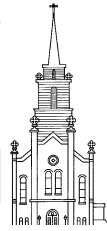


TRINITY TIDINGS



132 E. Main St. Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

717-766-2662

trinitymburgoffice@gmail.com

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

And just like that we flip the calendar and summer is over. Not weather-wise maybe, but over none-the-less. You can feel the shift in the air. The kids are already back at school. Plants and animals are showing signs of getting ready for shutting down for the winter. Here at Trinity, the liturgy becomes less informal and Confirmation gears up for another year.

In many congregations I've served, summer was a time for programs and ministries to take a break until fall. What's lovely about our family at Trinity is that the sense of ministry is strong. No vacation here! The clothing bank and blessing box not only continued but there was a lot of energy around participating and supporting those in need. We ADDED lunch on the lawn where our neighbors joined us for food and conversation. Bible Study and Snax and Study met weekly and attendance even grew.

How does our mission statement begin? Don't look!

"Enabled by the Holy Spirit..." Trinity has grown very aware that our energy, our sense of purpose, our identity come from our connection with the Holy Spirit. We open our hearts to receive what we need to move forward in doing God's work in the world. We ask God daily, "what is mine to do today?" Then, we allow the Holy Spirit to guide us in service to our neighbor.

There is no vacation from joining God in healing our broken world. No vacation from gathering together to worship the One Who Loves Us.

Service, though, can be a relentless task master. How can we keep going over the long haul? It is exhausting! "Enabled by the Holy Spirit..."

My friends, surrender is the antidote to burn out. When we allow the Holy Spirit to manage our time, asking what is MINE to do rather than powering through doing ministry in God's name, we find balance in the midst of ministry.

Jesus said, "love others as you love yourself." It isn't possible to love from an empty bucket. Jesus Himself often went off alone to pray before embarking on yet another tour of teaching, preaching and healing. Can we manage with less?

I strongly encourage you to spend daily quiet time with Jesus in whatever form works best for you. It is what Jesus would have us do.

Blessings on your journey,

Pastor Barb

September 2026



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



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Music Notes

*Making their way, down through the ages,
sinners and saints have heard God's call:
wealthy and poor, powerful, lowly,
Jesus' disciples, one and all.
Gathered for worship, offering thanks,
the greatest with the least,
have come to share this feast.*
~ "Making Their Way"
(ACS 979)

Gathering for worship across time, journeying as a community of faith through seasons of life, and caring for others...three succinct verses that connect to our ancestors in faith and remind us of the timelessness of God's call. A singing history lesson!

In July, some of us experienced a different kind of history lesson when, along with hundreds of thousands others, we witnessed Union Pacific's 4014 "Big Boy" locomotive travel through parts of Pennsylvania on its historic 2026 coast-to-coast tour. [Built in 1941, the "Big Boy" is the largest steam engine in the world, having been designed to haul heavy equipment in support of the nation's efforts during WWII.] Spectators crowded to see this remarkable relic that, along the way, became a unifying and inspiring influence.



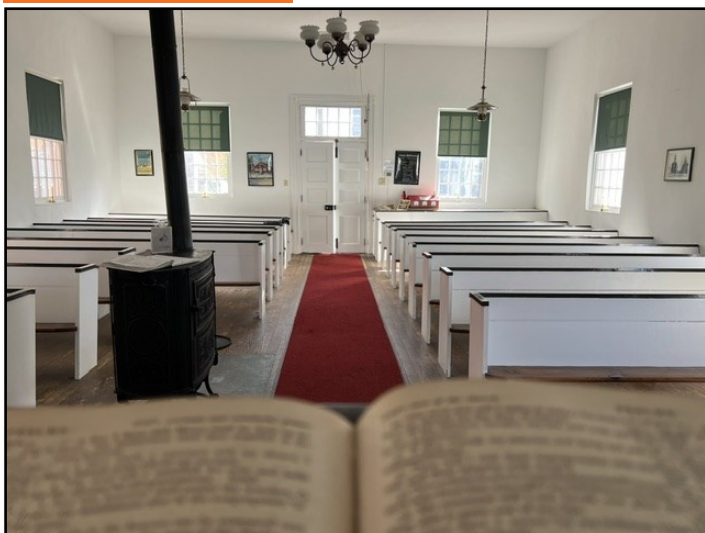
One reporter keenly observed: "More than a machine...Big Boy 4014 sparks nationwide reunion...Americans still value hard work, shared history, and community." And from a western PA newspaper: "To see it come across the country...to celebrate America's 250th anniversary is a very great thing for the country and it just pulls us back to our roots."

