

Pastor's Ponderings

Pastor David Eisenhuth


One of the most effective sermons I have ever heard was preached by a seminarian in Abiding Presence Chapel at Gettysburg Seminary (now United Lutheran Seminary after its merger with the Philadelphia Theological Seminary). Students preached at the noonday service of Morning Prayer each weekday except on Wednesdays, when the Eucharist was celebrated. I heard this homily during the winter of my first year, which would have been 1978. That's a long time ago. Since I remember it so clearly you know it made an impression on me.

The text the student used was Psalm 46:10. It simply says, "Be still and know that I am God." It's not easy to preach on one verse and fill up the expected 10 minutes for any homily. Interestingly enough, after reading the verse, the student stood in the pulpit intently looking at all of us in the congregation. Now it's not unusual for preachers to survey the audience in silence. Sometimes they are looking to see who is actually "out there," so as to modify and adapt what they have written to make it more relevant to the listeners. Occasionally they have forgotten how to begin, and have to take a moment to collect themselves before beginning.

All of us were curious as to what seemed like a protracted pause. When it stretched out to 30 seconds it was obvious to all of us that something was wrong. In today's world many preach from an iPad. Bishop Bill does. I'm not a technophobe, but I would be concerned about battery strength and the possibility of equipment failure! This happened long before the advent of such tools, so it wasn't that. Could it be that the student had forgotten the sermon and didn't know what to say? How embarrassing!

After five minutes, people in the pews were shifting in their seats in an uncomfortable way, communicating that enough was enough. Mind you, the preacher was still looking at everyone with a determined grimace. No doubt many in the congregation were praying that the long silence would soon end and we could all go to lunch.

At the 10-minute mark the preacher said in a still, small voice, "Be still and know that I am God." Then the preacher sat down. Aha! This was an exercise in meditation. How better to understand that simple command in Psalm 46 than to actually sit there in silence and "listen to God." Maybe we don't hear actual words at any given



time, but we have to be quiet to hear what might be spoken. The silence itself expresses the unfathomable depth of God's existence.

Those of you who know me know that I like to talk. (No moans, please.) It's not that I don't like silence. I have a lot to say. But in reality, protracted silence is uncomfortable for me. Perhaps it is for you, too. In worship this is especially difficult. There are places in the liturgy when the rubrics (instructions) indicate a brief pause. Most come after the salutation and invitation to pray. People are supposed to "collect their thoughts." The Prayer of the Day was, in fact, at one time called just that—the Collect. When the direction for silence appears in the bulletin, the ensuing silence lasts for no more than five seconds. Anything longer gets uncomfortable.

It may surprise you to learn that Luther thought the ideal service of worship would be close to what Quakers do. The assembly sits in a circle, closes their eyes, and

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CONGREGATIONAL MEETING RESCHEDULED

The Congregational Meeting for the call vote has been rescheduled for September 22. Many people expressed that they were unavailable to attend the service on September 8; we would like to have as many people as possible in attendance for such an important event in the life of the church. We will worship together at a unity service at 10 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The meeting will begin promptly at 11 a.m.

Taizé Service Coming to Trinity September 18

Andy Wallace



Psalm 104:34: “May my meditation be pleasing to him as I rejoice in the Lord.”

Back in July, my wife Jeanne and I journeyed up to Pittsburgh to East Liberty Presbyterian Church to worship in a Taizé (pronounced Tiz-ay) service. This type of worship is something they’ve been doing every Wednesday evening for over 25 years. Pastor Mary Lynn Callahan, who leads the service, was kind enough to meet with me earlier in the day to give me background information and show me how to put together a Taizé service.

