

# The Orbit

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF  
TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ALTOONA PA  
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February 2024

" The English word Lent is the shorthand form of the Old English word (Lencten) meaning spring season."

Dictionary



## **From the Pastor:**

Lent is to be understood as the holy springtime of the soul, a time for preparation, planting and growth. Lent is not just about sorrow, sadness and death, just like the winter months are not just the time when the grass dies, and everything turns cold and bleak. Just like nature, things must go through a dying process in order to be reborn, and have new growth in the springtime. Lent is the time in a Christians life when we realize that we need to die to our old self in order to be ready when Christ gives us new life through the resurrection. We enter this period of Lenten repentance knowing that the hope of the resurrection would meet us as we emerge from our sins. Renewed, reborn, continuing to grow in our faith and discipleship. Springtime is an accurate description of the season of Lent, because that is what we are working towards. Springtime is the atonement of winter, when the trees come alive again, when the next generation of animals enters the world full of hope. When we reach the end of Lent we too will have our atonement, when Christ dies for us so that we may come alive again and enter eternal springtime.

Peace,



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## Trinity Council President

### FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

As I am writing this article for the first time as president of the church council, I guess old man winter has finally arrived, with the bitter cold and the snowflakes falling. We were very fortunate over the holidays to have nice weather, but we knew winter would arrive sooner or later. I hope the holidays were enjoyable for everyone. The church looked spectacular this year, as always. I would like to thank everyone who helped decorate and participate in the Christmas services. It takes everyone involved to make things go smoothly. The cookies, the cards, and the warm feelings you get from this holiday in particular are so meaningful. I would like to thank Pastor Eli for her beautiful services and Cindy, John, and Adam for their outstanding musical services, along with all of the special music participants.

It was very nice to see so many in attendance. Wouldn't it be nice to see that kind of attendance regularly? COVID took a lot of members away, and it sure would be nice to see them back. If you know or talk to someone, offer them a ride, and tell them it would be great to see them back.

I would like to thank the past president John Ebersole, vice-president Gerry Selfridge, and council member Barb Gosnell for their service on the church council. I would like to welcome Pam Mueller and Dave Metzgar as new members of the church council, along with our new vice president Lori Matta Rhode and dedicated council secretary Debbie Garritano, along with all the returning council members.

In closing, feel free to contact me (814-502-3529, or email [kbmyers56@verizon.net](mailto:kbmyers56@verizon.net)), or any council member, with any concerns or ideas that you might have to benefit our church.

Yours in faith,

Kenneth B. Myers



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## Trinity Happenings

Join us for a Shrove Tuesday pancake supper on February 13th from 5-7pm. There will be a free will offering taken.

We are collecting baskets for Easter for Eli. You may go to Sam's club and pick up a basket and make your own and then bring it to church or you may bring in your donation and we will make the basket. Monetary donations are always accepted as well.

Just a reminder that we have two youth groups that are active. The youth troop is for elementary age kids and meets the first Friday of the month from 6-7:30pm. Our Jr./Sr. high youth meet the 1st and 3rd Sunday from 6-7:30pm. Come and join in the fun.

As you read this we will be ready for the season of Lent. We will have worship services every Wednesday at Noon or 6:30 and will be looking at the Stations of the Cross. Please join us as part of your Lenten discipline.



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## Trinity Committees

**Healthy You and Social Ministry** are again proud to be supporting Easter for Eli through Trinity members. We are asking you to PLEASE make your basket(s) at home and bring them in no later than March 1st. Because of your overwhelming support for the kids in hospitals, it has become quite a task for us to sort and pack the baskets, we're asking for your help. NO FOOD OR CANDY can be included, each child has challenges with allergies, inability to chew or swallow, etc. Included here is a list of needs. We will have free baskets throughout the church if you want one or if you're including your family, friends, or groups, take more. All baskets need a tag/sticker marking boy/girl and age group and must be wrapped in a cellophane bag. If you aren't able to make a basket yourself that's ok, bring your items in and we will do it for you. We are counting on you for your usual support, for the kids!

THANK YOU

The Social and Evangelism Committee

There will be a Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday, February 13, 2024. Everyone is invited and to feel free to bring guests. A free will donation will be accepted and the funds will go for a worthy cause to be determined by Church council members.

The Pancake Supper will be served from 5:00pm to 7:00 pm. Come and share in the fellowship.

Thank you for helping in this matter.



# Trinity Council Dec 2023 Meeting Minutes

## Attendance

### Present

Pastor Eli  
John Ebersole 2025  
Geri Selfridge 2023  
Debbie Garritano 2025  
Lisa Bush 2024

Barb Gosnell 2023

Judy Hale 2024  
Lori Matta-Rhode 2024  
Ken Myers 2023

Nevin Woodring 2024  
Jim Buchanan 2025  
Pam Mueller 2026  
Dave Mueller 2026

### Greetings/Devotions

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

### Minutes from the last meeting.

Minutes from the November meeting were read with a correction made that Barb was absent from the November meeting. Lori made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Geri seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### Treasurer's Report

There was no Treasurer's report.

### Pastor Hess' Report

Pastor's report was presented as written. Christmas is coming. All shut-ins have been visited and communed. We are delivering a meal to a family and helping another with an electric bill. She had Bob Nearhoof's funeral. She has also been sending cards to those who have been missing from worship.

Ken made a motion to approve the report. Judy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### Committee Reports

Worship and Music – presented as written. Ken made a motion to accept the report as written. Barb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Property – Adam submitted a written report. He has repaired laminate on pews and a leg on a table. Lori made a motion to accept the report. Ken seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### Old Business

**Repair of Knob and Tube wiring** – John called Brad Adams to come and look at the wiring. Brent Cogan never gave a bid. Dave will talk to someone concerning the wiring.

