

April
Newsletter of Trinity Lutheran
Church, Wernersville, PA



**Trinity Lutheran Church
130 South Walnut Street
Wernersville, PA 19565
www.trinitywernersville.org
610-678-1782**

e-mail address:tlcworship@aol.com

The Reverend Susan Fox, Interim Pastor	610-582-9245
Carol A. Koch, Associate in Ministry	610-670-1436
Nancy M. Moyer, Organist/Senior Choir Director	610-775-1839
Frank & Laura Krick, Sextons	610-678-1261
Peter Schmehl, Treasurer	610-670-0645
Barbara Debiec, Financial Secretary	610-670-2841



Schedule of Services

**Wednesday, April 1
Service of Healing---7:00 PM**

**Maundy Thursday, April 2
Lenten Meat---6:30 PM
Holy Communion/Stripping of the Altar---7:30 PM**

**Good Friday, April 3
Hal Hopson's Tenebrae---7:30 PM**

**Easter Vigil, April 4
Service/Baptism of Matthew Schwartz/Holy Communion---5:30 PM**

**Easter Sunday, April 5
Children's Easter Sunday School
Easter Story and Craft
Egg Hunt for the Preschool and Elementary Age children---9:15 AM
Youth & Adult Sunday School---9:15 AM
Easter Worship/Holy Communion----10:30 AM**

Update on the Call Process

The elected members of Church Council and the appointed members of the Call Committee met with Northeast Lutheran Synod Bishop Samuel R. Zeiser and Associate of the Bishop, the Reverend John C. Richter. The purpose of the meeting was to review the Parish Study Report of Trinity, Wernersville and the continuing process of calling a new pastor to Trinity.

The Parish Study Report is a 37-page document that will be provided to possible Call candidates as a way for them to become acquainted with Trinity. The first part consists of information provided by the ELCA in statistics and charts. Unfortunately, the data is incomplete. We are working to gather what is needed and hope to be able to supplement the report with updated information.

The second part, beginning on page 6, is information about Trinity received through the two surveys done after worship and from a survey taken by Council and the Call Committee. Various church officers and staff submitted additional information for this section. This is provided through both chart and statistical formats. Concluding this section of the report is information provided by The Association of Religion Data Archives comparing the various denominations in Berks County. The Bishop and Pastor Richter both indicated that the survey shows Trinity in a positive manner and will be helpful in encouraging a candidate to participate in the Call process.

The final twelve pages is the Ministry Site Profile provided to the synod and completed by staff from various data sources including official church records, surveys, officers, council and Call Committee input. Numbers behind survey responses indicate the number of persons who provided that answer or similar variations. The Bishop gave examples of questions that a candidate may asked based on the information provided in the Parish Study Report. Two copies are available on the windowsill by the steps in the Narthex. Members are encouraged to look at the Profile and if there are any questions, to ask a member of Council or Call Committee.

Bishop Zeiser explained the Call process and encouraged the Call Committee to take as much time as necessary to ensure the candidate, who he would provide, is the appropriate person for Trinity. He encouraged a prayerful and thoughtful process. After the Call Committee meets with the candidate as often as necessary to become acquainted and to answer all concerns, they will listen to a sermon presented by the candidate and then vote to accept or reject him/her. If accepted, the candidate will be presented to Council, which also interviews and votes on acceptance and a compensation package. During this entire period, the identity of the candidate is kept confidential.

Upon approval by both groups, the congregation will meet the candidate at a social event and hear a Sunday morning sermon at Trinity after which the Congregation will vote to accept or reject the Call. A two-thirds vote is required at minimum. The candidate may also accept or reject the Call and can do so immediately after the Congregational vote or within a reasonable period of time. If a candidate is rejected at any point, the Bishop will then supply the name of a new candidate and the process begins again.

The Bishop then asked the council members when they would determine to use a multiple (two candidates) or single candidate Call process. Council determined to make the decision at the meeting and asked for guidance on the advantages of the two methods. It was explained that among other considerations, the single method would result in beginning over if the candidate provided was rejected, but the candidate would not be a candidate in any other church. With multiple candidates, each could be involved in the Call process of other churches and at any time, may accept another Call. All persons there were asked for their thoughts and among them was that the single candidate method would allow the Call Committee to concentrate on the individual candidate rather than weighing one person against the other. Council unanimously voted to use the single candidate method.

