

Trinity Trumpet November/December 2022

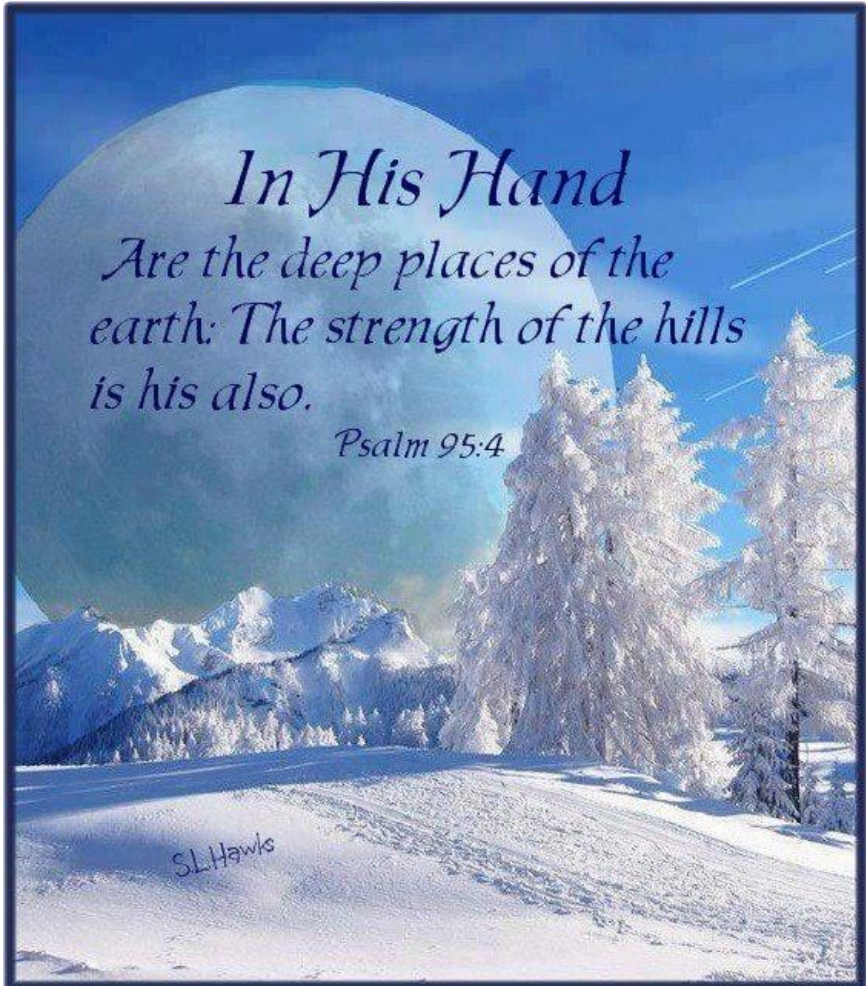
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Trinity United Church of Christ

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O God of Creation, you have blessed us with the changing of the seasons.

We praise you for your goodness forever and ever.

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS NOW PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS

President's Ponderings

Most of my ponderings at the present time, revolves around, active participation of our members, both young, middle age and older members. I haven't asked the ushers at the doors, but my guess is the largest group, of attendees probably over half, are the older members.

Debbie Boyer, chairperson of the Profile Committee, has had very little response to request for input both written response and attendance at the first input gathering in the Fellowship Hall. Very soon her committee will be calling another gathering in Fellowship Hall to receive assistance in completing our Church profile.

The Nominating Committee, Alan Brick, Jean Ann Darr, John Wisler and Alissa Wright are in the process of finding nominees (1 Elder & 3 Deacons) for the Church year 2023 – 2025.

Annual Church meeting will be December 4, 2022.

Now for one of the fun and can be very far-reaching activities is the preparing boxes for Operation Christmas Child through Samaritan's Purse. The box you prepare may be a major influence on a child and their world. I have heard and read about several of the boxes and their effects on the child's family and community.

