

# The Orbit

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



November 2022

"In my distress I called upon the Lord; to my God I cried for help. From His temple He heard my voice, and my cry to Him reached His ears."

Psalm 18:6



## **From the Pastor:**

Studying the Psalms in Bible study has reminded me how rich a resource they are. Psalm 18 is a psalm of thanksgiving and celebration for deliverance from an enemy. In verse 6 we learn that when we cry out to the Lord, He hears our cries. They do not fall on deaf ears. It reminds us that we have a living God who listens to us. God does not just sit on His throne in His temple oblivious to what is going on in our lives. Our prayers reach His ears and He acts. We can always call upon the Lord and know that we are heard and listened too. Sometimes I think that we are so busy with our lives and the problems we face that we forget that God is waiting to hear from us. No matter what the situation is, praise, thanksgiving, troubles, facing an enemy, we can always turn to God for strength, hope, and the promise of the defeat of our one true enemy, the devil. God is listening.

Peace,

Pastor

*Enclosed is the 2023 budget.*



# Trinity President

## FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

I am pleased to report that after a delay of over a year, the insurance carrier for the gas company has offered to reimburse Trinity for the extensive water damage caused by their excavation on the 5 th Avenue side of the building.

Some of the delay was due to a lot of back and forth between the gas company and the firm that they had subcontracted the digging to. Cleanup alone from the water and mud that came into the basement totaled over \$13,000. It's certainly a relief to have this matter finally settled. In other "money matters", a copy of the budget for 2023 has been included with the Orbit this month. If you did not receive one, copies are available at the church.

The finance committee worked diligently to construct a budget that will enable Trinity to continue its ministries. This included some overdue salary increases for Trinity staff. Please review the budget before the Annual Congregational Meeting the weekend of Nov. 19-20. This budget will require an increase in expenditures, and I realize that finances are under strain at this point. Please consider making a small increase in your weekly offering.

Also, Trinity needs some folks willing to serve on Council. There are some demands on your time to serve on Council, but your input is needed and welcomed. If you can't make the commitment to serve on Council, please consider serving on one of the committees. It is up to all of us to help Trinity grow and thrive.

Yours in Christ

John Ebersole



## Trinity Stewardship Committee

### FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Stewardship committee has voted to designate the November Thank Offering to help replenish the Caring Cupboard.

In case you are not familiar with the Caring Cupboard, it is a small cabinet affixed to the wall just outside the outside entrance to Trinity Hall. It is stocked with canned goods and other non-perishable staples that Trinity members donate. This has been in place for several years. Given the current economic situation, this community resource is being used more than in the past.

Our Thank Offerings occur 4 times a year. We alternate them between funding something for Trinity and some worthy community cause.

Given the price increases we are all seeing, especially for grocery items, the committee thought that building a stockpile of these items would be helpful to those in the community who may be experiencing difficulty in feeding their families. Please consider contributing to this so that we may fulfill our mantra of "Love God, Love Others"



## Trinity Worship and Music

### Worship and Music

#### **Christmas Trees**

It's that time of year! We will be getting our Christmas trees from JB Tree Farm on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. The cost of the trees is TBA. Check the Pulse and the bulletins for the cost if you would like to sponsor a tree.

We will be decorating the trees on Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

We need all your help! It is a great time and we have a lot of fun! There will be cookies also. The teens are encouraged to join us and can use this as service hours.

#### **Pointsettias**

It's time to order your flowers. The cost is \$10.00. The orders must be in by November 20<sup>th</sup>. Please use the flower envelopes at the back of the sanctuary for your flower orders.



## Trinity Worship and Music Meeting Notes

### Worship and Music

October 11, 2022

Pastor Eli, Debbie Garritano, Judy Hale, Cindy Finnegan, John Ebersole

Upcoming dates:

October

16 – Harvest Home

Souper Cool Sunday 1:00 p.m.

17-24 – Pastor's vacation

Pastor Ralph Hamer will be conducting services, Pastor Drew McCaffrey will be on call.

30 – Reformation Sunday

Cindy will use the music from Music Sunday

November

6 – All Saints Sunday, Baptism

22 – get Christmas trees

26 – Decorate trees 10:00 a.m.

27-December 18 – Advent

December

18 – Youth Sunday

24 – Christmas Eve, services at 5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m.

