

The Herald

Trinity Lutheran Church
1141 West Chester Pike Havertown PA 19083

SEPTEMBER 2023



"There is a clarity about September. On clear days, the sun seems brighter, the sky more blue, the white clouds take on marvelous shapes; the moon is a wonderful apparition, rising gold, cooling to silver; and the stars are so big. "

~~Faith Baldwin

A Message from Pastor

Welcome back! I trust that during the summer months you had opportunities to rest, relax, renew, and regenerate yourselves. A new ministry year is about to begin. A year filled with opportunities to grow, increase our knowledge, share our gifts and serve God's people. Here at Trinity Havertown, we have a new vision and new possibilities are on the horizon. The Spirit **is** at work as our Nursery School and teachers, Bible Studies and Youth events, our Music Ministry with its rehearsals and planned presentations, along with our Social Ministries of caring for the food insecure and providing supplies for those in need, rev up for a new year.

The Transition Team and Church Council have completed and approved the Mission Site Profile (MSP), a kind of resume for Trinity, and all supporting documents (8 required) have been submitted to the Southeastern PA Synod for their consideration. The six-member Call Committee, which will interview potential pastoral candidates and work closely with the Dean of DELCO Conference, has **finally** been established and will soon begin their training. We hope to install Bernice Coffey, Olivia Carson, David Koch, Jessica Kuhn, James (Jim) McDevitt and Linda Weiser, who have graciously agreed to serve, on Rally Sunday (Sept 17th) at the 10:30 am worship service.

As you know, Trinity will be looking to call a part-time pastor, who will spend a good portion of their time building community connections, inviting others to join in the ministry, and equipping the membership to **do** the ministry of Trinity. This will be a true pastoral partnership and collaboration, where the laity (the ministers of Trinity) **will participate** in ministry often reserved for the pastoral office (ex. preaching and leading worship, visiting and sharing communion with home bound persons) and **together** with the pastor will carry out those responsibilities. **Together**, using your many gifts, abilities and interests, you will look for innovative ways to embody Trinity's mission which is to: Proclaim Christ! Empower Learning! Share God's Love! Trinity **is** moving forward!

To better understand and embrace this approach, your leadership and I commend to you the book "Part-time is Plenty...**Thriving** without Full-Time Clergy" by G. Jeffrey MacDonald and ask that you share it with one another. A few copies of the book may be borrowed from the Church Office. For some of you this new leadership possibility may be a bit scary and way outside of your comfort zone. Know that God **is** with Trinity and will not abandon us. With God, the possibilities are exciting and endless.

Behold, I am doing a new thing, do you not perceive it...Isaiah 43:19

New ministries have and can emerge. Eucharistic Ministers, one who visits with a partner and delivers Communion to the home bound, as an extension of the Sunday Worship of Trinity, is a new area of ministry upon which Trinity will embark. We invite anyone who is interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister to contact me or Jessica Kuhn, chair of the Worship and Music Committee. Training will be provided.

If you have been away or have not been as regular in worship as you would like, **now** is the perfect time to recommit to give God glory and Proclaim Christ through weekly worship. Come and welcome each other back from the summer months of adventure and relaxation. RALLY SUNDAY

is Sunday, September, 17, 2023. We will gather together for fellowship and refreshments following worship.

We invite you to join in what God is doing through Trinity, Havertown. Where is God calling **you** to offer you gifts this year? So let us lift up the plans of the Lord and participate in the ministry of Trinity Havertown. Remember **you** are the church! God **is** at work! I also invite you to continue to **pray** for the ministry of Trinity and its membership, leadership, Transition Team and Call Committee. I encourage you to offer prayers **now** for your new pastoral presence, whoever they may be, resting in **God's** assurance and hope. God is good, all the time! All the time, God is good!

Peace, and Blessings,

Pastor Gwen, Interim Pastor (AKA: Rev. Gwendolyn S. King)

SUMMER HOURS

Summer hours begin for Worship at 9:45 AM and will end on Sunday, September 10, 2023.

NON-SUMMER HOURS

On Sunday, September 17, 2023, Worship will begin at 10:30 AM.

Those who cannot join us in person can follow us on "Facebook Live." Please go to Trinity Lutheran Church Havertown on Facebook and the link is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/trinitylutheranchurchhavertown>

COUNCIL NOTES

Summer is about to end and Autumn will be here sooner than we think.

Hopefully by the time you read this, our Call Committee will have been formed and ready to find a new pastor. Council approved interviewing multiple candidates instead of just one at a time, to ensure that the most available ministers are seen in the shortest amount of time.

