

# Trinity Parish

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church · Camp Hill, Pennsylvania · February 2008 Edition  
A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

## “I hope God shines through my face”

I had the pleasure of meeting with Judy Collins, our new Spiritual Gifts Coordinator during her first week at Trinity the beginning of January. As I walked into her office she put me at ease immediately with her smile. Her greeting made me feel she had been waiting and looking forward to me stopping by. It felt like I was getting together with a long time friend for a chat, but at the same time could tell I was meeting a special person for the first time. I liked her instantly! As I sat down and she slid her chair away from her desk and toward me, I felt God's presence as we started to get to know each other.



Judy was a member of Trinity in the late 1960's. Her father, Ken Bistline and her sister, Val Williams are still members. Judy graduated from Camp Hill High School, Susquehanna University with a B.S. in Music Education and more than 20 years later graduated from Gettysburg Lutheran Theological Seminary with a M.A. in Religion. “Seminary is my third career” she said with a big smile. She and her husband, Ken, have four adult children and two grandchildren. There was that wonderful smile again!

Judy's first career was teaching music in south central Pennsylvania public schools and private piano lessons. Then she spent 10 years working for Mellon Bank. She started as part-time teller to customer service to loan specialist. Judy said “when they offered me a branch to manage, this was the catalyst that got me discerning a call to ministry and seminary!”

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## Ash Wednesday Services February 6, 2008

Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes will be offered at 7:00 a.m. (spoken service in the nave), 6:30 p.m. (contemporary service in Fellowship Hall), and 7:30 p.m. (traditional service in the nave). Child care will be available for the evening services.

## “A Tribute to Susan”

Susan Pennington is retiring February 8 as Office Receptionist after 15 years of service. It has been a joy and privilege to know Susan, a faithful servant. But how to put into words all that she has meant to us here at Trinity? Ask those who know Susan the best, the many who she touches every day with her helpfulness, caring, kindness, courtesy, thoughtfulness, and the list goes on and on. Her attention to detail can be amazing also, for example I am going to miss when I can no longer find pencils in the office with the little paper flags around them marked “return to office.” Dear Susan, working on this tribute and surprise for you has been a devotion of love.

Only time and space limit the number of tributes that follow.

**Donna Sprowls,**  
Editor

*“On behalf of me and the entire Congregation Council we want to thank you for all the help you have provided over the years. You have always been willing to go the extra mile to help everyone and that is greatly appreciated. I hope that you will find your retirement time both relaxing and fulfilling.”*

**Tim Trissler**

*“Susan was an outstanding receptionist because she has such a positive attitude; greeted everyone with a smile; created such a welcoming presence to the church office. Her warmth, kindness and caring will be greatly missed. First as a committee chair and then as a Council member, she always went beyond the ‘call of duty’ to help me find the answers to my questions and concerns. I will really miss her smiling face and her cherry ‘Hello.’”*

**Barbara Kriebel**

*Continued on page 5.*



## Blood Bank News

Since this article had to be submitted before the January 20 blood drive, I just must have faith that it was successful, as usual! We began the new year at the big 0, but I have confidence in members of Trinity. Why? Neil and I have been in charge of Trinity's Blood Bank for exactly 15 years this January. We have received a certificate for passing our goal each of those 15 years! My list of people who donate at church is now over 100 strong, and there is an increasingly growing list of donors who choose to donate at the hospitals and donor centers. Many of this latter group faithfully donate every eight weeks!



Thanks to all the regular donors and the new donors we pick up each month. Those of you who have just been thinking about it and have questions, please give Jeanie Bentzel, 766-3526, a call. The next drive at Trinity will be held on Sunday, May 18. If you donate at the hospital or a donor center, please tell them #157 or Trinity Lutheran, Camp Hill. Remember, **the rarest blood type is the type that's not available when you need it!**

*Jeanie Bentzel*

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## Trinity Parish Deadline

Deadline for the March 2008 Edition of *Trinity Parish* is: Monday, February 11, 2008. Please forward all articles to Editor, Donna Sprowls at [parish@trinitycamphill.org](mailto:parish@trinitycamphill.org)

*Trinity Parish* is published 11 times a year by the Publicity and Communications Committee of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2000 Chestnut Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011.

717-737-8635 [trinluth@trinitycamphill.org](mailto:trinluth@trinitycamphill.org)

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 DEBRA D. WILSON, *Director of Music for Contemporary Worship*  
 JUDY K. COLLINS, *Spiritual Gifts Coordinator*  
 DONNA V. SPROWLS, *Editor*

## STAFF NOTES

### *The Slush-Covered Van*

It hadn't snowed all that much. An inch one day, an inch another day, then three additional inches overnight. While visiting my parents in northwestern Pennsylvania over the New Year's holiday, I encountered snow—something we've not seen much of so far this winter in Camp Hill. The infamous "Lake effect" snows didn't mount up as predicted, and for that I was grateful. Instead, there was just enough snow to make everything look clean and white. That is, until I headed home. Oh, my van! My van—which had been covered in a fresh blanket of snow in my parents' driveway, and looked absolutely pristine as I brushed the snow off—now looked completely different. The highway upon which I traveled was the same highway snow plows, salt trucks, and cinder trucks had just traveled. Yes, they had been out early, doing their work to ensure safe roads. I appreciated their efforts. My van's exterior, however, did not. Every inch of the van had a grayish-brown swath of slush sprayed upon it. To make matters worse, my windshield wiper fluid spray nozzles were either frozen or plugged up much of the journey and little fluid could be extracted. I only was able to clean a small portion of the windshield in front of my face in order to see the road ahead of me. It was one long ride home. As I pulled into my own driveway, the van was practically unrecognizable with the salt, cinders, and slush covering it. Fortunately, the January thaw began in earnest, and the van could be washed. Randy and I made certain every trace of cinder and slush was gone. But I still wondered: How could so little an amount of snow create so much slush? And how could slush be so filthy dirty?

