

The Orbit

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



June 2021

"I love you, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my rock in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, so I shall be saved from my enemies."

Psalm 18:1-3



From the Pastor:

This Psalm reminds us of where our strength comes from. God is our strength in all things. No matter what this world brings upon us we have the Lord to protect us. I particularly love the fact that we are saved from our enemies. Our enemies are death, sin, and the devil and God not only protects us but saves us for all eternity. God, through Jesus, crushes our enemies under foot. We no longer have to fear for we have forgiveness, grace, and mercy. We can always call on God as our refuge and our strength. As we head into the summer months let us always remember who we can go to in our time of need. God will be with us no matter where we venture. We are also called to praise the Lord as he saves us from all things.

Peace



The Orbit

Trinity President

Happy June to all!! Does it seem like summer has suddenly arrived and now you need to do all the things you've been dreaming about during the long cold months of winter and social distancing? Slow down, relax and put first things first. Enjoy the time you can spend with friends and family together. Enjoy watching your kids blow bubbles, swing, run, dance, enjoy your quiet time thanking God for all that he does for us. Meditate. Sometimes we get so busy trying to create epic summer adventures we miss the truly important things, make it a summer you will remember as one of the best.

We at Trinity have made the best of these trying times and we are so grateful that you all came together as usual. Committees are planning activities for the kids and adults alike. This congregation has always been the best at taking care of each other as family. We are blessed.

Have a great summer and be safe.
Look forward to only 7 months until Christmas!!
(I can hear you groaning)

Linda Hoover
Council President



Trinity's Some Things to Think About

Trinity's Some Things To Think About

What is the biggest battle in your life right now?
Have you given it to God?

Do you let worry weigh you down? Does it help anything? Our faith teaches us to give it to God, He will handle it. Do you??

Is your stress caused by what you let into your life?

There are more than 500 varieties of bananas.

What matters is that you take care of yourself so you can take care of others.



Trinity Committee Form

June 2021

Are you interested in joining a committee or volunteering on an “as needed” basis within our church? Please mark what you are interested in and contact Pastor, Linda Hoover, Sharon Kutz or place in the offering plate. We will compile a list and make sure it’s given to the chairperson of the committees you have chosen. Share your time and talents, you are important in the running of our church

- Fellowship
 Social Ministry
 Finance
 Stewardship
 Evangelism
 Worship and Music
 Property
 Altar Guild
 Choir
 Deliver Flowers
 Gardening
 Lectors and Acolytes
 Ushers
 Other (specify your talent)

NAME _____ PHONE _____

Please don’t assume that we know because you told us before, we need you to sign up. Committee chairs change and not everyone knows or conveys your interest.

Linda Hoover



Trinity Church Council Minutes May 2021

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Minutes of May 25, 2021

Debbie Garritano, Secretary

Attendance

Present

Pastor Eli
Sharon Kutz 2021
Debbie Garritano 2022
Barb Gosnell 2023
Ralph Grove
Judy Hale 2021
Linda Hoover 2021

Absent

Rose Hornberger 2021
Ken Myers 2023
Tom Settle 2021

Adam Counterman, 2022
Geri Selfridge 2020
John Ebersole 2022

Chris Thompson 2022

Greetings/Devotions

The meeting was called to order by President, Linda Hoover
Pastor led us with prayer.

Minutes from last meeting.

Minutes from April 27, 2021 were read. A correction was made under New Business: ...If we do nothing, it increases to **\$215.00/month**. If we subscribe for 3-year contract, with better service, it will be **\$138/month**. Adam made a motion to accept the minutes with the correction. Judy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Ralph presented the report as written. Everything is up to date except the payroll. There is a balance of \$32,474.99 in the Endowment Fund.

Ralph also reported that the organ has been repaired and will be tuned this Friday.

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

Pastor Hess' Report

Committee Reports

Presented as written.

Old Business

John presented a drawing of the railing between the Sunday School room and Sanctuary. Adam made a motion to accept the proposal. Judy seconded the motion. Motion passed. The work can now begin.

Tom took care of the Atlantic BB subscription. Ralph said it will be deducted directly from the checking account. Barb checked on the funds in the Special Offerings. It seems that all special items (flowers, bulletins, special offerings) are being lumped together. These need to be separated. She will hold a Finance meeting to discuss separating accounts.



Trinity Church Council Minutes 2021

Geri asked if all the fire inspection concerns have been addressed. Pastor said they have and the Fire Inspector is coming this Friday to recheck.

