

# The Orbit

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF  
TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ALTOONA PA  
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September 2021

"And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind; cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good."

Genesis 1: 24-25



## **From the Pastor:**

There are some occasions when I bring my dog, Kensington, into work with me and as I write this today is one of those days. I was sitting here petting her and started thinking about God's creation of all the creatures that we created in the first chapter of Genesis. Later in Genesis God also tells humankind that we are to have dominion of the creation. Again as I look at Kensie, I wonder to myself what it means to have dominion over things. I do not think that God meant that we are to dominate creation. Rather that we are to be the head and in charge but with that comes responsibility. We use what God has created for our benefits but we are also responsible to creation. I for one love creation, not only the animals but also the trees, flowers, birds, fish of the sea, and all living things. Yet, sometimes we need to be reminded that we have a responsibility to creation itself. We are responsible not to abuse or misuse what God has blessed us with. We treat with love and respect all that God has created. It does not mean that we all have to be animal lovers or nature lovers, but it does mean that we respect and care for creation whenever we can. We are called to remember that when God created God saw that it was good, yes even the snakes and the spiders.

Peace,



**The Orbit**

## Trinity Updates

The Jr./Sr. high youth group has begun to meet again. Their next meeting is Sunday Sept. 12th at 6pm. All are welcome.

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The national youth gathering in Minneapolis will be July 24th-28th 2022. Any senior high youth that are interested in going must contact Pastor Hess 943-3972 by Sept. 12th. Once registered there are no refunds so make sure you can go those dates and there are no conflicts with camps, work, or family vacations.

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Council has once again decided that with the rise in covid cases in Blair county we are asking that people please wear a mask for Sunday services or social distance in the large Sunday School room. We did a great job last year with our protocols and had no exposures at Church. Lets keep up the good work. If you don't feel comfortable attending with a rise in cases you may still watch the sermon on our Facebook page. Thank you to Tom Settle who diligently records the sermons and uploads them. This is a big job and he does it every week.

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Please note that we will be having Music Sunday on September 12th. This will be a Sunday where we will combine services to one time at 9:30am. Come enjoy the music of the church.

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Sunday school will begin September 19th at 9:30am all are welcome.

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There will be a meeting for all prospective confirmation students and their parents on Sept. 9 at 7 PM in Trinity Hall.

The Confirmation program will be outlined. Parents and confirmands will be given the opportunity to ask questions about the program and to give their input as to what they expect from the program.

Thanks:

John Ebersole



## Trinity Social Ministry Committee

The Social Ministry Committee will meet on Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 11 am in Trinity Hall. Everyone is welcome to see what is being planned for the congregation and/or the community. If you can't be there and have ideas as to what the committee can do, please contact me at 814-207-5233 or when you see me. You can also drop me a note in the collection plate.

Thank you, Sharon Kutz



# Trinity Council Meeting June 2021

## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Council Minutes June 22, 2021

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### ATTENDANCE:

#### Present

Pastor Eli  
Adam Counterman  
Barb Gosnell  
Ken Myers  
Ralph Grove  
Linda Hoover  
Tom Settle  
Chris Thompson  
Geri Selfridge

#### Absent

Debbie Garritano  
John Ebersole  
Rose Hornberger  
Judy Hale  
Sharon Kutz

### GREETINGS/DEVOTIONS

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

### MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes from May 25, 2021, were read. Adam made a motion to approve the minutes, Tom seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor presented her report as written. It was announced that a new Bishop had been chosen, it is Pastor Paula Schmitt. There will be a farewell for Bishop Rhyne of August 22, 2021.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Ralph presented the report as written and updated that the organ was serviced. Pastor sent in notarized Endowment information and is awaiting account information. Barb Gosnell made a motion to accept the report, Geri Selfridge seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### NEW BUSINESS

- Adam Counterman had the flags cleaned at Monarch's Dry Cleaning and then put them back up. The Counterman family paid for the cleaning as a donation to the church.
- There was a discussion regarding the cost of bathroom paper products, and it was decided that we will continue to purchase as we have been.
- The question was asked if we could remove the small urinal from the men's room as it does not flush properly. The Building Committee approved having the janitor remove and cap the water and sewer lines.
- The sidewalk by the handicap ramp has been shale since the city dug it up over two (2) months ago and will need to be fixed so that no one gets injured. Adam will call the Water Authority and check into it.

### OLD BUSINESS

- There was a discussion on masks and social distancing. We will continue to follow the CDC guidelines and socially distance. It was agreed that fully vaccinated congregants can attend service without masks. The distribution of the bulletins and collection of the offering will remain the same.

The meeting was then adjourned, and we closed with the Lord's Prayer.



# Trinity Council Meeting August 2021

## Attendance

### Present

Pastor Eli  
Sharon Kutz 2021  
Debbie Garritano 2022  
Barb Gosnell 2023  
Ralph Grove

Linda Hoover 2021  
Ken Myers 2023

John Ebersole 2022

### Absent

Judy Hale 2021  
Rose Hornberger 2021  
Tom Settle 2021  
Adam Counterman, 2022  
Geri Selfridge 2020  
Chris Thompson 2022

## Greetings/Devotions

The meeting was called to order by President, Linda Hoover

Pastor led us with prayer.

Because there was not a quorum, no decisions were made. The meeting was a discussion meeting.

## Minutes from last meeting.

Minutes from June were not available.

## Treasurer's Report

Ralph presented the report as written. Everything is up to date with the exception of the Pastor's health insurance and salary. John questioned the cost of checks. Ralph explained that he purchases them from Deluxe Checks and there was a discount if he ordered more.

