

# Trinity Trumpet September/October 2020

Church Office: [814] 267-3234

Trinity United Church of Christ

Website: [berlinucc.org](http://berlinucc.org)

Email: [berlinucc@yahoo.com](mailto:berlinucc@yahoo.com)

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Dr. David Williams, Pastor

Cell: [814] 241-3919

Email: [uccvicar@gmail.com](mailto:uccvicar@gmail.com)



## The Season of Fall

We've entered Fall  
So come one and all  
In praising our Savior and King;

For the colors that appear  
On the earth, so dear,  
And the joy that  
All of these bring.

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## Being A Christian Is Like Being A Pumpkin:

- God picks you from the patch and brings you in.
- Then washes all the dirt from you.
- He opens you up and scoops out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seed of doubt, hate, greed, etc.
- Then he carves you a new smiling face.
- And He puts His light inside you to shine for all the world to see.

## **Pastor's Ponderings. . .**

I am looking forward to spending a week at St. Augustine House, a Lutheran Monastery, in Oxford, Michigan for a week's vacation this year. The rhythm of the house is based on the hours of prayer daily beginning at 6 a.m. and concluding with Compline [night prayer] at 8:30 p.m. They pause 7 times throughout of the day to pray and sing the Psalms.

I am inviting you to engage in Prayers of Hope during COVID-19 in a rhythm of 3 times of prayer each day.

**Prayers as you begin the day!** We do not know what we will face each day, so it's wise to reset our hearts and minds by seeking the Lord in prayer and looking into God's Word. Begin your day asking for God's guidance and reflect on a scripture passage that lends hope to your morning prayers. Here are some suggestions: Psalm 5:3, Psalm 16:8; Psalm 19:14; Psalm 23; Psalm 59:16; Psalm 88:13; Psalm 90:14; Psalm 143:8; Proverbs 3:5-6; Isaiah 50:4-5; Lamentations 3:22-24; Philippians 4:6-7; and James 1:5.

Nearly from the start of each day until the close of day, we hear bad news about the latest crisis. Anxiety and fear can fill our hearts and minds unless we focus on God and His perspective. God is our refuge and strength [Psalm 46] and we are invited to hold God's hand and not fear [Isaiah 41:13].

*Father, thank you for this new day. Though I don't know all the challenges I'll face, I know You will be with me and You are my hope. You are my strength. You will give me wisdom as I seek Your perspective in Your Word. I pray for those who are hurting or lonely today --- that you will comfort them. I pray for those who are ill --- that you will heal them. I pray for those who are concerned about what may come in the next uncertain hours --- that you will grant them peace as they trust You. Thank you for*

*being our safe haven and solid refuge because of the work of Christ and the Holy Spirit working in us. Amen.*

### **Prayers at Mid-Day**

By noon, most of us have already faced challenges, and we may think we can handle these things alone; but the Lord says otherwise --- we must look to and depend on Him. We need to seek Him through His word, will, and ways. Each day we need to trust and count on God, even when our day doesn't go as planned.

Pause mid-day to pray. In it, may you find the rest of peace in the Lord's holy presence and divine purposes, and may you enjoy His provision and power!

*Dear Lord, as I continue through this day, help me look to Jesus, my Overcomer, and find strength in Him. I give You my worries and fears, and every struggle, and I ask You to transform my thinking as I focus on things that are excellent and praiseworthy, and thoughts that will honor and please You. I pray my mind and heart will not be shaken by circumstances, but that I will lean hard into Your presence, peace, purpose, provision, and power. Thank you for being my hope and strength today. Amen.*

### **Prayers at the end of Day**

As you come to the end of your day, for some of us it will have been very challenging or difficult. We worry about whether tomorrow will bring even more troubles; but our God doesn't want us to worry about tomorrow [Matthew 6:34]. He wants to comfort us in His presence. Romans 15:13 is an encouraging verse when personalized and prayed like this: *God of hope, fill me with all joy and peace as I trust in You, so that I may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

As you come to the end of your day, surrender all of the days of events to the God who is almighty and is mighty to save. The Lord desires that we, His beloved would lie down and sleep. He is our safe refuge, a restful confidence, and a strength that allows us to face whatever comes. We are safe in His hands.

*Dear Father God, thank you for being my help today---perhaps in ways I have not seen. You have guided and protected me, cared for and comforted me. In this crisis and in every struggle in life, You have shown Yourself faithful. You are the God of Hope, and I am thankful tonight for joy and peace in Your presence. I pray again for my family and friends in need, and for others who are also hurting or lonely tonight. If they know You, please be their refuge and strength, Lord. And if they don't know You, I ask You to use their tough circumstances to draw them and show them their need for salvation in Jesus. I am confident You will abide with me in the days ahead and will ultimately make me to live with You forever. You are sovereign, good, loving and kind, Lord, and I praise Your worthy name. Amen.*

Praying for you in this pandemic time,  
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**A Special Congregational Meeting Called for August 30<sup>th</sup>**

The Consistory calls for a meeting of the Trinity Congregation on Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. to approve to recommendations to come before the congregation.

