

October 2021 Newsletter

Dear Siblings in Christ,

I went to the grocery store today and nearly drowned. It was raining so hard while I was in the store that I thought not only that the ceiling would cave in, but that the store was going to rise up and float away like Noah's Ark. You'd think I'd have been smart enough to stay in the "Weis Market Ark," right? No ... I was on a made-up schedule, one that was only in my mind; I had no appointments or obligations for hours. But, in my mind I needed to get going. So, I went.

Because I've been dealing with a shoe/foot issue (All is well, by the way, thanks be to God!), I'm still wearing a boot while I await new shoes and it's recommended that I drive one of those zoomy carts around the store instead of walking a lot before the arrival of the new shoes. In the soggy weather I'm glad I'm driving this thing; it'll get me to my car faster than walking would and I'd stay drier. Right? Again, no ... I didn't think about the fact that one cannot leave an electric cart out in the rain. My trip was doubled because I had to return it to the store! (And, duh, STILL run through the rain with my boot to return to the car.)

It was during this last bit of travel that I (dripping wet, ringing out the bottom of my blouse on the covered sidewalk, rainwater stinging my eyes) met a nice and dry young lady on her way out the door. "If I had half a brain in my head, I'd have bought an umbrella while I was in here in the first place!" I exclaim. "She," gesturing to herself, responded with what appeared to be glee, "I'm in the boat with ya, sister!" And, she went running off into the deluge.

That brief and goofy interaction made my day. It may have made my week. I invite you to examine part of Noah's story with me:

¹Then the LORD said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and all your household. ⁶Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came on the earth. ¹³On the very same day Noah with his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons entered the ark, ¹⁴they and every wild animal of every kind, and all domestic animals of every kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every bird of every kind — every bird, every winged creature. ¹⁵They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. ¹⁶And those that en-

tered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in. ²⁴*And the waters swelled on the earth for one hundred fifty days.* —Genesis 7:1a, 6, 13-16, 24

Friends, who is in your ark, and are they gleeful about it? Who nourishes you that you haven't talked to in a while? Who do you know you nourish by your simple presence that you haven't offered some joy to lately? We're in a flood, and not just because it's been raining a lot lately. We're flooded with bad news, harmful viruses, hateful neighbors, divided families, broken bodies, sinful wills ... I could keep listing; you get the point.

We NEED others to be in the boat with us – cool people, fun people, people that carry us when we can't walk on our own, people who respect us even when they think we're wrong, people who will speak the truth in love to us. We each need someone who'll smile and laugh and run out into the rain with us – into the hospital, the nursing home, the bank, the grocery store, the voting booth, the bars, and the church. Simply – lets be together. We ALL need it.

Oh, and remember how the story ends? Watch for the rainbow. Watch for the promise. Watch for the Lord. Storms, no matter how large, do end, all to the glory of God.

In Christ,
Pastor Susan



We pray for our homebound members and for those battling injury or long-term illness, *especially: Phyllis Snyder, Christopher Teal, Luther Rinehart, Theresa McGee, Kim Smith, Logan Siekerman, Pr. Terry McCarthy and Pixie Henry.* If you know of any members needing pastoral care, please contact the church office. **Please notify the church as soon as possible if someone you know is hospitalized.*



Our Mission: We are a family of Christian disciples committed to making Christ known while loving and serving God and neighbors.

Our Vision: To fulfill our mission, we will:

Worship through liturgy, music, prayer, and Sacraments;

Teach God's Word and nurture spiritual growth;

Serve and provide for those in need;

Witness to others by sharing the Gospel;

Celebrate with fellowship;

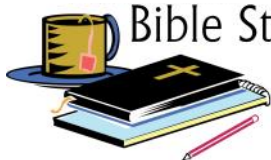
Return with joy what God has given;

Be active in our community and the Church.

Worship, Serve, Celebrate!



Bible Study continues Mondays in October - You are invited to attend these gatherings at 6:00pm on Monday evenings either in person or on Zoom.



Bible Study

Meeting ID: **832 0518 4571** Passcode: **Bible**

We'll continue to use Zoom as an invitational way to invite others who can't be with us in person for whatever reason, in

whatever location. Please use your superpowers of evangelism (tell people you know) that they are invited to attend either way. Please join us!



