

THE TRINITY LUTHERAN
September, 2020



Living with Covid-19 means living with changed and changing requirements and opportunities for us to be together as a congregation, but we are resourceful and more flexible than we perhaps thought we might be. We have found that we have multiple ways we can worship together and to reach out to each other and to other Lutherans. As examples:

As covid case numbers have changed, we have found ourselves meeting in different size groups and in different settings. Even when we were completely closed down in the spring, Dr. Jillian Scherer organized an audio service broadcast on YouTube and Facebook that gave us each week's lessons read by a variety of congregation members. Pr. James continued to provide sermons to be read, and Andrew Flynn and Keegan Tucker provided uplifting music. Each week everyone's technical skills improved, and we began to have pictures of God's magnificent creation courtesy of John Scherer and Pr. Karen Scherer, and we even had some pictures of each other.

In June Pr. Pam Laing from First Presbyterian presided over our services outdoors, and we learned how to use the pavilion to good effect for worship services. The council worked diligently to be sure our worship life was as rich as possible even when we knew we had to be flexible about some things. We kept our emphasis always on Word and Sacrament and were glad to be able to worship together again. Later Pr. James and Agnes started coming back to Olney, and we found we could worship in the sanctuary and in our cars and in the pavilion because of the audio equipment Mark Scherer found and learned how to use to good effect.

Dr. Scherer has continued to provide live streaming of our services.

We were reminded of a resource we used to use: Prayer Ventures from the ELCA web site. As explained by the ELCA: "Prayer Ventures are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social, and outreach ministries of the ELCA, as well as for the needs and circumstances of our neighbors, communities, and world." We can access each month's Prayer Ventures from the ELCA website. The plan is also to include each week's Prayer Ventures in our weekly worship bulletin.

We found a new resource: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA) in Akron, Ohio, does a Monday-Friday morning devotion on Facebook. Two pastors and a lay education leader share in the responsibilities for the devotion that focuses on Scripture and prayer. The devotion is live every weekday at 7:0 a.m. and then streams throughout the day on Holy Trinity's Facebook site. Everyone is welcome to "like" Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Akron, and to receive the morning devotion. The devotion also is shared on our Facebook page. Anyone who has access to Facebook but who is not yet in the Trinity Facebook group is invited to join.

We don't have to be connected to the internet to find ELCA resources. As already mentioned, each week's Prayer Ventures will be included in our worship bulletin. We also have other excellent print resources to which we can subscribe individually: Living Lutheran, the magazine of the ELCA (800-328-4648) and Gather, the magazine of the women of the ELCA (844-409-0576). Christ in our Home and The Word in Season are daily devotional guides issued by Augsburg Fortress that are already available through Rhoda in the church office (392-4181). There is also a large print daily devotional guide.

Of course each of us has our Bible which we study and use as the foundation for prayer and worship.

Are there other resources we could / should be using? What else is on the internet? And, very important, what is available NOT on the internet? Both the council and worship committee speak often of reaching out to our members whether they use the internet or not. What's helpful? Randi Cowan, council president (843-2300), and Beth Saler, worship team chair (395-1152), are very anxious to hear from members who have suggestions about other ways we can be reaching out to and with each other for worship and fellowship in this time of covid restrictions.

No one knows how long this pandemic will last and how many changes will happen. What we do know is that we are part of the body of Christ, that we are always under His care and keeping, and that we cherish the gospel, the church, and each other. The way to get past this will be to go through it, and we will go through it together in Christ's name.



COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Tyler Stuck
Becky Holstrum
Randi Cowan, Council President
Barb Stiff, Council Secretary
Mark Scherer, Council Vice President
Vicki Fehrenbacher
Rob Scherer
Deanna Gillis
Rhoda Slichenmyer
Collin Diel, Youth Representative
Mike Kurtz ~ Church Treasurer

August Council Minutes

*Council members present: Barb Stiff, Mark Scherer, Vicki Fehrenbacher, Deanna Gillis, Rob Scherer, Randi Cowan, Becky Holstrum and Rhoda Slichenmyer. Absent: Tyler Stuck and Collin Diel. Also attending, Bob Guinn and Chuck Lemeron

*Chuck Lemeron presented a landscaping proposal for Trinity grounds

*Bob Guinn attended the meeting to relate some of the safety actions taken by Escalade Manufacturing during COVID -19

*Jean Weber is coordinating volunteers for Good Samaritan.

*Property committee reported roofing the west portico, and repairing emergency and exit lights. Several other projects are being planned.

*VBS is continuing via U.S. mail. Mark Scherer is coordinating.

*Preschool will begin on September 8 with one three-day class.

*Mark Scherer has ordered a wireless microphone to try and resolve sound system issues.

*Council approved beginning inside/outside services subject to Pastor James choice.

*The financial statement was reviewed. It was noted Trinity is currently \$5500 in the red.

