

Trinity Parish

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church · Camp Hill, Pennsylvania · March 2014 Edition
A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

2014 Budget and Estimates of Giving

Trinity's Congregation Council is required to approve an annual balanced budget, matching income and expenditures. This balanced budget is published in the annual report and posted for congregation review. In the October 2013 Trinity Parish, the Stewardship Team shared the reasons Trinity asks for completion of an Estimate of Giving (EOG) form. For 2014, and every year, completed EOG's are important to Trinity's annual budgeting process. Let's review from the October Trinity Parish:

"Why do we request an Estimate of Giving? The committees who direct Trinity's ministries request funding to support each ministry for the coming year. No one can recall a year where the congregation's financial commitments (our revenues) exceeded the ministries funding requests (our spending). The estimates of giving are accumulated and then funding decisions are made to support as many of the ministry requests as possible."

So was there enough projected revenue to fund all of the ministry requests? No. Projected 2014 revenues fell short of covering ministry requests. And, fewer than 350 of Trinity's giving units chose to provide an estimate of giving for 2014. There were 50 fewer EOG's submitted for 2014 than for 2013.

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Dollars for Diapers Update

BY PATRICIA GRAYBILL

The Missions Committee, on behalf of the congregation, contributed \$1,000 to Lutheran Community Partners, Inc. (a ministry of the West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod), specifically at the request of Lower Susquehanna Synod Bishop Jim Dunlop, to help purchase diapers for low-income working families affected by the January chemical contamination of the water supply around Charleston, WV. We received the following note from Bishop Dunlop:

Please know how grateful I am that [Trinity's Missions Committee] was willing to make such a generous gift to our brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering in West Virginia. This has been a tragedy for them that will have a lasting impact for some time to come. This is one of the poorer areas of our country and the people there struggle under normal circumstances. The sense of helping the larger church and our companions in the gospel has always been a gift of the ministry of Trinity Lutheran Church and one of the reasons Connie and I loved our time in ministry there. Please express my personal gratitude to the committee and the congregation for their willingness to support the West Virginia Synod in this time of need.

Peace,
Bishop Jim Dunlop

OUR MISSION

"Disciples in the making, making disciples"

OUR VISION

"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."

Staff Notes

Forty Days of Cross-Centered Life

The forty days of Lent begin and end with the cross. In the beginning it's a smudge of burned palm branches from last year's Palm Sunday. The cross is traced on the forehead with words reminiscent of a funeral, "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return." It's a reminder of the solemnity of the season, but also our own mortality. At the end of Lent, it's a wooden cross, dragged up the center aisle in a darkened nave with the haunting declaration, "Behold, the cross on which was hung the salvation of the world!" With recognition of the great gift from Christ that this is, people are given an opportunity to reflect on and honor this symbol of our salvation.

Lent is an opportunity to center one's life on the cross with all that means. It's an occasion for us to recommit to the Lord, who committed himself to us and made the ultimate sacrifice.

For the Jews at the time of Jesus, sacrifice was fundamental to religious life. Through the rituals of sacrifice, atonement and purification was made for sins, offerings were made for peace and reconciliation, and thanksgiving was giving in times of religious feasts. It was thought the smoke of the sacrifice awoke God to the needs of the individual and community. And every day in the temple the priests offered grain, doves and lambs in continual, unending sacrifice.

In the cross, Jesus, the Lamb of God, submits himself to God's will and opens up a future for us. We are free to be the people God intends us to be. With the cross at the center of our lives God invites our participation in God's saving action for all humanity. Begin and end your Lenten journey where death and life meet.

**YOUR SERVANT IN CHRIST,
PASTOR JACK HORNER**

Too Deep For Words

Too Deep for Words: Devotions for Lent 2014, is the Lenten devotional resource Trinity has made available for our parishioners during Lent. This pocket-sized devotional includes daily readings from Paul's Letter to the Romans, along with a photo, quote, reflection and prayer. Copies of this book can be found in our narthex and Fellowship Hall.

If you prefer accessing this resource on your Kindle or Nook, check out Amazon or Barnes and Noble, where you can purchase this inexpensive but meaningful devotional book. (Published by Augsburg Fortress; authored by David Miller, Mary Hinkle Shore and Joelle Colville Hanson.)

