

# TRINITY TIDINGS

132 E. Main St. Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

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## Prayers and Letters

It can be great to get a letter from a valued friend or family member. Your letter might be a handwritten letter by "snail mail," or an email message or text that comes quickly. God has also sent us various kinds of messages and letters. Jesus is God's most important message -- God's love letter to us. In John 3:16, we read, "For this is the way God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life" (NET).

The Psalms and Epistles of the New Testament hold other types of messages from God. Prayers and letters are ways of communicating, from a person to God or others, from people to and from God. In the Psalms, we have prayers offered by people of faith from long ago. These prayers can encourage our corporate and personal prayer life by giving us words for what we long to say to God when our own words escape us. In the Epistles, we can identify with the first church communities whose challenges are similar to ours.

My summer preaching series is called "Prayers and Letters." From week to week, we will discover God's good news to us through the words of the psalms and the Apostle Paul's letters to the churches at Corinth and Ephesus.

Deepen your faith life this summer through in-person Sunday worship, worship video, and in-person Wednesday evening Bible Studies.

Blessings and peace to you my friends,

Pastor Karen



June, July 2024



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



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## Music Notes



### Notes of Thanks

Thank you to choir singers, bell ringers, instrumentalists and everyone in the congregation who gathered to worship on Church Music Sunday (April 28). Also, many thanks to the Fellowship Committee who prepared a delicious tea following 10:15 worship.

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"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." (Genesis 8:22)

### Seedtime and Harvest

Planting season's here, and whether you're working with a flower bed or farm field, placing things outside to grow is an act of faith. So many things *could* go wrong: weather and weed pressure; crop failure; destructive pests and critters looking to make a meal out of new transplants...the possibilities are endless.

And yet, we have courage each spring to start again.

It's humble confidence in what we *can* prepare for (like soil health, tilling, irrigation and weed control) and cautious optimism for what we envision the harvest might grow to be, even with unpredictability about weather, pesky critters, etc.

There's probably some luck involved, too.

Fortunately, when it comes to acting on our faith, we have much more to go on than luck. We're accompanied and empowered by the Holy Spirit to share the love of Christ Jesus and be God's mercy in this world. And we can take courage - regardless of things beyond *our* control - to start anew each day.

*(v. 2) Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.*

*(refrain) Great is thy faithfulness!  
Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.*

~ Great is Thy Faithfulness (ELW #733)

- Melissa Jacoby, Minister of Music





## Christian Education Opportunities

### Snax n Study:



Will continue in June and July. The Chosen, Season 3 will conclude with episode 8 on June 2 & June 9. Topics for the summer are TBA.

Food and fellowship begins at 8:45, followed by each class.



### Bible Study



will resume on Wednesday, June 12, 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. We will continue to look at the Psalms and New Testament letters for the upcoming Sundays.

### CONFIRMED!

Preston Warner and Koen Thomas were confirmed at the 10:15 am worship on May 19. A reception was held for them at 9 am. Check out the photos and make a point to send them a note of congratulations and encouragement.

*Congratulations!*



# Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly

~ by Stacey Zeller

The Lower Susquehanna Synod (LSS) Assembly meetings for 2024 were held over the last several weeks. Edification Day sessions (with edification defined as "the instruction or improvement of a person morally or intellectually") were offered via Zoom on Saturday, May 18. The business sessions were offered on Friday, May 31, via Zoom, and on Saturday, June 1, in person at St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church in York. Your representatives from Trinity were Pastor Karen Durbin, Koen Thomas, Stacey Zeller, and Tim Zielonis.

There was a LOT of information shared, and I am still processing it all! But, to briefly summarize the experience, I would offer the following thoughts:

In 2025, the LSS will be voting for a new Bishop. The Rev. James S. Dunlop will have completed his second term as our Bishop, so that election will be the primary focus of next year's assembly. There will be opportunities over the coming year for listening sessions, where the synod staff will meet with congregants throughout the synod to hear what is most important to them for the future of our synod and its leader, and there will be opportunities for structured prayer guided by resources made available by the synod.