**Congregational
MEETING**

Annual Congregational Meeting –

November 14, 2021

Our next congregational meeting will be Sunday, November 14 after worship. We will be voting to approve a 2022 budget and to elect new council members.

WELCA News

The ladies of WELCA will start meeting again! Please plan on attending Tuesday, October 5 at 7 pm in Trinity's social hall. We will cover any business that needs to be taken care of, voting on our donations to the Food Pantry, etc. Then, we'll spend time together in fellowship to catch up! Can't wait to see you all!

Financial Report -August 2020

Current giving for August (5 weeks) was \$16,269 vs. a monthly budget of \$16,473; YTD giving is \$119,673 versus a budgeted income of \$131,784, a shortfall of \$ 12,111. Current Expenses in August were \$13,693 against a budget of \$16,424; YTD actual expenses are \$122,790 versus budgeted expenses of \$134,984, for a surplus of \$12,194. As you can see at the end of August our current income versus expenses are nearly equal.

Benevolence giving is ahead of the YTD budget of \$8800 and is currently at \$9,671.

As in the past, we do see seasonal fluctuations in giving. It is only because of lower than planned expenses through the first 8 months of 2021 that we are not experiencing a significant cash drain since current giving is not meeting our budgeted requirements. Cash on hand to meet current expenses is \$26,475.

Thank you for your continued financial support of our ministries at Trinity. As we enter the last 4 months of the year our expenses are expected to return to budgeted levels, so we will need to meet our monthly budgeted income of \$16,473 to maintain our favorable cash position.

Electronic Giving is a great way to support our congregation and its many ministries throughout the year! Your offering comes through even when you cannot attend worship. Simply sign up online through our church website or by contacting the office at 717-259-9125, or you can scan this code with your phone. ———>



Adopt a Senior Member in Need - We have senior members that



need our contact. Please consider signing up to “adopt” a member by calling, sending cards, and visiting as you are both able. Sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board. If you have questions, please contact Judy Burgard or Dona Lerew. Thank you!

New Website

Our new website is up and running! The new website hosted by FaithLife became live on August 14. Over the next few weeks we will be adding new content to the website and will be rolling out functionality that will enable us to enhance our ministries. In the meantime, you can view the website at www.trinitylutheraneb.org. Our initial focus will be to develop and enhance the “About Us” content. Under the “Connect” content you will find Events, Community, Bulletins and Newsletters. To see a full Calendar go to the “Community” dropdown and then select “Calendar” from the menu.

You may wish to create an account by selecting “log in” and following the instructions to create an account. An account will provide you with more functionality as we move forward and will be needed if you wish to use the mobile app. STAY TUNED... More details to follow!

Breakfast October 24, 2020



Trinity will be holding a pancake and sausage breakfast Sunday, October 24, beginning at 8:00 a.m. The Men's Ministry Group will host the breakfast which will include coffee, tea, orange juice and fruit. There is no charge for the breakfast but a free-will offering will be accepted. To help in planning for the breakfast a signup sheet will be placed on the bulletin board on October 3.

MEN'S MINISTRY

Now that summer is over, the Men's Ministry Group would like to re-convene its regular monthly meetings. Since the Men's Ministry was “selected” to host the October 24 pancake and sausage breakfast, a planning meeting for that event will be scheduled shortly. In the meantime, mark you calendars for Saturday November 13 at 8:30 a.m. for our Saturday morning breakfast meeting. **ALL ARE WELCOME... THE YOUNG AND THE NOT SO YOUNG ALIKE!**

ZOOM COCKTAIL HOUR RETURNS this fall, just for the fun of it!
Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4314503914?pwd=WTBoCHZTck1LZXBTs84TW1yaTEzZz09>

Meeting ID: 431 450 3914

Passcode: Cocktails

Grab your cocktail and join in the no-agenda fellowship conversation at 7:00p.m. on:

- Thursday, October 7
- Wednesday, October 13
- Thursday, October 21
- Wednesday, October 27
- Tuesday, November 2

If you need help zooming, please contact the church office. 717-259-9125



GINGERBREAD HOUSE WORKSHOP

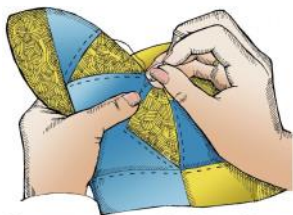
Mark your calendars for November 28, at 4:00 p.m. for the Gingerbread House Workshop. This annual event had to be cancelled in 2020 but we are moving forward with plans for the event this year. Stay tuned for more information to follow.