2014 Budget

Continued from Page 1

What ministries were not funded for all or part of 2014?

The Vicar program will be discontinued from July 2014 to June 2015. The part-time office assistant position was eliminated. A requested (new) staff position, communications director, was not funded. Many committee budgets were reduced, causing ministry plans to be adjusted.

Can any of this be changed?

In 2014, for any of the aforementioned programs to receive more funding, some other program has to be unfunded. This is highly unlikely. The Finance Committee and Congregation Council discerned and deliberated to determine which 2014 items should be unfunded, and added a contingency plan discerning use of additional funds if revenues far exceed expectations.

What about 2015? The process for 2015 has already started. The Stewardship Committee continues to encourage members of the congregation to practice the 4Gs; God, Gifts, Gratitude and Grace, by demonstrating their gratitude for all God has provided, by sharing their gifts of time, talent and treasure. During the fall of 2014, the congregation will be asked to provide Estimates of Giving for 2015. We pray that more members of the congregation will continue to give generously and also provide Trinity with an Estimate of Giving which assists with Trinity's planning of their continuing and new ministerial programs.

**4Gs: God, Gifts,
Gratitude, Grace**

Letters to Trinity

Dear Trinity Parish,
I appreciated the prayers, visits from Pastor Nancy Easton and Vicar Martha Boyd, flowers, and prayer shawl that I received after my recent fall, hip surgery, and recovery. Trinity is truly a caring church. Thank you very much.
Sincerely,
Barbara Winfield

To the clergy, staff, and congregation,
I wish to thank everyone for all your prayers and support during my surgery and recovery. I've never experienced such overwhelming loving concern and thoughtful encouragement.
God Bless you all.
Richard Barry

Want Good News You Can Use?

It's easy to keep up-to-date on the many good things happening in and around our Lower Susquehanna Synod!

Sign up to receive the weekly e-newsletter, Carings & Sharings. Simply go to our synod website www.elca-lss.org. Scroll down the home page and look on the bottom left-hand side for "Sign up for eCommunications." Click there, and you will be prompted to enter your information. We will never use your email address for anything else or give any other entity access to it.

Each issue of Carings & Sharings features ministry stories, a list of prayer concerns, educational and enrichment opportunities, congregational events, things to share, job openings, global mission news, links of interest, and much more. Keep connected as together we serve God, love our neighbor, and "feed others as we have been fed by Christ."

Have questions? Contact Pastor Sharron Blezard at 717-652-1852 (ext. 102) or sblezard@lss-elca.org.

Stewardship At Home: Getting Organized

BY THE STEWARDSHIP TEAM

It's that time of year when each of us must do something none of us seems to enjoy: file an IRS income tax return. Perhaps you have already completed your tax returns or perhaps not. This isn't a column about income taxes, it's about getting organized. While we're getting our tax documents organized, we can get all of our documents organized with a little more effort.

Why would we want to be organized? Things happen - - accidents, sudden illnesses, the unexpected. We may have to rely on someone else to gather information for us. So let's get organized, get our personal documents in order and be prepared for the unexpected.

Let's gather all of our important documents and place them in a safe accessible place so those individuals we depend on can easily access them if we are unable to.

What is an important document? Let's make a list:

- ▶ Insurance Policies: life, auto, homeowners, health, disability, long-term care;
- ▶ Last three years' tax returns provide a wealth of information concerning earnings, investments, assets and expenditures;
- ▶ Financial institution statements, investment account statements, location and inventory of contents for any safe deposit boxes;
- ▶ Copies of credit cards, driver's license, social security card;
- ▶ Vehicle titles, real estate deeds;
- ▶ Power of Attorney (medical and financial), Living Will, Last Will and Testament; and, prepaid funeral/burial documents and wishes.

How and where should we keep these items? Start with a fireproof box with a lock; we may need a file cabinet. These documents are sensitive and private; they are not for everyone's eyes. Keep them somewhere in the home, out of sight of the average visitor. We might share the location of the files and lock key/combination with our designated Power of Attorney.