Now, dare we ask those kinds of questions as we enter the season of Lent? Dare we be honest enough with ourselves, and our relationships with God and others—honest enough to note how even a small amount of sin can create an incredible amount of destruction? The "little white lie" that needs to be covered over with more lies. The envy that breeds gossip and ill-will. The selfishness that disguises itself as assertiveness. The anger that goes unchecked and festers. The impatience that turns one mean-spirited. It doesn't take much sin to make us dirty. Filthy dirty. And, over time, we can become practically unrecognizable. We no longer appear to look like the children of God we were intended to be, the creation God made with such loving purpose. So dirty are we that we can scarcely see the road God's

placed ahead of us, and it is shockingly easy to lose our way.

On Ash Wednesday, we will read responsively Psalm 51. If ever scripture gives voice to our deepest sense of shame, it is this psalm. Psalm 51 is honest and unflinching about the broken people we've become: *For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.*

And yet, also weaving its way through this psalm is the grace-filled truth that God recognizes us, even underneath the filth of our sin—recognizes us as his creation. Only a God of steadfast love and mercy could possibly choose to look beneath and beyond our wrongs, seek to find us, and then desire to bring us home. That wondrous knowledge of just who God is leads the psalmist to plead that God would make us clean: *Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin . . . Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow . . .*

May the season of Lent become a gift for us! As painful or embarrassing as it is to contemplate our sinful ways, it is precisely at those moments where we're honest about ourselves that we can be most open to the cleansing, redeeming work of God in Christ Jesus. No pretense of "being good" all the time—just truth-telling in our times of confession. No illusion of perfection—just realistic acknowledgement that we've headed off in the wrong direction (and away from God). Then Psalm 51 becomes our prayer for a new life consisting of righteousness, obedience, and faithfulness: *Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.*

The Reverend Nancy R. Easton

### Book Group

The Book Discussion Group is open to all members of Trinity! We meet the third Sunday of every month in Room 232-234 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Books chosen through June 2008 are:

- February 17 "What is the What", by David Eggers
- March 16 "The Glass Castle", by Jeannette Walls
- April 20 "A Thousand Splendid Suns", by Khalid Hosseini
- May 18 "Three Cups of Tea", by Greg Mortenson
- June 15 "Water for Elephants", by Sara Green

### Mid-Week Lenten Worship

Our mid-week services this year will be held on Wednesday mornings and Thursday evenings in the Chapel. The Wednesday morning services will begin at 7:00 a.m. with breakfast following. The Thursday evening services will begin at 6:30 p.m. The theme for the mid-week services is **Lent: A Time for New Beginnings**.

### Preschool Exhibits Art in the Gathering Space

The artists featured in February in our Gathering Space exhibit are students in our Trinity Preschool Playgroup. For those who may not know, Trinity Preschool Playgroup is a program of our church: fiscally separate, like other groups such as Women of Trinity and Lutheran Men in Mission, but very much a part of our church family. The art displayed in the Gathering Space is a collection taken from projects and activities done in class throughout the school year thus far.

While colorful and fun for the children to make, the artwork nonetheless is designed to teach children about color and texture, dimension, and medium (painting, making shapes out of paper or clay, and so forth). Art is one way students in the preschool realize learning and developmental objectives that match the students' interests now and prepare them for kindergarten, later on.

Trinity Preschool Playgroup is in its thirty-first year of operation. At present, 92 children are enrolled in five classes ranging from two days to four for children two-and-a-half to five. There is a staff of eleven. Heather Rose is in her third year as the preschool's director, and there are five lead teachers and five assisting teachers.

The preschool is currently enrolling children for the 2008-2009 school year. Anyone interested in having a child attend our preschool may contact Heather Rose at the church at 737-9921, extension 241, or at [preschool@trinitycamphill.org](mailto:preschool@trinitycamphill.org). Information on the program is in the Gathering Space on the tract rack and on the church's website ([www.trinitycamphill.org](http://www.trinitycamphill.org)).

On behalf of the staff of Trinity Preschool Playgroup, we hope you find the exhibit a joy to behold. Please celebrate this part of our Trinity church family!

Christopher Couch  
Director of Learning Ministries

*More about Judy Collins continued from page 1.*

After graduating from seminary in 1995 Judy was commissioned by the ELCA as a rostered Associate in Ministry. Bishop Edmiston presided at that service. She was then called to Christ Lutheran Church in Elizabethtown as an Associate in Ministry to be Director of Music with five choirs (vocal and handball) and worship planning. However, over a ten year period it developed into a much larger ministry to include visitation to hospital and at-home members, social ministry programming, teaching, preaching, convener of the local ministerium, serving on synodical committees including Congregations Together in Mission and Bishop's Leadership Council, and three terms on the Board of Directors of the Lutheran Theological Seminary-Gettysburg. Judy is currently on leave of call.

