

# The Orbit

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF  
TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ALTOONA PA  
TrinityAltoona.com | Facebook.com/TrinityAltoona



January/February 2025

"God thunders wondrously with his voice; he does great things that we cannot comprehend. For to the snow he says, 'Fall on the earth', likewise to the downpour, his mighty downpour. He seals up the hand of every man, that all men whom he made may know it...From its chamber comes the whirlwind, and cold from the scattering winds. By the breath of God ice is given and the broad waters are frozen fast."

Job 37: 5-10



## **From the Pastor:**

This reading from Job reminds me of two things in particular. One, that winter is upon us even as you read this, and two that God is ever in control. Many of you do not like the winter months and you may read the words of Job and be thinking, it is cold and frozen right now and I do not like it. We are in the two months that remind us that winter is very real and very present. January and February seem to be the most dreaded months of the year. There is not much to look forward to besides the cold, dark, days and nights of the middle of winter. However, these days also remind us that God is in control. The seasons have been put in motion and there is no stopping it. No matter how much we may not like the winter months there is nothing we can do about it. We just bundle up and get through it. God is in charge no matter what and this is God's world. We are reminded that without God we would be lost, we would be nothing. Just like God controls where the ocean stops, and the beautiful sunsets and sunrises, and the pretty spring flowers, God controls the freeze of the ground and the snow that falls and the ice on the waters. Whether we like it or not the seasons are set and we can choose to enjoy what God has given us. God is reminding Job, and us, that it is His world and we just live in it. It is not ours to control, but it is God's gift to us. So, even in the cold and bitterness of winter, let us enjoy and thank God for the gift of nature and the fact that God is in control.

Peace,



# Trinity Council President

## Trinity Council President

It's hard to believe that 2024 is behind us and 2025 is here. I, along with church council members, would like to wish everybody a Happy New Year. I'm hoping that everyone had a very nice Christmas and enjoyable holidays. I hope that the kids got everything they wanted from Santa, but if they weren't good, they probably didn't, there's always next year for improvement.

The church looked spectacular again this year, with the live trees, the poinsettias, and all of the other decorations. The Christmas music along with the special music, including the hand chimes, the kids Christmas program, the Christmas Eve services, and the Christmas Day service were all just beautiful.

I would personally like to thank everyone who participated with all the programs, from getting the trees, to decorating that church (and un-decorating), and the cookie hour that I'm sure everyone loved. All of these things together are what make Trinity's Christmas season so special.

In writing these letters, it is extremely difficult to write two months ahead. As you know, things can change on a dime, and there are many things that go on here at Trinity that are missed in these letters due to timing, but are brought forth in the announcements before Pastor Eli begins the services.

As January is upon us, there will be a "Souper Bowl" party again this year at the end of January. So you have time to think and get some ideas lined up for either your special soup or salad for everyone at the party to taste and enjoy. Last year there were many varieties of soup. Let's try to beat that number this year.

As President of Council, for 2024, I would like to thank everyone who was on council and those newly elected members for their participation, which is essential for the church. Judy Hale will be going off council, as she has served several years. There were several individuals whose terms would have expired, but they were glad to continue serving, and the congregation voted to retain Lisa Bush, Nevin Woodring, and Brenda Adelman. Sharon Kutz was selected to fill Judy Hale's position. I want to thank Nancy Honecker and Linda Hoover who were also willing to serve.

January and February are crazy months in Pennsylvania from the sunny and cold days to the snowy and blustery days. We just never know what we are going to get, but we can be thankful and know that the Good Lord is taking care of us, even though there are some rough days. I am looking forward, not to rush time, but hope and pray that the Groundhog doesn't see his shadow, and we have an early spring. I just want to get through these next few months, to know that the warmer weather will be coming soon. I'm sure most of you will agree.

As February approaches, let us not forget that special day for that special someone and that is Valentine's Day. Whether you are receiving a card or a box filled with that special chocolate, that everyone likes, whether it's Gardner's, Dutch Hill Chocolates, Marcia's, or homemade, remember it's the thought and thankfulness along with love that makes this day so special.

