

The Orbit

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ALTOONA PA
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April 2023

"The itsy bitsy spider went up the water spout. Down came the rain and washed the spider out. Out came the sun and dried up all the rain, and the itsy bitsy spider went up the spout again."

Children's nursery song



From the Pastor:

Believe it or not this is one of our preschool children's favorite song for the end of chapel. Yes, we sing this song at chapel. What does the itsy bitsy spider have to do with chapel, well it teaches resilience. That no matter what happens the sun will come out and we will get on with our lives. Sometimes, when we sing this song, I think about the Son instead of the sun coming out. As we celebrate Easter we know that the Son does appear at the resurrection and that the Son will always be there for us to dry away the rain of sin. Even though we should be washed away by our sin we are forgiven and we are made whole to continue to climb the spout of life. Sometimes, it may feel like we are little in this world, like itsy bitsy spiders, but with the Son rising we are able to carry on to our goal of everlasting life.

Peace,



Trinity President

FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

You may have noticed in the last issue of the Orbit that some of the topics addressed were somewhat dated, such as a mention of Trinity's mask policy. This was the fault of my technological impairment. I attached an old letter from quite some time ago instead of my March 2023 message. This is what happens when you're raised with a rotary dial phone and manual typewriter. So, last month's message is reprinted this month, along with some additions.

By the time this reaches your mailbox, Lent will have begun. This is a season of penance and reflection on one's faith. Many see this as a time of denial as part of that penance. You may recall that last year I suggested that we "give up" some time to help a friend, neighbor, or family member with some task that may be difficult for them to do.

I'd like to see us "give up" some talent this year. Trinity has many committees that could use some more input from members of the congregation. These committees include Christian Education, Worship and Music, Property, Finance, Social Ministry, and others. If you have any talent and/or interest in ANY of the activities of the Church, please step forward. Your time, talent, and suggestions are needed and will be welcomed.

As an example of this, many thanks to Adam Counterman and Sandy Ebersole for their recent work repairing the wall in the basement corridor that sustained water damage in 2021. The raw materials were paid for by our settlement with the gas company and their contractor. Their labor on a recent Saturday has improved the appearance of that area. The paneling can be removed in the event of another "flood" to avoid damage and will dry out better than drywall if needed.

And now, for the April 2023 update.

When you receive this issue of the Orbit, Holy Week will be about to begin, or in full swing. Please take advantage of the multiple worship opportunities throughout the week as we prepare to celebrate the resurrection on April 8-9.

My desire to have an evaluation of our physical building is finally coming to pass. Andrew Arnold of Gwin, Dobson, and Foreman inspected the church recently and presented his findings at the March Council meeting. Although, this occurred after the deadline for this issue, stay tuned for next month when his findings will be highlighted in this column. I think it is important for us to be reactive to any problems BEFORE they become serious issues so our ministry can continue and grow.

Yours in Christ,
John Ebersole



Trinity Council Minutes

February 2023

Trinity Lutheran Church
 Council Minutes of February 28, 2023
 Debbie Garritano, Secretary

Attendance

Present	Absent
Pastor Eli	
John Ebersole 2025	
	Geri Selfridge 2023
Debbie Garritano 2025	
Lisa Bush 2024	
Adam Counterman 2025	
Barb Gosnell 2023	
	Ralph Grove
Judy Hale 2024	
Lori Matta-Rhode 2024	
Ken Myers 2023	
Chris Thompson 2025	
	Nevin Woodring 2024
	Jim Buchanan 2025

Greetings/Devotions

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

Endowment Fund

Marianne Brock was to meet with us to discuss the fund. However, she was unable to attend. She met with Debbie and Pastor the next morning and they will present it at the next meeting.

Minutes from last meeting.

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

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's report was reviewed. A question was asked concerning a \$79.52 payment to Brent Cogan. John will check to see what this concerns.

