

Trinity Tidings for November 2019

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Pastor Julie Osterhout, Deacon Carol Koch, Musician: Nancy Moyer, Sexton: Jamie Black

“We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now . . .”

(Rom 8:22)

Though this verse is about a new creation in Christ—it also makes a real statement about who we are as a part of that creation—a creation that is indeed groaning—one that needs rebirth.

I am writing this as I am on vacation with my family in Tennessee. Our “airbnb” is located close to WattsBar Lake in Harriman. We are here with my 91 year old dad who wanted to come back to his second home one more time before he’s gone.

The lake, the woods, the crisp fall air, and the brilliant blue sky are all signs of God at work in creation. The lake teems with fish and the woods are home to deer, wild turkey, bear, and fox. We are heirs of this beautiful planet and all that is in it.

My dad taught me to love and appreciate this beautiful land just as its first indigenous people did and do. My father has always had a great respect for those who first walked this East Tennessee land that also forms the banks of the Babahatchie River (Cherokee for “babbling waters”) now called the Emory River for its deep emerald green color. This river runs through the town of Oakdale, Tennessee where my ancestors have lived for 200 years. The love of this land is found in most all who live in these mountains.

And so as a child, whether here in Tennessee or at home in Cincinnati, my father and I faithfully took on the role of eco watch dogs. I grew up in a part of Hamilton County, Ohio that was as rural as the mountains of Tennessee. Sadly, it was because of the ruralness of both places that people often felt they had the freedom to secretly dump bags of garbage on the side of the road.

Dad and I would find these heaps of garbage where together, we would sift through the rubbish looking for an address on some errant envelope then turn it over to the police. The guilty parties would be contacted and held responsible for their transgressions.

Today, though I know there is still dumping that occurs, our society has turned an eye towards better stewardship of the land God has given us. All of God’s people are called to be those good stewards. The ELCA continues to commit to this leadership role of being green. And as the song goes, “It’s Not Easy Bein’ Green.”

Our older church buildings are not so conducive to these green changes—many are big and drafty making it difficult to be energy efficient, kitchen appliances are outdated, and to make church dinners quick and easy Styrofoam and throw away plastic are often used for dinnerware.

And yet, there are things we *can* do. Trinity has formed a new Green Team to address some of these issues and begin to look for ways to be as green as we can be, except we can only be a think tank with which to generate ideas. It takes all of God’s children to actively support this effort not only at Trinity but at home as well.

So here’s the plan:

* If possible, we will recycle all Trinity’s Styrofoam and begin using only biodegradable paper products. If recycling for Styrofoam cannot be located, we will use it up and replace with only biodegradable products.

* We will encourage the use of our stainless dinnerware rather than throw away plastic.

* We are asking for donations of real mugs to be used for coffee and tea.

* We are asking everyone to recycle unwanted church bulletins either at home or by putting them back in the bulletin basket by the entrances to the Nave.

* Use electronic newsletters, etc . . . over paper as much as possible.

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We will discuss more ideas as time goes on. Remember that “in the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth . . . it was good.” (Gen. 1) Let’s keep it that way. We of course would like any ideas that anyone has concerning how to be better stewards of our earth. And in our efforts we will be faithful keepers of creation that God calls us to be and it will be good.

Blessings,
Pr. Julie

Dates to Put on your Calendar

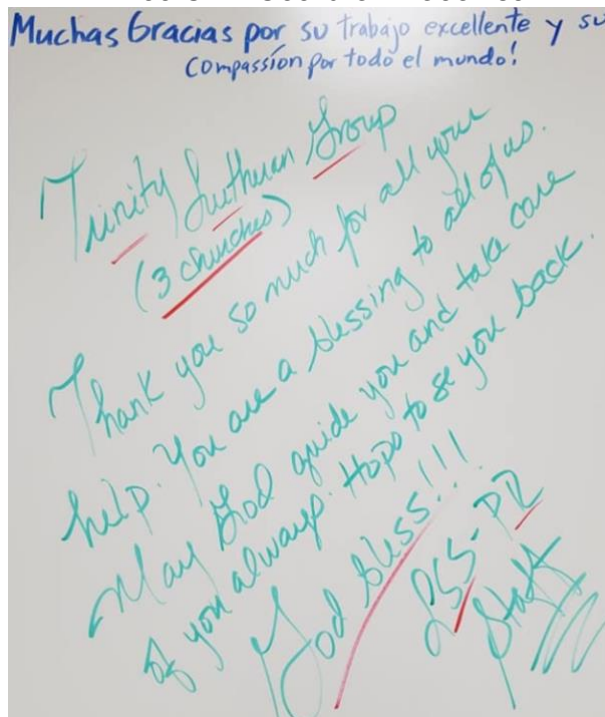
All Saints



On November 2nd and 3rd we will remember the following persons who entered the Church Triumphant since the last All Saint’s Sunday.

