

The Orbit

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



February 2022

"God directs us in His Word to spend time alone in prayer. When we sincerely call His name, He's always waiting there, ready to listen to our plea and to comfort our broken heart. He gives us guidance for each task, whenever we draw a part from others and our daily cares, and give Him our attention. He frees us from our worries, and eases all pent up tension. He soothes each hurt we suffer with His healing balm. He anoints us with His oil of love, and leaves us serene and calm."

Fern Hanlin Coberly



From the Pastor:

As I thought about the past month of snow and bitter cold weather, it occurred to me that a lot of people are spending most, if not all, of their time indoors. During the winter months one can go a bit stir crazy. I can think of no better time to improve ones prayer life than now. We cannot say that we do not have time, it seems as if we are forced to stay inside and all we have is time as we wait for warmer weather. Fern Coberly tells us in her poem that God directs us to spend time alone in prayer. We are good at corporate prayer, prayer at church, meal times, at a meeting, but when it comes to time spent alone do we spend it in prayer. There are many challenges facing us these days and now is the time for prayer. No matter what the problem, no matter what the worry in our life is we can take it to God in prayer. I love the old saying, "a trouble shared is a trouble halved" and this is true of prayer. We are sharing our troubles with God and God can ease our burden just by sharing them with Him. As we hunker down in the snow and cold maybe we can jump start our prayer life. Spending time with our Father in heaven is never wasted time.

Peace,



Trinity President

FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Members of Trinity:

As the new president of Church Council at Trinity, I wanted to outline my plans for the coming year and to solicit your input/thoughts.

Our church has weathered what is hopefully the worst of the pandemic and I thank all of you for the financial support you have blessed Trinity with. Hopefully as things continue to improve our attendance will rise as well.

I'm sure you are aware that some churches have closed their doors in the past few years. We have been fortunate that we continue to SURVIVE.

We have had recent problems with repeated flooding in the basement. I greatly appreciate the support Trinity has received to help with the cleanup. Your contributions to the Disaster Relief Fund as well as the November Thank Offering.

I have two goals for 2022.

First, our physical building was erected in 1906. While the building is still viable, I would like to have the building inspected by an independent service to help us prioritize what Trinity's physical needs in the coming years are. This would be a long range plan to help us correct any issues over the next 5-10 years before they become more serious problems.

Secondly, I would like to expand our community outreach. We have certainly fulfilled a need, as is evidenced by the use of the Caring Cupboard. But, I think there is more we can do. A neighborhood cleanup in the Spring, perhaps identifying folks who need help with lawn care, snow removal, etc. The possibilities of this are virtually endless, and I welcome your suggestions as to how we can better act on what we say together at the end of every worship service, "Love God, Love Others."

I respectfully ask for your prayers in the coming months. Together, Trinity can not only SURVIVE, But THRIVE.

Yours in Christ,
John Ebersole



The Orbit

Trinity Healthy You

LEARN TO EXERCISE SAFELY AND CORRECTLY

Social Ministry and Healthy You are presenting a program on Friday, February 25 at 10:00 a.m. in Trinity Hall featuring Lori Seidel from Phoenix Physical Therapy.

She will be talking about ways to keep yourself moving, chair exercises, therapy for many joints, stability, anything to do with your therapy needs.

She will have handouts with instructions. Lori would like to have an estimate of how many people are coming, please let Linda Hoover or the church office know if you plan on attending.

This is not just for church members, bring a friend. Lori always makes these programs fun and interesting.





Trinity Stewardship Committee

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Stewardship committee has designated the Pastor's discretionary fund as the recipient for the February Thank Offering. We thought that this fund (even though it does receive a small allocation in the Church budget) could use a boost since some in the general community (and perhaps in Trinity as well) might need some help with heating costs in the coming months.

Another possibility that was considered was Victory Therapeutic Horsemanship in Tyrone. This program is for veterans that have been wounded and/or suffer from PTSD. Members of Trinity who have volunteered with this group report that positive results for these veterans have been achieved. The individual that administers this program relies entirely on donations. The committee plans to designate the June Thank Offering to this program.

Please consider helping both of these very worthwhile programs with your Thank Offering for the respective months.



The Orbit

Trinity Sponsorship for Palms

Hello everyone,

I have ordered 300 and the cost is \$20.00 per 100.

Thank you for your help.
Debbie

ALL PALMS HAVE BEEN SPONSORED.

