

# April 2022 Newsletter

*13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in faith so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

--Romans 15:13 (Common English Bible)

Dear Siblings in Christ,

"Today's not starting out very well," I thought this morning. There was a hairball on the bathroom floor. Thanks, cat. It was colder than it had been the past few days. Thanks, Mother Nature. The dog refused to take her walk. Thanks, you rotten mutt. Poor Luke had to run back into the house on his way to the bus... bloody nose. Thanks, sensitive schnoz. Things just weren't going smoothly when I headed out of our house to go to church. And then, right in the right-hand lane on Rte 234, going up the hill toward the intersection with Rte 15 there was a pickup truck, just sitting. "Great!" I thought, "Just what I need..." And then, a small bit of compassion within me prevailed.

Unlike the others passing by him, a few of whom were honking and yelling unkind things, I put on my flashers, pulled over, and asked, "Are you ok?" "Yes," he replied, flinging his arm forward and pointing at the Rutters just up the hill, "I run 'er outta gas and right there's the danged station!" "What can I do to help?" I asked. "Ya gotta can?" he said. "Nope," I said, "I wonder if they sell 'em at Rutters; I'll go find out." "Thanks a lot!" he hollered as I drove off.

My gas can search at Rutters, a truck-stop nonetheless, almost resulted in no help for the gentleman at all. But, on a whim I asked the cashier if they sold gas cans. She went on a search in the grocery section when I'd been in all the auto/truck stuff. Who knew? In the end she came up with one one-gallon can. I quickly purchased it and went out the door toward the pumps, intent on rescuing this guy. I was now on a mission!

When I turned my head, though, I saw a young man in a beat-up pickup, a long chain attached to his truck, pulling the out-of-gas-man into the parking lot. I waved the gas can at him and they both waved back as they yelled at one another about "keeping the wheel straight" and "coming in just a little farther." My interaction with the

gentleman was rather brief as he was towed in this makeshift fashion to the pumps. Handing over the tiny, empty gas can I said, “You might want to carry this with you from now on, just in case...” He laughed and agreed – and marveled at the way two strangers had come together “fer this ol’ guy” when he was stranded with hope in sight. It was ministry, no matter how secular the circumstances seemed.

I tell you this story not to lift up community or God’s call to care for one another, though that’s valid. I don’t tell you in order to share the rush of love and calm I felt in caring for this stranger in the midst of my lousy morning, though that’s significant. Instead, I tell you this story because what I can’t get out of my mind is the gas can. So many times in our lives we need just a little more energy, strength, patience, money, time, gumption, etc., to get to the place we’re going. And sometimes we run out of gas on the way.

St. Paul reminds the church in Rome, and us, that God fills us with joy and peace in faith, leading to the hope that carries us. The Lord is our fuel and we carry that fuel with us wherever we go. Remember your can of faith that’s stashed in your truck bed, trunk, back seat... heart. As I left the Rutters parking lot with a prayer on my mind for my new friend, the Holy Spirit reminded me that in all those strings of days when things just aren’t going right, like today, the Lord’s peace and joy and hope are available to me when I’m not carrying enough of my own. Sometimes that’s spiritual and sometimes that means relying on the tangible help of the community God has provided for me, a truth for us all.

My prayer for us, as we complete this Lenten season and turn to the celebration of Easter, is that we are reminded of the LIFE that fuels us, together, in the resurrection promise, and that we are indeed filled by God for the journey ahead. A blessed Lent, and a Happy Easter to you all!

In love,  
Pr. Susan



**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!**



**Wednesday**  
*Lenten Services*

**LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICES**

We gather Wednesday evening, April 6 at 7:30pm via Zoom.

The service will be a live Zoom prayer service. The Zoom link will be shared in your weekly

email. If you would like to participate but don’t Zoom, please call the church office; Pr. Susan can Zoom from church.

**Drive Thru Holy Communion** distribution will be held Sunday, April 3 at 10:30am. Anyone wishing to participate should arrive at the back of church to receive the sacrament from your car.



**Bible Study** gathers on Zoom Mondays in April at 6:00pm. The Zoom Meeting ID: **819 8762 1052**

Passcode: **Bible**

Anyone who would like to join who doesn’t Zoom is still welcome to join Pr. Susan at the church to Zoom with her—just let her know so she’s sure to be at the church. **There will be NO BIBLE**

**STUDY ON MONDAY, APRIL 18TH.**



We pray for our homebound members and for those battling injury or long-term illness, *especially: Lester & Maxine Herman, Donald Linebaugh, Freda Manzullo, Christine Sheads, Mark Deputy, Theresa McGee, Kim Smith, Logan Siekerman, Pr. Terry McCarthy and Pixie Henry.* If you know of anyone needing pastoral care, please contact the church office. **\*\*Please notify the church as soon as possible if someone you know is hospitalized.\***



### Care Packages for Students Away from Home

The Outreach Committee will be sending “exam care packages” to college and technical school students in late April. We hope they will receive “survival” items in time for their studying for final exams. We would like the Congregation to donate any of the following by Sunday, April 24, 2022.

