

## Pastor's Ponderings

Pastor David Eisenhuth

Before I begin, let me say that in my last article I neglected to thank the many people who remembered my installation and the 37th anniversary of my ordination with cards and gifts. Your outpouring of support, especially in the many handwritten notes on those cards, was very affirming. I know my ministry here at Trinity Lutheran Church is helped immensely by the prayers you are all offering. I am happy that even after 37 years of ordained service in the church, things seem again fresh and challenging. I thank Bishop Gohl for matching us together and for trusting me to celebrate Trinity's 150 years of life, even as we look to the future with enthusiasm.

When our Church Council was planning the event, I was asked what kind of gift I wanted. I jokingly said a "Lamborghini." Indeed, I got one, even if it is too small for me to get into. I have been having a grand time "driving" my red, radio-controlled sports car down the long hallways of our building. This model car has doors that open at the touch of a button, working headlights, a horn, and lots of motor noise. It's garaged on one of the shelves in my office if you want to see it. Thanks to the council for such an inventive gift!

Two things are beginning to take shape here at Trinity. The first will happen on Thursday, September 6, when Jazz Vespers will be held in our sanctuary. Vespers is a service of evening prayer that features chant, prayer, and scripture. The publication of the *Lutheran Book of Worship* in 1977 gave us a format for vespers that was well thought out and musically beautiful.

The focus of the service is the Evening Prayer Candle, which represents Jesus Christ who is the Light of the World. Jesus's light piercing the darkness of the descending night is a theme which appears frequently in the New Testament. The service begins with the procession of this candle from the back of the church to its stand in the sanctuary before the altar. Chant marks three steps whereat the procession is paused. When the candle is placed in its stand, the *Phos Hilaron* is sung. It is one of the oldest hymns in the Christian Church. It begins, "Joyous light of glory." As this hymn is being sung, the candles in the church are lit and the darkened space brightened.



Vespers is actually a monastic service used to mark the change of hours in the community. As such, it features psalms. In monastic communities, the entire psalter is used over the period of one week. The first psalm at vespers is always Psalm 141. It's called the incense psalm because a little incense is used to bless the candle and the worship space. The opening words to the psalm are, "Let my prayer rise before you as incense." After a period of silence, a second psalm is sung. Then follows an evening hymn.

A lesson is read. The litany is sung, followed by the Lord's Prayer. Our format features a "teaching moment." This is a brief homily designed for people who might not have a tradition of worship attendance.

Coupling vespers with jazz music has a long history at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Manhattan. St. Peter's was a Gothic-style church in midtown that faced the usual building-maintenance problems. These were solved and the future of the church secured when it sold the air rights to its building plot on Lexington Avenue. CitiBank built a skyscraper on the site. It features a pyramidal roof, which is one of the hallmarks of the city's skyline. St. Peter's rebuilt

*Continued on page 7.*

### CONTENTS

Church Council News .....	2
From the Organ Bench .....	3
Altar Flowers.....	3
These Numbers Are Individual Souls .....	4
Monday Bible Study.....	4
Tuesday Bible Study .....	4
Trinity Lutheran Church	
Activities Calendar for August 2018.....	5
Rally Day is September 9! .....	5
Talent Show and Ice Cream Social.....	5
TLC's 150th Anniversary .....	6
Celebrating 150 Years of Great Food!.....	6
Deacon Update .....	6
Chat with Pastor David .....	8
August Birthdays, Anniversaries, Thank You.....	9

# Church Council News

Judy Conrad, Council President

As we continue to work toward being more approachable and welcoming at TLC, our general appearance is something to look at. We know that the building itself is wonderful, but are we somewhere that people will enter? How is our curb appeal? This year our "front yard" was made beautiful with bright red geraniums planted and lovingly cared for by Rodney and Michelle Nearchos. The plants were purchased by Fellowship and Parish Life as decorations for Pastor David's installation luncheon, with the understanding that they would be placed out front after the celebration. They started out small, but have thrived in their new location, thanks to lots of sunshine and careful watering, bucket by bucket, plant by plant, by Michelle! New plants plus the mulch spread earlier by the Property Team made a huge difference! Rodney and Michelle are also the ones who care for the large planters at the Fellowship Hall entrance and the plants along Randolph Avenue. Please thank them when you see them next! These things make such a big difference!