25 – Christmas Day service 9:00 a.m.

Service

We discussed and will be putting back the Bibles and envelopes in the pews. We will continue to use the bulletins for the service.

Flowers

Judy has been sending out postcards as reminders to people for altar flowers and bulletins.

Music

Cindy will be using the music chosen for Music Sunday for Reformation. She plans on having Family Choir during Advent. She and John will be collaborating to schedule music and handchimes for Christmas Eve. They are also working on scheduling special music with the Sunderman funds in the future.

Altar

Nothing at this time.

We also discussed and will be holding Cookies and Coffee following the services during Advent.

Next meeting: December 6, at 11:00 a.m.



# Trinity Church Council Minutes September 2022

## Attendance

Present Absent

Pastor Eli

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

Nevin Woodring 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 August meeting were read. A correction to the attendance was made. Lisa Bush was absent.

Ken made a motion to

accept the minutes with the correction. Barb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

## Treasurer's Report

Ralph reported that everything is up to date except the payroll. The S&T account has \$224,468.95. The Sunderman account has

\$15,018.56. The Pastor will check on the Endowment Fund. We have not received a statement.

Tom Settle will be working with Ralph to take on the finance by the first of the year.

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

## Pastor Hess' Report

Pastor gave an oral report. Fall is going well. Junior, Senior High youth are meeting twice a month. Elementary youth are meeting

once a month. Bible study and Adult Sunday School is going well. We are studying Psalms in Bible Study and Song of Solomon in

Adult Sunday School. She has been helping with funerals for Mauk and Yates to help the community. She has some weddings

scheduled. She will be on vacation from the 17-24. Pastor Ralph Hamer will conduct services and Pastor Drew McCaffrey will be on

call. She and Tom Settle are working on a program, "Moments with Pastor". It will be a short devotional that will be put on

YouTube.

Lori made a motion to accept Pastor's report. Barb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

## Committee Reports

Property – Adam asked if there was any monies left from the \$1,500 for the theatre building. He and Pastor will check into this.

No other reports.

## Old Business

Resolution with Gas Company – John has called the insurance carrier. He also talked with Attorney Foor. Attorney Foor asked

what other damages occurred as a result of the water leak. John will get a cost of what is needed to repair the walls in the hallway and

the hours labor and send it to Attorney Foor. Pastor received a call from the insurance carrier of the subcontractor. They will come to

look at the damage.

Water in the Primary Room – There continues to be some water in the room, not a lot. There has been no response from Barrier Waterproofing.



## Trinity Church Council Minutes September 2022

Gift in memory of Pastor John

Following discussion, Judy made a motion to use the monies collected as memorial for Pastor John and donate them to PSU Thon.

This was the families wish for donations. Lisa seconded the motion. Motion passed.

John will write up something for the Orbit and Pulse.

Air Conditioning

The air conditioning in the Sunday School room off the sanctuary has been repaired. The cost was \$800.00.

New Business

Air conditioning in the sanctuary

At this point we have received only two paper bids with a great discrepancy. One company said we needed to upgrade the duct work

another says no. We also discussed the option of mini split units like in Trinity Hall. Following discussion, it was decided that

Pastore will call the other companies to get bids for both replacement and mini splits. This will be a decision that will be made by the

entire congregation. John will write something for the Orbit to update the congregation.

Ralph

Ralph said that St. Andrew Preschool is struggling financially. He made a motion that the church pay the salaries for the teachers

which is \$900.00 per month. Barb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Ralph also informed us that he is no longer able to play Saturday evening service. His sister is in a home, and he goes to help with

dinner and visit. He talked with Cindy, and she has offered to take on Saturday as well as Sunday. Ralph made a motion that he take

a leave of absence of duties and Cindy will replace him till he returns. Judy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Budget for 2023

Barb passed out the past years budget for committees to look over. The Finance Committee will meet October 6.

If you have any

recommendations, please send them before the meeting.

The meeting was then adjourned.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Garritano

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



**The Orbit**

## **Trinity Orbit**

The deadline for the Orbit articles is absolutely one week before the last day of the month. Anything submitted after that will be forwarded by Cindy (church secretary) and /or Dawna Knee to be posted on the following month. This will allow the Orbit to be mailed and delivered by the beginning of each month.

ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS





## Trinity Social Ministry and Healthy You

Social Ministry and Healthy You will have a clothing and accessories GIVE AWAY for the public on Saturday, November 19, 2022 in Trinity Hall from 9am to 2pm. We are asking only the congregation for clean and gently worn clothing and accessories. We appreciate your help. Please place your donations on the tables against the wall in Trinity Hall We are hoping to help those in need.

THANKING EVERYONE IN ADVANCE.

Sharon Kutz

We had 19 soup donations ranging from Chili, to Veggie to Pastini... such a blessing. Thank you everyone who donated.





**The Orbit**

## Trinity Triniteens

### Haunted House

Need one last scare after Halloween?!  
We have just what you need!

The Triniteens will be  
hosting a haunted house on  
Saturday, November 5th from 8:00 - 11:00 pm

Cost is \$2.00 or \$1.00 + a donation of a  
non-perishable item donated to our caring  
cupboard.

There will also be popcorn,  
hot chocolate and treats  
for sale. Entry fee, food and  
beverage proceeds will go to  
the Triniteens fund.

Please come out and have a  
little fun with us and  
support our youth!



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
 Year-End Budget Report  
 For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2023

	2022	Budget	Proposed 2023 Budget
<b>Income:</b>			
<b>Contributions to Support Budgetary Current Expenses:</b>			
Donations Received - Current		\$247,351	\$247,351
Special Envelope Donations (Thank, etc)		\$12,000	\$12,000
Donations Received - Sunday School		\$1,500	\$1,500
Donations Received - Funeral Fund		\$300	\$300
VBS Program Contributions		\$150	\$150
Christmas Program Contributions		\$150	\$150
Donations Received - Van Fund		\$0	\$0
Sponsored Items - Flowers		\$1,900	\$1,900
Sponsored Items - Bulletins		\$750	\$750
Sponsored Items - Banners		\$0	\$0
Other Sponsored Needs		\$150	\$150
Trinity Hall / Property Usage Income		\$1,850	\$1,850
Copier Usage Income		\$100	\$100
Seminarian Support Donations			
Cook Fund Sequanota Scholarships		\$7,500	\$7,500
Sunderman Endowment Event Coverage		\$2,500	\$2,500
Interest Income (Main Reserves)		\$1,800	\$1,800
Interest Income (Endowment)		\$1,200	\$1,000
Sub-Total:		<b>\$279,201</b>	<b>\$279,001</b>
<b>Contributions for Extra-Budgetary Needs:</b>			
Donations Received - Building Fund		\$15,000	\$15,000
Donation Received - Memorials		\$3,000	\$3,000
Donations Received - Fellowship Events		\$1,000	\$1,000
Sub-Total:		\$19,000	\$19,000
<b>Benevolence Giving Targets</b>			
General Benevolence Target		\$9,500	\$9,500
Needy/Pastoral Discretionary Donations		\$200	\$200
Blanket Sunday Target		\$200	\$200
Harvest Home Target		\$150	\$150
VBS Fundraiser Target		\$100	\$100
ALSM Contributions Target		\$100	\$100
Camp Sequanota Contributions Target		\$500	\$500
Sub-Total:		\$10,750	\$10,750
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$308,951</b>	<b>\$308,751</b>

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Year-End Budget Report  
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2023

	2022	Budget	Proposed 2023 Budget
<b>Expenses:</b>			
<b>Office of the Pastor:</b>			
Pastor Salary		\$49,122	\$49,122
Pastor Housing		\$14,000	\$14,000
Pastor Social Security		\$4,829	\$5,161
Pastor Medical		\$11,695	\$12,000
Pastor Benefits Pkg (Pension, Disability, Admin)		\$12,521	\$12,521
Pastor Auto		\$2,400	\$2,400
Pastor Prof Expenses (Books/Ed/Convo)		\$500	\$500
Supply Pastor		\$1,000	\$1,200
Supply Pastor - Mileage		\$75	\$75
Sub-Total:		\$96,142	\$96,979
<b>Trinity Personnel/Staff:</b>			
Secretary Wages		\$10,372	\$10,372
Custodial Wages		\$14,060	\$10,400
Extra Custodial Hours		\$0	
Minister of Music		\$13,678	\$13,678
Saturday Organist		\$3,550	\$3,550
Treasurer Wages		\$8,522	\$8,522
Payroll Taxes		\$7,569	\$7,569
Employee Expense - Gas		\$300	
Workers Comp Insurance		\$1,432	\$1,432
Supply Organist		\$200	\$400
Sub-Total:		\$59,683	\$55,923
<b>Worship &amp; Music:</b>			
Organ / Piano Repairs		\$200	\$200
Flower Expense		\$1,900	\$1,900
Poinsettia / Lilly Envelopes		\$100	\$100
Palms		\$75	\$75
Baptismal Candles / Books		\$75	\$75
Sanctuary Light Candles		\$350	\$350
Liquid Candle Wax		\$0	\$0
Senior Choir Music		\$0	\$0
Youth Choir Music		\$0	\$0
Bell Choir Music / Chime Maintenance		\$150	\$50
Communion Wine		\$200	\$200
Communion Wafers		\$300	\$300
Communion Cups		\$100	\$100
Banner Creation		\$0	\$0
Lenten Worship Materials		\$0	\$0
Sunday and Seasons Subscription (Bulletins)		\$750	\$750
Music and Worship Other		\$0	\$0
Sub-Total:		\$4,200	\$4,100

