



TRINITY HIGHLIGHTS

SEPTEMBER 2021

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

Dear Family,

And just like that summer disappears before our eyes. It's hard to believe it's September already and the kids are back at school. Please hold students and teachers in your prayers. This is a tough year with lots of controversy about masks and vaccines. May the Lord keep our children and teachers safe as they navigate all the uncertainty and chaos of the current times.

With the children heading back to school, it's a good time to reflect on the Christian Education programs we offer here at Trinity. They're described later in this newsletter so we don't need to list them here. What we do need to do is decide how important Christian Education is to the health of our congregation.

It's a sad fact that Sunday School classes are poorly attended for all ages. That's really sad for a number of reasons. It's simply not possible to learn the deep richness of God's word from a 10-minute sermon on Sunday. It isn't possible to develop the kind of relationship necessary for opening our heart spaces when we limit our interaction with Jesus to worship on Sunday and maybe reading a short daily devotion.

Limiting the chances of developing a deep relationship limits our chances of transforming our hearts, which is the whole point of this following Jesus. We say we are Christian, yet we live our lives as if Jesus didn't exist. That's functional atheism. It's hard to hear but true none-the-less. Does God matter at the center of our lives? Does knowing Jesus make a difference in the decisions you make, the attitudes you hold, the words you say and the way you behave in the world?

Ongoing Christian Education does more than simply build up our personal faith. Research shows that creating community in various small groups strengthens the health and vitality of our congregation. These groups are more than friend groups. They are groups whose purpose is centered on God and God's love for us. These groups meet together, sometimes on Sunday, sometimes at another time convenient to the group, and discuss God's Word and how it informs who we are in real life.

The Wednesday Bible Study is meeting to discuss Romans right now. We are amazed at how our lives have been transformed since we've begun this journey together. Additionally, we encourage one another, support in the tough times and hold each other accountable for Christian love in action. It's been quite the adventure! The Adult Forum meets at 9 on Sunday before worship.

I challenge you in the strongest of terms to make the time to join or begin Christian Education. If the offerings or times don't work for you, let's talk. We can explore different options and find something that works. It's that important!

Blessings on your journey!

Pastor Barb





SEPTEMBER

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|------------------|--|---|----------------------|------------------|---|
| | | | 1 Bible Study 11AM <i>Worship & Music</i> 7PM | 2 Prayer 6PM | 3 AA 7PM | 4 |
| 5 Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live 10 AM | 6 AA 7PM | 7 Young Adult Zoom 7PM <i>Finance 7PM</i> | 8 Bible Study 11AM <i>Council 7PM</i> | 9 Prayer 6PM | 10 AA 7PM | 11 Confirmation Youth to Shelter 8-10 AM |
| 12 Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live 10 AM <i>Fellowship</i> | 13 AA 7PM | 14 Young Adult Zoom 7PM | 15 Bible Study 11AM | 16 Prayer 6PM | 17 AA 7PM | 18 |
| 19 Sunday School 9AM <i>Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live 10 AM</i> | 20 AA 7PM | 21 Young Adult Zoom 7PM | 22 Bible Study 11AM | 23 Prayer 6PM | 24 AA 7PM | 25 |
| 26 Sunday School 9AM <i>Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live 10 AM Fellowship</i> | 27 AA 7PM | 28 Young Adult Zoom 7PM | 29 Bible Study 11AM | 30 Prayer 6PM | | |

September Worship Assistants

| | SEPTEMBER 5 | SEPTEMBER 12 | SEPTEMBER 19 | SEPTEMBER 26 |
|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Assisting Minister | Dave Wolfe | Scott Valentine | Don Swart | Dave Wolfe |
| Ushers | Darrell Swart | Kippy & Karla Smith | Donna Wolfe | Alan Shank |
| Singer | Scott Valentine | Phyllis McCullough | Ella Swart | Scott Valentine |
| IT Ministry | Tom Sidoli | | | |
| Communion Preparers | Sue Wunderlich | Charlie & Beth Ford | Bud & Donna Wolfe | Don & Carol Swart |



SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS SEPTEMBER 19 AT 9AM

ADULTS - Will be using *The Wired Word*. It is a hybrid class which studies the issues of our day using scripture and conversation. Call the office for Zoom information.