A good luck card or message for our students:

GW Sebright

Charlie Sebright

Luther Rinehart

Donations of items including:

- Packages of snack crackers and/or granola bars (no potato chips or pretzels, please)
- Candies
- Pens
- Small puzzle, sudoku, or similar item

If you know of any other students that we might have missed that would appreciate a care package, please notify the church office.

## **WELCA News**

Our meeting held, March 1, was held in-person and we began with devotions, reading from Luke 9:23 "Then He said to them all: Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me." These devotions make us think of giving up something for the forty days of Lent...or turn away from things that can do us harm or keep us from being close to God. Instead turn our focus to God and be blessed in the knowledge with Christ, all things are possible.

We covered these items:

- 1) we sent \$50 to the Women of the ELCA for our annual offering.
- 2) we will be making Spring wreaths for our 7 shut-ins. Chris Sheads will lead this project and will purchase the items needed. We will meet in March to create these wreaths.
- 3) a \$250 Thrivent Action Team gift card was applied for and approved, to purchase items to assemble emergency/health kits to be handed out at the April Food Pantry.
- 4) we will apply for another \$250 Thrivent Action Team gift card to purchase the items needed to assemble Spring Cleaning Buckets to be given to the May Food Pantry families.
- 5) Creation Festival will be held this year in Mount Union, PA at the Agape Farm, after 2 years of cancellations due to Covid. Plans will be made soon.
- 6) We will provide the meal for the Food Pantry families at the April Food Pantry. Judy offered to make the pulled pork barbeque, Anita & Deb will make the mac & cheese, and Karen will prepare the vegetable tray and purchase rolls and chips. We will ask for donations of cookies for dessert.

**PLEASE NOTE THE TIME OF THIS MEETING!!!** Our next meeting will be held April 5 at 2 PM in our social hall. We have Anna Mae Foreman as our speaker, and she will share her knowledge of butterflies and their life cycle. We will also assemble the emergency/health kits to be handed out at the April Food Pantry.



# MEN'S MINISTRY

Due to inclement weather, the Men's Ministry breakfast and tour of AgCom scheduled for March 12, was postponed. A new date and time will be set in the near future. Watch for an update to follow shortly.



<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-1472485>

The next time you shop on Amazon, please use the link above. Or, instead of just typing Amazon.com, go to: Smile.Amazon.com and select Trinity Lutheran Church from the list of charities. Each time you shop on Amazon Smile, Trinity receives 0.5% of eligible purchases. It's the same great Amazon that you're used to; just with an added benefit! Contact the church office for details!



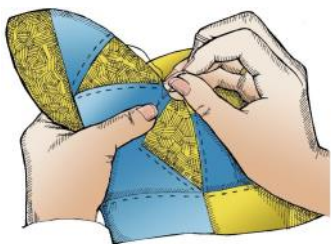
## **February Financial Results**

February current giving was \$11,918 versus a budget requirement of \$15,929. In the first two months of 2022 we are experiencing a shortfall in our budgeted income by \$5,875, or 15.5%. The YTD total income is \$32, 128 with total expenses at \$32, 314 for a net deficit of \$186. Non-budgeted current income to date is \$1,948. Most expenses at this point are below or in-line with budget except utilities which are significantly higher than the budgeted increases projected for 2022. While February giving was less than expected, a quick evaluation of giving does reveal some changes in allocation in giving toward current as suggested in the January Congregational letter. Thank you! Meeting our budgeted giving goals is crucial in executing our Mission Statement as we fully resume pre-pandemic ministries.

## **2021 Audit**

The 2021 year-end audit is currently underway. The Finance and Audit Committee met March 15 and completed invoice verification tests. There are a few remaining items to clarify before the formal write-up can be started.

**KNOTTY KNOTTERS:** The Knotty Knotters make and distribute quilts to those in need. The quilt tops are pieced, or sewn together. The quilt sandwich, which includes the pieced top, batting in the center, and a bed sheet for the backing, is held together by tying knots through all three layers. The quilts measure 60"x80". The



Knotters meet the second and fourth Wednesday of every month from 2:00-4:00, in the church social hall. All are welcome to join this worthwhile ministry. Upcoming meetings will be held from 2:00-4:00pm on April 13 and April 27.

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.