Our part in the project needs to be completed sometime in the week of November 14 – 21st. The date I heard was by November 19. A Pizza/Packing Party is planned for Sunday November 6th at 4:30 pm. Donations are being accepted.

All Saints Sunday is November 6 Veterans Sunday is November 13.

Keep watch, the Budget Committee is working on the proposed budget for the year 2023. It will be available shortly after the November 14 Consistory meeting.

Most of the Preachers/Speakers are selected for the Sundays until New Year's Day. Our Conference Minister Rev. David Ackerman will be here for our Christmas Eve service at 11:00 pm.

There many other things happenings going on. Most items & activities will be in the Church Bulletin.

Hope to see you in Church on many of the Sundays.

Tom Calvert, President

Berlin Trinity United Church of Christ Consistory



Consistory Corner

Trinity United Church of Christ October 10, 2022

Tom Calvert called the regular meeting of the Trinity United Church of Christ Consistory at 7:05p by leading the Consistory in prayer.

Minutes of September 12, 2022, meeting

Minutes of the September 2022 meeting were sent to Consistory members electronically prior to the September meeting. Minutes were reviewed. Rus Ogburn made a motion to approve the minutes and Leanna Coughenour seconded. **Minutes approved.**

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's report was reviewed by consistory. Gaye Maust made a motion to accept and approve the Treasurer's report and Gale Hay seconded. **Minutes approved.**

President & Elders' Report (Spiritual Council)

1. Reverend David Ackerman has returned from sabbatical. Debbie Boyer will coordinate with Reverend Ackerman to discuss an Interim Pastor.
2. Elders to meet with other area churches about the possibility to share a permanent pastor and how that will look.

Standing Committees

1. Christian Education –
 - a. Openings are going well, and attendance is up from last year.

- b. Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box – goal is to put together 100 boxes by November 19, 2022.
2. Communion –
 - a. November 6, Jay Shaffer will provide communion.
 - b. Communion will remain as is through the end of the year.
3. Music –
 - a. Music Committee met on October 5. An invitation to join the choir will be posted in the bulletin and the Trinity Trumpet. Rehearsal to start first Wednesday in November from 7:30p-8p.
 - b. Local Caleb Onstead is involved in a handbell group. He composes handbell music that has been published. He is part of the Stow Heritage Ringers and is interested in coming in January to perform a concert.
4. Pastoral & Personnel – meeting Wednesday, October 12, 2022, to discuss a bonus for Pam for her increased workload. Committee will also discuss existing pay rates/increases for Secretary, fill-in Secretary, Financial Secretary, Sexton, Bell Choir Director, and Choir Director.
5. Property – Committee to meet to discuss snow removal and fireproof safe or electronic for church history records. Allison (Historian), Pam (Secretary), and someone from the property committee (Jason) will meet.

Special Committees

1. Christmas Decorations – new nativity scene has arrived.
2. Nomination – Consistory members bring nominations for new consistory members to November meeting. Annual congregation meeting will be held on December 4, 2022. Outgoing consistory members include Alan Brick (Chairman of nominating committee), John Wisler, Jean Ann Darr, and Alissa Wright.
3. Profile & Search Committee – meeting this week. More questions for congregation to consider.

Coordinators' Report

1. Ushers & Greeters – if Bob or John are not able to stand at the door, someone needs to stand in.
2. Living Waters – Summer camp was a success. More campers at Living Waters than at Camp Peniel. Founders Day banquet is coming up.

Old Business

1. Care Calling & Transportation – Somerset Area Ministries (SAM Van) – discussion to support and use the SAM Van in the short-term and long-term. SAM Van relies on donations to keep running. Rus to check on insurance. Details to follow.

New Business

1. Office Equipment - Pam likes the current equipment she is using. Original price was \$2,200.00, price negotiated to \$1,700.00 to purchase the current machine and \$117.00 for service contract.

Ann Slifco made a motion to adjourn consistory meeting and Amy Clark seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:42p.