Late last year, Pastor David and I discussed my goals for 2019, and one of the goals I had was to have at least two Taizé’ services here at Trinity. Jeanne and I went to Pittsburgh to experience the service and bring this knowledge back to Hagerstown. With the support of Pastor David and the Worship and Music Committee, we are delighted to let you all know there are two dates for Taizé worship scheduled here at Trinity. The first one is set for Wednesday, September 18, and the second for Monday, December 30. Both services will be at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

But, you may ask, what in the world is a Taizé service? The best description I find is simply “a style of Christian worship practiced by the ecumenical Taizé community in France, characterized by repetitive singing of simple harmonized tunes, interspersed with prayer, readings and periods of silence.”

For the worship space, it would be almost like a Christmas Eve service, with very dim lighting, mainly by candles, to make the atmosphere very contemplative and peaceful. There will be spaces to sit or kneel for silent meditation and prayer, while listening and singing to tranquil Taizé music that will be played by various musicians who will be joining us.

To me, prayer followed by meditation is very serene and peaceful. I feel closer to God, and as someone who deals with high blood pressure, it relaxes me. If you have a lot going on in your life, and your stress level is high, or if you just need to relax and pray, then I would encourage you to come and join us on September 18. It’s time to cleanse your mind, breathe, and connect with God on a truly positive level. I think you will find that it gives you the peace you may be searching for. All are welcome.

150th Anniversary Celebrations

Carol Brashears

150th ANNIVERSARY CHOIR

Attention all former choir members—We will have the final service celebration of our 150th anniversary on October 13. This service will emphasize our music history. We want to have a reunion of choir members, and all are invited to sing that day. Spread the word and mark your calendar. Anybody who sang from Cherub choir on up is invited to join us that Sunday to sing!

GENEALOGY NIGHT

We have heard and learned a lot about the history of Trinity during this Anniversary year. But what about your family history? On Tuesday, September 24, we will hold a Genealogy Night as part of our 150th Anniversary Celebration. We are very fortunate to welcome Carol Miller-Schultz to lead this program. Carol is the teacher for the genealogy classes at Hagerstown Community College, and was instrumental in forming the Kinship Room at the Washington County Historical Society. She has vast experience in guiding people through the steps to find out about their heritage. The session will be from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Carol will provide a workbook to help us get started. Sign up sheets are available at both services, so we know how many to prepare for. We look forward to having Carol share her knowledge and help you get started to celebrate your own history!



Social Ministry Update

Carol Brashears

We have resurrected the Charity of the Month Program at Trinity. Please mark your calendars to help with the following. We have chosen to contribute to local charities—our outreach programs here at Trinity, and to charities worldwide.

September: Micah’s Backpack. Please consider a financial donation to the program. We fill 65 backpacks each week. This is estimated to cost \$650 per week. We give 38 bags to each student a year, so the cost is close to \$25,000 a year.

October: Thanksgiving food baskets

November: The REACH Cold Weather Shelter

December: Christmas gift cards for veterans

From the Organ Bench

Pastor Greg Shook

Dear Flock,

Throughout the Bible there are references to “making a joyful noise to the Lord.” Especially in the Psalms, a joyful noise comes more than once. In both Ephesians and Colossians we are told to be filled with the Spirit and address one another in “psalms and hymns and spiritual songs” and making melody to the Lord with our hearts. Jane Drawbaugh and I have experienced that in new, exciting, and exhausting ways!

Our “satellite” children’s choir was birthed this summer in cooperation with the Boys & Girls Club of Washington County. We met and planned with the staff at the club and worked out a summer schedule. They tried a new venture, bringing all their campuses together at the Pennsylvania Avenue facility. This included Frederick Manor, Noland Village, Elgin Station, and the regulars from the main building on Pennsylvania Avenue. We met from 2 to 3 p.m. on Fridays, and our time with the children included a gathering/share time, music singing, and a craft project. The group participated in a final program a few Fridays ago at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts. There is a video of this on Facebook.

As Jane and I told you when we announced it in church, this was not the Vienna Boys Choir level of joyful noise. It was not even reminiscent of any of my children’s choir experiences. It was truly a new adventure for both of us. The children did not always sing, did not always participate, and some sat with arms folded, some even sang into their t-shirts at the final program. So what did we accomplish? A lot!

