

The Orbit

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

"As long as the earth endures, seed time and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease."

Genesis 8:22



From the Pastor:

With every change in season, like the change from winter into summer, I am reminded of the steadfastness of God. There is nothing, but God, that can stop the changing of the seasons and they will not cease until the Lord commands it. The same can be said for the steadfast love of God. God's love remains steadfast even in the midst of our sin and our shortcomings. Just when God should and could be angry with us, His love remains and His forgiveness is sure. This passage from Genesis comes right after the flood and reminds us of the promise of the rainbow set in the sky to show us God's covenant of love. God establishes a covenant with the people never to destroy with the rains again. The changing of the seasons reminds us of God's control and power and authority. As much as I would love for winter to remain, summer is upon us and as much as some people would wish for summer all year long the snows of winter will eventually fall, that's how God established things. He also establishes His love and forgiveness for all and that too will never change.

Peace,



Trinity Council President

FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Members of Trinity:

As I write this, I'm delighted to report that work has begun to install our air conditioning. This should be completed by Friday May 26. We've been fortunate that it has not been unseasonably warm as of yet.

In relation to this project. The Stewardship committee has designated the June Thank Offering to go towards the cost of the air conditioning. Thanks to a bequest from the estate of Peggy Peterman as well as other gifts and memorials we have approximately 90% of this expense covered. Please consider donating so this project can be fully funded and not necessitate withdrawing from our reserves.

Council has begun the process of soliciting bids to replace the outdated wiring in sections of the Church. Costs as of this point are unknown, but when the building was inspected by Gwin, Dobson, and Foreman this was suggested to be our top priority for the building.

On a lighter note, Trinity's church picnic has been scheduled for Aug 27 at Legion Park in Hollidaysburg. As in the past, there will be no services at Trinity that weekend. A joint service will be held that morning prior to the picnic. This is a great opportunity to come together as one for worship. A committee is being formed to help plan this event. If you'd like to help in some way, please contact Nevin Woodring or Nancy Honecker. The more help we have the better. I'm reminded of the old saying "Many hands make light work"

Yours in Christ

John Ebersole



Trinity Worship and Music Committee

**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 Council Minutes

April 2023

Attendance

Present

Pastor Eli

Absent

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 Vice President, Geri Selfridge

Pastor led us in prayer.

Minutes from last meeting.

Minutes from the March meeting were read. Corrections were made to the attendance – Adam, Lori and Nevin were absent. Also, under Old Business – Air Conditioning – It should read, Barb made a motion to accept Brian Johnston's bid to replace the air conditioning. Barb made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Ken seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Minutes from the Congregational meeting.

The minutes were read. Judy made a motion to accept the minutes. Barb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Ralph reported that all is up to date. He deposited \$15,878.78 into the checking earmarked for the Endowment. When we have \$2,000.00 it can be deposited into the Endowment Fund. The S&T investment is at \$227,468.31. The Sunderman Fund is \$15,127.83.

Ralph has been in touch with Tom Settle to work on the Treasurer's job. They are coordinating with Tom's schedule. to meet/ Judy made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Jim seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Pastor Hess' Report

Pastor's report was presented as written. She stated that Easter was a great celebration. All services were well attended. She will continue to visit the shut ins and hospitalized. She has had some counseling sessions, conference meetings and IDA meetings. Adult Sunday School and Bible Study continue to go well as does the Youth Groups. Jim made a motion to approve Pastor's report. Lori seconded the motion. Motion passed.



Trinity Council Minutes

April 2023

Committee Reports

Property – Adam sent a written report. The men’s urinals have been fixed. He will fix the ramp lights. The N 6 th Street side handrails need to be repaired. Ants have become a problem in the kitchen. Pastor will call to get the ant problem corrected. Ken made a motion to accept the Property report as written. Judy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Christian Ed. – Geri reported that VBS will be July 30 through August 2, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The theme this year is Hero Hot Line with Meerkat Mike.

John reminded everyone to please put something in the Orbit for their committees.

