

Trinity Parish

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church · Camp Hill, Pennsylvania · September 2009 Edition
A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.



Trinity's Youth in New Orleans!

See article on pages 4 and 5.



Trinity's 2009/2010 Concert Series Begins This Month!!!

Join us for the opening event of Trinity's 2009/2010 Concert Series on Sunday, September 20 at 4 p.m. Internationally acclaimed pianists Stephen Nielson, Ovid Young, Jeffrey Bennett and Gerald Anderson will present *Festival of Keyboards – Four Pianos, Eight Hands!* FOK is an exhilarating program, taking the audience on the musical adventure of a lifetime! From Viennese favorites to rhythmic Latin dances, and from European classics to Broadway hits, plus some beloved hymn tunes, the FOK displays a dazzling variety of repertoire and virtuosity. Come and experience the thrill of four artists on four magnificent grand pianos filling our beautiful nave with memorable sounds you will never forget.



OUR VISION

"Disciples in the making, making disciples"

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

"Called by the Holy Spirit to be Christ's Disciples, we seek to equip ourselves and others to live like Christ, and to be sent into the world proclaiming and living the Good News as daily witnesses of God's transforming love."

Blood Bank News!

Trinity's final Blood Drive for the year 2009 will be held on Sunday, September 20, from 7:45 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Please visit the sign up table in the Gathering Space, after all services, on Sunday, September 6 and 13. You might be thinking "why bother," but it really does help move things along. Besides, the more people that sign up, the fewer telephone calls Jeanie must make!

As of the end of July, Trinity is credited with 115 units of blood. The goal set for us by the Central PA Blood Bank is 200 units. As you can see, we will need a really great turnout on September 20 to meet our goal. Donation regulations have changed. Just because you were ineligible at one time, doesn't mean it is still true. Please inquire at the sign up table.

If you are unable to donate on the 20th, please visit one of the area hospitals (plus Hanover, York and Gettysburg Hospitals), any of the CPBB donor centers, or a Community Blood Drive that you may see advertised. Just tell them #157 or Trinity Lutheran Church, Camp Hill, and we will get credit for your donation. Still have questions? Call Jeanie Bentzel at 766-3526! **When you donate, everyone feels good! Especially you!**

Trinity Parish Deadline

The deadline for the October 2009 edition of *Trinity Parish* is **Thursday, September 10, 2009 – no exceptions**. If articles are e-mailed, please send to the Editor, Donna Sprowls at parish@trinitycamphill.org. Articles may also be dropped off in the *Trinity Parish* box in the church office.

Trinity Parish is published 12 times a year by the Publicity and Communications Committee of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2000 Chestnut Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011.

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STAFF NOTES

Where Did You See God Today?

If I asked you, "Where did you see God today?" could you tell me? Or did the day pass by in a blur, filled with distractions that prevented you from noticing what God was actively doing?

Perhaps you are easily distracted. I know I am. For instance, I cannot read a book while the television is on, nor while music with lyrics is playing in the background. (Music without lyrics is okay.) As well, I prefer driving solo. Conversations with passengers become too engrossing. What I really need is to pay attention to the road.

Focusing on the needful things is especially difficult in today's world. We are bombarded with distractions. There is always an electronic device to turn on or tune into; always a task to complete; and rarely is there a quiet time or place to think. Focusing on God's presence can be rather complicated. However, in his book, *The Centered Life* (Augsburg Fortress, 2006), Jack Fortin suggests five ways to become more aware of God's daily presence, and less fragmented by the distractions so prevalent around us.

First, we should cultivate an attitude of expectancy. Expect to see God's activity abounding around us! That attitude alone keeps us alert for seeing where God is at work each day.

Second, a regular reading of the Bible, supplemented by helpful devotional writings, invites us to consider how and where God made God's self known to those witnesses both before us and contemporary to us.

Third, we can pray that God will give us eyes to see and ears to listen, so we might discover God is with us on our daily journey, and, in fact, is guiding us with great wisdom. Of course, just where God shows himself may surprise us—in places and persons and situations least expected. But while we may be surprised by that holy presence, we will always be encouraged because of it.

Fourth, we must connect with others in a community of faith. For when we struggle in our faith, wondering where God is in the midst of our personal challenges, a sister or brother in Christ can help us. They can point out God's handiwork; God's dwelling in our midst, even when we cannot see these things ourselves. (Conversely, there will be times when that sister or brother needs **us**. Then it will be **our** trust in and awareness of God's loving presence which will sustain our fellow disciples on dark days.)

Fifth, we need to, as Fortin explains, "practice waiting for God." Perhaps this is the most difficult suggestion of all. In a world of distractions, we are ever urged to get a move on, keep up the pace, do something—anything—but don't just sit there! Waiting seems so passive, as if it can-

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not possibly be “productive.” Yet Fortin believes waiting on the Lord is truly active. It’s trusting that is open-ended, faithfully engaged in the moment, and all the while waiting for the wonderful ways God will be in this moment. Believe that God is always present with his people everywhere, and always drawing his people forward into new life in him.

Consider Fortin’s suggested ways of being more attuned to God’s activity in your world. May each of us discover that when we focus in these ways, we will indeed encounter the Holy One in the most simple, yet sublime moments of our day.

The Reverend Nancy R. Easton

Join the Choirs!