TLC was taken into the neighborhoods of these children and families. The Boys & Girls Club has a new “partner” in their tireless efforts to reach children from varying circumstances that most of us cannot imagine, and the Gospel was sent forth in a new and unique way. A music minister friend of mine in Arizona saw the post on Facebook and said, “Wow, that’s a unique way of sending Christ out!” They are now going to try this. St. Francis is credited with the quote, “Preach the Gospel at all times and if necessary use words.” We used crafts, music, and personal attention. As I’ve said to several of you, the staff of the Boys & Girls Club are my new heroes. They accomplish so much with such limited resources and funds.

So . . . Jane and I (and those from TLC who attended the final program) deemed our efforts a success. It was interesting that some of the children who were not totally engaged (some of the t-shirt singers) gave us hugs and thanked us for coming. The Boys & Girls Club posted a video on Facebook. Yes, a success.

Our next session will begin in a few weeks at Elgin Station on Monday evenings. If you have children or grand-

children (or great-grandchildren!) who might want to sing, see Jane Drawbaugh or myself. They are welcome to come and participate. We also could use some volunteers to go with us. We will publish more specifics in the Mini-Messenger for upcoming Sundays. Give it a read, a prayer, and consideration. We would love to have you partnering with us and the community for a Joyful Noise.

—Soli Deo Gloria! Pastor Greg



ORGAN PROJECT UPDATE

A few months back the church voted and approved work to replace the “innards” of our organ console. The system has been showing signs of wear and giving us problems for over a year. The firm Peter Lulley & Associated from Pittsburgh was selected to carry out the rebuilding process. The pipework and what you hear will not be affected. However, in order to hear this beautiful instrument, the internal parts of the console (the computer, for the lack of a better explanation) will be totally replaced and the organ rewired to accommodate the changes. Some of you have noticed the “interesting” changes to the console. Since some of the wood panels above the top keyboard need to be reconfigured, they removed some of the panels and took them back to the shop so the beautiful wood and finish could be matched. That will all be replaced with the renovation. This should happen in early/mid-September. We did not want the organ down for either of the anniversary services, and so September seemed like the ideal time. The project will take one to two weeks to complete.

CHOIRS WILL BEGIN REHEARSING SOON!!

Our Parish Choir and Handbell choirs will be starting rehearsals soon. Parish Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 4, at 7:30 p.m. in the “upper room” in the Education building. It’s a really great gig. All your materials are furnished (music, folder, robe . . . even pencils!) and you have a seat on the 50-yard line where you can see everything! We accomplish great things, make a joyful noise, and have a great time working together. See Pastor Greg or show up at the first rehearsal! Handbell Choir will begin later in September. Watch weekly bulletin announcements for more information. In the meantime, let Pastor Greg know if you’re interested!

ALUMNI CHOIR FOR OCTOBER ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

We will assemble an alumni choir for the October anniversary service on Sunday, October 13. If you’ve sung over the years in a children’s choir or the youth or parish choirs, consider joining us for the anniversary alumni choir. How? Talk to Pastor Greg! There is no audition. I have chosen music for the day and we will rehearse it. If you need a little extra help, that can be arranged. Let’s fill the loft (and then some!) for this service.

Deacon's Updates

Peg Hardinge, OSSD

It has been a busy summer, indeed. As has been our routine for many years, Hunt and I park our trailer at a little campground off the Parkway at Copper Hill, Virginia. I am the “chaplain” of the campground and do services there on Sunday holidays and whenever else they need me. This has been an original purpose I had in mind since we owned the trailer. So, I am tickled it worked out.

I continue to work in the Meritus operating room five days every two weeks. This summer, when we are in Hagerstown, I have provided pulpit supply for Mt. Zion, St. Matthew, and St. Peter, in the absence of an available pastor or seminarian. That has been for five Sundays. I really needed the chance to hone my pulpit skills, to figure out what works best for me, and to find my stride with delivering the message. I've loved every second and am grateful for the opportunity to do so.