Sharon asked why the lights in Trinity Hall have not been replaced. Pastor said that when they burn out the ballast is being replaced with LED lights. Adam will take care of this.

Endowment papers: Pastor has all the paperwork completed but needs three signatures. Pastor, Ralph (Treasurer) and Linda (President). Now Pastor will go to a Notary and sign the papers. The papers will then be sent to ELCA to get an account number. Once we have the account number, we will then send a form with our check to be invested.

New Business

Distancing and mask protocol: Pastor stated that the tape was taken off the pews and people were still social distancing. Following a discussion about mask wearing, it was agreed to continue the masks and reevaluate at the next council meeting. Sharon made a motion to continue the masks and reevaluate at the next council meeting. Adam seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Sharon took up a collection from Council for Ken Myer's mother in law, Phylis Wright.

Boy Scouts: Matt Hale has asked if the Boy Scouts could hold a breakfast in the fall and at Christmas time. Council had already approved spaghetti dinners for the scouts. The breakfasts will be approved also.

The meeting was then adjourned.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Garritano

Next meeting: June 29, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.



Trinity Church Council Minutes

April 2021

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Minutes of April 27, 2021

Debbie Garritano, Secretary

Attendance

Present

Pastor Eli
Sharon Kutz 2021
Debbie Garritano 2022
Barb Gosnell 2023
Ralph Grove
Judy Hale 2021
Linda Hoover 2021

Absent

Rose Hornberger 2021

Ken Myers 2023
Tom Settle 2021
Adam Counterman, 2022
Geri Selfridge 2020
John Ebersole 2022
Chris Thompson 2022
Guest: Marianne Brock from ELCA

Greetings/Devotions

The meeting was called to order by President, Linda Hoover
Pastor led us with prayer.

Minutes from last meeting.

Minutes from March 23rd were read. Adam made a motion to accept the minutes. Judy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Ralph presented the report as written. \$465.00 was sent to the Agarwal Center (Teen Center) from the Thank Offering in February. \$300.00 was given to St. Andrew Preschool. \$460.00 has come in for the Endowment. This will be deposited quarterly.

Ralph also posted the 2021 posters in the church. Judy made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Adam seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Marianne Brock, ELCA to discuss the Endowment Fund.

Marianne told us a bit of her personal background. Her job is to 1. Help congregations invest funds, 2. Work with individuals to set up plans, and 3. To work on behalf of the Allegheny Synod.

The Endowment Fund of ELCA has been around for a long time. Its name has changed from Fund A to Ministry Growth Fund. It is an investment created by ELCA for ELCA. It is a co-mingled fund. There are two goals: to support ministry and to stabilize quarterly distributions for investors. At the beginning of the year, we will get a statement with the stable distribution rate which does not rise and fall with the market. The investment follows the ELCA guidelines. Investment managers are top firms managing the investment. When our money is invested, it is our money. Quarterly comment cards are sent with a monthly fact sheet. Each quarter investment meetings are online and available to anyone. This is not a high-risk investment. We are in it for long term at 4% annual return. Quarterly distributions can be taken or reinvested to take later.

The next step, she will send forms to the church or John to fill out an application to create an account and number. Then we will send our check in to be invested. To add to the account, we need increments of \$2,000.00. Any gift over \$5,000.00, 10% will be set aside to ELCA ministry. It is our discretion what to send it to.

We thanked Marianne for taking the time to come and explain the fund and our next step. She also said she would come back anytime if needed.



Trinity Church Council Minutes

April 2021

John will write an article for the Orbit about the Endowment Fund.

Pastor Hess' Report

Presented as written. She discussed Lent and Easter services. She discussed vaccines and homes opening up for visitation. Bible Study and Adult Sunday School is going well.

Committee Reports

Presented as written.

Old Business

Adam put up a handicap bar in the women's bathroom and a handrail in the Sacristy.

John stated that Sandy came up with two proposals for the rail in the Sanctuary by the Cry Room. An oak railing with spindles costs \$1000.00 to \$1300.00. An oak wall similar to the one on the choir loft, costs \$500.00 to \$800.00. Concern is matching the stain and finish. We will also need to check ADA guidelines and fire regulations for the opening.

We have received a gift of \$1000.00 from Gary Crownover for this project in memory of his wife and sister. John will get back to Sandy and have more information at the next meeting.