Getting organized may seem like a small thing that can wait until next week. Don't put it off. At some point in the future someone will appreciate your efforts - - your spouse, children or the executor of your estate. A little timely effort now could save a great deal of anguish later.

Are you interested in learning more about Estate Planning, Planned Giving and /or Individual Retirement Accounts? Join the Stewardship Team on Sunday, April 6 as we host Thrivent Financial and explore these topics and more. There's no cost to attend, and it can help you to prepare for the future.

4Gs: God, Gifts, Gratitude, Grace

PRAYER CONCERNS

Keep watch over yourselves to all the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own son.

Acts 20:28

Lord:

- ❖ We pray for the new Congregation Council, that as they begin this year of leading the congregation, they may clearly discern God's will and His direction for Trinity. As they do this, may they grow closer to God and to each other.
- ❖ We pray for the Weekend of Caring. May those we serve feel God's love and know that He and we care about them.
- ❖ We pray for willingness to constructively deal with change and the possibilities for future directions.
- ❖ We pray for staff who has assumed additional duties in the furtherance of Trinity's ministry and mission.
- ❖ We pray for the success of new leadership/discipleship to nurture the initiative kicking off in 2014.

Lord, gather us together and make us one through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Sign Up for Trinity's Weekend of Caring

BY SUE ERDMAN

Sign up today! Our second bi-annual Weekend of Caring provides many opportunities to serve our community and do God's work. Last year we had 120 participants. This year our goal is 200. **We need you!**

A wide range of projects are available including helping with the CROSS pizza party, assembling Baskets of Love, knitting prayer squares, visiting care facilities for sing-a-longs and bingo, helping move merchandise at the Pink Hands of Hope Thrift Store which benefits breast cancer patients, painting a locker room at the Camp Curtin YMCA, attending the Work Release Outreach Worship Service in Harrisburg, preparing and serving a community meal in Harrisburg, making cards for members in need and our homebound members, working on quilt tops and building a handicapped ramp in Dauphin County.

Also, a food drive for the Ecumenical Food Pantry and the Food Pantry at the Seminary will

take place on the weekends of March 8, 15, and 22.

We relate to God in many ways. We put our hands on his work. This service opportunity is a way for us to work together, enjoy fellowship, see God in other people, and share God's love.

Complete details are on Trinity's website and brochures are at the Receptionist's Desk. You can sign up online at surveymonkey.com/s/weekendofcaring or in the Gathering Space on March 2, 9 and 16.

All volunteers are invited to return to Fellowship Hall for the ending meal on Sunday, March 23 to share stories and a meal of soup and sandwiches with one another. Fellowship time is from 5:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. and the meal will be served at 6 p.m. **Advance registration is required.**

Please sign up by March 16 to participate.

Contact Barb Musselman Weekend of Caring Coordinator at bdmusselman@verizon.net or 329-3710 if you have any questions.

Ash Wednesday Worship Opportunities with Imposition of Ashes

Join us on the journey to the cross that begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5.

- ▶ Spoken Holy Communion Services 7 a.m. and Noon (Nave)
- ▶ Contemporary Service 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
- ▶ Traditional Service 7:30 p.m. (Nave)



YG NEWS

Greetings to all in the name of the Lord. We started off 2014 with WINTERFEST. This is a Sr. High synodical event. We took 18 Sr. High YG and two advisors along for this weekend event. Over 400 of us gathered into the Lancaster Host for this event. The theme was called TEMPTED and it focused in on all of the temptations that we face in our lives everyday and how best to deal with them. It was an awesome weekend and the kids learned a lot. On Sunday Jan. 12 we had a JR. HIGH NITE. 30 Jr. High and a handful of advisors came out for the nite. The very next Sunday, Jan. 19 we had a SR. HIGH NITE. 17 Sr. High and a few advisors came out for this nite. The focus of both nites was on our YG RULE "CARPE DIEM," and we talked about ways we can seize the day in our own lives with ourselves, others and God. Both nites were very powerful and a great start to this new year.