Judy sees her position as Spiritual Gifts Coordinator "to help people discern or identify their gifts or talents and put them to use here (at Trinity) or in the community." She wants us to reach out beyond where we are. "There are so many gifts and talents here at Trinity that have not been tapped. It is my hope that I can help us identify them, to grow in faith and use our talents. I can't tell people what to do. My role is to help guide them to identify gifts through conversation with individuals, committees and through our prayer life." Once again my new friend excited me with her energy and enthusiasm when I asked her about goals for her new position. With her always big smile she said "I want to get to know as many Trinity members as possible. My door will always be open."

Most recently Judy taught English as a Second Language in Russia, China and the Czech Republic. In Smolensk, Russia she and her husband taught conversational English for three summers at a Humanitarian University with the ESL classes growing in size each year. In China, at a Teachers College in Xiniang Judy had freshmen students, eight classes a week, with 55 students in each class. The students knew she was different. They often wanted to just touch her. They would ask "what makes you different?" She would explain, "My faith in God." They didn't talk about faith much, Judy said. She would explain about the cup being half full, not half empty. They would understand that. Judy could tell the children who were Christian because they had chosen English names such as Grace, Faith and Sunshine. In the Czech Republic she was the foreign English teacher at a public school. "I taught fourth through ninth grades with about 20 students in each double-class. I also had private students and several groups of teachers who met with me weekly. Even the principal, who spoke no English, joined the one class."

At the end of our meeting Judy said simply, "I hope God shines through my face." Shine can be defined as *give light*. For me, Judy's smile and glowing face at that moment spoke God's love. Judy likes to remember a scripture used in our Service of Holy Baptism, Matthew 5:16 "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

*Donna V. Sprowls*

### ***Souper Bowl of Caring 2008***

The Youth Group (YG) invites you to participate in our annual Souper Bowl Sunday Service Event on February 3, 2008. Help the YG support others by bringing your money and non-perishable food items to church on February 3. All proceeds from this YG Servant Event go to support "***The Bridge***", a food pantry in New Cumberland that specializes in feeding the people of our own West Shore community.

Please support our YG service campaign this year. All donations will be collected in the Gathering Space after all services on Sunday, February 3. Thank you for your support!

### ***Service of Healing All Are Invited***

It would appear that Trinity's "Service of Healing," held every third Sunday at 3:30 p.m. in the chapel, is a well-kept secret, as only a handful of faithful people seek out this quiet interlude which includes communion, anointing with oils and a joyful homily delivered by one of our dedicated pastors. Personally, I find that each time that I leave this comforting service, the faint scent of the oil stays with me as a reminder of the tender healing touch of Jesus.

In Philippians 4:6-7 (TLB), we read, "*Don't worry about anything; instead pray about everything; tell God your needs and don't forget to thank Him for His answers; if you do this you will experience God's peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand. His peace will keep your thoughts and your hearts quiet and at rest as you trust in Christ Jesus.*" All are invited and all are welcome, so come join us whenever you can.

***Sally Smither,***  
*Chairperson, Intercessory Prayer Group*

Susan Pennington continued from page 1.

"Trinity's 'Gal Friday' is words that could be used to describe Susan. She is that plus a whole lot more. I especially appreciated her assistance during my watch as Congregational Council President. So much that I had her number dedicated on my speed dial, Red #1."

**Joyce Grier**

"It's always a pleasure to call the office and have Susan answer in her friendly voice and then either solve my problem immediately or steer me in the right direction – always with grace and confidence. Thanks Susan, for your dedication and commitment to being the 'first on the spot'."

**Maggie Ackerman**

**Susan's Skills**

- S** Service, Systematic and Supportive
- U** Understand, Uncommonly patient
- S** Sincere, Sunny and Smiling
- A** Attentive to details, Agreeable (mostly)
- N** Never too busy to help, find or fix  
(Just be glad I don't have to do Pennington!)

"Susan, you will be missed and well-remembered! Best wishes!"

**Joan Conrad**

"On numerous occasions, especially during planning and preparation for Trinity Thanksgiving dinners, I've needed office support. Susan Pennington was of considerable help and assistance, making a somewhat stressful situation, tolerable. I'll always be thankful for her generous availability to assist myself whenever needed. Good luck in your retirement good and faithful servant."

**Rick Stevens, Sr.**

"I worked with Susan for about five years. I respected her for a number of qualities but several that I specifically wish to mention are her ability to deal with any situation that came before her; her sense of humor when the unexpected occurred; and her sensitivity to the confidential nature of many of her interactions. I hope you have great fun in your retirement."

**Jayne Coover**

"Thank you, Susan, for sharing your sweet and kind voice over the years with helpful information on the other end of the telephone line. You have been a blessing to Trinity. Enjoy your retirement."

**Marla Peters**

"If you looked up the word 'star' in the dictionary, you would probably see Susan's picture beside it."

