

TRINITY TIDINGS



132 E. Main St. Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

717-766-2662

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Dear Sisters and Brothers.

Thank you so much for the warm welcome as we began ministry together on Sunday, October 12. I am looking forward to our work together as we listen for the direction of the Holy Spirit in living into your mission statement of sharing God's love for all through worship, education and service as well as beginning the holy work of preparing for the process of calling a settled permanent pastor. Our time together will involve listening to the Holy Spirit as well as listening to one another.

It's important to take a step back and use this time of transition mindfully and intentionally. Every 5 years or so, healthy congregations take time to reflect on what is going well and what might no longer be serving the mission effectively. We will work together to fill out Trinity's site profile which will be an important tool to focus our reflections. The profile describes the gifts of the congregation and what gifts are needed by potential candidates to move the congregation into the future. The council will appoint a call committee comprised of lay leaders of various ages and lengths of time with the congregation to help lead the conversation.

This will take time! Please be patient. A spiritual director once cautioned me to avoid moving faster than the Holy Spirit.

Meanwhile, ministry continues at Trinity. It's important to maintain and grow both our personal and congregational spiritual practices. There are many different practices that help us talk and listen to God, not as a mindless rote activity, but as experiences that deepen a relationship with the One Who Loves Us. Reading inspiring literature, attending Sunday School and Bible classes are also vital.

Life is hard and some of us are personally in desperate need of comfort. God comforts through that small still voice we sense during prayer as well as the encouragement and care we provide one another. The grief in the congregation also needs to be named and processed as many grieve Pastor Karen's retirement.

Trinity takes the mission of service seriously. There are many varied ways in which the congregation opens its heart and pocketbooks to provide for our needy neighbors. It's one of the ways we live out Jesus' command to "love one another as I have loved you."

I am looking forward to our time together and getting to know each of you better. Let's hold each other in prayer as we move forward under the wings of the Spirit.

Blessings on your journey,
Pastor Barb

November 2025



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



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Music Notes

On the piano in our music room at home, there's a stack of hymnals: the 2020 purple supplement "*All Creation Sings*"; a cranberry-colored ELW that my mother gave me for Christmas "way back" (gasp!) in 2005 when *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* was brand new; the red SBH with liturgy familiar to my childhood; the green LBW of college and young adulthood, along with the WOV, and "*the old brown hymnal*" as my grandparents fondly called it (copyright 1935: *The Service Hymnal* "compiled for general use in all religious services of the church, school, and home").

From this vast, assorted collection, one particular phrase recently swirled to the top in my soundtrack of memories. On repeat!

It was Pastor Barb's first Sunday here. And she passed around to us heart-shaped sunglasses of various colors, inviting us to put them on as an illustration of "seeing" through the lens of God's love: how we read scripture; how we serve and care for our neighbors;

how we prepare to embark together in this phase of Trinity's journey; and even how we view ourselves.

And that's when I "heard" it:

*"Silently now I wait for Thee,
ready, my God, Thy will to see;
open my eyes, illumine me,
Spirit divine!"*

~ Open My Eyes, That I May See
(#345, The Service Hymnal)

Those heart-shaped sunglasses now have their place atop that stack of hymnals. And this premise, this prayer - may it remain top of mind, too, as we seek the Holy Spirit to open our eyes in all that we see, say, sing, and do.

- Melissa Jacoby, Minister of Music



"Open my eyes, so that I may behold wondrous things out of your law." (Psalm 119:18, NRSVUE)

Worship

Welcome, Pastor Barb!

On Sunday, October 12, we had the opportunity to "meet and greet" our Interim Pastor, Rev. Barbara Barry, between services. We are looking forward to getting to know her and have her here leading services for us. Welcome to Trinity Church, Pastor Barb!



FIRST SUNDAY KIDS

Jarius' Daughter Lives



This past Sunday our kids learned of another Miracle Jesus did. Everyone thought Jarius' daughter died, except her father. Jesus performed a miracle and brought the little girl back to life. In our celebration we made tambourines to make joyful music and celebrate life that Jesus gives to us. Check out our pictures on our board and check out James' tambourine and coloring picture!

In November we will be experiencing Jesus's Miracle of Loaves and Fishes and we will be meeting earlier to make our community project for the clothing closet customers.

We will be collecting dog food, treats, old towels, and gently used blankets for the dogs and if anyone would like to make a monetary donation, please make it out to Trinity and in the memo line put Speranza donation. We will be collecting items thru October 31st. Please place all donations on the pew outside the office. Thank you!

- Ja'net and Amy

Worship, cont'd...



Save the Date: Joint Thanksgiving Worship Service

A joint Thanksgiving Worship service with the other Mechanicsburg Lutheran Churches is being held this year at Trinity on

Sunday, November 23, 6:30pm.