There are several meaningful changes to the YG for 2014 and beyond. For 2014, we've changed the YG calendar drastically to create separate Jr. High and Sr. High experiences. Myself and the other advisors feel that we can do a better job to minister to the YG where they are in their faith lives this way more effectively. Plus this will create a more comfortable environment made up of just their peers. We will still do several events together as a

whole YG throughout the year, but mostly from here on out things will be split to enhance kids' YG experience. The other thing that we've changed around "physically" is the YG room. We've moved furniture to create a tighter circle, pulled out game tables for enjoyment before YG events, and added a surround system and projection unit to enhance our ministry.

We closed down the month with JR. HIGH GAME NITE II. 35 YG and a handful of advisors came out to this nite of total fun and fellowship. On this nite we played lots and lots of games and ate dinner. This nite was a blast from start to finish.

In these next months, I'll be continuing to gather all of the information for our SR. HIGH MISSION TRIP to Tuckerton, NJ this coming summer. We will be helping those affected by Hurricane Sandy rebuild. For this trip, we will once again be partnering with LutheranHANDS. We should have around 15 or so Sr. High YG, College YG and several YG advisors (including myself) attending this servant trip. Help us help others; Please support our YG fundraising efforts which will help to pay for this trip!

Yours In Christ,
Peter A. Fox
Youth Ministry Director

WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

March 2-8

John and Judi West; Katie Wert; Kenneth, Marie and Kenneth Werley; Scott, Nikki and Laura Wenrich; Patricia Wenrich; Alan and Joan Wenrich; Adele Weltmer; Lee and Betty Lou Weller.

March 9-15

Dennis, Karen, Amanda and Andrew Welker; Donald Weitzel; Bob and Cindy Weise; Lori Weihbrecht; Terry Weidemann; Cathy Weeks; Pearl Weaver; Jeff and Bert Weaver; Greg and Rebecca Maher, and Alex and Max Schertzer.

March 16-22

Marlin Way; Harry Watts; Michelle Waters; Robert and Susan Watchorn; Brett, Jessica, Alec and Rebekah Warren; Paul and Bab Wargo; Nate and Carole Ward; Christian Ward; Charles and Linda Ward.

March 23-29

Kathy Waltman; Jeff, Beth Ann, Myles, Jameson and Ashton Walters; Dave, Pam, Kyle and Garret Walters; William and Joan Walters; Brett, Nichole and Morgan Walters; George Walter; Margie, David, and Kathryn Walson; Betty Wallower.

March 30-April 5

Grace Wallet; Stephen, Suzanne, Stephanie, Jennifer and Christina Walker; Paul, Melinda and Alex Walker; Leigh Ann Waldner; Fred and Joan Waldner; Eugene and Betty Lou Waldner; Tyrone and Kyle Wagner; Jacob and Sherry Wagner; Gary, Mel and Marc Wagner.



Thanks to your generous support, we raised over \$1,600 for The Bridge Food Bank in New Cumberland.

Thank you for your support!

The YG would like to thank the congregation for your support on Souper Bowl Sunday.



"The Lutheran" Adult Forum - Sunday, March 23

Please join us at 9:30 a.m. in Room 237 for a discussion on "**Fear Not: Use Words to Talk about Christ**" from page 30 of the February 2014 issue of The Lutheran magazine.

Lutherans have work to do when it comes to sharing our faith, and yet personal stories of God and invitations to church are still the best ways to spread the gospel. It's sometimes hard to break the ice, but as ELCA pastor and writer Dena Williams shows, with creativity and a little bravado you can talk about Christ to anybody.

If you do not have access to the articles, paper copies will be available about two weeks in advance of the session and may be picked up at the reception desk in the Gathering Space. If you have any questions, please contact class coordinators Craig Staller or Doug Bonsall (921-1957).



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Our Homebound

- March 2 Charlotte Zorger
1700 Market Street
Room 214
Camp Hill, PA 17011
- March 17 Iva Adams
46 Erford Road
Room 120
Camp Hill, PA 17011
- March 18 Elizabeth Winters
321 Elgin Circle
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
- March 21 Ruth Chester
5225 Wilson Lane
212- Assisted Living
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
- March 25 Bootsy Focht
20 N. 12th Street
Apartment 301
Lemoyne, PA 17043
- March 31 Ann Belknap
2100 Bent Creek Blvd
Room 219
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

Our Staff

- March 11 Debbie Wilson
March 14 Bishop Edmiston

THE ECUMENICAL FOOD PANTRY PRESENTS: "SWEENEY TODD" AN EVENING AT THE THEATER!