Summer has resulted in a decreased attendance at both Bible studies, but that doesn't surprise me; we see the same thing in our churches. My study at the Emerald Point over-55 community on Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. is half its usual size, with about seven every week. With the approach of fall, we will likely be back up to 12. They are faithful, knowledgeable, and devout, and we've formed a familial-type bond. One of our members lost her husband this summer, and our study group rallied around her and gave her a lot of support, which was so meaningful to her.

We have been studying the book of John, and we have had the rich opportunity to get a lot of feedback and insight from one another. This is not a shy group, and discussion flows so freely. It is my joy and honor to sit among these folks every week.

I continue this same study of John on Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. with the women at Lasting Change, the addiction center on Locust Street. When I am gone, Jena Staley takes my place. Otherwise, we are both there every week, and we average three in attendance. One client has graduated to living in an apartment (which is program owned and monitored) but she walks back to Lasting Change for the Bible study and she motivates new girls to join us!

This assignment is a real challenge, folks. When working with persons who are dealing with addictions, there is a whole different set of challenges. Many have other issues they are dealing with, and it is difficult to break through these barriers. In addition, they often have employment requirements that, coupled with their program attendance requirements, can eliminate the opportunity to attend Bible study. I sit with the girls outside and attempt to fan the flames of interest, but that has not turned the tide as much as the efforts of Lori, the former client. So, I have lain this issue at the foot of the cross and I am waiting for the attendance floodgates to open.

I continue to help coordinate our Lay Visitation program. I keep in touch with our college students (of all ages)

Continued next column.

with notes of encouragement and little gift cards for events such as birthdays and the stress-filled finals weeks. In the fall, I will resume authoring the Prayers of the People for the 8:45 a.m. service. I also attend the pastor's 11 a.m. Bible study at Haven on Thursdays, followed by TLC's 3 p.m. staff meeting, when I am not working.

On a final note: the Community Action Council has ceased providing mediation services to the community, which really saddens me. I put a great deal of time and effort into becoming a Maryland mediator only to have the program end for Washington County. Perhaps I could put some of my mediation skills to use at Trinity, in some way. Food for thought. Open to suggestions. . . .

This fall will free up more time to sew a couple more stoles, get back into assisting minister duties on the third Sundays, Altar Guild and whatever else Pastor David can imagine for me! It is such an honor to serve the community through Trinity and I humbly appreciate your support and prayers.

—God's blessings to you all, Peg Hardinge, OSSD

Pastor's Ponderings, Continued

waits in silence for the Holy Spirit to come and move the group. This probably did not work very long. I suspect Luther probably never tried it with a group of lay people. As a member of a religious order, he would have experience long periods of silence and been comfortable with that. But for lay people, the liturgy, which fills up silence with hymns, prayers, and formal words, seemed better.

And so silence is relegated to prayer groups and retreats. Pity, because as that sermon so long ago invited me to contemplate God and listen for God's words to me, meditation is an effective tool for bringing us closer to God. Silence is part of the discerning process when we listen for God's advice.

We have an interesting opportunity to reclaim some of the importance of meditation when a new service debuts on Wednesday, September 18. At 7 p.m. we will gather at the front of the sanctuary for a Taizé service. Perhaps you have heard about Taizé. It's a community of about 100 brothers who live in a monastery by that name in Burgundy, France. It was founded in 1954 by Brother Roger. Taizé worship uses a comfortable space (pillows and chairs), soft music, candlelight, icons, repetitive chant, and guess what—silence to create an atmosphere of meditation wherein we can experience the presence of God.

Our director of Praise Worship, Andy Wallace, made a pilgrimage to East Liberty Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh to experience a Taizé service which has been going on for nearly 30 years. He and his wife, Jeanne, were moved by the service. Andy came back really enthused to give this a try at Trinity. He has been working hard to make this first service very special. Please come on September 18 at 7 p.m. Don't be afraid of the silence. No one is expected to say anything. Just be open to that still, small voice which may speak to you!

