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Newsletter of Trinity Lutheran Church, Wernersville, PA

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

www.trinitywernersville.org

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	484-509-5838
Peter Schmehl, Treasurer	610-670-0645
Barbara Debiec, Financial Secretary	610-670-2841

From the Pastor

No Room at the Inn

You shall not wrong a stranger or oppress them....

Exodus 22:21

*Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers,
for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.*

Hebrew 13:1

It had been an exhausting trip, 8 hours to my brother's house in Columbus, Ohio the first day; 2 hours further the next day to a village where I once lived northwest of Columbus where I attended the funeral of a dear friend. By two that afternoon I was on my way home again, hoping to put in several hours before stopping for the night..

Ahead loomed ominous storm clouds. But wasn't the rain behind me? Or was I chasing it? Soon enough I knew as I drove through dense clouds and torrents of rain. I had taken an unfamiliar northern route in hopes of shortening the trip. Because of that I didn't recognize any landmarks, and as the sky darkened and the rain came I had little sense of where I was and how far I had to go.

My plan was to stop by six, have a good meal and sleep soundly through the night. There are countless motels between here and Northwest Ohio so finding a room wouldn't be a problem. Or so I thought. But motel after motel was filled for the night. And so I drove on with a deep sadness, hungry, and tired.

At last a desk clerk took pity on me and after a computer search, found the very last room available at a motel 20 miles further down the highway. I will be forever grateful to that kind and helpful person.

You have guessed it by now, I thought a lot about Mary and Joseph the night Jesus was born. The fear they must have felt, the desperation to find a place to rest for the night. The inn keeper who

finally took pity on them. The beautiful story and gift of salvation that was born that night.

But even more than the night Jesus was born I thought about the current refugee crisis, the tens of thousands of people who are making arduous trips escaping hunger, terror, even extinction. They walk. They carry what they own on their backs. They depend on the mercy of strangers for even a drink of water. My desperation pales in comparison to the desperation that must accompany such a trip.

During my plight I heard the words of my daughter echo in my mind when so often I share my travails, “Mom,” she says, “you've sure got “first world” problems.” Problems the migrants of our world today would love to have, being sheltered from the rain in a comfortable automobile, a little money in one’s pocket, a suitcase full of clothes, just a bag of snacks to eat, a thermos of clean water, finally finding the last room in a clean, warm motel, the comfort of home awaiting just a few hours away.

The refugee crisis may very well be the greatest challenge to those of us who attempt to live as Christ would have us live. It seems far from our doorstep. But is it really, or is it that we keep our doorstep far from those in the world searching for a better life? What first world problems could we modify to provide refuge to those whose lives are desperately at risk? Are we willing to give up any of our creature comforts, our space, our leisure, our travel so that others might live?

After my night of experiencing “no room at the inn” I am seriously considering this question for myself. And I urge you, in the name of Jesus Christ who was laid in a manger to do the same.

God's Peace,

Pastor Sue



What's Happening in Sunday School in October?

For the younger set (ages 3 through 5th grade)

Sundays @10:30 AM

Oct. 4-The Battle of Jericho-Music with Carol Koch

Oct. 11- The Battle of Jericho -Art with Kathy Bashore

Oct. 18- The Battle of Jericho - Cooking with Kathy Lawry

Oct. 25-No Sunday School as we want everyone to gather and hear our pastoral candidate conduct worship and preach.

A new group for teenagers is being formed and will meet in the youth room with Pastor Sue for discussion at 9:15 AM. If you are a teenager, you are encouraged to come and see what's happening.

Adult Sunday School led by Bob Bashore and Kevin Kurtz will meet in the library at 9:15 AM

Other Educational Opportunities

Second Sunday † Training

Beth Byler will present a forum on Elder Care on Sunday, 10/11 from 4-6 pm and then on 11/8 there will be a presentation on Other Faiths.

Happy Birthday

Birthday Milestones in October

Bernard Brophy will be 87, Clarence Coldren will be 92, Richard Hummel will be 80, and Daniel Hoppman will be 85. Happy Birthday to Bernard, Clarence, Richard, and Daniel.

Food Pantry Sundays

Oct. 4th & 11th

We'll be collecting for the Conrad Weiser Food Pantry
Pantry items needed are as follows:

Cereal – hot and cold

Jelly

Peanut Butter

Spaghetti/Pasta

Spaghetti Sauce

Meat – tuna, chicken, spam

Rice

Canned Vegetables

Canned Fruits

Beans

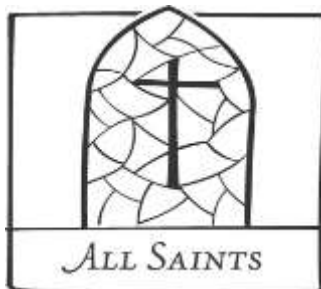
Soups and Stews

Jello or Pudding

Juice

Crackers

Pantry clients also greatly appreciate receiving personal care and household items: soap, shampoo, toothbrushes and toothpaste, laundry detergent, toilet paper, tissues, etc.



