



# Trinity Steeple Notes

## October 2023

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### **Special Congregation Meeting – Sunday, October 8, 2023**

Vestry is requesting attendance of church members on Sunday, October 8, 2023 for a Special Congregational Meeting following the service. At this meeting members will receive updates on the Auditorium/ Renovation project along with information concerning community shower trailers. We will also be discussing and voting on the capital campaign to support these endeavors. Please mark your calendars to attend on Sunday, October 8, 2023.

### **A Note from the Vestry President**

It is with a heart of gratitude that I announce the retirement of our beloved Minister of Music, Karen Eddinger. Trinity is fortunate to have a history rich in music and the arts. Karen has continued that legacy during her tenure. She fills our church with sounds of joy, reflection, and celebration. Vestry has accepted Karen's letter of retirement. Her last performing service will be Christmas Eve 2024 and her last day as Trinity's Minister of Music is December 31, 2024. Vestry sends our congratulations to Karen and her family; we cherish every note played and every act of service Karen has provided to our congregation.

Vestry held its monthly meeting on September 11, 2023. The meeting began with a moment of meditation led by Deaconess Deborah after which the August meeting minutes were approved and a letter of thanks for our congregation's continued service was received from Opportunity House.

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The agenda held an array of action points and informational sessions. Vestry received an update from the Call Committee. The Call Committee has identified a pastoral candidate that they have unanimously accepted to be Trinity's exclusive candidate at this time. Over the next weeks the candidate will meet with Trinity's staff and leaders with a special joint meeting of vestry and the call committee to occur in early October. It is anticipated that a vote will be taken at this joint meeting regarding whether to present the candidate to the congregation for call.

The Auditorium Task Force was gracious to attend the meeting for a follow-up presentation. There was further discussion about the shower trailers and collaboration with community partners on this portion of the project. Additionally, Vestry discussed a capital campaign to support the project vision. Vestry has scheduled a special congregational meeting on October 8, 2023, after the service to present the capital campaign and take a congregational vote.

Vestry received recommendations from the Educational Assistance Committee. Vestry voted unanimously in favor of several action points. The Bard Loan Fund was converted into a grant fund and renamed the Bard Educational Assistance Fund to be utilized in accordance with the original bequest of the fund.

The Finance Committee shall be consulted annually to determine the rate of withdraw to be utilized for educational assistance. All existing outstanding loans were converted to grants. It was determined that 50% of the annual withdraw rate for the Bard Educational Assistance Fund will be utilized to replenish the loan balance with the remaining 50% available for education assistance until such time as the full amount converted to grants is replenished.

--Amy Litvinov, Vestry President

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## Fall Festival of the Arts October Events



*Fall Festival*  
OF THE *Arts*

### DOUBT, A PARABLE

October 13-15, 2023, WCR Center for the Arts,

140 N. 5th. St., Reading on Friday, October 13 at 7:30 PM;

Saturday, October 14 at 7:30 PM; and Sunday, October 15 at 3:00 PM

Purchase tickets <https://www.tix.com/ticket-sales/fallfestivalofthearts/7250>

(\$20 adults, \$10 students) or at the door (cash/check only)

Written by John Patrick Shanley, this Pulitzer Prize-winning play is a gripping and thought-provoking production that will leave you questioning your own beliefs and values. One of the strengths of DOUBT is that it doesn't offer easy answers. Instead, it challenges the audience to think critically and come to their own conclusions. This makes for a truly engaging and enlightening experience that will stay with audiences long after the final bow is taken.

### Lover, Mother, Queen

October 29, 2023 at 4:00 PM, WCR Center for the Arts, 140 N. 5th. St., Reading

Purchase tickets <https://www.tix.com/ticket-sales/fallfestivalofthearts/7250>

(\$20 adults, \$10 students) or at the door (cash/check only)

With the masterful accompaniment of Robesonian native David Lutz, Robin Bier brings her resonant contralto to an evening of German and English song including the works of Schubert, Schumann, Beach, Finzi and Brahms.

Highlights of the program will include: Schubert's "Der Tod und das Mädchen" (Death and the Maiden); Schumann's last, and rarely heard, song cycle Gedichteder Königin Maria Stuart (Poems of Mary, Queen of Scots); and Finzi's song cycle Let Us Garlands Bring, setting lyrics from Shakespeare

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## **Jill Haley: The Forests and Shores of Acadia Sunday, November 12, 2023 at 3:00 PM at the Miller Center, RACC**

You are invited to the premiere performance of Jill Haley's latest transformative National Park Artist-In-Residency inspired by Acadia National Park in Maine. She will be joined by Grammy Award-winning guest artist David Cullen, guitar, and Sue McDevitt,

piano. Tickets are \$15 available online, over the phone, and in person:

Online at <https://millercenter.racc.edu/acadia>

Mon. Wed. Fri. - 10AM - 2PM via the Box Office Phone: 610-607-6270

Performance Day 2 hours before performances

## **Washing Windows @ LightHouse Center for Women and Children Sunday, October 15 after worship, coffee and conversation**

One more try! Everyone is invited to roll up their sleeves, get their hands wet and wash the outside windows at the LightHouse. Volunteers are invited to bring their own buckets, gloves, sponges/rags, and cleaner (we will also have some available to share.) We will drive to North 6th Street around 11:30 after coffee and conversation in the Hintz Room. See Dcs. Deborah for more information.

