

# The Orbit

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



November 2021

"Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, 'Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' Then he said to him, 'Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.'"

Luke 17:15-19



## **From the Pastor:**

The story of the 10 lepers is a great story about giving thanks to God for all that is done for us. In the month of November, we tend to focus on the holiday of Thanksgiving. Some families have a tradition where they go around the table on Thanksgiving and tell what they are thankful for. In the story 10 men are healed and one goes back and thanks Jesus. There are many things to be thankful for but sometimes in the world as we know it we forget. That is what the holiday and this reading are for, to remind us to be thankful. When we are thankful we are optimistic, we realize that there is good in this world, we see the silver lining, we find the rainbow after the rain. Think about it, if we have thankful hearts no matter what happens we know that God is with us, even to the end of the age. It is hard to be thankful when we feel life's struggles, when we see the bad in this world, when we see others suffer, or we ourselves suffer. However, we can always be thankful for the life and death of God's one and only Son, Jesus, who gives us the promise of everlasting life. We have all been given this promise through the resurrection and if for that reason alone, we are called to be thankful.

Peace,



**The Orbit**

## Trinity President

NOVEMBER----- SIGNALS THE START OF WINTER.

People are storing up their harvest and preparing their food and homes for the winter ahead. Some are preparing their craft rooms, some their favorite TV chair. Whatever you have ahead it's pretty hard to know if you need a coat, sweater, shorts, tank top, sweat pants, whew. This month represents the transition from the autumn harvest season to that of winter. Life is constantly changing, we need to think of change and embrace it. The last two years have been a challenging time for sure, we can't let our emotions cloud our minds. Try to relax and think more objectively. Of course we can go to God with whatever is on our mind but we also have our church family. Never hesitate to ask for help or just companionship, our members are the absolute best at sticking together, truly family. We are so fortunate to have the amazing people who work so hard for each other and our church. Keep coming to service, we got you covered (masks).

We celebrate Thanksgiving this month, giving thanks for the particular goodness of God's mercy. Maybe every day you could think of three blessings of that day and thank God for them.

Let's not forget the turkey dinner with all it's trimmings, relatives and friends around the table, football and the bellyache after eating. Then - the day after Thanksgiving shopping. The serious shoppers are invading malls and department stores for the best deals. (I'm not one of them!!) Enjoy your time together!

Give thanks for a God blessed country filled with freedom

Linda Hoover  
Council President



**The Orbit**

## **Trinity Things to Think About**

### TRINITY'S THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

What are you grateful for?

It's about focusing on the fight, not the fright

Do you like who you are right now?

Ladybugs eat their own

What person in your life do you feel is most committed to you?



## Trinity Social Ministry Committee

### SOCIAL MINISTRY

The Committee met on October 12. We personally wrote to those who have been “missing” from church services.

We invited them to return “to the fold”. Some will come for a week then we don’t see you for many weeks. Summer is over and the kids are back in school. So, try to make a commitment to come see us.

And don’t forget Sunday School is also in session for everyone starting at 9:30 Sunday morning.

We sent out a total of 54 postcards with a picture of Trinity on the front.

Thank You to Ruthie Brubaker, Betty Wilkinson, Maizie Emswiler, Norma Stenger, Claire Goon, Patty and Lester Bennett, Linda Hoover and of course thanks to Pastor Eli.

Our next meeting will be November 9, 2021 at 11 AM in Trinity Hall.

Come join the fun.

GOD BLESS

Sharon Kutz



## Trinity Stewardship Committee

The November Thank Offering will be used to help with expenses incurred for the recent fund damage in the basement

While the September campaign for these damages received over \$2000.00, some of the bills have yet to be received. At this point Trinity is not sure what the final costs may be.

Please consider using the Thank Offering envelopes for November to help with these expenses.



