

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

Dear Family,

The leaves are changing. I spent some time hiking at Kings Gap after a meeting to enjoy the colors. God's creation is a wonder to behold. Scripture tells us we experience God and sense God's presence in nature.

That's been a theme for us here at Trinity, sensing God's presence. Where have you seen God in your life? Training the eyes of our hearts to look for God is vital in growing our faith/trust, building hope and deepening our relationship with God. God loves you! That truth compels us to open our hearts and love God in return. God helps by transforming our hearts and minds so we can more deeply share in God's love ourselves and move out in sharing love with the people around us and the world.

This isn't pie in the sky stuff but nudging from the Holy Spirit to heal us into wholeness. God's desire from the beginning of history has been to heal our broken world beginning with us. That's what we celebrate on Reformation Sunday.

It's more than a monk, Martin Luther in 1517, nailing some ideas to reform an institution. Instead, reforming is about deep inner change, transformation of the heart. WE are the church not a building or institution. The Holy Spirit calls US to reform, change, live as Jesus would have us live. Reformation is happening in every age, in every generation.

Here at Trinity, we've been exploring who we are as a people of God. Who are we? Where is God calling us? We begin, as always, with God. At our best, Trinity is passionate about God. What does that look like? How do YOU show your enthusiasm, your excitement, your love for the One Who Loves You more than words can possibly describe? That love takes Jesus all the way to the cross and the promise of Resurrection. That is the love that changes, transforms, reforms who we are personally and as a congregation.

The 4 principles we've created as a congregation give us direction as we live out our mission to share Christ in word and deed. We are passionate about God. We are open, welcoming and friendly. We feed the hungry physically, emotionally and spiritually. We courageously use our gifts in the community.

The gift is we don't live as Jesus would have us live on our own unsteady will power. Christ is with us in our hearts through the Holy Spirit. It is through partnering with God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, that our prayer is answered, "May your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven."

Blessings on your journey! *Pastor Barb*



NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Veteran's Day	5	6
			Bible Study 11AM			
	AA 7PM	Young Adult Zoom 7PM	Worship & Music 7PM	Prayer 6PM	AA 7PM	Turn clocks back
7 All Saints	8	9	10	11	12	13
Sunday School 9AM			Bible Study 11AM			
Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live 10 AM	AA 7PM	<i>Finance 7PM</i> Young Adult Zoom 7PM	Council 7PM	Prayer 6PM	AA 7PM	
14 Sunday School 9AM Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live 10 AM Fellowship	15 AA 7PM	16 Young Adult	17 Bible Study 11AM	18 Prayer 6PM	19 AA 7PM	20
		Zoom 7PM				
21 Sunday School 9AM Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live 10 AM	22	23	24 Bible Study 11AM	25	26	27
<i>Community</i> <i>Service 6:30PM</i>	AA 7PM	Young Adult Zoom 7PM		- Vay	AA 7PM	
28 Advent I	29	30				
Sunday School 9AM Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live 10 AM Fellowship	AA 7PM	Young Adult Zoom 7PM				

November Worship Assistants

	NOVEMBER 7	NOVEMBER 14	NOVEMBER 21	NOVEMBER 28
Assisting Minister	Dave Wolfe	Scott Valentine	Don Swart	Dave Wolfe
Ushers	Charlie Ford	Darrell Swart	Donna Wolfe	Donna Wolfe
Singer	Scott Valentine	Ella Swart	Matt Cessna	Hannah Ruffner
IT Ministry	IT Team	IT Team	IT Team	IT Team
Communion Preparers	Charlie & Beth Ford	Bud & Donna Wolfe	Don & Carol Swart	Sue Wunderlich



ALL SAINTS WORSHIP SERVICE

On All Saints Sunday, November 7, all members of our Trinity family will be able to light a candle to remember loved ones they

have lost in 2021. The candles will be floating in water to symbolize our Baptisms. We will also be remembering the lives of four members of Trinity who have died since last All Saints' Day :

- +Shirley Green
- +Deloris "Jeannie" Jimick
- +Richard Miller
- +Allen Jimick

⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. (Romans 6:4)

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

Team 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.



