TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 128 SOUTH 7TH STREET ZANESVILLE, OH 43701

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Our Mission Statement We are saved by Christ to serve His creation.

Rev. Andrew Wilson Pastor

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Website: trinityzanesville.org

Worship Services 8:00 & 10:30 Sunday School 9:15

# TRINITY NEWSLINE

A Monthly Publication of

## **Trinity Evangelical Lutheran**

## **Church & Preschool**



TRINITY LUTHERAN

# Newsline

"Why Am I Here?"

As a Pastor I've heard that question asked in many different settings. Sometimes elderly parishioners ask it as they think of Heaven- "Why am I still here on earth?" Sometimes people ask it as they enter a new season of life-"Why am I at this care facility and not at my own home?" Sometimes people ask it when they consider their job and the many frustrations that go with it- "Why am I working here?" Sometimes people even ask it when they are in a dissatisfying relationship- "Why am I here?" Perhaps you have asked a form of that question yourself before as well. I wouldn't be surprised if we all have a time or two. So why is it so common?

Maybe we can answer that question simply by saying this, "the grass is always greener on the other side of the street." When we aren't content with what we have- isn't it natural for sinners like you and me to go pining away after what we don't? And yet when we do that- we miss out on an opportunity to consider God's working in and through your life of faith for the blessing and benefit of someone else. Consider these two verses from Holy Scripture...

Romans 8:28 – "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Philippians 2:4 – "Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others."

So, what do these two verses tell us? One- God is at work through all things for the good of Christians. And two- God calls Christians not to prioritize their own interests, but rather those of others. Which leads me to a question- have you ever considered that the answer to our "Why am I here?" question- might just be... "So that God can use me to be a blessing to someone else."

Think about that friendship of yours that just seems to be really one-sided. You're always helping them out, you're always doing favors, you're always lending a hand. "Why am I in this friendship?" Perhaps God placed you there- to help someone who really needed a friend. Think about that job with all the frustrations. "Why am I in this job?" Perhaps God has placed you there- to encourage your coworkers in the midst of their frustrations or even to tell them about the hope that you have in Jesus even when life doesn't go your way. The same is true if you're struggling with a new change of scenery- living in a nursing home or care facility instead of the home you have been in for so long. "Why am I here? I don't need it!" Perhaps not- but perhaps God has placed you there so you can be a blessing to those who do need just that. Have you ever considered those possibilities? I know, we often would just like to keep complaining about our situation and asking "Why?" but God's Word reminds us that He is working good in all things for those who believe in Him. And God's Word also calls us to care for those around us and put their interests above our own. So, doesn't it make sense that it would be possible, that even if you can't fathom why you are where you are, perhaps it is because God has placed you there for a time in order that you might be a blessing to those around you.

And if we consider that possibility, it might lead us to ask a different question in our lives of faith- not "Why am I here?" But rather "Who would you have me serve here, God?" For when we ask that question- God gives our lives great fulfillment and purpose as He shows us people that we can bless. Which is why I usually say the same thing to those who wonder why their long lives on earth still continue, "Why am I still here?" "I don't know for sure," I answer, "but I do know this. God blessed me through being able to visit with you today. Perhaps that is why you are here. Perhaps there is someone that God plans to bless through you tomorrow too."

#### **The Great Divorce**

C.S. Lewis is one of the greatest Christian authors of all time. His stories are captivating. His works are theologically deep and rich. And they often point the reader to see Christ as He is revealed to us through God's Word. As such I'm hoping we can spend some time together considering one of Lewis' works this summer during our Education Hour on Sunday mornings.

Starting Sunday, June 2 we'll begin a discussion of C.S. Lewis' book "The Great Divorce." The divorce here doesn't have anything to do with marriage, but rather the divorce or divide between heaven and hell. The premise of the book is a fictional bus ride taking residents of hell up to heaven. What would their experience be? How would they feel about it all? And at the end of the day- would they even want to stay? As you might imagine- the book provides a lot to talk about and consider and yet it is an easy read too. You don't have to have read the book to benefit from our discussion of it- but if you would like a copy for yourself let me or Stacy know and we can put in a group order.

#### **Youth Confirmation**

May is traditionally the month for Youth Confirmation at Trinity and this year is no different. We had four youth confirmands complete their instruction this spring. At the end of April they shared their own personal faith essays with congregation supporters, family and friends at our Confirmation Banquet. Now during the month of May they will officially participate in the Rite of Confirmation during one of our Sunday morning church services.

