

The Orbit

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



September 2023

"Take my instruction instead of silver, and knowledge rather than choice gold; for wisdom is better than jewels, and all that you may desire cannot compare with her."

Proverbs 8: 10-11



From the Pastor:

I love this passage about wisdom because it reminds us how important wisdom and knowledge is. There are opportunities coming up to enhance our wisdom as our fall schedule starts back up. We have Bible Study on Tuesdays at 9am starting on September 12. Our adult Sunday school begins on September 10 and we also study a book of the Bible. Both of these opportunities allow us to engage in conversation around the scripture and God's word. I invite you to join in the conversation. Jewels can be stolen or lost as can silver and gold, but once we have the wisdom and knowledge can never be taken once we have it. It's not only about having the knowledge it's about gaining a better understanding and relationship with God and Jesus. The more you know the more you can appreciate what God and Christ have done for us and the world.

Peace,



Trinity Council President

FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Summer is winding down. School has started. Things are ongoing at Trinity. First of all, Rally Day is upon us. The new Sunday School year will start on September 10. Our Christian Education program will begin another year. There are opportunities for virtually every age group from pre-school through adult classes to learn and appreciate God's Word. Parents, please consider bringing your children for this VERY important hour every Sunday from 9:30 to 10:30. While you're doing that, stick around for the adult class in Trinity hall. This class is led by Pastor Eli and studies the various books of the Bible and usually includes a lot of "off-topic" discussion.

You noticed that I said "virtually". We currently lack a class for our post-confirmation teens. I taught such a class for quite a few years until I was asked to teach Confirmation class for our 7th and 8th grade youth. Currently, the only opportunity for post-confirmation students is to join the adult class I referred to above. The few youth that have done this definitely add a different perspective to these studies. However, I sometimes lament that we don't have a class for this age group (14-18). This is a crucial time for these youngsters, They are faced with the challenges of living in a world that is often confusing, divisive, and downright difficult to live in. When I led such a class, I tried to focus on issues that were important to that age group. My focus was to show how God's Word can sustain us and help us to deal with issues that were unheard of in Biblical times. Young people are important to any church and Trinity is certainly no exception. I'd love to see someone (preferably a 20-30 "something" adult) to offer an educational opportunity to this very VITAL group. Last of all, many of you are aware of Trinity's Endowment Fund. This was created several years ago to invest in Trinity's future. As earnings from this Fund accumulate, we need to make decisions as to how to use them. Also, the policy of this Fund is to set aside 10% of larger contributions for "first fruit" gifts to an ELCA ministry. If you would be interested in playing a part in these decisions, please let Pastor Eli or myself know. Your time and efforts will be greatly appreciated.

Yours in Christ,
John Ebersole



The Orbit

Trinity Worship and Music

Worship and Music

August 8, 2023

Pastor Eli, Debbie Garritano

Upcoming dates:

September

3

10 Rally Day

17

24

October

1 Blessing of the Animals

8 Music Sunday at 10:45

14 Wedding

15

17 Brass and Choral Concert at 7:00 p.m.

22

29 Reformation with First Communion at 10:45

November

5 All Saints Day

12

19

26 Christ The King

December

3 Holiday Sunderman Concert

10

17

24 Service will be at 9:30 a.m., 7:00 p.m., and 10:00 p.m.

25 Service at 9:00 a.m.

31 Lessons and Carols

Service

Nothing at this time.

Flowers

We need cans to deliver flowers and people to deliver flowers. The size of cans are Juice cans.

We are also seeking people willing to deliver flowers to members who are shut ins. Please let the church office know or Judy Hale.

Music

Cindy reported that the date for Music Sunday will be October 8. This will give everyone a chance to get back into the fall routine and have some time to practice. This will be at the 10:45 service because we will be back into the fall schedule of Sunday School.

She is planning a Holiday Sunderman Concert for December 3 with John Ebersole and three of her students, Melayna Steward, Ava Steinbugl, and Josh Warmath. They will be advertising this. Pastor has set a date with the Brass and Choral Ensemble for Tuesday, October 17, at 7:00 p.m.