The theme of this year's assembly was "The Healing of the Nations: Christ's Healing for a Broken World." Often, it's easy to get wrapped up in our little "bubble" on Main Street or in our town. We learned about the efforts other congregations are putting forth to meet similar goals as ours (clothing, feeding, and welcoming our neighbors) and how our synod and the larger church are doing the same. It's comforting to know that we are not alone in our work and that what we do matters.

Decreasing numbers of attendees at worship services and of memberships in traditional denominations has been a problem for a long time in this country but especially post-covid. The LSS is making efforts to reach out to unaffiliated people to learn why they may have left a church or are just not part of one and how we can help to make them feel more welcome in our communities.

Again, there is much information to process, but the assembly was a tremendously valuable and eye-opening experience, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to have gone.

## 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/>

## Church Council

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ♦ Online / electronic giving is now available for your offerings! See the [QR code](#) that is found in our weekly emails and in our bulletins.
- ♦ Koen Thomas and Preston Warner will be confirmed on Sunday, May 19, 2024, at 10:15 am, with a reception in Fellowship Hall beginning at 9:00 am.
- ♦ Watch for details about an exhibit by local artist Geoffrey Isley that will be hosted at Trinity in July and August 2024!



## What's Coming Up?

### June is Baptism Month

We are excited to welcome four young families whose children will receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism in June. Make a point to be with us as we witness God's grace poured out on these young children.

**June 2, 8 am worship** – Baptism of Natalie Kay Aldinger, daughter of Megan and Michael Aldinger, granddaughter of Gene Champagne

**June 9, 10:15 worship** – Baptism of James Emmett Thomsen, son of Matthew and Cortney Thomsen; baptism of Dominick Donofrio, son of Justin and Barbara Donofrio

**June 16, 10:15 worship** – Baptism of Levi Michael Wayne Anderson, son of Tyler and Morgan Anderson



## Coming Soon - Pop-Up Lunches on the Lawn!

We had so much fun eating lunch out on the lawn last summer that we decided to do it again this year!

More details will be coming soon, but here are some ways that everyone can participate:

- Provide a main dish, side dish, snack or drinks
- Plan a menu for one of the lunches
- Attend and enjoy lunch on the lawn and meet some of our neighbors!
- Donations and menu ideas always welcome!

Everyone is invited to join us and make this year's Lunch-on-the-Lawn even better than last year's! Watch for the tent! Our first popup lunch will be on Thursday, June 27. Watch for the tent!



## Stay tuned for dates...



## What's Coming Up?

### The Greater Harrisburg Concert Band Concert on the Lawn, July 19

Once again, we will host the GHCB concert. It will be held on Friday evening, July 19. Invite your family and friends for this concert at 7 pm. Free hot dogs, chips, drinks, and ice cream will be available before the concert.



Pictures  
from the  
2023 GHCB  
at Trinity!



### MEN'S BREAKFAST

will continue during the summer on the fourth Thursday of each month, 8 am at [C.C.s Kitchen](#) on Main Street, Mechanicsburg.



*It's going  
to be  
a  
**GREAT  
summer!***

### Annual Outdoor Worship & Picnic

This year's annual outdoor worship and picnic will be held on Sunday, August 18, on the west lawn at the church. 8 am worship will be inside. 10:15 worship will be outside followed by our picnic. Tents will be set up on the lawn for shade. Bring a blanket or lawn chair, and a side dish, salad, or dessert to share.



2023





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

# Remnants Rescued

*Finding Beauty in the Discarded*

*The Art of*  
**GEOFFREY ISLEY**

Working with raw materials that were headed to the trash heap has been a focus of artist Geoffrey Isley for over a decade. From making art quilts from upcycled fabric leftovers, to making collages from scraps of handmade papers or prints, or creating stained glass mosaics from fragments of glass leftovers, his work invites you to explore how beauty can be found in brokenness and restoration.



July-August 2024

132 EAST MAIN STREET, MECHANICSBURG, PA 17055 | 717-766-2662 | [TRINITY-ON-MAIN.ORG](http://TRINITY-ON-MAIN.ORG)



## What's Coming Up?

# NEW ART SHOW AT TRINITY!

During the months of July and August, Trinity-on-Main will host an art show by local artist, Geoff Isley. There will be an official opening for the show during an arts weekend, July 19-21, beginning with the Greater Harrisburg Concert Band on our lawn and continuing through the weekend with the opportunity to visit the show and hear from the artist.