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

Pastor Hess' Report

Pastor's report was presented. Ash Wednesday was well attended. She was pleased. We received a Thank You from Thon for our donation in Pastor John's name. The Youth groups continue to meet and pictures are posted on Facebook. Pastor is getting ready for Holy Week and Easter. She will be visiting shut ins and the hospital. Attendance has been very good at all services. Judy made a motion to approve Pastor's report. Chris seconded. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

Worship and Music – we're gearing up for Easter. Ash Wednesday is February 22. Services will be at noon and 6:30 p.m. all through Lent. Pastor's homily will be on the daily devotion of the day. Cindy Finnegan and John Ebersole are coordinating choir and hand chimes for Easter Sunday services. There will be a 6:30 a.m. service and 10:45 service Easter Sunday with a Continental Breakfast following the 6:30 a.m. service. There will be Children's Sunday School but no Adult Sunday School that day. The palms have been ordered and sponsored. Judy made a motion to accept the Worship and Music report. Lori seconded. Motion passed.

Property – There is a problem with the men's urinal. It is not flushing. Adam is working on it, but it may need to be replaced. He is almost finished with the Theatre building. Just need a few more sheets of plywood to complete. John reminded everyone to please put something in the Orbit for their committees.



Trinity Council Minutes February 2023

Old Business

Inspection of Building – John will meet with Andrew Arnold (Gwin Dobson & Foreman) next Wednesday to go through the church. He will come to the March council meeting to discuss the findings.
Repair of drywall in basement – John thanked Sandy Ebersole and Adam Counterman for the fine work they did in the basement hallway.

Offering Envelopes – we discussed sending in the order for 2024 envelopes. We can do it anytime and the deadline is July. We must send in the check for this year's envelopes with the order. John will check with Ralph for the check.

Air conditioning – we discussed the air conditioning in the sanctuary. We decided to talk with Jim Buchanan about the bids that we received. Pastor reminded us that before we can move forward this must be brought before the congregation.

New Business

Cook Fund/Camp Sequanota – John reported that he receives a quarterly statement of the Cook Fund. This is money to be used for scholarships to send youth to Camp Sequanota. Scholarship applications will be printed and placed at the back of the church and in the office. This is a great summer camp. Bill Thompson is taking over as Trustee of the Cook Fund.

Stephen Ministry – John talked about a ministry that the lay congregation members can offer to help those going through crisis: grief, job loss, trauma. There are 10 – 2.5-hour sessions of training for this ministry. John will place an article in the April Orbit to see if there would be an interest in this from the congregation. This could be an outreach of ministry of Trinity.

Other Business – Barb asked if a handicap sign could be placed on the 6 th Street side of the building for access to the basement. Ken will check on this.

Pastor stated that our copier lease is up. Our current lease is \$432.29. The new lease is \$432.47. Pastor recommended to go with the new lease. Barb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Barb made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Adam seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting was then adjourned.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Garritano

Next meeting: February 28, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.



Trinity Worship and Music

**Worship and Music
March 14, 2023**

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

Upcoming dates:

March

Wednesday services 12 noon and 6:30 p.m

20 First Day of Spring

April

2 Palm Sunday

6 Maundy Thursday 12:00 noon and 6:30 p.m.

7 Good Friday 12:00 noon and 6:30 p.m.

8 Easter Saturday 6:30 p.m.

9 Easter Sunday 6:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Easter Breakfast at 8:00 a.m.

May

1-8 Pastor's vacation

13 Baptism

14 Mother's Day/Baptism

28 Pentecost

Service

We are ready for Holy Week and Easter services.

Flowers

Judy

Debbie will look into other options for white lilies. Berkstresser said they couldn't get them.

Berkstresser's called back and were able to get some white lilies that we will place around the large cross.

Music

Cindy and John have been coordinating the choir and handchimes which will perform at the 10:45 a.m. service. For the 6:30 a.m. service it will be a quiet service with soloists.

Pastor is going to reach out to Rachel Wachter to see if she would be available to play the harp at Pentecost or Confirmation.

Altar

Working on getting help with the flowers and altar for Maundy Thursday and Easter Saturday.

Also check for lectors at the services.

Next meeting: May 9, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.