**Joe Barrick**

"When you call the church office, Susan is always the pleasant voice you hear."

**Judy Hunter**

"Susan always went the 'extra-mile' to help anyone who called with a problem, need, or simply a question for clarification. I was always impressed that she would answer the phone... 'Yes Arnie'! She either had a great memory or caller I.D.! Thanks for your years of service Susan."

**Arnie Greenlund**

"The cheery voice of Susan Pennington greets you each time a call is made to the church office. Susan has always given each and every one of my calls courteous attention, no doubt an extraordinary feat in the hectic pace of Trinity's busy church office. She's also the one who calls from time to time with the request 'I really need communion assistants for the 8:15 service . . . Can you please help me?' How can anyone say no to a request like that?!? Best wishes, Susan, on your retirement and entry into a whole new phase of your life."

**Doug Bonsall**

"Susan's smile and cheerful demeanor in answering the phones will be dearly missed. The Property Committee could always count on Susan to help in getting reminders and all pertinent reports copied and distributed in a timely manner, even when we did a poor job of time management waiting till the last minute in getting our reports in to council. She never complained and was always helpful and in our administrative action requests. We will miss having Susan to count on with our committee's late submissions. In God Speed!"

**Bill Foos**

"I will eternally be grateful to Susan for all the help she gave to me as chair of the Missions Committee by sending out our minutes and postcards to remind us of our meetings and just helping me whenever I needed her to type a letter I needed to be sent on official stationery. She has always been gracious and ready to help and I thank you Susan for that. Our secretary, Sharon Dell-Gallagher, thanks her as well."

**Elizabeth Winters**

**AND FROM OUR STAFF AND PASTORS**

"At the end of her interview in 1993, Susan turned at the door and said "I really want to work here." And work she has! For the past 15 years, Susan has been the voice and face of Trinity. Her ready smile and cheerful greeting will really be missed! She has also been my good right hand and it just won't be the same without her. Enjoy your retirement, Susan."

**Nancy Martin**  
Office Manager

Continued on page 6.

Continued from page 5.

*"I've had the pleasure of knowing and working with Susan since my first day back in December of 2003. Welcoming, cheerful, caring, and compassionate would be only a few of the words to describe Susan's 'ministry' to the family of Trinity congregation. I will miss my 'buddy' and the pictures and tales of her overseas adventures with Peter and wish her the best as she embarks on a new voyage in retirement. Best wishes, Susan!"*

**Tom Notestine**  
Administrative Assistant

*"What a pleasure it's been to have worked so closely with Susan these past 10 years. Always eager to help, ready with a smile, friendly, and full of energy - she was the perfect person to greet those entering the office - whether members or visitors. I will miss her very much."*

**Tim Koch**  
Director of Music Ministries

*"Through Susan I learned how to use the Risograph, how to fold the service bulletins, and how NEVER to touch the thermostat in the office hallway. I consider these to be life skills, since I think they will keep me from being murdered at Trinity. Really, Susan, thanks for everything. God's peace to you and Peter."*

**Christopher L. Couch**  
Director of Learning Ministries

*"Since most of my labors for Trinity take me out of the office, it has been good to know that if I need to give or receive information about someone I'm visiting. Susan will be there to provide it. She is my cohort in super-sleuthing."*

**Bishop Guy S. Edmiston**  
Support Pastor-in-Residence

*"Sometimes it's the little things that make a difference . . . How often I would walk into the church office, my hands filled with and juggling briefcase, purse, lunch, coffee mug, umbrella and what-have-you! Susan's first words were always, 'Can I open your door for you?' Who knew where my keys were, anyway? How in the world would I ever be able to find them amongst all my packages? Susan would simply smile and open my door—what a pleasant way to begin a day with the courtesy and consideration Susan always bestowed upon me!"*

**Rev. Nancy R. Easton**  
Assistant Pastor

*"My introduction to Susan was my very first trip to meet with Pastor Hardy. I had arranged to get together with Pastor Hardy on what turned out to be his day off. Even though we had agreed to meet at the Trinity office, I was greeted by a rather stern faced Susan who very politely but insistently informed me that Pastor Hardy was not available. When I responded that I had an appointment with him, she instantly responded with a smile, asked for my name, and said "I'll let him know you're here. She has continued to keep the entire staff safe from unwarranted interruptions, and greeted all with her gracious smile. For that, and countless other reasons, she will be missed."*

**Rev. John H. Brock**  
Associate Pastor

*"Susan was a marvelous receptionist. Her great telephone presence put people at ease so they could talk with her and be comfortable telling her what they needed. She was a wonderful hostess to all visitors who stopped in, offering them coffee and again chatting with them if they were waiting for someone. Susan would call the Pastors on their cell phones to inquire where they were so she could tell those waiting why they were late and how long before they would arrive. She kept track of people having surgery and when going to be in hospital and remind us of it. She put up with the clatter of the machines when doing all those bulletins every week. Susan was very good at protecting me from a lot of unwanted solicitations. She goes with our love and hope that she and Peter have a wonderful future."*

**Rev. J. Stewart Hardy**  
Senior Pastor

**Thank you God for Susan,  
an example of your loving kindness.**

**Please join us for a reception honoring  
Susan Pennington on Sunday,  
February 17, 2008, immediately  
following the 11:00 a.m. Service.**

**Enclosed in this edition of Trinity Parish is  
an envelope for a Staff Gift for Susan.**

## About Bob Frymoyer

I am truly grateful to have the opportunity to serve Trinity and act as your President for 2008. Too often we forget how wonderfully blessed as a congregation we are—not only with the many talents in our midst, but, more importantly through our ministries to ourselves, our communities, the less fortunate, and the world.