“Be still and know that I am God!”

Fears Shared about Ideas from *Canoeing the Mountains*

June Habeck

Trinity leaders encourage all members to share any concerns that may be growing about the new directions for our church that are being discussed and prayed about among the 20 people who have been studying the issue of how to respond to the Gospel in the 21st century.

Here are some concerns that have been voiced.

Concern: “How do we know what changes these 20 people are planning to make when they meet together?” In reply: No plans for changes have been made. We have read and discussed the book *Canoeing the Mountains* by Tod Bolsinger. We made lists of what is valued at Trinity, and now are starting to write a new mission statement for our church.

Concern: “How can we get volunteers for starting new programs and keep current programs going while we have been losing members?” Response: Since much of what we have been doing is no longer working in the 21st century church, the goal is to determine what are Trinity’s essential values of faith, culture, and activities, to write a mission statement based on that, then to perpetuate only those programs, liturgy, and undertakings that support that mission. Human and financial resources will target and support our mission.

Concern: “Why aren’t we trying harder to get our old members back?” Response: Numerous studies on this very concern find that the majority of persons do not return to a church they have chosen to leave. Further, they report that dissatisfied, alienated ex-members who have values divergent from their home church appropriately seek other churches where they feel more connected.

Concern: “The *Canoeing the Mountains* group talks about outreach to the neighborhood as if it’s a new concept, but we’ve been doing it for decades.” Response: Currently TLC invites the neighborhood into the church for food and clothing, helps local veterans, and feeds school children on weekends. The new concept is one of relationship and ministry with the neighborhood, in the neighborhood as well as the church, doing what it is God calls us to do.

Concern: “Free meals for the neighborhood began this year; why are we doing this when we already feed them through the Food Pantry? Also, why not serve the free meals to Micah’s families with whom we already have a relationship?” Response the idea behind offering free meals was to begin the process of developing a welcoming, caring relationship with our neighbors that is beyond

utilitarian—to go beyond helping them, to partnering with them by learning their concerns and inner needs. We could expand our interactions with Micah’s families beyond the Thanksgiving meals provided yearly.

Concern: “How do we bear the changes and the losses of members and traditions so we can move forward toward an uncertain future?” Response: We are learning that one crucial response is to invest time in each other, developing and maintaining our relationships through listening and honest, loving communication. Trinity is leaving behind the response of separating into whispering groups that have functioned in isolation or putting our personal agendas ahead of living the Gospel. We are a people of faith in a God who loves us, one who will guide us when we ask, and will unify us in his care when together we grieve or are anxious and fearful.

Concern: “How can just 20 people plan our future?” Response: From the beginning, we have invited everyone by a letter in the mail, newsletter announcements and articles, and from the pulpit. All of the meeting times and dates are publicized and open to everyone. We agree and disagree openly in the group weekly with respect and love. We do not have the answers, and seek God’s guidance as well as the input of each Trinity member. Whether you agree or disagree with what you hear or conclude outside of the meetings, every member is welcome and encouraged to come!

For other questions or concerns in the coming days, some discussions on what the *Canoeing the Mountain* group is discussing/considering will happen in a portion of both worship services, those who attend the group will have an opportunity to speak, and all will hear what’s happening in the group’s “process of discovery.” Each Sunday between services, member of the group will be available in the Parlor to talk about what’s happening in the group meetings and to answer questions.

TLC MINISTRIES: WHAT YOU CAN DO

Food Pantry: Needed: saltine and other crackers, boxed mixes for cakes, and cookies.

Clothing Bank: Needed: all sizes of bed sheets, towels, and wash cloths.

Ponder this: “What does God want us to become?”—Todd Bolsinger, author of *Canoeing the Mountains*.



