

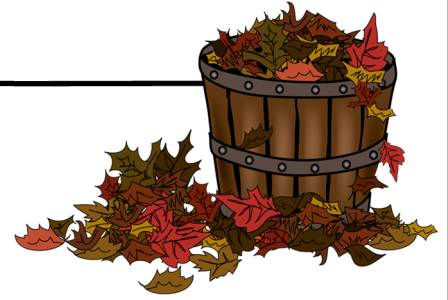
THE PIPER

NOVEMBER 16/17, 2024



Trinity Lutheran Church

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



PRAYER LIST

TLC DISCIPLES

John Owens, Lou Mayer, Sandy Coyle

TLC FRIENDS

Patrick Moseley, Rita Shetler,
Debbie J, Ruth Rhodes, Kendra Gettig

Readings

Daniel 12:1-3

Psalm 16

Hebrews 10:11-25

Mark 13:1-8

TRINITY EVENTS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

10:00 am Zumba

5:00 pm Worship w/Communion

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17

8:15 am Worship w/Communion

10:00 am Worship w/Communion

NO Children's Church this week

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

5:45 pm Zumba

7:00 pm Choir Practice

7:00 pm Council Meeting

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

5:45 pm Zumba

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

9:00 am Outdoor Cleanup

10:00 am Zumba

5:00 pm Worship w/Communion

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

8:15 am Worship w/Communion

10:00 am Worship w/Communion

w/Children's Church

11:00 am Deeper Waters

LAST WEEK for Poinsettia Orders

Order forms to purchase a red or white poinsettias,
in memory of or in honor of, to
decorate our worship space on
Christmas Eve are available on the table in the narthex.

Cost:

Small 1 plant Pot - \$10.00

Large 2 plant Pot - \$18.00

Order forms with payment included must be
returned to the church by
Sunday, November 17th



Harvest Home

During the month of November, we will be
collecting donations for the Allegheny
Lutheran Social Ministries (ALSM)
Harvest Home campaign.

There are special envelopes on the tables outside
the worship space for your donations.

The Harvest Home gifts support the
ALSM Senior Living Communities.

Please make checks out to Trinity and
we will be sure that your donations get to ALSM.



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Beloved of God,

Church and State. Politics and religion. Two entities we strive to keep separated and not mix the two. But as St. Paul reminds us, we live **in** the world even though we are not **of** the world. How, then, do we live in both realms at the same time, without mixing the two? Both are given by God for the people. BUT, how do we navigate the two?

Well, as the gospel writers seem to indicate, Jesus did not shy away from politics either in the secular realm or in the religious sphere, particularly in Mark's Gospel. After Jesus throws the money changers and cleans the temple, he watches a widow contribute two coins that amount to less than a penny into the temple treasury. Jesus commends her to his disciples, in a way that may indicate his frustration and disgust with the temple system and the politics of the religion of the day. Then, chapter 13 begins:

¹ As [Jesus] came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" ² Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

The disciples are impressed with the buildings and the stones used to construct them. For country bumpkins they would, no doubt, be impressed. I would be and was when we were in Jerusalem. But God is going to interfere in worldly politics, both church and state. While the disciples may believe they will be important people in the new administration, we know that Jesus was sent for an entirely different purpose or mission. I might even suggest that Jesus was unhappy with the politics of both the church and state. Regardless, such did not stop Jesus or dissuade him from fulfilling his purpose for us and all the world.

As a result of the recent election, a slight majority of our country are elated at the outcome. Of course, the rest are fearful and confused. As we have been watching the series "The Chosen" we find that the politics of today, both church and state, are no different now as they were in Jesus' day. And that's the amazing aspect to me, it is precisely into this mess the world is in Jesus comes regardless. Now as then, nothing will stop God fulfilling his plans and goals initiated by Jesus and maintained by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The last episode of season 3 of "The Chosen" includes Peter walking on the water with Jesus. If you recall the story, at first Peter is fine and Jesus encourages Peter to keep his focus on Jesus. For a bit he can do that, but when Peter is distracted by the wind and the waves, he begins to sink. In this account, Peter sink both quickly and deeply, having to swim up to grab Jesus' hand. Jesus helps Peter into the boat with the help of the other disciples, hampered a bit by the storm. Once in the boat, Jesus holds Peter who is sobbing like a child.

From the Pastor's Desk

Pastor's Desk page 2

You see, Peter was deeply angry with Jesus. While Peter was away on their first mission trip, he comes home to find that his wife had been pregnant, but complications arose and she lost the baby. She also nearly died and may not be able to have any children at all. Peter has witnessed Jesus performing all these various miracles and cannot understand why Jesus did not do some sort of intervention for him and his wife, after all Peter had left everything to follow Jesus. One can understand Peter's anger, as Jesus does. Holding Peter there in the boat he keeps saying to Jesus, "Don't let me go!" And Jesus responds each time, "I've got you!"

Regardless of the politics of either church or state, and whether or not they please you or frustrate you, it is into this world that God comes. We too might find ourselves at time, sobbing like a child in fear and confusion, asking Jesus not to let us go. Jesus responds in various ways to assure us he will never let us go.

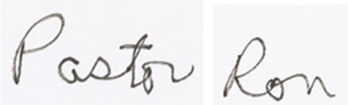
Recently I took our two grandchildren to Shavers Creek Environmental Center. As you know the center is located in the woods, and beautiful setting from an adult perspective. Peace, isolated, surrounded by God's lovely outdoor creation. We were there early so it was rather quiet and desolate. An adult might find it enticing and a five-year-old exciting, but a two-year-old can have a different response. I got my granddaughter out of her car seat and helped out of the car. She stood, looked around, and ran to me with arms upstretched saying, "Uppy, uppy, uppy!" Now I have a degree in criminology with the hope of becoming a detective, so I detected then and there she was afraid and wanted/needed the comfort of being held. (I'm just good that way!)