We get to go back to our roots, too, on Sunday, September 13 (8:00 & 10:15), when we'll worship where some of the earliest Mechanicsburg Lutherans who would eventually become Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church first gathered: the historic Union Church (51 E. Main St., between Buhrig's and the Washington Fire House). Built in 1825 and consecrated for worship on July 22, 1826, Union Church was home to seven local congregations - including ours - who later went on to build churches of their own. Join us for the 16th Sunday after Pentecost with Holy Communion, liturgy of the mid-19th century, and a guest appearance by MASD Archivist William Murray.

- Melissa Jacoby, Minister of Music



Worship



Did you know? The pews inside the historic Union Church (celebrating its 200th anniversary this year as a consecrated worship space) are all *ORIGINAL!* So...when we gather on Sunday, September 13 (8:00 and 10:15 a.m.), we will be sitting in the *exact same places* where our nineteenth-century Lutheran ancestors first gathered in the early days of the congregation that would go on to become "Trinity on Main." Kind of just like God: same love and faithfulness (even same pews), through the generations, now, and forevermore.

Christian Education Opportunities

Snax n Study - Fall 2026

More information coming soon on our Fall Snax 'n Study. Stay tuned....

Bible Study

Our mid-week Bible study will continue this fall on Wednesdays. We will meet at 6 pm until September 16 when we return to 7:30 due to choir rehearsals. We will continue with a study of the smaller letters (1 Peter through Jude). Come join us as we study these unfamiliar letters and consider the transformation in love to which we're called.



MEN'S BREAKFAST

continues the fourth Thursday of each month, 8 am at C.C.s Family Restaurant on Main Street, Mechanicsburg. The next breakfast is scheduled for September 24

FIRST SUNDAY KIDS

September 6th is our first class for the 2026/27 school year. We will meet the first Sunday of the month through May. This year we will be learning about the 12 disciples and the Armor of God. Each month we will learn about one, two, or three of the 12 disciples and the pieces of the Armor of God that the specific disciple is wearing in their story. Simon-Peter will be our first disciple the children (10 yrs and under) will be learning. The children will be escorted after the children's sermon to our children's room and returned to the parents for Holy Communion.

We have planned an exciting 15-20 mins to introduce your child(ren) to the 12 Disciples this year. We hope you will consider bringing your child regularly the first Sunday of the month for our Kids First Sunday!

If you have any questions, please let me know. I will be calling to schedule a few dates for the fall.

- Amy and Ja'net



Property Committee Update

Facility Use: The facility use policy has been updated. All people who are asking to use the facility must fill out a facility use form, which may be obtained from the church office.



Streets of (SO MANY) Treats—2026!

Mark your calendars now for one of Trinity's most joy-filled events of the year... downtown Mechanicsburg's Streets of Treats! The annual Halloween event will be held on *Saturday, October 17, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm*. TREATS for the day include:

- Welcoming all the adorable kiddos in costume... princesses, superheroes, and ghosts (oh my!)? We interacted with over 1,100 people last year!!
- Enjoying the fun costumes on our four-legged doggo friends!
- Distributing goodies in what has become a beloved Trinity and Streets of Treats tradition!
- Spending time and dressing up with your Trinity friends!!