## CHANGES TO THE COURTYARD

You may have noticed that the tall trees along the fence in the courtyard have been removed. Most of them were damaged by winter snow and ice and had begun to hang over the fence, damaging it and hanging into our neighbor's yard. At first, only the worst damage was cut back, but it soon became obvious that actually none of the trees could be saved. Junior Michael and Ralph Conrad have been slowly cutting them down and managed to save the fence. This fall a plan will be developed for new plants in that area.

## LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

On July 21 a time was set aside for members of the Church Council and members of the church Teams to come together to begin to work on the budget, to hear about some new ideas that Pastor David has, and to begin to hear about Reconciling Works. We had over 30 people working together!

First, Craig Fentress, President Elect of Council, provided everyone with a spreadsheet showing their Team's expenses for the past two years. Council members who are liaisons to Teams then met with the Team chair and/or members to look at their expenses. We were all encouraged to look outside the box for finance ideas. What do we really need to do our jobs? As Teams meet over the next couple of months, they will be asked to develop a realistic budget for 2019.

The second presentation was by Pastor David who outlined some new ideas for Trinity: the Children's Chorus, Jazz Vespers, a Seeker Service of 30 minutes, and an idea

to "market" Trinity to increase awareness of what we do here.

The third portion of the morning was dedicated to getting to know the Reconciling Works program. Written information was provided to the participants and discussion followed. One of the questions for discussion was, "When have you been excluded, and how did that make you feel?" Many members shared stories of being shunned or excluded for reasons beyond their control. The second portion of that question was, "What has it meant to be welcomed in your life?" The final question was, "What does Jesus mean when He commanded us to love God and your neighbor as yourself?" We talked about where we would go from here, and that will include more opportunities for education, and discussion within the congregation considering what it means to be welcoming to everyone. Sample affirmation statements were reviewed and will be shared at the educational opportunities. The next Reconciling in Christ group meeting is August 4 at 10:30 a.m. *Everyone* is encouraged to attend.

## WEDDINGS AT TRINITY

This summer and early fall, Trinity has the honor of welcoming three wedding celebrations to our sanctuary. On July 7, Tracie McGlinchey and Mark Koogle were united in marriage. Mark is an Eagle Scout from Troop 10, and some of you may remember his father, Ed. Mark and Tracie have been attending worship here since early spring and have joined in the Monday evening Bible Study. If you see them at worship, please say hi!

On August 11, Ashley Plume and Jake Demers will be joined in matrimony here at Trinity. Jake and Ashley attended the wedding of Samantha and Fred Kreiger in 2016. Fred is the son of Fred and Sue Krieger. Ashley and Jake felt so welcomed by Trinity that they returned for their own ceremony. (Samantha and Fred have a beautiful new baby boy who will be baptized here soon.)

On October 6, we will host the wedding of Kelly Toms and Brett Turner. Kelly is the daughter of Rick and Cinda Toms.

Trinity has one of the most beautiful sanctuaries in the area. This building, built by our ancestors, with its beautiful windows, is one of our most valuable resources. Many couples look for a wedding venue that is beautiful and want a Christian wedding, but do not have a church home. One of Pastor David's ideas is to market our sanctuary for weddings. This is a new idea that was approved by Council for study and development. A fee charged for the use of the sanctuary would return to the budget.

We are looking for any wedding photos that you may have of your wedding here at Trinity. Or even better, photos of your parents or grandparents. We would like to display some in the Bride's Room and possibly use some (with your permission) in advertising and marketing. Please drop off any pictures you may have in the office, or, if you have digital pictures, please send them to Judy Conrad at [rjm13911@aol.com](mailto:rjm13911@aol.com). This is an exciting idea and we are looking forward to seeing how it all pans out.

# From the Organ Bench

## Pastor Greg Shook

Dear Flock,

Sayings, statements, postings on walls in various places—we've all seen them. Some things that we've seen or read that have meaning for us and give us an ongoing "pep me up" when we remember the words or see them in print.

Since I've had more than a little time on my hands lately after my shoulder surgery, I was able to visit with Kay, a first cousin whom I have not seen since 1968—we had talked and stayed in touch, but there were no "on site" gatherings. Kay and I visited with Barb (another first cousin), and spent hours remembering people in my dad's family and telling stories of their mannerisms and "words of wisdom" over the years.

