THE PIPER

APRIL 24, 2022



Trinity Lutheran Church

2221 North Oak Lane State College, PA 16803 814-238-2024 www.trinitystatecollege.org https://www.youtube.com/user/TrinityLutheranSC/



Starting Sunday May 1st

We will start having a 9:30 am Outdoor Worship Service in addition to the 8:15 am and 10:45 am services.

Also starting May 7th the Saturday Worship Services will be outdoors.

The Outdoor services are weather permitting and will be held in the sanctuary if it is raining.

TIME & TALENT SURVEYS

Over the past 2 years we have not been scheduling people for Worship Servers jobs. With changes in people's schedules, health issues and attending different services we need to know who is available for which jobs and which services. If you could please pick up a time and talent survey, fill it out and put it in the offering plate or the Office Administrator mailbox, it would be appreciated.

Outdoor Work Day will be held on Saturday, April 23rd from 8:00 am to Noon

This time the focus will be on weeding, pruning and mulching flower beds, etc.

The weather should be much better for this one.

TRINITY EVENTS

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

8:15 am Worship w/Communion 10:45 am Worship w/Communion YouTube Worship Service Recorded

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

5:00 pm Trinity Wheelmen 5:45 pm Zumba

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

5:45 pm Zumba

7:30 pm Memoir Group Zoom

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

10:00 am Zumba

5:00 pm Worship w/Communion SUNDAY, MAY 1

8:15 am Worship w/Communion 9:30 am Outdoor Worship with Communion

10:45 am Worship w/Communion YouTube Worship Service Recorded

Readings

Acts 5:27-32
Psalm 118:14-29
Revelation 1:4-8
John 20:19-31

PRAYER LIST

TLC DISCIPLES

Jerry Wion, Carol Bernlohr, Dee Kiel, Linda Leslie, the Brownson Family, the Trout Family, Tina Kimmel

TLC FRIENDS

Rita Shetler, Doris Reichart, PJ Brady, Nancy Dana, Aaron, Hugh, Kerry, Fred, Amber, the Ukrainian people, Tricia

All TLC Friends names will be removed from TLC friends next week.

Class of 2022

We would like to recognize those who are graduating from High School, from Technical School and from Undergraduate and Graduate Colleges.

If you or someone in your family will be graduating this year, please let the office know by Sunday, May 1st. Information can be emailed to: tlcoffice2@comcast.net or called in at 814-238-2024.

Include the name of the student, a picture (if available), where they are graduating from, degree (if applicable) and future plans, if known.

We are planning to recognize graduates Sunday, May 8th at the 9:30 am outdoor service.



REMINDER:

We are now starting to have real flowers in the Altar Vases. If you would like to sponsor flowers in honor of or in memory of someone special please sign up on the flower chart on the bulletin board outside Fellowship Hall.

Cost for 2 vases of flowers is a total of \$50.00 Flower costs and delivery costs have both gone up in the last 2 years.

Last Week/Shoe Drive Fundraiser



April is "Adopt-a-Greyhound Month" and the Nittany Greyhounds, a non-profit greyhound adoption organization, is celebrating with a Shoe Drive Fundraiser.



If you have shoes you no longer like or wear,
please consider dropping them in the
Nittany Greyhound's collection box during the month of April.

From the Pastor's Desk

April 23/24, 2022

Dear Beloved of God,

Not surprisingly, we live in strange times. That strangeness takes on many forms and sometimes threatens to overwhelm. While COVID19 numbers are slowly rising, hospitalizations and deaths related to the coronavirus are decreasing. There is conflicting guidance on whether to wear masks and in which situations might they be required. Many are seeking to resume normal activities, at least as normal as we can recall pre-pandemic. We may feel like we have one foot in one reality and the other foot in a different reality. Perhaps that's nothing new.

To the Corinthians, St. Paul writes:

It is necessary to boast; nothing is to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses.

2 Cor. 12:1-5

While I won't pretend that I understand the experience Paul is talking about, it does appear that he found himself between two world or two realities. The experience helped him to appreciate the strength and power of God while convincing him of his own weakness. As a result, he will boast or brag about God which is praise while at the same time he will also brag about his own weakness. In our weakness, we find that we have to depend upon God, and that's not a bad place to be!

As we seek to resume pre-pandemic ministries and programming, we may find it awkward, like we're stuck between two realities. Perhaps, like Paul, we can learn to depend upon God at those times, trusting that God will guide us through so that we too can boast or praise God. To that end, our Easter Sunday celebrations were truly magnificent. Worship was spirited and lively, the breakfast was well attended, and the food enjoyed by all, even the younger disciples enjoyed the Easter Egg Hunt. What a wonderful day. Thanks to everyone who made the day so spectacular. It really felt like old times!

Still, not everyone is ready to resume normal activities. After two years of avoiding crowds and even large family gatherings, being with a large number of people, without masks, may feel like a strange new reality. For some, just the thought of that situation can bring on a sense of panic and fear. That's perfectly understandable. We all need time in our own ways to cope with this strange situation in which we find ourselves, stuck between two realities. So, do what is comfortable for you.

While we still have every other pew roped off, we have made masks optional for worship. We have returned to gathering around the altar for communion. We are back to singing three hymns and some of the liturgy. While some of us are relieved to return to those parts of worship, not everyone is, and that's just fine. Not everyone is ready for larger gatherings.

Therefore, beginning May 1, we will add the 9:30 am Outdoor Worship service, giving us three different opportunities for people to gather for worship. We will keep 10:45 am worship at least through May and perhaps longer. This new, nearly post-pandemic reality will take some getting used to for all of us.

So, we do our best to navigate this strange world in which we find ourselves, striving to be patient with each other and sometimes especially patient with ourselves. Like St. Paul, whether the experience he is describing was good or bad, it was a blessing in the long run. I hope and pray, that our current situation, despite the struggles, will be a rich blessing for us all in due time.

Until then, we depend upon God, and that's not a bad place to be!

Blessings to you all!

Yours in Christ's love,

Paster Ron

Pastor Ron

