

# TRINITY TIDINGS

132 E. Main St. Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

717-766-2662

trinityburgoffice@gmail.com



Volume 51 Issue 3  
September 2022

Don't forget to breathe!

Last week David and I took a few days out of town to breathe. We packed up our dog, Bella, and drove to one of our favorite places to rest and walk. We had chosen a quiet hotel with a pond and water fountain right outside our patio. There were lovely walking paths through grassy areas with flowering shrubs all around. A beautiful stately heron named Noodles greeted us at dusk and in the morning. It didn't take long before God's rich bounty tumbled in on my spirit and chipped away at any weariness I had brought with me.

In the morning, Bella and I took a leisurely morning walk. Bella was free to sniff every blade of grass she wanted, to run through the field, and to lie down in shady areas. She thoroughly enjoyed being able to walk or run in the fresh air without the usual intrusion of me rushing her along because of the next thing on my calendar. I enjoyed it too and experienced the familiar and needed remembering of God's good gifts. The gentle melody of a choral anthem I knew from long ago based on Psalm 24:1-2 came into my spirit and lingered there -- "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the beauty and all that dwells therein."

I took deep breaths of the quiet and the beauty that surrounded me. As the fragrance of the gentle breeze revived my spirit, I prayed, "God, I need more of this in my life."

A healthy balance of rest and work and play can be difficult to achieve. Sometimes it takes going away to a beautiful place for a few hours or days to enjoy and remember with gratitude the richness of God's creation once again and be restored.

May the restorative peace of Christ surround you this day

*Pastor Karen Durbin*

*The earth is the Lord's  
and the fullness  
thereof, the beauty  
and all the dwells  
therein.*

Psalm 24:1-2



Inside:

- 2 - Snax n Study
- 3 - Music Notes
- 4 - Koinonia by Stacey Zeller
- 5 - Vanessa Storlie send-off
- 6 - Community Meal highlights
- 7 - New Hope Ministries/Community Aid
- 8 - Upcoming Events
- 10 - Birthdays, etc.
- 11 - Calendar



TRINITY  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ON MAIN  
"Sharing God's Love"™

132 E. Main St. Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

717-766-2662

trinityburgoffice@gmail.com

# Snax n Study

Snax & Study will resume on Sunday mornings in September. "Snax" are available from 8:45 am, followed by various studies throughout the year. Join us on September 4<sup>th</sup> for an informal time to re-connect with others. Pastor Karen and David will provide "snax." This fall there will be two types of studies, one on the psalms and one on the short stories by Jesus – aka "the parables." We expect to begin season 3 of "The Chosen" as soon as it is available.

**"Short Stories by Jesus"** is based on the book and DVD by New Testament scholar Amy-Jill Levine. Through this study, we will reconsider six familiar parables recorded in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Professor Levine writes: "What makes the parables mysterious, or difficult . . . is that they challenge us to look into the hidden aspects of our own values, our own lives. They bring to the surface unasked questions, and they reveal the answers we have always known, but refuse to acknowledge. . . . Therefore, if we hear a parable and think, 'I really like that,' or worse, fail to take any challenge, we are not listening well enough" (*Short Stories by Jesus*, from leader's guide, p 7).

## The Psalms: Planting the Words of Scripture in Our Hearts

"Martin Luther considered the psalms to be the summary of all scripture, speaking to many situations and allowing the expression of a wide range of human response, from adoration, praise, thanksgiving, lament, intercession and teaching. The psalms proclaim hope and faith, yet make room also for deep distress and questioning" (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 335). How blessed to know that worshippers through the ages looked to the psalms in the many and varied experiences of their journeys with God and so can we. We will explore the poetry and imagery of the psalms so that beyond the words, verses and ritual of reading and reciting, we may encounter God in new ways. THIS IS NOT A SINGING CLASS.

## Snax & Study Schedule:

Sept 4 – Informal gathering

Sept 11 – no class

Sept 18 - Psalm 23 - Let's examine and discuss what makes this psalm so beloved to us.

Sept 25 - There's a Psalm for That! - Whether you're upbeat, downtrodden, enlightened, confused - and the list goes on - there's a psalm for every moment in the lives of God's people. Let's delve into the genres of psalms, discovering how these words hold the core of human experience across generations, faith traditions and boundaries and assure us that God is the one in charge in the midst of our world's brokenness and failings.

