

A photograph showing a portion of a globe on the left and a white ceramic vase filled with purple and pink flowers on the right. The vase is tied with a white ribbon. The background is a soft-focus green garden.

# TRINITY HIGHLIGHTS

## AUGUST 2020

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

Dear Family,

The summer heat is upon us! Many gardeners are out mornings or evenings, depending on schedules, watering and tending gardens. Otherwise, it's too hot. The drought adds to the challenge; yet the plants persist. This is a growing time.

This is the growing time in the church year as well. With car worship outside we aren't using vestments for worship due to the heat. It's easy to miss that this is the "green" season, the season after Pentecost. We remembered the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Now, until Advent in November, we'll explore the ways in which the Holy Spirit calls us to BE the church.

How are we "church" when gathering in large crowds is discouraged? The current plan is to begin gathering inside on Sunday, Sept 20. But that depends on a whole lot of factors about safety, risk and medical recommendations. The Worship and Music Team is meeting to draw up safety guidelines for council approval. It's a process!

In the meantime, we are discovering the building isn't the church; WE are the church. But what, exactly does that mean? Surely, it's more than sitting each Sunday in the parking lot or in front of the computer watching the service.

Jesus is really clear.

*"Strive first for the kingdom of God and His Righteousness..." (Matthew 6: 33)*

I recently attended a webinar which presented what I consider a rather shocking idea. In his letters, Paul lifts up growth as a primary reason for worshipping as a community. We practice discipleship among ourselves so we can move out and BE Christ for our hurting neighbors. It's an intriguing notion. Transformation of our hearts, living out our faith, is the intent. Growth is a process. Yet, if we are the same people responding to life and one another in the same ways year after year, we aren't paying attention.

Commitment to growing in our relationship with God is paramount to a healthy spiritual life. Yes, God loves you exactly as you are right now. That's grace! And God loves you too much to want you to stay there. That's grace too! We are invited to a deeper commitment to discipleship and following Jesus.

That's why we're forming a small group of 3 – 5 people to explore ways of following Jesus in spiritual practice, spiritual friendship, worship and accountability. Please pray about what this would look like and whether God is calling you to join. Spiritual growth involves a commitment to the inner work of transformation. God loves you! We respond by loving in return.

God bless you in your journey!

*Pastor Barb*





# 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Park and Pray 9AM	3  Renewal Team Via Zoom 7PM	4	5	6  Prayer 6PM	7	8
9 Park and Pray 9AM	10	11  Finance Team Via Zoom 7PM	12  Council via Zoom 7PM	13  Prayer 6PM Worship & Music Via Zoom 7PM	14	15
16 Park and Pray 9AM	17	18	19	20  Prayer 6PM	21	22
23 Park and Pray 9AM	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 Park and Pray 9AM	31					

# COME 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 worshiping 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."



## HOLY COMMUNION COMING TO PARK AND PRAY

Several of our family are asking for the solace and nourishment of Holy Communion. The Worship and Music team focused on the logistics of the Park and Pray car worship before adding another worship element. Beginning Sunday, Aug 2, we will add Communion to our service using pre-packaged kits to ensure your safety with a host and grape juice. This is an experiment. Please email or call the office with your feedback about the ease of using the kits, opening them etc. We are aware this is not an ideal solution. However, in this age of Coronavirus we are trying to creatively encounter Jesus in worship while also considering safety.



## SMALL GROUP FORMING

God loves you! The invitation is to respond to God's love with love.

We come to church not only to worship but to grow in spiritual

maturity. The people of God gather to inhale the Spirit and breathe out love ministering to one another and then the neighborhood sharing Christ in word and deed. We become overwhelmed by stress and challenge with weak spiritual muscles. And God knows we are beyond stressed and challenged in these uncertain times.

Taking seriously God's invitation to grow, we are forming a **small group of 3 to 5 people. Please take time to pray for direction as to whether you are called to participate and what form the group will take.**

Please call the office (717-597-9348) or pastor to sign up.

## THANK YOU TRINITY!

On behalf of the Greencastle-Antrim Food Pantry, I want to thank Trinity Lutheran church for the donation of food that we received on Sunday. We were able to fill many empty shelves in the pantry. We are grateful for the continued support of your church. May God bless you in his work.

*Barbara Grane, president*



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.

- Don Swart stepped in to preach the Sunday of Pastor's vacation.
- Donna and Bud Wolfe continue to take care of trash in the building.
- Brandon Sidoli works tirelessly helping with sound, Facebook Live and downloading worship to YouTube for the park and pray car worship.
- Ivan Wingert helps with set-up every Sunday for park and pray.
- Ushers for Park and Pray: Ralph Burdick, Alan Shank, Karla and Kippy Smith, Darrell Swart, Lars Thomas and Charlie Ford.
- Assisting Ministers for Park and Pray: Dave Wolfe, Hannah Ruffner, Charlie Ford, Don Swart
- Charlie Ford mows the lawn each week
- Tom Sidoli: Added the Park and Pray worship to our front sign.
- Mary Thomas for the brochure holders she found on sale at ReStore.
- Family of Trinity: Donating food for the food pantry, continuing to support the ministry of Trinity with their tithes.
- Beth Miller, Alan Shank, Leah Porto, Karla Smith helped prep bags for food collection project.



*Some of the food delivered to food pantry*



We continue to have a weekly zoom check in and short devotion Tuesday evenings at 7:30PM. Reach out to Rachelle if you need the link to join us!

The ELCA Youth Gathering Team has announced that the Gathering is moving to the summer of 2022. It is now scheduled for July 24-28, 2022. The Gathering will still be held in Minneapolis, MN.



### SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

Project Big Love, a large non-profit group that helped distribute school supplies to needy children, cancelled their drive this year because of the Covid upsurge in PA. Social services agencies are scrambling to fill the gap. Waynesboro Human and Community Services requests our help. They serve families in the Greencastle-Antrim and Waynesboro Area School Districts.

Our congregation will focus on collecting six items which are always in short supply during this time. They are:

- Single and 4 Count Highlighters
- 4 Count Dry Erase Markers
- Backpacks
- Paper and Plastic Pocket Folders with Clasps
- Wide Ruled Notebook Paper
- 1 Inch Three Ring Binders

We have a short window to make a difference. **The supplies need to be collected by Aug 5.** There will be a box by the front door or you can bring your donated supplies to worship on Sunday.

### HELP IS AVAILABLE

If you know of a family in the Waynesboro or Greencastle School Districts who needs help with school supplies or clothes, please have them sign up with Waynesboro Area Community and Human Services. They can call 717-762-6941 or use the website at [www.wchs.pa.org](http://www.wchs.pa.org). A curbside distribution of back to school supplies for those who have signed up will be held on August 10 and 11. Appointments for families to shop in the Clothing Bank for school clothing will be held on August 13 and 14.



### 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 the sunrise at the shore.
- My son will be able to be tested via a rapid turnaround Covid test so he and his family can travel home.
- In my prayers of concern for my brother-in-law suffering from metastasized cancer.
- Going down the road. AND when he told me to purchase and donate food and school supplies.



### 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.

- Greencastle/Antrim Middle School Awards: 6<sup>th</sup> grade All A's - Lydia Pryke and Josie Thomas. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade All A's - Abbie Wolfe
- Alan Shank and Pastor Barb pictured at the first Park and Pray Car Worship
- Park and Pray Car Worship has been in the community news with the new time of 9AM

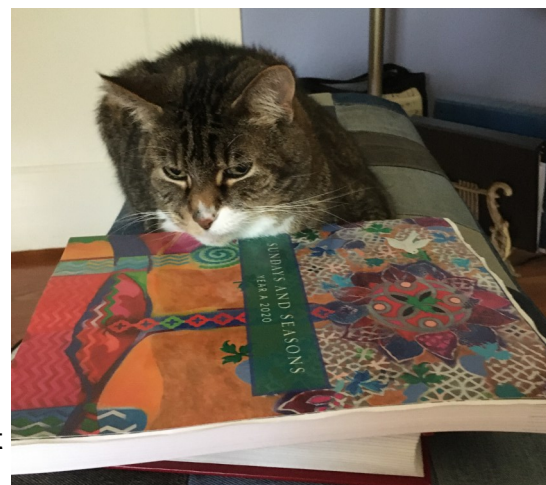




I am so grateful that music continues to be an integral part of worship at Trinity! Didn't Hannah and Zak do a fabulous job leading us in "The Prayer" for the July 12 worship service?!

Worship and Music Committee is seriously discussing what services will look like once we move inside and how vocal and instrumental duets, trios and small ensembles can be a part of that. And I am still practicing the organ thanks to Dave Wolfe visiting the organ chamber to correct some sticking ciphors. It has been working beautifully ever since!

Planning is a big part of each worship service and I thought you might enjoy seeing one of my "helpers" at home when I am planning from Augsburg's *Sundays and Seasons* publication. The photo is of my cat Castro seriously pondering *Sundays and Seasons*.



### Used Book Sale

The Book Sale Committee has made the difficult decision to cancel the Used Book Sale this year due to the current pandemic. Please continue to save books for next year's sale.

## ANNUAL BOOK SALE

### AUGUST SPECIAL APPEAL

The Special Appeal for August is the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. God richly provides for daily bread — the earth can produce enough food for everyone. Yet, many of our sisters and brothers still go hungry. Nearly 800 million people — that's 1 in 10 people in our world today — are hungry. As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond.

Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty. There will be special envelopes available or use the white envelope in the pew rack and mark it "Special Appeal".

**Trinity Highlights  
is a publication of  
Trinity Lutheran Church**

**1186 Jason Drive, Greencastle, PA 17225**

**Rev. Barbara Barry, Pastor**

**Office Phone: 717-597-9348**

**Office Email: [tlcsecoffice@gmail.com](mailto:tlcsecoffice@gmail.com)**

## STEWARDSHIP OUR FUTURE CHURCH

For clarifying our thoughts and helping us to reset priorities, there's nothing like a crisis — whether it's a job layoff, a death in the family, social upheaval or a health emergency.

With Covid-19 we've witnessed plenty of all of these, and more! Despite our natural resistance to change, we're learning new ways to live. *As a disciple of Christ*, what thoughts have clarified for you? *As a follower of Jesus*, what personal priorities have you reset?

The questions arise because you are the church, we are the church together and stewards of the church. We will pray the Holy Spirit will guide us to a "new normal" of holy living as both disciples and community that will be different — and better — than what we've known.

What might that look like? Here are some questions to pray over and discuss:

- When your church suspended in-person worship, what ways did you find to stay connected to God? To one another? What did this teach you about holy living? About being church together?
- Covid-19 forced us to "be church" without buildings. What has this revealed about the nature of
- community? About the value of buildings? As we go back into our buildings, how can things be different? Why must they be?
- In light of what we've learned, what values, ideas, traditions, habits should we let go of? Which should we keep? What really matters? And why?
- How can your insights, strengths and gifts help to shape the future of your life as a disciple and follower of Jesus? Of your congregation? What can you give to the future church in time, talent and treasure?

Covid-19's crises are still teaching us. As stewards of God's church, we can renew and restructure our church to fulfill God's mission. With God's guidance, we will.

--Rob Blezard