Hours for the gallery during July and August will be:

Monday - Wednesday, 10am - 1 pm

Evenings & Saturdays by appointment

## THE ART OF GEOFFREY ISLEY | Finding Beauty in the Discarded

Working with raw materials that were headed to the trash heap has been a focus of artist Geoffrey Isley for over a decade. From making art quilts from upcycled fabric leftovers, to making collages from handmade scraps of papers or prints, or creating stained glass mosaics from fragments of glass leftovers, his work invites you to explore how beauty can be found in brokenness and restoration.

Geoff has been a working graphic artist for over 30 years, and has been part of the visual arts team of the Grantham Church for 20 years.

### *Fragments of Grace VI*

Mixed media, handmade paper, 2007  
8 x 10"



**Quilt II**

Machine pieced, hand dyed, machine quilted, 2023  
30 x 32"

*Circles of  
Light*  
mosaic  
stained  
glass





## Art Show at Trinity...

### GEOFFREY ISLEY Artist's Statement

What interests me as an artist is how I can reflect back to the viewer some of the intrinsic meaning in a piece. Whether it's a quilt, collage or window, the materials are broken into small pieces and then refashioned by the artist's hand into something new, something beautiful — something that couldn't have appeared on its own. As an artist, I am compelled to "make things," to be creative with the stuff around me. But I am only rearranging the stuff, not actually creating it. I find joy in drawing a viewer's eye to that underlying truth — that we are all broken, and are being re-fashioned into something beautiful by our Creator God. And we are most complete when we are placed into the context of community. Alone, we are just one fragment of cotton, or a shard of glass, but together we tell a fuller story, reflect God's redeeming, creative, life-giving purposes.

Stained glass has a centuries-long history of being used in sacred spaces, and this is partly because it was so expensive that only the Church could afford such work. But it also became a way of telling the Bible stories visually to a mostly illiterate population. Using colored light itself to shine down upon worshipers seems so obvious to us today, but earlier generations would have been awestruck by windows with glass, let alone ones with gorgeous colors or pictorial features.

During the pandemic of 2020 I created several windows in a series called Sacred Spaces. I think for many of us, we desperately missed being together in worship, and were a bit traumatized by the social distancing. We had to learn to do church in our living rooms! It was a good reminder for me that our homes are also sacred spaces, and these smaller more residential-sized windows that fit in a person's home would be a daily reminder of the sacred work we do in our homes.

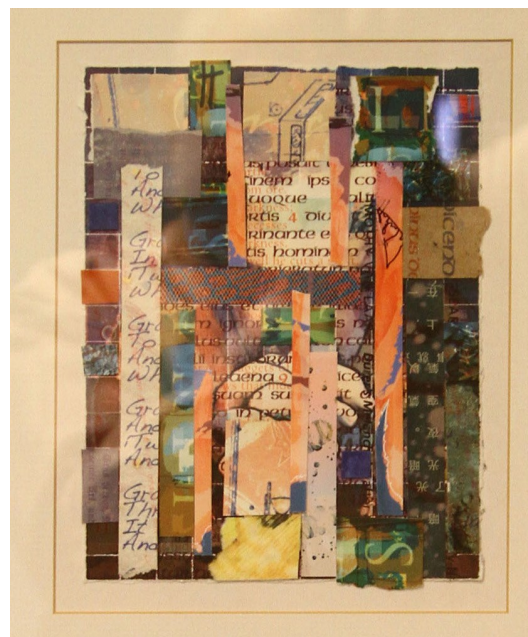
*Noli Me Tangere*  
Mosaic stained glass,  
2020



*Letterforms in Light*  
mosaic stained glass  
22 x 52"



*Psalms of Grace II*  
Mixed media, handmade paper,  
2007





## Art Show at Trinity...

More works of Artist Geoffrey Isley



*Fractured and Redeemed*  
mosaic stained glass  
22 x 52"

*Fragments of Grace III*  
Mixed media, handmade paper,  
2007



*Fragments of Grace II*  
Mixed media, handmade paper, 2007  
8 x 10"



## Community Outreach

### Blessing Box

As the economy remains erratic, we continue to reach out to our neighbors through our Blessing Box Ministries. Your food donations give our community a sense of care and concern for their well-being as we help to ease their food insecurities. If you would like to contribute but are not a fan of grocery shopping, you are welcome to make a monetary donation and we will do the shopping for you.