Trinity Congratulations



Josh Kutz, grandson of Ken and Sharon Kutz, became engaged on Christmas Day to his girlfriend, Chelsea Scafuro. They met while they were both students at Juniata College. The wedding will be next year-2024. We are so excited to see them as they take the next step in their relationship.

God Bless both of them.



Trinity St. Patricks' and Easter for Eli

Clair Goon standing in front of the St Patricks tree on March 17, 2023.



Social Ministry/ Healthy You are getting baskets ready for Easter for Eli. Pictured are 161 baskets that we placed in the sanctuary to share with the Congregation. We spent a few days and many hours preparing for the event. We also spent many hours at Linda Hoovers house making "sock babies" to put in the baskets. I personally would like to Thank Linda Hoover, Betty Wilkinson, Norma Stenger, Sandy Hofmann, Clair Goon, Ruthie Brubaker and Jess Hoover.

We could not have done that without the overwhelming response from the Congregation. And that is what makes Trinity a special place. Thanks to everyone.

Sharon Kutz





Trinity Church Easter Breakfast



Welcome one Welcome All to Trinity Lutheran Church Easter Breakfast

This year breakfast will feature

**French Toast Casserole
Denver Veggie Omelet Bake
Scrambled Eggs
Cheesy Potato Casserole
Ham
Sausage Gravy
Toast**

**Assorted Pastries
Fresh Fruit
Coffee, Tea
White and Chocolate Milk**

A free will offering will be accepted after the breakfast



Trinity Camp Sequanota

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL AID FOR CAMP SEQUANOTA

Parents/guardians of children/youth wishing to attend a one-week session at Camp Sequanota may apply for financial aid.

Since 1986, the Dorothy Baird Cook Memorial Fund has been used to provide full or partial assistance to children from Trinity Lutheran Church with financial need who wish to attend Camp Sequanota.

After reviewing the summer camp schedule. Parents/guardians who wish to request aid from the Cook Fund must complete an application form (available at the church office or on the table by the offering plate at the rear of the sanctuary) along with a copy of the Sequanota registration form.

These forms should be returned to the church office on or before April 30 so the Cook Fund Committee can evaluate the request and determine if funding is possible.

Applicants will receive notification of the Committee's decision no later than May 31 so the registration process can be completed in a timely fashion.

Persons who miss the April deadline can still apply through May 31. No applications will be accepted after May 31.

Children who are not members of Trinity Lutheran Church may be granted assistance if and only if financial need is present.

All request for financial aid will be confidential. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Hess at 943-3972 or John Ebersole at 946-8612.

Prayer List

Please keep the following people in your prayers ...

Trinity Members

Ted Baird	Doris Hollingshead
Tyler Bennett	Martha Jones
Ruth & Bob Brubaker	Garry Knee
Church Health Team	Jake Knisely
Church Council	Sharon Kutz
Charon Clabaugh	Cheryl Luciano
Don Corl	Jessica McGraw
Gary Crownover	Ken B. Myers
Sondra Deffibaugh	Myers Family
Jane Eamigh	Jaden Rhode
Allen Everhart	Lisa Smearman
Garner Family	Fred Teigler
Tom Hammond	Wilkins Family
Kathy Hatch	Harry Yeager
Kristina Henderson	Nancy Yeager
Bob Hofmann	

Trinity's Homebound Members

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

Those Serving in the Armed Forces

Sarah Brown	Ryan Maguire
Jason Buck	Justin Patz
Kyle Eberhart	Eric Sweet
Nathan Frank	