STAFF:

(Pulpit Supply) ~ Rev. Dr. James Mutayoba
Pianist ~ Keegan Tucker
Choir Director ~ Andrew Flynn
Sunday School Coordinator ~
Altar Guild ~ Carol Diel
Church Secretary ~ Rhoda Slichenmyer
Financial Secretaries ~
Custodians ~ Adam/Hilary Donaldson

WEEKDAY CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:

Board Members

Vicki Fehrenbacher, President
Bob Crum, Treasurer
Sandy Britton
Mike Kurtz
Christina Diel

TRINITY PRESCHOOL

Director ~ Kristie Nosek
Teacher ~ Tanara Ryden
Teacher ~ Brittany Hagan
Teacher ~ Kayla Myers

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS:

Bereavement ~
Convalescing Meals ~ Becky Holstrum
Funeral Luncheons ~ Elaine Ochs
Learning ~
Memorials & Special Gifts ~ Sarah Kincaid
Property ~ Tyler Stuck
Service ~ Randi Cowan
Stewardship ~ Carol Diel
Witness ~
Worship ~ Beth Saler
Finance ~

GROUPS:

Remember When ~ Ed & Darlene Fritschle

Our Mission Statement

Trinity Lutheran Church strives to reach and welcome all with the love of Christ

PLEASE JOIN US THIS SUNDAY for a litany in response to Covid-19. We will gather in the name of Jesus here in his church. We will light a candle first in the name of Christ who is the center and light of the world. We will continue to light candles as we pray for all God's people, people who are sick, those who are grieved, for furloughed workers, medical personnel and teachers/students.

MAY GOD COMFORT the family of Jeanie Cantwell who passed away Wednesday, August 19th at Lavender Ridge in Olney. Jeanie was a long-time member of Trinity and will be deeply missed.



Check out Trinity's website
@www.trinityolney.org

THRIVENT MEMBERS need to check their accounts to see if they have earned "Choice Dollars". If that is the case, they should designate those dollars to the Charity of their choice. Trinity Lutheran Church and Trinity Preschool are on Thrivent's list of charities if the member would like to apply their choice dollars. Thank you, Mike Kurtz.



PLEASE SUPPORT our WCM program by recycling your Wal-Mart bags and ink cartridges. The drop off containers are located by the downstairs door. Money collected from recycling is used to purchase toys, educational materials and supplies for the preschool

THANK YOU TO all the members of Trinity who volunteer and serve our church in so many ways. Thank you to the ushers, acolytes, communion assistants, lectors, those who run the sound/slides, committee members, council members, coffee hour volunteers, Altar Guild, Children's Sermon volunteers, Vacation Bible School volunteers, voice & bell choirs, our pianist Keegan, choir director Andrew, and all the quiet people who have slipped in and out of Trinity for years doing little things expecting and not wanting recognition.

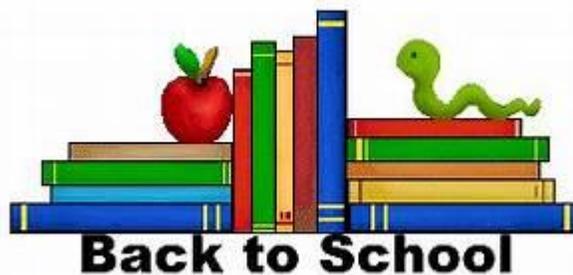
It might not take a village but it does take the church to make all this happen. There is room for you too! Sign up on the green sheet or talk to a council member if you would like to know more about becoming involved in serving at Trinity.

ANYONE WHO HAS an announcement or prayer request to be made to the congregation on a Sunday morning should please give the information to Randi Cowan before the service. Since she is speaking through the microphone everyone should be able to hear.



WELCOME BACK: We will not be using the schedule for lectors and communion assistants during this time of transitioning back into our building.

PLEASE PRAY FOR HELEN MEERS who is to begin chemotherapy. Her levels have changed and her doctor is placing her on a treatment plan. Helen's address is 6943 North Ste. Marie Rd, Olney, IL. Helen's birthday is on Monday, September 21st and I'm sure she would enjoy receiving cards from her church family. Also, her telephone number is 754-3573.



Back to School



Happy Birthday!

- 2 Lennon Higgason
- 2 Bailey Shan
- 2 Ben Powell
- 3 Louise Fritschle
- 3 Marlene Schnepfer
- 4 Drew Cantwell
- 5 Judy Doan
- 6 David Burgener
- 9 Emily Cartmill
- 9 Rhoda Slichenmyer
- 11 Christine Hampton
- 12 Kyle Cantwell
- 13 Mary Lou Sager
- 13 Brittaney Joanne Diel
- 14 Austin Bussard
- 14 Payton Stuck
- 15 Bruce Peters

- 19 Jeff Ryden
- 20 Kevin Ryden
- 21 Helen Meers
- 22 Nathan Stevens
- 22 Nancy McClenathan
- 22 Owen Powell
- 24 Don Graham
- 28 Bob Crum
- 28 Darlene Fritschle



September Anniversaries

- 3 Don & Susie Graham
- 5 Loren & Melissa Zerkel
- 8 Jeff & Tanara Ryden
- 23 Bryan & Christina Kapicka
- 26 Erik & Kim Oslawski

SPECIAL CARE MEMBERS (as of 9/1/2020)

Dorothy Lustfeldt
Elaine Pierzchalski
Patricia Roberts
Margaret Strole

CRMH, 3rd. floor. Room 25
Life's Journey, 705 Kenton St., Paris, IL, 61944
Lavender Ridge, 1304 N. East St. Olney
Aperion Care, 900 E. Scott, Olney, Il.

AT HOME MEMBERS:

Marlene Schnepfer
Wilma Beck
Roberta Holstrum
Helen Meers
Jean Miller
Mary Lou Sager

5502 N Fox Rd, Olney, Il. 843-3325
6308 East Seven Hills Lane, Olney, 869-2394
320 West St. John Street, Olney, 392-5605
6943 N. Ste. Marie Rd., Olney, Il. 754-3573
518 N. Boone Street, Olney, 395-1809
5322 N. Wood River Road, Claremont, 869-2358