



TRINITY TRIANGLE

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, LATROBE, PA
GROWING IN FAITH • REACHING OUT IN LOVE • MAKING DISCIPLES

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August Pastor's Corner

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

-Matthew 19:14

In Jesus' day, children were not typically seen as "whole people" or members of society until they were old enough to contribute to the wellbeing of a household. Life expectancy was dramatically different from our lifetimes as well. Jesus' disciples assumed they were doing necessary work, keeping the droves of children who were being brought to Jesus away from him. He was important, after all, a holy man who should not be bothered!

Except... that Jesus rebuked the disciples when he saw parents bringing their children to him. "Let the little children come to me," he declared. And, as though he is making sure that the disciples understand that he's made no error here, he emphasizes that the kingdom of heaven *belongs* to them.

You need only tune in to our live-streamed service to see what chaos my own crew of small children can bring! They can be messy and demanding and noisy and have no idea what makes something holy or not... but you know what else children bring? A earnest belief that what we tell them is true, a hunger to participate in what we do in worship and in ministry, and an enthusiasm and energy we can only pine for!

As we prepare for the children in our midst to return to school, I invite you to pay attention to our young people in worship. What barriers do you notice that might prevent them from fully participating in the life of our congregation? How might we work on opening ourselves up to help our little children come to Jesus?

I cannot over-state my gratitude for your patience in welcoming our noisy crew to Trinity. I am thrilled to watch as more and more children are engaged in the life of our church! Let us lean into our mission for all generations and "be a growing community of disciples of Jesus Christ, called by the Holy Spirit to share the Good News of God's love with all!"

In Peace,
Pastor Jess

Updates from the July 18, 2023 Council Meeting

Treasurer's Report:

Giving continues to be above the current budgeted amount for June. Trinity's expenses are beginning to level out.

Trinity has been designated as a beneficiary of the estates of two long time members. This is indeed a blessing to Trinity!

Ministry Report:

Pastors' Reports

Pastor Jason reported on the 2023 Synod Assembly.

During the month of June, there was one baptism and one death.

New members' classes will be held August 20th, 27th, and September 6th; Pastors will be seeking mentors/sponsors for our new members.

Acolyte training will be held during confirmation class time. Fifth and sixth graders will be asked to attend the training if interested.

Liturgical Deacon and Lector training will occur in August and September.

Council members approved:

Motion from the Car Hop Committee to provide \$1000 from the Youth Ministry Fund to the Outreach Ministry Committee to help fund "Soles for Souls", a program to purchase shoes for the children in the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren from the Shoe Dept. at Westmoreland Mall.

The resignation of Lynette Patterson from Council because of work related conflicts. Council will appoint an individual to serve the remaining five months of her term.

A review of the 2024 budget will be held on November 5, 2023 between services. All are welcome to attend.

The Annual Business Meeting to be held November 18 & 19, 2023 after each service to vote on the 2024 Budget, elect new Council members, and vote on the proposed constitutional changes from the 2022 churchwide Assembly.

The Car Hop Committee submitted their report from the 2023 Car Hop. A total of \$7009.28 was raised, the largest amount to date! \$709.28 will be donated to the Trinity Christmas Basket Fund and \$6300.00 will be added to the Youth Ministry Fund in preparation for the 2024 National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. The gathering is July 16-20, 2024.

Social Chit Chat Group

Come join us on Aug 14th from 10:00am-12:00pm. Come, share some of your favorite summer travels and/or vacation memories. We'd love to see some photos too!





ELCA World Hunger

Offerings collected each week go a long way to bring hope to many in need. Thank you!
ELCA World Hunger Offerings YTD: \$4,470.25

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard

(located in the front narthex or drop off in the office). In August we will be collecting Soap/Body Wash for the Greater Latrobe Food Pantry.



Baptisms

Emelia Leigh Raynor 7/1/2023
 Brayden Booker Vitale 7/16/2023



Deaths

William Morgan 5/12/2023
 Ted Hollobaugh 6/9/2023

Teller Schedule

August 13, 2023	*Sandy Kisick	*Linda McDowell
August 20, 2023	Candace Bungard	Christina Andrae
	Lucinda Nicely	Mike Macey
		Darlene Schultz
August 27, 2023	*Jason Sheppard	*Eleanor Fagan
September 3, 2023	Jay Elder	Susan Vargo
	Kathy Jones	Karen Mowry