Financial Reports submitted by our Financial Secretary, Renee Gindlesperger and August & September 2022

	CURRENT	MAINTENANCE	BENEVOLENCE
Beg. Balance	\$66,344.42	\$11,367.12	\$808.00
Receipts	\$17,857.21	\$1,620.00	\$1,670.00
Distributions	\$15,123.25	\$798.40	\$2,478.00
Ending Balance	\$69,078.38	\$12,188.72	\$0

Benevolence Distributions: Berlin Food Pantry (Individual Donations) – \$145.00; Berlin Food Pantry (Benevolence Budget) - \$125.60; Trinity Outreach (Benevolence Budget) - \$423.93; Global Ministries – Child Sponsor - \$90; OCWM - \$1,693.47

Memorials (as of 10/1/22):

None

--Jean Ann Darr, Treasurer

The **2023 Offering Envelopes** will be available for pickup at the Church on Sunday, November 20th – December 4th. All offering envelopes remaining after December 4th will be mailed. We are trying to cut down on the cost of postage, so any arrangements that can be made for pick up would be greatly appreciated.



Those Remembered in prayer:

God's guidance and protection for Armed Forces.

Shut Ins:

Lew & Barb Berkley, Roy Bucher, Helen Diest, Mary Forespring, Cynthia Kelly, Lois Krause, Debbi Luteri, Lois Saylor.

Healing Concerns:

Mark Amyot, Jerry & Kay Barnard, Donnie Baxter, Jason Benning, Jim Benoit, Carol Boyer, Rhonda Brown, Terry Coslic, Jim Coughenour, Pam Crooks, Larry Custer, John Durst, Alvin Harbaugh, Mary Jane Harding, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Larry Hay, Barry Landis, Brenda & Larry Leister, Larry McCullen, Bonnie Murphy, Larry Pritts, Nancy Schrock, Tracey Smith, Avis Specht, Phyllis Stoy, Kelly Tharp, Larry Tinkey, Adeline Vieregge, Robin Walker, Caleb Wedding, Heather Weighley, Nancy Weighley, Gerald Zorn

Prayer List Update

Once again, we need your assistance in updating our prayer list of healing concerns. If you have placed someone on our list, please confirm that they are still in need of prayer or hopefully taken off thanks to God's power of healing and your prayers. Please contact the office to help us with this update.

One Call Now Prayer List

Please remember that we have the ability to request prayer for church members, families, friends and anyone in need of prayer. Never underestimate the power of prayer. One small prayer can change your life or someone's life dramatically. To request prayer calls, simply contact Pam, our secretary at 541-990-0832 or at the office during business hours. If you are not on the one call now prayer phone receipt list and would like to be, we can do that as well.



All Saints Sunday, November 6

The Feast Sunday of All Saints was November 6. We celebrated the Saints who have gone before us in this past year. As is our tradition, the names of those remembered were read individually as the tower bell tolled, and family members were invited to the chancel to light a candle in memory of their loved one.

We remembered the following:

Paul E Berkey Sr
Janet Gindlesperger
Linda Hay
Ray Engle
Rev. Terry Lee Luteri
Jean Marie Bush

*We also remember those who have gone before us in days gone
by who rest in light eternal:*

Jane Countryman Emerick
Joyce Custer
Lester Coslic
Tom Bush
Carl "Fred" Bittner
Joyce Twombly
Darrin Twombly



Veterans Sunday – November 13

Sheron Engleka is once again preparing the video presentation in memory and honor of those who have served our country. Please join us in worship and salute to our veterans, to whom we owe much gratitude.

Wishing you all a blessed Thanksgiving



Thanksgiving is one our favorite days of the year because it reminds us to give thanks and to count our blessings. Suddenly, so many things become so little when we realize how blessed and how lucky we are.

**Sue Coughenour's Sunday School:
The Parsonage Conference Room Sunday School Class will
be following this schedule until the end of the year:**

November 13 & 20th: **Is Genesis History?** This study explores what the Bible teaches concerning Creation, Adam, Eve and the Flood.