Many events are planned for September and they are listed in Dates to Remember.

*Love and blessings,
Alice Huntington, Council President*

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee is seeking new committee members. The group meets monthly or as needed via ZOOM to discuss the finances of the church. You don't need to brush off your calculator but having a sharp mind and willingness to discuss hard topics is a plus. If you are interested, please reach out to Jenn Pruski or Pastor Gwen.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Update YTD this year over last
Includes all income sources including the school.

Note: 3 payrolls in March

In summary, for 2023, our expenses are exceeding our income by \$127,000 for the first 7 months.

	Revenue 2023	Expenses 2023	Net 2023	Revenue 2022	Expenses 2022	Net 2022
January	56827.81	64135.21	-7307.40	54303.43	70691.95	-16388.5
February	61600.53	75933.39	-14332.86	56050.97	64471.89	-8420.9
March	57008.47	104417.98	-47409.51	56073.95	90168.73	-34095.3
April	59930.00	67865.53	-7935.19	64460.57	70769.19	-6308.6
May	59468.12	71192.66	11724.54	53154.69	63271.59	-10116.9
June	42350.54	63021.08	-20670.54	55601.16	58034.58	-2433.4
July	21516.94	27256.94	-5740.00	21590.07	45190.59	-23600.5
Endowment transfers-FYI	95137		95137	98000		9800
Totals w/o transfers	346623	473823	-127200	361234.24	461598.52	101364.2

Grocery Sales and income produced

Grocery Sales	YR 2023	YR 2022
January	2600	550
February	1250	1350
March	0	800
April	2875	1525
May	725	0
June	1150	2700
July	1100	700
August		
Sept		
Total Sales	9700	7625
Net Income	485	381.25



**Our Lutheran Charitable Giving for September through December 2023 is for
KenCrest (Gemma)**

With a history spanning more than 118 years, KenCrest serves over 12,500 people to live their best, most meaningful lives. KenCrest supports community development by exploring possibilities, mobilizing resources, and empowering dreams for those with developmental and intellectual disabilities (IDD), young children, and their families in Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and Delaware. We provide community-based support services—including early intervention, clinical, community engagement, residential programs, and employment services.

YOUTH GROUP

It's time for the ELCA National Youth Gathering and I'm reaching out to all youths' 8th to 12th grade. The Gathering will be in New Orleans, July 2024 for a 4 day adventure sharing and growing in our faith while making new friends and memories. Trinity & Temple Lutheran will be teaming up to create one spectacular Havertown experience.

Young adults will also get their chance to experience their own journey in New Orleans. Adults aged 18-35 (Cohorts based on age) are invited to participate in the Young Adult Gathering happening during the same week.

Please reach out to Jenn Pruskiat jennerpruski@gmail.com, phone 520-255-1559, for more information and any questions about the upcoming trip

MUSIC MINISTRY – ADULT CHOIR AND BELL CHOIR

A friendly reminder that our adult and bell choirs are always open for new members. You do not have to be able to read music to join the choirs. The adult choir meets on Sunday mornings at 10 AM, and the bell choir meets every other Monday at 7 PM We will be starting both groups in late September (Sunday, September 24 for adult choir and Monday, October 2 for bells). Please do not hesitate to reach out to me at either kirstenkratz92@gmail.com or by phone at 610-420-9782 ~Kirsten Kratz,

TRINITY LUTHERAN NURSERY SCHOOL AND MOTHERS MORNING OUT NEWS

Summer Session 2023 ended with a visit from Santa! Yes, Christmas in July was our theme and Mr. Joe was our Santa. The Chapel became the venue for our Luau. Santa vacations in Hawaii! He came dressed in his Hawaiian shirt, shorts and sunglasses. His hair and beard were long and snow white. He also came prepared to distribute some gifts. Each child received a super-duper spiky colored ball! Santa was grooving to some Christmas music but preferred more hip-hop tunes. The children sat around their paper camp fires and under their paper palm trees. When the cool breeze ceased they made themselves comfortable with their "palm leaf fans."