Pumpkin Painting and Scarecrows to be held October 24. More details coming soon!



KNOTTY KNOTTERS: The Knotty Knotters will continue meeting the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month to make knotted quilts for folks in need. Upcoming meetings will be held from 2:00-4:00pm



- October 13
- October 27
- November 10
- **No Meeting on November 24**
- December 8

If you can tie a knot, we hope that you will consider joining this group. The Knotters need many hands to work on this worthwhile project. If you have questions, contact Gay Weigand 717-476-8290.

WEDNESDAY MORNING PRAYER SERVICE continues



each Wednesday morning at 10AM in the Chapel. This service is streamed only to the congregation's private Trinity Lutheran EB Fellowship Group on Facebook. Because of the sensitive nature of the joys and concerns that may be freely lifted up

in this prayer service, the worship will not be made publicly available but will only stream to this closed group. Should you wish to become a member of Trinity's Fellowship Group, search for it on Facebook and click "join." Members must be approved by the group administrators. Questions? Call Jen at 717-259-9125. Everyone is welcome to pray with us!

Pastoral Visits: Pastor Susan is working with the Adopt-a-Senior ministry to visit all homebound members where covid restrictions are not preventing visits. If you are not on this list but would like a visit, please let Pastor know. She's happy to come to your house!

PASTOR SUSAN'S INSTALLATION has been postponed until the Spring.





On Saturday, September 11, 2021, East Berlin held it's annual Fall Festival. Trinity sold breakfast, lunch, soup, and baked goodies. There were games for kids, items for sale, silent auction items, as well as a nice 9/11 remembrance table. We are grateful to all of the volunteers and guests that made the day a success.







Trinity's next blood drive will be Tuesday, November 9 from 1:00 to 6:30 pm. Please consider signing up to donate life-saving blood. If you are unable to sign up, how about getting a friend or family member to donate? Sign up by calling the church office or go online to the Red Cross website. Each unit of blood donated can benefit 3 people. This is truly a ministry of love.

Trinity's Yard Sale will take place Saturday, October 30 from 8am-2pm. Tables will be available to rent both indoors & outdoors for \$10 each. We will be selling food inside. See Ruthann Bowen or call the church office if you would like to reserve your spot!



Hymn Sing/Ice Cream Social: We will be holding an outdoor hymn sing on Sunday, October 17 at 4:00pm in the church parking lot. We will enjoy ice cream and toppings along with some great fellowship as we sing familiar, well-loved hymns. Come and enjoy the fellowship and sweet treats together. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Susan, Karen Wire or the church office.



Pet Blessing: Our next pet blessing will be held Sunday, October 3 at 4:00pm in the yard behind the church. All types of pets are invited (leashed or crated) as well as photos of your pet(s) if you don't feel comfortable bringing them to the service. Please call the church office if you have any questions.

HYBRID CHURCH ACADEMY – A *Commitment Worth Making*

Trinity is embarking on an adventure to learn more about becoming a congregation on two campuses: in person AND online. We're registered, as a congregation, to participate in an 8-month study through the ELCA and our own synod called the *Hybrid Church Academy*. Everyone is invited to this conversation, for as much of it as you are able to participate in. The academy meets over Zoom on Saturday mornings from 9-11 a.m. on:

October 2, 2021: Introduction- Asking the Right Questions

November 13, 2021: Where next for you? Technology Choices

December 11, 2021: Social Media and Hybrid Evangelism

January 29, 2022: Hybrid Discipleship

February 26, 2022: Another Hybrid Easter? Creative Worship

March 26, 2022: Hybrid Stewardship of Everything (Including the Building)

April 30, 2022: Building Relationships in a Hybrid World

June 11, 2022: A Hybrid Future (Shared Learnings)

If you have questions or would like to learn more, please contact Pastor Susan.



We are collecting individually wrapped Halloween candy to distribute to the community. There is a collection box in the Narthex.