November 27 – December 18: **Who Needs Christmas?** A 4-part video series by Andy Stanley. The story of Christmas is so familiar that we rarely dig into details. What if we did? The improbable details of the Christmas story might start to sound like real life – maybe even your life.

This class is open to adults of **ALL** ages and is led by Sue Coughenour. *Come join us!*

Profile Committee

We invite all of you to be part of a self-study and community learning process that will identify our church's imagination for the future and corresponding pastoral needs. We are in the process of developing a church profile for potential candidates. There will

be an open forum gathering Sunday, November 27th immediately following the church service. Reverend David Ackerman, Conference Minister, Penn West Conference, United Church of Christ will be there to assist, as well as provide, an opportunity to answer questions. In preparing our local church profile, what matters most is clear communication and a cohesive process to encourage maximum participation by the whole congregation.

Camp Living Waters

Fall Youth Rally, December 2-4, 2022. Grades 6-12. Cost \$25. Arrival: 7 p.m. Friday, Parent Pick Up: Noon Sunday. Watch your bulletin for additional details or contact Camp Living Waters at www.livingwaterscamp.org for more information.

Bethlehem Experience is being held Sunday, December 11, 2022, and planning is underway. They are looking for volunteers to:

- 1) Help with making sets, costumes, painting, etc.
- 2) Serve as actors
- 3) Help with set up and tear down December 10-11
- 4) Help with lighting and sound systems

For more information, contact Joanne Stoltzfus at 814-233-5905 or email her at jks101@verizon.net

Annual Congregational Meeting – The Consistory calls for the annual meeting of the congregation on Sunday, December 4th following worship to act upon the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, adopt the proposed 2023 Budget, and take up any other business of the congregation. The meeting will commence following the service at 10 a.m.



“Secret Pals” Program

We are gearing up for another round of the Secret Pals program beginning in November. The applications were included in our last newsletter as well as posted on our church community bulletin board.



Adopt-A-Family AKA Secret Santa

We will begin collecting money again this year for families in need. Through November 20th if you want to donate towards our Adopt-A-Family please make note of it on your collection envelope. Last year we supported 4 families and purchased gifts for 12 kids. In addition, we were able to provide a gift certificate for each family to have a full holiday meal. Every year there are individuals to help shop, wrap, and support this cause; it truly means so much to each of the recipients. Thank you. If you would like to partake in assisting again this year, please let me know.

Thanks, Julie Petro

Christmas Decorating:

Will commence the week of November 14th. We will be erecting the BIG TREE this year!!! Merry Christmas to us!! The big tree is a big task, so the night of, Thursday, November 17th we would like as much help as possible. We will announce a time at a later date.

Christmas Play

We are looking for a chairperson and committee for the Christmas play/program this year. Please contact the church office or Kathy Spangler 814-279-2336.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Please join us for a special candlelight service on December 24th at 11:00 p.m. Our virtual organist, Rick Kimmel, will be playing live! Conference Minister, David Ackerman, will be leading us in worship, our Trinity Bells will be ringing, and we will be singing the praises of our Lord.

Christmas Day Service

Pastor Art Gotjen will lead us in prayer and a short message. We will share in the blessings of Christmas Day and sing carols of choice as received in weeks prior to the service.

Do You Like to Sing?

It has been decided to get the Choir back together. If you are interested in joining, practice will start Wednesday, November 16th at 7:30 p.m. and it will be one half hour practices. Please contact Ann Slifco, Nancy Bittner, Jeanne Hillegas or Jean Ann Darr.

Poinsettia Order Forms:

Please see the enclosed insert for your Poinsettia Flower order for Christmas. Please note that these forms must be returned no later than November 28th. However, the sooner, the better to ensure desired colors. If you need additional room, please use the back of the form. Also plan to pick up your plants after Christmas morning service or during office hours the following week. Place your orders in the collection plates, mail or through the mail slot at the church office.

Trinity Trumpet Special Addition

Please watch your mailbox for a special edition of Trinity Trumpet sometime in mid-November. There will be information regarding our 2023 budget and new Consistory members for 2023.