On the first Sunday in November, November 1

We celebrate All Saints Sunday

If you have lost someone over the past year—

Could we have their name?

We will put their names in the bulletin. Email the church @
tlcworship@aol.com or give directly to Carol or Pastor Sue. Thank
you.

Knitters & Crocheters....get out your yarn.

Yes, it's time once again to be collecting hats, scarves, mittens & gloves for the men, women & children who are served through the annual community event-**People First**.

Can you help? This amazing event serves more than 1000 people each year in November. Each year a warm gift of hats, scarves, gloves, or mittens is offered to each guest. Not a "crafter"? Donations of purchased items are gratefully accepted. Need more information? If you are interested, in helping, let Carol Koch know. We will gather the donations here and deliver them to Cheryl Young/Reading Berks Council of Churches representative. This is an opportunity to touch and perhaps change a life. Please put your donations in the blue bin on the windowsill in the narthex. Deadline to donate is Sunday 10/25 as all items must be delivered to Cheryl that week.

Remember to save the date of December 13th @ 3 PM for the Christmas Concert. The Senior Choir will be joining the Bell and Chime Choirs this year so this will be a really special event.

Another date to put on your calendar is Sunday, November 22nd when we will have our annual Advent Fun Shop following worship. We will eat a light lunch and then proceed to the craft tables. This is a family event.

Can you Help?

The preschool is having a fundraiser at Friendly's on October 21st from 5 - 8pm (the West Lawn Friendly's). The preschool receives a percentage of all sales during this time, on this day, from all patrons who dine at Friendly's. They will also have a finger food bake sale table there, Would you be willing to make baked goods? Items needed are brownies, cupcakes, cookies, etc. There is no need to have them priced, as we are only going to have a donation box. They should be dropped off at the church on October 21st by noon, if they wish to help out the preschool.

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

Council Highlights

1. Preschool will be able to meet expenses for 2015/2015 due to staffing adjustments.
2. There will be a sign on locked doors on Saturday night directing people to use the door at the ramp.
3. Discussion was held regarding the council's upcoming meeting on 9/18 with the pastoral candidate.

Pictures from our 90+ Birthday Party



Guest of honor, Clarence Schein (97) and Kathy Lawry



Guests of Honor, Jim (96) and Rosalie (92) Putt



Thank You

*Thanks to your generosity we collected \$548.00 & 1 pair of PJs for our
Thank Offering to the Pajama Project September 19th & 20th.*

August 4, 2015

Thank You

Trinity Lutheran Church
130 S Walnut St
Wernersville, PA 19565-1520

Dear Trinity Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your recent gift of \$331.00 to Nepal Area Earthquake. Gifts like yours make it possible for our church to continue its effective and efficient response to disasters.

Your support helps families and communities get back on their feet again after they have been harmed. Your gifts also provide resources for preparedness and risk reduction programs.

To neighbors who can feel alone and in despair, your gift brings immediate help and hope for the future. We will partner for as long as it takes to rebuild, reclaim and recover.

As Lutheran Disaster Response, we support and pray for the well-being of people all over the world who are recovering from a disaster, and for our partners and volunteers who assist them in their journey to renewal. Thank you for providing help, hope and healing.

In Christ's service,



The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Greetings from Tanzania.

Thank you for your generous gift of \$1,000 last December toward our support. We thank the Lord for the privilege of living and working in East Africa. Your partnership with us makes that possible.

With thanks,

Bethany and Steve Friberg

Sept 2015

Friberg Update, Tanzania

Each year we invite 3 supporting congregations to send a mission team to work alongside Tanzanians. Teams go to resource-poor areas to enhance local initiatives. The team tackles challenging problems. There are many unknowns, some aspects are beyond our control, it involves everyone making some sacrifices, taking some risks and trusting in God. And this is really what mission is all about! Planning, communicating, organizing, working, but ultimately leaving God in control and expecting that God is present and active. God blesses our efforts in obvious and hidden ways. God's work is to change us and then to use us to change the world. We want the miracle of 5 loaves and 2 fishes to be real in our lives. We want Jesus' message to impact us and to impact God's world.



In July 2015, 12 people from congregations and Rotary Clubs in Superior and Duluth worked with us on the Serengeti. The congregation members donated muscle to assist the Christians of Piaya to pour a concrete floor in the church they are building. 50 people cooperated to mix concrete by hand and to pass it by bucket brigade to local skilled masons. The team also brought funding for metal trusses and metal roofing. Piaya water is bitter and the taste cannot be covered with coffee or KoolAid. To collect rainwater for drinking, the Rotary members constructed a 15,000 gal storage tank for the medical clinic. Rotary also brought funding for installing solar lighting in a new health facility being built by the village.