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Year-End Budget Report  
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2023

	2022	Budget	Proposed 2023 Budget
<b>Christian Education:</b>			
Children's Sunday School Material		\$500	\$500
Adult Sunday School Material		\$0	\$0
Teen Sunday School Material		\$50	\$50
Confirmation Reception and Gifts		\$50	\$50
Christmas Program		\$100	\$100
Vacation Bible School		\$200	\$200
Youth Program Expenses		\$200	\$200
Youth Event Expenses		\$200	
Youth Gathering		\$100	
Home Devotions		\$200	\$200
Christian Education Other		\$0	\$0
Sub-Total:		\$1,600	\$1,300
<b>Property:</b>			
Repairs and Maintenance		\$20,000	\$20,000
Custodial Supplies		\$1,000	\$1,000
Van Expense (Insurance, Gas, Maint)		\$1,000	\$500
Terminix		\$150	\$150
Real Estate Taxes		\$1,400	\$1,400
Property Insurance		\$10,665	\$10,665
Sub-Total:		\$34,215	\$33,715
<b>Evangelism:</b>			
Evangelism Programming		\$500	
Spring Fling		\$100	
Natural Church Development		\$0	
Attendance Program		\$100	
Sub-Total:		\$700	\$0
<b>Social Ministry:</b>			
Garden Club Expenses		\$100	
Social Ministry Other		\$300	
Sub-Total:		\$400	\$0
<b>Fellowship:</b>			
General Fellowship Expenses		\$2,000	
Sub-Total:		\$2,000	\$0
<b>Stewardship:</b>			
Giving Envelopes		\$400	\$400
Sub-Total:		\$400	\$400

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Year-End Budget Report  
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2023

	2022	Budget	Proposed 2023 Budget
<b>Church Office:</b>			
Office Supplies Expense		\$3,000	\$3,000
Copier / Duplicator Lease		\$4,100	\$4,100
Postage Expense		\$1,750	\$2,000
Sub-Total:		\$8,850	\$9,100
<b>Building Utilities:</b>			
Utilities - Electric		\$6,000	\$6,800
Utilities - Gas		\$14,000	\$16,000
Utilities - Water		\$1,500	\$780
Electric - Memorial Building		\$250	\$250
Telephone and Internet Expenses		\$1,536	\$1,536
Sub-Total:		\$23,286	\$25,366
<b>Other Expenses:</b>			
Synod Assembly		\$650	\$650
Camp Sequanota		\$7,500	\$7,500
Pastor's Discretionary Paid Out		\$200	\$200
Seminarian Support Paid Out		\$2,000	
Sunderman Endowment Event Expense		\$2,500	\$2,500
Funeral Fund Expense		\$300	
Extra Fellowship Expense against Income		\$0	\$0
Other Expenses		\$500	
Sub-Total:		\$13,650	\$10,850
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>		<b>\$245,126</b>	<b>\$237,733</b>
Extra Budgetary Needs Offset by Income		\$19,000	\$19,000
Benevolence Giving Paid Out		\$11,800	\$9,500
<b>Subtotal of Additional Expenses</b>		<b>\$30,800</b>	<b>\$28,500</b>
<b>Grand Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$275,926</b>	<b>\$266,233</b>

Donations to "Current" (2023 Target):	\$	247,351.00
Donations to "Special" (2023 Target):	\$	12,000.00
Total "Current" Giving Target (2023):	\$	259,351.00
Per-Week Giving Target:	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,987.52</b>

# Prayer List

Please keep the following people in your prayers ...