Watch for more info about a pickup choir and instrumentals.

Let us worship the Lord with thanksgiving!

MEN'S BREAKFAST

continues the fourth Thursday of each month, 8 am at C.C.s family Restaurant on Main Street.

There will be no Men's Breakfast in November or December due to the holidays. We will resume on Thursday, January 22.



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

All Saints' Sunday is on November 2 this year. Join us during the 8 and 10:15 am services as we remember those who passed in the last year and light candles in their memory.

Advent

Advent begins November 30. What is Advent? The word Advent comes from the Latin "adventus" which means coming. That's the reason we use blue for the altar during Advent. Blue is a waiting color. Who's coming? Jesus! But **Advent is more than a simple countdown for Christmas.** We do remember Jesus' birthday but even more we expect and wait to see Jesus both in our lives today and at the end of time. To help focus our waiting we pray using the Advent wreath. Each Sunday of Advent we prayerfully light a candle with the final lighting of the Christ candle on Christmas Eve. The hustle and bustle of the holiday season can feel overwhelming. Isn't it wonderful that we have the season of Advent to slow us down to focus on what really matters? Jesus! Take time to mindfully celebrate Advent this year. Your relationship with Jesus will become deeper as a result.



Christian Education

Snax n Study

- by Stacey Zeller

Snax n Study is Trinity's weekly adult Christian Education group. We meet in the Fellowship Hall between worship services with all kinds of yummy "snax" available at 8:45 am and a program beginning at 9:00 am. Snax are provided by volunteers, and programs in the past have been led by group members, outside guests, and the pastor.

We are making plans for the upcoming months, and we welcome anyone who is interested to join us!

On Sundays 10/19, 11/2, 11/9, and 11/16, we will be watching and discussing the chapters of Adam Hamilton's DVD entitled *Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity*. "*Enough* is an invitation to rediscover the Bible's wisdom on prudent financial practices. Find the keys to experiencing contentment, overcoming fear, and discovering joy through simplicity and generosity." Although released in 2008, these lessons continue to be relevant and worthwhile even today.

We will **not** have Snax n Study on Sunday, 10/26, as this is Reformation Sunday, and set up for the potluck lunch will take place in Fellowship Hall that morning.

Upon completion of *Enough*, we have several options to consider:

One option is another Adam Hamilton DVD series called *Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws*. This six-week study "explores the life of Jesus as told in the Gospel of Luke. Through Luke's stories we find Jesus' care and compassion for all as he welcomes sinners and outcasts." They weren't perfect, and neither are we... but Jesus brings "the good news of God's kingdom to those who most need to hear it," including ourselves.

As we approach Advent, we might consider doing some lessons on the hymns of this important and meaningful season. What are some of your favorites?

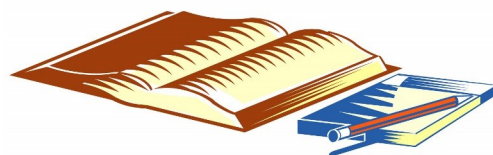
Come January, we hope to return to a favorite for our group... watching and discussing episodes of *The Chosen*! We'll re-cap the end of season 4 and begin season 5.

Is there anything YOU would like to study or discuss? We're always open to suggestions! Send me an email at thestaceyz@aol.com, and I'll add it to my running list of ideas for the group to consider!

Our group's interests are quite varied, and the conversations are always lively and thoughtful! We have a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside Fellowship Hall and invite you to check that out to see what's coming up next.

Mid-Week Bible Study

We meet on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm, and follow the lectionary readings for the upcoming Sundays. Bring your Bible and a friend if you like, and join us!



Youth News

All Trinity youth, 6th grade and up, are invited to join the Youth Group at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Mechanicsburg for all of their youth activities. Kellen Michalowski is the Director of Youth Ministry there.

Confirmation Classes have begun!

They will meet together Sundays at 9 am. Contact Pastor Barb for the schedule if you would like to participate!

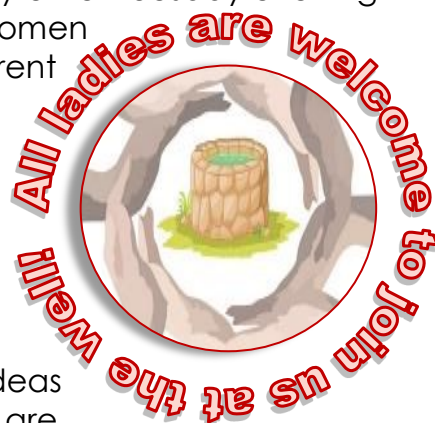
Women at the Well

We have been busy this past month getting events for fall in place and we are excited!!!