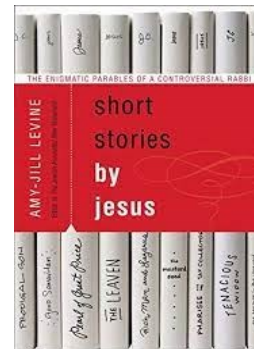
Oct 2 – "Grace - Gratitude – Generosity", led by The Rev. Richard E. T. Jorgensen Jr., Director for Evangelical Mission for Renewing Mission

## Short Stories by Jesus" series

(lesson descriptions from leader's guide of book)

Oct 9 - "Lost Sheep, Lost Coin, Lost Son" (from Luke 15) - We will consider what "taking count" of who and what may be "lost or missing looks like.

Oct 16 - "The Good Samaritan" (Luke 10:25-37) - We will discover how the narrative frame interprets the story, and be challenged to think concretely about what loving an enemy looks like in today's world.



## Snax n Study cont'd ...

**Oct 23** - "The Pearl of Great Price" (Matthew 13:45-46) - We will compare this parable with Jesus' encounter with a rich, would-be follower in Matthew 19:16-30, and discuss some alternative standards that identify the kingdom of heaven.

**Oct 30** - "The Mustard Seed" (Mark 4:30-32, Matthew 13:31-32, Luke 13:18-19) - We will consider how a range of images enhances our understanding of Jesus' teaching, and how to discern when faithfulness to God and God's kingdom involves taking direct action and when it involves patient trust in God's action.

**Nov 6** - "The Laborers in the Vineyard" (Matthew 20:1-6) - We will consider the spiritual lessons and concrete levels of this teaching when applied to our own lives.

**Nov 13** - "The Widow and the Judge" (Luke 18:1-8) - We will examine biblical images in stories of widows, and consider what can be gained when rejecting stereotypes in favor of viewing and engaging with people as individuals.

**Nov 20** - The Enthronement Psalms - On Christ the King Sunday, let's focus on the reign of God. The enthronement psalms (90 - 108) give voice that there is a millennia of us connected to the promise and hope that God will ultimately reconcile God's people and reclaim his creation.

---

## Music Notes

*"Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing." ~ Psalm 98:4*

After a summer break, our performing ensembles here at Trinity will soon resume rehearsing and preparing music to complement Sunday worship.

Please note the following:

### Wednesday, August 31 at 6:30 p.m.

Bell choir will meet for light refreshments, fellowship, sight-reading new music and polishing the bells.

### Wednesday, September 7

6:15 p.m. Bell Choir rehearsal

7:15 p.m. Choir rehearsal

New participants are always welcome to join us for the year, a few months or even for just a particular season of the church year (like Advent, Christmas or Easter). See Deb Hartman (bells) or Melissa Jacoby (choir) for more information.



# Koinonia

~ by Stacey Zeller

Um... I'm sorry, what? What is "Koinonia?"

Well, it's the name of a camp where I worked for two summers many moons ago, but it is so much more than that. Pronounced "koy-no-NEE-ah," Koinonia is a Greek word meaning "community" and, more specifically, being in communion and fellowship with God and other people. This word has been on my mind lately as I consider not only the summer calendar here at Trinity but our future here on Main Street as well.

This summer, Trinity was one of several local churches to host a Community Dinner on our (rainy!) lawn in June. The Greater Harrisburg Concert Band performed on the lawn on a beautiful Friday evening in July, complete with hot dogs and ice cream provided by Trinity with a generous grant from Thrivent. On August 21, we hosted an outdoor movie night (held inside due to weather), which was open and free to anyone who wished to attend. And on the second Saturday of each of those months, our Clothing Closet was open as usual to provide gently used clothing and an amazing grab-and-go breakfast/ snack bag to those who need it.

Within these three months alone, Trinity welcomed a few hundred people... members, families, friends, children,

neighbors, and strangers... to our church to enjoy opportunities for fellowship and community. Some of these folks have since come to worship on Sundays, and we even had a baptism this summer of a gentleman who is finding his way back into God's community.

Fellowship can happen inside the walls of the church building with members of our own congregation, and it can happen outside the walls on the lawn that we are so fortunate to have along this downtown thoroughfare. And when we say the "Trinity community," we can mean not only our membership, but it can also refer to our place on this street and in this town. God doesn't care where we have communion and fellowship with others... He only cares THAT we have it and that we include Him in it.

I am blessed to have seen first-hand how so many people have enjoyed and been profoundly impacted by the various opportunities for fellowship that Trinity offers, and I am continually challenged to further explore the meaning of true Christian community. If you are able to attend, to participate in, to volunteer for, or to help develop other opportunities to experience and share Koinonia here, I would strongly encourage you to do so. I promise that you will be blessed as well!

