

TRINITY TIDINGS

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October 2023

Sometimes God teaches us valuable lessons through the eyes of a child. A few months ago, my daughter in law, Stacy, sent me a photo of little Isaiah at the park. It was one of the first times he went down a slide. Here is the caption Stacy wrote under the photo: "Mommy went too fast down the spiral slide so he was scared of the slide the next time. He was also unsure of the passageways that had holes in them but had great confidence as long as mommy held his hand."

Many of us can identify with Isaiah. Something may have caused us to be afraid and may even stop us from trying that new thing again. But when we remember that our divine parent is holding our hand, we find strength, confidence, and delight beyond measure.

There is an anthem called "Do not be afraid" by Philip Stopford. It is based on Isaiah 43 and was commissioned by Andrew and Kathryn Radley on the occasion of the baptism of their daughter, Sophia Elizabeth, on October 24, 2010. I sang this anthem with the Susquehanna Chorale some years ago and it always brings me great assurance of the One who has called me by name. Perhaps it will do the same for you. Check it out on YouTube, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=loKD5dj6tYg>.



Isaiah 43:1

"... Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."



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



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Music Notes



Connecting to Device

A few weeks ago, I delved into new technology. Well, I should say "*new to me*" technology. *It was so simple, easy and obvious - AND has been available for years on both of our vehicles - yet I had overlooked and/or resisted it.*



Until now.

Trouble with charging cables and my iPhone (specifically, the lightning cable that connects with the car stereo - thanks, Apple! Grrr.) prompted me to find a way to restore music to my driving time (*because I NEED my music!*).

I decided to try the Bluetooth.

And...it worked. In just a few easy steps, the space inside my car filled with sounds of music from my phone. Wirelessly. Effortlessly. Free of the tangled-up, only-works-half-the-time-or-not-at-all cable I *thought I needed.*

Now, can I learn and remember from this everyday illustration? And keep my own Bluetooth on?! To be filled...to be a conduit...to stay connected to the source of all strength, grace and love: our holy, mighty, merciful Lord.

"...Oh, fill us with your fullness, Lord, until our very hearts o'erflow in kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show."
(ELW 676, v. 4 *Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak*)

Ring and Sing to Worship God

By the time you read this edition of Tidings, our Trinity musicians will have begun rehearsing on Wednesday evenings. Bells ring at 6:15 p.m. and choir singers meet at 7:15.

Rehearsals take place in the sanctuary and all are welcome to join us anytime: for a few Sundays, special worship seasons like Advent, Christmas, Lent or Easter, or to just sit in and see and hear what we do. Ask Deb Hartman (bells) or Melissa Jacoby (choir) for more detail.

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/>

September Church Council Highlights

- Ministry / Committee chairs are encouraged to submit updates for inclusion in Tidings! Information can be sent to the church office by the 10th of each month.
- Snax n Study begins again on Sunday, September 17th, at 8:45 am, with a study of the book of Acts.
- There will be a potluck lunch following the 10:15 am Worship service on Reformation Sunday, October 29th. Watch for sign-ups!

JUST A REMINDER:

**Don't forget to
check your mailboxes in
the hallway outside the
elevator each time you are
at church !**

Christian Education Opportunities

Snax 'n Study - Acts: Catching up with the Spirit

It's not too late to join us for our current study by Dr. Matthew L. Skinner. Dr. Skinner, Professor of New Testament at Luther Seminary. "Acts: Catching up with the Spirit" is leading us through themes to consider the character of the Christian message, the work of God's people (the church), and the challenges of living faithfully in a complex and changing world.