"To sing like this, in the company of other souls, and to make those consonants slip out so easily and in unison, and to make those chords so rich that they bring tears to your eyes - this is transcendence. This is the power that choral singing has that other music can only dream of."

– Garrison Keillor

In the next few weeks, all K -12th graders will be receiving a letter inviting them to join the vocal and/or handbell choirs. All those interested should return the accompanying post card or contact directors Tim and Amy Koch at 737-9921 x 229 or timothy.koch@trinitycamphill.org. Please urge your children to consider joining one or more of the choirs listed below. We also welcome anyone wishing to sing in the Chancel or Family choirs.

Children and Youth

Vocal

Matins Choir	6 th -12 th grade	Sundays 5-6 p.m.
Cherub Choir	K-2 nd grade	Sundays 5-5:45 p.m.
Junior Choir	3 rd - 5 th grade	Sundays 4-4:45 p.m.

Handbells

Youth Handbell Choir	6 th -12 th grade	Sundays 4-5 p.m.
Children’s Bell Choir	3 rd - 5 th grade	Sundays 3:15-4 p.m.

Adults

Vocal

Chancel Choir	Thursdays 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.
Chancel Choir (concerts only)	Thursdays 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. <i>(note-reading and rhythmic knowledge helpful)</i>
Family Choir (singing September 13)	Rehearsal prior to service.

Come help us make a joyful noise to the Lord!

Family Choir to Sing September 13

The Family Choir will be singing again, for worship on Sunday, September 13 at 11 a.m. This choir consists of children (5th grade and older), Parents, grandparents, relatives, etc... The rehearsal will be held before the service. Please call Tim Koch if interested, at 737-9921 x 229 or you may E-mail him at timothy.koch@trinitycamphill.org. We have 41 singers on the roster. You are invited to join us.

**IMPORTANT:
SAVE THE DATE:
January 16, 2010
... WHY?**

A gala celebration to honor our Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. J. Stewart Hardy, as he completes his ministry here at Trinity and retires from full time pastoral care.

Please plan to join us. Details forthcoming in the October issue of *Trinity Parish*.

God’s Call to His People

Labor Day brings to mind a statement found in the Presbyterian Church’s *Book of Order*, which addresses God’s call to people of faith:

“God calls a people to use the gifts and abilities God has given, honoring and serving God in personal life, in households and families, in daily occupations, in community, nation and the world. ... Persons respond to God’s call to honor and serve God in every aspect of human life: in their work and in their play, in their thoughts and in their action, in their private and in their public relationships. God hallows daily life, and daily life provides opportunities for holy living. As Christians honor and serve God in daily life, they worship God. For Christians, work and worship cannot be separated.”

YG News

Greetings to all in the name of the Lord. Youth Group (YG) 2009 - 2010 is finally here! This year is gonna rock! For those still new to YG or for those who need a refresher course, let me explain what YG is all about.

YG is short for youth group. What we are is "a faith-filled family which is centered on Christ in all that we do". We are all different and unique individuals, or parts of a body, which meet and become one through Christ. He is the center of all that we do and all that we are. YG is all about friendship. We are a click-free environment that accepts each individual's gifts and talents. After all, we are all brothers and sisters in Christ. It is awesome to think that you have 60 other brothers and sisters on every other Sunday night. We evangelize in all that we do.

The YG is always a busy place and our calendar is always full. YG is for anyone in grades 6-12. We have large group YG meetings every other Sunday from 6 - 8:30 p.m. and Jr. High and Sr. High YG events taking place on most off Sundays. We have monthly events and get-togethers, fun nights, YG retreats, synod-wide retreats for all ages, and Confirmation Camp. We also have events outside of the church.

The time is always right to get on out and take part in YG. You will make friends for life, plus you'll develop a better and more personal relationship with Christ. Bring a friend, always and anytime! WE LOVE FRIENDS! For the latest in everything YG and I do mean EVERYTHING, please check out our YG web pages on the church website. The site has the YG Calendar, some event details, downloadable forms, the YG verses, rules, prayers, and tons of YG pictures from all events. Check us out today at: www.trinitycamphill.org or e-mail any YG questions to me @ youthyg@yahoo.com C U @ YG!!!

Yours in Christ,

Peter A. Fox
Youth Ministry Director

PS - YG CALENDARS ARE OUT NOW! IF YOU DIDN'T RECEIVE A NEW YG CALENDAR, LET ME KNOW VIA E-MAIL AND I'LL GET ONE TO YOU ASAP!

The 2009 ELCA National Youth Gathering

I will not say a lot about the gathering because our youth can say it so much better in their statements that follow. We had nine Sr. High YG and four advisors attend this National Youth Gathering, held in New Orleans, LA. There were over 38,000 people in total at this gathering. Youth groups, youth leaders, advisors and pastors filled the city to capacity. Those gathered came from churches all over the country and various U.S. territories. In short, it was BIG! The theme for this gathering was "Jesus, Justice, Jazz" and that's exactly what we learned about throughout our time there. There were large group gatherings in the Superdome, a huge interactive center, various worship experiences, and even night time community life events on every night in the many hotels around the city. The coolest new added feature to this gathering was the day of service that we got to provide to the New Orleans community. Imagine 38,000 people going out in mass to serve the people there. That's exactly what we did. Our group was assigned mold remediation in one of the hardest hit areas from hurricane Katrina. This was a powerful and moving experience for our youth and it definitely showed us how much work still needs to be done in New Orleans and its surrounding areas. It was hard work but very rewarding. (This day served to prepare us for our next service trip this coming summer with my friends at Lutheran Hands.) And that was just the gathering. The city itself is awesome! There is so much to do, from walking on the Riverwalk, to checking out the shops in the French Quarter, to enjoying all of the great Cajun cuisine, New Orleans definitely had something for everyone. All and all, this trip was a blast! It was certainly one of the best ELCA Youth Gatherings that I have been to yet! It rocked in every way. Ooh yeah, it was HOT too!!!