So, as I was asked to provide, here is some information about myself. I was born and raised in Sunbury, PA and attended both undergraduate and graduate school at good ole PSU—the reason why I bleed blue and white and am sometimes grouchy on Sunday mornings in the fall. I have been a member of Trinity for over 25 years. I have served as chair of the Finance Committee and Trinity's Research and Planning Committee. Outside of Trinity, I am the Assistant Chief Analyst for the PA Legislative Budget and Finance Committee, a bipartisan performance review state agency intended to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of public services (we are sort of policy wonks but, I hope, not too nerdy). I have also served as adjunct faculty at York College and research faculty at Penn State.

My wife Holly and I have two incredible adult children whose nurturing by Trinity has served them well: Heidi in Boonsboro, MD and Dr. Adam in San Francisco. God has also blessed us, through Heidi, with three (delightful, of course) grandchildren.

You might consider my family and especially me to be "Germanophiles." (Surprise, another Lutheran with German heritage!) I try to be conversant in German, and Holly and I like to travel to Europe, including Germany whenever we get the chance.

I believe our challenge at Trinity is to encourage and build frameworks for each and every parishioner to use their gifts to serve in Christ's name—to arouse this sleeping giant we call Trinity—to act as little Christs in the world—just as Martin Luther has called us to do.

**A.A.R.P. Tax Assistance  
Mondays, beginning February 4, 2008,  
9:00 a.m to 3:00 p.m. in Room 237.**

## Our Ecumenical, Lenten Sup and Study

As is our tradition, we will have a Sup and Study series in Lent on the five Wednesday evenings between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week. Since Easter is early this year, Sup and Study will begin this month on February 13, continuing through March 12. The time for each Sup and Study gathering is 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. And Sup and Study is offered to everyone in the Trinity family, members and guests, of all ages.

This time, Sup and Study will have an ecumenical theme. We are going to explore together some of the world's greater religious traditions, such as Islam and Judaism. We will also take a closer look at Christianity. We will have guests each week describing one religious tradition and then leading a discussion about that tradition. At the end of the series, we will have a panel discussion with all the traditions represented, together.

So for adults and youth, there will in effect be one class for Sup and Study on world religious traditions. Hence participants will remain in Fellowship Hall after supper with the room rearranged, as needed, for optimal hearing and conversation.

There will be separate programming for children during the class time (6:30 to 7:30 p.m.) and childcare provided in the Nursery.

Lent is a time when we are invited to reflect on our lives of faith and to appreciate the simpler aspects of spirituality. Our program will reflect this call, as will our suppers. The meals we share will be simpler suppers of soups and sandwiches, made by the hands of church members. The cost, frankly, will be simpler, too, than our catered suppers in the fall: three dollars each Wednesday for each adult, two dollars for each child—with a maximum cap of ten dollars each time for a family.

The menu for Sup and Study is available in the Gathering Space along with other information and the materials to register. Registration cards, once completed, may be placed in the red box on the reception desk in the Gathering Space or by bringing the cards to Christopher Couch in the church office. Christopher may be contacted through the church office (by phone or e-mail or by dropping in) with any questions regarding the program.

Understanding what other religions believe and practice is, to say the least, a timely topic and challenge. So many events in the world and closer to home have religious aspects. Through this series, we should be ready to respond more knowingly and thoughtfully to the issues of the day.

The invitation is open to all to come to this Lenten Sup and Study.

*Christopher Couch  
Director of Learning Ministries*

## YG News

Greetings to all in the name of the Lord. The 2008 YG (youth group) season is here. There is so much on the calendar. This will be a very busy YG year. Make a fresh start, the time to get out to YG is definitely now. We have something YG related on almost every weekend. YG is a place for everyone in grades 6-12, so get on out to YG soon and take part in all of the faith, fun and fellowship. Just to let you know what YG is all about, here is a taste of what we did in the month of December.

December is the slowest month of the YG year every year (which is good). We kicked off the month on Sunday, December 2 with SR. HIGH MOVIE NIGHT. Around 15 Sr. High YG and a few advisors came out for this night of total fun and fellowship. We had pizza, snacks and watched the movie *"Evan Almighty"*. It was a good night! On the very next weekend, all weekend long we had our YG WINTER RETREAT @ Camp Seltzer. Forty YG and 10 advisors went along for this faith filled weekend. The title of the retreat was WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM and it talked about who Jesus actually was in the bible and who people perceived him to be. The topic also explored "who we are as children of God" and "what makes us special". It was a powerful and moving retreat. We got to really dig into scripture and have many deep discussions. It was definitely one of the best YG retreats ever! We closed down the month with our annual YG CHRISTMAS CAROLING & CHRISTMAS PARTY. Around 60 YG plus advisors came out to support this event. We started the night off by heading to Manor Care Nursing Home to Christmas Carol to all of the good folks there. The folks at Manor Care appreciated us so much as they do every year. It was a very powerful, moving and rewarding night, not to mention a good service that we do as a YG. Then we came back to the church for games, food and togetherness. We closed the night and year off with prayer. Well, that was December for you, and it was a great close to a great year. January looks to be awesome! Let the busyness begin...