Here is the schedule for October and November:

October 1 -What has God Done

October 8 – What God Does

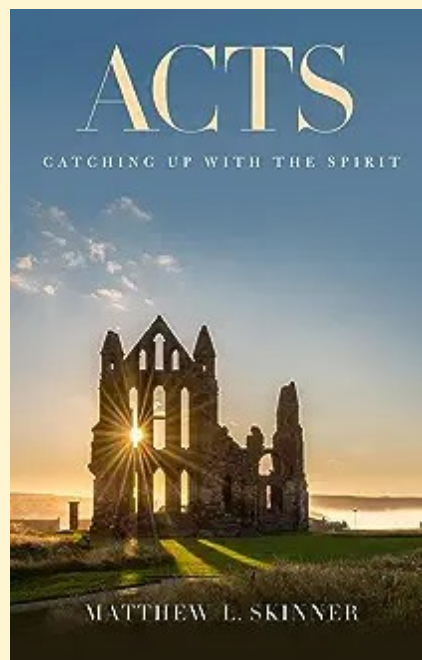
October 15 – Discernment and Change

October 22 – Opposition

October 29 – Reformation Homecoming Sunday

November 5 – Saints Around the Edges

November 12 This Changes Everything



Bible Study is beginning again on October 12, but moving to an evening time, 6:30 to 8 pm. We are meeting on selected Thursday evenings and following the weekly gospel lessons for the upcoming Sundays.

Bring a friend and join us on these dates:

October 12 – Matthew 22:1-14

October 19 – Matthew 22:15-22

October 26 – Matthew 22: 34-46

November 2 – Matthew 23:1-12

November 9- Matthew 23:1-13

November 16 – Matthew 25:14-30

November 30 – Matthew 25:31-46

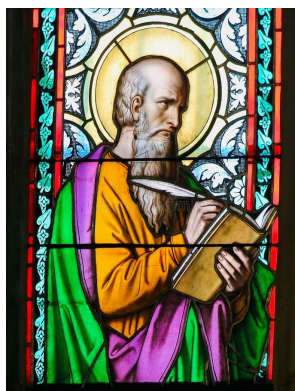


Worship Notes

Save These Sunday Dates!

October 8 – Blessing of the Animals at 2 pm. Rain or Shine!

Many Churches around the world observe the Feast of St. Francis on October 4, or the Sunday closest to this date. The feast commemorates the life of St Francis, who was born in the 12th century and is the Catholic Church's patron saint of animals and the environment. Join us at 2 pm, October 8, and bring your pets for a special blessing as we remember St. Francis and love our own precious pets. This year we will be singing a song called, "Earth is Full of Wit and Wisdom" from the new hymnal "All Creation Sings." Check it out on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=BhD50CXZQ3Q>.



October 15 – Feast of St. Luke Sunday with Anointing

On October 15, we will be celebrating the Feast of St. Luke with anointing and prayers for healing. Saint Luke the Evangelist, is the person attributed to writing the biblical books of Luke and Acts. He is described as a physician because of Colossians 4:14 where the author relays that "Luke, the beloved physician, sends his greetings." Following Holy Communion on this Sunday, all are invited to be anointed with oil by Pastor Karen. Our intercessory prayers will be focused on the healing presence of Christ.

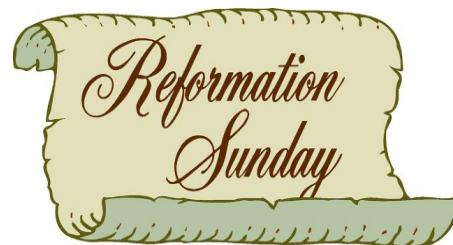
October 15 – Community Meal at First Church of God.
Volunteers are always needed so watch for signup sheets that are coming soon!



October 21 - Streets of Treats, 10 am to 2 pm. Signup to help part of the day, or all day! (And don't forget to wear a costume.)

October 29 - Reformation Homecoming Sunday

Join us for worship on October 29 for Reformation Homecoming Sunday at 8 am or 10:15 am. A Potluck Lunch will be held in Fellowship Hall at 11:45 am. Bring a friend, wear something red for the celebration, and let's pack the place!



Scholarship Nomination

Scholarship Nomination

We have been nominated by the staff of the Lower Susquehanna synod to receive a full scholarship for two people to attend a special seminar being offered by Kindling Faith in cooperation with Partners for Sacred Places on the Philadelphia campus of ULS on September 28th – 30th. We have been recognized as having the potential to use our building and creative gifts for ministry in new and exciting ways.