## **WEDNESDAYS FELLOWSHIP & FAITH**



You're invited to gather each **Wednesday morning @ 10AM in the Chapel** for a mid-week spoken **Morning Prayer** service. The service may also be seen online in the Trinity Lutheran EB Fellowship Group on Facebook. Everyone is invited to participate in person or online—and we're adding some fun! Beginning the first Wednesday of April, April 6, those who wish to join in will gather between **8:30-8:45 at Rene's Restaurant for breakfast**, dutch treat. Orders will be taken at 8:45 so we can return to church in time for worship.

## **MAY PIE SALE**

WELCA will be baking Shoo Fly and Cherry pies on May 5 and 6. Look for a sign-up sheet in April under the bulletin board, or place your orders by calling Judy Burgard at 717-259-9507. Proceeds will continue to help those in need through our WELCA projects!



**Donate Eye Glasses:** The East Berlin Lion's Club has a donation box for old eye glasses located under the bulletin board near the Annex. Bring in your glasses that you no longer need and drop them in the box!



The second annual **Spring Fling** will be held on Sunday, June 5th at noon. The Parish Life committee will provide hot dogs and drinks. We are looking forward to all the delicious dishes that everyone will bring! Please stay tuned for the location.

**Mark your calendars for our annual Church Picnic** to be held on Sunday August 28th. Everyone always has a great time of fellowship, so please plan to attend. More information will be forthcoming.

**Church Secretary** will be off March 31—April 5. The office will be open, thanks to volunteers, for modified hours 9-11:30am. Any urgent church business can be directed to Pastor Susan (717) 778-5548. Thank you to the volunteers for assisting!

## **COCKTAIL HOUR TAKES A BREAK**

Cocktail hour won't be scheduled on a regular basis from April till October because of the busy, longer daylight times that call us away from our computers and into other activities. But, we'll watch the weather and make plans to gather sporadically when it's rainy or just rather yucky to be outside. **Keep an eye on your emails for a Zoom invitation.** Thanks be to God for all who have gathered through the cold, dark fall/winter seasons for these times of pure fellowship, and thanks be to God for the technology that allows it!





# HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Palm Sunday                      April 10 – 9:00am**

**Maundy Thursday              April 14 – 7:30pm**

**Good Friday                      April 15 – 7:30pm**

**Easter Services                 April 17:**

**7:00am – Easter Sunrise Outdoor Svc**

**8:00am – Easter Breakfast**

**9:00am – Children's Easter Program**

**10:15am – Easter Festival Service**

<b>Worship Assistants</b>	<b>April 3</b>	<b>April 10</b>	<b>Maundy Thurs April 14</b>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Jake Sharrer	Katharine Beckman	Ruthann Bowen
<b>Communion Helper</b>	Alex Sharrer	Alex Sharrer	Sue Clauser
<b>Lector</b>	Mary Jacobs	Eddie Sebright	Sue Clauser
<b>Ushers</b>	Rick, Anita, Terry, Bob A.	Judy, Leon, Sharrers	
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Deb King	Noelle Kline	Janet McMaster



WELCA hosted a pie sale in March selling blueberry and lemon sponge pies.

**Good Fri  
April 15**

**Early Easter  
April 17**

**Late Easter  
April 17**

**April 24**

Sue Clauser

Becky Rinehart

Alex Sharrer

Becky Rinehart

Alex Sharrer

Bob King

Bob King

Shelly Livingston

Dona Lerew

Bob Aims

Rick & Anita

Jay, Sue,  
Ruthann, Kathy

Louise, Mark,  
Janet & Mac

Kathy Kuhn

Anita Madsen

*Thank*  
**YOU**  
FOR YOUR SUPPORT



Thank you to all the volunteers and patrons of the pie sale!

# Ministry Pages



## Sharing Shelf Update

Beginning April 1, 2022, the Sharing Shelf will again be available 24/7 on Trinity's back porch. Donations of non-perishable goods are welcomed. We will attempt to keep the shelf stocked but due depleting inventory it may not be available every day. Thank you for supporting this valuable community ministry.

**WELLNESS GROUP** – Please watch for information about coming Wellness Group topics and gathering times in the weekly announcements. We are always looking for suggested topics as well as ideas for presenters. If you have any ideas or questions about the group, please contact Laura Ryder and/or Pastor Susan. Be well!



**Food Pantry:** New Hope Ministries is bringing the mobile pantry from 4:00-6:00pm on Wednesday, April 6. (Note the new time). The guests will be able to shop for their needs. **REMINDER:** Volunteers are needed to serve as personal shopping assistants, set-up and tear-down, stockers and loading assistance. No need to sign-up in advance to help. Simply show up anytime after 3:00 p.m. on day of the Food Pantry . Any questions contact Anita Madsen.



