

The Orbit

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



April 2022

"O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory. The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody. With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord. Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it. Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

Psalm 98



From the Pastor:

As we enter into the season of spring it feels as if the season has read this psalm. The earth is breaking forth with a joyous song, with the sound of the melody. As you watch over the next few weeks the trees budding and bursting with blossoms and the grass returning to its green lushness you can almost hear the symphony being played to God the creator as King and Lord. All creation gets in the act in the psalm anyway they can, the sea, the hills, even the rivers. All celebrating the fact that the Lord is coming and with the Lord comes righteousness and equality. We are another of God's creations and we too are to sing for joy to the Lord. Creation's entire life cycle is spent in celebration and praise of God. As spring comes on to the scene we cannot help but stand in awe of God's handiwork, that life has begun again, like clockwork. Our lives should also be spent in celebration and praise of God. We may go through some "winters" in our lives, but we know that eventually "spring" and new life will come through Christ.

Peace,



Trinity President

FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

As we progress through Lent and approach Easter let us remember that Christ's sacrifice gives us victory over death. This victory is never fleeting, but permanent.

In last month's Orbit, I mentioned the engineering review of our building. I've spoken again with Mr. Levine of Levine Engineering and he hopes to have a final report to us soon. I'll report his findings when I receive them.

Many of you by now know that Trinity's mask policy has changed. Masks are now optional during worship. I stress again that those who are more comfortable in continuing to mask should feel free to do so. Also, we should respect each other's decisions on this matter. I sincerely hope that this will not be the polarizing issue that has divided so many in the community as a whole.

Let us be thankful to God. It appears that the worst of the pandemic is behind us.

Let us also remember all those affected by the war in Ukraine. In the early days of the pandemic, we lamented the scarcity of staples such as toilet paper. How trivial things such as that seem when we see millions forced from their homes to seek refuge in neighboring countries.

Please join me in keeping them in your prayers



Trinity Social Ministry

SOCIAL MINISTRY & HEALTHY YOU

We want to THANK everyone that donated and filled over 40 bags of personal items for the Altoona Abuse Shelters. Most of the bags were for women but many were for men. Also, a huge bag was filled for children. Items left over will be given to Family Services to use at their discretion.

The Trinity Congregation should be proud of themselves for participating in this outreach program.

THANKS AGAIN...



Trinity Church February Council Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Present

Pastor Eli
 John Ebersole 2022
 Geri Selfridge 2023
 Debbie Garritano 2022
 Lisa Bush 2024
 Adam Counterman 2022
 Barb Gosnell 2023
 Ralph Grove

Lori Matta-Rhode 2024
 Ken Myers 2023

Nevin Woodring 2024

Greetings/Devotions

The meeting was called to order by Vice President, Geri Selfridge.

Pastor led us in prayer.

Minutes from last meeting.

Minutes from the January meeting were read. Adam made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Barb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Ralph presented the Treasurer's report as written. Everything is up to date except the Pastor's health insurance. There is \$244,363.12 in the S&T Investments. A question was asked the status of the Endowment. John stated that the statement won't show up till the end of the first year – May or June. John asked that a line item be added to the Treasurer's report for the Endowment. Ralph reported that we currently have \$16,127.15 in the Sunderman Fund. Pastor has been talking to Rachael Walker about the possibility for a harp concert perhaps in the fall.

Ralph reported that the new computer has been set up in the Situation Room. Tom Settle helped him set it up.

Ralph also discussed the Thank Offering envelopes. It was decided to hold those checks/monies till the end of the month to keep a better track of what was collected.

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

Pastor Hess' Report

Pastor's report was presented as written. She stated that attendance has been slowly increasing. She is also planning for Lent.

Elementary youth continue to meet as well as the Jr./Sr. High. She continues to meet with individuals in person and over the phone and has attended several zoom meetings for the synod and conference.

Committee Reports

None at this time.

Old Business

Resolution with Gas Company – Sharon Kutz has contacted Tom Foor. She will meet with him on Thursday at 1:00 to discuss the issue. The cost will be \$100.00. Sharon has all our documents to present.