As we continue on this journey, the members of the congregation

are asked to pray for the Bishop that in his wisdom, he presents an initial candidate that will be appropriate to Trinity's needs; pray for the Call Committee members that they have the discipline and patience to recognize the qualities of the candidate that would be beneficial to our church life and mission; pray for the Council, staff and Congregation that they may support the Call Committee in its tasks; and pray for the candidate/s that they find the appropriate church home, whether here or elsewhere, for them and their families.

Jerry Jarsocrak
Council President

**MISSION
POSSIBLE**

What: A mission trip to New Windsor, Maryland: To assist in packaging health, hygiene, school, baby, or cleaning kits to be distributed to areas in need.

When: Thursday, May 21st

Time: Leaving form church at 6:45 AM. Leaving New Windsor at 4:00 to return home.

Who: Volunteers typically stand, or sit depending on the job. Modest, comfortable clothing and low-heel closed-toe shoes should be worn. The area allows for a maximum of 25 volunteers. Volunteers can be as young as 14. Youth, ages 14-17, need a [signed permission slip](#) (parental consent form).

Next: If you can and want to go sign-up in the narthex, include your name and contact information.

We will be arranging a meeting prior to the trip to discuss donations from the congregation to take to New Windsor. Watch the bulletins and next month's newsletter for items needed.

Another Mission Trip in the Planning Stages

Mission Possible is starting plans for the next out of country mission trip. We are hoping to drill a well in Guatemala in the Fall of 2016. This trip is open to anyone who is interested. You also are welcome to attend our planning meetings even if you don't travel to Guatemala. Please contact one of the following if you wish to join the team, or if you have any questions:

Dawn Hickernell – 610-685-4672

Wendell Byler – 610-670-8512

Kevin Kurtz – 610-693-5233

The trip planning meetings will start May 13 at 7:30 at the church.

Speaking of Mission, Trinity's last mission trip was featured in the April issues of Synod News.



Helping Hands in David, Kentucky

A team of 11 from Trinity Lutheran Church in Wernersville traveled to David, Kentucky to help a family in need in a very poor area in the Appalachian Mountains. They partnered with St. Vincent's Mission, who has been helping the people in that area for years. The Mission had a very good program in place, with living quarters for the crew and tools that were needed. This was a low income family that has a member working full time but that can't make ends meet after losing a higher paying job at a coal that shut down.

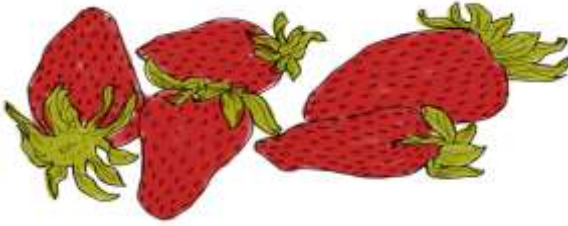
The team helped complete a two-room addition onto a trailer for a lovely family of five. They also put on siding, skirting, soffit, insulated under the trailer, and built two sets of steps coming off their deck and a small walkway. The family assisted with renovations and will be doing volunteer work for St. Vincent's to show ownership in what they received.

Trinity is grateful to the Witness and Service Ministry Team at the Synod and to others who helped with grant money to make this happen. The reward is always the greatest to those giving. The more people who are blessed in knowing this, the better the world becomes.

The team was especially blessed on this trip because the husband had stopped going to church when the hardships came and had lost faith in his church and church family. A letter from his wife told how his faith was restored when he experienced the love of helping brothers and sisters in Christ who chose to travel a distance to help his family without ever having met them before.

Church Council Highlights for March

1. Kevin shared preliminary information on Mission Trip to New Windsor, MD.
2. Discussed church closing, if needed due to inclement weather, will appear on Channel 69 news.
3. Received letter of thanks and certificate which will be placed on the Bulletin Board in the narthex and the letter will be part of this newsletter.
4. Decided what to do with special Lenten offering.
5. Pastor Sue discussed Boundary Workshop she had attended that day.