**Laundry Love Ministry** will be held Tuesday, April 12 from 5:30-6:30pm at the White Dove Laundromat in East Berlin behind Jim & Nena's Pizza. 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 upstairs in the Narthex.**



### Pizza and Prayer Workshop-

April 3 at 5:00 pm in the Social Hall. There is a sign up sheet on the table just outside the sanctuary. If you don't enjoy pizza, the prayer workshop will begin very

close to 5:30 pm. Looking forward

to seeing you on Sunday the 3rd at 5:00 pm. Two additional workshops will be offered May 1 and May 15. Watch for details!

-Katharine, Trinity Intern

**Ruth's Harvest** is working hard this school year. On Tuesday, April 12 at 1:00pm we will pack 60 bags for Bermudian Springs 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. **Currently there is a great need for fruit cups, pop tarts, vegetable cups, breakfast bars, SpaghettiOs and individual milk boxes (unrefrigerated).**



*Mission in Motion* is focusing on “The José Project.”

We are helping an 18 year old senior at Bermudian have a safe place to live with his 17 year old sister and 15 year old brother. José is caring for his siblings. We are rehabbing a trailer in York Springs for their home. This is a joint effort involving the staff at Bermudian, Servants Ministry in Red Lion, and various community members. In addition, New Hope and our food pantry have provided food and some household items. It is truly the work of God! Jay Smith is the project manager for the inside rehab and Servants is managing the outside rehab. Mission in Motion has dedicated \$1000 from our budget and Council approved \$2000 from the Endowment Fund for the inside trailer rehab. We expect about \$5000 total needed for this project. In addition, there will be household supplies and a small bit of furniture needed. The school staff is donating funds as are people on a Go Fund Me Page created by Holly Wallen from the high school who is coordinating all the efforts. José is working on getting his license and will be working full time as a school custodian upon graduation. He will also need an inexpensive car at some point to be able to commute to work and have transportation for him and his siblings as needed. If you are interested in donating funds for this important project, please make your check payable to Trinity Lutheran and write, “The José Project” on the memo line. If you are interested in helping with the work, please let Jay Smith know. If you are interested in contributing household items, please see Dona Lerew to find out what is needed. Your help is appreciated! José is an admirable young man, taking on high responsibility in his young life!



**Passion Service Readers Needed!** We need volunteers to assist with the reading of the passion on Sunday, April 10. Please contact the church office or Pastor Susan if you are able to help.





On Tuesday, March 22, a crew of ladies, led by Christine Sheads, assembled beautiful Spring Wreaths to deliver to our homebound members. These thoughtfully crafted wreaths will be delivered this spring so our members at home can feel the love from their Trinity family.

**The letter below was sent to the members of Trinity on March 17, 2022 regarding Covid-19 Mitigation.**

*Peace be to the whole community, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

—Ephesians

6:23

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Grace and peace to you all. I pray that this letter finds you journeying through Lent in a fashion that is renewing to your spirit and that you are reconnecting to God in this season in a way that nourishes all that you are and do.

The congregational council, acting as the Covid-19 Task Force for Trinity, met on Thursday, March 10, 2022, and reviewed recommendations made by the Worship & Music Committee as regards the recent Center for Disease Control and Prevention mitigation updates. We considered the new CDC information and W&M's proposal and have approved the following for Trinity's worship life at this time:

- Worshiping, including singing, unmasked (Those who would like to continue to mask are encouraged to do so.)
- Resume sharing the Peace with a handshake if you are comfortable doing so
- Resume passing the Offering plate
- Invite the choir to return with practice in the social hall to allow for distancing while singing, and to ask the choir to distance from one another in the chancel
- Add the singing of two hymns during the distribution of Holy Communion
- Add a Closing/Recessional Hymn to the end of the service
- Stop printing the hymns in the bulletin and resume using the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnals in the pews (This is also a paper-saving stewardship plus!) Words for all hymns will continue to be available on the livestream slides for those who worship online.
- Continue the use of wafers for Holy Communion until Easter, then return to using bread. The distribution of Holy Communion will remain a continuous flow for now.

Please note that anyone who chooses to wear a mask and/or continue to socially distance is fully welcomed to do so. The CDC notes that these measures are effective even when others are not wearing masks and/or



distancing from one another. As always, you are welcomed to worship here at Trinity in the manner that is most comfortable to you. Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns about this or any matter.

May God bless you and keep you this day and always!

In Christ,

### **Livestreaming/Tech Team Assistance**


We are still looking for at least one adult and one additional student to serve on a Tech Team to learn to set-up and operate our various livestreaming and A/V equipment used at Trinity. This will be a critical requirement in developing our long-term A/V strategy. Please contact Pastor Susan or Bob King if you have an interest in working on this team.

