

The Messenger

July 2019

Volume 84, Issue 7

What's Inside

New and Noted:

- From our Pastor
- Teachers Needed
- New Bishop Elected
- Summer Travel
- Good Shepherd Meal Thank You
- From our Director of Music
- Thank You Choir
- Can You Hear Me Now
- Funeral
- Baptism

Social Ministry/Giving

- Good Shepherd Request
- Second Mile

Birthdays/Anniversaries/ Trinity Travelers

July Calendar

Teachers Needed

As we prepare for the new Sunday Church School year, we are inviting you to consider volunteering to teach the children of Holy Trinity. If you have an interest in this ministry, please call the church office at 724-588-8870 or Kris Abraham at 330-448-6135.

From our Pastor

Dear church,

I have now completed my first cycle of the festival part of the church year – Advent through Pentecost – in your midst. We've heard again the story of God coming to us in the flesh and blood of a baby boy. We've heard of Christ's ministry, his death and resurrection and ascension. We've experienced the Holy Spirit coming to live among us.

And now, our work begins. As Lutheran Christians, we are children of the Reformation, but because God is always creating a new thing, we are a church that is reformed, yet always reforming.

When you called me as your pastor, I wrote in the paperwork that I completed about a book called "Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory." The book uses the metaphor of Lewis and Clark, who set out in canoes to find a waterway to the Pacific Ocean. The canoes worked fine, until the group hit the Rocky Mountains. Since the canoes weren't going to get them over the mountains, they had a choice: stay at the foot of the mountains and face whatever they would face there, or find another way up the mountains.

As the church in this time and in this culture, we're at the mountains, and how the church looks in two generations is beyond our experience or our knowing. As Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Greenville, Pennsylvania, we're standing at the foot of the mountains, and we're going to start figuring out how to get up and over those mountains.

This summer, we will begin an initiative called Reformed: Always Reforming. It will be our start in trying to plan and walk into a future that is not certain. Our goal is to try to figure out how God is calling us to be the church here for the next generation, to do God's mission and spread God's word in this little corner of Mercer County.

We won't start from scratch. First, we'll take all of the creative thought that's been swirling around Holy Trinity over the last decade – measuring the gifts of members of the congregation in the Gifts Inventory and the evangelism work that was part of that, doing work on "Front Porching" with Pastor Jake Jacobson,

taking the fruit of conversations you had during the call process about your hopes and dreams for this place, as well as the holy talk that emerged from the House Masses earlier this year – and compiling all of that information in one place.

Then we'll design a process that will help us figure out how to ditch our canoes and begin climbing the mountain. This might be rugged terrain, calling us outside of who we've been and who we are now to something unfamiliar. But we walk together, and we trust that when we're too tired to climb, God will carry us in those moments.

We are people, and a church, reformed, yet always reforming. God's peace to you on the journey.

Pastor Brenda

New Bishop Elected

Voting members at the annual Synod Assembly have elected the Rev. Michael Lozano, pastor of Christ Lutheran Church in Sharon, as the next bishop for the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Bishop-elect Lozano will begin his service on Sept. 1. Bishop Ralph Jones retires, effective August. 31.

Please hold Bishop-elect Lozano and Bishop Jones, and their families, in your prayers, as they experience these transitions in their ministry and lives.

If You Travel this Summer:

Summer Offerings: Let us remember to be regular givers as well as faithful worshippers during the summer! Our congregation's life and ministry is year-round and requires sustained support.

Before leaving for vacation, give your offerings for the Sundays that you will be away from worship; upon returning from occasional absences, "catch up" your offerings. Offerings can be mailed to the church office. Regular giving is a practice of faithful discipleship.

Upon returning from vacation, turn in your worship bulletin from the church you visited while away so we may add you to our Trinity Travelers list.



Good Shepherd Hot Meal Thank You

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with the Good Shepherd dinner on Monday, June 17. You all are so kind and generous. I really appreciate the help. Jane Towle, Carol Koehler, the Weaver family - Nikki, John, Gianna, Johnmichael and Jackson; Marie Riley, Louise Gilmore, Bonnie Massing, Linda Armstrong, Peg Browning, Mary Beth and Mike Bradley, Shirley Hildebrand, Karen McKay, Beth Harpst, Linda and Barry Oman, Don Achenbach, Julie and Matthew Morgan, Kathy and Curtis Thompson, Heather Wilt, Mary Reames, and Judy Leary.

We sent out 63 meals and served 63 meals at the Center. You all made it possible. Thank you so much for helping me.

