



HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



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Trinity Messenger September 2024 Issue 5

Alleluia. God has called us through the proclamation of the good news, that we may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia. 2 Thess. 2:14

September Congregation Council Meeting Report

At its September 12 meeting, the Congregation Council:

- Set Sunday, December 1, following the worship service, as the date and time for the annual congregational meeting. A forum to present the proposed 2025 Ministry Support Plan and review current finances will be held during the Adult Forum Sunday, November 24.
- Learned that the congregation has begun working with Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake (IPC). Lisa Garrett is forming a Green Team to look at how we as a congregation might improve environmental practices. IPC will help the Green Team determine if grants are available to improve stormwater runoff from the property.
- Approved a request from Bethany United Church of Christ for use of our gymnasium occasionally for youth group activities.
- After receiving a request, approved a motion determining that Holy Trinity's facilities are not suitable as a temporary shelter for unhoused persons.
- Approved the choir director's request for reduced time and adjusted the monthly salary accordingly effective September 1.
- Approved recommending a change in the terms of the Mission Endowment Fund (Special Benevolence Fund) to the congregation. The change would allow accrued annual interest to be used for Unified Budget deficit reduction. This change will be presented at the annual Congregational Meeting-it requires a 2/3 vote of the members present for approval.
- Approved a list of duties for the Organist Search Task Force.

Congratulations and Best Wishes

To the members of Holy Trinity who are 70 years and older and celebrating a birthday in **October**:

2 Vicky Rettew
12 Shirley Reider
12 Donna Nace
17 John Weiss
18 Brian Sweigart
22 Newell Embley
27 Randy Maurer
31 Henrietta Mull

Send them a birthday card or call them with a greeting. We pray God grants them many more years in their pilgrimage.



Lutheran World Relief Ingathering Appeal

Lutheran World Relief Ingathering appeal is Sunday October 6th. This year the Social Ministry Committee is looking for new blankets (60" x 80", non-fleece) and monetary donations to purchase items for personal kits. Each kit is \$5.00. See the poster in the Gathering Area. Volunteers will be needed to help assemble the kits. The time and date will be announced later. If you have any questions, please contact Rob Gilbert at 721-3822.

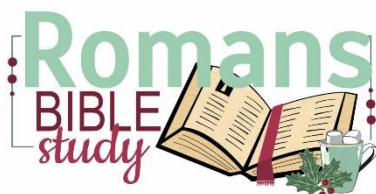
Blessing of the Pets

Join us on Sunday, October 6, at 2:00 PM for the annual Blessing of the Pets at Holy Trinity. We will gather at the green space next to Luther Hall. If it rains, we will celebrate those beautiful creatures of God's making, who bring us endless joy, in the Social Hall.



Organist Search Committee Formed

A search committee has been assembled to begin identifying and interviewing candidates for the position of church organist to serve at Holy Trinity following Donna's retirement. Those faithfully serving in this capacity are Deb Olson, Donna Dinger, Judy Williams, and Barry Kreider. Pastor Mark will serve as a de facto committee member, offering leadership and guidance throughout this process. Please keep these persons, each other, and the process in your prayers.



Bible Study

The weekly study of Paul's letter to the Romans will resume on Tuesday, October 1, at 11:00 AM. All are welcome to come and explore this relationship-defining epistle with much to teach us about God's grace and the depth of God's relationship with us through the gift of His Son. See you soon!

Hello to all my fellow parishioners,

Announcing:

The first pot luck dinner of the season will be the third Friday Oct 18. 6-7:30. We will of course, have a Harvest theme ! 🍁🍂 Please save the date !

Everyone is welcome...friends, family , enemies 🤝

Please bring something to sharecoffee, tea and juice will be provided. BYOB Sign up sheet in the gathering area.

Looking forward to another great evening to eat and share conversation.

Kathy Kuhns Fellowship 🍁

Stewardship Special Giving for September:

Konde Diocese - Our Partner in Ministry



You may or may not know that each of the sixty-five synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has been linked with a Lutheran companion synod or church body outside the United States with which to partner in ministry and provide each other support through prayer and opportunities to

engage with each other. We in the Lower Susquehanna Synod have been blessed with the companionship of the Konde Diocese, part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT). The Konde Diocese at present boasts a membership of over 125,000 members in seven church districts. Within these seven districts, more than 100 congregations are served by 160 pastors and 200 evangelists serving God's people and spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ, which they have been faithfully doing since 1977.

The operative word in beginning to understand the nature of this ministry partnership and its benefits is "companion." Each of our synods/dioceses and the congregations that make up these bodies are called to serve our neighbor and share the life-giving gospel of Jesus Christ. Doing so, whether one is part of a congregation in Ephrata, Pennsylvania, or a congregation in a village in the Konde Diocese, we can offer encouragement for each other's challenges and celebrate the joys. Through this relationship, the work we have been called to do becomes easier and more meaningful because we know there are siblings in Christ offering mutual support. Such a relationship also provides the opportunity to learn from each other through correspondence and sharing ideas. This is especially relevant as we in this nation struggle with shrinking congregations and a waning interest in organized religion. Christian churches in Africa and other less developed parts of the world are experiencing a boom in persons embracing the Gospel and its grace-filled message.