It was comforting to hear that some of the same things I remembered, Kay and Barb also remembered. The time we spent together was a gift that could be bought with no amount of money, and the words and memories we shared ran very deep. There were special gestures and words that we remembered over and over while we were together.

Here some examples of these remembered bits of wisdom that have stuck with me over the years:

- On the mirror in a place I used to get my hair cut, there was a sign, "Remember, I'm a beautician, *not* a magician!"
- My father had several favorites he used on a regular basis, especially during my teen years. One was from Abraham Lincoln: "Better to be thought a fool than to open your mouth and remove all doubt." Another one that is engrained in my soul is, "A still tongue makes a wise head."
- Phyllis, my mother, had a piece of paper on her refrigerator that simply read, "Be kind."
- Another saying I've seen and heard I shared with a friend recently: "If you're happy with our service, tell your friends; if you're unhappy, tell me."

These kinds of sayings stay with us, as well as the people who say them . . . and that goes for words or actions that are not always kind or complimentary. We can forget that we represent not only who we are, but we also represent the organizations with which we are associated. Other people do notice that. So when we are out and about our words and actions can tell them a great deal. That includes our faith and our church.

John 3:16 tells us that God loved us SO much that he gave us Jesus. Jesus's ministry was a ministry of hospitality and inclusiveness, built on loving everyone. We are now Christ's ambassadors in the world, to continue the love and goodness that God provided us through Jesus's birth and presence. It is quite a responsibility, and we sometimes

forget that we are charged with being responsible for how we represent our Lord and how we treat one another. And (as the song says), it is through those words and actions that others will know we are Christians: by our love.

When that love is misdirected or misrepresented, others will take that in as well. That includes their perception of where we worship and what is happening there. We also represent God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, and that, too, can leave a lasting impression with folks. We don't always think about that.

Jesus doesn't say we have to be pedigreed to do great things. He doesn't tell us that we have to have specialized skills. He doesn't even tell us we have to have a lot of money. Simply, he tells us to love one another. The Bible is full of stories of great things that begin with the least likely of places, creating the possible from the impossible.

We can allow ourselves to be a place where God's possibilities in the world begin. We are capable of being God's ambassadors to others, offering love and hospitality. So, as individuals, as a congregation, let's get busy. Let's rededicate ourselves to work toward being a positive and united presence, within and outside the walls, keeping the message of God's love alive for others.

—Soli Deo Gloria, Pastor Greg



## Altar Flowers

### Inge Dudda

As a former Altar Guild co-chair, this topic is dear to my heart. Offerings and contributions for altar flowers are not keeping pace with the cost of flowers. Worship attendance may affect this.

Flower dedication in the memory of loved ones, honoring someone's birthday or anniversary or accomplishment, honoring Trinity's church staff and hard-working, faithful volunteers—this *is* a loving way to contribute to our worship of God by beautifying His House with the flowers He has created in such variety and gorgeous colors! Jesus called the lilies of the field more beautiful than any garments that rich King Solomon possessed (Matthew 6:28-29).

Please remember this delightful area of our church life in your giving. Send a note with the text of your dedication and your check to Colleen at the church office. And while you are thinking about it, give the new Altar Guild chairperson, Maggie Stone, your support, and if possible your time, by serving on one of the teams or helping with the flower ministry. Thank you and God bless!

# These Numbers Are Individual Souls

June Habeck

Today 13,000,000 American children face hunger. That's one in six kids.

One policy at the TLC Food Pantry is to give only families who have a Food Bank card and who have children a box of spaghetti along with cans of spaghetti sauce. Individuals with cards receive a can of spaghetti in sauce. These families also receive a jug of milk and either a half dozen or a dozen eggs, depending on the size of the family. Our card regulars who do not have children and who are frequent guests will get milk and eggs if they request them.



When guests come in without a Food Bank card or an ID card, they are given U.S.D.A./government foods that provide a much more limited supply than our usual fare. However, if those same families have children, we find ourselves compelled to help those young ones by adding extras like cereal, milk, eggs, fruit, and desserts, “for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 19:14).