Usher's Schedule

	Time	Ushers	Ushers
Aug 5, 2023	5:30	Linda McDowell	Donna Showalter
		David Rock	Ron Gess
Aug 6, 2023	8:15	Sandy Kisick	Melinda Terney
		Mark Jones	Herb Harris
	10:45	Matt Clever	Eli Clever
		Kelly Clever	Becky Tomlinson
Aug 12, 2023	5:30	Linda McDowell	Donna Showalter
		David Rock	Ron Gess
Aug 13, 2023	8:15	Sandy Kisick	Melinda Terney
		Kathy Jones	Mark Jones
	10:45	Matt Clever	Eli Clever
		Kelly Clever	Becky Tomlinson
Aug 19, 2023	5:30	Kasha Loveridge	Don Loveridge
		Jay Elder	John Elder
Aug 20, 2023	8:15	Kathy Jones	Mark Jones
		Sandy Kisick	Rick Baldonieri
	10:45	Mike Macey	Jill Macey
		Tim Potter	Susan Vargo
Aug 26, 2023	5:30	Kasha Loveridge	Don Loveridge
		Jay Elder	John Elder
Aug 27, 2023	8:15	Sandy Kisick	Kathy Jones
		Herb Harris	Mark Jones
	10:45	Mike Macey	Jill Macey
		Tim Potter	Susan Vargo

Treasurer's Report for June 2023

Current Month

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Total Income	37,140.79	32,107.00	5,033.79
Total Expenses	49,808.23	52,729.00	(2,920.77)
Cash Flow	(12,667.44)	(20,622.00)	7,954.56
	<u>Year to Date</u>		
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Total Income	277,187.26	256,572.00	20,615.26
Total Expenses	313,129.86	323,187.00	(10,057.14)
Cash Flow	(35,942.60)	(66,615.00)	30,672.40

Please note: 1). Income includes \$11,155.00 per month taken from endowment interest.
 2). Income is better than budgeted and expenses are less than planned. However there is still a \$35,942.60 deficit.
 Principle from endowment funds will probably be needed to fund the deficit. This will reduce the amount of return available next year. However the news is not all bad. God has blessed us with two faithful members whose estates will help continue Trinity's ministry in the future. With these, we will start 2024 with endowment funds similar to those at the start of 2023.
 3). Average attendance 180

Church Projects

- 1-Work continued in the 2nd office, on the main floor, painted walls, new laminate floor and new baseboard. Both offices are now complete.
- 2-Installing new receptacles for upcoming headstart school year 2023-2024. Additional kids require more space for computers.
- 3-Shortly going to begin fixing hand railings in the stairwells that are loose.
- 4-Fixed drop ceiling in fellowship hall men's room that has been missing for quite some time.

In Ministry of Word and Sacrament Anniversaries



Bishop Emeritus Donald McCoid - 55 yrs
 Pastor Emeritus Jeffrey Schock - 40 yrs
 Pastor Sue Luthner - 35 yrs
 Deacon Denise Hegemann - 45 yrs
 Kathe Houck-SWPA Lay Worship Leader - 15 yrs

Men's Communion Breakfast



Confirmation Olympics



**TRINITY EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
331 Weldon Street
Latrobe, PA 15650
Phone: (724) 536-2284
Email: office@trinitylatrobe.com
www.trinitylatrobe.com

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Upcoming Trainings for Worship Assistants

The pastors will be offering training for those who signed up to be Liturgical Deacons and Lectors. These will be held in the sanctuary during the Sunday School Hour (9:30AM).

August 13 – Liturgical Deacons

September 3 - Lectors

If these dates do not work for you or if you are also interested in learning more, please contact the church office 724-537-4450 or sign-up on the website/app.

Men's Golf Outing

Come join the fun at our men's golf outing scheduled for Friday Sept 1, 2023 at 5pm. We are looking for any guys that would like to chase a little white ball around and have fun, whether you are an expert or a beginner, we'd love for you to join us. It will be held at Glengarry Golf Course. If you are interested, there is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board across from the Lounge or you can call the church office at 724-537-4450. Hope to see you there!



Looking to join Trinity?

The pastors will be offering **New Members Classes** for anyone looking to join our congregation. This will be a three-class series held on August 20 and August 27 during the Sunday School Hour (9:30AM), and will be held downstairs in Rooms 6 & 8, across from the Shepherd Shop. We will wrap up with a potluck meal on Wednesday, September 6 (6:00PM). Sign up through the website/app or contact the church office 724-537-4450.

