

# TRINITY HIGHLIGHTS JULY 2021 The monthly newsletter of Trinity Lutheran Church Greencastle, PA

#### Dear Family,

I'm writing this letter on the Sunday afternoon we finally got to take off our masks and enjoy seeing each other's faces during worship. The sanctuary practically vibrated with excitement. With smiles wide, friends visited across the aisles. Although we were careful to wave to share Christ's peace, and bumped elbows or fists on the way out, it still felt liberating. It's been so long since we've been able to connect face to face.

We've been focusing on the four principles the renewal team discerned as a result of the conversations we had as a congregation back in February 2020 just before Covid struck. It seems fitting in July, as we take off our masks, that we'll be focusing on the third principle. At our best, Trinity is open, welcoming, and friendly.

The principle of being open, welcoming, and friendly has two important aspects to it. It involves those who are already a part of the family as well as folks who visit and those who eventually decide to join us in our mission to share Christ with our neighborhood.

As we seek to grow as a family of faith who reflect God's light and love to our neighborhood, it matters how we treat one another. Yes, supporting one another with cards is an important aspect of care. Yet, it's the relationships with one another that truly tell the tale. Are there people in our family who you don't know their names or their vocations? How do they spend their time? Do you ever ask how you might pray for them? I challenge all of us to choose one person each Sunday to have a conversation with that you don't normally talk with and see where the conversation might lead.

As a part of exploring this principle of being open, welcoming, and friendly, the renewal team is hosting "Bring a Friend Sunday" the last Sunday in July, July 25. We'll have snacks in the narthex and get to have some fellowship time together. Healthy dynamic congregations enjoy spending time with one another.

Visitors are harder. Some people come to visit and don't want to be surrounded. Yet, everyone needs at least one person who will take an interest. Be on the lookout! Is anyone sitting alone? Introduce yourself. Do they have a bulletin and Communion Kit? Each one of us can at least make eye contact and smile.

It's also important when people join our family to make sure they're invited to become part of the ministry at Trinity. Some people feel more comfortable joining in when they are asked. Offer to come with them to the first meeting. Ask their opinion. Realize new ideas can bring new vitality to our ministry.

God is opening us up to new possibilities both inside and out. This is indeed an exciting time to be the church.

Blessings on your journey!

Pastor Barb





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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Prayer 6PM	2	3
4 Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live 10 AM	5	6 Young Adult	7 Bible Study 11AM Worship & Music	8	9	10
11 Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live	12	Zoom 7PM	7PM 14	Prayer 6PM	16	17
10 AM		Young Adult Zoom 7PM	Council 7PM			
18 Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live 10 AM	19  Renewal Team 7PM	Young Adult Zoom 7PM	21 Bible Study 11AM	Suicide Prevention Workshop 7PM	23	24
25 Bring A Friend Sunday Worship in Sanctuary and	26	27 Young Adult	28 Bible Study 11AM	29 Prayer 6PM	30	31
Facebook Live 10 AM Fellowship Time		Zoom 7PM				

### July Worship Assistants

	JULY 4	JULY 11	JULY 18	JULY 25
Assisting Minister	Dave Wolfe	Charlie Ford	Scott Valentine	Dave Wolfe
Ushers	Donna Wolfe	Alan Shank	Kippy & Karla Smith	Charlie Ford
Singer	Scott Valentine	Ella Swart	Hannah Ruffner	Zak Reynolds
IT Ministry	Beth Ford	Darrell Swart	Tom Sidoli	Darrell Swart
Communion Preparers	Sue Wunderlich	Charlie & Beth Ford	Bud & Donna Wolfe	Sue Wunderlich



The month of July we will focus on collecting school supplies for the needy children in our area schools. There will be a box for donations by the cross wall. School supplies need to be received by Sunday,

August 1. They will be delivered to Waynesboro Community and Human Services which serves both Waynesboro and Greencastle/Antrim 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

#### HELP IS AVAILABLE

If you know of anyone in the Waynesboro or Greencastle/Antrim Area 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 <a href="https://www.wchs.org">www.wchs.org</a>. A curbside distribution of school supplies for those who have signed up will be held on August 16 and August 17. The Clothing Bank is reserved on August 19 and August 20 for school clothing shopping only. Appointments are not necessary to visit the Clothing Bank.



