

The Orbit

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

"How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard and on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes. It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the Lord ordained his blessing, life forevermore."

Psalm 133



From the Pastor:

I love this psalm because it speaks about unity and living together and I picked it for the August newsletter because it reminds me of the church picnic. Being a church with three service times sometimes feels as though we have three separate congregations. However, when we have one service, like on the day of the picnic or music Sunday, we get to have unity. It's not that we don't have unity other times, this congregation is great at coming together for a cause or a need in the church or the community, but having that fellowship together is important. We try to have unifying events like souper bowl Sunday, the pancake supper, church picnic and music Sunday but sometimes we need to be reminded that we are one congregation, one church. Each of our three services have different personalities but we have the same goal, to worship God and serve others. The other thing that the church picnic serves to remind us about unity is that we can still be different but be unified. People bring all sorts of different dishes to the picnic and together they make for a wonderful meal. If everyone brought the same dish it would not only be boring, but I bet we would have a lot leftover. Living together in unity is a beautiful thing, it means that we all have the same purpose, to be disciples of Christ.

Peace,



Trinity Council President

FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

I sure hope everyone had a happy 4th of July. It was a great day until the fireworks were to go off, when some rain was predicted for the evening, rather than earlier in the day. Fortunately, the good Lord gave us time so DelGrosso's could get their fireworks display off a little early before the rain started. I watched them on TV, but for the families who were down there to watch them, I'm sure they were spectacular because they looked nice on TV.

It's hard to believe how July is flying by. The weather has just been brutal with the heat for everyone, but the water parks are having an outstanding year for sure. The farmers along with some us around here are hoping to get some rain for just not their crops, but also our gardens and grass. I'm sure if you have a pool, or if your family or friends have one, that they are being used from morning to night.

With August upon us, Trinity is having some nice activities. Vacation Bible school will be starting on Sunday, August 4th through Thursday, August 8th, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. daily. The theme this year is Camp Firelight. I know there has been many people involved, and I'm sure we will have a good turnout as we have had in past years. I want to thank everyone who has participated. It's greatly appreciated.

Let us also not forget the church picnic, which will be held on Sunday, August 25th, at Legion Park in Hollidaysburg. There will be a short service starting at 11 a.m. followed by a picnic including church provided hot dogs and drinks. Please remember to bring your favorite covered dish to share. I know some families will probably be on vacation, but for those who can attend, please do, because it's always nice to see everyone and have great fellowship together. I sure hope the weather cooperates for us, as it has in past years.

Just a reminder, in July we did a project for the Central PA Humane Society, we called it "Fill the Pastor's Truck." We collected donations of cat and dog food, linens, laundry detergents, and disinfecting wipes, which are in dire need. I know things have been tough for all of us these past couple years, but for the items and things collected I'm sure those who care for them, were more than thankful. The dogs and cats I'm sure are happy, and are thanking us with their barks and meows. Thanks again for all of the donations that this congregation gives to these worthy causes.

The church has been staying cool with the new AC unit, and we have been having a nice turnout for our regular services. If you know of anyone who is looking for a service or possibly a new church to attend, please invite them to one of our services. Let them know that there is a Saturday night service, and there are 2 services on Sunday morning. They would be more than welcome and it would be nice to see some new faces.

It won't be long until the kids will be back in school, and the Sunday School classes will be starting up soon. I hope that everyone had an enjoyable and safe summer.

For those who don't know, our council Vice President, Lori Matta-Rhode, along with her son, Jaden, are relocating to the Chicago area to help care for her parents. She will be greatly missed, and we wish them the best with their endeavors in the future.

Thank you.
Yours in Faith.
Kenneth B. Myers



Trinity Council Meeting Minutes June 2024

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Minutes of June 25, 2024

Debbie Garritano, Secretary

Attendance

Present

Pastor Eli

Lisa Bush 2024

Judy Hale 2024

Lori Matta-Rhode 2024

Ralph Grove

Ken Myers 2026

Nevin Woodring 2024

Chris Thompson 2025

Dave Mueller 2026

Absent

John Ebersole 2025

Debbie Garritano 2025

Adam Counterman 2025

Jim Buchanan 2025

Pam Mueller 2026

Greetings/Devotions

The meeting was called to order by President Ken Myers at 7:04 p.m. Pastor Eli led us in prayer.

