

Trinity Trumpet September/October 2021

Church Office: [814] 267-3234

Trinity United Church of Christ

Website: berlinucc.org

Email: berlinucc@yahoo.com

Vol. 27, No.5

Dr. David Williams, Pastor

Cell: [814] 241-3919

Email: uccvicar@gmail.com



Autumn Praise

I praise you, Lord, for autumn:
for falling temperatures and morning chill,
trees turned gold and red, brown, and orange,
falling leaves and blowing leaves,
the smell of burning leaves,
the joy of leaf-pile jumping.

I praise you, Lord, for autumn:
the interplay of outside temperatures
and inside warmth,
the promise of cider and pumpkin bread,
the blessing of blankets and sweaters.

I praise you, Lord, for autumn:
the beauty and hope in the change of season,
the promise that the coming of autumn
heralds another ending,
a new beginning,
and the wonder of another winter,
another spring,
another summer,
yet to come.



Pastor's Ponderings. . .

If you follow football at all, as almost everyone does these days, you know that every coach has a game plan before he begins the game – a plan they have worked out long before the game begins which is their strategy for accomplishing the desired goal. The former coach of the Dallas Cowboys, Tom Landry, once said, *the job of a football coach is to make men do what they don't want to do in order to achieve what they've always wanted to be.*

That's God's business with us, too. To make us sometimes do what we don't want to do in order to be what we've always wanted to be. I don't think there's a passage of Scripture that describes that more fully and beautifully than Romans 12:1-2. In these two verses in a most remarkable way summarize God's game plan for your life and mine.

Some years ago while flying to a southern destination I picked up the magazine that had been placed in the pocket of the seat to keep me and other passengers occupied while the pilot guided the plane safely to our destination. There on the back of the

magazine was this phrase: *When you understand that you can change the world, your life will never be the same again.* I was captured by that statement and wondered what company had come up with this tag line – then I saw it – it was an advertisement for Playboy magazine. The implication was that if you subscribe to Playboy, you'll soon come to understand that you can change the world. And when you come to understand that you can change the world, your life will never be the same again. I was furious that a magazine of that character would openly boast that it had the quality to change the world. But as I thought about that a bit, I began to see there was some truth to it.

Sadly, that magazine and others like it in the past 40 years has successfully changed our nation. Not for the good but for the bad. Yet, as I think about this slogan, I see it as a magnificent slogan for a Christian. That's really what God is saying to us: *when you understand that you can change the world, your life will never be the same again.* That's what Romans 12:1-2 is saying to us.

This passage from Romans is not addressed to the church, rather it is addressed to us as individuals. It is not a group, it is about individuals who are transformed to be the people of God.

Too often, I fear, we come to church, however never go beyond to the place of the transformation of our minds to grow in the will of God for us. Rather, we are content to keep doing the same thing day in and day out without becoming what God intends for us to be.

This fall, I am going to present a series of messages about transformation. I have been challenged as I have been reading two books about transformation of our souls by the late Dallas Willard.

My invitation to you is to consider what it means to be transformed so that you are about to discern what is the will of God, *what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

Seeking to be Transformed,

+PD



Consistory Corner

The consistory will resume their monthly meetings in September.

Pastor Vacation

Pastor Dave will be returning to the pulpit on September 12th. In his absence, please contact Tom Calvert [Consistory President] or the Church Office to arrange for pastoral care should you the need arise.

Church Office Hours

Trinity Church Office Hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pastor Dave takes Monday as his Day Off. On Wednesday afternoon and Friday morning he is at Zion Lutheran, Meyersdale.

Trinity at 250 – In the Year of our Lord 2027, the Trinity Church will celebrate our 250th Anniversary. Planning for such an event will require careful thought and execution. Should it be a one-day event? Should it be a quarterly event? Do we create a history book? Do we invite former pastors back to preach on Sunday during the course of the year? Should we have several projects that need completed [new pew pads or carpeting?] or a special mission endeavor? The possibilities are endless for this celebration. The consistory is seeking people who enjoy history to work together to plan for this anniversary celebration. Speak with Tom Calvert or Pastor Dave if you would be willing to work on this endeavor.

Pastor's Fall Bible Study – *Making Sense of Suffering*

In the past 18 months there has been much suffering around us. The horror of COVID-19, changes in employment, ongoing illness, and sudden death. I have been asked more than once “where is God in all of this mess?” I began to consider various scriptures and reading several texts from C.S. Lewis, Mike Yaconelli, and others. I will not be providing easy answers, rather we will look to God’s Word to provide us a framework to be “strengthened” to persevere in life. There will be no “platitudes,” rather I might leave you with more questions than answers. One outcome I hope to provide is that we who are in Christ may be comforted with the promises of the Gospel to be courageous even in the midst of suffering.