Yours in Christ,

**Peter A. Fox**  
Youth Ministry Director

### TRINITY SENIORS LUNCH

Wednesday, February 20, 2008  
Noon - Fellowship Hall  
Catered lunch served for \$7.00 per person.  
Guests are encouraged.  
Program to be announced.  
Watch *Trinity Today* for details.  
Call Joan Conrad: 774-3331 with questions.

## POSITION OPENING: *Stewardship Team Specialist*

Due to new and expanding opportunities we are seeking several individuals. The successful candidates must: (1) have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and *be willing to help self and others* discover new ways to offer more time, talent, and treasure to our Lord, (2) *be willing to pray*, silently or aloud, at team meetings and/or at home for the success of number one above, and (3) *score at least 60%* on the Stewardship section of the Trinity Spiritual Gifts Profile, as administered by Ms. Judy Collins, Special Gifts Coordinator. Compensation is commensurate with a positive attitude and payable by Jesus Christ at the Last Judgment on the Last Day. Benefits include a greater spirituality and a heavenly guarantee (or your time and money back – whichever you prefer). Qualified candidates may write to [joefidler@fidlerpartners.com](mailto:joefidler@fidlerpartners.com) or call 763-4408 for an interview. Those without enthusiasm need not apply.

## *Women of Trinity invite you!*

Women of Trinity Circles meet at various times once a month, and all women are welcome to join any circle meeting. No registration is required.

The circles have been studying from the book, ***Proverbs: Wisdom That Works***, by Vinita Hampton Wright. Passages from the book of Proverbs are the basis for discussion of twelve topics relating to real life today. Each circle selects subjects from the text that are of interest to its particular members. The schedule for meetings this year is as follows:

Circle Name	Circle Leaders	Time & Place
Deborah	Peggy Bishop, Anne Fry, and Betty Wade	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday 9:30 a.m. Library
Ruth	Ruth Bertovich and Ruth Dietz	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday 9:30 a.m. Rm. 237
Elizabeth	Elizabeth Winters	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday 1:30 p.m. Library
Esther	Joan Gamber and Jean Zimmerman	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday 7:00 p.m. Library
Lydia	Lori Anne McBride	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Library
Martha Mary	Karen Woodring <i>With childcare provided in Room 225.</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday 9:15 a.m. Rooms 228-230

## *Trinity Lutheran Church's Prayer Shawl Ministry*

Trinity's Prayer Shawl Ministry started in 2004 and is currently led by Kay Range. Prayer shawls are given to family, friends, and members of our congregation and community who have a chronic condition; are experiencing an emotional or physical crisis; are hospitalized; or, have another emotional, spiritual, or physical illness.

Approximately one hundred and fifty shawls made by women from Trinity have so far been given to persons in need. Many churches around the country also have this kind of ministry for their congregation and members of their communities.

The value of this ministry was demonstrated recently on two (of many) occasions. A shawl was given to a pastor at Christian Life Assembly who had a seriously ill family member, and he was very appreciative of the kindness shown to him at that time. In another example, a much loved member of our congregation who recently passed away was given a shawl about a week before his death. On the day he died, he indicated to those near him that his feet were cold. To comfort him, they wrapped his feet in the shawl. Soon after, he slipped into a coma and eventually passed away.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry group meets year round on the fourth Thursday of the month from 1 – 3 p.m. in the library. If you'd like to participate but don't have experience knitting or crocheting, just bring knitting needles or a crochet hook and the ladies will help you learn. On average, about ten women attend each month, but last November seventeen participated. The meetings start and end with a prayer, and during the meetings those less experienced are taught by the more experienced members of the group.

If you're unable to join but would like to support this ministry, donations of money or yarn are always greatly appreciated to cover expenses. You may give your monetary donation to Kay Range (at 62 Longwood Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA. 17050) or in the collection closet. And if you'd like more information about this ministry, or would like to request a shawl for yourself or someone in need, you may call Kay Range at 717-697-1871.

## *Missions Corner*

Dear Friends:

One of our favorite Christmas images is Epiphany, the story of the Three Wise Men. It is such a wonderful and reassuring story. God gave the Wise Men a sign in the heavens of a bright star in the evening sky. It must have taken great faith and courage for them to set off from their own countries to follow that sign on such a long, dangerous journey. But, in the end, their faith in the constant shining light from God brought them to Christ.

It seems to us that over the last few years, our congregation has had its own Epiphany. We have been on a long journey that has required quite a lot of faith and courage. But, we have also received our own constant signs from God. Some of these include: the incredible gifts from congregations and friends like yourselves who have allowed us to get back on our feet; the blessings of our past lay leadership and Pastors Phil Bloom and Leon Philpot who have led us on this long journey; our beautifully rebuilt facilities which have allowed us to again be active in our community including hosting the SBA Office of Disaster Assistance; and the formation of the "Saving Grace" Ministry and the Grace Memorial for Mission Fund which have allowed us to help others in need.