**Item No. 1** – The affirmation of the 6 month trial period of Shared Ministry with Zion Lutheran Church, Meyersdale. Pastor Dave began this on June 1<sup>st</sup> and has now completed

nearly 3 months. Pastor's Salary and Benefits is divided 60% to Trinity and 40% to Zion.

**Item No. 2** – The purchase of an Allen RL-66a Custom Organ in the amount of \$100,000. Currently through quiet fundraising we have received pledges and gifts of nearly \$70,000. You will notice the picture produced by Allen Organ of the new organ console along with our building in the foreground. Our current Allen Organ has developed several serious malfunctions and it is not good stewardship to place additional funds into the organ for repair. The Music Emporium of Altoona is the region's Allen Organ Dealer. The Music Emporium installed our current organ 35 years ago.

The Congregational Meeting will be held between our two worship services. We will have a written ballot for these items. If you have comments or questions, please speak with a member of Consistory or the Pastor.

**Stewardship Update through July 2020** – The Consistory received the following report from Renee Gindlesperger, Financial Secretary:

General Fund

<b>Balance January 1</b>	<b>\$15,300.96</b>
Income through July 31 <sup>st</sup>	\$98,708.50
Expenses through July 31 <sup>st</sup>	-\$80,482.83
<b>Ending Balance July 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>\$33,526.63</b>

Income does have a PPP Loan/Grant in the amount of \$14,800.00 credited to our General Fund. For June and July we receive each month \$3,165.00 from Zion Lutheran towards Pastor's compensation and benefits.

Our General Fund giving will now support our budget with a shared ministry.

Benevolence Fund

<b>Balance January 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
Income through July 31 <sup>st</sup>	\$8,763.00
Expenses through July 31 <sup>st</sup>	-\$7,994.00
<b>Ending Balance July 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>\$769.00</b>

Building Fund

<b>Balance January 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>\$4,482.00</b>
Income through July 31 <sup>st</sup>	\$2,374.00
Expenses through July 31 <sup>st</sup>	-\$4,368.66
<b>Ending Balance July 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>\$2,741.10</b>

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**Confirmation Sundays 2020 at Trinity**

The following five students will be confirmed on Reformation Sunday:

Carissa Croner  
Kaitlyn Gindlesperger  
Sami Jo Hayman  
Ryley Mull  
Bayley Mull

Confirmation will be a process this year. Presentation Sunday will be Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup> with students reading their faith statements at both services and be presented to the congregation for their affirmation of the Rite of Confirmation.

On Reformation Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, the students will be confirmed. Two members of the class will be baptized before the rite of confirmation at the 9:30 a.m. service. For Reformation Sunday you are invited to wear something “red” for the service.

The Class will receive their first communion on November 1<sup>st</sup> – All Saints Sunday as we celebrate the Saints!

## **Those Remembered in Prayer:**

### **Recently Hospitalized:**

Larry McCullen

### **Shut Ins:**

Roy Bucher, Helen Diest, Mary Forespring, Evelyn Hillegass, Cynthia Kelly, Lois Krause, Deb Luteri, Lois Saylor, Dirkje Stellingwerf, Charlie Will.

### **Healing Concerns:**

Mark Amyot, Jeannie Vaughan Brown, LaVerne Coslic, Terry Coslic, Pam Crooks, John Durst, Susan Durst, Wilma Durst, Tony Fertitta, Linda Gallick, Theresa Gallick, Janet Gindlesperger, Larry Hay, Bill Kibler, Patricia Kibler, Lee LaBute, Barb Landis, Brenda Leister, Tom Logsdon, Sharon Nicolson, Bobbi Robertson, Tyler Seifert, Dwight Smith, Walter & Marilyn Ullery, Nancy Weighley, John Will, Bob Wise.

**Please help us keep our prayer list up to date.** Beginning September 1<sup>st</sup>, if you know if someone who should remain on the list, please call the church office to update their status. All names will remain on the list for two months and unless otherwise instructed we will remove them in an effort to keep the prayer list up to date.

**Thank you from Bobbi Robertson:** I would like to thank my church family for all the cards, prayers and support during my chemotherapy. I ask for continued prayers for the future surgeries.

