

# *TRINITY HIGHLIGHTS*

## *JULY 2020*

*The monthly newsletter of  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Greencastle, PA*

Dear Family,

Soon, we'll be celebrating July 4, Independence Day. The day has lost its meaning over the years. Today, many people look on Independence Day as a chance for picnics and fireworks. This year it will be particularly difficult as people wrestle with how to celebrate safely with Covid19 still very much a part of the landscape.

Independence Day is much more than a time for fun and celebration. It's actually the day we commemorate the signing of the Declaration of Independence. In 1776, the Continental Congress declared that the thirteen American colonies were no longer subject to the monarch of Britain, King George III, and were now united, free, and independent states. Becoming free came with a price, though. The war for freedom lasted from 1775 – 1783.

With Independence Day looming, I've been reflecting on what freedom means. We disciples of Jesus have a unique perspective that might help us with all the uncertainty and tension that abounds at the moment.

There's a lot of discussion in the Bible about freedom. The definition of freedom in the Bible is hard to hear as Americans. Our culture is firmly based on the idea of individualism. I've heard a lot over the last few weeks about individual rights and in the United States we get to do what we want. I wonder what Jesus would have us do?

The inner circle of Jesus' followers asked Him to teach them to pray. We use that prayer a lot, at meetings, in our personal devotions and every worship service. We call it the Lord's Prayer. Here's a small section that will be familiar:

*Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. (Matt 6:10)*

YOUR kingdom come. YOUR will be done. Freedom for Jesus seems to have a much different meaning. Instead of freedom to do whatever we want, our deepest freedom is doing and becoming what GOD wants. As we've seen over and over again in Scripture after Scripture, that doing and becoming is grounded in love; love for yourself and love for your neighbor.

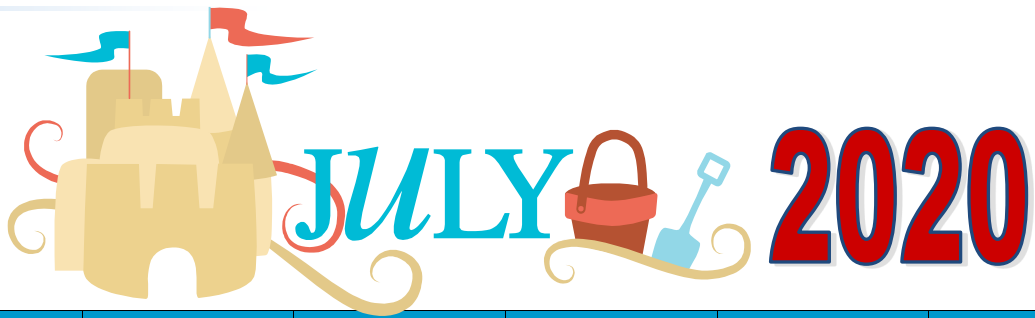
As Luther asks often in the Small Catechism, "What does this mean?" I wonder if it means that, first and foremost, we pray daily for God to fill our hearts with open hearted love and compassion. I wonder if perhaps it means letting go of our own way of thinking, to really listen to someone else's point of view. I wonder if it means putting on a mask, even if it's uncomfortable, because someone around you might be immune compromised and at risk for serious complications from Covid. I wonder if it means being open to different styles of worship music knowing a brother or sister will be blessed. I wonder if it means... you fill in the blank.

The freedom Jesus calls us to isn't a freedom from but a freedom for. There is always a cost. The cost for spiritual freedom is losing your life – your ego and focus on yourself – and finding true freedom in the love of God. May we at Trinity live into that freedom.

God bless you!

*Pastor Barb*





# JULY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Prayer 6PM Via Zoom	3	4
5 Park & Pray 10 AM  Staple Food Bags at home	6	7  Finance 7PM via Zoom	8  Council 7PM via Zoom	9  Prayer 6PM Via Zoom	10	11
12 Park & Pray 10 AM	13	14	15	16	17	18 Distribute food bags—9AM
19 Park & Pray 10 AM	20	21	22	23  Prayer 6PM Via Zoom	24	25
26 Worship 10 AM Collect food after worship	27	28	29	30  Prayer 6PM Via Zoom	31	

## Worship with us ONLINE!

Even as we experiment with Park and Pray car worship with an eye to ultimately returning to the sanctuary, **we will continue to provide worship online** via the Website, You Tube and Face Book for those who feel safer worshipping from home. Please like and share each worship service so we can have the widest exposure. This is one way Trinity Lutheran can “Share Christ in Word and Deed.”