Peter A. Fox
Youth Ministry Director

Trinity's Youth in New Orleans

All contributors are Incoming YG Seniors

The 2009 National Youth Gathering was quite an amazing experience. It was amazing to see all 38,000 fellow Lutherans worshiping in the Superdome at one time. This gathering was a perfect opportunity to help other people, even if it was in the smallest ways. I never thought it was possible for a group of Lutherans to completely change an entire city for the better. Seeing how many houses and families were affected by Katrina and how much help was still needed was eye-opening. New Orleans was an amazing city full of life, hospitality, and great food. I'm glad I had the opportunity to travel to Louisiana and help out.

Sarah Fogg

The National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, Louisiana was an experience that definitely exceeded my expectations. There were many interesting things to do at the gathering including morning services, hotel life, the convention center, and large group in the Superdome every night. My absolute favorite thing about New Orleans was the service project we did the Friday we were there. Our youth group and another youth group teamed up with the St. Bernard Project to perform mold remediation on a house that was tragically destroyed during Hurricane Katrina. We worked together to paint the inside of the house with a mold resistant paint for a 76 year old man that was raising his grandchildren with his wife, so that the house would not be ruined by mold. It was an awesome and empowering project that gave me insight to the suffering that is going on in the world, but it also gave me hope. Hope that wherever there is someone in need, there will be someone there to help them back on their feet. The people in New Orleans were as happy as we were to have us there. People stopped us on the street just to tell us how grateful they were that we were there helping out. Another exciting thing about New Orleans was the large group sessions in the Superdome. Being gathered together with more than 30,000 Lutheran youth was beyond words. The speakers and musical groups got the youth excited about helping in Louisiana and being a Lutheran youth in the world we live in today. I hope that other youth get the chance to help out the way we did in Louisiana and I thank the church and the youth advisors for giving me the chance to be a change in the world.

Rachel Hettinger

This year's National Youth Gathering was held in the city that never sleeps...New Orleans. Close to 38,000 people came together for this gathering. We met so many different people from all over the country. Even people from Alaska were there! When I got there and saw this beautiful city I could never imagine that it was all underwater because of the disastrous hurricane of Katrina in 2005. I admire all the saviors of Katrina that are living there today. They had a great spirit about them. Our youth group helped out with the Saint Bernard Project. An organization that was started by Liz McCartney, the project builds homes for families that do not have a place to stay because of Katrina. So far this project has put over 200 families back into the city. We painted a house with a latex paint that will stop the growth of mold spreading throughout the house so it could pass a mold inspection that every house needs to go through now to be built again. It was a great experience to help out with this cause. While painting I realized how I was helping a family. This family would have a place to eat, sleep, and just live their lives again. It felt amazing! This city was so excited to see us there. Along the streets there were signs hanging up welcoming us there. People on the streets even thanked us without any questions. Even President Obama wrote a letter to us thanking us for all that we were doing to help out in New Orleans. The governor also came to one of the gatherings we had every night in the Superdome, and thanked us for all of our hard work. This city even though destroyed four years ago never stopped believing in God and the power that one person could do to help.

Lauren Wagner

“It is so nice to see so many Christians getting together. Especially going to a city that needs so much help.” Not a common statement you would expect to hear from a baggage loader in the Cincinnati airport, huh? But, it sums up my trip to New Orleans very well. From the moment we stepped into the New Orleans airport I knew this would not be a normal trip. There were signs everywhere for THE ELCA NATIONAL GATHERING, welcoming us along with the 38,000 Lutherans that came along for the ride. During the five days of the gathering, the city welcomed us with amazing hospitality; amazing food (I fell in love with crawfish etouffee), culture, and people. There were several times when strangers would walk up to us and tell us how happy they were that we came, and how much we meant to the city's “rebirth.” This opinion was also voiced by Mayor Ray Nagin, who joined us at worship in the Superdome, and President Obama, who wrote a letter to the gathering.

My favorite part of the trip was not the amazing food or the worship services with 38,000 other people, it was working on a service project with some of my best friends. Our project was in St. Bernard Parish, where houses are still being condemned and FEMA trailers are still being lived in four years after Hurricane Katrina. The project our group chose was “Mold Re-mediation” or painting an entire house floor to ceiling (in 110 degree heat) with a latex paint to seal mold in and stop it from growing. This was my favorite part of the trip because we were making a difference. We were helping to give a family of five a safer, better home. My life was truly changed because of that day. I would like to thank the members of Trinity for supporting the YG this year and making our trip to New Orleans possible. It was an amazing time to be in “The Big Easy” and to experience God's love first hand.