Minutes from last meeting

Minutes from the May meeting were read. Judy made a motion to accept the minutes. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Ralph presented a printout. He reported that all is up to date and that the computer and printer are finally working correctly. He is looking to shred old records being stored downstairs. He is continuing to work with Tom Settle. Members asked about a maintenance agreement on the air conditioner, but one was never provided by Johnston, who installed the system. Judy made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Nevin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

Pastor presented a written report. She has been involved with three funerals as well as many hospital and Encompass Health visits. She has also officiated at one wedding and had several pre-wedding meetings with couples. She is serving as the vacancy pastor at Grace Bellwood and is working on Vacation Bible School, future Bible studies, and Adult Sunday School.



Trinity Council Meeting Minutes June 2024

Committee Reports

Worship and Music – Will meet again in August.

Christian Education – Met June 25 to discuss Vacation Bible School, which will be held Aug. 4-8. Plans are moving along. Decorations will be going up slowly after the Fourth of July to pique the children's interest.

Old Business

Church Picnic – The church picnic has been set for 11:00 a.m. Aug. 25 at Legion Park. There will be no services at the church that day. Donations of water and soda as well as monetary donations are being solicited. Picnic goers are asked to bring a covered dish. The church will provide hot dogs, buns, plates, napkins, and silverware. Pastor Eli reported attendance averages about 100 people.

Knob & Tube Wiring – Ken has calls out to contractors for bids to replace the lights with LEDs in the sanctuary, but no one has responded yet. Council plans to replace the lights in the large Sunday school room as well. The LEDs will be more cost-efficient and reduce the voltage on the electrical system.

Synod Assembly – Judy, Debbie, Debbie and Pastor Eli attended the assembly June 15 at the Blair County Convention Center.

Pastoral Vacancies -- Pastors Drew and Amanda McCaffrey will be moving to Bel Air, Md., so Bethany Lutheran, St. James, and St. Luke's in Roaring Spring will be without a pastor and looking for a replacement.

New Business

Church Van – Adam is interested in purchasing the church van since it is not being used very much. It is 30 years old and has around 90,000 miles on it. Judy made a motion to sell the van. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried. The council will announce that an offer has been made and that any other interested parties should solicit a bid.

Summer Break – Council will not meet in July as members will take a summer hiatus. The next meeting will be Aug. 27.

Sewing Group – Judy announced that the group would like to place a plaque on one of the three existing benches on the church grounds in memory of group member Lois Gutshall. Council gave verbal approval without a formal motion.

Resignation --- Lori submitted her resignation from Church Council and the vice presidency as she will be relocating to Illinois. Pastor and Ken thanked Lori for her service.

Ralph made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Judy seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Matta-Rhode
For Debbie Garritano



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Trinity “Thank You”

I would like to deeply and sincerely thank the members of Trinity for their ongoing kindness, support, and prayers for me and my son, Jaden, during my time as a member of the congregation. I have immensely enjoyed being a part of this congregation for the last nine years and serving as a lector and on Church Council and performing in the Hand Chimes and Adult Vocal Choirs. Trinity is truly a very special place with special people, and I will always hold a place in my heart for it. I will miss you all, but I hope to return to visit soon.

Yours in Christ,
Lori Matta
601 Nelson Lane
Westmont, IL 60559
lori.l.matta71@gmail.com



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Trinity Happenings

August 4th-8th is Vacation Bible School. 6 pm-8 pm

August 25th is the church picnic. We will meet at Legion Park in Hollidaysburg at 11 am for worship with the picnic to follow. Please bring a covered dish to share.

Prayer List

Please keep the following people in your prayers ...