New Business

Inspection of Building – John thanked Ken Myers for all his leg work contacting Inspectors. He presented a written report of all he contacted. He met with Tom Levine and he agreed to come to the church for no charge. He will have his report complete in 30 days. Question was raised concerning issues found that may require us to remediate them, such as code violations. Following discussion it was agreed that we need to update the building to make it usable in the future.

Question was raised about the Occupancy Permit. Barb will check into this and see if it needs to be updated.

Community Outreach – table till next month.

Drywall repair basement hallway – Ken also called several plumbers concerning the basement flooding. In 2018 Barrier

Waterproofing put a pipe to a sump pump in the back hallway. This will need to be scoped to see if there is a blockage.

Adam has been changing the spouting to run away from the building. Adam will continue to rerun all the spouting before we contract someone to scope the pipe. John made a motion to authorize Adam to purchase spouting using the property budget. Ken seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Sunday School attendance – John is concerned that not many are attending Sunday School. Geri said that Christian Ed is meeting in March and will address the issue.

Other – Barb asked that we announce in the Orbit children/adults baptized, new members and marriages.

Debbie asked with Council's approval that we invite the Bishop to come to our church the weekend of June 4-5. She will check to see if it is possible.

Ken brought up that the gate in the parking lot has been left open. The lock was cut off. This needs to be replaced.

The meeting was then adjourned.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Debbie Garritano

Next meeting: February 22, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.



Trinity Church March Council Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Present

Pastor Eli
John Ebersole 2022
Geri Selfridge 2023
Debbie Garritano 2022
Lisa Bush 2024
Adam Counterman 2022
Barb Gosnell 2023
Ralph Grove

Lori Matta-Rhode 2024
Ken Myers 2023
Chris Thompson 2022
Nevin Woodring 2024

Absent

Judy Hale 2024

Greetings/Devotions

The meeting was called to order by President, John Ebersole
Pastor led us in prayer.

Minutes from last meeting.

Minutes from the January meeting were read. A correction was made in the Treasurer's report. Rachael's name was misspelled. The correct spelling is Rachael Wachter. Adam made a motion to accept the minutes with the correction. Ken seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Because of an issue with the computer and printer, there was no written report this month. Ralph said everything is up to date and will have two reports next month. Ralph received the handicap stickers for the signs.

Pastor Hess' Report

Pastor's report was presented as written. Lent is going well with good attendance. The Jr./Sr. High Youth group has been meeting twice a month with good attendance. Bible study and Adult Sunday School going well. She is doing hospital, nursing home and shut-in visits. Adam made a motion to accept the Pastor's report. Ken seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

Christian Ed – Geri presented a written report of the meeting. She discussed attendance at Confirmation Class and Sunday School. The teachers will be sending cards to students not attending, that they are missed. Vacation Bible School dates will be July 31st through August 4th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. This year's theme is "FOOD TRUCK PARTY". Adam made a motion to accept the report as written. Ken seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Property – Adam presented a written report. The downspouts have been rerun for a cost of \$150.00. He is keeping a watch on the water situation in the basement. The sump pump in the back hallway was scoped by Roto Rooter and is clear and flowing. The cost was \$250.00. He also found a gas heater for the theatre building. Ken checked on the renewal of the Occupancy Permit. You only need to renew it if you are a business or do a major repair. Barb made a motion to accept the report. Ken seconded the motion. Motion passed.



Trinity Church March Council Meeting Minutes

Old Business

Resolution with Gas Company – Pastor received a letter concerning the claim we filed. She was not sure who this came from and asked Sharon Kutz to look into it. Ken, John and Sharon met with Tom Foor about going further with the claim. They discussed the pros and cons and haven't made a decision yet. The cost of the meeting was \$100.00.

Inspection of Building – John talked with Tom Levine who came to the church and went through it. Tom will consult with other engineers. He also asked for the blueprints of the building and any history of the building. He will come back with the engineers at a later date. There was no cost for his inspection.

Community Outreach – We talked about holding a Soup Sunday.

Parking Lot Gate – Ken said the gate is still locked open. Someone opened the gate and put a lock on it. Adam said he has some other locks and will take care of this.

