

Trinity Tidings for Dec. 2018

Trinity Lutheran Church 130 S. Walnut St., Wernersville, PA, 19565, 610.678.1782,
e-mail: tlcworship@aol.com, www.trinitywernersville.org, [facebook.com/trinitywernersville](https://www.facebook.com/trinitywernersville)
Pastor Julie Osterhout, Deacon Carol Koch, Musician: Nancy Moyer, Sexton: Jamie Black

“Glory to God and peace . . .”

What a glorious time of year we are about to enter. I am really looking forward to this holiday season: Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, and the New Year. I think it is because the last several years have been somewhat stressful as far as the holidays go. Last year there was the big move into Wernersville right before Thanksgiving and Christmas. Then the year before was the infamous broken leg. Then the year before that I had just been ordained and begun my call at Trinity all the while moving into a rental house in Bernville.

So I'm hoping that this year can be more relaxed and we can simply enjoy time with family and the excitement of these special days. I suppose what I'm actually hoping for is peace of mind and body, peace for others, and peace for the days ahead not just here but everywhere.

What I'm talking about is “big” peace—peace of spirit, peace between quarreling friends and family, peace between governments and political powers, peace between those who are uncomfortable and frightened by those who may be different from them. And peace between those who may worship differently from one another.

I want to be someone who God uses to share, express, and exemplify that peace. That kind of peace is the peace that passes all understanding—the peace that only God can provide—the kind of peace that came into the world the night a child was born in Bethlehem and the angels sang, “Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth.” This is the peace we share with one another on Sunday mornings whether we are angry with someone or not.

It is in that common sharing of the peace that we put behind us the complaints and disagreements we have with one another so that when we come to the table to receive the bread and the wine, we come with pure and grateful hearts—hearts that are free to love, free to be at peace.

How can we show God's peace to one another? By demonstrating our generosity and love for others—by respecting the diversity of faiths around us, by acknowledging the joy of celebration regardless of how one does that. For me I know that the light of Christ shines through you and me and glows with the warmth of grace and love in ways that peace is felt by others.

As you walk through each day whether it is at work, school, appointments, and most importantly when we are out shopping face to face with others—remember to be an example of patience, caring, and peace—a peace that is contagious and is able to blanket even the most irate of holiday shoppers.

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you and all those who celebrate whether it is Chanukah, Kwanza, St. Nicholas Day, Three Kings Day, La Posada, Winter Solstice, St. Lucia, Boxing Day, St. Stephen's Day, Fiesta of Our Lady Guadalupe, Omisaka, Yule, Saturnalia, and yes—Christmas, too.

Peace be with you all during the Christ-filled holidays yet to come,
Pastor Julie



On December 2nd we will have our annual Advent Fun Shop following worship. We will begin with the lighting of the first candle on the Advent wreath, followed by a light lunch and then proceed to the craft tables to make Christmas items. This is a family event. Please come even if you didn't sign up.



Remember to save the date of December 16th @ 3 PM for the annual Christmas Concert (Silent Night). The Bell choirs, Bell Ensemble, 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.



And finally Christmas Eve candlelight worship services with Holy Communion on Monday, 12/24 @ 3:30 & 7:30 PM.

Other Information

- Poinsettia sign up ends on 12/2.
- Annual congregational meeting to approve the 2019 budget and elect church council members will be held following the 10:30 service on 12/9.
- The 2019 Flower and Bulletin charts are now available in the Narthex. They are under the current charts.
- Service of Lessons and Carols with the Sunday School Orchestra on Sunday, December 30th. No worship Saturday night 12/29.
- Sandy Miller (21 W. College Ave.) is having difficulty walking and needs someone to shovel her driveway and walk when it snows this winter. If you would be willing to help in this ministry, let Pastor Julie or Deacon Carol know as soon as possible so we can assemble a team of helpers.

How are We Doing?