Partners for Sacred Places is the only nonsectarian, nonprofit organization dedicated to sound stewardship and active community use of older sacred places across

America. We provide capital campaign training and fundraising strategies, along with technical assistance, and grants to congregations and other local organizations across the United States via our National Fund program. We have many exciting programs ranging from Arts in Sacred Places to Playing and Preserving. We also have customized regional programs where we provide congregational trainings, consulting, and convenings.

We are honored to be a recipient of these scholarships and are excited about the possibilities for our congregation. Pastor Karen Durbin, Mike and Deb Hartman, and Stacey Zeller will be attending.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Join our men on the 4th Thursday morning of each month at 8 am, at [C.C's Kitchen](#), 710 East Main Street, Mechanicsburg, PA. David Durbin usually leads each month with some words of inspiration from scripture followed by lively discussion. All men are welcome!



Outdoor Worship & Picnic

Thank you to everyone who attended our outdoor worship service and picnic on Sunday, September 10. It was a beautiful time of friendship and fellowship!



New Tidings Feature

Why do they do that?

A new feature of our monthly newsletter is "Why do they do that?" People may often wonder about our liturgy, the symbols in our sanctuary, or other random things about Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. This feature will attempt to answer some of your pressing questions. You may wonder why we have a red candle lit on the wall, or what the large candle next to the font is all about, or even what are those shields hung on the walls in the sanctuary. What questions do you have? Watch for a new question box at the church and give us your best questions, and then watch for the answers. We will start with an easy one, maybe!

Why do we have a red light on the wall next to the altar? The simple answer is that this light is a symbol to remind us that God is always present with us when we gather for worship. Early biblical connections are in the instructions God gave for a lampstand to be made for the construction of the tabernacle (Exodus 27:20-21).



In Roman Catholic tradition, beginning in the 12th century, a light burned in front of the reserved sacrament of consecrated bread and wine that was housed in a box called a "tabernacle." Some Episcopal and Lutheran churches picked up this custom. Later, when Protestant churches built their worship spaces, some included the lamp without the "tabernacle" or box on the wall.



While there are various practices that have evolved over the years, it is a good thing to know what a symbol means for a congregation. At Trinity, the red light serves to remind us that God is always present with us, and especially as we gather in God's name for worship.

(based on "What is a Sanctuary Light?" Used by permission from www.elca.org/worshipfaq)

Community Outreach

We will again this year be collecting cans of green beans for New Hope Ministries, to be distributed to local families for Thanksgiving. Bring what you can by Sunday, October 22 and place them on the table inside the front door. We met last year's goal of 200 cans, so let's see if we can get to this year's goal of **205!!** The Ingathering on Sunday, October 22 will be for both the Blessing Box Food Drive and the green beans for the New Hope Ministries Thanksgiving Food Collection. (See page 7 for info on our Blessing Box Food Drive.)



Community Outreach

Blessing Box

Where is the year going? As the weather cools our neighbors continue to depend on our Blessing Box Ministry to help supplement their food needs. When you pick up items for our Blessing Box, please, no glass containers as they will break in the colder weather. You may place your donations on the table under the coat rack outside of Fellowship Hall.

Personal Care items:

Toothpaste/Toothbrushes
Toilet paper

Food items:

Chicken Noodle & Tomato Soup
Beef Stew
Canned Chicken & Spam
Peanut Butter
Boxed or Canned potatoes
Canned Pasta
Spaghetti & Spaghetti Sauce
Knorr's Rice and Pasta Pouches
Boxed Macaroni and Cheese/Oatmeal
Baked Beans/Kidney Beans
Canned Vegetables

Thank you to those who shared their overabundance of produce for our outdoor "Market-On-Main" stand we introduced this summer. Thank you to All that donate items and continue to support our Ministries.



Clothing Closet

Trinity's Clothing Closet has phased out our spring and summer adult clothing and are looking for clean and gently used fall and winter adult clothing through the rest of the year and into 2024. We have no small men's or women's clothing currently. T-Shirts and jeans are welcome year round. Our next Free Adult Clothing Closet is on October 14th from 9-11 a.m. In September we had 44 visitors, many were new faces, and handed out 253 items.