Pastor reported that we received confirmation that our deposit of \$25,000.00 has been received for the Endowment Fund. Next we will send 10% to First Fruits Gift (ELCA ministry other than Trinity). This money is kept in a separate account.

## Pastor Hess' Report

Presented as written.

## Committee Reports

Linda stressed that reports need to be submitted to keep the congregation up to date on what is going on.

John reported that Stewardship has recommended the Mountain Lion Backpack Program for the September Thank Offering. Debbie will get information to put in the Orbit.

## Old Business

Linda thanked Sandy Ebersole and Adam Counterman for the work on the railing in the sanctuary.

## New Business

Music Sunday – concern was raised regarding the one service on September 12, Music Sunday. The Covid rate is rising and with only one service, social distancing may be a problem. We agreed to go ahead with Music Sunday but recommend that people social distance and wear masks.

We also agreed that we should recommend wearing masks indoors so that we can continue to attend church services. We do not want Trinity to contribute to the spread of this virus.

The meeting was then adjourned. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Garritano

**Next meeting: September 28, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.**



## Trinity Stewardship Committee

In keeping with "Back to School", the Stewardship committee has designated the Mountain Lion Backpack program as the recipient of the September Thank Offering. Please see a brief outline of the program below:

The Mountain Lion BackPack Program is "Equipping students to be physically and mentally prepared to learn." The MLBP Program feeds an average 1,000 Altoona Area Elementary school children every week. The program is part of the national Feeding America Network BackPack Program.

For many students, the meals at school are the only meals they may eat. Many return to school on Monday morning sick, tired, dizzy and unable to focus because of hunger. This is no way to be prepared to learn. The Mountain Lion Backpack Program (MLBP) is not just a feeding program, it is an educational program as well.

To help address their hunger and to better prepare them to learn, the MLBP Program provides students with backpacks of food every Friday for 32 weeks of the school year. The backpacks contain food items for breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks, and drink for over the weekend. Items may include cereal bowls, granola bars, raisins, ramen noodles, fruit cups, oatmeal, tuna, soup, peanut butter, etc. Surveys of both teachers and parents indicate positive change in school attendance, behavior and focus from children participating in the program.

# Prayer List

## Trinity Members

Aungst Family	Clara Hite
Ted Baird	Doris Hollingshead
Tyler Bennett	Rose Hornberger
Ruth & Bob Brubaker	Martha Jones
John Bush	Jessica McGraw
Tina Chestney	Ken B. Myers
Church HealthTeam	Nycum Family
Church Council	Jaden Rhode
Don Corl	Tom Simpson
Gary Crownover	Fred Teigler
Sondra Deffibaugh	Nancy Yeager
Jane Eamigh	Yeager Family
Lois Gutshall	
Paul Hamilton	
Marla Hammond	
Kathy Hatch	
Kristina Henderson	

## Trinity's Homebound Members

Chris Burda	Dawn Mangus
Audrey Deiluliis	Bill McLaughlin
Clara Hite	Bob Nearhoof
Shannon Kratzer	Arlene Roessing
Ken Kumpf	Leta Veit
Marie Laich	

## 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	Beth Ickes	Mike Verilla
Janet & Charlie Aungst	Judy Johnson	Paul & Nina Wallis
Scott Aungst	Katie Kanczaryk	James Wilt
Dan Baughman	Pastor John Klingeman	Steve Wood
Behe Family	Cindy Lamant	Elsa
Frank Bennett	Jan Lastaglia	
Kris Bennett	Janelle Lehr	
Casey Bondarenka	Raija Lind	
Dorothy Bush	Linda Mardula	
Sue Carter	Bernie Market	
Sue Casalviere	Ron Matta	
Shirley Cassarly	Sharon Mayers	
Mary Francis Clites	Bob McConnell	
Josh Clites	Eddie McGee	
Tracee Cole	McGilvery Family	
Scott Corl	Chris McGreary	
Raynoo Cox Family	Kathy McIntyre	
Jim Deffibaugh	Sharon McKeehan	
Jorden DeFrancisco	Barbara Meader	
Zane Dodson	Janelle Messner	
Cheryl Ecker	Rudy Muccitelli	
Phil Esper	Bill & Penny Murphy	
Nancy & Bill Filler	Dick Perry	
Elisie Fogel	Wyatt Nite	
Joyce Gates	Zach Noel	
Haley Gehret	Frances Pringle	
Dawn George	Albert Pugliese	
Amy Gleason	Abby Remendowski	
Amanda Gregg & Daughters	Katie Riggelman	
David K. Harpster	Toran Robertson	
Tim Harrison	Carl Ruckinger	
Don Haslem	Michael Ruckinger	
Tom Hatch	Bill Senitko	
Danielle Hatfield	Ronald Settle	
Robin Housley	Michele Taylor	
Jack Hoyne	Blair Umholtz	
	Lillian Umholtz	



Please know that you can 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 can 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.



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September 2021

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## Lectionary Readings for the Month of September

### Sep 5

Isaiah 35:4-7a  
Psalm 146  
James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17  
Mark 7:24-37

### Sep 12

Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Psalm 116:1-9  
James 3:1-12  
Mark 8:27-38

### Sep 19

Jeremiah 11:18-20  
Psalm 54  
James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a  
Mark 9:30-37

### Sep 26

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29  
Psalm 19:7-14  
James 5:13-20  
Mark 9:38-50

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## Also worth mentioning...

## The next Orbit Deadline is September 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!**