After each third Tuesday of the month Council Meeting, we will print the financial information for the previous month. We will be presenting this information on a weekly basis in the bulletin and on a monthly basis in the newsletter. Here are some helpful facts to go with the numbers:

Our shortfall is money we owe to ourselves, it is borrowed from reserves that have already been committed to something else, but do not need to be spent yet - but it will have to be paid eventually.

Our benevolence (Mission Support) commitment is our Congregation's share of the work of the Church in our Synod, in our Country (the ELCA) and Worldwide. It is the equivalent on a larger scale of our own personal giving to God's work.

Our debt is money we borrowed to put on a new roof, refurbish the organ, air condition the building, pave the parking lot, and purchase the house at the end of the block. We borrowed nearly a half million dollars, and we have done a great job paying that loan down ahead of schedule.

Trinity's Financial Summary for October

Average Attendance: 82.5

Average Weekly Giving: \$3032.00.

Total income year to date: **\$137,321.64**

Total expenses year to date: **\$145,972.22**

Shortfall, year to date (income minus expenses): **-\$8649.33**

Total income last month: **\$20,892.25**

(some of this income taken from unused dedicated funds, [i.e. children's music, WELCA])

Total expenses last month: **\$13,696.14**

What we owe ourselves after borrowing from other reserves: \$4747.89

Percentage of Mission Support made year to date: **39%**

Debt Retirement

Debt reduction last month: **\$2,115**

Debt reduction year to date: **\$19,850**

Outstanding debt as of 9/30/18: **\$9,110.40**

Church Council Highlights for November

- Approved 2019 Church Budget.
- Approved 2019 Endowment Budget.
- Discussed the need for timely payment of weekly flower sponsorships
- Approved changing the copier lease with Edwards Business Systems which will entail receiving a new copier with an annual savings of approximately \$1200.00.

Mission Possible has the confirmed date for our mission trip to Puerto Rico in 2019. We will be leaving June 30, returning July 6. We will be under the care of Lutheran Disaster Relief. If you would like to join the team going, please call Dawn Hickernell at 610-685-4672 or 610-589-2228 as soon as possible. The camp we are staying at is quickly filling up with volunteer teams and we must secure our number of people on our team.

We will be doing repairs and/or clean up. Thanks so much for all your support! Dawn Hickernell Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Homesale Realty 610-685-4672.



Dear TRINITY Community,
Thank you so much for
your prayers, support, and
your gracious donation to our family
w/ Charlie. Charlie has come
so far because of the love &
support she received during the
"extra" time she needed! ♡ ♡ The Stout
Family.



Charlie-
as of 11.6.18
weighing in @ 10.8 lbs!

November 7, 2018

Trinity Lutheran Church
Pastor Julie
130 S. Walnut Street
Wernersville, PA 19565

Dear Pastor Julie and the Wonderful Congregation of Trinity Lutheran Church:

I wanted to thank you for the donation of personal items, toiletries, and assorted gifts to be used as Christmas presents for the consumers at Wernersville State Hospital.

We sincerely appreciate your interest and efforts in helping to make Christmas a more cheerful time for consumers.

All of us from Wernersville State Hospital would like to extend wishes to you and your family for a happy and healthy holiday season and New Year.

Sincerely,



Katherine Ellett
Volunteer Resource Coordinator
Wernersville State Hospital
610-670-4164
kellett@pa.gov

*November 16, 2018
Wernersville, Pa.*

*Dear Members and friends of Trinity:
The flowers that came to the dining table at the house I live in are still "giving" as the time goes by. Thank you for sharing them with me.
I am "muck" about "physically" and gaining ground with my memory. It helps to know others think of (me) and the flowers are still reminding me. Thank you again. 😊*

Sincerely,

Kay Heather Doety

Please remember in your prayers:

Members who are sick or recently hospitalized: Diane Klinger, Buzz Lockwood, Matthew Schwartz, and Donna Youtz.

Members who are homebound or in care facilities: Ardelle Heffner, Joan Kava, Pat Sickles, Kay Weatherholtz, and Jane Wilkinson.