The 2018 overall ranking of children’s well-being in Maryland, out of the 50 U.S. states, ranking from best (1) to worst (50), indicates:

Economic well-being	15th
Educational ranking	9th
Health ranking	17th
Family and community ranking	22nd
Overall well-being	16th

(Maryland was 12th in overall well-being in 2012)



The worst states, ranking in the 40s for those categories, are Alaska, Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.



What factors affect children’s well-being? Children in poverty (12 percent white, 34 percent black) who grow into young adults are more likely to contend with issues such as teen pregnancy and failure to graduate from high school.

The largest contributors to the overall rise in property since the 1980s to 2017 is income inequality (5.5 percent increase), changing racial composition of the country (1 percent increase), and single mothers as heads of households (4 percent increase).

For many, just one event—the loss of a job, an illness, moving to care for family members—has catapulted them into poverty.



Statistics from the TLC Food Pantry and TLC Clothing Bank

	2018 Jan - June	2017 Jan - June	Increase (decrease)
<b>Food Pantry</b>			
Families	804	718	--
Individuals	1,941	1,790	8.44%
<b>Clothing Bank</b>			
Families	1,090	955	14.14%

## Monday Bible Study

The Monday night Bible study is winding down its look at heaven, purgatory, and hell. We are going to take a two week break and begin a study on the Gospel of John at 7:30 p.m. Monday, August 20. We will read the entire book. There is no homework. You can come and go as you want to, and if you miss a class you won't be left behind.

John is the last Gospel written and probably comes to us from the last decade of the first century. The writer is a theologian and who takes things that appear in the other three Gospels and bends them to his own devices. For example, the synoptic Gospels—Mark, Luke, and Matthew—place the setting of the Last Supper within the framework of the Passover Meal. John says it happened at dinner the night before Passover. Who is right? There's an obvious contradiction. So much for Biblical inherency. Come find out why John does this! Tell Pastor David if you want to attend, so we can have a book for you.



## Tuesday Bible Study

The Tuesday morning Bible study will focus next on the book of Exodus, beginning 10 a.m. on August 21. In this “historical” book, God uses slavery in Egypt to gather a people and bring them out of bondage into a new life in the Promised Land. We will use the Kerygma series. We will use books, but you can miss a class and not be lost! Refreshments are served! If you have not been attending this study but want to come, please call the office or tell Pastor David so we can have a book for you. To begin, we will study the story of Joseph, which will help us understand how God’s people got to Egypt in the first place. This will continue for the first two Tuesdays in August. A movie will be shown about Joseph, starring Ben Kingsley. If you want to, just come for the movie!

# Trinity Lutheran Church

## Activities Calendar for August 2018

(Why not post me on the refrigerator?)

Wednesday, August 1	Social Ministry ..... 9 a.m. .... Parlor
	Children's Chorus organizational meeting..... 7 p.m. .... Memorial Hall
Saturday, August 4	Reconciling in Christ meeting..... 10:30 a.m. .... Parlor
Sunday, August 5	Pastor David flies to Vienna, Austria, for 10 days
Tuesday, August 7	Property Committee ..... 7 p.m. .... Parlor
	Fellowship and Parish Life..... 1 p.m. .... Fellowship Hall
	Senior Ministry ..... 1:30 p.m. .... Parlor
Wednesday, August 8	Karoke ..... 6 p.m. .... Fellowship Hall
Thursday , August 9	Beer and the Bible..... 6 p.m. .... Blackeyed Susan's
Friday, August 10	Wedding rehearsal ..... 5 p.m. .... Sanctuary
Saturday, August 11	Wedding ..... 2:30 p.m. .... Sanctuary
Monday, August 13	Civitan ..... 6 p.m. .... Fellowship Hall
Thursday, August 16	Executive Team ..... 4:30 p.m. .... Office
Saturday, August 18	Worship and Music Committee ..... 9 a.m. .... Parlor
	Talent Show/Ice Cream Social ..... 1:00 p.m. .... Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, August 21	Church Council..... 6:30 p.m. .... Board Room

## Rally Day Is September 9!

Mark your calendar now for the annual Rally Day picnic on Sunday, September 9.

We will have a Unity service at 10 a.m., with the picnic following the service. We will be at Washington County Regional Park (near Black Rock Golf Course).

