

Trinity Tidings for November, 2020

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

“Come, Holy Spirit, Come”

I am so impressed by the Holy Spirit. No, really. I am always excited, but never surprised when I so clearly find the Spirit to be at work. For instance, once when I was working at a church in Lancaster I ran an afterschool program which provided homework help and dinner to neighborhood kids.

Every week, while dinner was being prepared, a homeless man named, Grover—who has long since passed away—would come to the door for a meal of his own. So we would hand him a paper plate full of food and send him on his way. One day, Grover came to the door accompanied by a few more people. We fed them, too.

After a few months of this, we figured there was no harm in letting Grover and his friends come in and sit down to eat. The kids could just sit at a different table. It wasn't long before word got out on the streets and even more people started coming each week for a meal. It was then that we decided to make it official. So we began to advertise our free Wednesday night meal. Alongside of that, other churches in town either were doing or started doing the same thing on different nights of the week. As a result a flyer was printed up stating on which day of the week and at which church a person could find a hot meal. That was around 1998-99. Today, 22 years later, the Wednesday night dinner at my old church is still going strong though it has now partnered with other groups and organizations to come and cook and serve the meal each week.

The point of the story is this: no pastor or church committee started this booming social justice ministry. No one except for Grover and the Holy Spirit. That's what I love about the Holy Spirit. When something absolutely grace-filled begins to happen and grow and you're wondering how it is all happening, get out of the way because the Holy Spirit is at work.

Lately I have seen the same thing happening here at Trinity. I call it “Ketner Worship.” And don't worry, I asked John if I could talk about him. As you know many of our Saturday night senior members have been sheltering at home during corona and John was one of them. Then one day, after some time had passed, John asked if I wouldn't come to his porch and offer Holy Communion. He also asked if he could invite a few others to join in.

And so about 6 weeks ago we did just that. Sitting on John's porch, socially distant and wearing masks I read some scripture, chatted about the verses, celebrated the Lord's Supper with them, and prayed. Then we did it again. And by the third time John asked to bring a couple more people and I suggested we move our gathering to the Social Hall.

Last Wednesday morning we sat in a circle around a makeshift altar as we shared our lives with one another, heard scripture—talked about that scripture, prayed, and ate the bread and drank the wine. John said, “Let's do this the third Wednesday of every month.” We decided on 10:30 a.m. And we are now set for Wednesday, November 18th at 10:30 a.m.

Now I know I better get out of the way, 'cause the Holy Spirit is barreling through and there is no stopping her. The hope is that once we get through corona we might add in a brunch or lunch to go with our time together. Perhaps it could even move to an evening time with supper so that those who work can

come and be a part of this new worship time of scripture, conversation, prayer, and communion—and someday a meal, too. It falls right in line with our Lenten soup, study, and sacrament.

All of this is the Holy Spirit at work. Ultimately, we don't know how the Holy Spirit will grow this new worship time. But I can tell you this: I am refreshed and renewed by it and am excited for others to share in it too. John said, "What if it grows too big?" Well, what if it does? With the Holy Spirit in charge, there is always a way forward. So if you are feeling moved and stirred to join us in November don't hesitate to drop by—mask on—and heart open.

Blessings,
Pr. Julie

Please remember in your prayers:

Members who are sick or recently hospitalized: Diane Brown, Ed Evans, Harriet Helbert, Dick Hummel, Janice Lamm, & Sandra Miller.

Members who are homebound or in care facilities: Sharon Gring, Ryan Harman, Joan Kava, Diane Klinger, Dan Nace, Ed & Pat Paine, Barbara Pennypacker, Rosie Putt, Betty Reber, Clarence Schein, Pat Sickles, and Kay Weatherholtz.

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

Family and Friends: Heather Alderman, Wanda Barnett, Kristine Bashore, Carolyn Bryant, Fred DeLong, Marge Dietrich, Ellen Emanuel, Peggy Guido, Glenn Helbert, Betty Kauffman, Shirley Kerchner, Hannah Kramer, Cindy Marsh, Destiny Olivarares, Bob Perrone, Sr., Jake Powers, Claire Putt, Tom Reppert, Dorothy Stone, Dwight Tinsley, Jerry Zachousk, and Ann Zimmerman.

Special Ministries: Our missionary 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.