Our women's book study is continuing to roll along. We meet every other Tuesday evening from 6:30 - 8pm at the church. We are reading and discussing "The Women of the Bible Speak", by Shannon Bream. Each chapter features a different woman. We will be discussing Dinah, Esther, Michal, and the closing chapter of Miracles for Mothers. If you would like to join us, please come. We have extra books and we would love to have you join our diverse group!

We began "NEEDLE NIGHT" in October, and we meet every other Tuesday from 6:30 to 8 pm. Times are open to change to meet our group's schedule. Whether you like to knit, crochet, embroider, hook punch, etc, you are welcome to come with your project, come with ideas for a group project, or come with a desire to learn a new project! We are here to share our creativity, gifts, knowledge, conversations, and giggles!

On Sunday, October 19, we had another holiday card-making event. (Pictures on page 11.) We are planning to do more card making in the future, so be sure to check the Tidings and the bulletin board in upcoming months for more information, and come join the fun!



Council News & Updates

Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting November 23

Following the 10:15 service (approximately 11:15),
in the Sanctuary

Approval of the 2026 spending plan and
election of council members.



Dear Church Council,

*Thank you for your support and
faithfulness to the gospel of Christ. I am
grateful to each of you.*

*I am also looking forward to enjoying
the bottle of wine you gave us. Thank
you and may God bless.*

- Pastor Karen

A Message from the Treasurer:

Thanks to all the generous donors who contributed to the love gift for Pastor Durbin upon her retirement. We collected \$2,000.00!

Pastor and David left Friday, October 10th to celebrate their 50th Anniversary with family. Afterwards, they will meander up the East coast. Hopefully, the monetary gift will be used for food, gas and other items to enjoy.



Event Highlights . . .

Fall Community Dinner, hosted by Trinity Church on Sunday, September 28. What a beautiful evening of fellowship and delicious food with our neighbors!



Event Highlights, cont'd. . .

Annual Blessing of the Animals, Sunday, October 5...We gathered together in fellowship with friendly faces and wagging tails at our "Blessing of the Animals" liturgy.



Thank you to those who donated items for our collection of pet supplies for Speranza Animal Rescue!



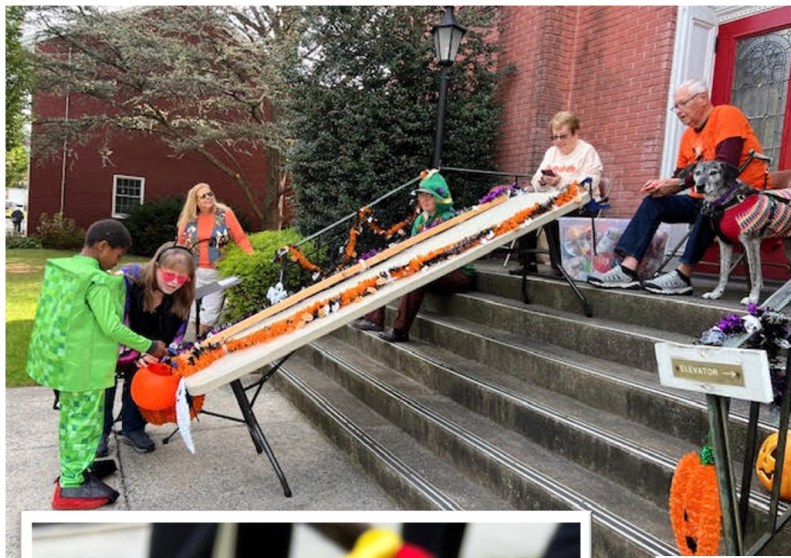
Event Highlights, cont'd. . .

We had a ton of fun at Streets of Treats on Saturday, October 18! Lots of smiles, costumes, dogs, and greeting our neighbors. Thanks to Leslie Hocker for procuring a [Thrivent](#) grant that provided treats for OVER 1000 visitors, and to John Wise for donating dog treats. Also, thanks to all our Trinity folks (both pictured and behind-the-scenes) who volunteered.



Event Highlights, cont'd. . .

More Streets of Treats....



Event Highlights, cont'd. . .

Women at the Well card-making event on Sunday, October 19



Need to Update Your Info?

Help us to stay up-to-date by providing the church office with any new information for your household such as:

- Email address
- Cell Phone/Home Phone
- Mailing Address

Current information for our young adult members is especially helpful as they go out into the world!

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!