- Emma Renzo 11/17/2018
- F. Lynn Christy 4/12/2019
- Scott Weatherholtz 4/12/2109
- Shirley A. Batz 4/23/2019
- Beverly Wentzel 6/9/2019
- Joan Lutz 6/30/2019

Mission Possible Presents



Sunday, November 10th, Mission Possible will present pictures and stories of our mission trip to Puerto Rico. Come hear about the good work Trinity is doing in other places! *If you attend worship on Saturday night and would like to hear the presentation, we encourage you to come in around 10:50 on Sunday AM and then leave after the presentation.*



Our Wernersville Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will be held on **Sunday afternoon, November 24th @ 3 PM** @ Hain's (St. John's) UCC on N. Church Rd. in Wernersville. A choir made up of members from the Wernersville churches will provide special music and the Reverend Doctor Sharon Barley is preaching. Please plan to attend.



On November 24th we will have our annual Advent Fun Shop following worship. We will begin with a light lunch and then proceed to the craft tables to make Christmas items. This is a family event. A sign up sheet is in the narthex. If you would be willing to donate food, sign up in the narthex by 11/17. We are also asking you to sign up on if you plan to attend so that we have a general idea of how much food to provide.

If you would like to do a craft table, talk to Kathy Bashore or Carol Koch. Remember they have to be easy enough for our kids to do with a little adult help.



And finally, remember to save the date of December 15th @ 3 PM for the Christmas Concert. The Bell choirs, Chime Choir, and Senior Choir will participate. There will be a time to sing some of our favorite carols, accompanied by the bells and organ, as well. This will be followed by a light supper organized by the Fellowship Committee.

Other Information

- Poinsettia, Christmas trees, and Wreaths sponsorship will begin shortly. Watch for the sign-up table in the narthex. The cost of Poinsettias remains @ \$6.00. We will also put a reminder in the bulletin and send out an e-mail shortly after the next Worship and Music Committee meeting on 11/7 with dates and prices for other items.
- The 2020 Flower and Bulletin charts are now available in the Narthex. They are under the current charts.



Jane was our guest lector on October 6th when we had lector exchange.

Pastor Julie,
I want to thank you, Betty,
and the congregation at
Trinity for the warm welcome
everyone gave my husband, Gary,
and myself on Sunday. Thank
you for inviting me to be a
part of the service as the
lector.

Peace,
Jane Foster

Please remember in your prayers:

Members who are sick or recently hospitalized: Elaine Binkley, Sandra Miller, Barbara Pennypacker, April and Matthew Schwartz, Sue Sickler, and Rodney Weiss, Jr.

Members who are homebound or in care facilities: Ryan Harman, Ardelle Heffner, Joan Kava, Diane Klinger, Buzz Lockwood, Cathy Richards, Clarence Schein, Pat Sickles, Kay Weatherholtz, and Jane Wilkinson.

The Military: Kiley Gring Mohn, Natalie Ketner, and Justin Klinger.

Family and Friends: Michael Barber, Wanda Barnett, Larry Brossman, Carolyn Bryant, Fred DeLong, Marge Dietrich, Peggy Guido, Glenn Helbert, Jennifer Hemstreet, Jessey Homan, Shirley Kerchner, Sharon Kleczynski, Hannah Kramer, Cindy Marsh, Jake Powers, Tom Reppert, Debbie Schelts, Jerry Zachousk, and Ann Zimmerman.

Special Ministries: Our missionary in Tanzania-Dr. Stephen Friberg and his Family.

Church Council Highlights for October

- There will be presentation on our 2019 Mission Trip to Puerto Rico on Sunday, November 10th during worship.
- A mission trip to New Windsor is planned for spring of 2020.
- Discussed Rental Mgmt. concerns.
- Thank you to June Rapley for her time serving as Social Ministry Chairperson.
- We will be reviewing the budget for 2020 at our November meeting.

