



HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



[Bulletin
Server Schedule](#)

[Online Service](#)

[Online Giving](#)

Trinity Messenger

September 2023 Issue 4

Alleluia. Open our hearts, O Lord, to give heed to what is said by your Son. Alleluia.



Welcome our Newest Member

This Sunday, September 24, we will be receiving and welcoming Judy Williams as a new member of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Judy and her husband Michael (Mike) have recently moved to Ephrata from Tennessee where Mike had been serving as a priest at an Episcopal congregation. Please take time to welcome them personally to our friendly community.

Council Meeting Update

At the September 14, 2023, Congregation Council meeting:

- Approved a revised Child Protection Policy which lists procedures the congregation must now follow to meet legal and insurance liability requirements. Thank you to Alice Hummer who compiled the information and wrote the revised policy.
- Property Committee reported that a new cleaning service has been hired effective October 5.

Financial Situation Update

Through August, the Unified Budget deficit year to date is \$26,437. In September, the carryover funds (\$28,780) used to meet the deficit will be exhausted. In addition, we will soon have a bill for \$32,000+ for heating oil, which is \$7,000 more than budgeted. To meet any continuing deficits and to pay for the heating oil, the Finance Committee has approved (with the knowledge and consent of the Congregation Council) the transfer **\$60,000** from our unrestricted investments (\$239,000 as of August 31) to our checking account. Depending on contributions and income the remainder of 2023, an additional transfer may have to be made prior to the end of the year. When the 2023 Ministry Spending Plan was presented at the congregational meeting, it was noted that a transfer of reserve funds might be needed this year. While the expenses for 2023 remain **below** budgeted levels (except for the cost of heating oil), the income has not met or exceeded projected levels. Therefore, a larger than anticipated transfer of reserve funds is needed.

Church Office Renovation

Beginning September 22, the church office will be temporarily relocated to the conference room next door. The move is necessary so that the office can be painted and the flooring replaced. The work is to be completed by October 3. Note that Sue will be on vacation from September 27-October 6.

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.



Saturday, September 30th 2023, 5:00-8:00 PM
Camp Kirchenwald, 1 Cutoff Rd Lebanon PA 17042

Did your child have a great week at camp? Consider attending our Party with a Purpose fundraiser and help us continue to provide awesome programs! The evening will consist of a BBQ meal, live music, silent and live auction items, and giveaways. The evening is free and we ask participants to donate what they would pay for an evening out for dinner and entertainment. This is an adult only event but childcare will be provided.



Attention Retired Readers!

Love to read and discuss what you read?
Looking for a literary mini-vacation?

Join other readers for an Adult Study
Retreat on:

Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen
Simonson
The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry by
Rachel Joycen

Additional reading – *A Man Called Ove* by
Fredrik Backman
I Capture the Castle by Dodie Smith

October 3-5, 2023 at Nawakwa
Registration fee: \$170 Lodging and meals
(7) provided. Begins Tuesday morning and
ends with lunch on Thursday.

Call 717-677-8211 or visit
<https://www.lutherancamping.org/event/adult-study-retreat-2023/>

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.

Parade Night

Please join your fellow siblings in Christ on the front lawn of Holy Trinity on Parade Night, Wednesday, September 27, at 5:30 PM. We will be offering hot dogs, chips, baked goods, and water for dinner, and there will be live music provided by the band *Dill Weed*. Wonderful to have them back with us! To help make this possible, we are once again asking for donations of hot dogs, buns, 8 oz. bottles of water, and bagged, individual serving size homemade baked goods (cookies & brownies). Please wait until the weekend prior to the Parade Night to bring buns and baked goods to the church, so they will be fresh. Hot dogs and bottles water can be brought to the church anytime between now and the week of the event. Please put hot dogs in the refrigerator in the Fellowship Hall and water on the row of tables against the wall of the Fellowship Hall. Thank you in advance for your donations! Our Evangelism Team looks forward to seeing you on the front lawn the evening of the parade.

Blessing of the Pets -Sunday, October 2 -
Outside at Church (weather permitting) at 2:00 PM on
lawn beside Luther Hall.
Bring your pets, large and small for a special blessing. Be sure
your pets are on leashes.



**THE ADULT (all adults are welcome)
LUNCH BUNCH**

Will be going Willow Street Diner after the
liturgy on October 8. We'll meet downstairs after
the liturgy. All are welcome. For reservations,
please call Cheryl Plummer by October 7 at 625-
3187. Plan to join us!

Recreation at Holy Trinity

Starting October 8, 2nd Sunday of the month. 2:00 - 4:00 PM
Holy Trinity has a unique configuration for providing a variety of activities with the Gymnasium, Café and Fellowship hall. With these facilities and the kitchen and rest rooms, Holy Trinity would like the congregation know that they are welcome to come to the church to socialize with each other. Of course, you may bring friends!
In the Fellowship Hall, table games will be played. However, you do not need to play to socialize. Your presence is always appreciated! You don't have to know how to play. Everyone helps teach game rules. Please feel free to try the games. Also, feel free to decline playing when your energy may be too low. Play or watch, we are all blessed together!
Also in the Fellowship Hall, we play "Corn Hole," a bean bag toss type game. This is a safer alternative to horseshoes that can be played indoors. We modify the throwing line distances to match your capabilities in order to make success possible for all.
In the Gymnasium, we are offering Pickle Ball. This will be our first attempt at Holy Trinity. A great opportunity to learn this exciting social, skill and exercise activity. Pickle Ball will probably be scheduled at other times, too!
What do you say? Come and join us.



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 October

***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 are Wednesdays at 6:45 PM! All are welcome!!!

BELL CHOIR Rehearsals are Tuesdays at 7:00 pm.



September 24-30 Calendar

Sunday, September 24	
9:00am	Worship
10:00am	Coffee Hour After Worship
10:15am	SCS
Monday, September 25	
10:00am	Women's Prayer Group
6:30pm	Yoga
Tuesday, September 26	
10:00am	Ephrata Fair
6:00pm	God on Tap
Wednesday, September 27	
10:00am	Ephrata Fair + Parade
6:45pm	Senior Choir
Thursday, September 28	
10:00am	Ephrata Fair
7:00pm	Yoga
7:00pm	Thursday Worship
Friday, September 29	
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
10:00am	Ephrata Fair
Saturday, September 30	
7:30am	Walking Group
10:00am	Ephrata Fair

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

September 24th Servers

Council: Bill Spitzer, John Weiss

Assisting Minister: John Fuehrer

Lector: Lori Spitzer

Acolyte: Natalie Mull

Ushers: Norm Wangman,
Phyllis Doughty, Winnie Gerlach

Altar Guild: Denise Shirker, Kelly Homan

Linen: Lori Spitzer

Deliver Flower: Dan Doremus



Office Hours: September 25-29

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	OFF	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Tuesday	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Wednesday	OFF	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Thursday	OFF	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Friday	OFF	OFF

Thanks for reading! Have a great week ahead!