**Making a difference in the lives of people with Dementia** conference will be held Friday, May 13, 2022 from 8:00am-12:30pm at the Church of the Open Door-East York Campus 4075 E. Market Street. The keynote speaker is author, caregiver and motivational speaker, Loretta Woodward Veney. She will be speaking about the JOY of caregiving. There will also be a panel discussion with partners. Registration is FREE. You can attend in person or online. To register, call (717) 843-1504 or email [makingadifferenceindementia@gmail.com](mailto:makingadifferenceindementia@gmail.com)

**Adopt a Senior Member in Need** - We have senior members who



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!



# Worship Schedule

(All services begin at 9 am on Sunday unless indicated otherwise)

- Apr 3: Fifth Sunday in Lent
- Apr 6: Mid-Week Lent Service (**7:30pm via Zoom**)
- Apr 10: Palm Sunday
- Apr 14: Maundy Thursday (**7:30pm**)
- Apr 15: Good Friday (**7:30pm**)
- Apr 17: Easter Sunrise Service (**Outdoor 7:00am**)
- Apr 17: Children's Easter Program (**9:00am**)
- Apr 17: Easter Festival Service (**10:15am**)
- Apr 24: Second Sunday of Easter

## NOTES:

- Please note the following elements are available during Communion: pre-blessed sealed wafer and grape juice packages, wheat wafers, gluten-free wafers, poured grape juice, poured wine.
- While Holy Communion distribution is a continuous flow, you are invited to step out of the line to spend time at the chancel rail as you desire.
- Anyone interested in serving as a Lector, Assisting Minister, Usher, Hymn Leader or Altar Guild is asked to contact the church office.
- We are in need of volunteers to serve during the **Holy Week services**: *Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunrise Outdoor Service, Easter Festival Service*. If you would like to volunteer to serve as Assisting Minister, Lector or Ushers, please contact Jen in the church office.

**Notes**  
From  
the  
**Music Director**



-Karen Wire





# April Birthdays



4-4 Nick Erdman

4-7 Steve Smith

4-8 Leeann Lieberum

4-11 Skip Boyer

4-16 Bonnie Boyer

4-17 Keagan Hermansen

4-19 Ed Wire

4-19 Jack Hinkle

4-19 Kathy Kuhn

4-21 Harry Bowen

4-23 Wanda Fink

4-23 Lisa Hoak

4-25 Barb Mummert

4-26 Dave Sharrer

4-28 Kacie Boyer

4-28 Ezra Bowen

4-29 Dale Brenner

4-29 Jayne Sebright



4-9 Mark & Beth Deputy ~ 39 Years

4-28 Pat & Kim McSherry ~ 43 Years

## Children's Easter Program Rehearsal

We will have practice on Saturday, April 16th from 4-6 PM in the social hall. The first hour will be practice, then we will have our egg hunt and eat dinner during the final hour. Please bring a food item or dish to share. Hotdogs, rolls, peanut butter & jelly, and drinks will be provided. A sign up sheet will be on the church bulletin board so that you can write down what food item you will bringing to share.

# EASTER BERLIN

## Community Egg Hunt

April 9, 2022 | Rain Date: April 16, 2022  
East Berlin Community Park



THANK YOU!

**WELCA would like to thank everyone** who helped make our March Pie Sale a great success! Thank you Sharrer family for the donation of flour for making our pie dough. Thank you to Barb Mummert and Ruthann Bowen for squeezing and zesting our lemons for our Lemon Sponge pies! Yes, that is real lemon juice you taste! Thank you to the Mummert Farm for the fresh milk use in the Lemon Sponge pies! Thank you to Charlie Hoffman for his contribution of pie filling! Thank you for the wonderful helpers in the kitchen making dough and crumbs for toppings, rolling dough out and preparing crusts for us to fill, mixing the ingredients, filling all of those pie crusts, baking, counting, packaging, and keeping up with all of those dishes that needed washing!! Thank you, Judy Burgard, for all the phone calls for orders and organizing the lists of customers! But most of all, **thank you to everyone who purchased pies!!!** Proceeds will continue to help those in need in our community through our WELCA projects. We are blessed with so many generous folks at Trinity, and grateful for each and every one of you!

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# CHURCH COUNCIL

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Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
March 10, 2022

Present: Pastor Susan, Dona Lerew, Rick Madsen, Jay Smith, Stephanie Haley, Mark Boyer, Katharine Beckman, and Karen Sheaffer  
Absent-Bob King, Sherry Brown, Sue Clauser, Lisa Miller

Dona called the meeting to order and Pastor Susan used our Council Meeting Liturgy, reading from Psalm 77:11-15. Our agenda was reviewed and one additional item was added under New Business- we need to set April's Council meeting date due to our Holy week schedule.