Ask anyone who has helped with this event in the past, and they'll tell you what a great time it is! But interacting with that many people is quite a task, and we could use some more volunteers. Please consider joining us for this amazing day and helping if you can! There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside of Fellowship Hall.

Goodies are provided courtesy of a Thrivent grant, so we just need YOU! Costumes are encouraged but not required, so if you're available that day and want something fun to do, please come! I have often "complained" about how much my cheeks hurt from smiling that whole day... what an awesome "problem" to have!! If you have any questions, just let me know. Thanks in advance for your help!

- Stacey Zeller



Women at the Well

Thank you, ladies, for providing us with an exciting summer, even though we took a break from our groups. We provided several opportunities for WATW & friends, and special congregation events as well.

First, the WATW decided to have a competition with the congregation which would benefit the Blessing Box. The Race started July 1st. The first group to donate 250 food or personal hygiene items would win. In just two weeks, both teams went over 250 items, so WATW decided to extend it to 500 items per group for the last two weeks. It was a very close race; down to the wire on the last Sunday! Total count was **1,029** items! The Blessing Box definitely won! The final totals between the two groups was:

WATW - 517 items / Congregation - 512 items

Thank you to everyone who donated!

Next, thank you for your participation in our fun Paint Class. We all enjoyed painting our own version of a lakeside summer boardwalk. No two were alike, and everyone's painting was beautiful and a portrait of their inner self. Everyone had a fun time. We are considering doing this again in the spring!

In July and August, we had two FREE AED classes for our congregation members, hosted by Amy Boya. Amy will be doing it again this fall for committee chairs or any member who would like to take the class for their own knowledge. Amy will provide re-certifications regularly as time goes on. Watch for our sign up sheet!

Our Fall schedule of activities is as follows, and if you would like to join any of the activities, please sign up on our bulletin board in the hallway by the Pastor's office:

Needle Night - Every other Tuesday night starting September 1st at 6 pm - 7:30/8:00 pm in the Library. You may come work on a personal project or make items for the clothing closet later in the fall/winter months. We do have yarn for those projects.

Sewing At Home - We have a project started for the fall, but we always welcome more sets of hands. We are working on small quilted squares to hand out on Reformation Sunday. See or call Ja'net for more details. For the winter, we will be making pet blankets for the local shelter. We will supply the cloth.

Bible-related Book Study - will be meeting every other Tuesday starting August 25th from 6 pm to 7:30/8:00 pm in the Library. We will be starting with a book called "The Ultimate Gift" by Jim Stovall. This will be a great start to the fall! You can purchase this book online at Thriftbooks, Amazon, ChristianBookstore, or Barnes & Noble. Prices vary. We will begin with chapters 1 & 2. Be ready for some interesting questions and discussion!

We will be following up on other events at Messiah University, including the Messiah Christmas Concert. This concert features the Brass Quintets, Handbells, Men's and Women's Ensembles, Chamber Singers and Concert Choir. The show date is December 6th. We are taking reservations for the 4 pm showing only. Anyone may sign up. **Deadline for reservations is September 20th.** Cost is \$10 for Seniors (60+) \$15 for adults, and \$5 for youth under 18 yrs. All payments are to be written to Trinity Lutheran Church, memo line: *WATW Christmas Concert*. Please be sure to add your name to the sign-up sheet on our Bulletin Board and place your payment either in Amy Boya's mailbox, give it to her in person, or to Debbie (church admin.) Thank you. If you need special seating, please let Amy know.

Please continue to check the Bulletin Board for future events and activities.



Summer Event Highlights....