Thursday evenings for five weeks beginning September 23 at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall of Trinity Church Pastor Dave will offer teach on the following topics:

September 23 – *Finding God In our Pain*

September 30 – *Where Is God In This Mess?*

October 7 – *NO Class – King Lion has Lion’s Club that evening.*

October 14 – *God’s Purposes In Our Suffering*

October 21 – *Unexplained Tragedy*

October 28 – *Redeeming Suffering*

Bring your Bible, pen and paper and we will consider passages of scripture from Job, Isaiah, Luke, Exodus, 2 Corinthians, James, and more. Each week there will be an article to read but no other assignment will be required.

To prepare you are asked to register for class so that enough materials may be prepared for those attending. You may send Pastor a note at his email: uccvicar@gmail.com or call the church office at 814-267-3234.

Organ Dedication Concert – October 31st – 4 p.m.



Somerset Trust and the Trinity Concert Fund will present Mr. Nicholas Bowden to Somerset County for the dedication of the Allen RL-66a Organ on Sunday, October 31st – Reformation Day and Halloween in a “Spooktacular” to

remember beginning at 4 p.m. in the Trinity sanctuary. His selections will include the famous J. S. Bach *Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor* which is often thought of as a “Halloween” piece.

Mr. Bowden was formerly the Principal Organist of the 10,000 member Peachtree Presbyterian Church, Atlanta for over 20 years. Prior he served as the Associate Organist to Miss Diane Bish at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church. He is a composer and organist of national renown. Today he is Artist in Residence at First Baptist Church, Roswell, GA.

Mr. Bowden’s energetic performances coupled with a unique sense of humor bring a fresh light to the world of organ music. He attended Mercer University in Macon, Georgia. He travels extensively, has a great love of politics and architecture, but his true passion has been and remains, people.

Following the concert, a reception will be hosted by the church. Invite your friends to join us for this concert. It is a gift to the congregation and no offering will be received.

Mr. Lucente who had been scheduled to play the dedication concert had to withdraw due to unforeseen circumstances. We hope to have him in Spring 2022 for a concert.

Confirmation Class at Trinity Church

Pastor Dave will be offering a Confirmation Class for students entering the 6th grade through High School beginning Sunday, September 19 at 6:30 p.m. Students and Parents are asked to be present to walk through expectations and class schedule. Confirmation Classes will be held the first and third Sundays of each month. Students will be confirmed on Reformation Sunday, October 2022. We will be planning to visit a Synagogue, Roman Catholic Church, and the Episcopal Cathedral.

Chancel Choir Rehearsals Begins. . .

Wednesday, September 22 at 7:30 p.m. the Chancel Choir will resume rehearsals. We are delaying one week later than previously announced due to several other conflicts with calendar matters. Music has been selected that will be accompanied by CD tracks for the fall. We had hoped to welcome a new keyboard musician, however due to circumstances beyond our control that person withdrew. Pastor Dave will continue to program the organ for weekly worship.

Trinity Bells Rehearsal Begins. . .

Wednesday, September 15 at 6:30 p.m. the Trinity Bells will gather to polish and renew their bells for the coming season. Our first full rehearsal will be on Wednesday, September 22 at 6:30 p.m. If you would like to join this group, please speak with our director, Jeanne Hilegass.

VBS – Wilderness Journey

We enjoyed having 22 children share in our VBS 2021 prepared and led by Amy Clark and Jean Hart. The decorations of the sanctuary and church office were wonderful. Thank you to our dinner hosts who made sure a delicious meal was served each night to children and families. Thank you to Amanda Custer for heading up the Crafts once again – it is always a joy to see what is done to correlate with the themes of the week. We had a number of guides who led the age groups around to the modules to experience VBS. Pastor Dave with the help of Matt Miller

presented the daily scripture lesson from Exodus. Pictures will be posted on our website under photo albums once they are all received. Be sure to enjoy them at www.berlinucc.org.

The offering of \$125.00 will be given to the Schrock Playground.



**We Claim the
Promise of the Life
Eternal**
for those Transferred
to the Church
Expectant:

Elliott Michael Tipton
John Walter Sherbine
Mary Alice Miller
Lucas Daniel Hayman
James E. Platt, Sr.

May each one rest in peace and light perpetual shine upon them and all the saints in glory.



