

The Orbit

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ALTOONA PA
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Sept/Oct 2025

"How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes. It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the Lord ordained his blessing, life forevermore."

Psalm 133



From the Pastor:

I love this psalm because it talks about unity. Unity does not necessarily mean that we all have to be alike. In fact diversity is the spice of life. I think it refers to the unity of all believers in God, or in our case in Jesus Christ as saviour of the world. Not that we have to dress alike or talk alike or even live the same but that our focus together is Christ and living his command to love one another. If fact, if we are living in unity we are called to love everyone. Life is so much smoother when we can get along with one another knowing that we are in this together. We have the same goal, to worship and love the Lord. That is unity. How we attain that goal may be different and look different but the goal is the same. Miranda Lambert, a country singer, has a song that may not be as well known as her other songs entitled, "All Kinds of Kind". In it she sings about a myriad of different kinds of people with the end result that it takes all kinds to make the world go around. To have an understanding and an acceptance of that fact is what I think sums up living together in unity. May we live in unity with one another, striving to love and serve our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Peace,



Trinity Council President

Well we asked for it, and the Good Lord answered the farmers' and our prayers. From several wet months, the heat has finally arrived, and really has intensified in the past weeks. It's nice to see the fields and things really greening up and growing fast. I guess as I said in my last letter, about the corn being knee high by the 4th of July, I guess I might have missed it by about a week and a half or so, but we really have gained a lot of ground.

I hope the people who have pools, have put them to good use in the past month or so. In the past traveling around there were a lot of pools that are open, but not really being used. I know for sure if I had one, it would be used daily, not just for myself, but for family and friends. Let's hope that this humidity soon breaks and we still can have nice weather for the remaining months ahead.

I'm sure some families have already been on vacations and others are getting ready to go. Because before you know it, school will be back in session, and the majority of the vacations for the year will be over. So whatever you're doing, or whatever you have already done, I sure hope you have enjoyed your time.

This year's Vacation Bible School theme was "Road Trip", on the Road with God. What a great theme, as we know, He is with us on every road trip, from the beginning of our life to the end. Let us not forget He knows how we travel in our daily lives. It's just another great group of people, here at Trinity, who put this year's VBS program together. I want to thank everyone for their time and effort in doing this for the children, not only of the church, but also others who came to participate in this year's program. Also, many thanks go out to the participants who gave donations of supplies, refreshments, and monetary donations.

Our yearly church picnic took place on Sunday, August 24th, at Legion Park as it has for many years. Another great get together that the church puts together for all church members and their friends. The fellowship, food, and music along with the deserts were just fantastic. Thanks again for all that is done and donated for this yearly event. Please note I would like to personally thank the people who spearheaded this committee for their time and participation. Without you, this event probably wouldn't take place.

As you are reading this, please keep in mind that "Music Weekend" will be here before you know it, on Saturday, September 20th and Sunday, September 21st. So if you like sing, or want to sing, or have any musical talent that you want to share, something that I don't have, please contact our Music Director, Cindy Finnegan, at 814-330-2202. It would be greatly enjoyed and appreciated by all. I know we have many talented and good voices in our church, along with many who play musical instruments. So don't be afraid to get involved.

Please note, as school will soon be starting, let us not forget, there will be many young children waiting to get on and off their busses daily. So take your time, and look around, as you are approaching those school busses with their lights on. You never know when for some unknown reason someone decides to dart in front of you, and we sure don't want to see any accidents of that kind. Remember when those lights are RED and turned on, that does mean to stop and do not pass. The children thank you and so do I.

As this year is coming to an end, please think of the church council members this year who have served their time, and I thank them for that. Please think of joining this committee of church members who help keep this church running. It requires only approximately 1 hour of your time each month for your service to the church and the Lord's House. Please consider if you are able.

With the fall season starting, there will be many church activities resuming, so please watch the bulletin for announcements, along with the Pastor's announcements at the start of each service.

In closing, please remember that all your voices are welcome to make any suggestions or offer any ideas. Also, there are things that can be put into the church bulletin along with The Pulse if needed. Please leave either the Pastor, or our church secretary Cindy, know so they can get it added. Also, please if you have anything you would like to discuss or bring up, don't be afraid to give me a call. My cell number is 814-502-3529.

Yours in Faith,
Kenneth B. Myers



Trinity June Council Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church Unapproved
Council Minutes of June 24, 2025

Debbie Garritano, Secretary

Attendance

Present

Pastor Eli

Ken Myers, President 2026

John Ebersole, Vice President 2025

Debbie Garritano, Secretary 2025

Ralph Grove, Treasurer

Lisa Bush 2027

Nevin Woodring 2027 Dave Mueller 2026

Brenda Adelman 2027

Sharon Kutz 2027

Absent

Tom Settle, Assistant Treasurer

Adam Counterman 2025

Chris Thompson 2025

Jim Buchanan 2025

Pam Mueller 2026

Greetings/Devotions

The meeting was called to order by President, Ken Myers.

