Acts 2:14a, 36-41  
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19  
1 Peter 1:17-23  
Luke 24:13-35

## In the Orbit This Month:

From the Pastor .....	1
From the President .....	2
Pastor's Updates.....	3
Trinity Council Meeting.....	4
Trinity Worship and Music....	6
Prayer List.....	7

## Also worth mentioning...

## The next Orbit Deadline is April 24th

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

- Email your article to:  
**[office@trinityaltoona.com](mailto:office@trinityaltoona.com)**  
**[drgeesey@verizon.net](mailto: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!**