As you have the opportunity- please take time to encourage and congratulate our four confirmands as they take this important step in their life-long journey of faith. Our confirmands this year are Annika Winland, Kyah Stephey, and Ava and Sofia McCoy.

I would also like to express my thanks to each of our confirmation parents this year as well. This year we enhanced our confirmation program by asking that each confirmand would bring a parent with them to each class. This allowed both confirmand and parent to learn about our Christian faith together as well as learn from and support each other through the process. I know this was an added commitment for our confirmation families this year- but it is one that I truly believe will have a life-long impact on the lives of their children.

A new year of Youth Confirmation instruction will begin in the fall. If your child or grandchild is entering the 6<sup>th</sup> grade or above- we hope you will prayerfully plan on joining us next year.

#### Vicar Update

As we shared in church recently, our application to receive a Vicar for our congregation this next year was left unfilled by the seminaries. This year there were 110 congregations applying for a Vicar and only 85 available for placement. While this is disappointing to us, we will press on. We have been greatly blessed at Trinity with many generous gifts to our Vicar Fund in addition to the monies put towards it from our annual budget. If the congregation decides to pursue it, we can try and apply for a Vicar again next spring. Until then- please keep praying that the Lord would continue to raise up men for the pastoral ministry and women for diaconal service in our church body so that more and more would hear the Good News of the Gospel shared with them.

See you in Church,

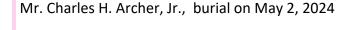
#### Pastor Andrew

#### **PASTORAL ACTS**

#### Deaths

Mrs. Carolyn "Sue" Phillips, memorial service on April 13, 2024.







#### SCOUT NEWS

In April, Boy Scout Troop 128 attended a camporee in Coshocton County. The scouts earned the Railroading Merit Badge at the event.

This month, the troop is planning a weekend campout and also will be planting flowers at the church. The troop would like to thank everyone who

supported the spring flower sale. Proceeds from the sale helped pay for summer camp. Flowers can be picked up the afternoon of Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, or after services on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. We will also have extra flowers to sell for those who didn't place an order.

Troop 128 meets Mondays at 7 p.m. New scouts, boys ages 11 through 17, are always welcome. For more information, contact Kevin Pinson.

#### LADIES' AID

(Special to the Newsline by President, Nancy Corbett)

The Ladies' Aid will meet on Thursday, May 2, at noon. (Please bring your own lunch.) We'll also be having popcorn and soda, as we watch a dramatic/humorous impersonation of Katie Luther, Martin's wife. It comes from an LWML convention a few years back.

Many thanks to all the women and men, who helped with the 'Trinity Treasure Trove' rummage sale on April 20th! The event was Co-chaired by Judy Miller and Darlenea

Scheck and a slew of dedicated volunteers. Proceeds from this sale were earmarked for the LifeWise Bible Project. Young children in the Zanesville City School district that have participated in the LifeWise Academy this year, will each receive a personalized Bible to take home with them when school is dismissed. Thank you to Paula Coulson and Ruth Ann Coulson for inserting each child's name into a Bible. Approximately \$2000.00 was raised.

Pictured in the Parish Hall with the newly purchased Bibles, are (L to R) Ladies' Aid President, Nancy Corbett, Trinity Treasure Trove Co-Chairs (center) Judy Miller and Darlenea Scheck, and a pleased Pastor Wilson.



#### HUMAN CARE COMMITTEE

The Human Care Committee voted to make Transitions, Inc . (women's shelter) of Zanesville the recipient of the HCC's donation of \$500. Since Mother's Day is Sunday , May 12th, the HCC feels it is appropriate to have a **congregational door offering** for those who would also like to contribute and to increase the overall donation to Transitions. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

# Trinity Lutheran Zanesville Presents -2024 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



# **July 15-19** Trinity Lutheran Church Park (Next to Kroger's) **Registration Begins in June** Dive into a friendship with God that takes kids deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God, and discover what living water is really all about! **VOLUNTEERS WILL BE NEEDED** Corrie Burkhardt and Bailey Lones, **Co-Directors**

#### **Important Dates**

May 15– Bible Story Time-- 9:30am

May 17– Prayer blankets due

May 27– Memorial Day

May 30– Last Day of Preschool and End of Year Celebration—6pm



**Family Event** 

We had another family event April 11th. We celebrated birthdays with a dance party; complete with party hats, glow sticks and cupcakes! Five preschoolers and their families attended.