New Business

Tom checked with Atlantic BB to renew our subscription. If we do nothing it increases to \$132.00/month. If we subscribe for 3-year contract with better service, it will be \$148.00. Sharon made a motion to accept the 3-year contract. Barb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Pastor will be taking vacation from June 14-21. Peggy Thatcher will be covering services. No communion.

Debbie announced that our florist, City View Florist, is going out of business. She investigated other florists in town and recommended to go with Peterman's. They will honor the price we are currently paying, \$40.00. Sharon made a motion to accept Peterman's. Geri seconded the motion. Motion passed with one opposition.

The meeting was then adjourned.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Garritano

Next meeting: May 25, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.



Trinity Worship and Music

Worship and Music May 11, 2021

Attendance: Debbie Garritano, Pastor Eli

Upcoming dates:

May 23 Pentecost/Confirmation Red paraments and red flowers.

June 14-21 Pastor will be on vacation. Peggy Thatcher will be filling in.

July

August 8-12 is Vacation Bible School. Watch for more information.

Service

Evaluate Easter celebrations: Easter celebrations went well. There were no problems with masks and social distancing. It was good to have everyone be able to attend the Easter celebration. Thanks to Pastor Eli for adding an additional service to enable social distancing.

Summer schedule will be the same as usual. Saturday service: 6:30 p.m., Sunday service 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. No Sunday School sessions.

Music Sunday: We discussed Music Sunday and realized it would be too difficult to arrange everything for the beginning of June. We decided to hold Music Sunday on September 12. It will kick off the beginning of Sunday School and the end of summer. We also discussed having some patriotic music to remember the 20th anniversary of 9-11.

Flowers

Easter flowers were beautiful. We got them from Berkstressers in Tipton.

Altar: The florist who provided our altar flowers, City View Florist, is going out of business. Debbie did investigate other florists who would do altar flowers. We decided to go with Peterman's. They are willing to do the altar flowers at the cost we were paying, \$40.00.

Deliverers: Patty is still looking for anyone who would be willing to help with flower delivery. Just call the church office to let us know.

Music: Cindy reported that the adult choir will be singing at Pentecost. The youth choir is also practicing and preparing a song for early June. She plans to continue practicing with individual soloists and the adult choir for specific dates throughout the summer months.

Altar: nothing at this time.

Next meeting: August 17, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.



Trinity Christian Education Minutes –April 2021

CHRISTIAN ED MEETING MINUTES – Tuesday, April 27th at 6pm

Attending: Amanda & DJ Pierannunzio, Angela Counterman, John Ebersole, Debbie Garritano, Geri Selfridge and Pastor Eli

2021 CONFIRMATION CLASS

Trinity youth that have completed the two year confirmation program will be confirmed on Sunday, May 23rd, at the 10:45am worship service. These students are: Bryn Archey, Jocelyn Archey, Olivia Behe, Alexis, Battisti, Jillian Pierannunzio, Anna Resig, Leiya Resig and Laila Wilkinson.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The last day of Sunday School for the 2020/2021 season is Sunday June 6th. There will be an ice cream social for all kids that day. We will discuss the fall start date at our next meeting.

Rob Lloyd has asked to switch teaching spots with John Ebersole in the fall, so Rob will now be teaching Sunday School class to the senior high students (grades 9 – 12). John will take over the confirmation class curriculum with some assistance from Pastor Eli. The one concern John has is making sure to have one or two substitutes available to take over his class on weekends that he plans to be away. He has a few people that he has talked to about this. We will finalize this information at our next meeting as well.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This year's VBS will be held Sunday, August 8th through Thursday, August 12th, from 6pm – 8pm. The theme is "The Nights of the North Castle" and Zion Lutheran is doing the same theme so Pastor will talk to them about sharing some supplies, decorations, etc. Pastor ordered the starter kit and puppet so we will be ready to make more formal plans at the next meeting.

Some things that we discussed so far are:

Sports/Activities/Puppets – DJ and Rob will head this up.

Snacks – Debbie G will be in charge and she already has her helpers.

Music – Cindy and Jillian (or) Angela. Jillian may be busy with band so Angela will be backup just in case.

Crafts – Nancy Honenecker and List Gutshall. We will need to check with Nancy to see if she would like to help again this year and Lisa offered to help as well. This is where we can have the teenagers assist, like they did last year. It could count as service hours for school for some of them.

Science – We are not sure if this is something that will be done this year. We will know better once we go through the starter kit.

As with the last VBS two years ago, we will start with story time first then disperse to the different stations.