---

## Blessing Box Update

The Bridging the Gap Ministry Team thanks you for your ongoing support of our Blessing Box. In the past weeks, we have experienced our box being used more than in the past. The other two churches in Mechanicsburg with these boxes have reported the same pattern. We would like you to know that our box is checked regularly and food items are added three times each week. At this time, it would be helpful for our tracking for the box to be filled only by those assigned to those days.

We do, however, have need of additional items to replenish our supply. If you are able to help out, please bring your items to the church and place them on the table inside the west doors. Items particularly needed are: cereal, canned vegetables (peas, carrots, potatoes, diced/crushed tomatoes), canned fruit, canned tuna and chicken, canned pasta, spaghetti noodles and sauce, Ham-burg or Tuna Helper, macaroni and cheese, rice, instant potatoes, Ramen soup, chicken or beef broth.

Many thanks to our team of folks who regularly fill our Blessing Box each week: Carol and Bob Anderson, Jim and Mary Louis Smith, and David Durbin.



## Praying “God-Speed” to Vanessa Storlie

On Sunday morning, June 26, we gave Vanessa Storlie a grand send off with prayers at our 8 am and 10:15 am worship services, and a reception at 9 am. The church presented Vanessa with a generous love gift and a re-framed and matted print of the church. The print was originally painted by Eva M. Williams in 1992.

Vanessa has begun her one-year internship at St Paul’s Lutheran Church in Easton, PA. This is her capstone year as a student at Luther Seminary.



*Keep Vanessa in your hearts and prayers, and send her an email or text message from time to time.*



# Community Meal

After several years of Covid, community meals have started back up. On Sunday evening, June 26, we welcomed 50 of our neighbors on the west lawn at Trinity on Main. It was a very rainy evening, but our spirits were NOT dampened. Community Meals are a ministry of several churches in Mechanicsburg -- St. Paul's UCC, Mechanicsburg BIC, Trinity Ev Lutheran, First United Methodist, St. Mark Lutheran. Each church provides part of the meal and volunteers to serve and greet our neighbors.

The next community meal is scheduled for **Sunday evening, October 16**. Join us in serving our neighbors and getting to know them better. There are lots of ways to help out! Check out the photos from the June 26<sup>th</sup> meal --- Who is that woman under the pink hat breaking down tables in the pouring rain?



## UPCOMING SUNDAY EVENTS

September 4: 8:45 am, Snax n Study  
Informational Gathering  
September 18: 8:45 am, Snax n Study  
September 25: 8:45 am, Snax n Study  
  
October 16: Community Meal - location  
tbd

## EMERGENCIES & HOSPITALIZATIONS

We want to know when you or someone close to you needs pastoral care. Please contact Pastor Karen or the church office using the contact information above in the event of a newly diagnosed disease, hospitalization, or rehabilitation. Due to HIPAA regulations, this is the only method we have to know of your need. You may also contact Pastor Karen if you are in the midst of a life transition: a birth, a death, a move, a job loss/change, an empty nest, retirement, etc. or are experiencing a spiritual, physical, emotional, or financial crisis.



## MEN'S BREAKFAST

will continue into the fall. Join our men at 8 am at CC's Kitchen, 710 W Main Street, Mechanicsburg, on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday morning of each month. David Durbin leads the men in a lively discussion each month.



## UPCOMING DATES:

September 22  
October 27  
November 24

## AUGUST COUNCIL RECAP

- ◆ New Parish Administrator began work in the office, June 20
- ◆ Edification Day and Synod Assembly was attended virtually by Kent Eckerd, Vanessa Storlie, and Pastor Karen Durbin
- ◆ Heather Zielonis will continue to lead Clothing Closet Ministry and Carol Anderson will continue to lead Blessing Box Ministry
- ◆ Brian Schmick donated a gas powered leaf blower
- ◆ Jonathan Hartman has updated the computer tower in the office

## SYNOD NEWS

The Lower Susquehanna Synod has an on-line newsletter that provides information about what is going on around the SYNOD! Just go to the LSS website: <http://www.lss-elca.org/>



Thank you notes from the heart! Enjoy some recent hand-written thank you notes we received from guests at New Hope Ministries. It is because of YOU that our guests share their hearts with us in writing:

*"You have given me belief in me again and you have blessed me with hopes for further education for greater things for my future, and this class has opened my eyes to see greater visions to be a greater caregiver. One day I may need to be taken care of and I pray to have a caregiver with a good heart and kindness as I plan to give to others. Thank you for such an awesome opportunity and all your help."*

*"God gave me a sign in my life when I needed direction towards my future. He pointed me in the direction of New Hope Ministries. You helped me with food and a class for training for my future. I am forever grateful for this opportunity. Thank you!"*

Wish list: We could use condiments (ketchup, mustard, etc.) or personal care items. Please see website for specific needs by Center: [www.nhm-pa.org](http://www.nhm-pa.org)

We could use your help! Please prayerfully consider volunteering time at New Hope Ministries!