Share the Ministry with Ruth Graham, daughter of the Reverend Billy Graham on October 15 & 16. Youth for Christ is sponsoring a special event for local adults to hear what God is doing in the ministry of YFC. These events are free to attend and are designed for adults. The Celebrate Stories events will be held October 15 in Westminster, MD and October 16 in Hanover, PA at the Hanover Church of God. Free hors d'oeuvres and desserts will be shared. Reservations are requested for each event. Go to masondixon-yfc.org/events to fill out the simple form. Or call (717) 646-9900 or email Kelly at Kelly@masondixon-yfc.org



Sunday School RALLY DAY



Worship Assistant Schedule

Date	Assisting Minister	Lect
Oct 3	Jake Sharrer	Bob A
Oct 10	Charlie Hoffman	Bob
Oct 17	Chris Long	Jayne S
Oct 24 Harvest Home	Jim Kline	Noelle
Oct 31 Reformation	Sue Clauser	Mary J

Note: If you need to change the date you are scheduled to serve, please contact



Bike Parade: On Sunday, September 19, Trinity's Sunday School kids decorated their wheels and paraded down to the Community Park.

Schedule for October 2021

tor	Ushers
Aims	Jay & Sue Smith
King	Terry Yealy, Bob Aims
ebright	Les & Maxine Herman
e Kline	Janet & Mac McMaster
acobs	Rick & Anita Madsen

at others on the list and arrange a swap. Please notify the church office of the change.



REFORMATION
Sunday

Reformation Sunday, October 31, 2021.

Ministry Pages



Sharing Shelf

The Sharing Shelf ministry has far exceeded expectations since starting in April. We currently re-stock the shelf on Sundays and Wednesdays. Through the "Share the Harvest" donations/proceeds, we have collected \$211 that is being used to purchase additional food. This ministry is totally funded by Trinity. Since the inception we have purchased nearly \$500 of food to support this ministry. To properly record any monetary contributions, please designate on your offering envelope "Sharing Shelf". Non-

perishable food donations are also welcomed. Items such as canned vegetables, canned fruit, tuna, canned pasta, soups, pre-packaged dry noodle dinners and instant mashed potatoes are fast movers! ***Thank you for your continued support.***

Food Pantry: New Hope is bringing the mobile pantry from 3:00-6:00pm on Wednesday, October 6. The guests will be able to shop for their needs. This also means that we will need more volunteers to help the guests with shopping and additional duties. Please consider helping if you feel comfortable doing so. We will also be offering the guests individually wrapped snacks such as cookies, brownies, pretzels, and fruit. If you would like to help in this way, your donation would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Anita Madsen.



Laundry Love Ministry will be held Tuesday, October 12 from 5:30-6:30pm at the White Dove Laundromat in East Berlin behind Jim & Nena's. Guests will be provided with quarters and laundry soap to assist with their laundry needs. If you have questions or would like



to volunteer, please contact Judy Burgard (717) 259-9507. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. We need two volunteers each month. **PLEASE bring in your quarters and drop them in the donation bin inside the back door vestibule.**

Trinity's Wellness Group

WELLNESS GROUP – The October gathering of the Trinity Wellness Group will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 19th via Zoom. Watch your announcements for a zoom link. If you are unable to zoom in but would like to attend, please let Jen or Pastor know; Pastor is happy to zoom from church so that we can sit together at the computer and participate. This month we'll begin discovering **EVERYDAY CELEBRATIONS**, and we'll keep on discovering right through November! We'll explore gathering for socialization, joyous laughter, humor, and game playing. More details will be available closer to the dates but you can expect October and November's Wellness Groups to be a lot of fun! For more details contact Laura Ryder and/or Pastor Susan. See you there!

Ruth's Harvest is ready to go for the 2021/2022 school year. **On Tuesday, October 19 at 1:00pm we will pack 60 bags for Bermudian Spring Elementary School.** If you are interested in helping please join us at St. John's in Abbottstown - packing takes place in the Abbottstown Firehouse next to the church parking lot. We will be getting things organized and start at 12:45pm. Packing will take approximately 30 minutes.



A Harvest of Sufficiency, Contentment, and Generosity

When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the foreigner. I am the LORD your God. –Leviticus 19:9-10

“What I earn is mine, ALL mine, to do with what I want.” That’s the message our culture tells us again and again. Yet the Leviticus 19:9-10 clearly tells us that the “mine, all mine” attitude existed some 2,500 years ago as well. It’s hard-wired into us.