Linda Saverino

From our Director of Music



Continuing this series of articles from the director of music on hymn tune names, *Nicaea* is the focus of the third article in this course. Nicaea is in Turkey, part of the present-day city of Iznik. On May 20, 325 an ecumenical council of approximately three hundred bishops of the increasingly influential Christian theology convened in Nicaea, a city founded by the Greeks in the fourth century B.C. The city flourished throughout Roman rule, and was a good meeting place for the Christian bishops of the eastern half of the Roman Empire. Constantine had convoked the meeting to assure that the problems experienced by Emperor Diocletian at the end of the third century were preventable. The emperor blamed Christians who didn't sacrifice to the gods of agriculture et cetera, for bad weather, hence ruined crops among other things.

During this meeting the concept of the 'Trinity' was discussed, formulated, and following several drafts was approved and finalized as the second statement of belief, namely, the Nicene Creed recited even today throughout the liturgical year in ironically, western liturgical churches. At Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Greenville, the founders of the Assembly chose Holy Trinity as its name and their choice is reflected in the 'Trinity' window at the western end of the nave in the loge. Other issues were discussed, for example, how to establish the date of Easter, church structure, and priestly responsibilities among other concerns.

When Trinity Sunday is observed, as it was on June 16, 2019, the hymn sung during procession is Holy, holy, holy, the first - line of ELW hymn # 413; its text is based on Isaiah 6 an Old Testament reference to the omniscience of God, the Father. The version sung at Holy Trinity is a meld of text by Reginald Heber and a melody by John B. Dykes. Heber's text has become cemented to Dykes' tune and has been sung for at least one hundred and ninety years since 1826 when Heber's text was first published posthumously in *HYMNS: Ancient and Modern*.

Heber's text crystallized the doctrine of the Trinity for many Christians since the early 19th century. Dykes was a prolific melody writer during his lifetime, composing hundreds of hymns, some initially published in Heber's above-referenced hymn collection and many in the Episcopalian 1940 hymnal which was used for forty years before being supplanted by the 1981 Hymnal.

Maidene Hackett

Thanks to the Parish Choir for Their Service this Past Year

On Holy Trinity Sunday, June 16, the Parish Choir concluded its service of liturgical and musical leadership until the Fall. The choir members this past year were: Sue Achenbach, Sue Bitler, Ken Black, Fran Black, Mary Beth Bradley, Henry Heil, Ruth Heil, Dave Hollenbaugh, Billie Hollenbaugh, Rae Johnson, Jane McCall, Liz Stuyvesant, and Curt Thompson and Kathy Thompson. Rehearsals, led by our Director of Music, Maidene Hackett, were held on Wednesdays and Sundays throughout the year to prepare music for worship leadership. Thank you for adding so much to our Liturgy each week.

Security Update

Thursday, July 18, 2019 is the day we will begin using the Security System that has been installed. The security cameras were the first phase and we are ready for the second phase.

By the back door there is black touchpad. You will press the button that will activate a ring tone in different areas of the church. You will be greeted and then buzzed into the building.

The front and side doors will remain the same meaning they will be locked as they are now during the week. The Clinton Street door does have a black touchpad so if someone needs entry, they can press the button just like the back door.

People who need to enter the building for different reasons outside office hours **will be contacted before July 18 to pick up their key fob/card**. If you have a key to the back door, please return it to the office or to Ed Pitcher. If you have questions, please call the office.

Be sure to watch for more updates.

Can You Hear Me Now?

We can use this well-known question from a television commercial to apply to our worship space at Holy Trinity. When applied to a cell-phone network, “can you hear me now?” relates to the quality of reception. In our worship space, we would frequently answer “not so much” or “not at all,” either because the speaker turns away from the microphone or because part of the service is not near a mic at all.

“Away from a mic” happens in the baptistery alcove or on the sanctuary steps for a children’s sermon. We all want to hear and participate in those worship events! But if you cannot hear, you are not able to “be there.”

So the new answer to “CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?” is “not yet, but pretty soon.” The solution is coming! The combined effort of three committees (Worship and Music, Property, and Finance) has brought in Satin Sound Systems of Hermitage to design and supply a wireless mic connection for Pastor Brenda. In the next few weeks they’ll install the antenna and wiring to connect a headpiece mic to our existing control panel. Hooray! We will also have their instruction for users of all the fixed-position microphones: adjust the height, speak directly into it, and other guidance.

Total cost of this important addition is about \$1,850. Contributions can use a pew envelope; just mark it “Sound System.”

Please join us in this effort.

— *John Logan and Catherine Mott*

Funeral

Marilyn Lora (Flickinger) Green

Born: January 25, 1932
Died: June 9, 2019
Funeral Liturgy: June 14, 2019

*“Rest eternal grant her, O Lord;
and let light perpetual shine upon her.”*

Baptism

Jeremy Jacob Miller, infant son of Jake and Jamie, was baptized Sunday, June 9, 2019. Jeremy was born March 4, 2019 in Meadville. Please keep him, his parents, his sponsors Christian and Nikki Hootman, and his family in your prayers.