POINSETTIA ORDERS DUE NOVEMBER 7

We are taking orders for poinsettias to decorate the

Sanctuary for Christmas. The flowers will be red in a 6.5 inch pot from Royer's. If you would like to order a flower, please fill out one of the forms found on the table in the Lobby and place it in the offering plate at the back of the Sanctuary, or call or email the Church Office. Orders are due by Nov. 7. The cost is \$10.50 for each plant.



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A hybrid Annual Congregation Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 12, 2020 after the

10AM Worship Service both in person and on Zoom. It is possible to dial into zoom on your phone if you don't have access to a computer. If Zoom is uncomfortable for you, please notify the office. We will ask someone to phone you and leave the phone on speaker so you can participate.

WILL YOU SERVE?

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 Triity. 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.

MUSIC NOTES



This month's "Music Notes" are more a list of God moments than about anything musical. Since my dad, Ramon Meckley, slipped peacefully from this life to the next on October 2 at our home, I have been keenly aware of God's hand in circumstances and have felt support from folks in amazing ways. Consider these God moments:

• One of my dearest friends was visiting for the last week of my dad's life and lent great support during that time.

• Cedar Hill Cemetery and my dad's church were available on rather short notice and the church graciously provided a hot lunch.

• I was hesitant to have a visitation lunch after the graveside service, but it was a good decision because a number of folks attended the visitation who were not able to attend the service.

• ONE CALL for several estate settlement issues and cancellation of utilities easily checked each item off the to-do list and in <u>every</u> case the person with whom I spoke expressed condolences to me.

- The timing of my dad's passing between my 12 days of sickness in September and my friend's visit and Ivan's annual out-of-state hunting trip.
- The offer of a free storage barn at Gateway Gallery until an auction date is set.
- Daily support from people in the form of cards and phone calls and online and text messages.

Thank you to each of you in the Trinity family who have been part of this support group! It has been a continuing privilege to express my praise to the Lord in song through this season of loss as I have keenly felt that "He leadeth me" (Psalm 23:2) and "underneath are the everlasting arms." (Deut. 33:27)



FOOD COLLECTION ITEMS

We've heard from Barbara Graine at the Greencastle Food Pantry that the items scheduled for our collections in November are

those that are consistently needed by the Pantry. Please bring the assigned item when you come to worship to place in the box in the Narthex or place it in the box by the front door anytime.

- November 7 Vegetable oil
- November 14 Potato mixes
- November 21 Toilet paper
- November 28 Pasta and rice mixes



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 (<u>tlcsecoffice@gmail.com</u>) or the pastor (<u>revbarb.barry@gmail.com</u>).



ROASTING CHICKENS FROZEN 12 POUND TURKEYS NEEDED

Waynesboro Area Community and Human Services, which also serves Greencastle, is in need of roasting chickens and frozen turkeys to give to needy neighbors for Thanksgiving. If you can make a donation, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board, email (<u>tlcsecoffice@gmail.com</u>) or call the office at 717-597-9348. WCHS needs to know how many to expect. We will be collecting them through Thursday, November 4. Donations will be taken to the center on November 5.

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.



The Community Thanksgiving Service will be held on Sunday, Thanksgiving November 21 at Greencastle Church of the Brethren at 6:30 PM with refreshments following the service in the Fellowship Hall.



Dec 3, Trinity will host a table diving away individually wrapped cookies with invitations to join Christmas CHRISTMAS Worship at Trinity. Help is needed to donate cookies, bag

the cookies with the invitations and stand at the table. More information will follow soon. We need all hands on deck. Please pray about how you are called to help.

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 love congregants have for each other.
- At the end of a soccer game when both teams • came together to pray.
- The moment when I saw my dear friends and their baby enter the church.
- Loving family members who include us in their daily lives.

Send us your God moments and we will share them next week!



Waynesboro Community and Human Services is currently collecting information for families in need for Christmas. Trinity Lutheran Greencastle will once again help a family in need in

Greencastle. Stay tuned for more information!



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.

Charlie Ford, Darrell Swart and TruPrecision Lawn Care mowed and trimmed the lawn

The members of our Trinity family who generously donate to the Food Pantry each week

Dave Wolfe who, though down with break-through Covid, taught Confirmation by Zoom so Pastor Barb could teach children's Sunday School as planned.