Minutes from last meeting.

Minutes from the May meeting were read. Dave made a motion to accept the minutes. Sharon seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The minutes from the Council meetings will now be on the Pulse and at the back of the sanctuary.

Treasurer's Report

None. Ralph said that all was up to date. He will be meeting with Tom next week.

Pastor Hess' Report

Pastor presented a written report. She had 3 visits to members at home and 1 in the hospital. She attended the Christian Ed and VBS meeting. She had a funeral for a non-member, 3 counseling sessions, 5 shut-in visits. Pastor attended 2 evening events for children of the congregation. All this plus her weekly duties of Sermon prep and office time. Summer is usually a slower time when she tries to catch up on visits and prep for Adult Sunday School.

Committee Reports

Property – Ken talked with Adam and said that he is caught up on things. He will fix the cover for the stained-glass window. Ken talked with Joe Luciano about the alley door. He will come and measure the door and give us a bid.

Worship and Music – none

Christian Ed – VBS August 3-7. There will be an article in the Orbit.

Stewardship – none

Old Business –

Electrician – Ken talked to Doug Lockard about being the churches electrician. He agreed that he would be willing to be on call. Dave said that Doug was very reliable and would give us a fair price.

Church Directory – Dave said he is almost ready to start. He is waiting for his new phone to come in to take the pictures. Then he will start. Watch for more information.

Office Hours -John asked if there was any progress setting office hours. Pastor said that Cindy is in the office Tuesday and Thursday from 10:30 – 1:00. Pastor has yet to get that in writing and set.

Saturday music – Ken asked if Cindy called Ralph to play when she was unable. Yes, she does call him first before she asks her students.

New Business

Council will not meet in July

Cont'd page 4



Trinity June Council Minutes cont'd

Cont'd from page 3

Other Business –

Credit card – Sharon asked if the church should have a credit card to be held by the Secretary. She said that Cindy was asked to use her card, and she was not willing to do this. We discussed that most of the places we order from have accounts and will send an invoice. Other times committee members turn in their bill and Ralph reimburses them. Pastor will talk with Cindy, and we will revisit this in August.

Remembrance Book – Sharon purchased extra pages for the book and Social Ministry will update the book.

Envelopes – Sharon asked what happens to the envelopes no one picks up. Some are mailed out or taken to shut ins, confirmands and new members are given envelopes. There are always some left over because of the order we must place.

Endowment – question was asked how much is in the Endowment. Debbie will check and report in August.

Orbit – Following discussion, it was decided that the Orbit deadline will be the 15 th of the month. This will ensure that the Orbit gets out before the beginning of the month. Debbie will check with Dawna and Cindy to see if they can have their items ready before the 22 nd of the month.

Constitution – Pastor asked that everyone take a look at the constitution and by-laws to see if any changes need to be made. Bring your ideas back in August.

Dave made a motion to adjourn. Sharon seconded.

The meeting was then adjourned.
We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Garritano
Next meeting: August 26, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.



Trinity Social Ministry and Healthy You

As many have noticed, the Social Ministry Committee and Healthy You have combined to sell Gardner's Peanut Butter Meltaway candy bars. They are \$2.00 and will benefit the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. This will allow the Pastor to help those in need. There are men and women with children that randomly walk in asking for help in way or another. She also helps people from our congregation that need help in some manner such as: help with rent, groceries, bill paying etc. She never hands out money. She will go to the store with them, ask them for their utility bill and even check with landlords before helping with rent.

Since this is a positive way of helping some of God's people, please consider buying some chocolate. If you have already done so, we are so grateful. Thank You



Trinity Healthy You/Social Ministry Committees

FALL CLEAN OUT/CLEAN UP

During the first week of October, Social Ministry and Healthy You will be spearheading a long-overdue, cleaning of the entire church building.

There is so much "stuff" spread out everywhere, and it needs to be organized and cleaned. If anything belongs to you, please get it together neatly and in one place before the project begins. Nothing should be placed in the hallways, pitched into boxes or bags to be placed in any empty spot you see. Label what you want to keep so it doesn't get disposed of.

Every room will be cleared of clutter and cleaned. We will be doing things like wiping down pews, window sills, scrubbing tables, etc. No walls or heavy-duty lifting will be done.

If you would be willing to help, we would appreciate your help. Contact Sharon Kutz or Linda Hoover to let us know which section you want to take on. We need to do this as a team; there is no way our Sexton can keep up with this type of cleaning with only 10 hours a week to do the basics. We need to chip in; this is your church, too.