Family Members and Friends

Joe Adams	Misty Franell	Michael Ruckinger
Donnie Alwine	Haley Gehret	Trudy Savine
Janet & Charlie Aungst	Pat Griffith	Ronald Settle
Scott Aungst	Thomas Hamilton	Judy Shaffer
ALB	John Hancuff	Lynn Shaffer
KCB	Ann Hanczaryk	Marilyn Shannon
Dan Baughman	Katie Hanczaryk	Sandy Sharieves
Gloria Beatty	David K. Harpster	Gloria Shoup
Behe Family	Donald Haslam	Debbie Smith
Robin Behe	Tom Hatch	Dottie Stayer
Kris Bennett	Virginia Heidler	Sultage Jr. Family
Dana Beschler	Carmen Hopkins	Lisa Ta and son Elliott Ta
Zayne Bowmaster	Samantha Januska	Harry Taylor
Dee & Barry Bradfield	Nicki Kaltenbrunner	Paul & Nina Wallis
Damain Branas	Carol King	Judy Waksmonski
Joseph Brewer	Harper Ann Krause	Jameson Joseph (JJ) Williamson
Christopher Buchanan	Cindy Lamont	Steve Wood
Randy Carothers	Jan Lastaglia	Tiquan Wright
Sue Carter	Anaya Leity	Cookie
Sue Casalviere	Steward Logan	Elsa
Karen Claar	Frank Luciano	Natalie
Tracee Cole	BPM	Baby Jerimiah
Theresa Cooney	Christine Maines	Baby Gwen
Marissa Cooper	Linda Mardula	In spoken request "M"
Scott Corl	Ron Matta	
Randy Corneilius Family	McConnell Family	
Janie Coyne	McGilvery Family	
Lisa Dalansky	Brandon McGraw	
Jim Deffibaugh	Bill & Penny Murphy	
Jorden DeFrancisco	Sharon Myers	
Ethel Donley	Wyatt Nite	
Ken Eichenlaub	Zach Noel	
Ian Esper	Tammy Otto	
Phil Esper	Dennis Paulsen	
Paula Ford	Frances Pringle	
Skyler Franell	Lorenzo Recchia	
	Carl Ruckinger	

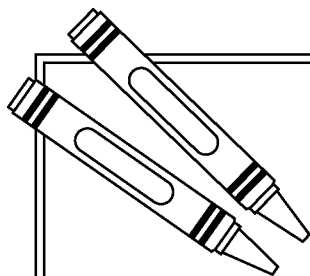


Please know that you can add someone to our prayer list at any time by calling the church office (943-3972). If it is appropriate to remove someone from the prayer list, again, please inform the church office. Names of family and friends will remain on the prayer list for two weeks. You can keep someone's 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.



The Orbit










Trinity Just for Kids



Just for KIDS

An Easter Message

Mary went to the tomb and found it empty! Find the words that an angel spoke to her. Write the name of each picture on the lines. Transfer the letters to the other spaces to find the verse.

		31	32	33	34								
1	2	3	4	5									
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		35	36	37
	15	16	17	18	19	20		38	39	40	41		
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27						
	28	29	30		42	43	44						

“ 18 42 14 31 3 14 17 7 13 3 17 34 15 17 20
 8 42 10 16 25 38 25 23 30 36 35 3 23 29
 44 42 19 31 27 43 31 ? 42 19 25 4 23 3 9
 42 10 24 19 ; 42 28 42 36 5 24 25 5 27 23 ! ”

Luke 24:5

Answers: cross; butterfly; flower; sunrise; egg; duck; man; vine; hat. “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen!”

Color Easter Eggs the Natural Way



Here's a fun way to color Easter eggs using all natural ingredients. The longer the eggs are in the coloring the darker they will become.

(NOTE: Some of these colors need to be heated on a stove or in a microwave oven. Be sure to get an adult to help you.)



Golden Brown

Simmer the brown outer skins of onions for 5-10 minutes. The more skins you use, the darker the color.



Blue

Mash blueberries – fresh, frozen or canned – in a pan with a little water. Simmer 5-10 minutes.

Lilac

Dip eggs in cold grape juice. For a darker shade simmer the juice for 5-10 minutes.

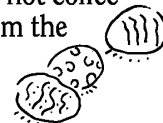


Pale Green

Chop and simmer the green tops of carrots.

Chocolate-colored

Dip eggs in hot coffee straight from the coffeepot.





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Lectionary Readings for the Month of April

April 2

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 26:14--27:66

April 9

Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Colossians 3:1-4
Matthew 28:1-10

April 16

Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalm 16
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

April 23

Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
1 Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35

April 30

Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 23
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10

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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
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!