



Trinity Lutheran Church

2221 North Oak Lane
State College, PA 16803
814-238-2024 www.trinitystatecollege.org



Chris Snyder	5
Joan Kimerer	8
Megan Gonet	10
Leana Topper	10
Angela Kendall	12
Brian Sikorski	14
Lorene Stitzer	14
Bryce Wenrich	15
Bruce Lorich	17
Gerald Krupa	18
Joyce McClellan	18
Ann VanBlargan	19
Fritz Stechele	20
Donna Weller	20
Tracy Krawczyk	22
Benjamin Musheno	27
Jay Aubuchon	27

PRAYER LIST

TLC DISCIPLES

Jerry Wion, Carol Bernlohr,
Dee Kiel, Linda Leslie

TLC FRIENDS

Sandy Conard, Mike, Jayne,
Alan, Steve, Jessica



TRINITY EVENTS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

YouTube Worship Service w/Bulletin
Recorded & Emailed

11:00 am Deeper Water Zoom

MONDAY, JANUARY 25

7:00 pm Beach Calling Zoom

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

YouTube Worship Service w/Bulletin
Recorded & Emailed

11:00 am Deeper Water Zoom

Readings

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalm 62:5-12

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-20

Resuming & Starting in February

Pastor Ron will be resuming Monday evening Zoom Bible Study at 7:00 pm

Also resuming will be Thursday morning Zoom Bible Study at 10:00 am

If you should have any questions about either of these or would like to be included in the Zoom Invitation, please email the church office at: tlcoffice2@comcast.net to be put on that email list.

NEW - ZOOM COFFEE HOUR the first Sunday of each month at 10:00 am starting Sunday, February 7th

Later in February and starting on Ash Wednesday (February 17th) soups will be available again and Holden Evening Prayer will be recorded and emailed to everyone.

The menu of soups will be posted in the February Parish Piper Newsletters.

From the Pastor's Desk

January 24, 2021

Dear Beloved of God,

Caring for the least and last in our communities has been a value within God's people from the start. In Deuteronomy 14 we read:

Every third year you shall bring out the full tithe of your produce for that year and store it within your towns; the Levites, because they have no allotment or inheritance with you, as well as the resident aliens, the orphans, and the widows in your towns, may come and eat their fill so that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work that you undertake. (Dt 14:28f.)

Here at Trinity, God's people have always supported those organizations, agencies and efforts to care for those in need: our annual Yard Sale, Toys for Tots, the Food Banks, PTBA Clothing Drive, Blanket Sunday, Mountain TOP, among others. In the last few years some of our disciples began volunteering with Out Of The Cold (OOTC) a ministry with and for the homeless among us. "OOTC³ is a registered non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that was established in February 2011 by the Community Safety Net (CSN) which serves residents of Centre County, Pennsylvania."

Isaiah reminds us:

Ah, you who make iniquitous decrees,
who write oppressive statutes,
to turn aside the needy from justice
and to rob the poor of my people of their right,
that widows may be your spoil,
and that you may make the orphans your prey!
What will you do on the day of punishment,
in the calamity that will come from far away?
To whom will you flee for help,
and where will you leave your wealth, (Is 10:1-3)

The early church was particularly concerned for those on the fringe of society. Many of the followers of Jesus included those disenfranchised by the culture. As Jesus teaches:

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' (Mt. 25:34-36)

To support OOTC with time, talent and treasury, (the hallmarks of Stewardship), is to join Jesus doing ministry in the world. Their mission statement encapsulates this ministry:

Out of the Cold is a community supported organization that answers the call to serve those experiencing homelessness in our community by providing shelter, food, and support services during the transition to permanent housing.

As you may know, we here at Trinity had an opportunity to support OOTC more fully by opening our building to this ministry. Due to COVID-19, of course, there were many concerns, but practices were adopted to ensure the safety of all concerned. Each night for two weeks we welcomed 7 to 13 folks who slept on cots provided by OOTC. TLC Volunteers served as hosts to welcome guests and to register them each night. Breakfast was served at 6:30 am with dinner provided at 8 pm. Paid staff provide oversight throughout the night.

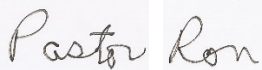
Given my interest in food service, I volunteered to oversee the meals. I would have preferred to call on others to help but given the virus we decided it was safer to limit involvement. Still, the two weeks went well. Our thanks go to the many volunteers who served as hosts, those bakers who provided a plethora of desserts, and the monetary donations folks provided.