During September, the Konde Diocese will be our stewardship focus. I encourage us to prayerfully consider how we can actively engage in a relationship with the diocese and its individual congregations—supporting their ministries as they support ours. To help us deepen our connection, we are working with our synodical liaison with the ELCT to link the Holy Trinity with a congregation in the Konde Diocese with whom we can personally have contact and grow our relationship from congregation to congregation.

Welcome to the Trinity Cafe

Please join us downstairs after worship for some coffee, or tea, and of course Goodies!  
Take time to chat then if you are able, join us for adult forum in the fellowship hall for lively discussions...this Sunday Pastor Mark will be helping us to understand Judaism.

Sharing Upcoming Events and Information

Congregational committees and other ministries of Holy Trinity are invited and encouraged to share the details of upcoming happenings with the congregation and beyond via our recently updated Facebook page and our webpage. If you have anything that will be occurring between now and Christmas and needs sharing, please contact Theresa Mull (theresakmull@gmail.com), our Facebook page administrator, and Adam Doughty (adamc.doughty@gmail.com or 717-445-0007), our webpage administrator if you would like your group's activities shared. They are waiting to hear from you to help share your information with a broader audience.

Take up the cross and lead

A recent gospel from Mark is the lesson from Jesus about taking up the cross and following him. How scary that must have been for the early Christians to respond to that call at a time of persecution. Church council is a cross that needs to be taken up. We need leaders to guide our church. It is not nearly as scary as the call to early church leaders – we guarantee you will not forfeit your life, just a few hours every month! Won't you answer God's call to fill a vacant or soon-to-be vacant church council position? There are three positions that will be vacated at the end of the year and need to be filled in addition to two other seats that have remained unfilled. Please consider a place on church council to help lead our

congregation. We need a diversity of viewpoints to lead effectively. You may contact Lisa Garrett or any other current council member with any questions and to express your interest in being a doer who acts. Thank you!

PROPERTY COMMITTEE WORKDAY- A Fall church facility cleaning is scheduled for Saturday, October 5th from 7:30AM to 10:30 AM. YOU are invited to join our volunteer cleaning teams for this workday. There is a sign-up sheet with details on the table in The Gathering Area. Bring extra cleaning supplies, please. Also, bring your coffee, water or drink for break time. If you have questions see Carlene Kerschner. Thank you for volunteering.

HOLY TRINITY HAS A NEW FACEBOOK PAGE!!

Please follow this link to the new page:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61563831542098&mibextid=LQQJ4d>



Celebration Choir Schedule

Wednesday, October 2 – 7:00 PM – Rehearsal

Sunday, October 6 – “As a Little Child”

Wednesday, October 23 – 7:00 PM – Rehearsal

Sunday, October 27 (Reformation) – “When in Our Music God is Glorified”

Wednesday, November 13 – 7:00 PM – Rehearsal

Sunday, November 17 – “God is So Good”

Wednesday, December 11 – 6:30 PM – Rehearsal

Sunday, December 15 – “First Song of Isaiah”

Please consider joining us and sharing your musical talents! All are welcome!!

Lutheran Camping Corporation's Annual Quilt Auction
(register at 717-677-8211 or on-line at LutheranCamping.org)



Date: Sunday November 3, 2024

Location: Camp Nawakwa 1033 Nawakwa Rd
Biglerville, PA 17307

Time: Oct 26 – 31 – Online bidding

2pm Silent Auction

3pm Live Auction

Dinner following live auction

Avoid **supply chain issues** and do your Christmas shopping at the auction! 100% of the proceeds will go to the Endowment Fund, making camping possible for generations to come! Go

to <https://www.lutherancamping.org/upcoming-events/quilt-auction/> to view items for auction and begin bidding or to just make a donation. Items being auctioned include quilts, wooden items, pillows, afghans, gift baskets, Penn State items, and many more hand-made items. Note: 60"x80" quilts purchased at the auction can be donated to LWR, doubling your generosity in supporting Lutheran outreach programs. Register for in-person attendance by Oct. 30th.



DINNER CHURCH at The Wittel Farm

Dinner Church is a community gathered around a shared meal to listen, connect, sing, pray, eat, drink, and be with God in Creation. Bring some food to share.

October 6th, 5pm

November 3, 5pm

More information at <https://www.lutherancamping.org/event/dinner-church-1024/>

Enjoy an Oktoberfest Themed Happy Hour starting at 4pm, Saturday, October 5th, at Kirchenwald, followed by a Southern Style Pork BBQ dinner with all the fixings, homemade desserts, premium spirits, live music and silent and live auction items. Funds raised will go toward a disc golf course and improvements to the athletic field. Price to attend is by donation. Donate what you would pay for a dinner out at a nice restaurant, including tip. Child care will be available. RSVP

at <https://www.lutherancamping.org/event/party-with-a-purpose-2024/>



Pickleball Update-Tuesday AM pickleball has officially moved to Tuesday nights. Open to any skill level. Court time is from 6pm to 8pm





THE ADULT (all adults are welcome) LUNCH BUNCH will be going to Nonna Rosa in Akron after the liturgy on October 13. We'll meet downstairs immediately after the liturgy. All are welcome. Plan to join us! Please call Cheryl Plummer at 625-3187 to reserve your place!