Please bring a dish to share.

We will play games and Bingo after lunch!

## Talent Show & Ice Cream Social

Do you dance, do gymnastics, sing, play a musical instrument, are you in a band, paint, sculpt, take pictures, do comedy or dramatic readings? Have another unique talent? Start practicing and producing and show us your stuff!

The Christian Education/Family Ministry and Senior Ministry teams are sponsoring a Talent Show open to *all* Trinity members along with an Ice Cream Social on Saturday, August 18, at 1 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. This will be a great time to see and enjoy the tremendous talents of many different members of our congregation. Plan to be a performer, a spectator, or both! To participate, complete a talent form found in Fellowship Hall and the narthex and return it to the church office by August 5. And be sure to sign up for the Ice Cream Social so we can all cool down after the great performances! There will be one rehearsal the week prior to the Talent Show with a date and time to be announced. Artwork must be delivered to the church office by noon Friday, August 17, in order to be included in the show. It will remain on display through the Sunday, August 19, worship services.

## TLC's 150th Anniversary

Carol Brashears

The team working on the plans for our 150th anniversary will meet again on Tuesday, August 14, at 4 p.m. in Memorial Hall. We will continue to look at results from the survey sent out last month in the July newsletter. If you have not completed your survey, there are two ways to do it. It is on our website at [tlchag.org](http://tlchag.org). Just scroll down from the homepage. If you prefer paper, there are extra copies available in the church office.

We are looking for some wonderful stories about your memories from your time at Trinity. Please join us for the meeting if you can. We are looking for lots of ideas!



## Celebrating 150 Years of Great Food!

Scarlett Michael

Since the 150th anniversary of the founding of Trinity Lutheran Church will soon be here, I thought it would be nice to include a recipe from the past in each month's newsletter. This month I selected one from the *1995 Cooking with Trinity Lutheran Church*. Charlotte Smith had submitted the following recipe:

### Antipasto Salad

1/2 c. vegetable oil  
 1 clove garlic, minced  
 1 tsp. Salt  
 6 oz twist trio macaroni, cooked and drained  
 4 oz. pepperoni, halved length-wise and thinly sliced  
 1/2 c. (2 oz) mozzarekka cheese, shredded  
 3 T. wine vinegar  
 1 tsp. dried basil leaves  
 1/8 tsp. crused dried red pepper  
 1/4 c. grated Parmesan cheese  
 2 c. broccoli flowerets, cooked  
 10 cherry tomatoes, quartered  
 Lettuce leaves

In a large bowl stir together oil, vinegar, garlic, salt, basil, and red pepper. Add warm macarnic and Parmesan cheese. Toss to coat well, cover, refrigerate 2 to 3 hours. Add broccoli, pepperoni, and tomatoes; toss until well-coated. Serve on lettuce-lined platter. Sprinkle with mozzarella cheese. If desired garnish with red onion rings. Makes 6 servings.

## Deacon Update

Peggy Hardinge, OSSD

Hello everyone! I'd like to fill you in on Jena Staley's and my efforts with our Bible study at W House (a substance abuse treatment center). Everyone who participates receives a Bible and a workbook. It is a five-week study on the "I Am" statements of Christ. There is a segmented CD narrative by the author, Lysa TerKeurst, as she takes us on a tour in the Holy Land.

On week one, a Thursday night at 7 p.m., we had two women in attendance.

On week two, I got a call about 6 p.m. saying the women chose to attend another meeting opportunity and that, if we switched our Bible study to a different night, we could perhaps eliminate a conflict in meetings.

So, we chose Wednesday nights at 7:15 p.m. and held the second official meeting the following week. We had three different women entirely; the first two women did not return.

As I write this tonight, we held the third study and, although none of the women who had been in attendance during the previous meetings returned, we still had two new women.

This rather disjointed attendance leaves little room for continuity and makes it hard to know how to proceed. Do we start over with the workbook and video each time? Is this kind of format appropriate to the audience? Or would a "topic du jour" be more in line with the needs of the women who seem to want to share their stories, their struggles, their prayer needs with us?

Perhaps studying God's word on the particular issue, brought to the fore by someone in attendance, is something worth considering.