Chelsea Brunie

Trinity Prayer Concerns

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank you for sunshine and rain, warm breezes, flowers, and trees. Thank you for hugs and kisses from friends and family. You have given us so much to be thankful for and yet sometimes we forget to say thanks. Please forgive us. Forgive us all our faults.

We ask for healing prayers for all members of Trinity, whether in hospitals or at home. May these people feel your warm embrace as you lovingly heal their aches and pains.

We ask for your protection as our children, youth, and young adults go back to school or college. Please watch over them and help them to make the right choice in every situation that arises.

We ask for traveling mercies for those who need to commute to and from work and school. Help us to be always aware of the other person. Help us to keep our tempers in check.

May everyone at Trinity be spurred to "pay it forward" this month. May they do one act of random kindness and only ask that the recipient will pay it forward to someone else.

We ask that you be with Pastors Hardy, Brock and Easton as they prepare for each Sunday, Thursday, and Saturday service. May they always be patient and kind even when their time is tight.

May the peace and love of the Lord be with you always. Amen.

Letters to Trinity

Dear Trinity Flower Delivery Team,

The flowers arrived and I found them to be very nice, yellow and white. A special thanks to Karen who tracked me down.

Thank you all for your thoughtfulness.

Dorothy Miller

Dear Trinity,

Thank you to the staff and members of Trinity church for your prayers, flowers, and the beautiful prayer shawl that kept Ed warm. A special thank you to Vicars Cheryl and Tom for your meaningful visits, love, and support during Ed's illness. We deeply appreciate the extra time and effort Pastor Brock devoted for our family by traveling to South Williamsport to officiate a memorable service. We feel so blessed to belong to such a caring church. Your kindnesses have brought us great comfort during this difficult time.

The Jackson Family

Birthdays

Homebound

- September 4 **Peggy Everhard**
44 Creek Bank Drive
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
- September 6 **Richard McCoy**
1000 Claremont Road, Room 122
Carlisle, PA 17013
- September 7 **Erma Oman**
207 South 15th Street
Camp Hill, PA 17011
- September 12 **Charles Frey**
3308 James Buchanan Drive
Elizabethtown, PA 17022
- Marcia Swartz**
3609 Kohler Place, Apt. 12
Camp Hill, PA 17011
- September 29 **Doris Pond**
100 Mount Allen Drive, Room 406
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Staff

- September 25 **Judy Collins**
- September 27 **Christopher Couch**

Photos Needed for Scrapbook

Plans are underway for a retirement celebration honoring the Rev. J. Stewart Hardy. But the committee needs your help.

As one of his parting gifts, the committee is creating a scrapbook of photographs reflecting his more than 20 years at Trinity. Congregation members are asked to submit photographs they may have of Pastor Hardy to be included in the scrapbook. Please include your name and phone number with the photo and they can be dropped off in the church office in the box marked "Hardy Scrapbook." The photos can be returned after they are copied.

The deadline for submitting photos is Sunday, November 1.

Trinity Seniors

Who Are We and What Do We Do

If you admit to being 55 years old you are a member of Trinity Seniors.

We get together once a month for a light lunch and short program of interest. We hold an overnight two-day retreat at Camp Hebron in Halifax in October where we enjoy the wonders of nature and study a topic of interest.

In the August *Trinity Parish* the schedule for 2009/2010 was published. Check it out and **save the dates!**

September 16

Nancy Martin – “How can I keep from Singing”

Not only do we have exciting programs, we also will have delicious lunches prepared by our very own “Trinity kitchen crew”. Those who have attended other church dinners know how good their meals are.

The luncheons are always on the third Wednesday of the month. We skip February as this will be the snow date if January is cancelled due to inclement weather.

October is a one day retreat at Camp Hebron. We have planned an exciting day with Pastor Hardy discussing “Retirement, Perceptions and Realities”, a conversation.

Look for the (Yellow) registration forms at the Information Desk in the Gathering Space or call the church office to sign up for the lunches or retreats.

Contact Judy Messinger (766-3692) or George Wirt (432-1141) for more information or to discuss a future program presentation.

Come and enjoy the fellowship provided by this interesting group.

Workshop for Visitation Ministry

An in-service workshop for Visitation Ministry volunteers will be held Sunday, September 27 from 12:30 to 2 p.m. at Trinity.

The Rev. John Brock will speak about the spiritual aspects of the Visitation Ministry. A representative from Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries will provide information about available services it offers for the elderly. A question and answer session will follow.

Visitation Ministry volunteers then will be commissioned during each of the services on Sunday, October 11.

Artist of the Month

Mary Beth Brath

Mary Beth Brath tells us “since early in my childhood, I have enjoyed exploring the outdoors. The colors, textures and sounds seemed to beg me to capture the moment and share it with everyone. I always knew when the time was right; I would dedicate my time to painting the world around me. When my youngest son turned three, I could not wait any longer and my artistic journey began.”

Brath grew up in Greenville, PA, married and moved to Pittsburgh for nine years, Ohio for eight years and now resides in Mechanicsburg with her husband Phillip and four boys. She is a full time professional artist and holds a B.S. in Business Administration and an A.A. in Legal Studies. She organized a fellowship group for artists at the West Shore Evangelical Free Church. She is represented locally at the Second Floor Gallery and Gallerie 13 in Mechanicsburg. In Ohio she is exhibited at The Vancura Gallery of Fine Art. She paints on location (en plein air) and in her studio. Her medium of choice is acrylic.