**Thank you from LaVerne Coslic:** On behalf of Lester and myself, I would like to thank our church family for all the concerns and well wishes I received during my recent surgery and ongoing recovery. Also, for prayers, calls, visits, food, cards and flowers. A special huge thank you to Pastor Dave, for all he has done to help us. God bless all of you.

**Thank you from Larry & Judy McCullen:** Thanks so much to all who have called, sent cards, and prayed for Larry and our family

during these challenging days. You are all special and it really means a lot to know so many people care.

**Berlin Food Pantry:** On behalf of the Berlin Food Pantry, we wish to thank you for your financial support during the months of April, May & June. This donation will assist in helping those who struggle to make ends meet within the greater Berlin and Shanksville school districts. Since July 1, 2019, the Berlin Food Pantry has served 1210 Adults, 815 Seniors, and 555 Children representing 2580 individuals served. May God continue to share these blessings. Lester Coslic, Treasurer.

## ***30 Days of School Prayer***

**Community Back To School Rally**  
Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2:00PM  
Berlin Borough Lot (Rain or Shine)

Come and show your support for your students, faculty/staff, bus drivers, administration and other support staff that help our children during their school day. Also, support for parents homeschooling. Come and join in prayer and song. Everyone needs to know that they have the prayers and support of the whole community.

### **Prayers for Parents:**

- 1) Pray for parents to lead their children by modeling a vibrant life of prayer, faith, and Bible study.
- 2) Pray for parents who are deciding whether to send their children to public school, private school, or homeschool. Pray they have the wisdom, resources, and support necessary to do what is best for their family.
- 3) Pray that parents become engaged with their local school system and have wisdom and courage to counter ungodly influences and indoctrination within education.



- 4) Pray for parents to have wisdom and discernment to know when their child is struggling with something (spiritually, relationally, academically, etc.), and to seek the Lord on how to best handle the situation.
- 5) Pray for marriage relationships to be restored and strengthened. And that children may have stable homes.
- 6) Pray for homeschooling families to have wisdom in choosing curriculum and extracurricular activities that best fit their children's needs.

### **Prayers for Students:**

- 7) Pray for Christian students to set an example of purity for their peers in both word and deed and to walk in a manner worthy of their calling.
- 8) Pray for students as they adjust back to new school environments, particularly following school closures this spring due to the pandemic and potentially unforeseen challenges in the new academic year.
- 9) Pray for students to have an attitude of respect for teachers.
- 10) Pray that students would have discernment to recognize truth from falsehood in what is being presented in the classroom.
- 11) Pray for Christian students to be proactive in reaching out to others who are lonely and left out.
- 12) Pray for students to get involved in or start Christian clubs on campus that will strengthen their faith and provide accountability.
- 13) Pray for Christian students to not neglect attending church, Bible studies, and youth group meetings.
- 14) Pray for students to stand strong in the face of temptations.
- 15) Pray for Christian students to stand boldly against gossip and bullying.
- 16) Pray for Christian students to have courage and opportunities to share the gospel with friends.

- 17) Pray for students to seek out wise, godly influences in their lives, and to avoid those that undermine their faith.
- 18) Pray that students who have emotional, physical, or family needs will receive the help and support they need to flourish and become all that God intends for them to be.
- 19) Pray for students at all levels, but especially in higher education, who are facing tough questions about their faith.

### **Prayers for Teachers and Leaders:**

- 20) Pray for teachers to have wisdom and insight as they help students get back on track after the pandemic caused schools to close this spring.
- 21) Pray for Christian teachers to have the boldness to teach facts and critical thinking, rather than ideologies and agendas contrary to God's truth.
- 22) Pray for school administrators to respect religious liberty and biblical values; pray they resist the temptation to cave to pressure from anti-faith groups.
- 23) Pray for teachers and administrators to exhibit grace and empathy for troubled students, while maintaining a safe and orderly environment.
- 24) Pray for Christian teachers and administrators to be encouraged in the calling to serve the next generation, especially on difficult days when they feel they are alone.
- 25) Pray for Christian coaches to develop meaningful relationships as mentors to student athletes who they can encourage and disciple.
- 26) Pray for youth pastors and churches to develop meaningful relationships with students to maintain a godly influence on their lives.

## **Prayers for Today's School Environment:**

- 27) Pray that Christians involved in any area of the school system will take seriously their cultural commission to be salt and light.
- 28) Pray for the health of teachers, bus drivers, other school employees, students, and their families as schools continue to navigate public health concerns with the ongoing pandemic.
- 29) Pray for the safety and protection of our schools; pray that any plans for harm would be exposed and stopped.
- 30) Pray that everyone in the school system, through words and actions of believers, would have the gospel clearly presented to them.