Thank you for marking your donations with your name and date of donation and placing clothing in closed/sealed bags in the hallway outside the Outreach room. Please do not leave housewares, bedding, or other items. Please do not leave donation bags outside the church doors.

Are you willing to help out on a Clothing Closet Saturday, or by putting together a carry out breakfast or lunch for our guests? Call Heather Zielonis or Pastor Karen to let them know that you can help!

BRIDGING THE GAP FOOD DRIVE:

Our Bridging the Gap team is holding an October food drive for the items listed below. We are designating **Sunday, October 22** as an ingathering Sunday, to bless the offerings of food that we receive from the Food drive. Please bring any items that you are donating to the church by Saturday, October 21. Watch for a flyer you can take with you to the grocery store, and thank you in advance for your generosity!

Canned soup
Cereal
pasta
plastic jars of pasta sauce
canned vegetables/potatoes
Canned fruit
Canned beans
Canned chicken/spam/tune
Toothpaste & tooth brushes
Toilet paper

Birthdays, Etc.



10/01 Deb George
 10/01 Richard Roy
 10/08 Craig Hamilton
 10/09 Carol Anderson
 10/11 Chris Sabatini
 10/17 David Durbin
 10/17 Donna Jo Peterson
 10/18 Philip Warner
 10/20 John Wise
 10/23 Heather Zielonis
 10/24 David George
 10/25 Sonia Hamilton
 10/25 Joanna Lynch
 10/25 Aaron Sieber
 10/25 Jan Walton
 10/29 Maranda Jane Lynch
 10/29 Elizabeth Stone
 10/30 Mary Louise Smith
 10/31 Linda Humes
 10/31 Sharon Umholtz

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

Thank you!

The Hartman family would like to express their appreciation to everyone for their cards, prayers and kind words following the recent passing of my mother, Arlene.

- Mike Hartman

↓ ↓ ↓
TIDINGS DEADLINE:

JUST A REMINDER that the
 deadline for newsletter items is the
 10th of each month for the following
 month's issue.
 Thank you!


FREE

Adult Clothing
Saturday, Oct. 14
9-11am



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

Office Contact Info

Church & Staff Office Hours

Mon. – Thurs. 9 AM – 2 PM

(other hours as needed)

Phone: 717-766-2662

trinitymburgoffice@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/TLCMech

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

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Email: pastorkjd@gmail.com

Minister of Music Contact Info

Melissa Jacoby

Email: trinitymburgmusic@gmail.com

Parish Administrator Contact Info

Debbie Schue

Email: trinitymburgoffice@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE!

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church's

HOME COMING 2023

REFORMATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 29, 2023

**JOIN US FOR WORSHIP
AT 8:00 OR 10:15 AM**

**A potluck will be held at 11:30,
after the service**

**Come out, meet old friends and
make new ones!**

**LET'S CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF THE
PROTESTANT CHURCH TOGETHER**

OCTOBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8 am Spoken Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship	2	3 1 pm Staff mtg 7 pm Stewardship Mtg	4 6:15 pm Bell Choir 7:15 Choir	5 7 pm Church Council	6	7
8 8 am Spoken Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship 2 pm Blessing of the Animals	9 Columbus Day Indigenous Peoples' Day	10	11 6:15 pm Bell Choir 7:15 Choir	12 6:30 pm Bible Study	13 4 pm Set up for Trinity's Closet on Main	14 9-11 am Clothing Closet
15 Feast of St. Luke Sunday, including Anointing for Healing 8 am Spoken Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 9 am Confirmation Class 10:15 am Worship 5 pm Community Dinner	16	17 9:15 am AARP Driver Safety Refresher Class	18 6:15 pm Bell Choir 7:15 Choir	19 6:30 pm Bible Study	20	21 10 am Mechanicsburg Streets of Treats
22 Food Drive Ingathering Sunday 8 am Spoken Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship with Music	23	24	25 6:15 pm Bell Choir 7:15 Choir	26 8 am Men's Breakfast 6:30 pm Bible Study	27	28
29 Reformation Homecoming 8 am Spoken Worship 9 am Confirmation Class 10:15 am Worship with Music 11:30 am Reformation Potluck Lunch	30	31				