

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, TOWANDA, PA

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2022

Annual Church Picnic



Isaac and Ember

Our annual church picnic in August was a great day for all! Cindy and Dave Estelle provided hot dogs and buns, and Dave arranged everything while we were at worship. As usual, we enjoyed lots of good food brought by church members. The children played on the playground next to our pavilion so we could watch and share in their fun. The weather couldn't have been nicer. It was a lovely time of fellowship.

Ice Cream Social for Personal Care Home Residents



Trinity will be hosting an Ice Cream Social at the Personal Care Home on **September 22** at 2:00. Anyone wishing to help with this event or donate ice cream and/or toppings, please call Doreen Secor at 570-637-7134.

Pastor Appreciation Day

October 9 is a special day to celebrate Pastor Jira and his importance to Trinity. Be sure to let him know how much he's appreciated, today and every day.



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Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

908 S. Main Street
Towanda, PA 18848

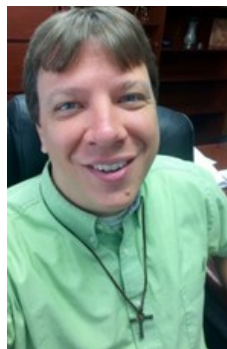
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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



Value 3: Intentionally Invitational



**A Message From
Pastor Jira Albers**

“Come and See”

John 1:39

“Come and see.” Jesus’ first invitation to those who would become some of his most trusted followers was actually quite simple, “Come and see.”

Many people think that “faith” has everything to do with “believing” certain things. But, faith is so much more. Faith is having a good, loving, and trusting relationship with Christ. It should be no surprise then that finding that faith has everything to do with having a good, loving, and trusting relationship with someone who shares the good news. Sharing our faith has everything to do with inviting people with whom we have a relationship to “Come and see.”

Granted, some people might feel as if sharing their faith is the same as facing a death squad, but I assure you that it is not. If people truly love you for who you are, they will also want to know more about you and the things in which you are interested. That includes your trust in Jesus Christ. In such a loving and trusting relationship, it is a natural and loving thing to say to your friends, “Come and see.” It can really be as simple as that.

After-all, it was good enough for Jesus! He did not sit down and put everyone through a Bible quiz before

they could follow him. Jesus simply said, “Come and see” because, with Jesus, it is always about loving relationships.

That is how the world is changed. That is how the love of God is shared, within loving relationships. “Come and see.” In this way, we followers of Christ are “intentionally invitational.” We have a “Come and see” attitude. We intentionally invite those we know and love to “Come and see.” And, when they come and see, Jesus has an opportunity to live in them, and they in he.

In Matthew 11:28 Jesus again invites us: “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.”

How much better of an invitation can you possibly get than that? It is so gentle. It is so enticing. It like inviting a friend to come to the spa and have a massage for the soul.

We want others to find meaning and purpose in their lives. We want others to know the one who loves them as they are and gives them life and saves. We are intentionally invitational because we care. So, yes, we do say, “Come and see.” Come and see Jesus.

The Question Box

(Questions About Our Christian Life)

What if my work does not allow me to keep the Sabbath?”

As I mentioned in a recent sermon, the Sabbath day is a gift of rest and connection with God. The punishment for not observing it is not getting rest and not connecting with God. The commandment explicitly includes servants (employees). In our culture employers breaking the Sabbath command all the time and we support it by shopping on the Sabbath. Since Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath, any time spent in prayer and devotion and rest with him is a Sabbath, even if not on Sunday. – Pastor Jira



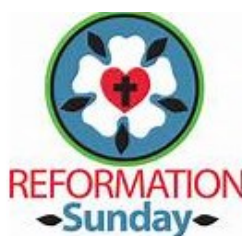
Parish News

Consecration Sunday, October 23



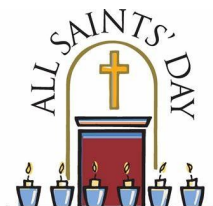
Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of a Christian's need to sacrificially and unselfishly give back to God for one own spiritual development as well as to support the ministries of the church.

Reformation Sunday, October 30



This day is set aside to celebrate Martin Luther's posting of *The 95 Theses* in October of 1517. The liturgical color is red. Honor the day and wear your best red. Brunch in the hall after worship. Bring a dish to pass—make it international! There will be a collection for World Hunger.

All Saints Sunday, November 6



We will be remembering those saints who have died in the past year. Please call or email the church office with names of people you want remembered in worship.

Upcoming Gospel Readings

September 11th

[Luke 15:1-10](#)

September 18th

[Luke 16:1-13](#)

September 25th

[Luke 16:19-31](#)

October 2nd

[Luke 17:5-10](#)

October 9th

[Luke 17:11-19](#)

October 16th

[Luke 18:1-8](#)

October 23rd

[Luke 18:9-14](#)

October 30th

[John 8:31-36](#)

November 6th

[Luke 6:20-31](#)

November 13th

[Luke 21:5-19](#)

November 20th

[Luke 23:33-43](#)

November 27th

[Matthew 24:36-44](#)

Puzzle!