Our sinful human nature leads us to claim all we can for ourselves, which is why for thousands of years and up to the present God has called faithful people to live a better way. In this passage, “the Lord your God” instructs farmers and vintners to harvest only once, and not to the very edges of their land, and to leave the remnants of the harvest to the poor and the foreigner – people on the margins scavenging for their daily bread.

The teaching encourages landowners to find sufficiency in their first harvest, to be content that their needs are met, and then be generous with what is left over. Today, Leviticus 19:9-10 challenges us whose “harvests” of income are more than sufficient to satisfy our immediate needs. Do we *have* to take it all? What can we give for the needy?

In this traditional season of harvest, what blessings can you count from the last year? (Take a few minutes to prayerfully consider this, and make a list). Does your harvest more than adequately meet your needs?

Now prayerfully consider how much you can generously “leave” for the needy? Consider this in making a year-end contribution to your congregation, or in determining a pledge for 2022.

--Rob Blezard

Copyright © 2021, Rev. Robert Blezard. Pastor Blezard serves as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, MD, and works as content editor for www.stewardshipoflife.org. He blogs at www.thestewardshipquy.com.

Notes From the Music Director



To all our singers who are hoping soon to sing full voice with much joy! I hope, too, we will soon be able to sing with great confidence! Adult Choir members and all of our dedicated Cantors are invited to the first choir rehearsal, October 24 at 8:30am. October 24 is a pancake breakfast day and the Harvest Home theme in worship. In order to social distance, I feel we need to meet in the social room (or chapel this first rehearsal, October 24). The social room will probably be busy with pancake happy faces, so let's meet in the chapel this first time. Adult choir will meet each Sunday at 8:15am beginning October 31st, Reformation Day and November 7, All Saints Day. We are certainly ready to harmonize!

I'll happily greet you with three anthems to learn—some new, some familiar. Thank you for your dedication to Trinity's worship.

I certainly have enjoyed preparing a "mini recital" each Sunday morning these past months. The church will be quiet when you arrive on October 24 because the choir is practicing at that particular time. We all look forward to this lovely change to welcome our talented singers.

~ Karen Wire





October Birthdays



10-2 William Bowen Sr.	10-2 Jim Hoak
10-2 Terry Yealy	10-4 Rachael Pinkas (Black)
10-4 Jeff Fortuna	10-9 Poncho Moore
10-10 Amber Nickey	10-11 Rachael Erdman
10-11 Beth Deputy	10-12 Adam Kline
10-13 Doris Edris	10-17 Estella Smith
10-17 Becky Rinehart	10-18 Victoria Mason
10-19 Heather Young	10-19 Marsha King
10-20 Tim Raubenstine	10-21 Patrick McSherry
10-23 Elizabeth Clauser	10-23 Donna Scott
10-25 Barry Jacobs	10-25 Deb King
10-27 Judy Burgard	10-29 Madison Hoak
10-30 Rev. Jerry Strek	



Many thanks to each of you for the birthday cards and well wishes I received for my 90th birthday. These past ten-plus years have been a blessing for me to have been welcomed into the Trinity family and to be able to worship with you. God is good.

This is the day the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalms 118:24

-Shirley Heltibridle



10-6 Leeann & Nic Lieberum ~ 3 Years
10-6 Theresa & John McGee ~ 31 Years
10-6 Michael & Christine Sheads ~ 31 Years
10-11 Nathan & Giovanna Biles ~ 13 Years
10-12 Steve & Tracy Smith ~ 41 Years
10-14 Jeff & Kim Erdman ~ 26 Years
10-17 Scott & Valerie Stains ~ 35 Years
10-23 Brad & Michelle Boyer ~ 17 Years
10-25 Bill & Ruthann Bowen ~ 36 Years
10-31 Steve & Steph Haley ~ 23 Years

THANK YOU!

A word of thanks to our Trinity family for all the cards, and messages in celebration of our 50th Wedding Anniversary. We are so blessed to have such a loving church family.

~Bob & Deb King

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Thank you to all of my brothers and sisters in Christ for the calls and cards during my illness. It was greatly appreciated.