We had an extremely busy summer at Trinity Church: a Community Dinner, Outdoor Worship, Lunches on the Lawn, our annual Band Concert, a paint night sponsored by Women at the Well, weekly Bible Studies, a Senators baseball game, Blessing of the Backpacks & Briefcases, Sunday morning Snax 'n Study, a Blessing Box Challenge, a collection of school supplies for New Hope Ministries, and Did we miss anything?? Well, hopefully not! On the next few pages are highlights from some of the events, that we hope you will enjoy looking through! Event pictures may also be found on our website: <https://trinity-on-main.org/> and our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/TLCMech/>

Synod Assembly, June 5 & 6 - Pastor Barb, Leslie Hocker & Chip Smith gathered with congregations throughout central PA to worship, learn and vision direction for the wider church. We thank them for attending and representing Trinity Church!



Event Highlights....

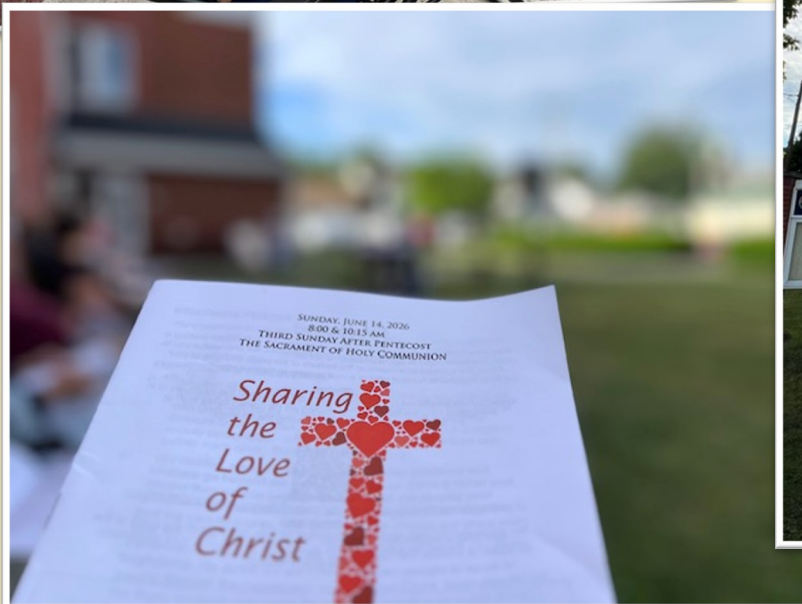
Community Dinner - Sponsored by Mechanicsburg Area Churches

Our community dinner, held outside on Trinity's lawn, was well-attended and held under clear blue skies on Sunday, June 7. What a great opportunity to enjoy getting to know our neighbors and enjoy a really good meal! Thank you to Trinity's volunteers, Mike Hartman, Melissa Jacoby, Chip Smith, Koen Thomas, and Stacey Zeller, and all of the volunteers who helped the evening run so smoothly!



Event Highlights....

Outdoor Worship, June 14 - It was so nice to worship and praise God outdoors this summer as we met for 8 am worship on the lawn!



Event Highlights

Thursday Lunch on the Lawn

Trinity's staff once again sponsored Lunch on the Lawn, which started on July 9 and was held weekly through August 6. We averaged 12-15 people each week, with everyone enjoying a delicious, simple meal and some fun conversation and fellowship. Thank you to those who provided lunch and those who donated so that we could obtain needed supplies!



Event Highlights....

Band Concert in the Sanctuary, July 17 -
featuring the Greater Harrisburg Concert Band

We moved the annual Concert on the Lawn indoors to the sanctuary due to the smoke and haze from the Canadian wildfires, but we still had a full house and a great time listening to the sensational sounds of the Greater Harrisburg Concert Band!



