

# The Herald

Trinity Lutheran Church  
1141 West Chester Pike Havertown PA 19083

OCTOBER 2023



*"I wish that every day was Saturday and every month was October."*

*~~Charmaine J. Forde*

## *A Message from Pastor*

*“To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven.”*

*Ecclesiastes 3:1(KJV)*

We find ourselves in a season of change, both inside and outside of Trinity. Outside, the leaves are changing from green to amber, to red, orange, and russet. The temperature outside has dropped, now often requiring a light jacket to keep the chill away. Within Trinity Havertown, we are shifting gears in the Transition Process. The Call Committee is in place and hopefully will soon be interviewing potential pastoral candidates. The membership of Trinity Havertown, no matter how old, is being asked to look at their spiritual gifts, talents, skills and abilities. To see where they could be most helpful, as Trinity pivots from calling a full time pastor to a part-time pastor. Trinity, as a Community of Faith, is being asked to truly **live into** the call of **being** ministers here at Trinity as the **people** of Trinity, who are people of God and followers of Christ. We **are** in a season of change.

Members of Trinity are also being asked to **lean into** fulfilling **God’s purpose** in this part of the vineyard known as Havertown. Yes, seasons change, but **God** is steadfast and faithful, a steady light and force in our lives. God journeys with us in this season of change and challenge, strengthening us for and in the journey. Every choice **we** make **matters** in the Kingdom of God. Whether we make small choices and/or big choices, our lives have **purpose** in the Kingdom. **We** must remember and recognize that purpose isn’t ours, but belongs to God. God’s purpose for us is both communal and personal. It is hope filled, life giving, and offers healing. God is in charge, even in a season of change!

So let us, “Let go, and let God”! Let God **use us** and our individual and collective gifts. By letting go, we will fulfill **God’s** purpose for us. By letting go, we can fulfill the mission of **this** congregation: Proclaim Christ! Empower Learning! Share God’s Love! By letting go, we open ourselves to **God’s** creative, innovative spirit. This **is** a season of change.

Throughout the autumn season and beyond, we will gather for worship. Join us! On Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate the Reformation (please wear red), where Martin Luther challenged the Church to reform and change. During **this** season of change, you are invited to join in exploring how the **people of Trinity** can fulfill **God’s** purpose, **together**. I look forward to seeing you. God is good, all the time! All the time, God is good!

Peace and Blessings,

Pastor Gwen, Interim Pastor {AKA: Rev. Gwendolyn S. King}



**Our Worship Service begins 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**

Autumn is upon us and Halloween will be here before we know it.

The Finance Committee is seeking new members. Please read Jenn Pruski's message in her Finance Committee article following the Council Notes.

We need folks to plan and hold Fellowship/Coffee Hours that we all enjoy. Previously, they were planned and held by the Hospitality Committee, along with a few others, to provide items to enjoy with your coffee or beverage. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board for monthly gatherings. You, and maybe a few Trinity members, or your group/committees (Church Council, Finance, Youth, Choirs, etc.), would add your name and hold a Fellowship/Coffee Hour. You need not do it all yourself – ask a couple of Trinity members to join you. Darlene and Danielle will put out the standard items needed such as plates, cups, plastic ware, napkins and you can arrange the table as you want. Coffee and filters are in the upper cabinet. Be creative, have fun! The food does not have to be extravagant as the purpose is to just relax, have a beverage and a nibble, and enjoy each other's company. The Hospitality Committee, and volunteers, will take care of any Special Events Fellowship/Coffee Hours that may occur during the year.

A member of council is checking on rental prices that other churches and organizations are charging. We want to be sure that we can offer our space for events that are priced to compete with other rental spaces. We have a lovely, spacious social hall, rehabbed bathrooms, and a kitchen that can be put to good use for those seeking such a space. If you hear of someone looking to rent a hall for a birthday, shower, club gathering, funeral luncheon, etc. please remember to suggest Trinity and have them call Darlene at the office, 610-446-6398.

The Call Committee will be meeting this month for guidance on the proper way to interview perspective candidates.

We would enjoy seeing you at our next Council meeting on Wednesday, November 18th at 7pm in the Fritsch Room. We also have a zoom link if you wish to join us.

*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, Barbara Ryan, or Pastor Gwen.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Financial Update YTD this year over last

Includes all income sources including the school.

Note: 3 payrolls in March and August

In summary, for 2023 our expenses are exceeding our income by \$145,800 for the first 8 months.