#### Celebrate Bring a Friend Sunday Sunday, July 25

Fellowship Time after Worship
in the Narthex
At our best we are open, welcoming and
friendly

One way we can be open, welcoming and friendly is to engage intentionally on Facebook. Even if you are now attending worship in person, please comment on the



Facebook video about what inspires you from the worship service and a God moment. Please share the videos to your page and other pages you visit. This is one way we share Christ with our neighbors.



#### **BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study at 11AM on Wednesdays now meets both

by Zoom and in person to study the book of Romans. Email the office or the pastor if you would like zoom information to participate in the class.

#### PLEASE PRAY WITH US

gathers on Zoom for pray for our congregation. Please call the office for the zoom information if you feel called to participate with the group. Otherwise, set your alarm on your phone to pray from wherever you are. That way we are praying together as a family.

## Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. EPHESIANS 5:19-20, NIV

#### **MUSIC NOTES**

Do you know the song "Count your blessings; name them one by one and it will surprise you what the Lord has done"? That's what I'm doing here. One recent blessing was being able to once again sing without a mask beginning June 27 all the while being able to view the faces of those in the congregation! Another blessing is the volunteers who make our worship service happen. This past week Sue Wunderlich helped Pastor remove the pew tape in the sanctuary and replace the hymnals in the racks and she makes sure there are beautiful flowers adorning the altar almost every week. Then there are the technicians who have learned new skills over the past couple months and are now putting them to use getting us online and making sure we have proper sound in the sanctuary - Beth Ford, Tom Sidoli and Darrell Swart. Scott Valentine remains faithful to lead Media Shout with everything you see projected each week and he, James Thomas and Ivan Wingert operate the computer for projection during the services. And I so appreciate the addition that the

singers make to the music each week - Matt Cessna, Hannah Ford, Ella Swart, Scott Valentine, Zak Reynolds! This is not to mention the communion preparers, ushers and folks who serve on committees making important decisions for the inner workings of the church. All these folks are blessings to me in one way or another!

May God bless each of them for their service to him and to Trinity!

#### Dear Friends,

Wednesday, June 23rd began as any other day, until Pastor Barb and Donna Wolfe came to my door and reminded me that June 23rd was the day to celebrate my 25 years of ministry, first as an associate in ministry and then as a deacon.

I want to express my thanks for all the cards with their kind words. Also thank you for the gift which the Pastor and Donna brought with them on behalf of the congregation, a Willow Tree Angel, "Bright Star" which has found a special place on our mantle. All these things certainly made June 23rd a very special day.

Phyllis McCullough



June 23, 2021



#### WE DID IT!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Cans for Jesus food drive. Join us in celebrating! We made it around the sanctuary with 494 cans collected. Thanks to Ella Swart for counting the cans. If you can spare

the time, please stay after the service on July 4 to help put the cans in boxes so Sue Wunderlich can deliver them to the Food Pantry.

#### SNACKS NEEDED FOR FELLOWSHIP TIME

Individually wrapped snacks are needed for the fellowship time after worship on July 25. There will be a box in the narthex for your donations. Thank you for your generosity.



Dear Trinity Family,

Thank you so much for your gift of the devotional. I really

appreciate your continued support of me as I journey to the next stage of life at college. Your encouragement has gotten me where I am today not just as a scholar and musician, but also as a person. Thank you for all you have done for me and continue to do everyday.

Sincerely, Zakary M. Reynolds

#### YOUTH CORNER

Rachelle Gehr and five young adults had an overnight at Camp Nawakwa. They had a fun time reflecting and reminiscing from past Youth Group retreats. They took a nice hike to Upper Temple when there was a break in the rain. It was great to be back together as God intended rather than only seeing each other on Zoom devotions. "Where two or more gather in my name, there I will be also."

The group continues to meet via Zoom for devotions on Tuesdays at 7PM. Anyone interested in joining the devotion time should contact Rachelle Gehr.



Fun at Nawakwa



SAVE THE DATE SUNDAY, AUGUST 15 6:30 PM

Special concert at Trinity by Zak Reynolds and Hannah Ruffner before they leave for college. Be sure to invite your friends!



#### THE R3 TEAM CONTINUES RENEWAL FOCUS

Trinity will be exploring one principle a month through the summer. July's principle is "Open, Welcoming and Friendly

Invite a friend to Worship on Sunday, July 25<sup>th</sup> and stay afterwards for snacks and fellowship in the Narthex.

The Suicide Prevention Workshop will be held on Thursday, July 22 at 7:00 PM

Please continue to **share your God moments** with the Congregation. Call the office or comment on Facebook each week sharing where you've seen God.