THANK YOU TO :

CAROL PAUL | TOM AND EMILY SIMPSON | LUCIANO FAMILY



Trinity Social Ministry

SOCIAL MINISTRY

The Committee met on January 11, 2022. In the December Orbit, we offered tickets to buy hoagies and ham sandwiches. Unfortunately, the vendor has been ill and we are unable to obtain the tickets. Therefore, we are going to table that idea until the cold weather passes. We will be looking at a different vendor.

Linda Hoover has been making “tote bags”. The idea is to put them on the tables in the Adult Sunday School room. Then anyone may take one home, put items in them to give to the Transition Houses. You do not have to fill them if you don’t want to. A few items, then bring back to church for someone to finish filling. Toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, brushes, socks For men and women, women’s personal products, deodorant, etc.

Please add ONE chocolate bar. Any questions, please ask Linda or myself.

GOD BLESS

Sharon Kutz



The Orbit

Trinity February Schedule

USHERS

6:30 pm
Carol Paul
8:15 am
Debbie Garritano
10:45 am
10:45 am

DELIVER ALTAR FLOWERS

Feb 6 Jody Culp
Feb 13 Julie Owen
Feb 20 Donna Ruckinger
Feb 27 Georgiana Sigrist

LECTORS

6:30 pm
Feb 6 Sue Miller
Feb 13 Carol Paul
Feb 20 Jim Frederick
Feb 27 Ken Kutz

8:15 am
Feb 6 Cindy Finnegan
Feb 13 Debbie Garritano
Feb 20 Amanda Woodring
Feb 27 Tom Gutshall

10:45 am
Feb 6 Cindy Finnegan
Feb 13 Lori Matte-Rhode
Feb 20 Chris Thompson
Feb 27 John Ebersole

ALTAR GUILD

Linda and Jessica Hoover 6:30 pm
Ron Eamigh | Bill Mallory 8:15 am
Sandy Ebersole | Adam Hatch
Sandy Ebersole

COUNTERS

ACOLYTES

Paityn Wilt
Reese Hite
Makayla Wilt
Paityn Wilt

Leah Musselman
Leah Musselman
Leah Musselman
Leah Musselman

Maura Thompson
Harper Seiler
Rowan Resig
Ryenne Resig



Trinity Congregational Meeting December Minutes

Attendance

Present

Pastor Eli
Linda Hoover 2021
Sharon Kutz 2021
Tom Settle 2021
Rose Hornberger 2021
John Ebersole 2022
Geri Selfridge 2023
Debbie Garritano 2022
Lisa Bush 2024
Adam Counterman 2022
Barb Gosnell 2023
Ralph Grove
Judy Hale 2024
Lori Matta-Rhode 2024
Ken Myers 2023
Chris Thompson 2022

Absent

Nevin Woodring 2024

Greetings/Devotions

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

Introduction of new Council members:

Lisa Bush
Lori Matta-Rhode
Nevin Woodring
Judy Hale

Minutes from last meeting.

Minutes from the November meeting were read. There was a correction to the Social Ministry notes: the tickets for the hoagie sale are not available yet. Sharon made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction. John seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Ralph reported that everything is up to date. The S&T investment is \$245,584.47. Ralph has not had to touch the reserve for the past two years.

There is concern that the ServePro bill is past due. It needs to be paid ASAP. Interest on the bill began 12-1-2021. The Gas company has 30 days to respond to our claim. This is one more week as of today. Kate Mauk, the solicitor, has not returned our calls.

John questioned how much money was sent to the Mountain Lion Backpack program. A check for \$295.00 was sent out.

Ralph had the organ tuned and serviced and it is ready for Christmas.

Ralph also let us know that he is having eye surgery in January. If his eyes don't heal well, he will be done playing the organ.

Adam made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Judy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Pastor Hess' Report

Pastor gave a verbal report. We are getting ready for Christmas and Advent is going well. The children's



Trinity Church Council Meeting Minutes

pageant went well. She continues to visit shut ins by phone, or visits when she can. She also sent out cards to members who haven't been to church lately.

Committee Reports

Property – as written

Old Business

John asked if anything was done concerning the Sundays that the organist wasn't there. The issue was addressed with the organist with the Personnel committee. She will have to pay for replacements.

New Business

Adam Counterman is the new sexton for the church.

Voting:

President – John Ebersole

Vice President – Geri Selfridge

Secretary - Debbie Garritano

The meeting was then adjourned.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Garritano

Next meeting: January 25, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.



Trinity Church Worship and Music

Worship and Music January 11, 2022

Upcoming dates:

March 2 – Ash Wednesday
 March 2-April 6 – Lent
 April 10 – Palm Sunday
 April 10-16 Holy Week
 April 17 - Easter

Service

We will have weekly Lenten services every Wednesday at 12:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Pastor is thinking about focusing on the Psalm Lamentations.