# Trinity Worship and Music

## Worship and Music October 5, 2021

Pastor Eli, Debbie Garritano, Cindy Finnegan, Patty Edevane, John Ebersole

### Upcoming dates:

October

15-25 Pastor's vacation – Ralph Hamer will cover the weekend of the 17<sup>th</sup> and Peggy Thatcher will cover the weekend of the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Harvest Home

23-24 Reformation Sunday, color is red.

November

30-31 All Saints Day, color is white

6-7

13-14

20-21

23 Trees go up

25 Thanksgiving

26 Decorate the church for Christmas at 6:00 p.m.

27-28 Advent begins – This year we will have cookies following the services. However, they will be bagged so everyone can take one as they leave. We still have to follow the CDC guidelines, wear masks and stay socially distant. Even though we can't stay and socialize, the committee wanted to do something special for everyone during Advent.

December

4-5

11-12

18-19 Youth Sunday/Christmas Pageant

24 Christmas Eve Services 5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m.

25 Christmas Day service 9:00 a.m. Pastor will decide about 6:30 p.m.

26 Regular service schedules.

January

1-2 Lessons and Carols

7 Take down decorations in the church at 6:00 p.m.

### Service

We will not put the books back in the pews at this time. We will continue to follow the CDC guidelines – wear masks and socially distance. We do not want to spread any infections.

Pastor and Cindy are looking at putting more music back into the service.

### Flowers

Patty Bennett will order the poinsettias from Berkstresser's in Tipton. Cost will be \$10.00. Look for more information in the bulletin.

### Music

Cindy is looking for Trinity's top 20 Hits. She wants more input from the members of the church. She has also decided to choose the hymns for 8:15 and 10:45 services. Ralph will choose the hymns for 6:30 service. This will give the choir more time to prepare and learn new hymns.

### Altar

Debbie asked that the committee think about placing the Sanctuary candle on the chancel wall. It is very difficult to reach the cord to lower the candle to replace. We will discuss next month.

**Next meeting: November 2, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.**



## Trinity Council Meetings –Sept.

### Attendance

#### Present

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

Ken Myers 2023

Geri Selfridge 2023  
 John Ebersole 2022

#### Absent

Rose Hornberger 2021

Tom Settle 2021  
 Adam Counterman, 2022

Chris Thompson 2022

### Greetings/Devotions

The meeting was called to order by President, Linda Hoover  
 Sharon led us in prayer.

### Minutes from last meeting.

Minutes from the June meeting were read. Judy made a motion to approve the minutes. Barb seconded the motion. Motion passed. There were no August minutes to be approved because there was not a quorum at that meeting.

### Treasurer's Report

Ralph presented the report as written. Everything is up to date. Payroll is yet to be done. We received a bill from Bovard for the sump pump repair for \$850.00. Bill was paid by an anonymous donor. Thank you. We have not yet received a bill from Serv Pro. As of date, there is \$2,141.00 in the Disaster Fund. There are still bills from Bovard for the other sump pump.

The bill for Roto Rooter has been paid and will come out of the Disaster Relief Fund.

We discussed bids for the air conditioner in Trinity Hall. We received a bid of \$7,000.00 from Bovard. We will get other bids before going ahead.

Judy made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. John seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### Pastor Hess' Report

Presented as written. She stated that the fall programs are up and running, Sunday school, Bible study, youth programs and conference meetings. She will be on vacation from October 15-25. Pastor Jamie Olsen will be on call. Pastor Ralph Hamer will cover services October 16-17 and Peggy Thatcher will cover October 23-24.

She also added the Senior Youth group will hold a Haunted House on October 23, following the Saturday evening service.

### Committee Reports

Finance – Barb presented the 2022 budget from the Finance committee. Please look over the budget and come with questions, comments for next month's meeting. The budget was down \$10,000.00 from last year. Salaries have been frozen again but there will be increases for taxes and Pastor's benefits.

Social Ministry – presented as written. They will be working to increase attendance. They discussed a fund raiser to help with the Disaster Relief Fund.