That being said, Jena and I are putting the future direction of our Bible study in God's hands. We know He will give us insight and perfect His will in our efforts. All prayers for us, and for the enrichment of these women, are welcome.



## Pastor's Ponderings

*Continued from page 1*

itself as a strikingly modern facility under the CitiBank skyscraper. With a huge endowment (probably the largest in the ELCA), St. Peter's reinvented itself with a myriad of ministries, including a pastor who dedicated himself to the spiritual needs of the jazz community in the city. His name was John Gensel. I actually knew him. Jazz became a hallmark of several services held during the week, including evening prayer. This ministry has been going on for at least 40 years now.

I was always interested in having a Jazz Vespers service when I was at Holy Comforter, but didn't know how to put it together. This was solved when we were looking for a new director of music. One of the people I interviewed was a man by the name of Roy James Stewart. Turns out he was first and foremost a jazz musician. Together we developed a jazz ministry at Holy Comforter.

He wrote a service based on the *Lutheran Book of Worship*, but with the warm sound of American jazz. He assembled a quartet made up of a soloist, bass, piano, and sax, who stayed together until Roy got arthritis and could no longer play. His replacement continued to play until I left Holy Comforter and the church decided to discontinue the service.

When we first began, we debated what night to offer the service. We had to avoid weekends, when jazz musicians are already committed to playing in clubs. Sunday evening conflicted with football. We hit on Wednesday. I remember the first one—the fourth Wednesday in July. I was shocked to have 150 people at the service. The Jazz Vespers continued uninterrupted for eight years. At the end, attendance was hovering around 90. Rhonda Robinson, the soloist, had perfect attendance for the entire eight years!

The vespers service attracted an interesting group of people. Many were already members of other churches, but others had no church tradition and came for the music. Almost all of the people who joined Holy Comforter for the last three years of its ministry at 5513 York Road in Baltimore came through the Jazz Ministry. I am hoping that this new service at Trinity will offer a new experience to the people of Hagerstown and its surrounds. I believe when people come to a service at Trinity, its worship space and the friendliness of its members will be inviting enough for them to come to a regular Sunday service.

So, on Thursday, September 6, we will have our first Jazz Vespers. I hit on Thursday because the other nights were already filled up. The only conflict is the Praise Band practice, which ends before the 7:30 p.m. start time of Vespers. Of course, it being jazz, there is a relaxed attitude about time, so things don't exactly get started as planned. My quartet is making a pilgrimage over the mountains from Baltimore to play the first service. I am hoping after that we can use the incredible musical talent we have in the congregation and the city to assemble our own group. I am sure my friend A.J. Stewart will give us permission to use the music he wrote for the service at Holy Comforter. As with the musicians, we could very well design our own service with home-grown compositions.



The service is supposed to attract a hip crowd, and we featured a wine and cheese reception after each service at Holy Comforter. Our Church Council reviewed the policy of serving alcohol at the church and discovered that a policy of prohibiting alcohol at weddings was all that was said. So . . . after our first service we will have a nice reception with wine and cheese.

After this first service, a planning group will work to see if we want to do this again and determine how often it should be offered. I am hoping it can become a monthly event. How about "First Thursday at Trinity" or something like that?

Please pray for this new ministry at Trinity. And above all, plan to come on September 6. Even if you don't like jazz, it's important to have, as they say in the industry, "a good house." We want visitors to feel the warmth here and be invited through jazz to deepen their desire to share Christ's love with us. We will also need people to usher and provide for the reception. Say "yes" when you are asked to help. Better yet, volunteer! Tell me you are interested in this new ministry and I will be sure you are involved.

The second thing I want us to offer is a new ministry aimed at children and hopefully their parents. This ministry will focus music. The young people will sing at one service each month. The plan is to start with 20 young people. Each Wednesday, or at least three times a month, we will serve dinner to the young people and their parents. While they practice for an hour, we hope to offer something of need and interest to adults. This could be Bible study, discussion, *et cetera*. After that half hour, we would offer a 30 minute start-to-finish worship service for the adults.

By the time you are reading this, we will have had an organizational meeting to help flesh out the details. Since there are lots of things to flesh out, it's reasonable to think we could begin no sooner than October. Right now, pray that God will help us develop a plan and provide us with an audience. More about this un-named ministry will appear in the next edition of the *Messenger*.