How are We Doing?
Trinity's Financial Summary for September


After the third Tuesday of the month Council Meeting, we will print the financial information for the previous month.

Average Attendance in September, 2019: 75
Average in September, 2018: 78
Average Weekly Giving in September, 2019: **\$3364.40**
Average in September, 2018: **\$2417.00**
Total income year to date: **\$134,149.16**
Total income year to date in 2018: **\$116,430.64**
Total expenses year to date: **\$140,432.30**
Total expenses year to date in 2018: **\$132,276.18**
Shortfall, year to date (income minus expenses): **-\$3308.14**
Total income in August: **\$16,822.00**
Total expenses in August: **\$16, 209.55**

Percentage of Mission Support made year to date:
to Synod: **84%**, to Mission District: **67%**

Debt Retirement Completed! Please consider adding your debt retirement giving to your regular weekly/monthly giving.

Clarence Schein is now a resident of the Highlands. His new mailing address is Room 610, The Highlands, 2000 Cambridge Way, Wyomissing, PA. 19610.



READING CHORAL SOCIETY
PRESENTS

HANDEL'S MESSIAH


Under the direction of Dr. Graham Bier

December 1, 2019, 4pm

Muhlenberg High School Auditorium

RCS will be joined by soloists, Muhlenberg Camerata Choir
& Orchestra

Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$20 at door, \$10 Students



Reading Choral Society
*Enriching the Community
through Music since 1875*

To purchase tickets contact:
RCS Phone: 610.898.1939
www.readingchoral.org

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 **\$15.00**. 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 a Bulletin Sponsor for November 17th. Please sign up in the narthex.**

Altar Flower Sponsors for November: 11/3-Barbara & Richard Debiec in memory of all the saints who have gone before us, 11/10-Cindy Hassler Schappell in memory of Heath Hassler (15 years), 11/17-Diane Brown in memory of her mother, 11/24-Joe & Kelly Perrone in honor of their 2nd wedding anniversary.

Bulletin Sponsors for November: 11/3-Eleanor Brossman in memory of Calvin Brossman and all loved ones, 11/10-Cindy Hassler Schappell in memory of Heath Hassler (15 years), **11/17-available**, 11/24-Joe & Kelly Perrone in honor of their 2nd wedding anniversary.

Helpers for November

Altar Guild: Barbara Debiec

Communion Assistant: Dan Nace

Greeters: 11/3-Janice Lamm, 11/10-Connie & Terry Fritz, 11/17-Diane Brown, 11/24-Bob & Cindy Hassler/Schappell .

Acolytes: 11/3-Aislin Given, 11/10-Alexis Shoumlisky

Lay Readers: 11/3-Wendell Byler, 11/10-Carol Koch, 11/17-Helen Hummel, 11/24-Kerri Searfoss

Ushers: 11/3-Lawrys, 11/10-Bashores, 11/17-Kurtzes, 11/24-Berkenstocks.

Counters: 11/3-Franzens, 10/10-Rapley/Pirl-Roth, 11/17-Jarsocrak 11/24-Debiec/Rinehimer.

Sound Technician: 11/3-Wendell Byler, 11/10-Patrick Berkenstock, 11/17-Scott Franzen, 11/24-Stephanie Kurtz, 12/1-Wendell Byler.

Bulletin Assemblers: 11/6-Connie Fritz, 11/13-Linda Weiss, 11/20-Ann Sentz, 11/27-Kathy Lawry.

Newsletter Assemblers: Linda Weiss and Ann Sentz

Council Devotional & Snacks: Harmony Wentzel

Children's Sunday School Teachers: 11/3-Mary Nace, 11/10-Paige Shannon, 11/17-Diane Brown, 11/24-Advent Fun Shop, no Sunday School but Chime Practice with Carol Koch during Sunday School time, 12/1-No Sunday School/Thanksgiving School vacation.

Church Council Members

Wendell Byler, President 610-451-1506
Harmony Wentzel, Vice President 610-390-9986
Scott Franzen 610-781-7674
Jerry Jarsocrak 610-413-9472
Laura Miller 717-507-0934
Elwood (Woody) Noll 484-638-2057
Cindy Hassler-Schappell 610-670-1971
April Schwartz 484-577-9150
Kay Stout 610-763-8776

Happy Birthday

Birthday Milestones in November

Betty Reber will be 95, Diane Klinger will be 80 and Kay Weatherholtz will be 81. Happy Birthday ladies.