

Trinity Steeple Notes

September 2021 News and Notes



Yippee! Church picnic September 12 (after informal worship), including God's work. Our hands. project for Safe Berks

Sunday, September 12 will be a day of worship, fellowship, and service. Worship will be in the Nave and will be informal, with camp-style songs and relaxed liturgy. You're invited to wear your God's work. Our hands. T-shirt or something else that's comfortable for a picnic.

This summer's picnic will be in the church courtyard under tents and on the Portico. No, you don't have to bring anything! We will have individually wrapped Italian, turkey, and ham sandwich delights. Side dishes will also be served. Dessert will be ice cream sundaes. Servers will scoop the ice cream and you can add the toppings. (Please mask going through the line.) There is no cost for you, but a basket will be available for any contributions. Please plan to come. An RSVP sheet will be in the narthex. Questions? Contact Annie Harlin at (610) 926-5488; Anita Dolak at (610) 372-4864; or Mae Sunderland at (610) 796-0235.

After we eat, we will participate in God's work. Our hands., an ELCA initiative where congregations across the church work in service to their own communities. This year, we will be assembling hygiene kits for Safe Berks, a community program which supports victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

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Parish News

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Mindy McIntosh, director of development for Safe Berks, writes: Right now we are actually in dire need of hygienic items for clients we have here and ones we see in the hospital. We will be collecting: new underwear, new t-shirts and sweatpants (all sizes), travel size Shampoo/Conditioner, Dry Shampoo, toothbrushes and toothpaste.

You are invited to either bring **donations to Trinity by September 8** or give a monetary donation to support our project.



Hey Y'all!

Meet our new Common Ground Ministry pastoral intern

I am Vicar Melissa Hrdlicka and I am the new pastoral intern for Common Ground Recovery Community! I am so excited to be here and to be able to do this important work! I am from Green Bay, Wisconsin and have lived all around the Midwest.

I studied business management and religious studies at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. I was a camp counselor and wilderness canoe guide in Wisconsin and Iowa; I worked at a pork factory in Austin, Minnesota; and did a year of service with the Sisters of St. Joseph in Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota. I just completed three years of seminary in Chicago before coming here!

When I am not working, I am probably hiking, biking, or camping! I am an avid reader of poetry and comic books. And I am often hanging out with--and even walking!--my one-year-old orange tabby cat Frankincense (Frank). I look forward to getting to know you all during my year in Reading! Peace and Blessings to you all!

Parish News



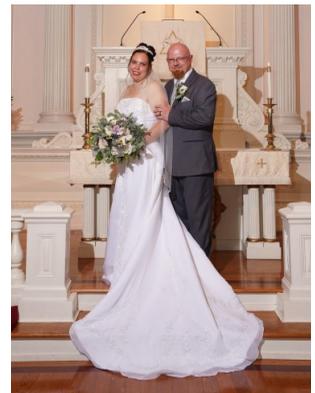
Common Ground Ministry Gears Up for Fall

Common Ground Recovery Community has had a wonderfully full summer and we are gearing up for a busy fall as well! We have continued our meal ministry at Trinity and have been able to hand out around 50 meals each Sunday as well as clothing, tents, and sleeping mats. We also welcomed a new intern Melissa Hrdlicka! We also received a grant that will help foster community and recovery! Are you interested in supporting our ministry? We are always looking for **clothing donations of all sizes and new clean underwear of all sizes**. We would also like to do small outdoor services during meal ministry in September and October and need **consistent support setting up tables on Sundays**. Email our intern Melissa to coordinate: intern.cgrcommunity@gmail.com.

Our next **Speaker Series Event** will be September 14th at 6:30 pm at Atonement Lutheran Church in Wyomissing. We will be celebrating National Recovery Month! Masks will be required for this event. All are welcome to worship with us! Every Wednesday at 7pm in-person at Atonement Lutheran Church or via Facebook live stream. Thank you all for your support in our ministry!

Wedding Congratulations

Congratulations to Herb and Katie (Norton) Stine, who celebrated their wedding feast at Trinity on August 14. Herb and Katie were married in the Courtyard in July of last year due to Covid restrictions and they rejoice that they were now able to share a full ceremony with their loved ones in Trinity's beautiful Nave. May God bless them and Austin with love and joy.



Parish News

Thanks to Mary Drehs

After many years of loving service to Trinity, Mary Drehs has retired from her position as chairperson of the Member Care Committee. Under Mary's leadership, Member Care has blessed members with Comfy Pillows in times of illness. They have sent cards to homebound members and stayed in touch with members in need of Christian care. They have overseen our Covenant Prayer Shawl program, a ministry Mary founded, which brings together knitters and crocheters from Trinity and other churches to enjoy fellowship while creating beautiful reminders of God's love and the prayers of God's people.



Mary has also served on Vestry and as parish nurse. We are grateful to God for blessing us with the gifts and passion of Mary Drehs and, as we continue the work she has so faithfully shepherded, we do so with gratitude to her for her ministry among us. Well done, good and faithful servant! May God continue to bless you with love and faith.

Lunch Bunch

A group of women from Trinity and Bern Lutheran meet monthly for lunch and fellowship. We have been meeting under the drive-through at Bern (820 West Leesport Road) during the summer. Everyone brings their own lunch and a lawn chair. Before the pandemic we met at a local restaurant, and we hope to return inside when it is safe. Next month, we will meet at Bern on September 20 at noon. Come and enjoy the fellowship and meeting new friends.