#### **Principles**

Using the information from conversations with the congregation about our assets, wows and needs, the renewal team discerned these principles for Trinity moving forward. We will use these principles as lens through which to evaluate ministry opportunities moving forward.

Passionate about God

Feeding the hungry physically, emotionally and spiritually

Open, welcoming and friendly

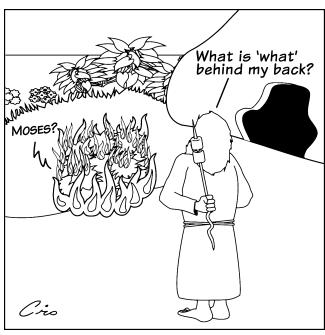
Courage to creatively use our gifts in the community

#### **Priorities**

The renewal team also identified these current priorities for ministry for Trinity

Internal: Renew and deepen our connection with each other in the family

External: Renew and deepen our connection with our neighbors in the community and continue working with the Food Pantry





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.

- ♦ Members of our family of faith who tithe in these difficult times stopping by the office, mailing in their donations or using Simply Giving or the on-line Give button on the website.
- Charlie Ford mowing the lawn
- ◆ Members of our family who donated to the Cans for Jesus food drive
- Ella Swart counting the cans of food
- ♦ Brandon Sidoli, Tom Sidoli, Beth Ford and Darrell Swart who work in the Sound Room with camera and sound recording the Facebook Live worship service each Sunday
- ◆ Scot Valentine, Ivan Wingert, and James Thomas who work with the screens for Sunday Worship
- ◆ Donna and Bud Wolfe changed the banners to green for the time after Pentecost
- ♦ Donna Wolfe and Pastor Barb brought our gifts to celebrate Phyllis McCullough's 25<sup>th</sup> ordination anniversary.
- ♦ Don and Carol Swart donated toilet paper and paper towels for our use.
- ◆ Sue Wunderlich helped pull tape and replace the hymnals in the Sanctuary.

#### 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*.

Trinity Highlights
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#### TRINITY TO HOST SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING

Suicide Prevention Training will take place at Trinity on

Thursday, July 22 at 7:00PM facilitated by Kay Martin, LSW, Keystone Health Community Liaion. This important ministry, also open to the community, is a way we can share Christ's love with one another and our neighbors. We will gather in the sanctuary but if you would prefer to attend by Zoom, please call the office. Kay Martin will send the Zoom info a few days before the training.

The training is called QPR. QPR stands for *Question*, *Persuade*, and *Refer* - 3 simple steps that anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide. Just as people trained in CPR and the Heimlich Maneuver help save thousands of lives each year, people trained in QPR learn how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to question, persuade, and refer someone to help. Each year thousands of Americans, like you, are saying "Yes" to saving the life of a friend, colleague, sibling, or neighbor. QPR can be learned in our Gatekeeper course in as little as one hour.

QPR was developed by Dr. Paul Quinnett, Ph.D., Founder and CEO of the QPR Institute. Dr. Quinnett has been a clinical psychologist and trainer for more than 35 years.



#### Stewarding Our Relationships: Rehab, Renew and Repair

Doctors order rehabilitation – intensive exercises and therapy -- for patients to regain muscle strength and flexibility after a serious illness or injury.

The time is right for us to use the same approach for our friendships and family relationships after Covid-19. The worst seems over now that the vaccines are percolating through our nation, and we are entering the summer, when it is comfortable to gather in the relative safety of the outdoors.

It will take serious rehab to repair and renew the friendships and family relationships that Covid-19 forced us to neglect. Hunkered down in our homes for safety, we ceased gathering for friendship, fellowship and recreation – the very activities that keep relationships strong. Churches put worship and social gatherings on hold.

The pandemic's impact on relationships wielded a double whammy: It left us stressed and needing friends at the very time that Covid-19 prevented us from tending to our relationships. It has left us disconnected and hurting.

Keeping in mind that the Covid-19 risk is diminished but not gone, as summer unfolds, you can look for safe ways to rehab, renew and repair your relationships.

**Reach out:** Go through your list of friends and contact them by phone, email, text – whatever's best. Tell them you missed them and want to get together.

**Make plans:** Don't put it off. Be creative and find safe ways to get together. Outdoors is safer. Backyard barbecues, coffee at a sidewalk café, a walk, a game of bocce, iced tea on the porch. It's all good.

Every little step you take will help your relationship "muscles" to get stronger, and in the process you'll become healthier as the love, support and joy of friends and family flows into your heart.

#### --Rob Blezard

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