Easter day services will be 6:30 a.m., 8:15 a.m., and 10:45 a.m. The three services will allow for social distancing. We will also be adding the liturgical music back for the services. It had been eliminated for an abundance of caution during Covid.

Recap of Christmas services: All services went well. There weren't as many attending at the 5:00 and 10:00 services. 7:00 had the most attendance. For next year we will have to rethink the times so we can refill the pew candles between services.

Flowers

Patty will contact Berkstresser's to get a price for the flowers. Debbie will order the palms. We will be ordering 300 palms. The cost is \$20.00 per 100. We will ask for donations for the palms.

Music

Cindy continues to have adult and youth choir. She also plans to have specialty choirs throughout the year. There will be special vocalists, a women's trio, duets and special music. She also went over Trinity's Top Twenty. She will have this published in the bulletin.

John said that he has a good core for handchimes at Easter. They will play at 8:15 and 10:45 services on Easter. He also would like to do something around Pentecost, Trinity Sunday and Reformation.

Altar

Next meeting: February 8, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

Prayer List

Please keep the following people in your prayers ...

Trinity Members

Ted Baird	Rose Hornberger
Tyler Bennett	Kathy Johnson and family
Ruth & Bob Brubaker	Martha Jones
John Bush	Garry Knee
Tina Chestney	Gary Lonsinger
Church Health Team	Jessica McGraw
Church Council	Ken B. Myers
Don Corl	Jaden Rhode
Gary Crownover	Carolyne (Sis) Stenger
Sondra Deffibaugh	Fred Teigler
Jane Eamigh	Nancy Yeager
Garner Family	
Marla & Tom Hammond	
Kathy Hatch	
Kristina Henderson	
Bob Hofmann	
Doris Hollingshead	

Trinity's Homebound Members

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

Those Serving in the Armed Forces

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

Family Members and Friends

Nancy Artmeier	Tom Hatch	Michael Ruckinger
Donnie Alwine	Danielle Hatfield	Marsha Scafuro
Janet & Charlie Aungst	Robin Housley	Bill Senitko
Scott Aungst	Jack Hoyne	Ronald Settle
Dan Baughman	Renee Imbrenda	Debbie Smith
Behe Family	Judy Johnson	Patricia Smith
Frank Bennett	Katie Kanczaryk	Dave Stenger
Kris Bennett	Susan Kehler	Sultage Jr. Family
Casey Bondarenka	Pastor John Klingeman	Blair Umholtz
Dorothy Bush	Cindy Lamant	Lillian Umholtz
Sue Carter	Russell Lantz	Paul & Nina Wallis
Sue Casalviere	Jan Lastaglia	Todd Wilkins Sr
Mary Francis Clites	Janelle Lehr	Henrietta Weidley
Tracee Cole	Raija Lind	Steve Wood
Debbie Coley	Linda Mardula	Tiquan Wright
Marissa Cooper	Bernie Market	Elsa
Scott Corl	Ron Matta	
Raynoo Cox Family	Sharon Mayers	
Patty Davis	McConnell Family	
Jim Deffibaugh	Chad McDowell	
Jorden DeFrancisco	Eddie McGee	
Zane Dodson	McGilvery Family	
Cheryl Ecker	Chris McGreary	
Phil Esper	Kathy McIntyre	
Tessa Farone	Sharon McKeehan	
Nancy Filler	Barbara Meader	
Elsie Fogel	Janelle Messner	
Joyce Gates	Rudy Muccitelli	
Haley Gehret	Bill & Penny Murphy	
Dawn George	Wyatt Nite	
Louella Gray	Zach Noel	
Amanda Gregg & Daughters	Richard Perry	
Pat Griffith	Frances Pringle	
David K. Harpster	Abby Remendowski	
Tim Harrison	Katie Riggleman	
Don Haslem	Toran Robertson	
	Carl Ruckinger	



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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February 2022

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Lectionary Readings for the Month of February

Feb 6

Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]
Psalm 138
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

Feb 13

Jeremiah 17:5-10
Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Luke 6:17-26

Feb 20

Genesis 45:3-11, 15
Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50
Luke 6:27-38

Feb 27

Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12--4:2
Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

In the Orbit This Month:

From the Pastor	1
Trinity President	2
Healthy You	3
Stewardship Committee	4
Sponsorship Palms	5
Social Ministry	6
February Schedule	7
Congregation Meeting	8
Worship and Music	10
Prayer List	11

Also worth mentioning...

The next Orbit Deadline is February 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!