Micah's Backpack

Carol Brashears

It's back-to-school time, and we are in the process of organizing the Micah's Backpack Ministry for the 2019 to 2020 school year. It's hard to believe the program started right here with five students at Bester Elementary. It has grown, through God's blessing, to 55 churches involved weekly, serving over 1000 students a week. This is a neighborhood ministry. We are serving the students at the schools where the children in our neighborhood attend.

Here are some ways you may become involved:

1. Join a team to pack the bags. This takes about half an hour, once a month, usually on Sunday or Monday.
2. Deliver bags to the schools. This is done once a month on a Wednesday or Thursday, between early morning (7 a.m.) and early evening (6 p.m.) at Bester Elementary and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Eastern Elementary.
3. Contribute financially to Micah's, to purchase food.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Carol Brashears at (301) 992-5016 or Brash115@aol.com. Please let her know your preference for packing or delivering. We could use any help. You can pair with another person to help every other month. A meeting for volunteers will be held at 10 a.m. Sunday, September 15 in the Micah's work area, behind the Clothing Bank.



Jazz Vespers returns September 26

Leslie LeBlanc

Vespers is a sunset evening prayer service in the Lutheran liturgy from the Latin word *vesper*, meaning "evening." *Jazz* is a music genre originating in the African-American communities of New Orleans, characterized by strong, prominent meter, improvisation, and syncopated rhythmic patterns.

Trinity Lutheran offers Jazz Vespers at the end of each month through the fall, winter, and spring. It is a contemplative, musical service that combines ancient Christian liturgies with 20th and 21st century American jazz. Come share a creative, sophisticated evening of prayer and song. The service begins at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. A wine and cheese reception follows the service in Memorial Hall.

Dates for 2019 through 2020 are as follows: Thursday, September 26; Thursday, October 31; Wednesday, November 27; Thursday, December 26; Thursday, January 30; Thursday, February 27; Thursday, March 26; Thursday, April 30; Thursday, May 28; Thursday, June 25.

Canoeing the Mountains

Pastor David Eisenhuth

The Thursday evening group that read and discussed the book *Canoeing the Mountains* met for several weeks. For the first few sessions, participants sat at round tables, only able to look at those seated with them. Someone suggested we circle the tables, and one huge table took shape. That really changed the dynamic of group discussion, and opened everyone up to intense thinking about the state of the church in its broadest sense and our own beloved Trinity. While the scary parts of the book that tell us the church has changed almost beyond recognition in the past decades did their job, the group was also filled with the sense that God makes things new in Jesus Christ and we can let go of fear because the Holy Spirit is leading us.

The group did not want to stop meeting, so we will now take the next step and work on our vision statement. We already have both a mission statement and a vision statement. However, we apparently have them backwards. Our mission statement is really a vision statement. Like a good tagline for a business (think "Home of the Whopper"), a church's vision statement should be concise and meant to be understood by everyone inside the church and outside the church. Who are we? What are we trying to accomplish? A mission statement then fills out the vision, with the concrete ways we intend to live out what we have defined as God's vision for us.

Our present mission statement is many years old. Things change rapidly in the life of God's people in this first quarter of the 21st century. The present statement is "Making disciples for Christ." As insiders, we know what this means. But to those outside the church, what is a disciple? We don't use that term in the course of normal conversation. When we do, it is usually about some kind of cult leader who has disciples. So let's work together to define who we are and what we are all about.

The Thursday group will meet at 5:30 p.m. A light supper will be served. Volunteers bring food each week. We will meet in Memorial Hall, because the Praise Band rehearses in Fellowship Hall on Thursday evenings. We will use a small book to lead us in the process. Volunteers will lead each of the six sessions. The book is \$5, but we want you to participate, so it's free to those who need it.

The study is six sessions. Sessions 1 through 4 ask interesting questions about the church and the participant's feelings about it. One that stood out to was this: "If there was one thing I never want to do at Trinity again, what is it?" Ah! Session 5 involves the entire congregation. Someone will lead the worshippers at both services to answer questions about the congregation. This is planned to take the place of the sermon that day. Session 6 is the actual writing of the vision statement. It needs to

Celebrating 150 Years of Great Food at TLC!