CONFIRMATION - The class will be exploring the Old Testament.

CHILDREN - WE ARE IN NEED OF A DEDICATED TEACHER FOR THE CHILDREN. At this point, the children will have a teacher every third Sunday when Dave Wolfe will teach the Confirmation Class and the Pastor is then free to teach the children.

TEENS - At this point, there are no teens who have expressed interest in a class due to extra curricular activities or work.

Our mission is "Sharing Christ in Word and Deed." We can't share what we don't have. We can't be transformed if we don't learn the practices that open our hearts. Teaching the next generation the basics of our faith is one of our most sacred responsibilities. Pray the Lord gives us the courage and desire to use our gifts to teach or join a class to deepen our knowledge and faith.

IF NONE OF THESE FIT, CALL. WE CAN FIND A DIFFERENT TIME OR DAY. IF YOU WANT YOUR TEEN INVOLVED AND SUNDAY MORNING DOESN'T WORK, WE CAN FIND A DIFFERENT TIME OR DAY FOR A CLASS GEARED TO THAT LEVEL. THIS IS TOO IMPORTANT NOT TO TAKE SERIOUSLY!



ROMAN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Romans Bible Study continues to meet on Zoom and in person on Wednesdays at 11. The group is noticing that the conversations are rich and making a difference in our lives. Join us in discovering more about who God is and who we are as followers of Jesus. For Zoom information email the office (tlcsecoffice@gmail.com).

MIDWEEK DEVOTIONS

The midweek devotions over the next few Thursdays (except when on vacation) will deal with spiritual practice. How do we open our heart spaces so God's love can transform us from the inside out? Join Pastor Barb either on Facebook or the bottom of the home page of the website on Thursdays. The devotion is posted by 5PM.



PLEASE PRAY WITH US

Each Thursday evening a group 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.



MUSIC NOTES

First of all, I want to say what a privilege it was to partner with Zak Reynolds, Hannah Ruffner and Brandon Sidoli in presenting the magnificent concert on August 15! If you

were not able to attend or view live that day, the video is available on tlcgreencastle.org.

Then I wanted to take this opportunity to express my gratefulness to the Trinity congregation and to God for the privilege of singing to lead worship each Sunday, since singing is just part of my DNA and a way I most often get in touch with the Lord. At the end of July, Carol Hughes asked me to proofread the bulletin for Pastor Sharron Blezard's memorial service. Included in this amazingly God-focused, victorious, worshipful service was the song "*How Can I Keep from Singing*". I invite you to read and ponder and even sing along:

1. My life flows on in endless song
Above earth's lamentation.
I hear the real though far-off hymn
That hails a new creation.

Refrain

No storm can shake my inmost calm,
While to that rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
How can I keep from singing?

2. Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing;
It sounds and echoes in my soul;
How can I keep from singing?

Refrain

3. What, though my joys and comfort die,
The Lord, my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather 'round?
Songs in the night He giveth.

Refrain

4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
A fountain ever springing.
All things are mine since I am his;
How can I keep from singing?

Refrain

ELW #763

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899



*Zak and Hannah Concert
August 15, 2021*



Brandon Recording at Concert



Please like and share the Facebook Worship Service and Midweek Devotions which appear each week. If you aren't already following Trinity's Facebook page, please take a minute to open the page and click *follow*.

EVEN IF YOU ARE ATTENDING SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY, please take time to visit the worship videos and write something in the comments about how the service inspires you. Our mission is to share Christ in word and deed. This is an easy way for Trinity to share the Gospel with those beyond our doors. People are hungering for God.