### New Business

Christmas gifts – The Council voted unanimously to give staff a \$50.00 gift for Christmas.

**Election of Officers** – Officers were elected by paper vote.

**President – Ken Myers**

**Vice President – Lori Matta-Rhode**

**Secretary – Debbie Garritano**

### Other

Pastor reported that Pastor Kevin said the Warming Center will be held at the Overflow Church. They are looking for a group for Saturday breakfasts. The Warming Center will begin from January 8 to March 31. It will be open from 9 p.m. to 7 a.m. and will hold up to 20 people. Pastor Kevin is the pastor at the Transitional Church. Judy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lori seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The meeting was then adjourned.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Garritano

**Next meeting: January 23, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**



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## Trinity Thank You

THANK  
YOU

Thank you to the members at Trinity church for  
your cards and prayers.

It means a lot to me.

*Louis Gutshall*

*For orbit*

A special thank you for  
the Prayers, cards, flowers  
and visits during this  
difficult time, they were  
greatly appreciated. It has  
been a long hard road and  
I am thankful for our  
church family.

*God Bless*

*Butt Bumbaker*

# Prayer List

Please keep the following people in your prayers ...

## Trinity Members

Ted Baird	Kathy Hatch
Kristina Bennett	Bob Hofmann
Tyler Bennett	Martha Jones
Bennett Family	Garry Knee
Shelby Benzel	Jake Knisely
Gianna Berardinelli	Gary Lonsinger
Ruth Brubaker	Cheryl Luciano
William Burda	Jessica McGraw
Church Health Team	Ken B. Myers
Church Council	Bob Nearhoof Family
Charon Clabaugh	Jaden Rhode
Don Corl	Lisa Smearman
Gary Crownover	Sis Stenger
Sondra Deffibaugh	Fred Teigler
Maizie Emswiler	Michael Thompson
Allen Everhart	Wilkins Family
Jim Frederick	Harry Yeager
Garner Family	Nancy Yeager
Lois Gutshall	
Tom Hammond	

## Trinity's Homebound Members

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

## Those Serving in the Armed Forces

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

## Family Members and Friends

Donnie Alwine	Tom Haney	Tommy S. Pringle
Janet & Charlie Aungst	Bob Harding	Lorenzo Recchia
Scott Aungst	Brandon Harper & his 3 daughters	Carl Ruckinger
Dan Baughman	David K. Harpster	Michael Ruckinger
Gloria Beatty	Carol Haslam	Jeanne Rutherford
Behe Family	Donald Haslam	Evan Sanders
Robin Behe	Tom Hatch	Conner Sanders
Kris Bennett	Virginia Heidler	Sanders Family
Ramona Bennett & Family	Karli Hey	Trudy Savine
Dana Beschler	Emily Hileman	Ronald Settle
Zayne Bowmaster	Samantha Januska	Daryl Seymore
Dee & Barry Bradfield	Nicki Kaltenbrunner	Judy Shaffer
Damain Branas	Carol King	Lynn Shaffer
Joseph Brewer	Rebecca Kinney	Marilyn Shannon
Terry Brown	Dyalyn Lamond Family	Gloria Shoup
Christopher Buchanan	Cindy Lamont	Debbie Smith
Howard Burk	Jan Lastaglia	Dottie Stayer
John Bush	Heather Leader	Sultage Jr. Family
Sue Carter	Anaya Leity	Lisa Ta & son Elliott Ta
Jeff Cipriani	Steward Logan	Harry Taylor
Karen Claar	Lou Lohsl	Paul Wallis
Julian Colan	Bill Lytle	Leeanne Walters
Tracee Cole	Christine Maines	Jameson Joseph (JJ) Williamson
Elaine Conrad	Linda Mardula	Steve Wood
Theresa Cooney	Steve Mardula, Sr	Paul Wright
Scott Corl	Linda Matta	Tiquan Wright
Randy Corneilius Family	Ron Matta	Elsa
Janie Coyne	Market Family	Jessie
William Culp	McConnell Family	Junie
Lisa Dalansky	McGilvery Family	Natalie
Jorden DeFrancisco	Brandon McGraw	Baby Gwen
Courtney Diehl	Vicky Misko	Baby Madi
Ethel Donley	Nancy Mock	In spoken request "M"
Ken Eichenlaub	Kaitlin Morning	BPM
Ian Esper	Tom Morning	KCB
Phil Esper	Jess Mourabit	ALB
Ken Farabaugh	Linda Mowrer	JJM
Fink Family	Bill & Penny Murphy	RDG
Paula Ford	Debbie Musante	
Skyler Franell	Sharon Myers	
Misty Franell	Wyatt Nite	
Haley Gehret	Zach Noel	
Pat Griffith	Mary Oberneder	
Thomas Hamilton	Tammy Otto	
Bob Hamilton	Dennis Paulsen	
John Hancuff	Frances Pringle	
Katie Hanczaryk		



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 February

### Feb 4

Isaiah 40:21-31  
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c  
1 Corinthians 9:16-23  
Mark 1:29-39

### Feb 11

2 Kings 2:1-12  
Psalm 50:1-6  
2 Corinthians 4:3-6  
Mark 9:2-9

### Feb 18

Genesis 9:8-17  
Psalm 25:1-10  
1 Peter 3:18-22  
Mark 1:9-15

### Feb 25

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16  
Psalm 22:23-31  
Romans 4:13-25  
Mark 8:31-38

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## Also worth mentioning...

## The next Orbit Deadline is February 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!**