**James 1:5 If any of you need wisdom, you should ask God and it will be given to you.**



## Consistory Corner

The Trinity Consistory met on August 10<sup>th</sup> in Fellowship Hall. The following was reported and acted upon:

1. Reviewed the Financial Report and noted that we continue to be financially solid. Thank you to the congregation for your generous support.
2. The Financial Secretary has asked the Audit team to meet on August 22 to review the first 6 months of the church books and to verify balances. The Financial Secretary did remind Consistory that items for the 2021 budget needed to be acted by Pastoral-Personnel and if there were other suggestions, they should be communicated to the budget committee before they meet in September.
3. Reviewed the Pastor's Report and received it.
4. Approved a grant of \$200.00 to the Berlin Playground from the Margaret Fisher Fund.
5. Approved a thank you gift of \$500.00 to Cindy Brant for her service to Trinity Church as organist/pianist. Pastor will get the gift to Cindy.
6. The Music Committee will review the Music Director and Organist job descriptions, make recommendations for their update to Personnel and provide an advertisement seeking new music staff. Contacts are being made by various members with musicians to see if they have knowledge of someone available to take the position at Trinity Church.
7. Called for a congregational meeting to act upon:
  - a. The Shared Ministry Plan with Zion Lutheran.
  - b. The purchase of an Allen RL-66a Custom Organ to replace our aging and failing Allen ADC 7300. The total purchase price which includes full installation is \$100,000. At this writing \$70,000 has already been committed for the purchase. Funding will

come from additional gifts and  
Bequest/Endowment Interest Income.

8. Pastor shared that outside groups using the church for a meeting will be required to sanitize any portion of the building that they are in before leaving. Those who do not follow the COVID-19 guidelines will not be permitted further use of the building.

## **Worship Themes for September / October**

**September 13** – The Feast of Holy Cross

Text: Galatians 6:14-18

Title: ***The Glorious Cross***

**September 20** – 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Text: Philippians 1:21-30

Title: ***Living and Dying***

**September 27** – 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Text: Philippians 2:1-13

Title: ***God's Love Language***

**October 4** – 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

World Wide Communion Sunday

Text: Philippians 3:4-14

Title: ***Pain Is the Name of the Game***

**October 11** – 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Text: Philippians 4:1-9

Title: ***Peace in the Church***

**October 18** – 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Trinity Church, Berlin – **Presentation Sunday**

**Confirmation Class presents Faith Statements at 8 and 9:30 a.m.**

**October 25** – Reformation Sunday  
Sacrament of Holy Baptism and Rite of Confirmation  
Title: *Jesus Loves Me*

## **Worship Assistants September/October**

### **September 6<sup>th</sup>**

Sound: Terry Luteri, David Saylor  
Flowers: Larry & Judy McCullen

### **September 13<sup>th</sup>**

Sound: Tyler Gindlesperger, Alan Brick  
Flowers: Russ & Jeanne Hillegas

### **September 20<sup>th</sup>**

Sound: Tom Croner, Jim Darr  
Flowers: Dave & Missy Miller

### **September 27<sup>th</sup>**

Sound: Cindy Flamm, Lori Gindlesperger  
Flowers: Terry & Debbie Luteri

### **October 4<sup>th</sup>**

Sound: Russ Hillegas, Terry Luteri  
Flowers: Nancy Bittner & Family, Al & Joyce Knotts

### **October 11<sup>th</sup>**

Sound: David Saylor, Tyler Gindlesperger  
Flowers: Lewis & Barbara Berkley, Barb Landis

### **October 18<sup>th</sup>**

Sound: Alan Brick, Tom Croner  
Flowers: Larry & Gale Hay

**October 25<sup>th</sup>**

Sound: Jim Darr, Cindy Flamm

Flowers: Lois Saylor

# *Secret Pals*

## **Secret Pals Program**

“Secret Pals” is a program started here at Trinity UCC in 2011. The purpose of this program is to provide a way for adults in our church family to encourage, support and affirm the youth of our congregation. Adult partners will be matched to youth who are a part of our church family, and will send them cards, etc. to affirm and encourage them and let them know that they are an important part of our congregation. Any youth from our church family age 4 through Senior High School can participate.

The program will run from November 2020 through November 2021. Deadline for this program will be October 25, 2020. An insert is enclosed, and copies will be available at the church office and the church bulletin board.

The dinner to celebrate and reveal this past year’s participants will be scheduled in October, depending on the COVID restrictions. We will keep you posted.

## See Our Newsletter Calendar Insert!



May you feel the warmth of God's love surrounding your hearts today and always. Prayers for a happy birthday and happy anniversary!

Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to our church family members!!! Did we miss you? Let us know!