In publishing the trumpet in a timely manner bi-monthly, we often do not have information available to us two months in advance. We encourage you to participate in the dissemination of information through this valuable form of communication. Please note that the trumpet is published two weeks prior to the first of the month it is scheduled to be distributed. For example, our first edition of 2023 will go out just prior to January 1, 2023. If you would like to submit information for that edition, please contact the church office no later than two weeks prior to January 1, 2023. Your participation is welcomed!!!! And finally, if we miss information that you have questions about, please feel free to contact the church office.

At the time of this printing, we do not have information regarding our January 1st, 2023 (Happy New Year), so please watch the scheduled broadcasts on our website, bulletins, and Facebook page for more information.

Pastoral Care: For those in need of pastoral care please contact Tom Calvert, President of Consistory at 814-267-3771, who will arrange for a pastor to provide comfort and assurance in a time of crisis. If you need **immediate** pastoral care, contact Jay Shaffer at 814-483-0398.

Worship Assistants

Worship Assistants November/December

November 6

Sound: Lori Gindlesperger, Chris King
Flowers: Chris King
Bulletin: Craig & Amanda Stiffler
Acolyte: Nathan Spangler

November 13

Sound: Jim Darr, Russ Hillegas
Flowers: Barry Landis
Special Flowers: Larry & Judy McCullen
Bulletin: Larry & Judy McCullen
Acolyte: Kaitlyn Miller

November 20

Sound: Tyler Gindlesperger, Gaye Maust
Flowers: Alissa Wright
Acolyte: Vesper Ogburn

November 27

Sound: Tom Croner, Pam Bush
Flowers: Michele Romesberg
Acolyte: Cora Wright

December 4

Sound: Chris King, Russ Hillegas

Flowers: Judy McCullen
Acolyte: Cohen Clark, Colton Custer

December 11

Sound: Jim Darr, Lori Gindlesperger
Flowers: Dave & Missy Miller
Acolyte: Matt Miller

December 18

Sound: Gaye Maust, Tyler Gindlesperger
Flowers: Carl & Karol Saylor
Acolyte: Lily Countryman

December 24

Sound: Pam Bush, Tom Croner
Bulletin: Craig & Amanda Stiffler
Acolyte: Cohen Clark

December 25

Sound: Tom Croner, Pam Bush
Acolyte: Kaitlyn Miller

Altar Flowers

For those of you who are unable to pick up the orders that you make for the altar flowers, please make arrangements to have them picked up for you. If you are unable to make arrangements or choose not to, please contact the church office. We will deliver them to our shut ins or Meadowview nursing home patients.

The Whole Congregation in Ministry and Assisted by

Church Secretary: Pam Bush & Jean Ann Darr

Financial Secretary: Renee Gindlesperger

Chancel Choir Director Emeritus: Linda Gallick

Handbells: Jeanne Hillegas

Virtual Organist: Rick Kimmel

Consistory Elders:

Tom Calvert, President, 814-267-3771

Rus Ogburn, Vice President, 814-267-5650

Alan Brick, 814-267-6628

Consistory Deacons:

*Amy Clark, Jean Ann Darr, Ann Slifco
Leanna Coughenour, Gale Hay, John Wisler
Alissa Wright, Debbie Boyer, Gaye Maust*

Church Office Hours – Tuesday through Thursday

9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Church Office Phone: 814-267-3234

Mail: PO Box 86, Berlin, PA 15530

Email: berlinucc@yahoo.com

Website: www.berlinucc.org



Our 80 & Over Birthday Club!!

Getting older is like climbing a mountain; you get a little out of breath, but the view is much better. Let's show these folks a view of caring by their fellow congregational members by sending them birthday cards!!

These are our members for November/December

Nancy Custer
Judy Wagers
Tom Croner
Bob Coughenour
Larry Pritts

This page has been deleted from these birthday club members so let's make it a surprise!

If you need addresses, please contact the church office.