Home Communion Available

As Trinity's ministry moves forward in this time of coronavirus, we are learning more about how to safely navigate these foreign waters. But many of our church family we have not seen for a while as they remain safely quarantined. Though the Sunday bulletin and sermon are sent out by mail and e-mail, Holy Communion is something we cannot send. If you are missing Holy Communion and feel safe enough to have Pr. Julie visit you (outside on a patio, porch, or in your yard) She will gladly bring home communion to you along with prayer, scripture, and a message of hope. Masks will be worn and social distance kept. You need only email her at k25music@aol.com or phone her cell at 717-687-8682 to make arrangements.

How are We Doing?

Trinity's Financial Summary for September

Average Weekly Giving in September, 2020: **\$3372.00**

Average in September, 2019: **\$3364.40**

Total income year to date: **\$135,062.73**

Total income year to date in 2019: **\$134,149.16**

Total expenses year to date: **\$132,627.96**

Total expenses year to date in 2019: **\$140,432.30**

Total income in September: **\$13,488.00**

Total expenses September: **\$19,775.67**

Percentage of Mission Support made year to date:

to Synod: **77%**, to Mission District: **81%**

Thank you for your generosity.

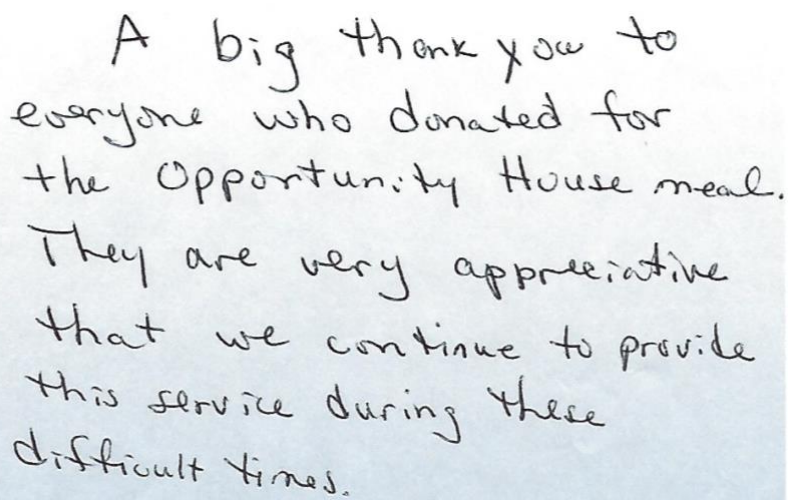


Thank you!

Dear Pastor Osterhaut,

My father, Clarence Schein, is doing well considering they are still confined to quality. He wanted me to send the enclosed gift to the church and say thank-you to all who sent Birthday and well wishes.

Clarence Schein



A big thank you to everyone who donated for the Opportunity House meal. They are very appreciative that we continue to provide this service during these difficult times.

The following are pictures and notes from various members who received "care packages" as part of our God's Work our Hands Sunday project.



Carolyn Kurtz



This arrived at our front door, late this afternoon. It is beautiful. Thank you Trinity Lutheran Church, Wernersville for the nice thought and to Bonnie Giamotti for delivering it. It is greatly appreciated.
Harman Family

PASTOR JULIE...

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK MY TRINITY CHURCH FAMILY...
FOR THE WONDERFUL GIFT I RECEIVED YESTERDAY (SATURDAY)..
FIFTEEN MINUTES AFTER I GOT HOME I WAS USING THE BLANKET.
MY FURNACE BROKE DOWN AND I USED THE BLANKET OVER MY
SHOULDERS TO TAKE THE CHILL OFF.. FORTUNATELY THE FURNACE
WILL BE REPAIRED ON TUESDAY... THANKS AGAIN, I COULDN'T
BELIEVE ALL THE THINGS THAT WERE IN THAT BOX...

SINCERELY,
RICHARD

Dear Pastor Julie,

Hope all is well in your neck of
the woods. Just wanted to thank you
for sending me that care package
filled with ...**VERY MUCH.** a lot of
good things including the hand sanitizer
and all of the food - of course!

I hope everyone is staying healthy too
during this rough time, I know I'm doing
my best. Hope to see all of you soon.

Thanks again

John

Top is Richard Boyer, Bottom is John Kurtz

Dear Kevin + Stephanie,

We want to thank you + the church family for the snack filled care package. That was certainly a surprise.

We are both fine. Our days have been busy with working in our flower gardens and yard. There is always some project to do.

Although we have not made any definite plans, we hope to return to church in the near future. Thanks again.