[www.nhm-pa.org](http://www.nhm-pa.org)

The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trust in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him.

Psalm 28:7

Need help? If you know someone needs help with food or dealing with a financial crisis, please contact us.  
(717) 432-2087

The following note came in to the church office recently...



Dear Valued Partner,

As we close out our 2nd fiscal quarter, Community Aid once again finds ourselves blessed with the value of your donations. I am truly humbled by your commitment to our partnership and the efforts you have put forth to help our mission move forward. The donations you provide create jobs and purpose for our staff, bring to life and amazing shopping experience for our customers, and enable Community Aid to fund local nonprofit partners. As a token of our appreciation, we have once again increased our quarterly payments by 50% as our way of expressing our gratitude.

Thank you once again for the blessings you and your donors bestow upon us every day. Our impact starts with you.

With Love and Purpose to Serve,  
Steve Sullivan, CEO



## Find us online!

At least once a week, we will post an event or invitation on Facebook. When you see our post, leave a positive comment and hit the "like" and share buttons. Your "likes" and "shares" help us get the word out about the good things happening at Trinity to all of your friends too.

Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TLCMech>

Don't forget to visit Trinity on Main's website for information about current events and the weekly worship videos. <https://www.trinity-on-main.org/>



Office Contact Info  
Church & Staff Office Hours  
Mon. – Thurs. 9 AM – 2 PM  
(other hours as needed)

Phone: 717-766-2662

[trinityburgoffice@gmail.com](mailto:trinityburgoffice@gmail.com)

[www.facebook.com/TLCMech](https://www.facebook.com/TLCMech)

<https://trinity-on-main.org/>

Pastor Contact Info

Pastor Karen Durbin

Email: [pastorkjd@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkjd@gmail.com)

Minister of Music Contact Info

Melissa Jacoby

Email: [trinityburgmusic@gmail.com](mailto:trinityburgmusic@gmail.com)

Parish Administrator Contact Info

Debbie Schue

Email: [trinityburgoffice@gmail.com](mailto:trinityburgoffice@gmail.com)

 **FREE**   
**Adult Clothing**  
**Saturday, Sept. 10**  
**9-11am**



Trinity's Closet on Main  
**132 E. Main St.**  
**Mechanicsburg, PA**

# SEPTEMBER Birthdays

- 9/01 Mary Beth Yandrasitz
- 9/03 James Pensyl
- 9/03 Ryan Sechrist
- 9/08 Andrew Sheaffer
- 9/11 Katherine Williams
- 9/13 Vanessa Storlie
- 9/13 Dennis Burkhard
- 9/18 Megan Champagne
- 9/21 Denise Burkhard
- 9/25 Cindy Wise
- 9/29 Tyler Hoffman

**Is your birthday missing? Please let us know so we can update our database!**

**Don't forget to check your mailboxes in the hallway outside the elevator!**

A few pics from our Concert on the Lawn in July, featuring the Greater Harrisburg Concert Band. It was a beautiful evening!



# SEPTEMBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
<b>4</b> 8:00 am Worship/ Communion 8:45 am Snax n Study Informal Gathering 10:15 am Worship/ Communion	5	6	<b>7</b> 6:15 pm Bells 7:15 pm Choir	8	<b>9</b> 4 - 5:30 pm Closet on Main setup	<b>10</b> 9:00 - 11:00 am Trinity's Closet on Main
Pastor Away on Retreat—thru September 11						
<b>11</b> 8:00 am Worship 10:15 am Worship  <div></div>	12	13	<b>14</b> 11:00 am Staff mtg  6:15 pm Bells 7:15 pm Choir	<b>15</b>  7:00 pm Church Council	16	17
<b>18</b> 8:00 am Worship/ Communion 8:45 am Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship/ Communion 11:45 am Bridging the Gap mtg 4:30-7:00 pm Confirmation Class	19	20	<b>21</b>  6:15 pm Bells 7:15 pm Choir	<b>22</b> 8:00 am Men's Breakfast at CC's Kitchen	23	24
Pastor Away on Study Leave thru October 1						
<b>25</b> 8:00 am Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship	26	27	<b>28</b> 6:15 pm Bells 7:15 pm Choir	29	30	
Pastor Away on Study Leave thru October 1						