### NEIGHBORHOOD FOOD PANTRY PICK-UP



Food insecurity will be on the rise as safety nets are stopped and the county reaches the green phase in COVID response. Placing bags on the doors in our neighborhood, asking them to fill the bags with food and then collecting the food is a safe activity that can make a

big difference for our hungry neighbors. We will not stay to put the food on the shelves. The room is simply too small for safe social distancing. Each team will be a family unit assigned to a specific area to keep ourselves safely distanced.

Our mission is “Sharing Christ in Word and Deed.”

**How can you help share Christ with our brothers and sisters in need? Call the office to let us know.**

July 12: We will hand out bags to be stapled at home and brought back to church.

July 18: We will gather at the church and hang bags on doors in our neighborhood.

July 26: We will be sent out after worship to collect the food and bring to the Greencastle/Antrim food pantry at the Presbyterian Church.

### PRAY FOR TRINITY

Each Thursday at 6PM we meet to pray for the congregation of Trinity Lutheran, Greencastle. We pray for the family and ask God's guidance as we move forward in renewal. Please join us via Zoom or set your phone alarm to pray from where you are.

YOU CAN HELP

### FEED HUNGRY FAMILIES



God invites we who are richly blessed to share what we have with those who are struggling. Many people in our community are furloughed or have lost their

jobs because of the COVID19 Pandemic. We are the church who feeds the hungry. Currently there is a need for canned fruits and vegetables. Please consider dropping by to place something in the food pantry box by the front door when you go to the grocery store. It is what Jesus would have us do.



God has blessed Trinity with an abundance. Many of our family give time, talent and supplies behind the scenes so our work as the people of God can happen. Each month we will take some time to say thank you. You are appreciated! If you know of someone who should be on this list, call the office.

- Charlie Ford: Continues to mow the lawn
- Dave Cline and Darrell Swart: Testing and re-searching the equipment for car worship
- Ralph Burdick: Organizing logistics for the Park and Pray worship
- Sue Wunderlich: Wiping down the bathrooms before and after Park and Pray
- Ralph Burdick, Lars Thomas, Allen Shank: Ushers for our first Park and Pray worship
- Dave Wolfe: Assisting Minister for our first Park and Pray worship
- Family at Trinity: Continue to connect with one another with cards, prayers and phone calls
- Family at Trinity: Continue to practice the spiritual discipline of tithing supporting the ministry and mission of Trinity Lutheran Greencastle.
- Brandon Sidoli: Offered hours videotaping, editing and downloading Sunday worship. Providing sound for our first Park and Pray worship along with Facebook Live and subsequent downloading of the worship to YouTube.
- Hannah Ruffner: Cantor for our videotaped Sunday services
- Pam Arnold and Don Berger: Coming into the office to count the weekly tithes
- Carol Swart: In spite of sickness and hospitalization, continues her work as treasurer.



### THANK YOU NOTE

From Carol Swart:  
*Thank you to our church family for the calls, prayers and cards! It is overwhelming the love we feel from our family.*

# MUSIC News

LEGATO! That means connected in musical language, and in this article I am just trying to stay connected to each of you. I trust the music on the recorded services and on Zak's Piano and Organ Recital and *The Concert of Favorites* has been a blessing to you! I have greatly appreciated partnering with Hannah Ruffner on a weekly basis to record the service music. And Brandon Sidoli has been an amazing blessing with his expertise with running the equipment (his own by the way, thank you very much) and with his pleasant attitude throughout. Once we get the correct equipment and get it up and running we hope to bring some specials from Zak Reynolds and Hannah.

The organ unfortunately gets very temperamental when the humidity levels change and with the AC set understandably to a higher temperature, the organ plays and holds random notes depending on the week. This is why you have not heard the organ recently in any of the recordings. Ken Shockey, however, played it in June and is working on a project recording music on and the history of the four pipe organs in Greencastle churches. One of these days you should see his recording in the video section of [tlcgreencastle.org](http://tlcgreencastle.org).

Choir and praise teams, you are greatly missed! Won't it be amazing when we can be together again and "sing praises [to the One whose] lovingkindness is great above the heavens; and [whose] truth reaches to the skies?!" (Psalm 108:4)



## OUR TRINITY FAMILY IN THE NEWS

We haven't been gathering in the building to see the bulletin board. Several of our family have been in the news.

### **Zak Reynolds and Hannah Ruffner:**

Participated in both district and regional choruses. Zak accompanied the all-state chorus.