Baptism Celebrated at Trinity

Kameron William Gindlesperger – Sunday, August 16, 2021
Son of Andy and Melissa and brother of Kylan.
Grandparents – Mark & Lori Gindlesperger

Financial Reports submitted by our Financial Secretary, Renee Gindlesperger and Treasurer, Jean Ann Darr

June 1- July 31, 2021

	CURRENT	MAINTENANCE	BENEVOLENCE
Beg. Balance	\$51,075.35	\$6,665.84	\$1,615.00
Receipts	\$25,607.25	\$1,667.00	\$2,008.00
Distributions	\$26,875.58	\$65.00	\$2,948.00
Ending Balance	\$49,807.02	\$8,267.84	\$675.00

Benevolence disbursements as follows: Berlin Food Pantry (Individual Donations) – \$260; Berlin Food Pantry (Benevolence Budget) - \$122.99; OCWM - \$1,759.96; One Great Hour of Sharing - \$100; Pastor’s Discretionary Fund - \$125; Trinity Outreach (Benevolence Budget) - \$410.05; Special OCWM (Debt Relief) - \$50; Global Missions – Child Sponsor - \$120

Memorials (as of 7/31/21):

Gifts were given to the Memorial Fund in Memory of **Lucas Hayman**.

Gifts were given to the Memorial Music Fund in Memory of **Lucas Hayman**.

Jean Ann Darr, Treasurer

Thank You Notes

Dear Trinity Family,

Thank you for your prayers and cards during my recovery. God heard your prayers, and my recovery couldn't have gone smoother or more quickly. I'm very grateful to all. – Sue Coughenour

Dear Church Family,

Thank you to all who sent me birthday cards. The cards are so pretty, inspirational, uplifting, complimentary and quite a few have 80 in them. I won't forget this birthday. I don't know how I got to 80 so fast. Oh well, it's only a number. Life is what we make it = One day at a time, have a good attitude, and live each day to the fullest. I really appreciated your efforts, kind thoughts and wishes. God bless all of you!

Sincerely, Ruth Elaine



Those Remembered in Prayer:

God's guidance and protection for Armed Forces.

Shut Ins:

Roy Bucher, Helen Diest, Mary Forespring, Janet Gindlesperger, Cynthia Kelly, Lois Krause, Deb Luteri, Lois Saylor, Dirkje Stellingwerf.

Healing Concerns:

Sally Altfather, Mark Amyot, Donnie Baxter, Lindsey Stotler Cioci, Pam Crooks, Jane Fisher, Linda Gallick, Dawn Gindlesperger, Kathryn Grimm, Barry Landis, Larry McCullen, Bayley Mull, Glenda Paul Family, Nancy Schrock, Avis Specht, Tyler Seifert Family, Robin Walker, Heather Weighley, Nancy Weighley, John Will, Karen Will, Kimberly Kay Roos Zimmerman.

Worship Assistants September / October

September 5th

Sound: Tom Croner, Pam Bush

Flowers: Larry & Judy McCullen

September 12th

Sound: Tyler Gindlesperger, Gaye Maust

Flowers: Russ & Jeanne Hillegas

September 19th

Sound: Tom Croner, Jim Darr

Flowers: Dave & Missy Miller

Special Flowers: Jeannie Keidel Williams

September 26th

Sound: Lori Gindlesperger, Gaye Maust

Flowers: Debbie & Terry Luteri

October 3rd

Sound: Terry Luteri, Russ Hillegas

Flowers: Nancy Bittner & Family

Special Flowers: Al & Joyce Knotts

October 10th

Sound: Tyler Gindlesperger, Pam Bush

Flowers: Lewis & Barbara Berkley

Special Flowers: Barb & Bill Landis

October 17th

Sound: Tom Croner, Gaye Maust

Flowers: Mark & Lori Gindlesperger

October 24th

Sound: Jim Darr, Tyler Gindlesperger

Flowers: Larry & Gale Hay

October 31st

Sound: Terry Luteri, Chris King

Flowers: Lois Saylor



Let's Have Some More Fun!

Fae Hetrick will be turning
"97 Years Young"
On September 19th.

We have omitted this page from her newsletter so it is a
"SECRET"!

Your previous contributions to these special birthdays really make one's day! Let's take time to make her day by showering her with birthday cards. Let's even get the kids involved by having them make her a card.

Her address is:

165 Glencoe Rd
Meyersdale PA 15552

If for any reason you are unable to mail your card, please feel free to drop it off at the church office prior to September 19th and we will be sure it gets to her. There is a mail slot in the office door so if we are closed you may place it there.