Below you will find a list of food items needed to stock the Blessing Box. There is also an updated list on the bulletin board to take with you. Donations should be placed on the table outside of Fellowship Hall. We are striving to collect 3,000 items in 2024, whether it is food or toiletries. As of today there have been **1200** items donated.

#### Blessing Box Needs:

Macaroni & cheese; Hormel single serving meals; canned pasta, canned beans of all kinds; canned tomatoes all varieties; single serving snacks – chips, pretzels; Hamburg Helper/Tuna Helper



 **FREE**   
**Adult Clothing**  
**Saturday, June 8**  
**9-11am**



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

 **FREE**   
**Adult Clothing**  
**Saturday, July 13**  
**9-11am**



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

**DID YOU KNOW** that every month we provide a lunch for people to take home with them? If you would like to purchase supplies or help to make/pack the lunches, please be in touch with Heather Zielonis and let her know.



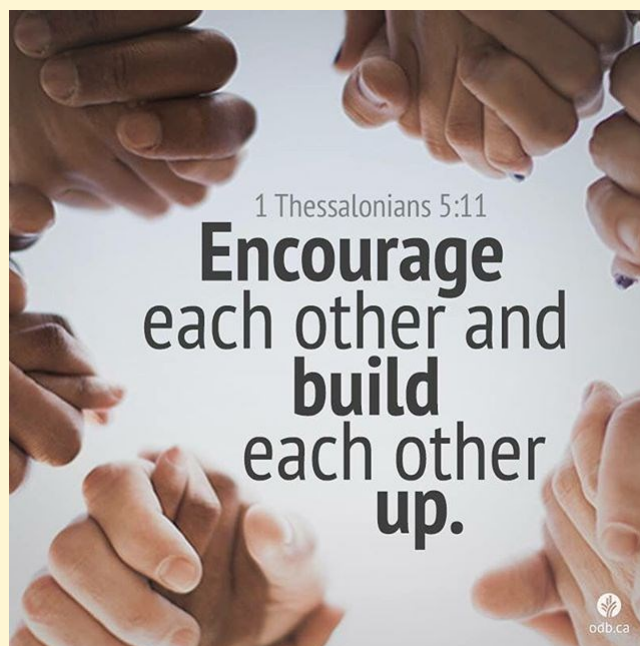
Where there  
 is love  
 there is

**New**  
**HOPE**  
 Ministries

*Sharing Christ's love by meeting human needs*

**Need help?** If you or someone you know needs help with food or dealing with a financial crisis, please contact us.  
 (717) 432-2087 or  
[www.nhm-pa.org](http://www.nhm-pa.org)

**Volunteer with us!**  
 There are many volunteer opportunities available. Please give us a call, or visit our website to see how you can be a part of our ministry!



1 Thessalonians 5:11

**Encourage  
 each other and  
 build  
 each other  
 up.**



## Community Outreach

We will again be collecting items for New Hope Ministries Back-To-School program. Items may be left on the table inside the entrance beginning at the end of June. **Deadline for donations is Sunday, July 28.** Thank you in advance for your generosity!!



**New HOPE Ministries**  
Sharing Christ's love by meeting human needs

# BACK TO SCHOOL

## Most needed items:

- binders (1" and 2")
- backpacks
- calculators (including scientific ones)
- colored pencils
- crayons and markers
- dry erase markers
- erasers and pencil sharpeners
- folders
- glue sticks and bottles
- highlighters
- index cards
- lunch boxes
- notebook paper
- notebooks
- pencils and pens
- pencil cases (zipper pouches)
- Post-it notes (square)
- rulers
- scissors
- Sharpies
- tissues (individual packs)

Please drop off at your nearest New Hope Center by **August 1st** - thank you!



## Holy Week Highlights...

It seems like a long time ago now, but we had a wonderful Holy Week here at Trinity Church and in case you haven't seen pictures yet, we thought we would share a few here...