Darrell Swart cut down the handicapped signs in • the parking lot to avoid more accidents and keep our elders safe

Scott Valentine who weekly comes to set up the • screens for worship

Brandon Sidoli, on call from Temple University has • been awakened more than once on Sunday morning to answer a call from the IT/Sound Ministry Team.

 Leah Porto for her dedication to sending birthday and anniversary greetings to our Trinity family.



Winterfest returns as an in-person event in January 2022! After a one-year hiatus for the pandemic, we will gather for a full weekend on January 7-9, 2022, at the Wyndham Resort in Lancaster County. Youth in grades 9-12, and young adults of college-age are welcome to attend as participants. Cost is \$225/person. Our theme, "beLOVEd" comes from this idea that we can count on God's unconditional and abiding love in our lives, and are called upon to share that love with a world desperately in need of that witness. If you are interested in attending please contact Rachelle Gehr or Dave Wolfe.

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.



R3 team continues our renewal focus.

• We spent the summer exploring our 4 principles. Now, we put them together to create

ministry that makes God smile.

• Trinity is donating roasting chickens and 12-15 pound small frozen turkeys for Thanksgiving dinner. Drop off between October 31 and Nov 4.

• **November** - Trinity will adopt a family in need of help with Christmas dinner and gifts. Stay tuned for details

• **Dec 3 Heritage Christmas** - Trinity will host a table giving out cookies. How is God calling you to help?

• 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





Thank you for the flowers, cards and gift cards in honor of Pastor Appreciation Month. I am overwhelmed and very grateful praising God for our mutual ministry. God bless you!

Pastor Barb



DIRECTIONS FOR NEW VANCO MOBILE FAITH SITE

Download the Vanco Mobile app. Search for Trinity, in the search field type in *Greencastle*.

Trinity Lutheran Church and *Evangelical Lutheran* will both appear.

Choose Trinity.

Set up an account.

Go back to home page and the give button will appear.

NOVEMBER SPECIAL APPEAL

The Special Appeal for November is the Greencastle Exchange Club's Santa's Helpers. They provide Christmas toys for children in the Greencastle-Antrim School District. If you desire to make a donation, please mark your envelope for "Special Appeal".



PLEASE ADD THESE DATES TO YOUR CALENDAR!

- November 28 First Sunday of Advent
- December 3 Trinity at Greencastle Heritage Christmas

December 5 - Hanging of the Greens after worship

December 12 - Annual Congregational Meeting

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Stewardship of Our Leisure Time

I commend enjoyment, for there is nothing better for people under the sun than to eat, and drink, and enjoy themselves, for this will go with them in their toil through the days of life that God gives them under the sun. Ecclesiastes 8:15

Busy-ness keeps us from living with joy and peace in today's 24/7 world, but Scripture reminds us that this is hardly new.

Ecclesiastes was written some 2,500 years ago! Ecclesiastes does not give license for mindless pleasureseeking, but rather affirms that our hard work should be balanced with time for relaxation and enjoyment with friends and family.

Saints and mystics have long touted the need for rest and renewal. In the monastic tradition it's referred to as otium sanctum – Holy Leisure. Not just wasting our free time, but using it for renewal.

As steward/disciples, we aim to use our leisure time wisely. Here are some ideas:

- Keep the Sabbath: God actually commands us to stop working one day per week, as Exodus 20:8-11 makes clear. But there is no prohibition against leisure. (Why else would God give us a day off?)
- Plan your vacation: Even if you're taking a STAYcation, plan your time for maximum rest and enjoyment.
 Manage your schedule: Are you a slave to your appointment book, driven by other people's priorities? Put
- yourself first scheduling in time for leisure. Even if it's just 30 minutes here and there!
- Find an activity you like: What do you do just for you? Discover or REdiscover what brings you joy, then make time to do it.
- Socialize: Friends and family make life enjoyable. Spend time with them. Invest, don't waste, time:
- Many activities pass the time but don't give back much in renewal or refreshment. Choose activities wisely.
- God expects us to work, but not work ourselves to death. Sabbath and leisure time provide means for us to find balance in our life, as well as friendship, love, renewal and purpose.

--Rob Blezard Copyright © 2018, Rev. Robert Blezard. Reprinted by permission. Pastor Blezard serves as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, Maryland, and works as content editor for www.stewardshipoflife.org. He blogs at www.thestewardshipguy.com.