Stewardship – John said that we received between \$500.00 and \$600.00 for the Mountain Lion Backpack program. He discussed the November Thank Offering with the thought of using it to help with the Disaster Relief Fund.



## Trinity –Council Meeting Cont.

### Old Business

Update on the small urinal – Rick will remove the urinal.

Sanctuary wall – John said Sandy has yet to polyurethane the wall and finish the rail cap and it will be finished.

### New Business

**Water damage** – the basement was flooded with water and mud. We believe it may have been the result of the opening in the sidewalk from the Gas company. They deny any responsibility because they are far enough away from the foundation. We discussed filing suit and decided to consult with our solicitor before making any decisions. Judy made a motion to consult with our solicitor, Katie Mauk. Linda seconded the motion. Motion passed. Pastor will call and set up a meeting.

Ken asked about the light that keeps flickering in the sanctuary. He will investigate to see what lights need replaced.

**Endowment**- John questioned why the entire amount was not deposited into the Endowment. Pastor said we put \$25,000.00 in to begin and had to keep some in the checking account to keep it open. We also kept a cushion to help with the next deposit of \$2,000.00.

He also asked if Memorial gifts were to be split 50/50 with the Endowment. Memorial gifts go strictly to the Memorial Fund. The wishes of the donor come first. Any dollar amount that is not earmarked are split 50/50 with the Endowment and the general fund.

**Orbit**- Following discussion about the delay in receiving the Orbit, it was decided to set a date for submissions. Barb made a motion that the Orbit submission deadline will be the 24<sup>th</sup> of every month with the previous month's minutes included. Sharon seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Amazon Smile Program**- John discussed this program. When checking out on Amazon, you can donate to your charity. Trinity is already signed up as a charity. John will write a description for the Orbit. This is an easy way to get some extra money at no cost to the church or the consumer.

The meeting was then adjourned.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Garritano

**Next meeting: October 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.**





The Orbit

## Trinity Volunteer Request



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We are a church family, and we need your help! Please consider helping as Lector, Usher or on the Altar Guild. We will train you for the position of your choice. Please fill out the form below and put in the offering plate or call the church office at 814-943-3972.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



# Trinity Thank You

To All of You



For everything you've done...  
for being the special people  
that you are...

10/21

Trinity Lutheran

My family and I  
would like to Thank You for  
Cards, prayers, and all of your  
Love that was given to us in  
the loss of Beloved husband,  
father, Grandfather + friend to  
MAY. James August

Special thanks to Pastor  
Linda Hoover and her helpers  
for the service and  
dinner that was  
served

...thank you so much.

Love  
MARY  
August  
+  
Family



**The Orbit**

## **Trinity Youth Group**

On Saturday, October 23, the Triniteens hosted a haunted house. This was a great success and generated over 200 canned good items for the caring cupboard. Thank you to everyone who helped and came out to support the youth.

Friday, October 22, saw the elementary youth groups annual Halloween party. There were lots of fun costumes and a good time was had by all.

Thank you to Lisa Gutshall for taking care of this event and the youth group.

Trinity also participated in Treats from Trunks on Halloween night. Lots of candy was handed out. Thank you to everyone who brought in candy and participated in handing it out.



## Trinity Disaster Relief Fund

During the storm caused by Tropical storm Ida on August 29-31 the church incurred flooding in the basement. This flooding caused significant damage to our preschool room as well as the hallway and the lounge.

The water was so bad it flowed into Trinity Hall. There was mud and silt everywhere. In order to clean up the flooding and the standing water ServPro was contacted. We have incurred bills totaling over \$13,000 for clean up and damage done.

Our insurance will not cover the damage because we did not have water back up coverage or flood coverage (we do now, lesson learned the hard way) and are looking into recouping some of the burden from the Gas company as we feel the water came directly to the church from work they are doing on the sidewalk and roadway. With all that being said, we have been taking up special offerings to help with this unfortunate matter.

If you would like to help with the cost of the the clean up please designate any funds you may send in to the "Disaster relief fund" or "Flooding fund". If we all pull together we can get these bills paid without having to go to our savings.