“Ultimately my purpose is to bring glory to God,” Brath says. “He is the most amazing artist and teacher. I am honored to exhibit in your church. Thank you.”

Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who helped raise \$5,208.26 for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal on Sunday, August 2. Additional donations will continue to be received. Please make your checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church with “World Hunger Appeal” on the memo line. This is an on-going appeal so donations are appreciated any time during the year.

New HOPE Ministries **SAVE THE DATE!!**
11th Annual Golf Tournament
Friday, September 25, 2009
Range End Golf Club
Located in Dillsburg, PA
12 Noon Shotgun Start

Brochures with registration form are located in the rack in the Gathering Space. Any questions, contact Ken or Leslie Beamer at 790-9672 or lkbeamer@msn.com.

Council Update – Each month this column highlights actions and significant items of interest from the most recent meeting(s) of Trinity’s Congregation Council. The work of Council continued over the summer months even though formal business meetings of the entire body were not held in July and August.

July 13 Leadership Event - More than 30 church leaders met for an evening to:

- Participate in devotions *Discerning our Journey of Discipleship*
- Review the 2009-2010 church calendar
- Hear reports from individual committees and groups on their development of working Mission Statements
- Discuss future training needs for Trinity’s leader
- Receive updated information on plans for Pastor Hardy’s retirement, assignment of an Interim Senior Pastor and the formation of a Call Committee

August 5 Meeting of Executive Committee

- Authorized the Lutheran Camping Corporation to share information about the *Imagine* capital campaign and to solicit support from the congregation
- Pledged \$15,000 over a 3-year period from the church budget in support of the Lutheran Camping Corporation’s *Imagine* campaign
- Reviewed three requests for waiver of building use fees; one was granted and two were not
- Reviewed a written report *How to Reinforce Mission Statement* from the Strategic Planning Committee and assigned responsibility for various implementation activities to specific groups and/or staff
- Prepared updates to the Council and Executive Committee portions of the Policy Manual and finalized a Council mission statement proposal, all for consideration at the September meeting of the full Council
- Set the first Thursday of each month for future meetings of the Executive Committee as needed

August 10 Picnic – A new event designed to share Christian fellowship among Council members and their families was hosted at the home of Roland & Josephine Freund near Carlisle with about 25 persons attending.

Doug Bonsall
Council President

Trinity to Offer Financial/Estate Planning Seminars

As part of Trinity’s Sup and Study sessions planned for this fall, sessions on household financial management, including estate planning, will be offered. This financial track is scheduled for five consecutive Wednesdays starting on September 30.

The last session on October 28 will be particularly important because it will discuss long-term financial planning, including estate planning and IRS rules and regulations as well as the status and goals of Trinity’s endowment fund. The October 28 session is being developed by the Endowment/Investment Subcommittee of the Finance Committee. Presenters will be Pastor Gregory Kramer, Manager of Trinity’s endowment fund through the ELCA Endowment Trust, along with Lou Grammes, Co-chair of the Sub-committee and partner with Weinken Associates of Camp Hill.

Because Trinity has not offered such forums in recent years, the financial/estate planning session will also be held during the church school educational hour at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, October 11 to make it convenient to those not attending the Wednesday evening Sup and Study Forum.

Please plan to attend all the financial sessions and particularly the financial/estate planning session on either Wednesday October 28 or Sunday, October 11.

At all the sessions, you may ask questions to better prepare yourself to address your own short-term and long-term finances with consideration of Trinity in your planning decisions.

With any questions beforehand, you may contact Joe Fidler for the first four-part Sup and Study finances class, Wednesdays, September 30 through October 21, or Bob Frymoyer regarding the long-term endowment class on Wednesday, October 28, or Sunday, October 11.

From Your Director of Learning Ministries

Welcome back to the school year’s beginning! Well, many of you didn’t leave. And those of you who did leave, left for good and healthy reasons: vacation, family reunion, study leave. So Welcome back or Welcome again. Welcome, new, returning, ongoing, visiting. Welcome, all!

At 9:30 on Sunday morning, September 13, all of our Sunday Church School classes are meeting. We have classes for those age zero through retirement and beyond.

Descriptions of all our Sunday Church School classes are in a new brochure. The brochure has been distributed throughout the church, and the information is also online at our church’s website. Look for information regarding other learning opportunities as well: there are many study or discussion groups meeting many times and many places.

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Director of Learning Ministries continued from page 8.

The fall new members' class starts this month on the thirteenth. Several guests will share with prospective members something of the Lutheran tradition and Trinity parish. For details, contact Judy Collins, our Spiritual Gifts Coordinator.

And Affirmation of Baptism begins on the thirteenth, too. While generally for eighth graders seeking to affirm their baptismal vows and become full members of the church, occasionally there needs to be an exception. Say, a new family moves into the parish with a child who's in ninth grade. Any particular or general questions about the Affirmation of Baptism program may be addressed to Associate Pastor John Brock.