- Thank you, Pixie Henry



Reflection on 9/11 by Mark Boyer:

As most of you know, I spent a large portion of my life (around 25 years) living in NYC. As many you may not know, I have written stories about my travels and life experiences that have made me who I am. Below is one such experience that like many we remember where we were and what we were doing. Although the 20th anniversary of 9/11 was last month, I still wanted to share this experience with my family at Trinity.

September 11, 2001

It was around 6 am. I was up early still being on East Coast time and in a hotel in Seattle beginning a new project for an insurance company headquartered here. I started getting dressed and my cell phone rang. There was a pause and then “Mark, it is Sharon.” Immediately I knew something was wrong. She continued, “A plane just flew into one of the WTC Towers.” My first thought was Air Traffic Control messed up but before I could respond she continued, “Mark, a plane hit the other tower.” I knew this was a planned attack. My first concern was Sharon’s safety as at the time she was working a few blocks from Ground Zero and was looking out a window. I said get off the phone and head away. I thought what if I never saw her alive again. She survived and like so many walked block after block to their homes or a place far away from the devastation.

I sat on the bed, turned the TV on and watched CNN and the continuous image replayed of the planes as they hit the Towers. An image still in so many minds. The Towers collapsed like something from a movie with the ash pillowing up into the sky. I knew this would be a day that would change the world forever.

I got dressed and went into the hotel lobby where I was staying with the TVs hanging on the walls, everyone staring in disbelief. We all became robots, stopped in time not knowing what to do next. Throughout the country many including my friends and colleagues having been away from home and could not fly, rented cars from Chi-

cago to DC, from Boston to Philadelphia and many other routes throughout the country. I was stuck in Seattle for two weeks.

My NY apartment at the time was in the Village and located one block from Washington Square and West 4th Street separating the West and East Villages. As I watched the news and read the papers I saw crowds gathering in the Square, holding vigils in honor of the thousands who had perished. For almost all New Yorkers, there was one degree of separation from at least one victim.

Finally, I got a flight back to NYC and made my way to the airport, experiencing the changes that are now commonplace like the thorough checking of the bags, taking off of all belts, coats, etc. I observed all passengers who normally may have expressed frustration given, like myself, little patience. Now they could take all the time they needed. Once on the plane I felt a thick anxiety in the air. For those of us never having a fear of flying were overcome with anxiety. I tried to read for the long trip across the country but kept imagining the millions of Americans underneath me and the vulnerability now being felt.

The following morning I made my way through the daily routine. Off to work, I stopped at the local coffee shop on the way as I had so many times before. The owner of this shop, which was basically a large closet opened up into West 3rd Street so different from the Starbucks I frequent now, looked up and his eyes lit up. "I thought you were gone." Moving down the street, I dropped off my dry cleaning at the cleaners I have so many times before. The owners, an immigrant couple from Korea, also looked with a feeling of relief. The eyes that normally took my shirts with a thank you, now looked longer with a sense of relief. It is so amazing the daily connections we take for granted but affect our lives in so many ways.

I crossed 6th avenue to catch the E line up to the office. I look South and what had been a clear view of the Towers was now a hole in the skyline. Somewhere I remember stopping on the sidewalk when it finally hit me. What if I were among those that had perished. My thoughts pictured the world without me, my friends and family and the grief they would have felt. I looked at every person, did not think

of the past or the future, but the present, embracing the moment at hand. The moments we should cherish the most.

As I continued my walk toward the subway my thoughts continued. I always believe when it is our time to go it is meant to be. But when the experience becomes too real our perspective becomes different. I thought of the thousands and thousands of people whose grief was real and felt guilty for feeling I had been one of the fortunate, one of the blessed.

Once on the subway, the New Yorkers surrounding me did not have a look of fear, they were reading the paper, or a book, or just with their thoughts of what the day would entail. We were not letting fear take control as was the intent of the terrorist. I looked around and realized we had and will persevere. I thought back to my feeling of guilt and realized the remorse I felt should not be a burden I carry, but one of hope knowing there is never an end. The spirit of life will continue on.

Years have passed since 9/11. But each year on its anniversary the lights beam into the NYC sky where the towers had been. We are drawn back in time yet also pushed forward. Occasionally when I am in Tribeca, standing for the triangle below Canal Street the street famous for the shops selling the designer knock offs, I make my way further South to Battery Park. I take in the beautiful 9/11 Memorial that consists of fountains streaming down the walls where the base of each tower stood. The names of all the victims forever sketched on the walls. Tourists looking at them, not knowing the names, but feeling the compassion when our human race is afflicted.