Trinity Members

Ted Baird	Martha Jones
Tyler Bennett	Shel Kauffman
Kristina Bennett	Garry Knee
Shelby Benzel	Jake Knisely
Gianna Berardinelli	Cheryl Luciano
Ruth Brubaker	Jessica McGraw
William Burda	Ken B. Myers
Church Council	Jaden Rhode
Church Health Team	Lisa Smearman
Charon Clabaugh	Fred Teigler
Don Corl	Michael Thompson
Gary Crownover	Steve Thompson
Sondra Deffibaugh	Wilkins Family
Matthew Edevane	Josh Wilson
Maizie Emswiler	Nancy Yeager
Allen Everhart	Harry Yeager
Tom Hammond	Stephanie Yeager
Kathy Hatch	Hamilton
Bob Hofmann	

Trinity's Homebound Members

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

Those Serving in the Armed Forces

Jason Buck	Ryan Maguire
Kyle Eberhart	Justin Patz
Nathan Frank	

Family Members and Friends

David Aikens	Shawn Harding	Frances Pringle
Donnie Alwine	Brandon Harper & daughters	Tommy S. Pringle
Janet & Charlie Aungst	David K. Harpster	Fred Putt
Scott Aungst	Donald Haslam	Lorenzo Recchia
Dan Baughman	Carol Haslam	Carl Ruckinger
Robin Behe	Tom Hatch	Donald Ruckinger
Behe Family	Karli Hey	Jeanne Rutherford
Kris Bennett	Emily Hileman	Conner Sanders
Ramona Bennett Family	Ed Hoover	Evan Sanders
Dana Beschler	Eli Hughes	Sanders family
Zayne Bowmaster	Samantha Januska	Trudy Savine
Chet Boyer	Nicki Kaltenbrunner	Ronald Settle
Dee & Barry Bradfield	Rebecca Kinney	Daryl Seymore
Damian Branas	Dyalyn Lamond Family	Judy Shaffer
Terry Brown	Cindy Lamont	Lynn Shaffer
Christopher Buchanan	Jan Lastaglia	Marilyn Shannon
John Bush	Heather Leader	Gloria Shoup
Sue Carter	Stewart Logan	Linda Smellings
Jeff Cipriani	Lou Lohsl	Debbie Smith
Julian Colan	Joyce Longstreth	Dottie Stayer
Tracee Cole	Anthony Luciano	Harry Taylor
Theresa Cooney	Jameson Lytle	Lisa Turek
Scott Corl	Linda Mardula	Paul Wallis
Carl Corle	Steve Mardula, Sr	Jameson Joseph "JJ"
Randy Corneilius family	Market Family	Williamson
Janie Coyne	Chris Mathieu	Steve Wood
William Culp	Ron Matta	Paul Wright
Lisa Dalansky	Linda Matta	Tiquan Wright
Jorden DeFrancisco	McConnell Family	Baby Gwen
Ethel Donely	McGilvary Family	Baby Madi
Phil Esper	Carmen & Harry	Elsa
Ian Esper	McGonical	Jessie
Fink Family	Brandon McGraw	Junie
Paula Ford	Nancy Mock	Natalie
Skyler Franell	Jess Mourabit	In spoken request "M"
Misty Franell	Linda Mowrer	ALB
Haley Gehret	Tom Morning	BPM
Pat Griffith	Bill & Penny Murphy	KCB
Thomas Hamilton	Sandy Myers	JJM
Bob Hamilton	Sharon Myers	RDG
John Hancuff	Georgie Nauser	
Katie Hanczaryk	Wyatt Nite	
Tom Haney	Zach Noel	
Bob Harding	Tammy Otto	
	Dennis Paulsen	



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 August

August 4

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15
Psalm 78:23-29
Ephesians 4:1-16
John 6:24-35

August 11

1 Kings 19:4-8
Psalm 34:1-8
Ephesians 4:25—5:2
John 6:35, 41-51

August 18

Proverbs 9:1-6
Psalm 34:9-14
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

August 25

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18
Psalm 34:15-22
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6:56-69

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Also worth mentioning...

The next Orbit Deadline is August 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!