### **Secretary's Report**

The February minutes were reviewed, and Katharine noted that her name was spelled incorrectly. With the correction in place, Jay made a motion to accept the corrected minutes, Rick seconded the motion, all agreed, and the motion carried.

Thank you notes were received from New Hope Ministries and ELCA for our donation to Lutheran Disaster Response. Another note was received from East Berlin Area Community Center for a donation to their organization. And a thank you note was received from Pixie Henry for helping her.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The report was reviewed. More information will be covered in the Finance Report.

### **Ministry Reports**

**Learning & Youth**-Planning for Easter Program has begun. Notify Easter program rehearsal will be held Saturday, April 16 from 4-6pm. Easter program will be Easter Sunday at 9am in the Social Hall. Next meeting will be held April 7 at 6:30pm.

### **Worship & Music-**

We met on March 7 with Pastor Susan, Becky & Noah Rinehart, Karen Wire, Karen Sheaffer, Katherine Beckman, Mike Brown, Noelle Kline and Jen Guiher in attendance.

1) Review of recent Epiphany worship services-these were well received, enjoyed, and we would like to continue to do these services.

2) Covid & new recommendations-the following were discussed, and we would like to recommend the following:

- singing unmasked (those who would like to continue to mask are encouraged to do so)
- resume sharing the peace with a handshake
- resume passing the collection plate
- have the choir return, with practice in the social hall to allow for them to spread out; and also have the choir spread out in the chancel area
- add singing 2 hymns during communion and add the processional hymn to the service
- remove the hymns from the bulletin and instead use our hymnals in our pews. The two hymns during communion and the processional hymn will be added to the video stream so those attending on-line will have the information.
- we will continue with the center aisle communion at this time, using wafers. We would like to return to using bread at Easter.

3) We will check with Learning & Youth to see if we should move Faith Formation classes' start time to 10:30 AM now that we are adding more to our worship service.

4) Midweek prayer service-these are going well and will start with a breakfast at Rene's Family Restaurant for fellowship before the service in the Chapel. This prayer service is open to everyone to attend, and it is live streamed only to our private Facebook group.

5) Lenten Plans

- Ash Wednesday was well attended throughout the day. 11 people attended the morning prayer service with 4 watching on -line, 27 ashes to go and lunches were given out, plus the evening service attendance.
- Holy Week Services--We are still working on the details of the processional parade for that morning's service. Volunteers are needed for the dramatic reading of Passion according to Luke. Pastor Susan would like to have those attending the Maundy Thursday service help with the stripping of the altar and covering the picture of the Resurrection.
- 7AM outdoor service, to be livestreamed. Could include a choir (pickup or other), 8AM breakfast, 9AM kid's program, 10:15 late Service, and a return of a pickup choir. Could include return of acolytes. Could include return of real bread. Will need to do an acolyte training.
- New paraments are ordered and expected to arrive before Easter. Their dedication will be held at the 10:15 service.

- Pastor Susan will order a new oil burning candle Paschal Candle in memory of her Mother to be used for Easter.
- 6) Hybrid Church Academy-this committee will meet and then report to council their latest information.

Finance-

February 2022 Financial Results:

February current giving was \$11,918 versus a budget requirement of \$15,929. In the first two months of 2022 we are experiencing a shortfall in our budgeted income by \$5,875 15.5%. YTD total income \$32, 128 total expenses \$32, 314 net deficit \$186. Most expenses at this point are below or in-line with budget except utilities which are significantly higher than the budgeted increases projected for 2022. Non-budgeted current income to date is \$1,948. The February giving results are reason for concern as there has been little change in giving despite our congregational letter in January. In fact, YTD giving (Current and Synod Benevolence) in 2022 (\$32,128) is less than in 2021 (\$34,025).

2021 Audit:

The 2021 year-end audit is currently underway. Next Finance and audit Committee meeting is scheduled for March 14, 7 PM, at which time we hope to complete the remaining tasks and begin the formal write-up.

Parish Life:

Parish Life - A cupcake party was held for Karen Wire's birthday celebration. Parish Life will have an Easter breakfast this year and will work on plans to provide food for the Spring Fling date was changed to June 5.

Social Ministry:

The Next Food Pantry will be held Wednesday, April 6 from 4:00-6:00pm.

Our Next Laundry Love date is Tuesday, April 12 from 5:30-6:30pm at the White Dove Laundromat. Please note that we are still collecting quarters!

Ruth's Harvest Packing continues Tuesday, March 15 at 1:00pm at St. John's in Abbottstown.