Solve this cryptogram to complete Isaiah 40:8, a Bible verse that speaks to the autumn season.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
														1				22							
13	12	7				6	20	16	22	22				26	11	13	12	7	20	22			13	12	7
2	5	1	26	7	20						2	16	18	7	22			25	15	13			13	12	7
26	1	20	18			1	2			1	15	20		6	1	18					26	11	5	5	
22	13	16	24	18																					
2	1	20	7	14	7	20																			

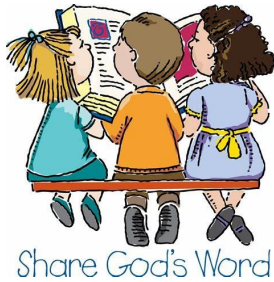
ISAIAH 40:8



Answer: The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. Isaiah 40:8, ESV



Parish News Continued



Sunday School Begins

September 25 will be the first Sunday School/Children's Church session after summer vacation. The students will be invited to go to Children's Church during the readings and the sermon and will return to worship before communion. We hope to see your little ones very soon!

Knoebels Youth Event



September 25. Every youth attending will receive a book of tickets to get the fun started. Additional books will be available at a reduced cost throughout the day. We will gather for a light lunch (pavilion to be announced) around **12:00pm**.

Please contact Pastor Michele Kaufman (570-881-2371) should you have any additional questions. Contact Pastor Jira if you will be going and if you will need a ride. An approximate count needs to be sent in from each congregation by Thursday, September 22nd. Looking forward to seeing all of you there!

Women's Retreat



Friday, September 30th—Sunday, October 2nd

Surround yourself with the beauty of nature and fellowship for an uplifting time at Bear Creek Camp. This retreat is designed to provide women with an opportunity to enjoy time both individually and collectively, participate in creative activities, explore outdoors, have time for rest and renewal, and be in the beauty of God's creation in a peaceful setting.

For questions or to register, call 570-472-3741.

Bearcreekcamp.org/womens-retreat/

Columbarium Space Available

As you make your end of life arrangements do not forget that the church has columbarium space available.

Call (570) 265-5322

Thank You Members Of Christ!

- *Thank you to Paul Cook for removing the huge branches that fell in the churchyard.
- *Thank you to Bill Serfass for leading worship when Pastor Jira is away.
- *Thank you to Cindy and Dave Estelle for organizing the church picnic.
- *Thank you Rebecca Hodgdon, Sara Lynn Troup, Maureen Engelhard, and Cindy Estelle for teaching the children in Sunday School.
- *Thank you to the anonymous donor who bought flags for the church.
- *Thank you to the anonymous donor who funded the new roof.



Minutes Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting
Monday August 29, 2022

PRESENT: Pastor Jira Albers, Thelma Allis, Debra Finan, Doreen Secor, Tammy Lockhart and Jennifer Kaniuka.

DEVOTIONS: At 7:10 p.m. Jennifer opened the meeting with devotions. Doreen will do devotions in September.

AGENDA: A motion was made by Doreen, seconded by Jennifer to approve the Agenda with corrections. Motion carried.

OPENING STATEMENT/MISSION AND VISION: Pastor Jira is continuing to explore partnerships with other area Churches.

MINUTES: June minutes will be approved in September.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report was sent out by Deb for June and July 2022. Doreen made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Reports, Tammy seconded. Motion carried. Discussion was held on the Seaburg Memorial. A motion was made by Jennifer and seconded by Tammy to purchase linens. The family will be contacted to attend a service honoring Janet. Discussion was had on the roof project. Additional work was needed once they got into the project. A motion was made by Doreen and seconded by Tammy to approve new project amount for \$30,250 and authorize final payment after it is reviewed by Pastor to go over the job. They will also look at the fan. Discussion included the need for Council to have approved the additional work before it was started.

FUNDRAISING: No report.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor reported on his activities the past two months. Pastor also discussed the issue presented by some congregation members about the need for a US flag in the Church. A compromise was made to have the flags in the area of the Church inside the inside doors. Mr & Mrs Fleck have offered to pay for the flags and Pastor will order. A motion was made by Tammy and seconded by Jennifer to approve the purchase and placement of the flags.

WORSHIP AND PRAYER: Advent devotions have been ordered and Fall Worship is set.

GIVING TEAM: Pastor will look at Sermon materials and see which week is best and Doreen will present the Six Month Budget to Actual Financials.