It was evident that the guests were very comfortable here at Trinity, feeling safe and welcomed. At least one guest confessed to me sadness that they could not stay an additional week! So, I expect that we will host them again.

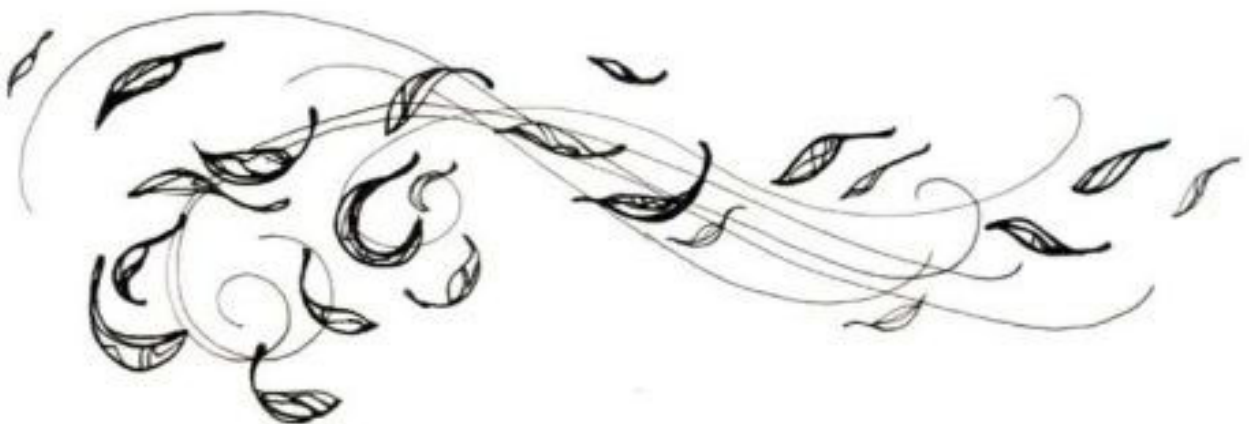
One might wonder why we chose to open our doors to outsiders when we are not using our facilities for ourselves. Of course, we did so because it is what God calls us to do. Discipleship is not just about getting what we want and need. To the contrary, discipleship is about doing what Jesus would have us do and in doing so, we find our wants and needs to be met! Yes, strange but true! Hosting OOTC, as with the support we provide to so many other agencies, it is a wonderful way to meet the needs and wants of the congregation by meeting the needs of the least, last and lost among us!

For those of us who were here, we met Jesus and felt the winds of the Spirit blowing in our midst! Thanks be to God!

Love, joy, and peace,



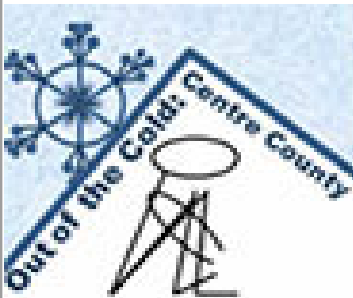
Pastor Ron





A HUGE thank you to everyone who helped to make the Out of the Cold experience here at the church a success. We had volunteers each night, people providing desserts, Pastor Ron doing the cooking, and the people who helped to organize everything. Without the help of everyone, we would not have been able to pull this worthwhile program off as smoothly as we did.

Thank you, thank you, thank you....



Many people assisted with the Out of the Cold program and had some very positive reactions and experiences, some of which are:

- Overall a positive experience
- Guests were polite and grateful
- Several guests expressed how much they liked the food
- Felt safe & secure - even during this pandemic - there were ample supplies of PPE, hand sanitizer and everyone understood the mandatory mask requirement
- Gave us the opportunity to step outside ourselves and our usual circumstances and realize how fortunate and grateful we are and how much each of us have in common
- All guests have a story to tell and it was good to engage with the guests

RETURN TO WORSHIP SURVEY RESULTS

Many of you are probably wondering about the survey results. It is the majority consensus that the congregation would like to wait for the pandemic to abate or members have had a chance to receive the COVID-19 vaccination before we resume in person services in our building. THERE WILL BE A FOLLOWUP SURVEY IN MARCH, WATCH FOR IT.