Thank you to our volunteers for all of their help! Front, l-r: Mike, Stacey, Amy, Sharon, Mary-Louise, and Jim
Back, l-r: Koen and Deb

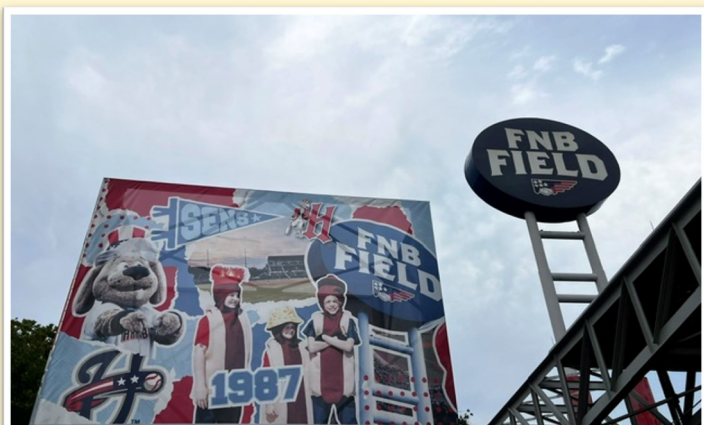
Event Highlights....

Women at the Well Paint Night, Tuesday, July 21 -

A full crowd of women gathered for the WATW's paint night, led by local art teacher, Kayla Stormer. Everyone worked hard to create their masterpieces, amidst lots of fun and laughter!



Senators Game, Friday, July 24 - A good time at the Senators game, complete with Christmas in July, a Senators win, and fireworks after the game!



Camp Nawakwa News

Camp Nawakwa was the scene for the Lower Susquehanna Synod's 2026 Leadership Training Camp (July 27 - Aug. 1). Campers were invited to attend by recommendation from congregations: young leaders (gr. 8-12) to learn and grow their gifts in service to God and others.

Interactive experiences, team building, Bible study, worship, guest preachers and presenters, games, fun, and great food and fellowship were all part of an inspiring and memorable week.

Koen and his parents thank the people of Trinity on Main for nurturing and encouraging him in his faith and inviting him to participate in the life of the church in so many ways.

[photos courtesy of Lower Susquehanna Synod Office of Children, Youth & Family Ministry Facebook page and Koen's family]



Bishop Stephen Herr visited during the week as a guest preacher and presided at worship.



Uplifting, energetic, and serene.

This way to enriching spiritual fellowship in God's gift of nature!



The complete edition of 2026 LT Camp with participants, counselors, and staff.



Eyes on the cross.

Community Outreach

Blessing Box Update

Thank you to the Women at the Well for the summer food drive. The response was tremendous and thank you for your amazing support. The pantry is nicely stocked and ready for the benefit of the community. There are a few items that are a little short on stock.

We have received close to 3500 donated items and are working towards our goal of 3100 items for 2026. Thank you for support!



Blessing Box Needs:

Ramen Soup
Canned or Boxed Potatoes
Jelly
Canned Beans
Fruit Snacks

 **FREE** 
Adult Clothing
Saturday, Sept. 12
9-11am



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



Trinity's Clothing Closet Update:

We are currently accepting donations of cooler weather clothing for adult men and women in all sizes. Our greatest need at the moment is for men's and women's clothing in XL and larger sizes. Each month, we continue to welcome new individuals who rely on our Closet for assistance.

We sincerely thank everyone who has generously donated clothing to our Closet. Your contributions are making a real difference in the lives of those we serve.
Thank you, ~Heather Zielonis

A huge thank you to everyone who brought in school supplies for New Hope Ministries' 2026 Back to School Daze Craze! The items were delivered to New Hope on July 27, courtesy of Jim Smith and Dan Burkhard, and the total weight of our donations was 127 pounds. Your donations gave many local children the resources they needed for the start of the new school year, and your kindness is very much appreciated!



Birthdays, Etc.