Old Business

Endowment Fund – Debbie presented the Endowment Fund quarterly statements from 2021 through March of 2023. Our beginning balance was \$25,644.20. By the end of 2022 our investment dropped to \$22,071.69. This was when the stock market plummeted, and everyone’s investments took a hit. By the end of March 2023, our investments have grown to \$23,181.88.

This is a long-term investment, and it will see some ups and downs. This investment also uses our profits to purchase more stock. We must be patient and stay the course. Each quarter there is an online zoom meeting which we will continue to monitor to keep up to date on the Endowment.

Air conditioning – Pastor said the parts have been ordered. They should be in about 2-3 weeks. Then he will put us on the schedule, and it should take 2-3 days to complete.

John found an article on Heat Pumps that he shared with Council. He believes that it would be too costly. Following discussion, it was agreed that a heat pump was not necessary.

Ladies Room – Will ask Adam to flush the drain weekly to keep the smell down.

Church Picnic – August 27, 2023, will be the church picnic. 11:00 a.m. at the Hollidaysburg Legion Park. We need a committee to coordinate the event.

New Business

Repair of Knob and Tube wiring – John would like to request bids to begin work on the electrical system. He would like to have it updated so there won’t be a problem with the new air conditioning. The council wants to have at least 3 bids. Suggestions were Brent Cogan, Randy’s Electric, Jim Aiden, and Adam’s Electric. Ken said he will contact Jim Aiken.

Representation for Synod Assembly – The assembly will be held at the Convention Center on June 17, 2023, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Debbie Garritano, Debbie Simpson and Judy Hale have volunteered to be representatives.

Handicapped parking sign for 6 th Street – Ken reported that the cost would be \$125.00 up front for the sign. There is no guarantee where the sign will be placed. This will be tabled till the next meeting. Barb will discuss the issue with the person requesting the sign.

Security – There has been some discussion concerning security. Should all the doors be locked when services start. Following discussion Debbie made a motion not to lock the doors. Jim seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Secretary – Pastor reported that Cindy Lytle was offered a full-time job at St. Vincent. She would rather stay at Trinity but would need more hours to make up the difference. She would like to work 5 hours a day from 9:00 to 2:00. Following discussion Jim made a motion to extend the secretary’s day by two hours with a new written contract. Barb seconded the motion. Motion passed. Barb will get a new contract for Cindy to sign.

Jim made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Judy seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting was then adjourned.

We closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Garritano

Next meeting: May 23, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

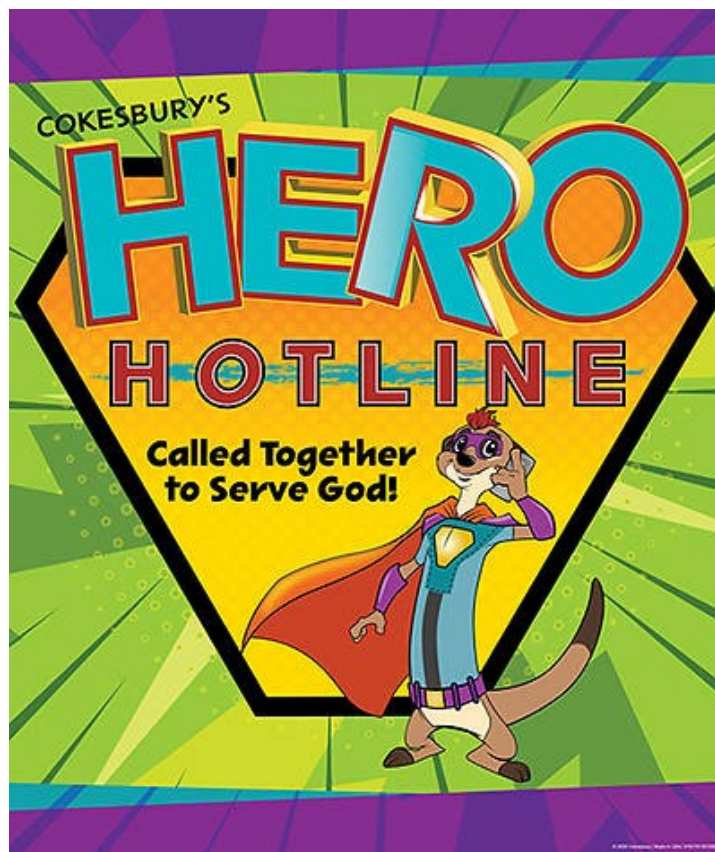


Trinity Vacation Bible School

This year's Vacation Bible School will be held Sunday, July 30th through Thursday, August 3rd, from 6 pm to 8 pm.

The theme is **Hero Hotline** and we invite children from pre-k through 6th grade to answer the call to serve God together. Join Super Meer (an adorable meerkat puppet) as young heroes learn to strive for the things that bring peace and the things that build each other up as we are taught in Romans 14:19. The goal of this VBS is to help children learn to work together and share their gifts as they answer God's call.

Within the next month, we will be sharing a donation "wish list" list of snack items and craft supplies for this fun-filled event. We are also looking for volunteers to assist with our young "heroes". If you are interested, please contact Geri Selfridge at 814-937-3582 or geri@kerrpromotions.com, or reach out to Pastor.



Prayer List

Please keep the following people in your prayers ...

Trinity Members

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

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	Jeanne Rutherford
Janet & Charlie Aungst	Pat Griffith	Trudy Savine
Scott Aungst	Thomas Hamilton	Ronald Settle
ALB	John Hancuff	Daryl Seymore
KCB	Ann Hanczaryk	Judy Shaffer
Dan Baughman	Katie Hanczaryk	Lynn Shaffer
Gloria Beatty	David K. Harpster	Marilyn Shannon
Behe Family	Donald Haslam	Sandy Sharieves
Robin Behe	Tom Hatch	Gloria Shoup
Kris Bennett	Virginia Heidler	Debbie Smith
Dana Beschler	Karli Hey	Dottie Stayer
Yvonne Bickle	Samantha Januska	Sultage Jr. Family
Zayne Bowmaster	Nicki Kaltenbrunner	Lisa Ta and son Elliott Ta
Dee & Barry Bradfield	Carol King	Harry Taylor
Damain Branas	Harper Ann Krause	Paul & Nina Wallis
Joseph Brewer	Cindy Lamont	Jameson Joseph (JJ) Williamson
Terry Brown	Jan Lastaglia	Steve Wood
Christopher Buchanan	Anaya Leity	Tiquan Wright
Randy Carothers	Steward Logan	Cookie
Sue Carter	Frank Luciano	Elsa
Sue Casalviere	BPM	Jessie
Karen Claar	Christine Maines	Juni
Tracee Cole	Linda Mardula	Natalie
Theresa Cooney	Steve Mardula, Sr	Baby Jeremiah
Marissa Cooper	Ron Matta	Baby Gwen
Scott Corl	McConnell Family	In spoken request "M"
Randy Corneilius Family	McGilvery Family	
Janie Coyne	Brandon McGraw	
Lisa Dalansky	Tom Morning	
Tom DeAngelo	Bill & Penny Murphy	
Jim Deffibaugh	Debbie Musante	
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.



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Lectionary Readings for the Month of June

June 4

Genesis 1:1--2:4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20

June 11

Hosea 5:15--6:6
Psalm 50:7-15
Romans 4:13-25
Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

June 18

Exodus 19:2-8a
Psalm 100
Romans 5:1-8
Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]

June 25

Jeremiah 20:7-13
Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18
Romans 6:1b-11
Matthew 10:24-39

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Also worth mentioning...

I want to thank everyone who has prayed for and thought of me when I broke my leg. I received cards and well wishes from so many of you. My healing is progressing well and, as we all know, it just takes time. Please keep the prayers coming and look forward to seeing you all soon.

*Hugs,
Carolyn (Sis) Stenger*

The next Orbit Deadline is June 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!