Thank you so much for your continued support of the ministries here at Trinity and for your attention to this matter.



# Trinity Children's Page





## Trinity

Congratulations to Nevin Woodring.

He was recently named the 2021 DRIVER OF THE YEAR for the entire Ward Corporation. He was selected out of 433 drivers across all the terminals.

Nevin has been driving for a very long time and may be retiring soon. So, he will be ending his career as THE BEST OF THE BEST.



Congratulate Nevin when you see him.

**TRINITY IS VERY PROUD OF NEVIN**

# Prayer List

Please keep the following people in your prayers ...

## Trinity Members

Ted Baird  
Tyler Bennett  
Ruth & Bob  
Brubaker  
John Bush  
Tina Chestney  
Church HealthTeam  
Church Council  
Don Corl  
Gary Crownover  
Sondra Deffibaugh  
Jane Eamigh  
Georgine Hamilton  
Marla & Tom  
Hammond  
Kathy Hatch  
Kristina Henderson  
Doris Hollingshead  
Rose Hornberger

## Trinity's Homebound Members

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

## Those Serving in the Armed Forces

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

Donnie Alwine  
Janet & Charlie Aungst  
Scott Aungst  
Dan Baughman  
Behe Family  
Frank Bennett  
Kris Bennett  
Casey Bondarenka  
Dorothy Bush  
Sue Carter  
Sue Casalviere  
Shirley Cassarly  
Mary Francis Clites  
Josh Clites  
Tracee Cole  
Scott Corl  
Cox Family  
Jim Deffibaugh  
Jorden DeFrancisco  
Zane Dodson  
Cheryl Ecker  
Phil Esper  
Tessa Farone  
Nancy & Bill Filler  
Elsie Fogel  
Joyce Gates  
Gary Gearhart  
Haley Gehret  
Dawn George  
Amy Gleason  
Amanda Gregg &  
Daughters  
David K. Harpster  
Tim Harrison  
Don Haslem  
Tom Hatch  
Danielle Hatfield

## Family Members and Friends

Heikkila Family  
Robin Housley  
Jack Hoyne  
Renee Imbrenda  
Judy Johnson  
Katie Kanczaryk  
Pastor John Klingeman  
Cindy Lamant  
Jan Lastaglia  
Janelle Lehr  
Raija Lind  
Linda Mardula  
Bernie Market  
Ron Matta  
Sharon Mayers  
McConnell Family  
Chad McDowell  
Eddie McGee  
McGilvery Family  
Chris McCreary  
Kathy McIntyre  
Sharon McKeehan  
Barbara Meader  
Janelle Messner  
Rudy Muccitelli  
Bill & Penny Murphy  
Wyatt Nite  
Zach Noel  
Richard Perry  
Frances Pringle  
Albert Pugliese  
Abby Remendowski  
Katie Riggelman  
Toran Robertson  
Carl Ruckinger  
Michael Ruckinger  
Bill Senitko  
Ronald Settle  
Debbie Smith  
Dave Stenger  
George Sultage Jr.  
Michele Taylor  
Blair Umholtz  
Lillian Umholtz  
Paul & Nina Wallis  
Henrietta Weidley  
Steve Wood  
Elsa



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.



# The Orbit

November 2021

Non-Profit  
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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)



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## Lectionary Readings for the Month of November

### November 7

1 Kings 17:8-16  
Psalm 146  
Hebrews 9:24-28  
Mark 12:38-44

### November 14

Daniel 12:1-3  
Psalm 16  
Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25  
Mark 13:1-8

### November 21

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14  
Psalm 93  
Revelation 1:4b-8  
John 18:33-37

### November 28

Jeremiah 33:14-16  
Psalm 25:1-10  
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13  
Luke 21:25-36

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## Also worth mentioning...

## The next Orbit Deadline is November 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)**  
**[drgesey@verizon.net](mailto:drgesey@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!**