Men's Ministry Group served a bag lunch and soup for Drive in Ashes March 2

Provided soup and sandwiches for Food Pantry March 2.

Next meeting March 12. Breakfast at 8:00 in Annex followed by a tour of AgCom in New Chester.

**WELCA**



We met on March 1 and covered these items:

- 1) we sent \$50 to the Women of the ELCA for our annual offering.
- 2) we will be making Spring wreaths for our 6 shut-ins. Chris Sheads will lead this project and will purchase the items needed. We will meet in March to create these wreaths
- 3) a \$250 Thrivent Action Team gift card was applied for and approved, to purchase items to assemble emergency/health kits to be handed out at the April Food Pantry.
- 4) we will apply for another \$250 Thrivent Action Team gift card to purchase the items needed to assemble Spring Cleaning Buckets to be given to the May Food Pantry families.
- 5) Creation Festival will be held this year in Mount Union, PA at the Agape Farm, after 2 years of cancellations due to Covid. Plans will be made soon.

Our next meeting will be held April 5 at 7 PM in our social hall and we will assemble emergency/health kits to be handed out at the April Food Pantry.

Mission in Motion - Mission in Motion is working on helping a local family in need and awaiting word on when a refugee family will arrive. The refugee family will be sponsored by a consortium of churches in the area. Please continue to contribute non-perishable household products for the refugee family. Specific details on these projects will be shared as they are known.

Dona reported on the local family that needs help. It consists of three teen siblings, and the 18-year-old is the head of household.

Outreach:

The first Outreach Committee meeting was held on Sunday, February 20, 2022 at 11:30am.

In Attendance were Sherry Brown, Ruthann Bowen, Katharine Beckman, Pastor Susan

Unable to attend: Ali Long, Deb King, Pam Eisenhart

- 1) Sherry volunteered to be Committee Chair.
- 2) It was shared that Trinity is not participating the Easter Berlin egg extravaganza this year. Prior to deciding, Sherry talked with church members who helped in previous years. Ruthann and Deb shared their impressions of previous years events. It was a mass of craziness with thousands of eggs and candy and prizes. Very little socializing or Christian messages were noticed. The Pastor and Steph Haley will attend this year's event to see firsthand what it is like.
- 3) The Committee would like more members, perhaps some people with younger children. Please search out members who might be

able to join. Share the information from today's meeting. Invite them to a planning meeting as fits their desires (Penny Carnival, College Care Packages)

4) It was decided to move forward with planning a Penny Carnival for August 2022. The theme will be "Back to School." Ruthann will work with Ali Long and Deb King to determine future meetings and planning. Areas to organize are Food, games, prizes, tickets, acquiring volunteers, acquiring school supplies for children. Budget was discussed for this, but it was felt that many items will be donated for the event. Outreach can access their allotted funds.

5) Care packages for students studying away from home was discussed. Packages will be sent four times a year. We will start this late April. NOTE: the 3 students at college now: GW Sebright, Charlie Sebright, and Luther Rinehart. I feel we could manage the cookie baking, buying and packing for April since there are so few to pack for. The Congregation is invited to purchase items. Refer to announcement in the March newsletter.

6) East Berlin Fall Festival is September 10, 2022. Outreach will help other committees when the time approaches.

7) Next meeting will be determined and sent out in an email.

Evangelism-No report.

Property:

We held our property meeting February 17, 2022. Present: Mac McMaster, Les Herman, Bob King, Jay Smith.

- Replaced the nonoperational dusk-to-dawn light mounted on the back of the church with a new, more efficient L.E.D. light.
- Serviced the upstairs sink for drainage issues and plan to in the future, remove the trap for inspection and thorough cleaning.
- Made plans to repair the sink top in the men's room to prevent further damage.
- Purchasing a heavy duty, Trinity embroidered throw rug to cover the damaged carpet in the hallway leading to the social hall. This is a cost saving safety precaution until a more permanent solution.
- We had a discussion on how to clean the vinyl flooring in the church. Jay reported they received a quote from One Way Janitorial for \$1,450.00 to strip and reseal vinyl and tile and to clean the social hall floor.
- Ordering another toilet seat for the upstairs bathroom.
- Made plans to remove the old, unusable water fountain outside the kitchen entrance door.

Next meeting scheduled for March 17.

## Pastor's Report

Pastor Susan's calendar was reviewed. She is looking forward to Holy Week and Easter services.