FELLOWSHIP TIME RETURNS!

Fellowship time is now the second and fourth Sunday of each month following worship. Plan to stay after the service and enjoy conversation, snacks and getting reacquainted!



FINANCE NEWS

Church Finances

Important Electronic Giving Changes Coming in September

The GivePlus Mobile app will be replaced with the new Vanco Mobile app on September 30, 2021. After September 30, 2021, the existing GivePlus mobile application will be retired. Watch for additional information on the new electronic giving app Vanco Mobile coming soon.

Annual Audit Changes

Due to the COVID emergency in 2020 and 2021, Trinity was unable to complete a financial audit for 2019 and 2020. As a result, the Finance Committee and Council have decided that due to the unprecedented pandemic situation, Trinity will forego the financial audits for 2019 and 2020.



THE R3 TEAM CONTINUES RENEWAL FOCUS

We spent the summer exploring our 4 principles. Now, we put them together to create ministry that makes God smile.

- **September 11** - Some of our Confirmation youth will be volunteering at the animal shelter. There is a table for the congregation to join the youth in supporting the shelter with donations.
- **October 2 at 2PM**, Trinity will be hosting a community animal blessing.
- 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.



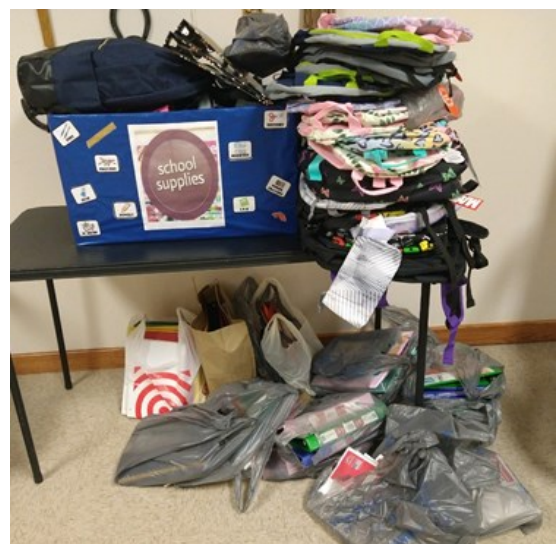
God has blessed Trinity with an abundance. Many of our family give time, talent and supplies behind the scenes so our work as the people of God can happen. Each month we will take some time to say thank you. You are appreciated! If

you know of someone who should be on this list, call the office.

- The members of our Trinity family who faithfully support the ministry of Trinity with their tithes stopping by the office, mailing in their donations or using Simply Giving or the on-line Give button on the website.
- Tom Sidoli downloaded the worship video to YouTube during the pastor's Vacation
- Charlie Ford, Tom Sidoli, TruPrecision Lawn Care mowed and trimmed the lawn
- Anonymous donation of Pre-packaged Communion Kits
- Zac Reynolds and Hannah Ruffner sharing their musical gifts in concert. Sandra Wingert who helped organize and play for the concert. Brandon Sidoli who monitored sound.
- To all in our faith family who helped contribute to the school supplies for the needy. Waynesboro Community and Human Services was grateful for our generosity. The need is great!
- Don Swart for leading worship and preaching on 8/15
- Scott Valentine for leading worship and preaching

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL APPEAL

The Special Appeal for September is the Greencastle-Antrim Food Bank which is sponsored by the local Ministerium. Funds donated help to purchase food. Please mark your donation "Special Appeal".



School supplies collected by Trinity for Waynesboro Area Community and Human Services



Alive/Alive is Back! Sept 24-26.

• Alive/Alive is a synod wide event for middle school youth entering 6th through 8th grade held at Camp Nawakwa . This is an excellent opportunity to join other youth for fun, fellowship and faith growth. If you are interested in attending, please email the pastor at revbarb.barry@gmail.com.

