



TRINITY HIGHLIGHTS

OCTOBER 2020

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

Dear Family,

Life continues despite pandemics. Even so, nothing really feels the same. The specter of the pandemic blankets everything. We've moved from the excitement of "Yes! We can do this" to "Seriously, do we STILL have to do this?"

It's hard and as a family of faith many people are starting to feel disconnected; we haven't really been able to gather together for some time. We feel disconnected from church, disconnected from each other, and consequently disconnected from God.

Social distancing doesn't have to mean isolation. Connection comes in many forms, but it does take effort. Now, more than ever, we need to take seriously God's invitation to BE the church. Each one of us in the family has a part to play in building a healthy, vital, and dynamic congregation which takes God's mission of love seriously.

I especially appreciate the translation of Ephesians 4: 15-16 from "The Living Bible."

¹⁵⁻¹⁶ ...we will lovingly follow the truth at all times—speaking truly, dealing truly, living truly—and so become more and more in every way like Christ who is the Head of his body, the Church. Under his direction, the whole body is fitted together perfectly, and each part in its own special way helps the other parts, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

Trinity's leadership is planning several ways to help us connect or reconnect as the body of Christ. We continue the work that Covid interrupted discovering who we are and whose we are as we move forward in renewal. Please pay attention to what is available and how God is calling you to participate.

Growing is never comfortable and growing spiritually may mean making choices that take you a bit out of your comfort zone. I strongly encourage you to follow the lead/nudging of the Holy Spirit. Are you called to participate in Zoom Bible Study? Will you ask a friend to join you for the S'more party? How about grabbing an adult beverage and joining in on the conversation in Zoom Tapology? When you view the worship on Facebook add a comment about what you heard in the sermon that challenged or comforted you. Call the office with a God moment. Each time we reach out to share with our family of faith we encourage one another to live differently as sons and daughters of God.

As you answer God's invitation to grow in spiritual maturity and connection, you will find the peace and freedom Jesus promises.

God bless you in your journey!

Pastor Barb





October 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Prayer Team 6PM	2	3
4 Confirmation 8:45 AM <i>Worship 10 AM</i>	5	6	7 Worship& Music 7PM	8 Prayer Team 6PM	9	10
11 Confirmation 8:45 AM <i>Worship 10 AM</i>	12	13 Finance 7PM	14 Council 7 PM	15 Prayer Team 6PM	16	17
18 Confirmation 8:45 AM <i>Worship 10 AM</i>	19	20	21	22 Prayer Team 6PM <i>Tapology 7PM</i>	23	24 S'more Party 6PM
25 Reformation Confirmation 8:45 AM <i>Worship 10 AM</i>	26	27	28	29 Prayer Team 6PM	30	31

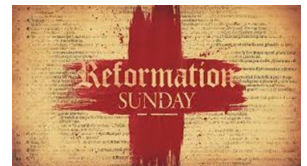
October Worship Assistants

	OCTOBER 4	OCTOBER 11	OCTOBER 18	OCTOBER 25
Assisting Minister	Dave Wolfe	Scott Valentine	Don Swart	Charlie Ford
Ushers	Alan Shank Charlie Ford	Darrell Swart Larson Thomas	Charlie Ford Donna Wolfe	Richard Miller Alan Shank
Acolyte	Ella Swart	Abigail Wolfe	Larson Thomas	Grace Cessna
Singer	Hannah Ruffner	Scott Valentine	Hannah Ruffner	Matt Cessna



We 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." Consider adding a comment to the Facebook post with specifics about how you were challenged or comforted by the sermon.

Reformation Sunday, October 25th, is the day we remember Martin Luther nailing his 95 theses (ideas) on the Wittenburg Church door. It's a day the Holy Spirit breathed reform into the church. That day we also reflect on our personal spiritual transformations. Wear red! It's the color of the Holy Spirit.