Judy Melby-Robinson

For September, we continue to highlight recipes from our members at Trinity. This month's recipe was submitted by Barb Smith. Barb and husband, Ron, are long-time members. Ron's parents, Mary and Howard Smith, were also members. Ron and Barb have always been eager to volunteer their time at Trinity.

SHELBY'S FAVORITE BLACK RASPBERRY PIE

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 4 c. black raspberries | Pastry for a 2 crust pie |
| 1 T. lemon juice | 2-4 pats butter |
| 4 T. flour | 1 egg |
| 1 c. sugar | 1 T. water |
| ½ tsp. cinnamon | Sugar for dusting pastry |
| 2 tsp. tapioca | |

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Roll out bottom crust and place in pie pan. Mix pie ingredients together in saucepan. Heat until mixture starts to boil, stirring frequently. Place in pie pan. Add 2-4 pats butter. Cover with top pie crust. Crimp edges. Make egg wash by beating one egg with 1 T. water. Brush generously over pie crust. Dust with sugar. Cut slits for steam. Place on a cookie sheet, place in oven. Bake for 10 minutes, then lower heat to 350 degrees and bake until done (30 to 45 minutes).

Canoeing the Mountains, Continued

be done in a small group because 50 people cannot agree on a vision statement. But the congregation's full participation as envisioned in Session 5 should involve everyone who is interested. The process will probably take longer than six weeks, but that's the outline.

If you cannot come on Thursday evenings, you can get the book and participate that way by completing the answers. The former Parlor Class that meets between services on Sunday morning will use the same resource. At 10 a.m. the person who led the Thursday session will do the same for those who are present on Sunday. We want as many people possible to participate in this exciting, wonderful process. So please plan to come on Thursday evenings at 5:30 p.m. or Sunday at 10 a.m.

When both groups have finished with the workbook, they will come together to write the vision statement. The work really begins as we look at our resources and decide how best to use them to achieve the vision we believe guides the congregation. Your participation in this process is encouraged, wanted, and needed.



BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Thomas Holler
- 2 Walter Bell*
- 4 Kelley Anthony
- 5 Alecsander Griemsmann
- 7 Ralph Conrad
- Phyllis Garrett*
- 8 Dylan Dopson
- 9 Thomas Allen, III
- 12 Frances Harshman*
- Earl Stoner
- 13 Marion Hartwick*
- Taylor Mayhugh
- 14 Susan Stull
- 15 Edward Wiebel, Jr.
- 17 Jane Guyton*
- 18 Donna Alexander*
- Dennis Harne
- Margaret Harrison
- Jack Martin*
- 20 Jillian Markle
- 21 Marty Blake
- Jennifer Dopson
- Brian Herchenrother
- 23 Alexandra Rankin
- Betty Wolf*
- Marilyn Young
- 24 Richard Newman
- Barry Oxendine
- 26 Betty Martin*
- 27 Linda Lemen*
- 28 Arleen Shuster
- 29 Susan Asmussen
- Sarah Jones*
- Charles Riley
- 30 Thomas Wilson, Jr.*