Salem Lutheran Church, Ephrata, invites you on a bus trip to "Cape May at Christmastime," on December 3, 2024. The trip includes free time to explore, shop, and lunch on your own, at the Washington Street, pedestrian only, outside mall; guided tour of the 1879, Emlen Physic Estate and Carroll Gallery at the estate; dinner at the Lobster House Restaurant; and the Holiday Lights Trolley Tour. Reservations are due by Oct 22nd. For information, call Stephanie Frymyer at 717-682-9697, or Laurel Kluck at 717-701-0266

Help Wanted: Bergstrasse Community Clothing Closet

Bergstrasse Community Clothing Closet is open the first full weekend of every month for persons in need of clothing and other household goods. Entrance is accessible via the door off the lower parking lot. Hours are Saturday noon – 2pm and Sunday 11am – 1pm.



Fall/Winter Schedule:

Oct 5th and 6th

Nov 2nd and 3rd

Dec 7th and 8th

Donations: Currently there is a desperate need for men's pants, shorts and shoes. There is always a need for children's clothing. All clothing in good shape is accepted as are household items like sheets, towels, etc. Donations may be dropped off directly at Bergstrasse when the Community Clothing Closet is open or in the box at the back of the narthex in Holy Trinity.

Volunteers: sort clothing, hang it and tag it by color to keep track of what is moving and what is not, and greet shoppers at the courtesy desk. Shoppers check in and specify how many people they are shopping for and what items are of particular interest. Volunteers meet at 6-7:30pm on the Friday before the Closet is open to sort donations and get them ready for the next day. When the Closet is open, volunteers are needed from 11:30 – 2:30 on Saturdays and 10:30 – 1:30 on Sundays. You do not need to be there the entire time to volunteer – whatever time you have available within those times is fine.

If you have further questions, you may either stop by the next time the Closet is open and have a look around or call Pattie Martin at 717-344-1347.

NOTE: Sue will be on vacation from October 12-27. Will have to prepare the weekly newsletters prior to leaving. Please think ahead if you want any announcements in the newsletter or any additions to the calendar, and get them to Sue ASAP. Nothing will be added while she is away.

Sunday, September 29	
9:00am	Worship
10:00am	Coffee Hour After Worship
10:15am	SCS
Monday, September 30	
10:00am	Women's Prayer Group
6:30pm	Yoga
Tuesday, October 1	
11:00am	Bible Study
3:30pm	Trini Mini
6:00pm	Pickleball
7:00pm	Bell Choir
7:00pm	Fellowship Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 2	
7:00pm	Celebration Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, October 3	
3:30pm	Trini Mini
7:00pm	Property Committee
7:00pm	Yoga
7:00pm	Thursday Worship
Friday, October 4	
6:30pm	Friday Night Dinners
Saturday, October 5	
7:30am	Walking Group

The fourth Tuesday morning Coffee Klatch will not be held over the summer. The next time it will meet will be in October.

[View This Month's Interactive Calendar Here](#)

September 29th Servers:

Council Team: Christy Boos, Lisa Garrett

Assisting Minister: Kathy Kuhns

Lector: Bill Young

Acolytes: CH: Anya Gilbert, CR: Ava Morgan

T: Natalie Mull, Judy Williams

Ushers: Peggy Dean, Ed Quirke

Altar Guild: Barb & Steve Sweigart, Andy Sweigart

Linens: Brenda Wangman

Flowers: Dan Doremus



Office Hours September 30-October 4, 2024

We recommend you call the office prior to stopping in to ensure hours have not changed.

Office Phone: 717-733-4134 Pastor's Cell: 315-317-8517 Donna's Cell: 717-669-7831

Office email: officeholytrinity@ephratalutheran.org

Day	Sue	Pastor
Monday	9:00 AM-4:00 PM	9:00 AM-12:30 PM
Tuesday	8:00 AM-4:00 PM	9:00 AM-12:30 PM
Wednesday	8:00 AM-4:00 PM	9:00 AM-12:30 PM
Thursday	OFF	9:00 AM-12:30 PM
Friday	8:00 AM-12:00 PM	OFF

Make Your Regular Offering Electronically

On the Holy Trinity website (www.holytrinityephrata.org), a tab on the menu bar called "Online Giving" will take you to a secure web site for you to give. You can also give your Regular Offering, your Special Appeal donation, your building fund, or your Homes of Hope fund donation by using your Smart Phone and following the QR code.



Thanks for reading! Have a great week ahead!