## Old Business

- Covid restrictions-the Worship & Music recommendations were reviewed, discussed and we amended the wording to say the sharing of the peace will resume as a handshake, if members are comfortable doing so. Jay made a motion to accept the recommendations with the correction, Stephanie seconded the motion, all were in agreement and the motion carried. Also, a correction to the written report: instead of "add the processional hymn to the service", it should read "add a closing hymn to the service." Pastor Susan will announce these decisions at the worship service Sunday morning and a letter to our congregation will be sent to update everyone as well.
- Web site update-Faithlife and the app are up and running. A total of 29 members have signed up so far. A second request will be sent out to our members.
- Hybrid Church Update-Pastor Susan and Dona reported the committee will work on a report to present to council on their vision. They want to address how to acknowledge those worshipping on-line during the service and weave them together with those in the pews. On any given Sunday on-line viewership is 22-25.
- ELCA Annual Report- a written report was included in our council packet. Our Finance Committee created this for the ELCA's website trending report.
- Committee chairs are required to recruit members for their committees. Several committees are in need of participants.
- Pastor Susan Installment service-Pastor Susan reported that she continues to work on this and is waiting on responses from those attending from Synod.
- Audio/Visual-we are still waiting on a quote for a single fixed camera for recording and using for live streaming. Volunteers are still needed to help with the audio/visual during Sunday mornings when Andie is not available.
- Open Council positions--still two positions open.

## New Business

1. Mission in Motion has asked for funding from the Endowment Fund for their upcoming needs for the local family. Jay asked if we could give this project a "name" and The Jose Project was

chosen. Discussion followed and Jay made a motion to designate \$2,000 out of the Endowment Fund to Mission in Motion's account for the rehab of the mobile home for this project. Steph seconded the motion, all agreed, and the motion carried.

2. April Council Meeting date-we will meet on April 7 at 7 PM.
3. Stephanie started a discussion on opening and using the front door of our church during worship services. Perhaps it could be "spruced up", or windows added to make it more open and to allow light in the that foyer area. Our property committee will look into this and Worship & Music can have greeters scheduled for that area.
4. Stephanie reminded council that East Berlin borough will have a town wide "Clean Up Day" on Earth Day April 23.

Our meeting adjourned with a motion from Mark, seconded by Rick, and all in agreement. Pastor Susan closed with a sending blessing and we recited the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Sheaffer

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH							
Treasurer's Report as of February 2022 for GENERAL FUND (NEWSLETTER)							
Friday, March 4, 2022							Page 1 of 1
Account Name	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Monthly Budget	Budget YTD	% of Budget YTD	Over/Under YTD+(-)	
<i>Income</i>							
CURRENT INCOME TOTAL	\$11,917.51	\$30,457.29	\$15,929.00	\$35,841.00	85	(\$5,383.71)	
BENEVOLENCE TOTAL	\$804.66	\$1,670.92	\$962.00	\$2,163.00	77	(\$492.08)	
Total Income	\$12,722.17	\$32,128.21	\$16,891.00	\$38,004.00	85	(\$5,875.79)	
<i>Expense</i>							
BENEVOLENCE TOTAL	\$1,341.59	\$2,587.59*	\$1,142.00	\$2,284.00	113	\$303.59	
WORSHIP TOTAL	\$299.99	\$388.20	\$375.00	\$750.00	52	(\$361.80)	
LEARNING AND YOUTH TOTAL	\$0.00	\$104.89	\$142.00	\$284.00	37	(\$179.11)	
OTHER COMMITTEES TOTAL	\$151.03	\$271.36	\$266.00	\$532.00	51	(\$260.64)	
SALARIES TOTAL	\$7,971.40	\$16,273.15	\$8,394.00	\$16,788.00	97	(\$514.85)	
PASTOR'S BENEFITS	\$2,836.68	\$5,561.66	\$3,054.00	\$6,108.00	91	(\$546.34)	
STAFF BENEFITS	\$142.87	\$410.17	\$266.00	\$532.00	77	(\$121.83)	
TOTAL SALARY AND BENEFITS	\$10,950.95	\$22,244.98	\$11,714.00	\$23,428.00	95	(\$1,183.02)	
OFFICE/ADMIN/CONF/AUTO TOTAL	\$880.87	\$1,639.96	\$1,026.00	\$2,802.00	59	(\$1,162.04)	
UTILITIES TOTAL	\$1,705.38	\$3,578.28*	\$1,466.00	\$2,932.00	122	\$646.28	
MAINTENANCE TOTAL	\$1,243.49	\$1,482.11*	\$708.00	\$1,416.00	105	\$66.11	
INSURANCE TOTAL	\$17.00	\$17.00	\$488.00	\$976.00	2	(\$959.00)	
Total Expense	\$16,590.30	\$32,314.37	\$17,327.00	\$35,404.00	91	(\$3,089.63)	
Difference	<u>(\$3,868.13)</u>	<u>(\$186.16)</u>	<u>(\$436.00)</u>	<u>\$2,600.00</u>			