In closing, I am not sure whether this will be my last letter or not, for the Orbit due to the voting for President and Vice President by council for the 2025 year. I would like to thank everyone who helped me as President for 2024, and hope that the letters that I wrote were meaningful and enjoyable for all to read.

Thank you and God Bless you all.  
Yours in Faith.  
Kenneth B. Myers



## Trinity Happenings

### Happenings for January and February:

Sunday January 26th we will have our "Souper" bowl at 1:00pm. We encourage you to bring a pot of your favorite soup to share. If you are not a soup maker we invite you to come and sample the soups. For a \$5.00 donation you may get a bowl and sample whichever soups you may like. This is a great opportunity for fellowship and conversation. Come enjoy so soup and your friends at this event. For more information, please contact Angela Counterman 814-312-8036.

Please start the New Year by joining us for Bible Study. It is held every Tuesday morning beginning at 9 AM.

We have had as many as 30 to meet and share the Word of God and Jesus. Right now, we are studying the book of Revelations.

So, mark your calendars for Bible Study on Tuesdays at 9 AM.

We will be starting the New Year on Tuesday, January 7, 2025. See Y'all there.



The Orbit

## Trinity Healthy You Committee



The Healthy You Gang held its Christmas party on Friday, December 20, 2024. We had so much good food, shared many stories and of course laughed a lot and gifts were exchanged.

RED ALERT: PASTOR Eli also joined us. And guess what, she made her famous Pumpkin Pies. They were very good. She made 2 pies and, in the end, there was none left.

The children of St. Andrew Preschool receive their Christmas gifts from the Healthy You group.



Photo courtesy Sharon Kutz.  
From the Trinity Pulse Article December 18, 2024



## Trinity Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee has selected the **Pastor's Discretionary Fund** as the recipient of the **February Thank Offering**.

The Pastor's Discretionary Fund is disbursed through Pastor Eli to help members of Trinity, as well as the surrounding community, to assist those who may be struggling with everyday expenses such as food, utilities, and other necessary costs.

Please consider supporting this worthwhile endeavor through February Thank Offering donations.



**The Orbit**

## Trinity Flowers and Bulletins

There are still openings to sponsor altar flowers and bulletins for the 2025 year.



Call Judy Hale for exact dates  
(814) 569-3126

# Prayer List

Please keep the following people in your prayers ...

## TRINITY MEMBERS

Ashley Aungst	Jaden Rhode
Ted Baird	Lisa Smearman
Giana Berardinelli	Nancy Yeager
Shelby Benzel	Harry Yeager
Church Council	Stephanie Yeager
Church Health Team	Hamilton
Don Corl	
Helen David	
Matthew Edevane	
Maizie Emswiler	
Allen Everhart	
Tom Hammond	
Bob Hofmann	
Martha Jones	
Nora Kuntsbeck	
Ken B. Myers	

## SHUT-IN MEMBERS

Patty Auker	Sue Nycum
Chris Burda	Arlene Roessing
Gary Crownover	Ron Settle
Shannon Kratzer	Leta Veit
Ken Kumpf	
Janet Gordon	
Marie Laich	