ZOOM TAPOLOGY

Martin Luther had many discussions about faith and life with his friends around the table at Luther Haus drinking stines of Katie's famous beer. Many of these discussions were collected into a book called *Table Talk*.

Good things happen when we sit down at the same table together and talk honestly about things that matter – and having a beer, a soda or other beverage doesn't hurt. We will host our first Zoom Tapology time of fellowship and adult theological conversation on Thursday, October 22 at 7 PM. Zoom isn't ideal but Covid is forcing us to find new creative ways to connect and continue to grow spiritually. Email Pastor Barb if you feel God calling you to participate. Pastor will send out the Zoom information to all participants before the event.

CLEANING DISINFECTING WIPES NEEDED

The Property Committee is asking if anyone has any extra containers of disinfecting wipes (like Clorox/ Lysol) that could be donated to the church to help keep everything sanitized?



CONFIRMATION CLASS Beginning October 4, 2020

- ⇒ Students will assemble in the sanctuary.
- ⇒ We will wear masks and socially distance.
- ⇒ Please arrive at 8:45 so class can begin promptly at 9
- ⇒ Class will end at 9:45 so everyone can prepare for worship at 10.
- ⇒ Questions? Please call the Pastor.

THURSDAY DEVOTIONS

Pastor Barb is broadcasting a midweek devotion on Facebook Live on Thursday afternoons. Take a minute to breathe and recharge! It helps in this time of uncertainty and challenge to remember God walks with us. After recording, the devotions can be found at the bottom of the first page on the website.



Good to be back indoors for services Sept. 20 and able to see faces (or at least folks' eyes above their masks)! Of course, changing format has brought its own set of glitches - blown projector bulb, an extra piece of equipment needed to make the sound for Facebook Live work best. Volunteers remain strategic - ushers, assisting ministers, singers, Donna setting up communion in the sanctuary, Brandon running sound and recording Facebook Live, Scott loading info into Media shout for projection (which hopefully will begin Oct. 4).

Musically, my goals remain aligned with Psalm 40:3 which reads in the NASB: "And He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many will see and fear, and will trust in the Lord." I hope the music primarily praises our worthy Lord and then that there is enough variety to keep services fresh and new, so that many will trust in the Lord in their personal lives. A vocal trio and some organ/piano and 4-hand piano duets are in the works.

Personally, the blessing of being Nanna to Thea Jeanette Rotz born Sept. 4 far outweighs most everything else!



BIBLE STUDIES FORMING

In Matthew 6: 33, Jesus says "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and all these things shall be added." Jesus invites us to a personal relationship.

That takes more than simply worshipping on Sunday morning. Spiritual practice is essential to growing in spiritual maturity. Daily prayer and meditation are important as is reading Scripture. Learning the background of Scripture can help deepen our devotions. Please call or email the pastor if you feel God calling you to Bible study. Day and evening times are possible. We will decide times, days and topics together.



Thea Jeanette and her Nanna



OCTOBER SPECIAL APPEAL

October is Lutheran World Relief Ingathering Month in the Lower Susquehanna Synod. Lutheran World Relief is a ministry of the Lutherans throughout the world. It serves people around the world who are living in poverty. It not only provides items like quilts, school kits and personal care kits but it also works to lift people out of poverty by helping them to learn new ways of earning a living. Worldwide, Lutheran World Relief is known and respected not only for showing up where needed, but for staying there even after the news reports fade away. Please mark your envelope for "Special Appeal".



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:

- When we were driving down the road we saw the most beautiful sunset.
- When we watched the service on Sunday we could see people in the sanctuary.
- In my son's birthday party.
- Where don't I see God? God is all around, all the time.