James Simpkins was the hit of the summer! He performed a paper flaming torch juggling act which the children enjoyed ...they chanted his name "James James, James" throughout his entire performance. He passed his paper flaming torches from hand to hand, twirling them up to the sky then catching them. He passed them up, over, and around his arms and legs. His agility and confidence was remarkable! He then led his groupies in a Hawaiian fan dance. Side to side the children swayed, holding their fans way up high then way down low. Next to Santa, James was a huge success! ~ Miss Marian

PRAYER MINISTRY

More than thirty people participate in Trinity's Prayer Chain Ministry. We love to hear good news that new can thank God for but we also pray for concerns and sorrows of our Trinity family and their friends and relatives. To be a part of this important ministry or submit a prayer request, please contact Peggy DiSciascio (peggy@bytemonkey.net) or Darlene Leech (office@trinityhavertown.org)

PRAYER THROUGH MEMBERSHIP

Nicole Stokes Robinson Family, Kari and Dan Romano, Barbara Ryan, Christine Ryan and Family.

Today we especially pray for Don and Nancy Cornman, Susan Haines, Carol Lyons, Louise Wallace, Glenn Miller, Margit Hibben, Debbie Maguire, Richard Campbell, Tom Shiffer, Ashlie King Bratton, Lily Walker, Bridget Dougherty, Jenn Pruski, Willie Little, Kevin Donahue, Jane Boyle, Leola Williams, Louise and Cheryl Van, Sean Gould, Yvonne Price, Pastor Jennifer Phelps, Andrea Matsinger, Jeanette Dick, Moira McCaughey, Chris Degnan, Pastor Dolores Littleton, Amy Gagas and her family, Tekla Zlupko, Bill Wright, and Katie Cole.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Great News! Women's Bible Study will begin on Friday, September 22.

Calling all ladies who want to know more about the Bible. You need not be well-versed or know anything, or be available every week -- just have an interest and you are welcome to join our group via Zoom. We meet on Friday mornings from 10 – 11:30 AM. I usually send a link to those who would like to know more -- unless someone else is facilitating the discussion and then that person sends the info. Zoom allows people to come when they are on vacation or it is inconvenient to drive a distance; one participant lives in Horsham and another in Lansdale. Zoom is great too if you want to just stay in your pajamas!

On September 22 we will discuss our interests and plan our future studies. Please join us!

Please consider attending – our group is very friendly. We usually begin with prayer and a time to catch up on each other's week and then begin our study. So fix yourself a cup of coffee or tea and find a comfortable chair and log in to Zoom.

For more information, contact Darlene at the church office (610-446-6398) or Peggy DiSciascio (peggy@bytemonkey.net). ~Blessings, Peggy

SCRIP

What is a great way to donate to Trinity that will not cost you anymore than you spend to feed your family? Purchase scrip for Acme, Giant or Colonial Village. When you do so, each of these stores takes 5% off the price that the church pays for the gift cards and you can still spend your usual amount. It is easy, and a win-win-win for the stores, the church and you. Please consider participating.

Peggy DiSciascio sells scrip cards on Sundays at church. And the program will continue in the Fall of 2023.

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

Our Social Ministries are doing very well, thanks to Trinity's overwhelming generosity. The Life Center receives a hot meal prepared by Trinity volunteers each month; congregants and friends of Trinity are providing a monthly lunch to SHARE; and on the fifth Tuesdays of May, August and October. Trinity will be preparing a hot meal for at least 100 at Feast Incarnate – University Lutheran Church. If you would like to be involved with this ministry please talk to Pastor Gwen, Brigitte Gdovin, Amy Gagas or Linda Weiser.

Our food and toiletries donations (**women's hygiene products are especially needed**) will be an ongoing ministry and there are boxes on a table by the bulletin board to place your donations. Full-size items will go to the Life Center and individual/mini items will be given to SHARE.

The Life Center

The cooks for the Life Center meal in August were Linda and Karah Weiser. Servers were Ann Shiffer, Fred Sanger II and Fred Sanger III from St. Paul, Lansdowne.

The Life Center now allows groups to serve the meal at the shelter again. During Covid we just dropped off our meals for the staff and residents to serve themselves. If there is anyone who would like to serve at the shelter please contact Ann Shiffer at 484-995-1751 or t.shiffer@comcast.net. It is an enjoyable experience to meet those we provide for, and it only takes about two hours of your entire evening to drive to Upper Darby, serve, and return to your home. I served for 20 years, as have a number of other Trinity members and friends. Give it some thought!!!

SHARE

Great news! We have volunteers committed to make lunches through November!!!

If you would like to sign up to provide lunches in December 2023 a sign-up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board soon.