## ARMED FORCES

Jason Buck	Ryan Maguire
Kyle Eberhart	Justin Patz
Nathan Frank	Eric Sweet

## FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

David Aikens	Donald Haslam	Lorenzo Recchia
Donnie Alwine	Carol Haslam	Donald Ruckinger
Janet & Charlie Aungst	Tom Hatch	Iverson Runk
Scott Aungst	Karli Hey	Jeanne Rutherford
Carolyn Bauers	Emily Hileman	Conner Sanders
Dan Baughman	Ed Hoover	Evan Sanders
Robin Behe	Eli Hughes	Sanders family
Kris Bennett	Samantha Januska	Ronald Settle
Dana Beschler	Nicki Kaltenbrunner	Daryl Seymore
Zayne Bowmaster	Barbara Keaster	Lynn Shaffer
Chet Boyer	Rebecca Kinney	Marilyn Shannon
Terry Brown	Cindy Lamont	Gloria Shoup
Christopher Buchanan	Jan Lastaglia	Debbie Smith
John Bush	Heather Leader	Stephani Smithbower
Jeff Cipriani	Stewart Logan	Dottie Stayer
Julian Colan	Lou Lohsl	Nancy Stewart
Tracee Cole	Joyce Longstreth	Harry Taylor
Scott Corl	Anthony Luciano	Wendy Toribio
Carl Corle	Jameson Lytle	Lisa Turek
Janie Coyne	Linda Mardula	Lisa Vaughn
Lisa Dalansky	Steve Mardula, Sr	Jameson Joseph "JJ" Williamson
Jorden DeFrancisco	Bill McClellan	Steve Wood
Gina Edevane	Carmen McGonical Family	Barb & Fred Woods
Phil Esper	Brandon McGraw	Paul Wright
Ian Esper	Samantha McQuade	Tiquan Wright
Fink Family	Nancy Mock	Baby Gwen
Skyler Franell	Tom Morning	Elsa
Misty Franell	Connie Morris	Jessie
Nicole Gearhart	Jess Mourabit	Junie
Haley Gehret	Linda Mowrer	Natalie
Pat Griffith	Bill & Penny Murphy	In spoken request "M"
Teresa Grum	Sandy Myers	ALBH
Thomas Hamilton	Sharon Myers	BMG
Bob Hamilton	Georgie Nauser	BPMG
John Hancuff	Wyatt Nite	KCB
Tom Haney	Zach Noel	JJM
Madeline Hanley	Dennis Paulsen	RDG
Brandon Harper & daughters	Frances Pringle	
	Tommy S. Pringle	



Please know that you can add someone to our prayer list at any time by calling the church office (943-3972). If it is appropriate to remove someone from the prayer list, again, please inform the church office. Names of family and friends will remain on the prayer list for two weeks. You can keep someone's name on the list by calling the church office and giving us a brief update so that we can continue to effectively pray for your loved one.



# The Orbit

Jan/Feb 2025

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Altoona, PA  
Permit 56

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church  
408 North Sixth Street, Juniata  
Altoona, PA 16601  
Phone: (814) 943-3972  
Fax: (814) 946-7001  
Email [office@trinityaltoona.com](mailto:office@trinityaltoona.com)



## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Visit us online at [TrinityAltoona.com](http://TrinityAltoona.com) and [facebook.com/TrinityAltoona](https://facebook.com/TrinityAltoona)

## Lectionary Readings for the Jan & Feb

### Jan 5

Jeremiah 31:7-14  
Psalm 147:12-20  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
John 1:[1-9] 10-18

### Jan 12

Isaiah 43:1-7  
Psalm 29  
Acts 8:14-17  
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

### Jan 19

Isaiah 62:1-5  
Psalm 36:5-10  
1 Corinthians 12:1-11  
John 2:1-11

### Jan 26

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10  
Psalm 19  
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a  
Luke 4:14-21

### Feb 2

Malachi 3:1-4  
Psalm 84  
Hebrews 2:14-18  
Luke 2:22-40

### Feb 9

Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]  
Psalm 138  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11  
Luke 5:1-11

### Feb 16

Jeremiah 17:5-10  
Psalm 1  
1 Corinthians 15:12-20  
Luke 6:17-26

### Feb 23

Genesis 45:3-11, 15  
Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40  
Luke 6:27-38

## The next Orbit Deadline is Feb 24th

Please get your article to the newsletter in one of the following ways:

- Email your article to:  
[office@trinityaltoona.com](mailto:office@trinityaltoona.com)  
[Dknee6@gmail.com](mailto:Dknee6@gmail.com)
  - Drop your article in the Orbit mailbox inside the Christian Education office.
- Please remember:**
- **All articles will be included *as long as space permits.***
  - **Articles will be edited for grammar and/or clarity where needed.**
  - **Any article turned in after the deadline will be included in the next month's Orbit.**

### IN THE ORBIT THIS MONTH

From the Pastor .....	1
Trinity President .....	2
Trinity Happenings .....	3
Trinity Healthy You Group .....	4
Trinity Stewardship Committee .....	5
Trinity Flower and Bulletin .....	6
Prayer List .....	7

**Thank You!**