The Orbit

Trinity Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee has selected the Central Pennsylvania Humane Society (CPHS) as the recipient of the **September Thank Offering**. The current campaign of the Society is titled "Raise the Woof" to raise funds for a new, more spacious building. If you've ever visited the shelter, you can understand this need.

This new shelter will feature upgraded kennel spaces, a wellness and vet clinic, adoption and visitation areas, grooming and quarantine rooms, and more all designed to help animals heal, thrive, and find their forever homes. God placed importance on the animals by asking Noah to bring two of each kind to the Ark.

The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing. (Psalm 145: 15-16).

Please consider helping our 4-legged friends with this offering.



Trinity Worship and Music Committee

Coming soon! It's time for the Trinity Top 20 hymn survey!!!! Be watching for an insert in the Sunday bulletin. We have been singing some new hymes recently, so start thinking about your favorites!

Thank you!

Cindy



Church Music weekend at Trinity is September 20th and 21st! This year, we will have special music at all of the weekend services. There will be hymn sing and scriptures about the Importance of music in our worship! Chime Choir and Vocal Choir will participate in the 10:45 am service. Please join us an share your music! Worship through music is one of the great gifts that God has given us to connect with Him! It reminds us of who He is, draws us inti His presence, shapes our hearts, and strengthens our faith! Please contact me anytime you want to share your music with the congregation! Vocal Choir practices begin on Sunday, September 7th, at 11:45 am. Please watch your bulletin for more announcements.

Thank you!

Cindy 814 330 2202

Save the date! Sunday, December 7th at 3 pm—Trinity Lutheran Church. The students of Cynthia E. Finnegan will present “Howlin’ and Meowin’ Good Christmas Music.” Picture an event straight from a Hallmark Christmas movie...piano selections, sing-alongs, a stocking stuffer craft fair, baked goods, and free refreshments of cookies and hot chocolate! This program is part of the season long fundraising effort of the students..... benefiting the Central Pa Humane Society’s Raise the Woof campaign. Admission is an item (or several items if you wish) from the wish list for the animals. These wish list items will be posted in the near future. Thank you in advance for your support of this event!!!





Trinity Happenings

You are invited to join Betty Wilkinson's family in celebrating her 90th birthday with an open house at Trinity Hall on Sunday, September 21, 2025 from 12-3.

Betty has been a lifelong member of Trinity where she and Ken raised their three daughters, Robin, LuAnn and Wendy. Betty has six grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Come and share a story or wish her well.

Thank you,
Her Family

Thank you!

I can not thank you all enough for the donations, the volunteers, and everyone who helped behind the scenes. Without your help our VBS "Road Trip" would not have been possible.

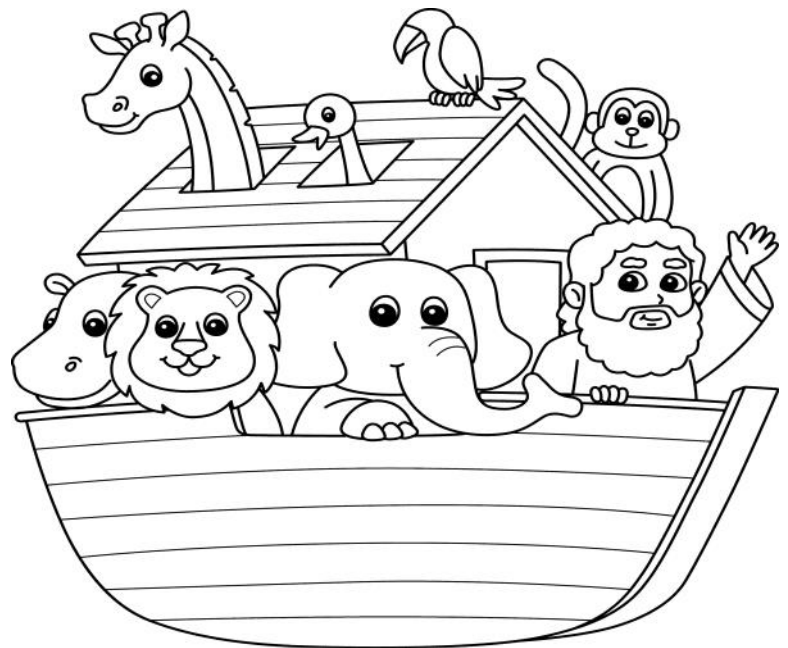
Thank you again, Lisa Bush

Noah's Ark Word Search

A D D B J H E S Y S P T D L T
 N O L V H V Z E U R A O G N O
 I V I L I P I C O P O V A I W
 M E U L C J C M C L P N E Q T
 A R B K V N I B F I E L R D K
 L D E F P S T X Y V K W I V Z
 S X N T E V I U O V R A V E N
 N S L A L L R C D O O G G W S
 W Q N X L A C W O B N I A R Q
 O B E D I E N T T C U H I Z G

animals
 build
 covenant
 criticize
 dove
 evil
 flood
 good

land
 obedient
 promise
 rainbow
 raven
 saved
 supplies
 two



Prayer List

Please keep the following people in your prayers ...