I head further south to the tip of the Island. In front of me, the Statue of Liberty standing tall, her arm raised with the torch that will forever remain lit. She watched as the towers fell and the many perished. Lady Liberty saw us rebuild and move on, but never forgetting. Standing there looking across the NY Harbor, I feel her spirit permeate past me, north up Manhattan, and continuing throughout her country. The vast land filled with the many generations of ethnicities she openly welcomed without discrimination or judgement, and whose lives and dreams she will always persevere to protect. A spirit that can never be destroyed in her land of the free and home of the brave.



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2021

Members present: Pastor Susan, Bob King, Bill Tritsch, Louise Haugh, Stephanie Haley, Sue Clauser, Judy Burgard, Noah Rinehart, Lisa Miller, and Karen Sheaffer

Joining us via Zoom: Jake Sharrer and Dona Lerew

Absent: Mark Boyer

Bob called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

Pastor Susan led devotions using her prepared Liturgy and Psalm 54.

The secretary's report was reviewed, and a motion was made by Louise to approve the report as written. Pastor Susan seconded the motion, all agreed, and the motion carried.

The treasurer's report was reviewed, and Stephanie suggested adding a link to encourage electronic giving to our weekly emailed announcements to encourage more members to use this way of giving.

Ministry Reports

Learning & Youth-Lisa reported that almost 40 people have signed up to attend Rally Day on Sunday! This event starts in the social hall at 10:30, then classes will see their classrooms. They will then go to the parking lot to decorate their "wheels" to ride down the alley to the park for food, fellowship and games.

She also is still looking for a K-2 teacher and a teen teacher. Stephanie volunteered to lead the teen class. Future events include pumpkin decorating on Sunday, October 24 during class. Gingerbread houses are to build on November 28. And Christmas caroling in December.

Worship & Music-no written report

Finance & Stewardship-Current giving for August (5 weeks) was \$16,269 vs. monthly budget of \$16,473; YTD \$119,673 versus budgeted income of \$131,784 a shortfall of \$ 12,111. Current Expenses in August were \$13,693 against a budget of \$16,424; YTD actual expenses \$122,790 versus budgeted expenses of \$134,984 a surplus of \$12,194.

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As in the past we do see seasonal fluctuations in giving and it is important we continue to keep our giving information in front of the congregation. It is only because of lower than planned expenses that we are not suffering from a cash drain since current giving is not meeting our budgeted requirements. Cash on hand to meet current expenses is \$26,475.

A suggestion was made to include this information in our weekly announcements so that our members are aware of our current financial situation.

Coordinating Committee-future events were planned and include a Pancake Breakfast on Harvest Home Sunday October 24, Gingerbread House building on November 28. Plans were also discussed to decorate the Church for Advent and Christmas on November 26.

We discussed ways to help with Afghanistan refugees and a group called Bethany Services through Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Service has a list of items they need when placing families into homes. They may also need items stored before they are needed. More information to come later.

A meeting to discuss this and other Mission in Motion projects is planned for September 20.

Property-next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 23

“Governance” Mutual Ministry/Constitution Committee-At its meeting on August 26th, 2021, attended by Karen Sheaffer, Charlie Hoffman, Bill Tritsch and Pastor Susan McCarthy, we reviewed and revised the compensation amounts paid to the lay staff. We also discussed the need to be more adaptable in our thinking and worshipping in today’s world.

For our next meeting, rather than having a formal meeting (unless happenings dictate otherwise), we intend to individually spend some time with staff members.

Social Ministry-There were six families at Laundry Love this month. Our Next Laundry Love date is Tuesday, October 12 from 5:30-6:30pm at the White Dove Laundromat. Please note that we are still collecting quarters! The change drop is located inside the back doors of the church. Please bring your quarters the next time you come and drop

them in the coin collection bin.