* Indicates 50 years or older

ANNIVERSARIES

- 12 Richard and Cinda Toms
- 28 Richard and Georgia Newman*

* Indicates 40 years or more

SEP 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
01 8:45am Praise Worship Service 11:00am Traditional Service	Labor Day Office Closed	10am Bible Study 1:30pm Sr. Ministry 7pm Property	10am Social Ministry 6pm Crochet Group 7:30pm Parish Choir	5:50pm Mission Envision 6:30pm Praise Band		10am Worship and Music
08 Rally Day 10:00am Unity Service 11:30 Picnic	11:30 Widows Group Luncheon 5:30pm Civitan 7pm Boy Scouts	10am Bible Study 6:30pm Mutual Min 6:30pm Personnel 7pm Anniversary Team	5:30 Civitan Karaoke 6:30pm Christian Ed 7:30pm Parish Choir	5:50pm Mission Envision 5:30pm Exec Team 6:30 Praise Band		
15 8:45am Praise Worship Service 10am Sunday School 11:00am Traditional Service	7pm Boy Scouts	10am Bible Study 6:30pm Council	6pm Crochet Group 7pm Taize Service 7:30 Parish Choir	5:50pm Mission Envision 6:30 Praise Band	Newsletter Articles Due	
22 10am Unity Service 11am Congregational Meeting	7pm Boy Scouts	10am Bible Study	7:30pm Parish Choir	7pm Jazz Vespers		
29 8:45am Praise Worship Service 10am Sunday School 11:00am Traditional Service	7pm Boy Scouts					

Property Team Update

Property Team has been very busy managing several different projects!

1. The Memorial Hall Gutter replacement project is finally completed and the painting is done. The copper gutter that was removed has been saved for resale.
2. We have been increasingly concerned about the back gate entrance to Fellowship Hall. Several times this year it has become jammed and is sometimes difficult to open. It looks like a garage entrance- which we understand it actually is- but it is also the main entrance for Praise Worship and many community events. However, our biggest concern was emergency exit from the building when the gate is locked. We looked at several options and decided on a new Overhead Door/Hagerstown Paint and Glass product which still rolls up but has an easier unlock mechanism and an emergency exit release from within the building. It will look like a white garage door with a mail slot. We are concerned about the beautiful flowers that Michele Nearchos faithfully puts together and maintains, and will work with her to make new provisions. Once the door is done, we would like to have some white molding installed around the door and a better sign for Fellowship Hall. We will wait to see how the budget finishes up before moving on that.
3. The second black iron railing for the upper Randolph St. entrance should be installed this month.
4. We are in the middle of exploring preventative maintenance contracts for both the boiler in Memorial Hall and in the main building.
5. We are working together with Social Ministry to bring better recycling to Trinity. You will soon see blue containers around the building! Please use them!! Recycling will be picked up weekly for only \$100 per year!
6. Once again, we have had water intrusion into our building. There was a leak in the board room ceiling which is now dry but may start again when the boiler is restarted for heat. We are waiting to do a repair until we see that everything is dry.
On August 19 as Fellowship and Parish Life was preparing dinner for our Civitan friends, we noticed a large amount of brown, foul smelling water on the counter and in the cupboards of our workroom behind the kitchen. We looked above and found a leaking toilet in the ladies' room behind the Parlor. Water goes down so it came in the ceiling of our workroom. It was repaired the next morning and the clean up began! All the damaged plaster from the ceiling was removed, replaced, sealed, and painted. Every item in the room will be cleaned and sanitized. The cabinets will be scrubbed and painted and while we are all torn up, we will paint the walls. Many, many thanks to Freidinger Ritchie, Ralph Conrad, Junior Michael, Craig Robinson, Scarlett Michael, Debbie Shank and Judy Conrad for all their hard work in such a messy area!
7. With the help of Michele and Rodney Nearchos, some of our Master Gardeners, we will be replanting shrubs along the fence line in the back garden. Please watch for an announcement regarding the date and help us if you can.
8. On September 7th, we will be pruning the existing shrubs around the building and spreading 120 bags of mulch! As you can imagine this will be a huge job and we will need lots of help! From loading the mulch at Lowes to moving the bags to feeding the volunteers or providing them with drinks, WE WILL NEED HELPERS! Please let the Conrads, the Robinsons, or the Drawbaughs know if you can be with us. Or call Colleen and she will keep a list.

Thanks very much everyone! There is always something to do at Trinity and we would love to have your help!

Trinity Lutheran Church

15 Randolph Avenue
Hagerstown, Maryland 21740

Phone: (301)733-2878 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.

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

TRUST
yourself
TO THE
God
WHO MADE YOU.