There are a number of other starts in September, too. The Women's Wednesday morning Bible Study opens at 9:30 a.m. on September 9 in Room 237. The study is coordinated by Trinity members Judy Trissler and Bert Weaver, and all women are invited. The new study is *Fingerprints of God: Recognizing God's Touch on Your Life*. The workbooks are available now through the church office and cost fifteen dollars, payable at the first meeting.

The first general meeting of Women of Trinity is on Wednesday evening, September 16, in Fellowship Hall. Membership in Women of Trinity is by virtue of being a woman and a member of Trinity. So women of all ages—and men as guests—are invited to this gathering.

The following Wednesday (September 23), there will be a Koinonia Rally in Fellowship Hall at 7 p.m. Koinonia means community and is the name of our network of small groups, members who meet in homes or at the church and whose agenda is twofold—to socialize and to study. At the rally, we'll discuss how to get involved in Koinonia and hear from the groups currently meeting regarding their joys and their needs (which can also be joyful). We'll share resources, too, and share a few things on the life of a small group.

At the rally, our dessert to bribe you—I mean, uh, our wonderful supplement to all the meaningful discussion—is ice cream with the fixings.

Bible Sunday and Seminary Sunday both take place on September 27 (you know, a Sunday). Bible Sunday is a tradition at Trinity: on behalf of the church, Bibles are presented to our fourth-grade children at the 8:15 service. Following the service, the fourth graders with parents, grandparents, god parents, and other guardians all go to Room 126 for a special class on using scripture. We give the Bibles our children will use in Affirmation of Baptism in the hope that, by that time, good habits in having and using the Bible will have been formed.

Seminary Sunday is also traditional, a time when we celebrate our partnership with the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. We will enjoy a visitation from the seminary, who will offer preaching at services and a Special Topics Class at 9:30 in Room 227-229.

Sup and Study starts on Wednesday, September 30, at 5:30 p.m. with a Fellowship Dinner. The schedule is simple: arrive at 5:30, have supper together from 5:45 'til 6:30, go to classes at 6:30 which will adjourn by 7:30. The series goes for five consecutive Wednesday evenings. All ages are invited to Sup and Study. During the class time, there will be childcare in the nursery and a class called "Veggie Tales and Values" for children. Adults and youth have three class tracks to choose from: *Faithful Finances*, led by Steve Thurston, a financial services consultant with a special presentation on the nuts and bolts of endowment; *The Confirmation Class You Never Had, Part II*, led by Pastor John Brock; and a study of the globally-read novel *The Shack*, led by me.

The cost of Sup and Study is only for meals—no charge for the classes. Supper each Wednesday is six dollars per adult, four dollars per child—with a family cap of fifteen dollars. Registration will be handled through the Saturday-Sunday bulletin and at the reception desk in the Gathering Space. Please register for Sup and Study (meals, classes, meals or classes) by Monday, September 28. Questions about Sup and Study may go to me.

Trinity Preschool Playgroup, our weekday preschool, opens in September as well. By the time we start, close to a hundred children will be registered; and all the staff, new and returning, will have been oriented to the new year and, in turn, have oriented all the families involved. This will be our thirty-fourth year of operation. Heather Rose, Trinity Preschool Playgroup Director, is always happy to take questions regarding our school. Simply contact her through the church office.

Overall, please feel free to be in touch with me about any of our learning programs. If I can't answer a question or an expression of interest or a concern, I'll look the answer up or direct you to someone who can help more specifically. I can be reached through the church office at (717) 737-8635 ext. 228 or you may email me at christopher.couch@trinitycamphill.org.

For everything we do—in learning ministry and all our lives—please pray. And have a wonderful school year.

Thanks and see you,

Christopher

Imagine... Ministry!

Even though summer is coming to an end, camp experiences remain vivid and energizing throughout the year. Look around Trinity and you will see those impacted by Camp Nawakwa experiences and strengthened for service, over 140 people this year: families who attended family camps, children and youth who attended summer camps and Youth Group and other groups who make Nawakwa a retreat destination throughout the year. A couple years ago, the camp's programming to serve expanding needs was becoming more and more limited based on the camp's size and location of its facilities on the site. When the opportunity arose in 2008 to expand the camp's outdoor ministry, the Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central PA (LCC) took initiative, purchasing 221 acres adjacent to the camp (enlarging Nawakwa to 335 acres). *Camp Nawakwa and the LCC are asking your assistance with this new ministry opportunity.*

"This is a very exciting accomplishment. Enhancing Nawakwa this way opens all kinds of new ministry opportunities for our campers," said Marianne Brock, Nawakwa's Director and Associate Executive Director of the LCC. "The impact of a larger camp site for the summer camp program will immediately enhance this summer's camp program, since the new property is rich in biodiversity. Campers of all ages will enjoy roaming through this new land, seeing God's handiwork in the woodlands, farm fields, rolling meadows, mountain stream, and small pond." This year's summer programs were already able to reap the benefit of new trails and shelters on the new land.