## Trinity Members

Ted Baird  
Tyler Bennett  
Ruth & Bob Brubaker  
Church Health Team  
Church Council  
Charon Clabaugh  
Don Corl  
Gary Crownover  
Sondra Deffibaugh  
Jane Eamigh  
Garner Family  
Tom Hammond  
Kathy Hatch  
Kristina Henderson  
Bob Hofmann  
Doris Hollingshead  
Hoover Family

## Trinity's Homebound Members

Chris Burda  
Clara Hite  
Shannon Kratzer  
Ken Kumpf  
Marie Laich  
Bill McLaughlin

## Those Serving in the Armed Forces

Sarah Brown  
Jim Buchanan  
Jason Buck  
Kyle Eberhart  
Nathan Frank  
Ryan Maguire

Bob Nearhoof  
Sue Nycum  
Arlene Roessing  
Leta Veit

Justin Patz  
Eric Sweet

Donnie Alwine  
Janet & Charlie Aungst  
Scott Aungst  
Dan Baughman  
Behe Family  
Kris Bennett  
Dana Beschler  
Zayne Bowmaster  
Damain Branas  
Sue Carter  
Sue Casalviere  
Karen Claar  
Tracee Cole  
Marissa Cooper  
Scott Corl  
Randy Corneilius Family  
Janie Coyne  
Lisa Dalansky  
Jim Deffibaugh  
Jorden DeFrancisco  
Ken Eichenlaub  
Ian Esper  
Phil Esper  
Allen Everhart  
Roberta Frederick  
John Fresh  
Haley Gehret  
Pat Griffith  
Thomas Hamilton  
John Hancuff  
Katie Hanczaryk  
David K. Harpster  
Donald Haslam  
Tom Hatch  
Virginia Heidler  
Carmen Hopkins

## Family Members and Friends

Samantha Januska  
Nicki Kaltenbrunner  
Carol King  
Harper Ann Krause  
Cindy Lamont  
Jan Lastaglia  
Anaya Leity  
Frank Luciano  
Christine Maines  
Linda Mardula  
Bernie Market  
Ron Matta  
McConnell Family  
McGilvery Family  
Brandon McGraw  
Trudy Morning  
Linda Mowrer  
Bill & Penny Murphy  
Terry Musselman  
Sharon Myers  
Wyatt Nite  
Zach Noel  
Tammy Otto  
Craig Parks  
Frances Pringle  
Lorenzo Recchia  
Carl Ruckinger  
Michael Ruckinger  
Trudy Savine  
Ronald Settle  
Judy Shaffer  
Lynn Shaffer  
Sandy Sharieves  
Gloria Shoup  
Debbie Smith  
Dottie Stayer  
Sultage Jr. Family

Lisa Ta and son Elliott Ta  
Harry Taylor  
Blair Umholtz  
Lillian Umholtz  
Paul & Nina Wallis  
Henrietta Weidley  
Steve Wood  
Tiquan Wright  
Linda Yohn & Family  
Cookie  
Elsa  
Natalie  
Baby Jeremiah  
Baby Gwen



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 2022

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**Permit 56**

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## Lectionary Readings for the Month of November

### Nov 6

Job 19:23-27a  
Psalm 17:1-9  
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

### Nov 13

Malachi 4:1-2a  
Psalm 98  
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13  
Luke 21:5-19

### Nov 20

Jeremiah 23:1-6  
Psalm 46  
Colossians 1:11-20  
Luke 23:33-43

### Nov 27

Isaiah 2:1-5  
Psalm 122  
Romans 13:11-14  
Matthew 24:36-44

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## Also worth mentioning...

Thank you to everyone for the prayers, cards, calls, flowers and visits during our illnesses.

All was very appreciated. Thanks again.

Bob is now in the Hollidaysburg Veterans Home. His address is:

Robert Brubaker  
Hollidaysburg Veterans Home  
PO Box 319, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

*Ruth & Bob Brubaker*

## 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)**  
**[Dknee6@gmail.com](mailto:Dknee6@gmail.com)**
  - 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!**