BY LINDA ROBERTS

The Ecumenical Food Pantry presents an Evening at the Theater on Friday, May 9th, at Whitaker Center featuring the Broadway hit musical, "Sweeney Todd"! The Pantry invites you to join us in this **FUN**draising event! The \$35 tickets go on sale starting mid-March! Purchase your tickets early to reserve the best seats in the house.

Email us at efoodpantry@aol.com, or send your check directly to The Ecumenical Food Pantry, 901 North 6th Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102 (payable Ecumenical Food Pantry – memo line: Sweeney Todd performance). Be sure to include your contact information and address.

Council Update

From the Feb. 10 meeting:

- ▶ Welcomed four new council members: Kevin Brady, Bob Erdman, Charlotte Lazarchik and Kelly MacConnell.
- ▶ Pastor Horner led a discussion on the first three chapters of the book, *Inside the Large Congregation* by Susan Beaumont.
- ▶ Reviewed staff and committee reports.
- ▶ Approved the new wedding brochure as developed by staff.
- ▶ Approved Frank Bertovich to be the male voting member to the Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly in June.

A Note from the Vicar

Greetings! I am pleased to share with you my Internship Project: A Memory Café for those who have dementia, and their caregivers, providing connectedness and fellowship in a place that is relaxed and safe. If this sounds familiar, you may have read about this ministry which was highlighted in the November 2013 issue of The Lutheran magazine. More information about the church in the article and this ministry, can be found at: <http://gslchurchnew.org/memory-cafe/>.

That article, and my work this past summer at Bethany Village, inspired me to undertake this as my project. I am asking for your prayers, and your support, as we reach out to our neighbors and members in the local community, by sponsoring the first area Memory Café at Trinity on May 9 from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Detailed event information will follow in the April newsletter.

Would you like to know more, or be involved? I need volunteers to form a temporary committee. If you feel inspired or called to work in support of this event, please contact me in the church office (ext. 238) or via email, Martha.boyd@trinitycamphill.org.

Blessings,
Vicar Martha Boyd

Parish Ministry Corner: Health Tip

BY DONNA SPROWLS

Is it safe to microwave food in plastic containers?

Answer: Yes

But the plastic container should display the words “microwave safe.” This means that Food and Drug Administration has tested the container to make sure no chemicals used to make the plastic leech into foods during microwaving. If chemicals do seep out into food, the amounts are tiny and not dangerous to our health. As a general guideline, plastic grocery bags as well as most plastic tubs that hold margarine, yogurt, cream cheese and condiments are not microwave safe.

Change to the Trinity Parish Schedule

Please note, in order to remain budget neutral with the addition of mailing services, the Trinity Parish will publish a Summer Edition in June to cover June, July and August. Normal monthly issues will resume in September.

The submission deadline for the Summer Issue will be Saturday, May 10. Articles for the September Issue will be due Sunday, Aug. 10.

Blood Pressure Screening

First Sunday of the Month
Chapel Narthex
9 a.m. - Noon

March Gathering Space Art Display

Patty Lambert Marshall has been an almost lifelong member of Trinity and has been involved with art for just as long. She has retired as an art teacher in the Camp Hill School District and now

spends more time studying and exploring art experiences. Nature and the creatures of God’s amazing Earth offer an endless spiritual resource for all of her varied media.

Annual YG Pancake Breakfast

**Saturday, March 8
7:30-10:30 a.m.**

All funds raised support future YG trips.



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www.trinitycamphill.org

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Trinity Parish Deadline

The deadline for the April 2014 edition of *Trinity Parish* is **Monday, March 10-- no exceptions**. If emailing articles, please send to: parish@trinitycamphill.org. Please keep all articles to 300 words or fewer. Articles may also be dropped off in the *Trinity Parish* mailbox in the church office.