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## Sunday Forum Schedule

**Interesting. Informative. Inspiring.**  
**Sunday Mornings at 9:00 AM**



### **10/8 – Book Banning is Real**

As you may know an emphasis of this year's Fall Festival of the Arts is raising awareness of book banning in schools and public libraries. You are invited to hear Melissa Adams, executive library director at the Reading Public Library, who will discuss the issue with us.

### **10/15 – Opportunity House**

For decades Trinity has supported the important work of Opportunity House. Holly Wolf, director of marketing, will share with us all the ways they work to end homelessness and support the unhoused community in Berks County.

### **10/22 – Meet and Greet from 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM (note the time change)**

An opportunity to meet the pastor who may be called to join us in our ministry.

### **10/29 – One Body, One Spirit, One Hope**

The Opalinskis will share their experience at the Lutheran World Federation Assembly in Krakow, Poland. Their daughter Kristen was the graphic designer for the whole event, so there will be lots of show and tell, along with a discussion of the proceedings, worship, the church in Poland, and some sightseeing.

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**We Love 2023: The Reconciling in Christ Process**  
Saturday, November 4, 2023 at the Lutheran Center  
2354 Grove Road, Allentown, PA

Join the synod's LGBTQIA + Ministry Team as we host a special day of education, information, and fellowship on this year's theme: The Reconciling In Christ process.

Our Keynote presenter will be Aubrey Thonvold, executive director of Reconciling Works. We are also thrilled to welcome Carla Christopher, Assistant to the Bishop for Justice Ministries in the Lower Susquehanna and Delaware-Maryland synods, to work with us on integrating our commitment to racial justice into our RIC efforts.

We will have programming for congregations just beginning to consider becoming RIC, for those who are early in their RIC journey, and for congregations who are longstanding RIC members. Come as individual members, or as a congregational team! To register: <https://tinyurl.com/welove2023>

## All Saints Day November 5

All Saints Sunday on November 5 is a day we remember those who have died in the past year. We will list the names of Trinity members who have joined the Church Triumphant since November 6, 2022. We invite you to share the names of your loved ones who have died since November 6 last year. Please send them to Rachel Gambone by October 27 in her staff mailbox or to [rgambone@trinityreading.org](mailto:rgambone@trinityreading.org).

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## In Our Prayers

**Immediate prayers:** Bobbie Lykens, Louise Souders, Sandi & Tom McCarthy, (friends of Carolyn & Jerry Holleran), Jean McConnell (mother of David McConnell), Carol Batdorf, John Kirby, Beverly Wink, Walter Maier, Christopher Drayer, Harry Feinauer, Patricia Hofmann (Steve Hofmann's stepmother), Jonathan Bloom (friend of Jenn Smith), the family and friends of Steve Lewis (friend of Bill & Charlie Norton), John Kline (friend of Ron Eddinger), and Bette Ashton (Christine Motley's grandmother)

**Ongoing prayers:** Erika Strobel Wesch, Carol Hoffman (Christine Motley's mother), Cobi Motley, Dar Unger, Darryl Jeffries, Dick Evans, Ed Harlin, Walter Schur, John Bornhofen, David Unruh (brother of Ralph Unruh), Doris (friend of Pat McMahan), Dave Regar (friend of Barbara Ketchum), Celia Cosentino (friend of Jane Zobian), the Sawyer family, Tina Koch (friend of Jenn Smith), and Mary Mengel (friend of Anita Dolak)

## Prepare for Worship

Oct. 8: Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:7-15; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

Oct. 15: Isaiah 25:1-9; Psalm 23; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

Oct. 22: Isaiah 45:1-7; Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10;  
Matthew 22:15-22

Oct. 29: Jerekiiah 31:31-34; Psalm 46; Romans 3:19-28; John 8:31-36

## October 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](http://www.trinityreading.org), on Facebook, or on our YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/trinitylutheranchurch](http://www.youtube.com/trinitylutheranchurch). Worship is available both on demand and streamed live at 10:00 AM on Sundays.



### Sundays

6:00 PM World Views:

Ukrainian Orthodoxy

6:30 PM Music From Trinity:

Stephen Benscoter, organ

7:00 PM Trinity Worship Service

### Wednesdays

4:00 PM Trinity Worship Service

5:00 PM Music From Trinity:

Stephen Benscoter, organ

5:30 PM World Views:

Ukrainian Orthodoxy



*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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[www.trinityreading.org](http://www.trinityreading.org)