SERVICE TEAM: An Ice Cream Social will be held at the PCH on September 22nd and Doreen has volunteers to donate and work the event. God's Work, Our Hands is September 11th and Pastor has a request into TACO to volunteer there.

STUDY TEAM: The Tuesday morning bible study group will resume Sept. 13th and be available in person and via Zoom. Children's Sunday School will be in person and starts September 13th. There are four teachers. Cindy, Maureen, Sara and Rebecca. Pastor will move the Children's Message earlier and children will then go downstairs. Discussion surrounded getting the information out to families.



SHARING/INVITING TEAM: Pastor presented starting Family Worship opportunities this year. He will poll families to see what format will work best. Council was agreeable to this new venture. He would also like to expand All Saintes to include not only loss of congregation members, but also those close to us. We would then directly invite others to join in honoring their loved ones.

FINANCE REPORT: Included in previous reports.

PROPERTY TEAM REPORT: The roof was discussed under the Treasurer's Report. Pastor reviewed a proposal related to maintenance of the bells. A motion was made by Thelma and seconded by Tammy authorizing him to secure a quote from the company and email it out to Council.

ENCOURAGEMENT TEAM: No report.

PERSONNEL: Pastor discussed that Deb was not trained in creating the newsletter so he will work on this to get one done.

CARE AND ENCOURAGEMENT: Names were presented of those who we need to check on with phone visits and support.

ITEMS "FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER: None

A motion was made by Doreen seconded by Jennifer to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM. Motion carried. Next scheduled Council Meeting is September 26th at 6:30 p.m via Zoom. Pastor closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Doreen Secor
Substitute Recording Secretary

October 2022

Birthdays and Anniversaries

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			Eric Thomason			1 Eric Thomason Lanny & Kim God
2	3 Korrie Kunkle	4 Donald Feusner Alan Seaberg, Jr.	5 Miranda Clark Allie Champluvier Kristen Zukerman	6	7	8
9	10 Ron & Ruth Russell	11 Ed Grant	12 Merlin Horn Marian Feathers Harmony Albers Merlin & Barbara Horn	13 Elizabeth Benninger Matthew & Brianna Brimmer	14	15 Nathan Chilson Carol Cunfer
16 Kristy Feusner	17	18 Anita Bennett	19 Ed & Joyce Grant	20 Bryan Champluvier	21 Bella Grace Clark	22
23 30	24 31 Jessamine Manchester	25	26	27 Rose Renninger David & Sharon Weed	28	29

November 2022

Birthdays and Anniversaries

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 Larry & Maurine Gehring	3	4 Bonnie Stoudt Johnson	5 Elisha Troup
6 Sven Thomason	7 Landyn Brimmer	8	9 Elisha Troup Diane Place	10	11 Ron Allis	12
13	14 Cindy Estelle	15 Carol Zukerman	16 Paul & Aggi Cook Harold & Rose Renninger	17 Thomas Lineberry	18 Peter Hart	19 Larry Gehring
20 Aaron Albers Nichole Pugh	21	22 Peter Hart	23 Duane Carrington Jasmine Brown	24 Jan & Laurie Kapson	25 Pastor Jira Albers	26
27 Michael Dunn Maureen Engelhard	28 Trinity Pugh	29 Bob Fleck Jim Smith Skyler Yoder	30			

October 2022 Meetings and Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4 9:00 Fellowship	5	6 Worship at Skilled Nursing 10:00 am Everyone is invited.	7	8
9 Service of Healing	10	11 9:00 Fellowship	12	13 Communion at Personal Care Home 9:00 am	14	15
16	17	18 9:00 Fellowship	19	20 Board Meeting Grace Connection Episcopal Church 10:30	21	22
23 Stewardship Sunday 30 Reformation	24 6:30 Council Meeting	25 9:00 Fellowship	26	27	28	29

November 2022 Meetings and Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 9:00 Fellowship	2	3	4	5
6 All Saints Sunday Daylight savings ends	7	8 9:00 Fellowship	9	10	11	12
13 Honoring Veterans in Worship	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 Christ the King Sunday	21	22 9:00 Fellowship	23	24 Thanksgiving	25	26
27 1st Sunday of Advent	28 6:30 Council Meeting	29 9:00 Fellowship 10:15 Worship at PCH	30			

SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

*Camp
Noah***STRONGER**
Together

So Noah went out with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. And every animal, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that moves on the earth, went out of the ark by families.... God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth."

(Genesis 8:18-19; 9:12-13)

Following the flood – a disaster horrific in scope and cause – God brought forth a time and a place, where healing and renewal could begin. Camp Noah is a ministry, carrying on in God's covenantal promises of care and life, especially for families and especially for children whose loved ones may no longer be there to protect and nurture them. The "ark" that gets built, comes in the form of congregations and volunteers, along with professionals in counseling and in faith, who create a safe and supportive environment – where, for a day or a week, children can gather to run and play, draw and paint, sing and listen, pray and build new connections of love and care, new trust that God loves them and that the future can be better, brighter and bolder than the past. Christ is the rainbow and the rock, that provides new colors to paint and safe waters to drink and to splash in, without fear of drowning in grief and despair. As the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, we are honored and grateful to take part in this life-giving ministry, offering our resources, our time and our spaces, to make a bright new day for these kids, these families, and "for all future generations."