Congregational Picnic

Come join us on Saturday, August 19, 2023 from noon-4:00pm for our annual Congregational Picnic. We will meet at the Peach Park Plaza Pavilion #9. There will be water games, corn hole, face painting, bingo and more! Grilled hot dogs by "Chef Mike", lemonade, Iced Tea, water & Picnicware provided! Bring a favorite covered dish for sharing! You can call the church office at 724-537-4450 for directions. Please sign up on the bulletin board across from the Lounge by August 14th so we can properly prepare for the day's events.



August 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:30 Prayer Group No Bible Basics 10:00 Shepherd Shop 11:00 Pericope 6:30 Executive	2 12:00 AA Mtg 6:30 Line Dancers	3 1:00 Purls of Prayer 6:00 BPW 7:30 AA Mtg	4 12:00 AA Mtg	5 5:30 Spoken Communion
6 8:15 Holy Communion 10:45 Holy Communion	7	8 9:30 Prayer Group No Bible Basics 10:00 Shepherd Shop 11:00 Pericope 6:00 Finance	9 Council Deadline 11:00 NCR 12:00 AA Mtg 5:30 Outreach No Line Dancing	10 1:00 Purls of Prayer 7:30 AA Mtg	11 12:00 AA Mtg	12 5:30 Spoken Communion
13 8:15 Holy Communion 9:30 Liturgical Deacon Training 10:45 Holy Communion 12:15 Drive Thru Communion	14 10:00 Social Chit Chat 5:30—8:00 pm Vacation Bible School	15 9:30 Prayer Group No Bible Basics 10:00 Shepherd Shop 11:00 Pericope 5:30-8:00 pm Vacation Bible School 6:30 Council	16 Triangle Deadline 12:00 AA Mtg 5:30-8:00 pm Vacation Bible School 5:30 GPRG 6:30 Line Dancing Lock in with Pr. Jess	17 1:00 Purls of Prayer 7:30 AA Mtg	18 12:00 AA Mtg 1:30 Esther Circle	19 12:00 Congregational Picnic, Peach Park @ Twin Lakes 5:30 Spoken Communion
20 8:15 Holy Communion 9:30 New Members Class 10:45 Holy Communion 3:00-7:00 Synod Youth Day @ Lutherlyn	21 2:15 Loyalhanna Church Svc	22 9:30 Prayer Group No Bible Basics 10:00 Shepherd Shop 11:00 Pericope 6:00 Grief Group 7:00 Miriam Cir.	23 12:00 AA Mtg 6:00 Clearance 6:30 Line Dancing	24 1:00 Purls of Prayer 7:30 AA Mtg	25 Mail Triangle 12:00 AA Mtg	26 5:30 Spoken Communion Blessing of the Backpacks
27 Blessing of the Backpacks 8:15 Holy Communion 9:30 Safety Mtg 9:30 New Members Class 10:45 Holy Communion 12:15 Drive Thru Communion	28	29 9:30 Prayer Group No Bible Basics 10:00 Shepherd Shop 11:00 Pericope 6:00 Grief Group	30 12:00 AA Mtg 6:30 Line Dancing	31 1:00 Purls of Prayer 7:30 AA Mtg		

Vacation Bible School: Good Vibes Only

Join us August 14-16 for supper as a family beginning at 5:30PM and stay for VBS 6-8PM! We will be learning basketball and soccer skills, making crafts, singing songs, and learning about God's call in our lives. We'll gather in Fellowship Hall and hope to play outside each night. VBS registrations are available online, through the app, and in the bulletin at church, open for ages 3 through entering 6th grade! Our older youth (entering grades 7-12) are invited to attend a Lock-In on August 16 to help clean up VBS and play some games of their own (sign up on the app/website). Friends are welcome!!



Register for VBS

Rally Day

Fall is approaching fast!! Sunday School will be starting up again Sunday, September 10th at 9:30am.

Blessing of the Backpacks

School will be starting soon and we'll be having Blessing of the Backpacks on August 26th and 27th. Bring your backpack to any of the Worship Services and receive a special gift from the church.



Synod Youth Day at Camp Lutherlyn: Sunday, August 20 3-7PM

All youth entering grades 7-12 are welcome for a day of fun, worship, & dinner with friends at Camp Lutherlyn! Camp activities will include: jump pillow, gaga ball, 4-square, nature activity, tractor drawn wagon ride, s'mores, LEGO room, bouldering room, and creativity lab.

Deadline for registration (on our website/app) is August 6th.