Altar

Debbie will check the altar candles to see if cleaning will correct them from leaning. If not, we may have to replace them. Debbie will also check with Adam to see if he can help hang the banners. Jim Frederick is unable because of back surgery.

Next meeting: October 10, at 11:00 a.m.



Trinity Council August Meeting

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

Treasurer's Report

Ralph presented a written report and reported that all is up to date. Jim made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Judy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Pastor Hess' Report

Pastor's report was presented as written. Summer attendance was good. A few new people have been attending and will hopefully join. VBS was a success and the biggest blessing was the number of volunteers. She made visits to shut ins and others. She had two weddings and three funerals and two pre wedding meetings.. Jace Trafficante was baptized on August 13 th at the 8:15 service. Pastor is now gearing up for the fall schedule of meetings, Bible study, and Sunday School. Lori made a motion to accept Pastor's report. Jim seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

Christian Ed – Geri reported that VBS was a success despite a slow start. We averaged 22 in attendance.

Geri thanked all who volunteered. Now we are gearing up for Rally Day on September 10.

Worship and Music – Debbie reported on several upcoming dates for the fall (please see the attached report). Judy reported that she is still in need of people to deliver flowers and cans to hold the flowers.

Cindy reported that Music Sunday will be October 8, at 10:45 and she is planning a Holiday Concert with her students for December 3rd .



Trinity Council August Meeting

Debbie will check the altar candles to see if they need to be replaced or just cleaned.

Property – Adam reported that he repaired a phone line that fell off the building, no service was interrupted. We passed the fire inspection by replacing an Exit sign on 6 th Street side. New grass has been planted where the old telephone pole was removed. Van is in good condition. Hallway floors have been stripped and refinished. Trinity Hall will be done Friday. He is renting a floor scrubber for \$175.00. Some water came in downstairs after the last downpour. It has been cleaned up. He needs a few more sheets of plywood to finish the Theatre building. Ken Myers said that he has some and would give it to him. He also reported that the lawn mower, weed trimmer, and hedge trimmer are not working, and he is using his equipment. We discussed the lawn equipment and Adam should not have to use his own. Geri will contact Adam to see exactly what is wrong with the equipment. We will table discussing getting a new mower till we have more information.

Old Business

Church Picnic – August 27, 11:00 a.m., at Legion Park in Hollidaysburg. No services Sunday at the church.

There will be a service on Saturday evening.

Repair of Knob and Tube wiring – Pastor reported that Cogan came in and looked at the wiring but has yet to get back with an estimate. She also contacted Affordable and Katowski but they declined. Ken contacted electricians, insurance companies and the fire inspector. They said if the wiring is not in bad shape and we're not doing major renovations, leave it alone. Following discussion, we decided to get bids from other companies. Jim will contact Cogan to get his bid.

New Business

2024 Church Budget – Barb met with Pastor to discuss the budget. The Finance Committee will meet. All committees need to get their budget changes to Barb by the second week of September.

Air Conditioner – the air conditioner is fixed. The problem was the condenser which had a factory defect. Pastor has tried to get a maintenance agreement. Jim will call to see if he can secure one.

Out of the Cold – Pastor Kevin has asked all the Altoona churches to have a Prayer Sanctuary during the winter months. Churches would open one day a week for the homeless to come in overnight to get warm and have a hot drink. Volunteers would man the doors. This would be for one night a week during the months of December through March. Council asked Pastor to invite Pastor Kevin to our next meeting to tell us more about the program.

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

The meeting was then adjourned.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Garritano

Next meeting: September 26, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.



Trinity Thank You

THANKS to Dana Thompson and Thompsons Pharmacy for the many prizes that were provided for the Church picnic. They donate gifts every year. THANKS AGAIN!

THANKS to Healthy You for the many baskets that were made for the Church Picnic.

ALSO, to Norma Stenger and Cindy Finnegan who took the time to make a basket for the picnic.

HOPE everyone had a great time, good food and most of all fellowship.