	Revenue 2023	Expenses 2023	Net 2023	Revenue 2022	Expenses 2022	Net 2022
January	56827.81	64135.21	-7307.40	54303.43	70691.95	-16388.52
February	61600.53	75933.39	14332.86	56050.97	64471.89	-8420.92
March	57008.47	104417.98	47409.51	56073.95	90168.73	-34095.38
April	59930.00	67865.53	-7935.19	64460.57	70769.19	-6308.62
May	59468.12	71192.66	11724.54	53154.69	63271.59	-10116.90
June	41616.54	63021.08	20670.54	55601.16	58034.58	-2433.42
July	28816.31	27256.94	-5740.00	21590.07	45190.59	-23600.52
August	8007.47	51892	-46035	7366.74	44206.20	-36839.46
Adjmts	6643.12					
Endowment transfers-FYI	<b>115137</b>		<b>115137</b>	<b>108000</b>		<b>108000</b>
Totals w/o transfers	379916	525715	<b>-145800</b>	369503.48	506411.72	<b>136908.24</b>

Grocery Sales and income produced

<b>Grocery Sales</b>	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	2150	950
Sept		
Total Sales	11850	8575
Net Income	592.50	428.75



**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 FUNDRAISING – CHRISTMAS WREATHS**

The Youth Group is selling Christmas Wreaths this year to help fundraise for the National Youth Gathering in July 2024. **The Youth get \$8 profit for every wreath sold!!!**

There are various types and sizes available. Sales are ongoing and go through November 1st. The wreaths will be delivered between Nov 27th and Dec 1st. You can check out the items online at [Giftitforward.com](http://Giftitforward.com) code: **TRINITPA002**. We encourage all sales go through the youth for better pricing than online orders.

Order forms are located in the church entry way or with Darlene during the day. If you have any questions or want to place an order you can call Jenn Pruski at 520-255-1559.

**MUSIC MINISTRY**

Psalm 34:18 “The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.”

Tuesday morning, 8:18 am, I received an email from our new dean asking for a statement regarding the loss of one of our board members, Connie. Connie's death was not a surprise, unfortunately, as she had been sick for some time. Throughout the day, I called her peers and colleagues, gaining perspective on her beautiful influence in the Philadelphia community.

At 3:30 pm, I was scheduled to meet with the Chancellor. When I called him, his voice broke, "Your president has died. Please advise your dean."

It took me a moment to process what he just said. President Epps, the University's acting leader, collapsed at an event. I had just seen her on Saturday and met her face-to-face for the first time. The news of her sudden passing ripped through the dean suite in the first wave of grief.

The hymns for Sunday, September 24 were reflective of the Philadelphia community grieving. All of these hymns look at the triumph in the face of death.

Abide with Me: I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;  
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.

10,000 Reasons: And on that day when my strength is failing,  
The end draws near and my time has come;  
Still my soul sings Your praise unending,  
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.

My Lord, What a Morning (from Sorrow Songs:)  
You'll hear the trumpet sound,  
to wake the nations underground,  
looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall.

It is only through the grace of God that, in our grief, we can continue to worship Him and trust in His promise of everlasting life. ~Kirsten Kratz,

### **TRINITY LUTHERAN NURSERY SCHOOL AND MOTHERS MORNING OUT NEWS**

We are so grateful to be back at school with our beautiful little students. We began the new school year with summer weather and ended with the cool breezes of the Fall. We are all anticipating the colorful palette of Autumn.

The children enjoyed seeing some familiar faces and welcoming new ones. So far we baked apple pies, crafted paper pies, cooked applesauce and took a survey finding the color of our most favorite apple. Red has continued to be the champion.

The letter A was traced, colored, penciled, painted and glued. The Bears of Letter B went for a ride in a parachute. The children tossed their bears in the middle of the parachute. They surrounded the parachute, held on to the sides and with swift jerking movements the bears took flight! They bounced and flew in the air! One class had lunch outside, picnic-style with their bears! The funniest celebration for letter B was the BARBIE BOX! The teachers' in one class fashioned a Barbie Package Box and each child got inside for a photo shoot. What a clever way to celebrate letter "B"! ~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](mailto:peggy@bytemonkey.net)) or Darlene Leech ([office@trinityhavertown.org](mailto:office@trinityhavertown.org))

### **PRAYER THROUGH MEMBERSHIP**

The Thompson Family, and The Travlos Family.

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 Van, Lillian and Bill Thompson, Sean Gould, Yvonne Price, Pastor Jennifer Phelps, Andrea Matsinger, Jeanette Dick, Chris Degnan, Amy Gagas and her family,

Tekla Zlupko, Bill Wright, Katie Cole, Lizz and Joyce Hendricks, Robynn Kelly, Malcolm Wise and the Simpkins Family.

### **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

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!

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](mailto: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 MINISTRES**

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 Tuesday of 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 September 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](mailto: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 you 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 December!!!**

Thank you for your generosity!

~~ Darlene

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Sunday, October 15, 2023**

12 PM – Worship & Music Ministry mtg. – Fritsch Room

**Wednesday, October 18, 2023**

7 PM Church Council – Fritsch Room

**Monday, October 23, 2023**

6 PM SEPA Synod Delaware Conference Assembly  
Election of the Dean of the Conference will be held at this assembly.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

400 Lynbrooke Road

Springfield PA 19064

610-543-8700

**CHESAPEAKE CRAB COMPANY**

**Saturday, October 28, 2023**

11 AM – 6 PM

**One Day Only**

Chesapeake Crab Company will be selling crabs

Call ahead to place your order:

610-570-8174



**Sunday, October 29, 2023**

**REFORMATION SUNDAY**

**Remember to wear RED to Worship Service!**

**A Fellowship Hour will be held in the Fritsch Room following Worship Service**