**Candy Mowen:** Pictured with Mayor Ben Thomas of Greencastle after organizing the successful Classmates for a Cause Cancer Golf Tournament.

**Greencastle/Antrim HS Honor Roll:** Dorian Pryke, Alexis Barbuzanes, Grace Cessna, Larson Thomas, Brandon Sidoli, Connor Cline

**Darrell Swart:** Organized the 5,000 gal milk drop in Waynesboro.

**Andy Gehr:** Contributed to the milk drop.

**Hannah Ruffner:** Pictured on her porch for the Greencastle/Antrim virtual prom.

**Connor Kline:** Greencastle/Antrim HS graduating senior, picture and bio.

**Candy Mowen:** Longest drive on hole No. 12 at the Member-Member Golf Tournament

### **Greencastle/Antrim HS End of Year**

**Awards:** Larson Thomas, World History Honors; Grace Cessna, Algebra II; Zak Reynolds And Hannah Ruffner, National School Choral Award

**Brandon Sidoli:** Pictured taping the National Day of Prayer Service at Trinity.



## WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN GOD?

The Renewal Team continues to invite our family to notice God active in our lives. The more we notice God in our lives; the more we'll see God as the anchor on which we stand both personally and as a family of faith. **Send us your God moments and we will share them next week in the Parish News.** *Here are some ways our congregation saw God this week:*

- In all the people who have been bringing food to the church for the Food Pantry.
- In my garden which is now producing zucchinis and cucumbers.
- God's creation in the backyard with the animals and plants.
- In my prayers every day.

## THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is now on hold until September due to busy summer schedules. God doesn't take a vacation! Please make time for personal spiritual practices of prayer, meditation, Bible reading, weekly worship and nurturing faith conversations.





The youth committee met over Zoom on June 24 and discussed that the National Gathering planning is on hold for the moment due to Covid-19. We are currently working on a fundraising letter for those who might want to give a donation online through our Church's website. We decided we should still continue to fundraise in case the National Gathering does actually happen. If not, the funds raised will be saved for next time.

We have continued to offer a weekly opportunity for the Youth to join on Zoom for a weekly devotion and chat time for catching up with each other. So far only some college graduates have been joining.

We plan to try to engage the youth by the youth directors making phone calls to each of them to check in. When it is safe to do so we would like to have an outdoor meeting to get the youth engaged with youth group again and work on fostering relationships.

### **SPECIAL APPEAL THANKS**

From Ronald McDonald House:

*In a time when there is so much need, we are thankful for your dedication to the families we serve. Your generous donation of \$274 makes it possible for us to continue to serve families during these challenging times.*

From Spiritrust Lutheran:

*In this extraordinary time, we deeply value your congregation's recent contribution of \$214. In the midst of uncertainty, you are helping to sustain our mission, making a critical difference for every person we serve.*

From Project Big Love:

*Thank you for your gift of \$215 to Project Big Love. Your generosity and willingness helps to impact the lives of children in Franklin County, PA and surrounding areas.*

### **JULY SPECIAL APPEAL**

The Special Appeal for July is designated for our companion congregation, Ukukwe Congregation. The Ukukwe congregation is part of the Konde Diocese of the Lutheran Church in Tanzania. The Konde Diocese is the sister synod of our Lower Susquehanna Synod. If you desire to make a monetary donation, please mark your envelope for Special Appeal or use the white envelope in the pew rack and mark it "Special Appeal".

### **PARK AND PRAY SERVICE JUNE 28, 2020**



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**MAY THE PEACE OF GOD,  
WHICH SURPASSES ALL UNDERSTANDING,  
KEEP OUR HEARTS AND MINDS  
IN CHRIST JESUS.**

PHILIPPIANS 4:7



These are unprecedented times swirling with fear and anger. Issues around masks and racial unrest abound. As Christians it might be helpful for us to pause, take a breath and seek God's direction. What would Jesus have us do?

### **Meditation from *Jesus Calling***

*Those of steadfast mind you keep in peace — in peace because they trust in you. (Isaiah 26:3)*

Welcome challenging times as opportunities to trust Me. You have Me beside you and My Spirit within you, so no set of circumstances is too much for you to handle. When the path before you is dotted with difficulties, beware of measuring your strength against those challenges. That calculation is certain to riddle you with anxiety. Without Me, you wouldn't make it past the first hurdle!

The way to walk through demanding days is to grip My hand tightly and stay in close communication with Me. Let your thoughts and spoken words be richly flavored with trust and thankfulness. Regardless of the day's problems, *I can keep you in perfect Peace* as you stay close to Me.

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**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.