The Military: Bryce Dawson, Kiley Ann Gring, Natalie Ketner, Allison Rosati Martin, Justin Klinger, Eric Ochs, Nick Taatjes, and Jeffrey Troutman, Jr.

Family and Friends: Michael Barber, Wanda Barnett, Tracy Benson, Larry Brossman, Carolyn Bryant, Joanne Debiec, Fred DeLong, Marge Dietrich, Trudy Dougherty, Peggy Guido, Samuel Guido, Glenn Helbert, Karl Himmelmann, Jessey Homan, Hannah Kramer, Jake Powers, Patricia Prutzman, Tom Reppert, Christine Rhoads, Kenneth Searfoss, Judy Steffie, Beverly Wentzel, Jerry Zachousk, and Ann Zimmerman

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

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

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 still need a bulletin sponsor for 12/16. Please sign up on the appropriate chart in the narthex.**

Altar Flower Sponsors for December: 12/2-Joe & Marie Rosati in honor of their wedding anniversary, 12/9-Anne Marie Rinehimer in memory of parents, 12/16-Carol Koch in honor of the handbell and chime ringers, 12/23 & 12/24-Bob and Donna Youtz in honor of their grandsons, 12/30-Sue & Joe Sickler in honor of their wedding anniversary.

Bulletin Sponsors for December: 12/2-Elaine Briner in honor of family, 12/9—Mary Young in memory of her husband's birthday, 12/16-available, 12/23-Sue & Joe Sickler in memory of Jerry Rapp, 12/24-Sue & Joe Sickler in honor of Chrissie's birthday, 12/30-Sue & Joe Sickler in memory of Helen Rapp.

Helpers for December

Council Devotions and Snack: Wendell Byler

Communion Assistant: Betty Lou Franzen

Greeters: 12/2-Kerri Searfoss, 12/9-Linda & Kirsten Weiss, 12/16-Connie & Terry Fritz, 12/23-Pete Schmehl, 12/30-Bashore Family.

Acolytes: 12/2-Carly Kurtz.

Lay Readers: 12/2-Mary Nace, 12/9-Betty Lou Franzen, 12/16-Kathy Lawry, 12/23-Ann Marie Rinehimer.

Ushers: 12/2-Lawry's, 12/9-Bashore's, 12/16-Kurtzes, 12/23-Berkenstocks, 12/30-Barbara Debiec & Laura Miller.

Sound System: 12/2-Scott Franzen, 12/9-Patrick Berkenstock, 12/16-Stephanie Kurtz, 12/16 concert-Scott Franzen, 12/23-Wendell Byler, 12/24 (3:30 PM)-Patrick Berkenstock, 12/24 (7:30 PM)-Mike Jarsocrak, 12/30-Scott Franzen.

Counters: 12/2-Hummels, 12/9-Franzens, 12/16-Rapley/Pirl-Roth, 12/23-Jarsocrak, 12/24-Debiec/Rinehimer, 12/30-Hummels.

Bulletin Assemblers: 12/7-Kathy Lawry, 12/14-Bonnie Giamotti, 12/21-Kathy & Izannah Bashore.

Children's Sunday School Teachers: 12/9-Paige Shannon & Kathy Lawry, 12/16-Karen Houck

Church Council Members

Wendell Byler, President 610-670-8512

Harmony Wentzel, Vice President 610-390-9986

Scott Franzen 610-678-7330

Jerry Jarsocrak 610-670-0954

Diane Klinger 610-927-8730

Laura Miller 610-678-2152

April Schwartz 484-345-9018

Kay Stout 610-678-8238



Our sincere sympathy to the families of Suzanne Kreider and Emma Renzo. Suzanne entered the Church Triumphant on Tuesday, October 30th and Emma entered the Church Triumphant on Saturday, November 16th. Please remember their families in your thoughts and prayers. May the Lord bring comfort to all those who mourn.