Best wishes to all —

Prayerfully yours,
The Lutts —
Frances + Phyllis



Dear Pastor Julie & Committee,

I want to thank you all so much for the fantastic "care" package! The call from Annie, + then a short masked singing were quite wonderful on their own accord — and the goodie bag was such a bonus!

It will likely be awhile until I feel comfortable returning to worship. For now I'm following my family's + doctor's advice and trying all I can to stay healthy. But I really do miss being out in the world!!

Thank you so much again for thinking of me.

Much Love to All
Mina Lutts

More in next months newsletter plus pictures from Trunk and Treat. Stay tuned.

Flower and Bulletin Sponsorship

We are resuming bulletin and flower sponsorship. If you are interested, please sign up on the appropriate chart in the narthex. The cost of sponsoring the flowers is \$38.00. The cost of sponsoring the bulletins is \$15.00. Please put your check or cash in an envelope with your name on it and place in the offering plate.

We will not be delivering flowers to home bound or shut ins during this time so you must take your flowers with you following the service.

Altar Flower Sponsors for November: 11/1-Barbara & Jim Debiec in memory of Richard Debiec and all the saints who have gone before us, 11/8-Cindy Hassler-Schappell and family in memory of her son, Heath Hassler (16 years), 11/15-Mary Young in memory of her wedding anniversary, 11/22-Diane Brown in memory of her mother, 11/29-Joe & Kelly Perrone in honor of their 3rd wedding anniversary.

Bulletin Sponsors for November: 11/1-Barbara & Jim Debiec in memory of Richard Debiec and all the saints who have gone before us, 11/8-Cindy Hassler-Schappell and family in memory of her son, Heath Hassler (16 years), 11/15-Dick Ketner in memory of Doris and Mark, 11/22-Diane Brown in memory of her mother, 11/29-Joe & Kelly Perrone in honor of their 3rd wedding anniversary.

Helpers for November

Council Devotions: Woody Noll

Communion Assistants: 11/-Kathy Lawry, 11/22-Barbara Debiec

Altar Guild: Barbara Debiec

Lay Readers: 11/1-Charlotte Moyer, 11/8-Laura Miller, 11/15-Anne Marie Rinehimer, 11/22-Allison Given, 11/29-Kay Stout

Ushers: 11/1-Kathy & Rick Lawry, 11/8-Bob & Kathy Bashore, 11/15-Kevin & Stephanie Kurtz, 11/22-Allison & Glen Given, 11/29-Anne Marie Rinehimer & Barbara Debiec

Sound Technician: 11/1-Patrick Berkenstock, 11/8-Scott Franzen, 11/15-Wendell Byler, 11/22-Stephanie Kurtz, 11/29-Patrick Berkenstock

Counters: 11/1-Franzens, 11/8-Rapley/Pirl-Roth, 11/15-Jarsocrak, 11/22-Debiec/Rinehimer, 11/29-Hummels

Bulletin Assemblers: 11/4-Kathy Bashore, 11/11-Linda Weiss, 11/18-Barbara Debiec, 11/25-Beverly James, 12/2-Helen Hummel

Church Council Members

Wendell Byler, President 610-451-1506

Harmony Wentzel, Vice President 610-390-9986

Scott Franzen 610-781-7674

Glen Given 484-955-1780

Jerry Jarsocrak 610-413-9472

Laura Miller 717-507-0934

Elwood (Woody) Noll 484-638-2057

Cindy Hassler-Schappell 610-670-1971

Church Council Highlights for October

- Reviewed and approved 2021 budget
- Diane Brown is our new mission interpreter
- Discussed combining Mutual Ministries and Social Ministry Committees.
- Discussed worship occupancy limits during the pandemic
- Scheduled annual congregational mtg. for Dec.13th following worship
- Next meeting is Wednesday, 11/18 @ 7:30 in Fellowship Hall.

Happy Birthday

Birthday Milestones in November

Betty Reber will be 96. Diane Klinger will be 81, and Kay Weatherholtz will be 82. Happy Birthday ladies.

Our sincere sympathy to Bob & Karen Wilkinson & Amy and Jeff Troutman on the loss of their mother and grandmother, Jane Wilkinson. Jane entered the Church Triumphant on Oct. 6th. A memorial service was held at Trinity on 10/27. Jane was a member of Trinity for 73 years and the family has requested that any memorial you wish to make be made to Trinity. Please indicate memorial fund in the lower left hand corner of a check or on the envelope. Please remember the family in your prayers.