We were impressed by the positive attitude and adventurous spirit of Mission Team Piaya 2015. Mutual respect developed between Africans and Americans. Conditions were rough. The work was physically hard, sleeping on a 1-inch pad in a 1-person tent got hard, trying to bathe out of a bucket was hard and day hikes in the Rift Valley and the Gol mountains were hard. But God's Spirit was with us. Mission means building

community, empowering others, protecting God’s environment, alleviating poverty, promoting healthy habits, exercising, renewing our minds, nourishing our spirits, conforming our behavior to the 10 commandments, embracing God’s forgiveness of our sins, appreciating other cultures.

By their example, Piaya Christians challenged us to follow Jesus in new and dynamic ways.



August 4, 2015

Thank You

Trinity Lutheran Church
130 S Walnut St
Wernersville, PA 19565-1520

ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal
1000 North Dearborn Street
Chicago, IL 60610
www.elca.org

Dear Trinity Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your recent gift of \$960.00 to Ebola Outbreak Response. Gifts like yours make it possible for our church to continue its effective and efficient response to disasters.

Your support helps families and communities get back on their feet again after they have been harmed. Your gifts also provide resources for preparedness and risk reduction programs.

To neighbors who can feel alone and in despair, your gift brings immediate help and hope for the future. We will partner for as long as it takes to rebuild, reclaim and recover.

As Lutheran Disaster Response, we support and pray for the well-being of people all over the world who are recovering from a disaster, and for our partners and volunteers who assist them in their journey to renewal. Thank you for providing help, hope and healing.

In Christ's service,

Daniel Rift

The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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**. 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 altar flower sponsors for 11/1 (All Saint's Sunday), 11/15, and 11/22. We need bulletin sponsors for 11/22.**

Altar Flower Sponsors for October: 10/4-Pamela Moyer in memory of her father, 10/11-Marie & Joe Rosati in honor of Patrick Berkenstock's birthday, 10/18-Betty Lou & Scott Franzen in honor of Laura's birthday, 10/25-Debiec family in memory of Nicole Ervin.

Bulletin Sponsors for October: 10/4-Sue & Joe Sickler in memory of Helen Rupp, 10/11-Karen Berkenstock in honor of Patrick's birthday, 10/18-Donna & Bob Youtz in honor of their 47th wedding anniversary, 10/25-Hummel family in honor of Dick's 80th birthday.

Helpers for October

Communion Assistant-Diane Brown

Altar Guild-Barbara Debiec

Greeters: 10/4-Eleanor Brossman, 10/11-Beverly James, 10/18-June Rapley, 10/25-Ronald Rush

Acolytes: 10/4-N/A, 10/11-N/A, 10/18-Bethany Miller, 10/25-John Kurtz

Lay Readers: 10/4-Lector Exchange (St. Francis), 10/11-Scott & Betty Lou Franzen, 10/18-Laura Miller, 10/25-Wendell Byler

Ushers: 10/4-Lawrys, 10/11-Coldrens, 10/18-Kurtzes, 10/25-Berkenstocks.

Counters: 10/4-Rapley/Pirl-Roth, 10/11-Jarsocrak/Brophy, 10/18-Debiec/Rinehimer, 10/25-Hummels.

Sound Technician: 10/4 & 10/11-Donald Oxenreider, 10/18-Wendell Byler, 10/25-Scott Franzen

Bulletin Assemblers: 10/1-Connie Fritz, 10/8-Darlene Lundy, 10/15-Linda Weiss, 10/22-Mary Nace, 10/29-Ann Sentz.

Children's Sunday School Teacher: 10/4-Carol Koch, 10/11-Kathy Bashore, 10/18-Kathy Lawry.

Children's Sermon: 10/11-Helen Hummel, 10/18-Charlotte Moyer

Please remember in your prayers:

Members who are sick or recently hospitalized: Dawn Giangiacomo, Tedd Hickernell, Sue Holder, Sharon Matlack, Marlene Ochs, Catherine Richards, Janet Searfoss, Margie Stine.

Members who are homebound or in care facilities: Ruth Bachman, Fern Bagenstose, Ron Harman, Raymond Harp, Janet Dissinger, June Page, Mary June Yackera.

The Military: Eric Alderman, Marie Rosati Clark, Allison Rosati Martin, Justin Klinger, Brent Naveiro, Eric Ochs, Scott Schaffer, and Jeffrey Troutman, Jr.

Family and Friends: Wanda Barnett, Carolyn Bryant, Marge Dietrich, , Sharon & Larry Hamilton, Amy Hatlee, , Letitia Jarsocrak, Mary Koenig, Hannah Kramer, Holly Shaffer, Ann Zimmerman, Jerry Brossman, Larry Brossman, Scott Hickernell, , Nicholas Hydock, Leslie Jarsocrak, Cindy Jarsocrak, Sam Jarsocrak, Ryan Manbeck, Nick Moore, Gary Ochs, Jake Powers, Rodney Weiss, Jr., and Jerry Zachouski.

Special Ministries: Our missionaries in Tanzania-Dr. Stephen Friberg and his family.

Please let us know when our prayers are answered so we can keep our prayer list current.