The ELCA Mission Investment Fund, a financier of church-related building projects and land purchases, loaned the LCC \$1,600,000 in a 20-year mortgage to purchase the land. As stated in the fund's 2007 Annual Report: "Lutheran outdoor ministries have been places for deepening spirituality and empowering ELCA members for service. In fact, many pastors [and other church professionals] say they first felt God's call as a result of their experience at an ELCA camp." The LCC launched the "IMAGINE... Campaign" to pay off this loan quickly over the next three years, to minimize debt service costs and permit Nawakwa's summer camp and year-round retreat ministry to continue serving with normal operating funds. Using congregational and individual gifts, the campaign to date has over \$825,000 in gifts received and committed. Consistent with Trinity's long-standing support of the LCC, the Executive Committee of Trinity's Congregation Council recently approved a 3-year budget commitment of \$15,000 to the *IMAGINE... Campaign.*

Individual members are encouraged to make personal pledges/gifts for this exciting new resource for Lutheran outdoor ministry. The response envelope in this Trinity Parish provides for pledges over several years, as well as one-time gifts. Plus, if you have a Thrivent Financial for Lutherans product, your gift to this campaign is eligible for a matching gift (on an annual basis). To apply for the match, please make the check out to "Lutheran Camping Corporation," noting on the memo line "IMAGINE... Campaign," and attach Thrivent's Giving Plus form (available at Thrivent website, church office or Nawakwa office – 717-677-8211). If you are not applying for a Thrivent match, please make the check out to "Trinity Lutheran Church," noting on the memo line "IMAGINE... Campaign." Envelopes may be turned in to Trinity or sent directly to the camping office in Arendtsville. *Be sure to fill out the information on the envelope, including congregational affiliation, so that the LCC can identify the gift from a member of Trinity Camp Hill.*

The new land has added a new level of excitement at Nawakwa, which is planning for future generations with the opportunities offered by the expansion. Thank you to all at Trinity for continued support of the LCC and for considering your commitment to this ministry.

"The Lutheran" Adult Forum Sunday, September 27, 2009

Please join us at 9:30 a.m. in Room 232-234 for a discussion on "Interreligious Relations" from pages 18-24 of the August 2009 issue of *The Lutheran* magazine. We'll examine building bridges among all faith communities and the ELCA's commitment to working cooperatively with other religious groups. If you do not have access to the articles, please contact class coordinators Craig Staller or Doug Bonsall (921-1957) for a paper copy.

Coupons for Overseas Military Families Project

Our mission project has started off with a bang! As of early August, we have sent 14,909 coupons worth **\$21,871.67** in three shipments to two bases overseas! And we have more coupons being processed for future shipments. THANK YOU!

Keep clipping those coupons! If you find that you are unable to clip that week's coupons, please contact Kellie Argot before bringing them to church. Please pick up a card in the coupon box for more information, or contact Kellie Argot through the church office.

Book Discussion Group

The Book Discussion Group invites you the third Sunday of every month in Room 232-234 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

The book for September 20 is "The Soloist", by Robert Lopez and October 18 will be One Book, One Community selection – to be determined.

Alzheimer's Support Group

will meet Wednesday, September 23, 2009, from 7-9 p.m. in the library.

For more information, contact Donna Sprowls at 766-8075 or SPROWLSD@aol.com

Weekly Prayer List

August 30-September 5: Lucinda Figueiredo; Sean, Ann, Lucas and Noah Fields; Joe and Molly Fidler; Suzanne, James, and Paige Fickes; Angie Fichtner; Robert, Kathleen, Elizabeth and Jennifer Fever; Joseph, Elizabeth, Elizabeth, and Kenneth Ferrari; Robin Fero. **September 6-12:** Sara Feichtel; John and Jen Feeman; Brett and Julie Feddersen, Alec and Thomas Arentz; Julie Feaster; James and Krista Fawber; Robert Fasick; Jeff and Pam Fair. **September 13-19:** Hummel Fager; Charles and Mary Kay Fager; Jamie Fagan; Emerson and Margaret Fackler; Helen Ey; Robert and Peggy Everhard; Julie Evanish; Mary Etzweiler. **September 20-26:** Heather Eshleman; Brett, Michelle, and Derek Eshenour; Linda Eshelman; Dorothy Eshelman; Thelma Ernst; Madison and Mackenzie Ernst; Craig and Christine Erdman. **September 27-October 3:** Kay Erb; David Epple; James Enterline; John Enney; George, Becky and George Enney; Stefan Enggren; Kim Enders, and Wesley and Ashton Schreiner.

Affirmation of Faith

Fall 2009 New Disciples' Class Meet in the Library

Sundays - 9:15 a.m.

September 13, 20, 27

October 4, 11, 18

Reception of New Disciples

Saturday and Sunday, October 24 and 25, 2009

Prison Action Committee of Christian Churches United

Invites You to Attend
Community Connections Breakfasts

Inmates of Work Release, Transitional and Pre-release Programs for Men and Women!

Join us on September 26 at
Locust Lane Mennonite Chapel,
Edgemont, Harrisburg
for Breakfast, Prayers,

Inspiration and Information
from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Participants will be picked up
at 8:30 a.m., and back before 11:00 a.m.

There is no cost!

Contact Roberta Smith at 761-0519 or
e-mail at rosethorn3737@comcast.net

Who are we, and what do we believe?

"Men's Third Saturday" Returns on Saturday morning, October 17. A light breakfast will be provided. We will meet in the church library at 8:30, enjoy breakfast, and start the gathering at 9.