+ Bishop Christopher deForest

Have you ever felt overwhelmed and unable to cope with a situation? There have been times during covid that many have felt that way—worry about those who were sick—concerned for families who had lost someone. It was hard enough for adults—but what about children? Camp Noah is a Lutheran camping organization run out of Minnesota that provides weeklong camp experiences for children who have experienced traumatizing natural disasters like tornados, floods, hurricanes—and covid. This past summer, just such a camp was held in Oley, PA. Camp Noah provided a week of fun and engaging experiences through books, crafts, music, art, and games that allowed kids to express their feelings and concerns regarding covid. One young camper said, “this camp has been a blessing.” And it was! Everyone involved—including adult volunteers—felt the healing presence of God among them! Thank you to the many congregations whose Mission Support dollars to the Northeast Pennsylvania Synod provided grant money to help fund Camp Noah. It really was a blessing to all!

+ Pastor Julie Osterhout,
Trinity Lutheran-Wernersville



Trinity Leadership Directory

Officers & Staff:

Pastor/Pres.—Jira A. Albers, MDiv.....265-5322
Organist - Kay Champluvier.....746-3641
Vice President – Doreen Secor.....247-7383
Office Manager – Deb Finan.....265-5332
Fin. Secretary – Doreen Secor265-3832
Council Secretary - Ron Cunfer

Ministers—All the members of Trinity

Council Members:

Thelma Allis 265-4230
Cassidy Ayers 506-9644
Ron Cunfer..... 814-234-8796
Jennifer Kaniuka 363-5793
Tammy Lockhart 265-7706
Doreen Secor 265-3832

Contact Trinity

Office Telephone: 570-265-5322

Homepage: <http://www.trinluth.com>

Email: trinluth@epix.net

In case of emergency, contact Pastor Jira his home:

Serving us in worship:

The Rev. Jira A. Albers, presiding minister

Altar Guild

October— Cindy Estelle

November—Thelma Allis

October 2—Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

Acolyte— Jennifer Kaniuka
Lector— Ron Cunfer
Communion Assistant— Maureen Engelhard
Ushers— Ruth & Ron Russell
Counter— Ron Cunfer

October 9—Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Acolyte— Kynlee Kunkle
Lector— Korrie Kunkle
Communion Assistant— Cindy Estelle
Ushers— Paul and Aggi Cook
Counter— Cindy Estelle

October 16—Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Acolyte— Trinity Pugh
Lector— Bill Serfass
Communion Assistant— Bill Serfass
Ushers— Thelma Allis and Doreen Secor
Counter—Doreen Secor

October 23—Stewardship Sunday

Acolyte— Ember Albers
Lector— Jeff Lockhart
Communion Assistant— Maureen Engelhard
Ushers— Lois & Duane Carrington
Counter— Cassidy Ayers

October 30—Reformation Sunday

Acolyte— Kynlee Kunkle
Lector— Korrie Kunkle
Communion Assistant— Cindy Estelle
Ushers— Sue Alexander and Joyce Detharidge
Counter— Cindy Estelle

November 6—All Saints Sunday

Acolyte— Jennifer Kaniuka
Lector— Ron Cunfer
Communion Assistant— Bill Serfass
Ushers— Ruth & Ron Russell
Counter— Ron Cunfer

November 13—Twenty-third Sunday After Pentecost

Acolyte— Kynlee Kunkle
Lector— Korrie Kunkle
Communion Assistant— Maureen Engelhard
Ushers— Paul and Aggi Cook
Counter- Cindy Estelle

November 20—Christ the King Sunday

Acolyte— Ember Albers
Lector— Bill Serfass
Communion Assistant— Cindy Estelle
Ushers— Thelma Allis and Doreen Secor
Counter— Doreen Secor

November 27—First Sunday of Advent

Acolyte - Trinity Pugh
Lector - Cindy Estelle
Communion Assistant - Bill Serfass
Ushers - Sue Alexander and Joyce Detharidge
Counter— Cassidy Ayers

Trinity Lutheran Church
908 South Main Street
Towanda PA 18848

TRINITY TRUMPETER

October/November 2022

Come and See, Come and Serve, Follow Christ

Sunday Morning Schedule
Service of Holy Communion at 9:30 AM

Trinity Values:

Christ Centered Worship
Accepting Relationships
Intentionally Invitational
Sacrificial Service
Giving of Yourself