We thank God that these signs continue to come. In the New Year, we will welcome our congregation's first ever Coordinator for Community Development, made possible through a generous grant from the ELCA. Ms. Caitlin Moen, from St. Paul, MN will join our pastoral staff on January 7. We will also have a very exciting opportunity to partner with Youth Works! this summer (more news to come). What other signs will we receive? Only God knows! But, we are very confident that we are on the same path as the Three Wise Men following that shining star.

As we reflect on this past year, we fondly remember your compassion and support for our well-being. May God bless your prayers of hope for the new year, peace where turmoil continues to thrive, joy where sadness persists, and love for those who are in need of God's grace – Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior!

*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church of New Orleans*

## *Hospice Training*

Hospice of Central Pennsylvania will be offering volunteer training on Thursday afternoons, 1-4 p.m., starting February 14. The 33-hour training class covers such topics as end-of-life issues, patient care, pain control, listening skills, family dynamics, the spiritual aspects of death, dying and loss, bereavement, and the hospice concept of care. For an application, or more information, call the Hospice of Central Pennsylvania Office, 732-1000.

## Volunteer News

***“You have received without payment,  
give without payment.”***

*Matthew 10:8*

The Parish Ministry Committee is looking for someone to correspond with members, and family of members, serving in the military. Pat Bixler, the previous coordinator who has moved away enjoyed making these cards on her computer but a simple note is all that is needed. If you would be interested in doing this important ministry on behalf of Trinity or like more information, contact Donna Sprowls at 766-8075 or SPROWLSD@aol.com.

Also, if you don't think we have your family member on the list or have his/her address to write to, please contact Donna.

### VOLUNTEER OUTREACH

***...“Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as you have done  
it to one of the least of these brothers,  
you have done it to me.”***

*Matthew 25:40*

Operation Shoebox has mailed more than 700 care packages to our military in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kosovo and Kuwait since the program's inception in July 2005. Trinity members and family members have been supported by this program.

Operation Shoebox is a project of the Capital Club, Verizon Telecom Pioneers, a non-profit organization of active and retired telephone employees. Joyce Grier, a “Pioneer” and Operation Shoebox member was featured in this column in 2006.

Joyce explains this group is limited only by the contributions (to fill the boxes) and the donation of funds to mail the packages. Mailings are not limited to Pennsylvania people. Every package will have a note or a letter packed with it. Joyce said they are always looking for people to write letters or a note to go with these packages.

The project will be on-going, as long as it takes, and will only be limited as donations and contributions are received. Joyce and I agreed we don't always get to hear all the good things our military are doing in these countries. For example, Joyce packed a box for a soldier whose group sponsors an orphanage in Afghanistan. Joyce receives many thank you's in the form of letters and e-mails. She takes much joy in packing special boxes for our military to give to the children they become involved with that includes school supplies, teddy bears, etc. She always takes time to write special letters for each package.

The men and women love to receive letters from children. Northside Elementary School students, Mechanicsburg wrote letters. This effort was organized by their teacher and Trinity member Donna Campbell.

If you would like to add a family member or friend (or know a Trinity member) to receive a package, contact Joyce. If you would be interested in donating items also contact Joyce for a list of needed items or consider making a financial contribution to cover mailing, or write a note or letter to be included in a package. Joyce may be reached at 566-2294 or auntiejoyce@yahoo.com.

*Donna V. Sprowls*

## Trinity Prayer Concerns

*This year, Ash Wednesday (the beginning of Lent) is on February 6. In our busy world, Lent provides us with an opportunity to reflect upon our patterns, to pray more deeply, experience sorrow for what we've done (and failed to do), and to be generous to those in need.*

- As we begin this season of Lent, we ask You, Lord, to purify our hearts, and strengthen us in love. May we be filled by the Word You give us. Teach us to be loving even in the ordinary events of life. Help us to remember where we have come from and where we are going. We acknowledge to You our sins and our deep need for Your loving forgiveness and grace. We pray that this Lenten season will make us so much more aware of how much we need You in our lives.
- We also pray for all those who care for people in hospitals, nursing homes, rehab centers, and in their own homes. We thank you for their acts of kindness and their often *selfless* giving. Please richly bless them!
- Help all of us to show compassion. Give us eyes to see those who are in need. Please make our hearts tender toward those around us. And give us gentle courage to care when it would be easier to turn away. Lord help us to be neither too busy nor too weary to share the load that others bare.
- We pray that our congregation – and churches everywhere – may be filled with enthusiastic people serving others.

### ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

will meet February 20

7 - 9 p.m. - Library

For more information,

Contact: Donna Sprowls at  
766-8075 or SPROWLSD@aol.com

## Letters to Trinity

To My Trinity Family,

Let me express my deep gratitude and appreciation for your many cards, letters and prayers after my knee surgery and subsequent manipulation. A special thanks to Vicar Mike Louia for his hospital visits and for bringing Holy Communion to my home.

Thank you to the Women of Trinity, their Prayer Shawl Ministry and the beautiful shawl that was presented to me in the hospital. Its special blessings were a comfort to me during my recuperation.