# Chat with Pastor David

Peggy Hardinge, OSSD

Hello Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

Our second “Chat With Pastor David” was held in Memorial Hall July 8, 2018, between services, at 10 a.m. Fifteen members of Trinity met with Pastor David. Here are the points discussed.

1. Pastor David expressed both his and Bishop Gohl’s excitement over the recent milestone events held at Trinity. They were the ordination of Sarah Wright, the setting-apart ceremony of Peggy Hardinge as a deacon, and his own installation as Trinity’s senior minister. Encouraging note: all our visitors for these events agreed that we made them feel welcome! God be praised! Keep doing what you’re doing; reach out, introduce, and embrace all who enter here!

2. Bishop Gohl presented a clergy “boundary workshop.” This was the fourth event in which he has participated, at Trinity, in a few weeks.

3. Pastor David expects to begin Jazz Vespers by September. This may be followed by a cheese and wine event in Memorial Hall. More info, to come, later.

4. Pastor David and Pastor Greg participated in a wedding yesterday at the Washington County Museum. Pastor David suggested we advertise for weddings and allow nonmembers to be married at Trinity. The question of premarital counseling came up, and Pastor David suggested we “farm” that element “out” to someone who is able and willing to do it and is trained in counseling.

5. Pastor Greg is on workers compensation disability and is not supposed to drive or do anything until July 20 at the earliest.

6. Pastor David feels we should have lectors at the Contemporary service.

7. Pastor David has a goal to create a neighborhood children’s choir by September 2018. He and Pastor Greg are trying to concentrate on youth in our community.

8. Carol Schofield expressed concern for the homebound who are not receiving Communion or being visited on a regular basis. We discussed the upcoming Lay Visitation class scheduled for July 14 at 1 p.m., after lunch, in Memorial Hall. This class was preceded by an Assisting Minister class. Please consider becoming a member of the Lay Visitation Team and/or an Assisting Minister. You are needed so badly.

9. Pastor David would like to form a prayer chain for emergency needs. We will look into a “call tree,” mass texting, or emails to see which works best or seems to reach the most folks. Hunt Hardinge mentioned another church who calls this their “God Squad.” You may be called to be part of whatever chain is selected for this purpose.

10. Pastor David announced that we have four Bible

studies running at present: Pastor David’s Monday at 7 p.m. and Tuesday at 10 a.m., Jeff Szabo’s Sunday at 10 a.m., and Peggy Hardinge/Jena Staley’s on Wednesday nights at 7:15 p.m. at W House halfway house. The Synod considers it good to have at least two Bible studies running at any given time. So we are doing doubly well!

11. Barb Smith suggested that notifications of changes in worship times and locations are frequently missed by folks who arrive at the church during usual worship times. Hunt Hardinge says he posts changes in the *Mini-Messenger* and the monthly *Messenger*, on the Trinity website and Facebook. Occasionally it is entered in the newspaper. All agreed that the membership, as a whole, needs to be more proactive in searching out these sources when looking for confirmation of the most current information.

The Trinity website has an up-to-date calendar with three site tabs to easily “click on” to retrieve the calendar: (1) at the “menu bar” on the top of the website page, (2) in the middle of the page, or (3) at the bottom of the page. Any of the three will get you to the calendar.

We also considered robo-calls for changes in worship times/locations (such as parks). More on that later.

12. Pastor David is about halfway through his list of membership families he wishes to visit in his first year with us. These home visits to each family are Pastor David’s way of getting to know us by having a one-on-one opportunity to share the concerns of our heart and our dreams for Trinity’s future. These opportunities are at the top of Pastor David’s list. If you receive a call from Council President Judy Conrad, please allow her to arrange a time for you and Pastor David to meet; if not at your home then an alternate location such as a restaurant or café. If a message is left, please return calls to Judy Conrad at (301)733-2878.

Our next “Chat With Pastor David” is October 14.