TRINITY MEMBERS

Ted Baird	Bob Hofmann
Shelby Benzel	Martha Jones
Giana Berardinelli	Nora Kuntsbeck
Carol Callis	Ken B. Myers
Church Council	Lisa Smearman
Don Corl	Stephanie Yeager Hamilton
Matthew Edevane	
Maizie Emswiler	
Allen Everhart	
Tom Hammond	
Jennifer Hippo	

SHUT-IN MEMBERS

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

ARMED FORCES

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

FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

David Aikens	Tom Haney	Frances Pringle
Donnie Alwine	Madeline Hanley	Tommy S. Pringle
Janet & Charlie Aungst	Ann Hanezaryk	Lorenzo Recchia
Scott Aungst	John Hanezaryk family	Anita Rhodes
Carolyn Bauers	Brandon Harper & daughters	Donald Ruckinger
Dan Baughman	David Harpster	Iverson Runk
Robin Behe	Donald Haslam	Jeanne Rutherford
Kris Bennett	Carol Haslam	Conner Sanders
Dana Beschler	Tom Hatch	Evan Sanders
Zayne Bowmaster	Danielle Hatfield	Sanders family
Chet Boyer	Karly Hey	Trudy Savine
Terry Brown	Eli Hughes	Ronald Settle
Christopher Buchanan	Samantha Januska	Daryl Seymore
John Bush	Wendy Miller	Lynn Shaffer
Heather Calderwood	Nicki Kaltenbrunner	Marilyn Shannon
Jerry Chaplin	Barbara Keaster	Gloria Shoup
Jeff Cipriani	Danny Kenney	Stephani Smithbower
Julian Colan	Rebecca Kinney	Nancy Stewart
Tracee Cole	Cindy Lamont	Harry Taylor
Scott Corl	Jan Lastaglia	Wendy Toribio
Carl Corle	Heather Leader	Lisa Turek
Janie Coyne	Stewart Logan	Blair Umholtz
Zoe Amice Jason Cramer	Lou Lohsl	Lisa Vaughn
Lisa Dalansky	Joyce Longstreth	Jameson Joseph "JJ" Williamson
Jorden DeFrancisco	Anthony Luciano	Steve Wood
Gina Edevane	Jameson Lytle	Paul Wright
Larry Edwards	Linda Mardula	Tiquan Wright
Autumn Emswiler	Steve Mardula Sr	Elsa
Phil Esper	Chelsea Martin	Jessie
Jeannette Esper	Bill McClellan	Junie
Fink Family	Carmen McGonical Family	Natalie
Skyler Franell	Brandon McGraw	In spoken request "M"
Misty Franell	Samanth McQuade	ALBH
Nicole Gearhart	Nancy Mock	BPMC
Haley Gehret	Linda Mowrer	KCB
Stacy Giordano	Bill & Penny	JJM
Pat Griffith	Murphy	RDG
Tish Grove	Sharon Myers	BMG
Teresa Grum	Georgie Nauser	
Thomas Hamilton	Wyatt Nite	
John Hancuff	Zach Noel	
Ann Hanczaryk	Dennis Paulsen	



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

Sep/Oct 2025

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Lectionary Readings for the Month of Sep & Oct

Sep 7

Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Psalm 1
Philemon 1-21
Luke 14:25-33

Sep 14

Exodus 32:7-14
Psalm 51:1-10
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-10

Sep 21

Amos 8:4-7
Psalm 113
1 Timothy 2:1-7
Luke 16:1-13

Sep 28

Amos 6:1a, 4-7
Psalm 146
1 Timothy 6:6-19
Luke 16:19-31

Oct 5

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
Psalm 37:1-9
2 Timothy 1:1-14
Luke 17:5-10

In the Orbit This Month

From the Pastor	1
Trinity President	2
Trinity June Council Minutes.....	3
Trinity Healthy You/ Social	5
Trinity Healthy You/ Social	6
Trinity Stewardship Committee	7
Trinity Worship & Music	8
Trinity Happenings	9
Trinity Word Search	10
Trinity Prayer List.....	11

Oct 12

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c
Psalm 111
2 Timothy 2:8-15
Luke 17:11-19

Oct 19

Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm 121
2 Timothy 3:14—4:5
Luke 18:1-8

Oct 26

Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22
Psalm 84:1-7
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14

The next Orbit Deadline is August 15

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

- Email your article to:
office@trinityaltoona.com
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.***

Thank You!