*Trinity Highlights
is a publication of
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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 and Tom Sidoli: mowing the lawn
- Tom Sidoli: Changed the sign to reflect in-sanctuary worship
- Keith Arnold, Dave Cline, Darrell Swart, Brandon Sidoli: Researching and choosing camera equipment for showing and recording worship on-line.
- Brandon Sidoli: Providing sound and downloading worship on YouTube
- Phillippy Family: Donated \$2000 toward camera equipment in honor of Jack and Nadine
- Trinity Family: Continuing to take spiritual tithing seriously to support ministry
- Sue Wunderlich: Resumed organizing the altar flowers when we returned to in-sanctuary worship
- Charlie Ford: Created and donated the s'more kits for the s'more party
- Bud and Donna Wolfe: Donated the wood for the s'more party
- Dave Wolfe, Carol Hughes, Don Swart: Donated the use of fire pits for the s'more party.
- Pam Arnold and Carol Swart: Spent long hours creating procedure manuals and training back-up volunteers for both the financial secretary and treasurer tasks.
- Chuck Wunderlich, Don Berger: providing back-up for treasurer.

GREENCASTLE-ANTRIM CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Greencastle-Antrim Christian Women's Fellowship will meet on October 27, 2020 at Shank's Brethren Church. The speaker will be the Rev. Adam Meredith who serves as preaching pastor at Antrim Brethren in Christ Church. His topic for the morning is *A Christian View of Empathy*. Men are welcome!



YOUTH CORNER

- ♦ The Tuesday night devotion Zoom meetings continue. Contact Rachel Gehr for the zoom information to join.
- ♦ The planning team will be meeting soon to explore options for youth group with the challenges presented by the pandemic.

ANOTHER PARTY!

The last s'more party was an incredible time of fun and fellowship. Laughing, conversation, connection and toasted marshmallows with chocolate were food for our starving souls.

The renewal team is planning one more opportunity for us to connect outside before the weather turns. Saturday, Oct 24, at 6PM, the team will host a "Bring a Friend" s'more party. Sharing connection, fun and fellowship with a friend is a great way to bring Christ to our neighborhood. The team will provide the fire and fixings for s'mores. We will sit in safe groups, socially distanced. The fires will chase the cold away. Join us and feed not only your belly but your soul as well. Call the office (717-597-9348) or email (tlcsecoffice@gmail.com) to RSVP so we have enough supplies.

Below are some pictures of the last S'more Party.



The team has been working hard praying, learning and considering ways to help Trinity move forward even in this age of coronavirus.

- Exploring creative ways to connect with God and one another, the team planned a very successful S'more Party. Another "Bring a Friend" S'more Party is planned Oct 24 before the weather gets ugly.
- We also plan a Tapology Zoom Meeting on Oct 22 to encourage adult faith conversation.
- The team participated in a Zoom R3 Renewal Workshop where we learned ways to help Trinity discover guiding principles and values to help our congregation make decisions about how God is calling us to share Christ with one another and our neighborhood. Stay tuned for more information!



SHARE YOUR HARVEST IF YOU ARE ABLE

John the Baptist went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.... And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise."

– Luke 3:4, 10-11

God's people have traditionally given thanks and celebrated God's abundance at harvest time, when farmers close out their growing season. In 2020, North Americans once again rejoice that our land has produced plenty of food. And many Americans, blessed with stable jobs and rebounding investments, can give thanks for a harvest of financial and personal blessings as well.

But millions of us and our neighbors are struggling. Covid-19 has caused massive joblessness, pushing countless families into poverty. Hunger and homelessness are skyrocketing. Federal, state and local safety-net programs are breaking, and food banks, shelters and other charities are overwhelmed.

The rising need presents an opportunity for God's people who are blessed with more than enough to help siblings in need. This year, consider celebrating your harvest of blessings not only by giving thanks but also by donating generously – of your time, talent, money or goods – to a local food bank, homeless shelter, soup kitchen or charity. Our congregations could lead this effort with a campaign, "Harvest of Giving."

Our hurting, struggling neighbors need to know not only that Covid-related misfortune is not their fault, but also that God and God's people are standing with them, supporting them with love and help. The best way is for those who are blessed with an abundant harvest to share it with those whose harvests are lean.

–Rob Blezard

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