New Business

Bid for Waterproofing - John did get an estimate from Bakers Waterproofing to fix the water problem. Ken also checked with Advantage. They would come to give us a quote at no charge. We are not going to pursue this now. We will wait to see how the water situation is with the downspout reruns.

Mask Policy – Pastor stated that there is no guidelines from ELCA and the Synod's guideline is optional. Following discussion, it was decided that we will make mask-wearing optional with the provision to reinstate mask-wearing if the community cases spike. Barb made a motion to accept the policy with the provision. Adam seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Bishop Visit – Debbie contacted the Bishop and she is available to come to our congregation on June 4th and 5th. She will be preaching at all three services. Debbie asked with the council's approval to have a reception following the 10:45 service. Council approved. Debbie will take care of the arrangements. The pastor– Pastor was asked by the AA group to hold meetings at our church every Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. Following discussion, Barb made a motion to allow AA to meet every Thursday evening with the provision that one person be responsible for the key. Geri seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The meeting was then adjourned.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Garritano

Next meeting: April 26, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

Prayer List

Please keep the following people in your prayers ...

Trinity Members

Ted Baird
Tyler Bennett
Bennett Family
Ruth & Bob
Brubaker
John Bush
Carol Callis
Tina Chestney
Church Health
Team
Church Council
Don Corl
Gary Crownover
Sondra Deffibaugh
Jane Eamigh
Garner Family
Marla & Tom
Hammond
Kathy Hatch

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
Nancy Artmeier
Janet & Charlie Aungst
Scott Aungst
Dan Baughman
Behe Family
Frank Bennett
Kris Bennett
Casey Bondarenka
Sue Carter
Sue Casalviere
Mary Francis Clites
Tracee Cole
Debbie Coley
Marissa Cooper
Scott Corl
Raynoo Cox Family
Patty Davis
Jim Deffibaugh
Jordan DeFrancisco
Zane Dodson
Cheryl Ecker
Phil Esper
Tessa Farone
Nancy Filler
Elsie Fogel
John Fresh
Haley Gehret
Dawn George
Louella Gray
Amanda Gregg &
Daughters
Pat Griffith
David K. Harpster
Debbie Harpster
Tim Harrison
Don Haslem

Family Members and Friends

Tom Hatch
Danielle Hatfield
Norman Hatfield
Robin Housley
Jack Hoyne
Renee Imbrenda
Judy Johnson
Katie Kanczaryk
Susan Kehler
Kirk Kling
Pastor John Klingeman
Payton Kutz
Cindy Lamant
Jan Lastaglia
Janelle Lehr
Raija Lind
Christine Maines
Linda Mardula
Bernie Market
Ron Matta
Sharon Mayers
McConnell Family
Chad McDowell
Eddie McGee
McGilvery Family
Chris McGreary
Kathy McIntyre
Sharon McKeegan
Barbara Meader
Janelle Messner
Rudy Muccitelli
Bill & Penny Murphy
Wyatt Nite
Zach Noel
Tammy Otto
Craig Parks
Richard Perry

Frances Pringle
Lorenzo Reicher
Abby Remendowski
Katie Riggleman
Toran Robertson
Carl Ruckinger
Michael Ruckinger
Marsha Scafuro
Bill Senitko
Ronald Settle
Judy Shaffer
Gloria Shoup
Debbie Smith
Patricia Smith
Dave Stenger
Sultage Jr. Family
Blair Umholtz
Lillian Umholtz
Paul & Nina Wallis
Todd Wilkins Sr
Henrietta Weidley
Steve Wood
Tiquan Wright
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

April 2022

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



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Visit us online at TrinityAltoona.com and facebook.com/TrinityAltoona

Lectionary Readings for the Month of April

April 3

Isaiah 43:16-21
Psalm 126
Philippians 3:4b-14
John 12:1-8

April 10

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 22:14--23:56

April 17 EASTER

Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:19-26
Luke 24:1-12

April 24

Acts 5:27-32
Psalm 118:14-29
Revelation 1:4-8
John 20:19-31

In the Orbit This Month:

From the Pastor	1
Trinity President	2
Social Ministry	3
Council February Minutes	4
Council March Minutes	5
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
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!