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Trinity Messenger

September 2023 Issue 1

Alleluia. May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may know the hope to which God has called us Alleluia. Eph. 1:17-18

September Stewardship: Excentia (S. June Smith Center) EXCENTIA HUMAN SERVICES: A LIFESPAN OF SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS

Excentia Human Services has a long history of almost 60 years in Lancaster County, providing a lifespan of services and supports to children and adults with developmental disabilities. Pronounced “x-cen-cha,” our name is a composite of the words “essence” and “excellence.” Excentia represents the unique element that defines an individual’s core, or their “essence,” and the honoring of each person’s essence, and circumstances, as they strive to excel as their best selves. This philosophy fuels everything we do for the people we support and our team of dedicated employees who make our mission possible.

I want to take a minute to tell you a story about one of the children we support.

As the youngest of five siblings, Bennett always loves tagging along for family activities. In his early years, nothing seemed concerning with Bennett’s development. As his mom, Amy, noted, he was a tad bit delayed, but it was something she thought he would catch up with easily as time went on. However, as he got older, Bennett struggled with mobility and speech delays. At this point, Bennett qualified for Early Intervention Services due to his diagnosis. Ultimately, he found himself at Excentia Human Services.

Since starting preschool, Bennett has outgrown the need for speech intervention, is holding his own with his peers and is learning to be more independent with his mobility. “We love his education program!” says Amy, Bennett’s mom. “He looks forward to his preschool days and comes home full of stories.”

These stories and Bennett’s eagerness to entertain and connect to people have been the most surprising result of his education. “He has great manners and expresses himself extremely well. I know that’s largely due to what they do at school with the kids!”

And it is also the reason why Bennett is so eager to do “school” activities at home while his mom homeschools his siblings. With the help of his occupational and speech therapists and the support he has at home, Bennett’s future is optimistic and promising. For now, though, he’s right where he needs to be, enjoying school and being a kid, and tagging along with his brothers and sister.

Successes like Bennett’s are possible because of the supports provided by Excentia Human Services. Please consider making a donation that will impact more children like Bennett.

Congratulations and Best Wishes

To the members of Holy Trinity who are 70 years and older and celebrating a birthday in **September**:

13 Karen Leonhard
19 Grace Long
22 Jo Hurst
22 Robert Snader
26 Marie Gingrich
27 Gisela Woerner

Send them a birthday card or call them with a greeting. We pray God grants them many more years in their pilgrimage.



Theater Opportunity

Join the cast and crew of the newly-christened Moravian Manor acting company for its two performances of the play, *Spoon River Anthology*, starring Norm Wangman, on Thursday, September 7 at 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM in Steinman Hall.

Set in the fictitious small town of Spoon River, Illinois, 100 years ago, the play features monologues shared by deceased residents about their lives. The stories describe misdeeds, misadventures, happy memories, and tales of hardship and irony. The show looks back to a different, yet familiar time...familiar because human nature remains unchanging.

Lutheran World Relief Ingathering Appeal

Lutheran World Relief Ingathering appeal is Sunday October 1st. This year the Social Ministry Committee is looking for new blankets (60" x 80", non-fleece) and monetary donations to purchase items for personal kits. Each kit is \$5.00. See the poster in the Gathering Area. Volunteers will be needed to help assemble the kits. The time and date will be announced later. If you have any questions, please contact Rob Gilbert at 721-3822.

The Social Ministry Committee would like to thank everyone who donated school items to our Back to School Drive. We had a great response. EASS appreciated all our donations. The items were distributed to area families who are in need of basic school and personal care items for their children. Again, we couldn't have done it without you! Thank you for your generous and continued support!

This is the last week for the summer food drive. Our goal for this year is 60 boxes and we are 6 boxes away from reaching it and we need your help! Let's help those in need in our community. The Social Ministry Committee thanks you for your continued support!

Assisting Maui Fire Victims

Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) is coordinating with the Pacifica Synod and other partners to assess the needs of people impacted by the wildfires. Together they are addressing the immediate needs and recovery amid the widespread destruction. LDR and the Pacifica Synod are committed to accompanying recovering communities now and in the years ahead.