Mission & Service

Trinity to Participate in 40th Annual Reading-Berks CROP Walk

Sunday, October 10

(event registration at 12:30 PM and walk at 1:30 PM)

Over the past 39 years, thousands of walkers have raised over a million dollars for local and global hunger through the Reading-Berks CROP Hunger Walk. This year, we are planning to gather at Gring's Mill on **Sunday, October 10** (event registration at 12:30 and walk at 1:30). Because of pandemic conditions, we will also offer a **Virtual CROP Walk option**.



Team Trinity's goal is to raise \$2500 to feed the hungry. Members of all ages can participate by going to www.crophungerwalk.org/ReadingPA and donating through Trinity Lutheran – Reading. If you're able to walk, either virtually or at Gring's Mill, you can register for walking at the same site. If you're not online, or would rather register or donate offline, call or email Pastor Alan and he can set you up.

Trinity in-person walkers are invited to meet at Gring's Mill at noon for a picnic lunch before the CROP Walk. Registered walkers will be contacted with details.

September Sunday Scriptures

Sept. 5—Isaiah 35:4-7a; Psalm 146; James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17; and Mark 7:24-37

Sept. 12—Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 116:1-9; James 3:1-12; and Mark 8:27-38

Sept. 19—Jeremiah 11:18-20; Psalm 54; James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; and Mark 9:30-37

Sept. 26—Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29; Psalm 19:7-14; James 5:13-20; and Mark 9:38-50

Fall Festival of the Arts

After a year unlike any other, the Fall Festival of the Arts returns in September for its 36th year. Join us for three weekends of unforgettable music, stunning visual arts, and incredible theatrical performances, hosted by Trinity, Christ Episcopal, and the WCR Center for the Arts. This year's events feature:



Eric Plutz, Organ Concert

September 10, 7:30 pm at Christ Episcopal Church

Eric Plutz, University Organist at Princeton University, commemorates the sesquicentennial of the birth of Louis Vierne, organist of Notre-Dame de Paris from 1900 until his death in 1937. This concert is in conjunction with the

one scheduled for September 12, 2021, 4:00 PM, at Grace Lutheran in Lancaster, PA.

Mr. Plutz will perform Symphonies 1, 3, & 5 on Friday, September 10, at Christ Episcopal Church (Reading, PA), and Symphonies 2, 4, & 6 on Sunday, September 12 at Grace Lutheran Church (Lancaster, PA).

“The Amish Project” by Jessica Dickey

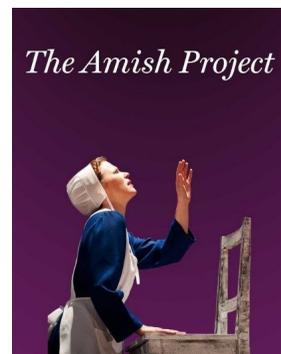
September 17 & 18, 7:30 PM

September 19, 3:00 PM at WCR

Starring Trinity's own Daniel Graf and Tama McConnell, along with six other gifted actors, *The Amish Project* is a fictional exploration of the 2006 Amish schoolhouse shootings and the path to forgiveness forged by the community. For tickets and further information, visit

www.FallFestivaloftheArts.org. A limited number of tickets

will be available at the door. Masks are required for all who are in attendance.



Fall Festival of the Arts

Nancy Sarangoulis Art Exhibit

Opening Reception September 19, 1:00 PM at Trinity

Nancy Sarangoulis is a well-known local artist whose work is colorful, quirky, and interesting. Enjoy an exhibition of her work in the Hintz Room and join us for a reception and Gallery Talk. (Due to a family emergency, Robert Pepper, who was originally scheduled, will be unable to participate.)



Donations to the Fall Festival of the Arts are appreciated and can be made online or through the mail at PO Box 8512, Reading PA 19603-8512.

Vestry Summary (The following is a brief summary; not official minutes.)

Trinity's Vestry met via Zoom on August 9, 2021. The safety of continuing in-person worship and occasional meetings was discussed and it was determined that at the present time we can continue our current policies, subject to careful review as the pandemic continues. Approval was given for distribution of continuing education funds to Karen Eddinger for lessons. Steve Welz and Martha Good volunteered to represent Vestry on an Educational Assistance subcommittee (along with members of Finance and the EA Committee) to review and clarify the terms of trust funds and to establish a record of decisions that are made. Steve will convene the subcommittee this fall. The Vestry will be installed Sunday, August 22. Vestry was informed of Sitelogiq's progress on HVAC, energy and facility assessment. The treasurer's report through July 31 shows a \$4,700 YTD shortfall in member giving (vs budget). Expenses have been reduced and deferred so that we still have a YTD surplus, though some deferred spending will need to be addressed in the second half of the year. The next meeting will be held via Zoom September 13.

Broadcast Schedule

All of our programs listed below can be watched on Comcast Channel 190 (in the Reading Hospital, Channel 80) or online at any time at www.trinityreading.org or on our YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/trinitylutheranchurch. Trinity's Sunday morning worship is also live streamed via Facebook and You Tube. You may log on to either platform on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM and worship at the same time as the in-person congregation.



Sundays

6:00 PM - First Friday:

Unity and Diversity in the Black Church

6:30 PM - Music from Trinity:

Olivia Trace, singer/songwriter

7:00 PM: Trinity Worship Service

Wednesdays

4:00 PM: Trinity Worship

5:00 PM: Music from Trinity

Olivia Trace, singer/songwriter

5:30 PM: First Friday:

Unity and Diversity in the Black Church



Affirmation of Welcome: Trinity Lutheran Church is recognized by Reconciling Works as a "Reconciling in Christ" Congregation which welcomes all LGBTQ persons into all facets of congregational life.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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