We are looking for someone who would be interested in being a co-chair of games for the Strawberry Festival. If you are interested, please contact Barbara Debiec @ 610-670-2841.

Thank You

A special thank you to Wendell Byler, Ron Pugh, Don Orenreider and Barry Collier and anyone else who helped shovel snow these past several weeks while I was and still am recovering from a fracture. Thanks again.

Frank Krick

To members of Trinity,
Thank you for welcoming us to your family a few years ago as we needed a new church home. It was a warm, welcoming and friendly place . We will miss being with you. But, moving 10 min from our son's family and 2 grandchildren in Ohio and 3 hrs closer to our son's family in GA is our place to be in our retirement years. God bless you in your continuing ministries.

Al & Cindi Roke



NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

The Rev. SAMUEL R. ZEISER, Ph.D.
Bishop

February 26, 2015

Trinity Lutheran Church
130 S. Walnut ST
Wernersville, PA 19565

Dear Friends in Christ,

I write in thanksgiving for your support of the ministries of the entire Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Those ministries include acts of love you carry out in Jesus' name in communities across the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, and acts of love you carry out in Jesus' name in the lives of people around the world. The enclosed certificate is a public acknowledgement of your congregation's caring, faith-centered, and resilient commitment to the love of God in the Risen Jesus Christ.

The certificate is also an expression of appreciation from your brothers and sisters across the ELCA for your partnership with them for Jesus' sake. I encourage members of your congregation who have access to the ELCA website (elca.org) to visit it and become familiar with those who pray and sing...who baptize and teach...who serve and witness...with you. You will be inspired.

I also want to recognize additional congregational mission support that has arisen in response to Always Being Made New: Campaign for the ELCA. This additional support is above and beyond the amount on your certificate. Sixty-two percent of synod congregations and many individuals made 2014 contributions totaling \$235,334 to the ten ministries encompassed by the campaign. Among those churchwide ministries is ELCA World Hunger, the Malaria Campaign, Fund for Leaders, and Missionaries and Young Adults in Global Mission.

If your congregation supported ministries of the campaign, the amount contributed is listed at the end of this letter. More information about the campaign is available from the ELCA website or by contacting Mr. Guy Ehler (rehew@verizon.net), synod campaign coordinator.

Thank you.

Yours in Christ,

Bishop Samuel Zeiser

ELCA World Hunger - \$1,195.00

Fund for Leaders - \$5,100.00

Upcoming Sunday School Schedule



Sunday School for ages 3 through 4th grade has a special lesson and time on Easter Sunday. That day (April 5) we will gather around 9:15 AM, hear the Easter Story, do an Easter craft and then go outside (weather permitting) for an Easter Egg Hunt. Please bring a basket with you to collect your “goodies”. Children are encouraged to stay for church and hear a special Easter Children’s Sermon from Pastor Sue.

Continuing with the Easter theme our lessons in the month of April will focus on Doubting Thomas.

Remember we will start in church each Sunday and go down for Sunday School after the Children’s Sermon.

Teachers for April are:

4/12-Kim Scheider-Science

4/19-Kathy Lawry-Cooking

4/26-Kelly Thompson-Art

Children’s Sermon Schedule for April

4/12-Betty Lou Franzen

4/19-Helen Hummel

4/26-Charlotte Moyer

Youth and Adult Sunday School meets at 9:15 AM each Sunday. They are presently meeting together in the Library.

Campfire on the Triangle



The Youth Planning Group invites all Trinity youth, their guests and our neighbors from 1st grade upward to our campfire in the triangle by the church on

Sunday-April 26th from 5:45 to 7:15.

Join John, Carly, and Nick for....



hamburgers,

hot dogs,



and

something to drink.



Have fun playing dodgeball, basketball, sack racing and more. Sign up sheet on the center doors in the Narthex. Please indicate the number of guests (or parents) you're bringing. That's all it takes!