I am also especially grateful for those who drove me to physical therapy and to those who assisted in taking care of me during the time that I was confined to bed.

I am truly blessed to be part of Trinity's family. Thank you and God bless.

Your Friend in Christ,

*Joyce Grier*

Dear Trinity,

We wish to offer a belated, but heartfelt thank you for everyone's prayers, phone calls and visits during my bedrest at Hershey Medical Center and then the subsequent birth of Kenneth Wesley. I appreciated the pastoral visits, phone calls, cards, the visits from my CHRP sisters including the afternoon of Scrabble. The prayer shawl was gorgeous and received many compliments from the hospital staff. Wes and I truly believe that despite my being placed on bedrest that my pregnancy and the birth and well being of Kenneth Wesley would not have been as positive of an outcome without all the prayers uplifted in our names. So a heartfelt thank you to our church family.

*Wes, Pam, Kenneth Miller and Daniel Funt Jr.*

Dear Trinity 24 Hour Prayer Chain Members,

I want to thank each and every one of you (from the bottom of my heart) for your faithful prayers on Friday, January 4, 2008 when I had surgery on my neck. From the time I entered the hospital at 6:30 a.m. things seemed to go wrong, only to be turned around and corrected in my favor in the most mystifying manner. Looking back at the series of events, I realize now that God intervened (through your prayers) when the doctors could not wake me up after surgery. God then provided the hospital's best cardiologist (after my heart went into atrial-fibrillation) who brought my pulse back down from 155 to a normal rhythm. I also had the best nurse during the night who helped me through a series of very distressing circumstances.

I know that your prayers brought me through this operation and I would never want to have another operation unless I was assured that your wonderful prayer covering was sheltering me.

My sincere thanks,

*Angela Fichtner*

## Every Member Prayer List

*Lord I believe I am always in your presence,  
but help me be more aware of your presence  
day by day and as I pray for others.*

**FEBRUARY 3-9:** Gretchen Reinhart, and Katie and Michael Sullivan; Colleen, Renee, and Brett Reilly; Larry and Santina Reigle; John, Annette, Katie, and Andrew Reiersen; Deb Reidel; Helen Reichel; Gary Reiber; Brooke and Ty Regan. **FEBRUARY 10-16:** Dave, Beth, and Izzy Reeser; Kent and Suzanne Reese; Harry Reel; Robin Reedy; Lois Reed; Dan and Lyn Reed; Amy, Nicole, and Rob Reed; Wes Redman. **FEBRUARY 17-23:** Tom and Gerrie Reddinger; Richard, Mary Kay, Colin, and Sebastian Rauenzahn; Ronald and Alice Rau; Bill and Kay Range; Brian and Susan Ranck; Craig, Jean, and Joseph Raisner; Sara and Parker Raffensperger. **FEBRUARY 24-MARCH 1:** Thomas, Ann, and Trevor Quigley; Ronald and Lois Quigley; Christian Quarterson; August and Sandra Quater-son; Matt Prowell; Harry and Judy Prowell; Jennifer and Kathryn Pritsch; John Pringle.

## Birthdays

### Homebound Members

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| February 6  | <b>Harry Reel</b><br>801 North Hanover Street<br>Carlisle, PA 17013                                  |
| February 10 | <b>Helen Reichel</b><br>325 Wesley Drive, Apt. 132<br>Mechanicsburg, PA 17055                        |
| February 14 | <b>Carol Anderson</b><br>5225 Wilson Lane, Apt. 4101<br>Mechanicsburg, PA 17055                      |
| February 16 | <b>Mary Hull</b><br>423 Appletree Road<br>Camp Hill, PA 17011  |
| February 23 | <b>Carrie Harman</b><br>Penn Lutheran Village<br>800 Broad Street, Room 309<br>Selinsgrove, PA 17870 |

### Staff

- |             |                  |
|-------------|------------------|
| February 9  | Susan Pennington |
| February 12 | Tom Notestine    |



Evangelical Lutheran Church

2000 Chestnut Street  
Camp Hill, PA 17011-5409

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***Dr. Pierce Getz Memorial Organ Concert***  
***March 2, 2008 \* 4:00 p.m.***

Trinity's 2007/2008 Concert Series continues on March 2 with a thrilling concert for organ and orchestra - in memory of the late Dr. Pierce Getz.

Pierce Getz was the chair of the music department at Lebanon Valley College for many years; conductor of LVC's Concert Choir and Alumni Chorale; Director of Music at Market Square Presbyterian Church in Harrisburg; instructor to several area organists including Trinity's Tim Koch; consultant to many area organ projects including our own here at Trinity; and many other distinguished accomplishments.

This concert was originally presented by Dr. Getz in October, 2006 at Market Square Church. At the time of his death in March, 2007, he was in the planning stages of repeating the performance here at Trinity.

For this memorial concert, the organ parts will be played by Tim Koch, along with area organists Deb Dillane, Christ Lutheran Church, Elizabethtown; Shawn Gingrich, First United Methodist Church, Hershey; and David Binkley, Camp Hill Presbyterian Church; all former students of Dr. Getz.

The program includes works by Bach, Haydn, Albinoni, Handel, Poulenc and Mozart and is being co-sponsored by the Harrisburg Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. This concert is free and open to the public.