Gifts given specifically to "U.S. Wildfires" will be restricted to and used in full (100%) for those affected by wildfires. You may donate by following the link:

community.elca.org/uswildfires?_ga to donate electronically or by mail at the address below. Make checks payable to "Lutheran Disaster Response." Write "U.S. Wildfires" on your check's memo line. You may also donate by calling 800-638-3522 (Monday through Friday) 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. central time.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Assist Fire Victims | EPHRATA AREA SOCIAL SERVICES

EASS's Community Support department is reaching out to local fire victims in Ephrata in order to provide assistances. Any money donated through this page (www.mygiving.net/campaign/Assist-Fire-Victims) will go to direct aide. If donating on a different platform (check, cash, Paypal) please note this is for "fire victim assistances." Checks can be sent to Ephrata Area Social Services, 227 N. State St., Ephrata, PA 17522. **Gift cards** for Walmart and Ephrata area grocery stores would be eagerly welcomed by these families as they attempt, with the help of EASS and the generosity of the community, to put their lives back together. If you bring gift cards to the church, we, with the guidance of EASS, will make sure they go where they are needed. **There is a local need for hygiene products for children going back to school.**

SEPTEMBER IS HERE!

Join in these opportunities to grow in faith and fellowship:

BELL CHOIR

***Rehearsals** resume Tuesday, September 5 at 7:00 pm for our existing bell choir.

*Please consider joining in the fun of ringing! We need ringers to continue the handbell ensemble. Please talk with Donna or call her at 717-669-783



Calling all Singers!!

There are so many good singers in this congregation, so we are going to try something new. We will be forming a Celebration Choir (in addition to Senior Choir) here at Holy Trinity that will sing approximately once a month! The music will be easy to learn and the time commitment will be minimal.

Please consider joining us ☺

Celebration Choir Schedule for September and October

***Wednesday, Sept. 6** – Celebration Choir rehearsal at 7:15 PM in the church sanctuary

*Sunday, Sept. 10 – Celebration Choir – 8:15 AM rehearsal - *Seek Ye First*

***Wednesday, Oct. 4** – Celebration Choir rehearsal at 7:15 PM in the church sanctuary

*Sunday, Oct. 8 – Celebration Choir – 8:15 AM rehearsal - *Jesus Loves Me/Oh How He Loves You and Me*

***Wednesday, Oct. 25** – Celebration Choir rehearsal at 7:15 PM in the church sanctuary

*Sun, Oct. 29 – Reformation – Celebration Choir – 8:15 AM rehearsal -*Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*

Senior Choir rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, September 6 at 6:45 PM! All are welcome!!!

RALLY DAY: Sunday, September 10 **God’s Faithful Gift of Liturgy**

You are invited and strongly encouraged to participate in a multi-session study, led by Donna Nace, during which we will be exploring our liturgy and why its importance and impact on our faith lives and relationship with God go far beyond our time together on Sunday mornings.

Plan to join us downstairs immediately after worship! Enjoy coffee and treats in the cafe and gather in the social hall for our first session as we explore the depth and richness of our Lutheran liturgy.



September 3-9 Calendar...there is a community meal on Thursday, September 7 at 6PM

Sunday, September 3	
9:00am	Worship
10:00am	Coffee Hour After Worship
Monday, September 4	
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
LABOR DAY	
10:00am	Women's Prayer Group
6:30pm	Yoga
7:00pm	Evangelism
Tuesday, September 5	
7:00pm	Bell Choir
7:00pm	Fellowship Committee Meeting
7:00pm	Finance Committee
8:00pm	Executive Council
Wednesday, September 6	
Celebration Choir 7:15	
6:45pm	Senior Choir
Thursday, September 7	
7:00pm	Property Committee
7:00pm	Yoga
7:00pm	Thursday Worship
Saturday, September 9	
7:30am	Walking Group

[**View This Month's Interactive Calendar Here**](#)

September 3rd Servers

Council: Barry Kreider, Kevin Gingrich

Assisting Minister: Kathy Kuhns

Lector: Kathy Kuhns

Acolyte: Anya Gilbert

Ushers: Ron & Carlene Kerschner,
David Kerschner, Rob Gilbert

Altar Guild: Denise Shirker, Kelly Homan

Linen: Patricia Fassnacht

Deliver Flower: Heather Zimmerman



Office Hours: September 4-8

We recommend you call the office prior to stopping in to ensure hours have not changed.

Office Phone: 717-733-4134 Pastor's Cell: 315-317-8517 Donna's Cell: 717-669-7831

Day	Sue	Pastor
Monday	Labor Day- Church office closed	Labor Day- Church office closed
Tuesday	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Wednesday	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Thursday	OFF	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Friday	8:00 AM - 12	OFF

Thanks for reading! Have a great week ahead!