Some neat ideas Pastor mentioned were jousting with pool noodles and pretty, pretty princesses. The kids are going to love it!

Masks will be required, and all safety precautions will be taken, as well as having hand sanitizer available.

NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY, MAY 25TH, 2021 AT 6PM

Prayer List

Please keep the following people in your prayers ...

Trinity Members

| | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Jim Aungst | Rose Hornberger |
| Ted Baird | Jessica McGraw |
| Tyler Bennett | Bill McLaughlin |
| Ruth & Bob Brubaker | Cindy Murphy |
| Tina Chestney | Ken B. Myers |
| Church HealthTeam | Ray Nycum |
| Church Council | Angie Peacetree Family |
| Don Corl | Jaden Rhode |
| Gary Crownover | Tom Simpson |
| Sondra Deffibaugh | Stenger Family |
| Jane Eamigh | Fred Teigler |
| Lois Gutshall | Jasmine Wilkins |
| Paul Hamilton | Nevin Woodring |
| Kathy Hatch | Louise Yeager |
| Kristina Henderson | Nancy Yeager |
| Bob Hofmann | |
| Doris Hollingshead | |

Trinity's Homebound Members

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Chris Burda | Marie Laich |
| Audrey Deiluliis | Dawn Mangus |
| Ron Green | Bob Nearhoof |
| Ken Kumpf | Arlene Roessing |

Those Serving in the Armed Forces

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Eddie Bennett | Nathan Frank |
| Sarah Brown | Ryan Maguire |
| Jim Buchanan | Justin Patz |
| Jason Buck | Jason Smith |
| Kyle Eberhart | Eric Sweet |

Family Members and Friends

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Donnie Alwine | Jack Hoyne | Blair Umholtz |
| Janet & Charlie Aungst | Beth Ickes | Mike Verilla |
| Scott Aungst | Judy Johnson | Paul Wallis |
| Sandy Badorrec | Katie Kanczaryk | Mary Walter |
| Dan Baughman | Tom Klevan | James Wilt |
| Rick Beauchamp | Pastor John Klingeman | Steve Wood |
| Frank Bennett | Lucya Kunkel | Elsa |
| Kris Bennett | Jan Lastaglia | |
| Casey Bondarenka | Janelle Lehr | |
| Dorothy Bush | Raija Lind | |
| John Bush | Bernie Market | |
| Sue Carter | Ron Matta | |
| Tracee Cole | Sharon Mayers | |
| Scott Corl | Barb McConnell | |
| Raynoo Cox Family | Bob McConnell | |
| Sandy Daddorek | Eddie McGee | |
| Jim Deffibaugh | McGilvery Family | |
| Jorden DeFrancisco | Kathy McIntyre | |
| Zane Dodson | Sharon McKeehan | |
| Cheryl Ecker | Janelle Messner | |
| Autumn and Shelly Emswiler | Rudy Muccitelli | |
| Phil Esper | Bill & Penny Murphy | |
| Nancy & Bill Filler | Wyatt Nite | |
| Elisie Fogel | Richard Perry | |
| Haley Gehret | Zach Porta | |
| Dawn George | Frances Pringle | |
| Amy Gleason | Abby Remendowski | |
| Amanda Gregg & Daughters | Katie Riggelman | |
| Ann Hanczaryk | Toran Robertson | |
| Charles W. Harpster | Carl Ruckinger | |
| David K. Harpster | Michael Ruckinger | |
| Tim Harrison | Bill Senitko | |
| Don Haslem | Ronald Settle | |
| Tom Hatch | Patty Smith | |
| Danielle Hatfield | Tina Spahn | |
| | Bill Stonebraker | |
| | Michele Taylor | |



Please know that you June 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 June 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

June 2021

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



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Lectionary Readings for the Month of June

June 6

Genesis 3:8-15
Psalm 130
2 Corinthians 4:13--5:1
Mark 3:20-35

June 13

Ezekiel 17:22-24
Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15
2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17
Mark 4:26-34

June 20

Job 38:1-11
Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32
2 Corinthians 6:1-13
Mark 4:35-41

June 27

Lamentations 3:22-33
Psalm 30
2 Corinthians 8:7-15
Mark 5:21-43

In the Orbit This Month:

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Also worth mentioning...

*Thank You
So Much*

Thank you for your kind expressions of sympathy during this difficult time.

We are truly grateful for your prayers, calls, cards, luncheon and support. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.
The Family of Harry Miller Sr.

The next Orbit Deadline is June 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!