## Palm Sunday Brunch



## Good Friday Prayer Walk





## Birthdays, Etc.



Are you looking for a way that you can serve at Trinity Church? If you are, please consider signing up to help during the worship services. We can always use Greeters, Assisting Ministers and Lectors. If you feel you would like to help in one of these areas, please contact the church office or let Pastor Karen know!

### June

6/2 Brian Schmick  
6/3 Deb Hartman  
6/5 Logan Hartman  
6/6 Daniel Burkhard  
6/6 Karen Reisinger  
6/7 Ingrid Roy  
6/10 Gina Witmer  
6/12 Tyler Anderson  
6/12 Gavin Smith  
6/13 Karen Durbin  
6/14 Levi Anderson  
6/22 Lou Ann Crimarco  
6/22 John Wallace  
6/27 William DeVore, Jr.  
6/27 Tim Zielonis  
6/29 Catherine Wise

### Shut-In Address Updates:

- 1) Pattie Sheaffer  
8 Longwood Drive  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
- 2) Elizabeth Stone  
308 River Road, Apt 141  
Fredericksburg, VA 22407
- 3) Miriam Wise  
208 Hogestown Road  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

*Thinking  
of you*

Take a few moments to send them a card if you have a chance, say hello, and let them know they are special!

### July

7/2 Colin Reisinger  
7/8 Kay Miller  
7/14 Natalie Aldinger  
7/15 Deb Warner  
7/17 Preston Warner  
7/23 Kevin Roy  
7/26 Alan Williamson  
7/29 Verlyn Hays  
7/29 Russell Umholtz  
7/29 Josh Wagenheim  
7/30 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.

**Have a good month!**

### Office Contact Info

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

Phone: 717-766-2662

[trinitymburgoffice@gmail.com](mailto:trinitymburgoffice@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: [trinitymburgmusic@gmail.com](mailto:trinitymburgmusic@gmail.com)

### Parish Administrator Contact Info

Debbie Schue

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



# JUNE

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1  8 am Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly
2 8 am Spoken Worship & <a href="#">Aldinger Baptism</a>  <a href="#">8:45 am Snax n Study</a> 10:15 am Worship	3	4	5	6  7 pm Church Council	7  4 pm Set up for Trinity's Closet on Main	8  <a href="#">9-11 am Clothing Closet</a>
9 8 am Spoken Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship & <a href="#">Thomsen, Donofrio Baptisms</a>	10	11	12  <a href="#">6:30 pm Bible Study</a>	13	14	15
16 8 am Spoken Worship 8:45 am, Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship with Music & <a href="#">Anderson Baptism</a>	17	18	19  6:30 pm Bible Study	20	21	22
23 8 am Spoken Worship 10:15 am Worship with Music	24	25	26  6:30 pm Bible Study	27 <a href="#">8 am, Men's Breakfast</a> 11 am, Staff Mtg <a href="#">12 pm, Pop-Up Lunch on the Lawn</a>	28	29
30 8 am Spoken Worship 10:15 am Worship with Music						

# JULY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Art Exhibit open 10 am—1 pm	2	3	4	5	6
7 8 am Spoken Worship <a href="#">8:45 am, Snax n Study</a> 10:15 am Worship	8 Art Exhibit open 10 am—1 pm	9	10  <a href="#">6:30 pm, Bible Study</a>	11	12  4 pm Set up for Trinity's Closet on Main	13  <a href="#">9-11 am Clothing Closet</a>
14 8 am Spoken Worship 8:45 am, Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship	15 Art Exhibit open 10 am—1 pm	16	17  6:30 pm, Bible Study	18	19  <a href="#">7 pm Greater Harrisburg Concert Band</a>	20  <a href="#">10 am, Geoffrey Isely Art Exhibit Opening @ Trinity</a>
21 8 am Spoken Worship 8:45 am, Snax n Study with Artist, Geoffrey Isley 10:15 am Worship with Music	22 Art Exhibit open 10 am—1 pm	23	24  6:30 pm, Bible Study	25  <a href="#">8 am, Men's Breakfast</a>	26	27
28 8 am Spoken Worship 8:45 am, Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship with Music  <a href="#">Deadline for Back- to-School items for New Hope Ministries</a>	29 Art Exhibit open 10 am—1 pm	30	31  6:30 pm, Bible Study			