• Winterfest returns to the newly renovated Wyndham Resort and Convention Center. The dates, January 7-9, were picked intentionally to allow high school and college students, who should still be on their holiday break, to attend.

Winterfest's theme, "*Beloved, Be Loved, Be Love*" will address how we are welcomed as beloved children of God, equipped in a community that loves us, and sent out to share the love of Christ with others! What a powerful and transformative message for a time when our young people are weighed down with self-doubt and insecurities about who they are and whether they matter in this world, coupled by our country and our culture being torn apart by hatred and division. Come help us begin spreading healing and hope.

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



**God's work.
Our hands.**

PET SUPPLY COLLECTION

The weekend of September 11 is *God's Work Our Hands* weekend and across the country ELCA Lutheran churches will join together to serve their neighbors for the sake of Christ. Our Confirmation Youth have organized a trip to the animal shelter to help care for God's creation. The youth have invited the congregation to join them in providing supplies for the animals. This way our entire family can participate in *God's Work Our Hands* weekend. Please have the supplies to the church by Saturday, September 11.

- Collars for cats and dogs
- Dye-free dog and puppy chow
- Purina cat and kitten chow
- Nail trimmers
- Leashes
- Non-clumping Cat Litter
- Dish soap & Scrubber Sponges
- Towels & Wash clothes
- Hand Sanitizer & Paper Towels



SAVE THE DATE!

Blessing of the Animals Service

Saturday, October 2, 2021

2:00 PM

Trinity Prayer Garden



There's a Place for You!

HELP NEEDED

Council Members are needed for a three-year term to replace the council members who have completed their terms. Please consider if God is calling you to this important ministry at Trinity. Meetings are monthly on the second Wednesday. Meetings are hybrid meaning we meet in the conference room or on zoom. Without disciples willing to participate, our ministry at Trinity will suffer. Please call the office or notify Darrell Swart, council president, of your interest in serving.

GREENCASCADE-ANTRIM CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Greencastle-Antrim Christian Women's Fellowship will meet on Tuesday, September 28 from 9:30 to 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall of Evangelical Lutheran Church, 130 N. Washington Street, Greencastle. The meeting will be one of finally getting back together for fellowship, singing, prayer and spending time with the Lord and with each other.

Looking forward to seeing all your smiling faces and sharing together what God has taught us during our time apart!



FALL ACTIVITIES AT CAMP NAWAKWA

Camp Nawakwa, a part of the Lutheran Camping Corporation, is located in Arendtsville, PA. Several programs are being offered at camp this fall.

- *Adult Study Retreat* - Will be studying and discussing several books including *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis*. The retreat will be held at Nawakwa October 5-7.
- *Fall Foliage Day* - Bring your family and friends to camp for a fall afternoon of fun activities like pumpkin painting and hayrides. This will be held on Sunday afternoon, October 24.
- *Annual Quilt Auction* - All proceeds from the day benefit the Endowment Fund, making camping possible for generations to come. It will be held on Sunday, November 7 beginning at 2:00 PM.
- *Women's Craft Retreat* - Craft projects are provided and you can bring your own to work on. The retreat will be held November 12 - 14.

Additional information about these activities can be found on the bulletin board in the Lobby or call the Church Office at 717-597-9348.



STEWARDSHIP IS ABOUT GOOD PRIOROTIES

Jesus taught, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." -Luke 12:32

The Bible makes it clear that God has given us all that we have and all that we are. This includes not just our money and possessions, but also our relationships, our character strengths, our time, our intelligence, the special talents and skills we may possess, and so much more.

Biblical stewardship invites us to use all these gifts in God-pleasing ways -- not for God's benefit, but for ours. We are the ones who benefit when we invest ourselves, our time and our possessions in ways that are in sync with God's purposes.

The more we align our lives with God's purposes, the happier and more fulfilled we become. And why not? We are learning to live more fully as disciples of Jesus, approaching more fully the abundant life he promised us. We grow in awareness and set new priorities that bring us closer to God.