Don't we all need that same reassurance from time to time. Some may not need such today for they are pleased with the outcome of the election. Some are in desperate need of being held, crying like Peter did in the boat and saying, "Uppy, uppy, uppy!" I too oscillate between curiosity and anticipation of how the next few years will unfold to fear and uncertainty about the future. And Jesus offers assurance that God has not abandoned us, "This is but the beginning of the birth pangs." Birth pangs mean the coming of new life.

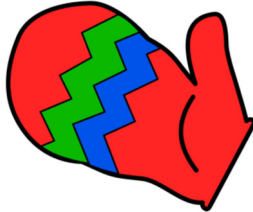
In the meantime, we strive to navigate life through the politics of both church and state trusting in the God who through Jesus will never let us go in this life or in death. "Don't let me go!" And Jesus assures us, "I've got you!"

Therefore, we place our faith and trust in the one who loves us to death and beyond, as God's people proclaim, "Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again!" Thanks be to God!

Love, joy and peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Ron". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Pastor Ron



The Happy Valley Business Association, formerly the Patton Township Business Association (PTBA) will be conducting their 20th Annual Winter Clothing Drive of **new or gently used** winter coats, winter boots, scarves, gloves, and hats for the Burrowes Street Youth Haven as part of the Centre County Youth Service Bureau (YSB) in State College (boys & girls between the ages of 12-18).

The collection box is in the narthex for any contributions that you may have for this worthwhile annual event. Collection is from November 1st to December 20th.

There is NO Children's Church this week, Sunday, November 17th

Park Forest Preschool Craft Kits

Trinity has been asked to provide craft kits for the children participating in the Park Forest Preschool program. This year there are 32 children.

Kits need to contain:
Blunt Scissors, Construction Paper,
Crayons, Glue Stick, Scotch Tape
and a Writing Tablet.



**Since all the kits are the same, the school is not going to provide names for name tags.
There are tags on the tree to attach to each gift.**

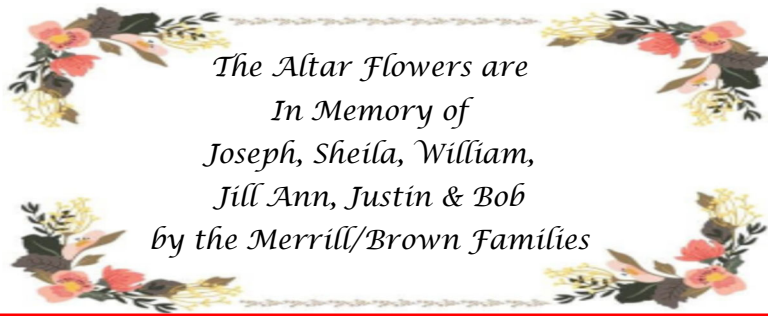
The tree is in the narthex and gifts can be put under that tree.

There are also notes with what is needed for each kit that you can pick up to take to the store with you.



We are asking that all packages be dropped off at the church by Sunday, December 8th.

If you have questions, please call the office (814) 238-2024 or email tlcoffice2@comcast.net



The Altar Flowers are
 In Memory of
 Joseph, Sheila, William,
 Jill Ann, Justin & Bob
 by the Merrill/Brown Families

TOYS FOR TOTS FOOD DRIVE

We will be collecting food for the Centre County Food Pantries until
 Sunday, December 15th.

Please consider bringing in an unexpired, unopened food item
 to donate to this cause. Please no home made items or dented cans.

Food items needed most:

Soups, snack items, cereal, oatmeal, pasta sauces, side dishes (pasta,
 instant potatoes) canned fruit, coffee, oil, Gluten Free items

The food pantries can also use non-food items like:

Condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, salad dressing, BBQ sauce)

Tooth brushes & Toothpaste

Soaps—body soap, hand soap, laundry detergent

Toilet paper, Diapers and Feminine products

Any questions: Donna & Gene Weller
 can answer them

dw0220@aol.com or elweller@aol.com



December Birthdays

Peggy McCabe	6
Mary Lou Kiel	7
Sylvia Musheno	8
Anthony Garritano	10
Noah Lichtig	10
Alison Wolff	10
Neil Kimerer	13
Benjamin Stout	17
Timothy Wenrich	19
Ronald Porter	20
Abby Lichtig	21
Barbara Trout	21
Lisa Cowan	23
Beth Robbins	25
Elena Wenrich	25
Russ Relkin	25
Joan Piper	26
Meg Relkin	27
John Terrill	28
Kayla Smith	30

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

STAFF

Pastor Ronald C. Miller, Jr.
tlcrevron@gmail.com

Beth Robbins
 Office Administrator
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Graham Sanders, Choir Director
gsanders@me.com

Barbara Roberts, Pianist
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Brian Woodland, Custodian
oppgrade9@yahoo.com

COUNCIL

JULY 2022 - JUNE 2025

EXECUTIVE TEAM

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 Ken Healy, Vice President (kmh804@aol.com)
 Mary Lou Kiel, Secretary (mlk12@psu.edu)

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FINANCIAL TEAM

Christy Bartley, Treasurer (bartleychristy49@gmail.com)
 Debbie Fryer, Financial Secretary (debbieconrad19522@yahoo.com)