Our session for October will be titled "Chaos and Crisis in the Corinthian Congregation". What guidance does Paul provide for the members to the Corinthian congregation in reconciling their differences and growing in their discipleship, and how might we apply that guidance to our own faith struggles? Craig Staller, a Trinity member and former ELCA pastor will lead this interactive seminar.

Our November 21 meeting will be titled "The DaVinci Code/Angels & Demons; truth or fiction?" Bill Stotler, a Trinity member and former ELCA pastor will lead the group with an in-depth look at these two books/movies.

We then will take a holiday break and start again on January 16, 2010 with "The Naked Truth about Mark", not the book of Mark but the person Mark. Who was he and how did he help find and shape the early Christian church. Our leader will be Trinity member and Education Ministry Chair, Jack Bush.

Our next dates are February 20, March 20 and April 17, 2010.

No need to sign up, but if you have questions, contact George Enney at georgebeckyenney@yahoo.com.

Mark Your Calendar

Women's Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Jennifer Rothschild Bible Study

*Fingerprints of God:
Recognizing God's Touch on Your Life*

Wednesdays at 9:30-11:30 a.m.
8 Sessions lasting from
September 9 to October 28, 2009

Babysitting will be available

For questions or registration
Call Judy Trissler at 774-6036 or
Bert Weaver at 697-3259

Annual Fall Camping Weekend

September 25-27, 2009
Please contact Dan & Lyn Reed to reserve
your site:
938-5589 or dreed927@aol.com

**I Peter, God's Guide to Hope
WOT Circle Study for 2009-2010**

In an attempt to meet the challenges of these times, Women of Trinity has selected the study of I Peter, hope for our troubled times through God's grace.

The six-chapter study, *Stand Strong*, authored by Bill Hybels, founder and pastor of Willow Creek Community Church in Illinois, will be the focus of the Women of Trinity's Circle Groups beginning in October. The study calls, challenges and encourages each one to live a life of hope, love, submission, service, humility and purpose looking forward toward our victory through Christ and sharing as a community of believers. Grow deeper; get stronger; come study with us!

We are excited a new Circle Group is being offered on the second Sunday of each month during the Sunday Church School hour. All women are invited to join a Circle Group that meets their schedules.

<u>Circle</u>	<u>Meets</u>	<u>Place</u>
Esther	Monday, Oct. 5 at 7 p.m.	Library
Deborah	Tuesday, Oct. 6 at 9:30 a.m.	Library
Ruth	Tuesday, Oct. 6 at 9:30 a.m.	Room 237
Elizabeth	Tuesday, Oct. 6 at 1:30 p.m.	Library

**The Wellness Voice
Invites Any Driver Over 55
to attend a Classroom Refresher Course**

Sign up for an AARP Safe Driving Class to be held at Trinity on Monday, November 2, and Monday, November 9, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This 8 hour (two 4 hour sessions) course is for any driver age 55 and older. There is no test. Pennsylvania requires your auto insurance company to give you a discount of 5% for three years if you hold a clean driving record. Register early to reserve your seat.

The cost is \$14 (\$12 for AARP members with membership #). Make your check payable to AARP and mail the following information to: Owen Moore, 411 N. 4th St., Lemoyne, PA 17043-1608

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

AARP Membership # _____



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

2008

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Camp Hill, Pennsylvania

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Lower Susquehanna Synod

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In grateful appreciation for giving

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Synod Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Mark S. Hanson, Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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Women of Trinity News

WOT Introduce a Blog Book Study

Like the idea of discussing a Christian-based book, but don't have the time or energy to sit through one more meeting? Do you enjoy spending time online?

Women of Trinity is introducing a blog book study beginning in October. A blog is simply a web log that allows people to comment on a topic either at the same time or at a later time.

The group will be reading *Girl Meets God: A Memoir* by Lauren F. Winner. The Rev. Nancy Easton will offer an introduction to the book on the initial log. The group will "officially" blog on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. but you can visit the blog at your convenience at any time of the day.

To join the blog, go to wotbook-blog.blogspot.com. You will have to sign up for a Google Friend Connection in order to make comments on the blog. The site offers you the option of doing so.

Several copies of the book will be available in the church library or you can purchase it at your favorite book store.

It's hard to believe something as simple as a box top can help buy a van.

For more than five years, the Women of Trinity Special Concerns Committee has asked Trinity congregation members to collect Campbell product labels and Box Tops for Education to be donated to the Neighborhood Center of the United Methodist Church in Harrisburg.

The Neighborhood Center is a non-profit organization serving at-risk, low-income and inner-city children, youth, and families with educational, cultural, human service, basic needs, and recreational programs. It has served the Harrisburg community since 1910.

The Neighborhood Center has purchased its last two vans by using labels and box tops collected by several area churches. Executive Director Vivian Thompson said the center needs approximately 70,000 more to reach its goal of 1.6 million to purchase a new van. The last van was purchased nine years ago. The center is grateful for Trinity's continued participation.

Please continue to bring the UPC codes from labels for all varieties of Campbell soups and other products including Franco-American, Pepperidge Farms, Spaghettios, Swanson, and V8 beverages. Box Tops for Education are located at the top or side of boxes from a variety of manufacturers including Betty Crocker, General Mills, Scott paper products and more. Place in the box designated at the desk in the Gathering Space.

The Trinity web site, www.trinitycamphill.org, has a complete listing of acceptable labels.