Flower and Bulletin Sponsorship

The cost of sponsoring the flowers is \$38.00. If you are sponsoring the flowers, please note that there are flower envelopes in the narthex beside the sign up list for altar flowers. Please put your check (payable to Trinity) or cash in the envelope and place in the offering plate. The cost of sponsoring the bulletins is **\$12.00**. **Please note change in cost of bulletin sponsorship.** We also want to remind you that the week you are an altar flower sponsor, please call the office, Nancy Moyer, or contact the altar guild person listed in the bulletin if you want to keep the flowers. Otherwise, the flowers will be given to the sick, shut-ins, or others in need. Thanks. **We need a bulletin sponsor for 4/26.**

Altar Flower Sponsors for April: 4/5-Stephanie & Kevin Kurtz in honor of their anniversary and Kevin's birthday, 4/12-Karen Berkenstock in memory her mother, 4/19-Carol Koch in memory of her husband, Bob, 4/26-Bob & Kathy Bashore in honor of their wedding anniversary.

Bulletin Sponsors for April: 4/5-Joe & Sue Sickler in memory of Sebastian Bodanza, 4/12-Barbara & Rich Debiec in honor of Jim's 24th birthday, 4/19-Diane Brown in honor of her mother's 95th birthday.

Helpers for April

Communion Assistant-Kelly Thompson

Altar Guild-Anne Marie Rinehimer

Greeters: 4/5-Marie & Joe Rosati, 4/12-Bonnie & Jim Giamotti, 4/19-Marlene Ochs, 4/26-Laura & Frank Krick,

Acolytes: 4/5-Patrick Berkenstock, 4/12-Nate Scheider, 4/19-Kevin Gemmell, 4/26-Carly Kurtz,

Lay Readers: 4/5-Wendell Byler, 4/12-Kathy Lawry, 4/19-Charlotte Moyer, 4/26-Betty Lou Franzen

Ushers: 4/5- Rick & Kathy Lawry, 4/12-Coldrens, 4/19-Kurtzes, 4/26-Berkenstocks

Counters: 4/2-Diebec/Rinehimer, 4/4-Coldrens, 4/5- Franzens, 4/12-Rapley/Pirl-Roth, 4/19-Jarsocrak/Sickler, 4/26-Diebec/Rinehimer

Sound Technician: 4/5 & 4/12-Donald Oxenreider, 4/19-Wendell Byler, 4/26-Scott Franzen

Bulletin Assemblers: 4/2-June Rapley, 4/9-Connie Fritz, 4/16-Diane Klinger, 4/23-Diane Brown, 4/30-Darlene Lundy.

Prayer List

FERN BAGENSTOSE, Wanda Barnett, SYLVIA CHRISTY, Marge Dietrich, Maddy Folmar, Sharon & Larry Hamilton, Alice Henry, SUE HOLDER, Hannah Kramer, Holly Shaffer, Ann Zimmerman, Russell Berkenstock, Jerry Brossman, Larry Brossman, Ralph East, RON HARMAN, RAYMOND HARP, Kevin Hartman, Nicholas Hydock, Leslie Jarsocrak, BUZZ LOCKWOOD, Jake Powers, Ryan Manbeck, Nick Moore, PHILIP SCHAFFER, Rodney Weiss, Jr., and Jerry Zachouski. Armed Services: Eric Alderman, Marie Rosati Clark, Allison Rosati Martin, NIC BACON, Justin Klinger, Brent Naveiro, Eric Ochs, SCOTT SCHAFFER, Jeffrey Troutman, Jr., and Anthony Witman. Please help us with this prayer ministry if there is someone you want to include. (Capital letters designates members of Trinity).

Church Council Members

Diane Brown 610-678-8083

Diane Klinger 610-670-3198

Mary Nace 610-207-4104

Pamela Moyer 610-670-5896

Kelly Thompson 610-468-8920

Nick Eshbach 610-670-6934

Jerry Jarsocrak, President 610-670-0954

Kevin Kurtz, Vice President 610-693-5233

Donald Oxenreider 610-678-4866

Happy Birthday

Birthday Milestones in April

Monell Schaeffer will be 94, Carolyn Kurtz will be 86, and Fern Bagenstose will be 92. Happy Birthday Monell, Carolyn, and Fern.