9/3	Jim Pensyl
9/3	Ryan Sechrist
9/8	Andrew Sheaffer
9/9	Craig Harmon
9/11	Katherine Williams
9/13	Dennis Burkhard
9/15	Nick Caton
9/18	Megan Aldinger
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!**

Office Contact Info:

Church & Staff Office Hours

Mon. – Thurs. 9 AM – 2 PM
(other hours as needed)

Phone: 717-766-2662

trinityburgoffice@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/TLCMech

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

Pastor Contact Info

Pastor Barbara Barry

Email: pastorbbarry@gmail.com

Minister of Music Contact Info

Melissa Jacoby

Email: trinityburgmusic@gmail.com

Parish Administrator Contact Info

Debbie Schue

Email: trinityburgoffice@gmail.com

Church Council Highlights

- Pastor Barb and Debbie Schue continue to work on an office binder/policy manual.
- 8: AM outdoor worship services will be held June 14, July 19 and August 9.
- Confirmation 101 will start on July 12 and run through the summer.
- The council is reviewing Trinity's constitution and by-laws for the August meeting.
- Trinity will soon have a centralized Congregational Planning Calendar.
- The Ministries Site Profile has been sent to the Lower Susquehanna Synod.

TIDINGS DEADLINE:

JUST A REMINDER that the deadline for newsletter items is the 10th of each month for the following issue. The deadline for October is September 10.

CONGRATULATIONS!

To Ja'net & Daryl Gochenauer on the birth of their granddaughter, Elena. Elena is the daughter of Valerie and T'omas.

Continued prayers are requested as they navigate the first few months of being the parents of a newborn.

Prayer Pause for September:

Loving and merciful God, thank you for your loving concern for your children. We dare to ask that you align our hearts with yours, that we may submit to your will in all things. Enable us, through your Spirit, to partner with you to bring love to our broken world.

Amen.

JUST A REMINDER... If you are on Facebook, remember to check out our page and like and share. We post regularly, especially when there are lots of things going on! Please help us get the word out about the good things happening at Trinity, and share the good news and worship opportunities. This is a great forum for us to keep in touch.

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 Barb know!

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/>



Driver Safety Refresher Class

Tuesday, September 15
9:15 - 1:15

Trinity Church
132 E. Main
Mechanicsburg
717-766-2662

Contact the church office to sign up. Cost for the class is \$20 for AARP members and \$25 for non-members. Class certificate qualifies for a discount on your auto insurance!

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

For *God* hath not given us
the spirit of fear; but
of power, and of love, and
of a sound mind.

— 2 Timothy 1:7 KJV

TopBibleVerses.com

MECHANICSBURG AREA CHURCHES INVITE YOU TO

COMMUNITY DINNER



SUNDAY, SEPT. 27TH
5:00 PM

DINNER + VIBES
*** FREE OF CHARGE ***

JOIN US AT
BUHRIG'S GATHERING PLACE
25 E MAIN ST, MECHANICSBURG, PA 17055

SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6 pm, Women at the Well Needle Night	2 6 pm Bible Study	3	4	5
6 8 am Spoken Worship 10:15 am Worship 10:15 am, First Sunday Kids	7 Labor Day - Office closed	8 6 pm, Women at the Well Book Study	9 6 pm Bible Study	10 7 pm, Church Council	11 4 pm, Set up for Trinity's Clothing Closet	12 9 am, Trinity's Closet-on-Main 11:30 am Outreach Meeting
13 8 am Spoken Worship-Union Church 8:45 am, Snax n Study (Union Church) 10:15 am Worship -Union Church	14	15 9:15 am, AARP Driver Refresher Class 6:pm Women at the Well Needle Night	16 6:15 pm Choir 6:50 Bells 7:30 pm Bible Study	17	18	19
20 8 am Spoken Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 9 am, Confirmation Class 10:15 am Worship with Music	21	22 6 pm, Women at the Well Book Study	23 6:15 pm Choir 6:50 Bells 7:30 pm Bible Study	24 8 am, Men's Breakfast	25	26
27 8 am Spoken Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 9 am, Confirmation Class 10:15 am Worship with Music 5 pm, Community Dinner	28	29 6 pm Women at the Well Needle Night	30 6:15 pm Choir 6:50 Bells 7:30 pm Bible Study			