GOD BLESS TO ALL

Prayer List

Please keep the following people in your prayers ...

Trinity Members

Ted Baird
Tyler Bennett
Bennett Family
Ruth & Bob
Brubaker
William Burda
Church Health
Team
Church Council
Charon Clabaugh
Don Corl
Gary Crownover
Sondra Deffibaugh
Jane Eamigh
Maizie Emswiler
Allen Everhart
Jim Frederick
Garner Family
Tom Hammond
Kathy Hatch
Kristina Henderson
Bob Hofmann
Martha Jones

Trinity's Homebound Members

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

Those Serving in the Armed Forces

Sarah Brown
Jason Buck
Kyle Eberhart
Nathan Frank

Ryan Maguire
Justin Patz
Eric Sweet

Ken Adams
Donnie Alwine
Janet & Charlie Aungst
Scott Aungst
ALB
KCB
Dan Baughman
Gloria Beatty
Behe Family
Robin Behe
Kris Bennett
Dana Beschler
Zayne Bowmaster
Dee & Barry Bradfield
Damain Branas
Joseph Brewer
Terry Brown
Christopher Buchanan
John Bush
Randy Carothers
Sue Carter
Jeff Cipriani
Karen Claar
Tracee Cole
Elaine Conrad
Theresa Cooney
Scott Corl
Randy Corneilius Family
Janie Coyne
William Culp
Lisa Dalansky
Jordan DeFrancisco
Ethel Donley
Ken Eichenlaub
Ian Esper
Phil Esper
Ken Farabaugh
Fink Family
Paula Ford
Skyler Franell
Misty Franell
Haley Gehret
Pat Griffith
Thomas Hamilton
Bob Hamilton
John Hancuff

Family Members and Friends

Ann Hanczaryk
Katie Hanczaryk
Bob Harding
David K. Harpster
Donald Haslam
Tom Hatch
Virginia Heidler
Karli Hey
Samantha Januska
Nicki Kaltenbrunner
Carol King
Rebecca Kinney
Emerson Kutz
Cindy Lamont
Jan Lastaglia
Heather Leader
Anaya Leity
Steward Logan
Frank Luciano
BPM
Christine Maines
Linda Mardula
Steve Mardula, Sr
Ron Matta
Market Family
McConnell Family
McGilvery Family
Brandon McGraw
Linda Mowrer
Bill & Penny Murphy
Debbie Musante
Sharon Myers
Wyatt Nite
Zach Noel
Tammy Otto
Dennis Paulsen
Frances Pringle
Tommy S. Pringle
Lorenzo Recchia
Carl Ruckinger
Michael Ruckinger
Jeanne Rutherford
Evan Sanders & Family
Trudy Savine
Ronald Settle
Daryl Seymore

Judy Shaffer
Lynn Shaffer
Marilyn Shannon
Gloria Shoup
Debbie Smith
Dottie Stayer
Sultage Jr. Family
Lisa Ta & son Elliott Ta
Harry Taylor
Paul & Nina Wallis
Leeanne Walters
Jameson Joseph (JJ)
Williamson
Steve Wood
Tiquan Wright
Elsa
Jessie
Junie
Natalie
Baby Gwen
In spoken request "M"



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

September 2023

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

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



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

Lectionary Readings for the Month of September

Sep 3

Jeremiah 15:15-21
Psalm 26:1-8
Romans 12:9-21
Matthew 16:21-28

Sep 10

Ezekiel 33:7-11
Psalm 119:33-40
Romans 13:8-14
Matthew 18:15-20

Sep 17

Genesis 50:15-21
Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13
Romans 14:1-12
Matthew 18:21-35

Sep 24

Jonah 3:10--4:11
Psalm 145:1-8
Philippians 1:21-30
Matthew 20:1-16

In the Orbit This Month:

From the Pastor	1
Trinity President.....	2
.....	
Trinity Worship and Music	3
Trinity Aug Council Minutes	4
Trinity Thank You.....	6
Trinity Prayer List.....	7

Also worth mentioning...

The next Orbit Deadline is September 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!