The Next Food Pantry will be held Wednesday, October 6
Ruth's Harvest Packing will resume on Tuesday, September 21 at 1:00pm at St. John's Lutheran Church. We will pack 60 bags for Bermudian Spring Elementary School. If you are interested in helping, please join us at St. John's- packing takes place in the Abbottstown Firehouse next to the church parking lot. Pastor Shawn will be getting things organized and starting at 12:45pm and you are invited to join me. Packing will take approximately 30 minutes. Please communicate with those in your congregation that may be interested in helping. After this first distribution we will send out an email to notify congregations what they should be collecting for donations. Thank you to everyone who supports this ministry and makes it possible.

Pastor's Report

The projected October 2021 calendar was handed out to council members and reviewed.

Old Business

Covid Task Force-since our policies are already in place and information is current and always available for us to be informed, council discussed disbanding this committee. A motion to do so was made by Judy and seconded by Lisa. All were in agreement and the motion carried.

Policy/Covenant relating to Convicted Sex Offenders-council discussed how each policy would be written for each case/offender if needed. And because of this, we cannot make any recommendations formally, but a framework should be written. Pastor Susan will work with Mark to complete this.

Pastor Susan installation-this has now been postponed until the Spring/Easter season due to Covid restrictions. We hope to be able to have a joyous celebration including all the congregation and music.

2022 Budget-work continues on this and meetings with the committees will be held to review their needs before it is finalized.

Benevolence Strategy-council discussed how to more easily decide where benevolence funds are distributed. We decided to work on local needs and deal with the rest of the categories as they come at next

month's council meeting.

Open Council Seats-Judy and Louise are not renewing and there are two vacancies we did not fill this year, so we to fill four positions on council for 2022. Bob asked that we all submit two names to him as possible council members.

New Business

Congregational Meeting has been set for November 14, 2021.

Noah made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Louise seconded, all agreed and our meeting concluded with a sending and the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Sheaffer

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Treasurer's Report as of August 2021 for GENERAL FUND (NEWSLETTER)						
Saturday, September 4, 2021						Page 1 of 1
Account Name	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Monthly Budget	Budget YTD	% of Budget YTD	Over/Under YTD+(-)
Income						
CURRENT INCOME TOTAL	\$16,269.10	\$119,672.67	\$16,473.00	\$131,784.00	91	(\$12,111.33)
BENEVOLENCE TOTAL	\$1,206.26	\$9,671.24*	\$1,000.00	\$8,000.00	121	\$1,671.24
Total Income	\$17,475.36	\$129,343.91	\$17,473.00	\$139,784.00	93	(\$10,440.09)
Expense						
BENEVOLENCE TOTAL	\$1,206.26	\$10,871.50*	\$1,100.00	\$8,800.00	124	\$2,071.50
WORSHIP TOTAL	\$93.74	\$2,759.05	\$530.00	\$3,040.00	91	(\$280.95)
LEARNING AND YOUTH TOTAL	\$186.52	\$724.76	\$158.00	\$1,264.00	57	(\$539.24)
OTHER COMMITTEES TOTAL	\$388.53	\$1,593.60	\$338.00	\$2,704.00	59	(\$1,110.40)
SALARIES TOTAL	\$7,939.99	\$71,921.31	\$8,158.00	\$73,418.00	98	(\$1,496.69)
PASTOR'S BENEFITS	\$2,629.98	\$21,461.91	\$2,976.00	\$24,573.00	87	(\$3,111.09)
STAFF BENEFITS	\$239.61	\$2,065.91	\$241.00	\$2,176.00	95	(\$110.09)
TOTAL SALARY AND BENEFITS	\$10,809.58	\$95,449.13	\$11,375.00	\$100,167.00	95	(\$4,717.87)
OFFICE/ADMIN/CONF/ AUTO TOTAL	\$421.56	\$5,010.18	\$748.00	\$6,734.00	74	(\$1,723.82)
UTILITIES TOTAL	\$1,781.53	\$11,205.89*	\$1,259.00	\$11,197.00	100	\$8.89
MAINTENANCE TOTAL	\$11.97	\$2,817.87	\$708.00	\$5,664.00	50	(\$2,846.13)
INSURANCE TOTAL	\$0.00	\$3,231.00	\$1,308.00	\$4,214.00	77	(\$983.00)
Total Expense	\$14,899.69	\$133,662.98	\$17,524.00	\$143,784.00	93	(\$10,121.02)
Difference	\$2,575.67	(\$4,319.07)	(\$51.00)	(\$4,000.00)		

* = Income/Expense exceeds amount budgeted to date