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.
1 Thessalonians 5:11

Community Outreach

Blessing Box Update

Thank you for your ongoing support, of our Blessing Box Ministries. All donations are used to help support our neighbors and community's food insecurities. By donating 1 or 2 items each Sunday you are helping to keep our pantry stocked. You can place donations on the table outside of Fellowship Hall. Your support is valued!! **We have received 1844 donated items thru October.**

Blessing Box Needs:

Canned vegetables
Canned potatoes
Canned pasta
Spaghetti sauce
Single-serving meals (Hormel)
Macaroni and cheese
Canned tomatoes
Beef stew
Rice
Hamburger Helper
Cereal
oatmeal



Green Beans for NHM

To all who donated green beans for New Hope Ministries' Thanksgiving distribution, we **THANK YOU!**

We collected a total of 163 cans.
Thank you to Jim and Mary-Louise Smith for delivering the beans to their destination!

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



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

Clothing Closet Holiday Project: Special Christmas Lunch Bags

Every Christmas and Easter, our Clothing Closet aims to do something meaningful for our visitors. This year, for Christmas, we are preparing special lunch bags to share with those we serve.

Each lunch bag will include the following items:

- One 1 lb. Goya cooked ham
 - One can of potatoes
 - One can of green beans
 - A single serving size of applesauce
- (Please see picture for reference)



How You Can Help

We plan to make a total of 36 lunch bags. The Clothing Closet will purchase the hams in bulk from Amazon. We invite you to contribute by donating one can of potatoes, one can of green beans or single serve applesauce. If you prefer, you may make a cash donation of \$5 to support this project.

Donation Instructions

Donated items may be placed on the table inside the West door. If you choose to donate cash, please give your donation directly to Heather, Carol, Stacey or Debbie Schue, Parish Administrator. Any extra donations received will be used for the Blessing Box.

Donation deadline: December 3, 2025.

Christmas Blessing Express

Sponsored by New Hope Ministries

Trinity Church is once again participating in Christmas Blessing Express, to help families struggling during Christmas.

It's Easy!



1. Pick an Ornament from the tree inside the front door...

2. Shop for the corresponding gift item...

3. Bring the item to church and place it under the tree!

Deadline for bringing in unwrapped gifts is Sunday, November 23.



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Birthdays, Etc.



11/3	Bob Lamason
11/7	Deanna Walton
11/12	Robinette Butts
11/12	Anthony Moats
11/21	Joseph Hafer
11/21	Aubrey Hartman
11/22	Tom Hocker
11/23	Eric Hocker
11/24	Jon Hartman
11/27	Rachel Wise
11/30	Cortney Thomsen



Church Council Highlights

- Budget preparations are in full swing
- Ministries and committees are doing well during the interim period
- The semi-annual congregation meeting will be held on November 23, 2025, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE 10:15 SERVICE.



Prayer Pause for November

O God, we come before you with grateful hearts, reflecting on the gifts you have so graciously given us. We release control and surrender our attitudes, our words, our time, our resources our entire lives to you in humble gratitude. May we never forget that every blessing we enjoy comes from your hand. Teach us to live with open hearts, giving freely of ourselves trusting in your abundant provision. Amen



Sunday, November 2

DON'T FORGET TO

**FALL
BACK**



TIDINGS DEADLINE:

JUST A REMINDER that the deadline for newsletter items is the 10th of each month for the following issue. Please email or submit your written items to the church office by that date. Thank you!

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/>

Pastor Contact Info

Pastor Barb Barry

Email: pastorbbarry@gmail.com

Minister of Music Contact Info

Melissa Jacoby

Email: trinitymburgmusic@gmail.com

Parish Administrator Contact Info

Debbie Schue

Email: trinitymburgoffice@gmail.com

NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Daylight Savings Time ends All Saints' Sunday 8 am Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 9 am Confirmation 10:15 am Worship First Sunday Kids	3	4 6:30 pm Women at the Well Needle Night	5 6:30 Bells Rehearsal 7:15 Choir	6 7 pm Church Council	7 4 pm, Set up for Trinity's Clothing Closet	8 9 am, Trinity's Closet-on-Main
9 8 am Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 9 am Confirmation 10:15 am Worship 11:30 am Worship & Music Ministry Meeting	10	11 6:30 pm Women at the Well Book Study	12 6:30 Bells Rehearsal 7:15 Choir 7:30 pm Bible Study	13	14	15
16 8 am Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 9 am Confirmation 10:15 am Worship	17	18 6:30 pm Women at the Well Needle Night	19 6:30 Bells Rehearsal 7:15 Choir 7:30 pm Bible Study	20	21	22
23 8 am Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 9 am Confirmation 10:15 am Worship Deadline for Christmas Blessing Express items 11:15 am Congregational Mtg 6:30 pm Mechanicsburg Lutheran Churches Thanksgiving Svc	24	25 6:30 pm Women at the Well Book Study	26 6:30 Bells Rehearsal 7:15 Choir 7:30 pm Bible Study	27 Thanksgiving Day	28	29
30 First Sunday of Advent 8 am Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 9 am Confirmation 10:15 am Worship						