Thank you for your generosity!
~~ Darlene

FEAST INCARNATE

Thank you to all who supported our efforts to provide food for 102 persons on Tuesday, September 26th, the fifth Tuesday in August. ~ Pastor Gwen

BACKPACK AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES COLLECTION

Thank you so much for your generosity! Three hundred ninety-seven (397) backpacks were filled to the brim, 34 more than last year. That is 397 students that you gave a great start for the 2023-24 school year. The backpacks were distributed by Chester Eastside, Inc., and Christ Lutheran Church, Upper Darby. Christ Lutheran Church distributed them throughout the Upper Darby community, including immigrant families. **Thank you again** for your generosity!

~~ Darlene

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday, September 10 – Blessing of Backpacks, Students and Teachers and a Fellowship Hour afterwards in the Fritsch Room

Saturday, September 16 – BINGO!
Kitchen opens at 5PM and games begin at 6 PM – Social Hall

Sunday, September 17 – Rally Day!

A new year begins at Trinity and Worship Service time returns to 10:30 AM

10 AM Adult Bible Study – Fritsch Room

A Fellowship Hour will follow afterwards in the Fritsch Room

Friday, September 22 – 10 AM – Women’s Bible Study via ZOOM

Sunday, September 24 – 10 AM – Choir Rehearsal in the Choir Room

12 Noon - Worship & Music Committee – Fritsch Room

Please join us if you would like to be a part of this ministry

Tuesday, September 26 – 7 PM Church Council – Fritsch Room

All are welcome to attend

Saturday, September 30 – Blessing of the Animals – Outside

In case of inclement weather, the service will be held in the Social Hall.

Time and details to come in future Bulletins and Weekly letters

If you do not have an animal to bring a photo, picture or your favorite plush friend!



***Remember, Worship Services resume at 10:30 AM
on Sunday, September 17, 2023.***

SEPTEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:45 AM Worship and Communion	2 LABOR DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	3 9:30 AM Al-Anon 6 PM Weight Watchers 7-8:30 PM Food Addicts in Recovery	4 TRINITY LUTHERAN NURSERY SCHOOL BEGINS	5 7:30 PM - AA	6 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	7 2
8 9:45 AM Worship and Communion Blessing of the Backpacks, Students and Teachers	9 8 PM Al-Anon	10 9:30 AM Al-Anon 6 PM Weight Watchers 7-8:30 PM Food Addicts in Recovery	11 8 PM Al-Anon	12 7:30 PM - AA	13 15	14 16 BINGO! 5 PM Kitchen opens 6 PM Games begin



Happy Birthdays!

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 9/02 Kari Romano
- 9/13 Leslie Ann Carden
- 9/14 Michael Gdovih
- 9/18 Dylan Johnson
- 9/18 Ardeith Berg
- 9/19 Matthew Carden
- 9/19 Amy Gagas
- 9/29 Marie Lord

If your name is missing from this birthday list, please call the church office at 610-446-6398 or e-mail us at office@trinityhavertown.org.

GROUP CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Groups

Choir~ Kirsten Halker-Kratz
khalker1@iswarthmore.edu

Homeless Ministry~

Linda Weiser ~ lndwst@gmail.com

Women's Bible Study

10 AM Friday via ZOOM

Community Groups

Thurs. A.A.~ alcoholics-anonymous.org
Monday Camera Club
Monday Al-Anon & Tuesday Al-Anon
(888) 4Al-Anon

Recovery Meeting~

Tuesday Weight Watchers~

www.weightwatchers.com

800-275-2583

Tuesday 7-8:30 PM Food Addicts in

Recovery

<p>17 RALLY SUNDAY 9 AM Adult Bible Study – Fritsch Room 10:30 AM Worship and Communion Fellowship Hour following Worship – Fritsch Room</p>	<p>18 8 PM Al-Anon</p>	<p>19 9:30 AM Al-Anon 6 PM Weight Watchers 7-8:30 PM Food Addicts in Recovery</p>	<p>20 7:30 PM - AA</p>	<p>21 7:30 PM - AA</p>	<p>22 10 AM Women's Bible Study via ZOOM</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24 9 AM Adult Bible Study – Fritsch Room 10 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM Worship and Communion 12 PM Worship and Music Committee meeting – Fritsch Room</p>	<p>25 8 PM Al-Anon</p>	<p>26 9:30 AM Al-Anon 6 PM Weight Watchers 7-8:30 PM Food Addicts in Recovery 7 PM Church Council In person or via ZOOM Fritsch Room</p>	<p>27 7:30 PM - AA</p>	<p>28 7:30 PM - AA</p>	<p>29 10 AM Women's Bible Study via ZOOM</p>	<p>30 BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS SERVICE DETAILS TO COME</p>