Second Mile Giving for July - Relay for Life

Each month, we offer the opportunity for our members to reach out into the greater community to those who are seeking to minister to people with specific needs, through our Second Mile Giving – our financial gifts beyond our regular offerings.

What is Relay for Life?

Relay for Life is a 24-hour community and volunteer based event that brings together more than 3.5 million people to **celebrate** the lives of those who have battled cancer, **remember** those we have lost, and empower individuals and communities to **fight back** against this terrible disease. Teams of 10-15 people camp out and take turns circling the track for 24 hours, demonstrating their commitment to creating a world with less cancer and more birthdays.

Where does the money go?

Money raised through Relay for Life funds lifesaving American Cancer Society programs in cancer research, education, advocacy, and patient services. The society is the largest source of nonprofit, nongovernmental cancer research funding in the US, with more than \$431 million in grants in effect. It is also the home to numerous educational assistance and peer-support programs available to cancer patients and caregivers at no cost!

About American Cancer Society programs and services . . .

Comprehensive cancer information is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by calling 1-800-ACS-2345 or visiting their website at www.cancer.org

How YOU can get more involved?

There are several ways to participate in Relay for Life. You can take part by making a donation, becoming a sponsor, volunteering to help at the event or starting your own team.

Where you can find more information.

You can contact Holy Trinity member Barry Oman at 724-588-2000 or BOMAN@neo.rr.com

Second Mile envelopes can be found in the pew racks, or you may mail your contribution to the church office in an envelope clearly marked, "Second Mile Giving." All Second Mile contributions received during the month of July will be given to the designated cause.

Good Shepherd Request for July



The Good Shepherd Center is our church community social service agency that supports the needs of many in the area.

The Good Shepherd Center's request for Holy Trinity for **July is personal care items (shampoo, soap, deodorant, etc.), and school supplies (in back packs if possible)**. Donations may be placed in the marked box in the cloister.



The Good Shepherd Thrift Store is now open at 10 N. Water Street in Greenville (at the corner of Water and Shenango; in the former Gibson Furniture building)). Hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

July Birthdays

- 1 Lori McCann
- 2 Judith Bubeck
Darla Swift
Brad VanKanegan
- 3 Jan Gebert
- 4 Roy Wilt, Sr.
- 6 Jill Murrin
- 7 Marge Stull
- 8 Christopher Shultz
- 10 Olive Clark
- 11 Jake Miller
Jane McCall
Paul Yoos
- 12 Bobbie Marshall
- 13 Andrew McCall
- 14 Natalie Bubenheim
- 16 Sheryl Lanning
Gloria Spargo
- 17 Ed Pitcher
- 28 Lisa Bates
Michael Lineman
- 30 Linda Oman
- 31 Rusty Saverino



July Anniversaries

The following members of our congregation are celebrating anniversaries this month. Congratulate them when you see them.

Ken and Fran Black	56 years	July 6, 1963
Bob and Gaye Gargasz	46 years	July 7, 1973
Rich and Bobbi Marshall	29 years	July 21, 1990
Mark and Esther Wasser	41 years	July 22, 1978
David and Judy Leary	48 years	July 24, 1971
Mike and Erin McKinney	15 years	July 24, 2004
Rich and Denise Hall	36 years	July 30, 1983

Trinity Travelers

If you visit another church, drop off a bulletin from that church, with your name on it, so that you can be a *Trinity Traveler*.

Jerry Smith

Church of Our Lady Star of the Sea
Cape May, New Jersey
Father Frank Danella

Linda Armstrong

Primitive Baptist Church
Grand Geave, Haiti
The Rev. Enock Deroseney

Ed Pitcher and Beth Harpst

St. John's Episcopal Church
Sharon, Pennsylvania
The Rev. Dennis Blauser

Linda Saverino

St. John's Episcopal Church
Sharon, Pennsylvania
The Rev. Dennis Blauser

Curt and Kathy Thompson

St. Olaf College
Northfield, Minnesota
The Rev. Katherine Fick
and

Augustana Lutheran Church
Chicago, Illinois
The Rev. Nancy Goede

Gerald and Mary Larson

Temppeliukio Church
Helsinki, Finland
and
St. Isaac's Cathedral
St. Petersburg, Russia
and
St. Marien Lutheran Cathedral
Rostock, Germany
and
Schweriner Church
Schwerin, Germany
and
Cathedral of St. Mary the
Virgin
Tallinn, Estonia