## Thank You!



### Birthdays

\* Indicates under 10

\*\* Indicates 75 and over

August 1	Dana Kreichbaum
August 2	Lisa Kelly Beverly Longanecker** Bill Munz**
August 4	Emily Kelso Doris Teter**
August 5	Ryan Angles Cole Conrad
August 6	Wilma Condo**
August 7	Brenda Martin
August 9	Ann Kline Reaghan Whitmore
August 10	Scott Bitner Elizabeth Dagliano
August 13	Eric Bitner
August 14	Caroline Bradford Courtney Clark
August 16	Edward Drawbaugh
August 17	Norman Bradford
August 19	Dorinda Roof
August 21	Michael Conrad
August 22	Madison Hammond* Judith Wood**
August 24	Joan Heil**
August 25	Kathy Griemsmann Barbara Pottorff
August 26	Walter Atherton** Steve Bowers**
August 29	Patty Enders**

### Anniversaries

\*40 years or more

August 1	Douglas and Susan Stull*
August 6	Keith and Jena Staley
August 9	Curt and Inge Dudda*
August 19	Junior and Scarlett Michael*
August 23	Michael and Carol Brashears
August 30	Timothy and Frauke Higgins

Dear Trinity Family,

I am blessed to receive a scholarship for the upcoming school year once again. I wanted to thank the church and everyone who is supportive of my continued education at Eastern Mennonite University. This year I will be diving into Early Education classes and finishing classes for my Psychology minor. I will again be a community advisor on my hall and working for campus activity council. In my free time, I volunteer at a church daycare, the SPCA, and attend many community events. I cannot wait for my junior year and thanks again for the scholarship, which will be put to great use!

Elizabeth Dagliano

Dear Trinity Family,

Thank you so much for honoring me with a Trinity Scholarship. It was very generous of my church family to do so. I take my studies very seriously, as I was just named one of 49 from Penn College to the Northeastern Athletic scholar Athlete roster. It has been a blessing to have such support from Trinity Lutheran Church.

Sincerely,  
Max Conrad

### A MOTHER'S REFLECTIONS AND THANK YOU FOR SARAH'S ORDINATION AT TLC

I heard of people being "called" to God's ministry but did not understand it until my own child experienced this call. I now know, without any doubt, that the Holy Spirit has been leading Sarah ever since her graduation from college. On April 28, the day of Sarah's ordination, I realized that every piece of Sarah's spiritual journey had been blended with the learning she gained from her own challenging experiences in order to prepare her to do God's work. Her faith and beliefs were apparent by the songs and readings she chose for the service. The meaning of the discernment process and the significance of ordination became clear—it is and has been God's will for Sarah to become a disciple. On April 28, she accepted and made a sacred commitment. The little girl who dreamed of being a princess or one of the Spice Girls, chose the path of being an opera singer until she pushed herself out of her comfort zone and finally heard the Spirit in her heart and soul. As a mother, it has been a humbling and divine experience.

I do not have the words to express my gratitude and appreciation to everyone who attended and helped to make Sarah's ordination service and reception such a special and joyful celebration. Everything was amazing, from the beautiful sign that Ricky put up in the front of the church to the delicious food that the kitchen helpers served and cleaned up after the reception! Thank you to the entire Trinity staff,

Bishop Gohl and Pastor Dave Oravec, coordinator Judy, and seamstress Scarlett, ushers and Altar Guild members, clergy who assisted and attended, the choir and musicians, members who provided communion bread for the service, and food for the reception, and last but not least, supportive family, friends, and congregants who attended and/or have prayed for Sarah.

Thank you for all that you have done to support Sarah in the time you have known her. I do believe that "it takes a village" to raise a child. Her church was a second home only two blocks away. Trinity is the village that helped to raise a new pastor! Please continue to pray for her as she embarks on a new beginning in her ministry.

With a thankful heart,  
Carol Schofield

**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
15 Randolph Avenue  
Hagerstown, Maryland 21740

Phone: (301)733-2878 [www.tlchag.org](http://www.tlchag.org)

Sunday Worship at 8:45 a.m. and 11 a.m.  
Sunday School for All Ages at 9:55 a.m.  
Church Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday

**MAKING DISCIPLES FOR CHRIST**

Food Pantry and Clothing Bank: (301)733-5651  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 11 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Washington County Literacy Council: (301)739-4208  
Tuesday and Thursday: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Non-Profit Org.  
U S Postage  
PAID  
Permit # 446  
Hagerstown, MD  
21740

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