### **Bible Story Time**

IT'S

ALMOST

SUMMER

TIME

April's story was Joseph and his Colorful Coat. We read two stories, sang songs and used watercolors to paint a picture of Joseph's coat.

The next Bible Story Time is Wednesday, May 15th at 9:30am. Toddler through kindergarten aged children are welcome to attend!





Trinity's Tidbits Of History

Historians Steve & Lynn Carrel

## Trinity's Organists (continued)



+ Helen began her musical career by learning to play piano from one of the nuns at St. Nicholas Catholic Church. She also took organ lessons from Betty Lou Moore in Zanesville.

- + In the 1970's, Helen taught piano and organ lessons for many years at her home. She had many recitals which were held at the Sonora Church below her home
- + Helen played for weddings, funerals and other occasions at Sonora Methodist Church and Pleasant City Lutheran Church.
- + In 1977, Helen began Trinity's Handbell Choir.
- + She loved to play patriotic music around the 4th of July. She enjoyed all Christmas hymns, especially 'Silent Night.'
- + Patty Huffman remembers going early to listen to Helen play for a wedding. As Patty was going up to the balcony, Helen was coming down. She said there was a bird flying around and she couldn't play. (Helen was scared to death of birds.) Patty ran for the janitor, who got a broom, and stood by the organ to keep it away so Helen could play for the wedding.
- + Jim Porter, Helen's son, laughingly commented that even though his mom was a great pianist, organist and teacher, she gave up on him and sent Jim to someone else for lessons.
- + Helen played for the last time on the last Sunday in 2008.
- On Sunday, November 1, 2009, Mrs. Helen Porter was recognized for her 38 years of service and dedication to Trinity as Head Organist.
- Helen mentioned in her thank you note to the Congregation, some thought "I played too loud, but when we sang "A Mighty Fortress" on Reformation Day, I think the rafters shook because the louder I played, the louder the congregation sang. I'm sure the Lord was pleased with all the beautiful voices being raised to His Glory."



Mrs. Helen Porter, Head Organist 1970-2008

# Congratulations Confirmation Class of 2024

YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS May 5, 2024



From left: Sofia McCoy, Ava McCoy, Annika Winland and Kyah Stephey

#### Ava Isabella McCoy – Romans 12:2

<sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

#### Sofia Molly McCoy – 1 John 3:16

<sup>16</sup> By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.

#### Kyah Mariposa Stephey – Jeremiah 29:13

<sup>13</sup> You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

#### Confirmed on May 19, 2024

#### Annika Aubreanna Winland – 1 John 4:19

<sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us.



#### **DID YOU KNOW?**



**Congratulations to the following on their wedding anniversaries in May:** Mr. & Mrs. Bill & Lea Craig's 37th on May 2nd; Mr. & Mrs. Mark & Teresa McCabe's 30th on May 13th; Mr. & Mrs. Wayne & Nancy Lestock's 42nd on May 15th; Mr. & Mrs. Steve & Tammy Huffman's 32nd on May 16th; Mr. & Mrs. Adam & Kathy Cavinee's 29th on May 20th; Mr. & Mrs. Bob & Rhonda Todd's 42nd on May 22nd; Mr & Mrs. Aaron & Olivia Kirkbride's 6th on May 26th; Mr. & Mrs. Tom & Cheri Dunn's 42nd on May 30th.

**Altar Flower Dates Available:** 5/19, 6/9, 6/23, 7/14, 7/28, 8/11, 8/18, 11/17, 12/8, 12/15, 12/29. Please contact the church office to select your date.



Do you have someone graduating this year? The <u>Newsline</u> would love to highlight our members or immediate family of members, that are 2024 graduates. The deadline for the office to receive information for the June 2024 Newsline is Monday, May 20th, 2024. Please include a photo and a brief write-up about your graduate. If you have someone graduating in June, they can be featured in the July Newsline. There will be a Graduate Recognition in June.

Congratulations to Pastor Larry Kudart who will celebrate 60 years in the ministry on

June 7. Pastor Kudart was ordained on June 7, 1964, in Iowa.

Our Radio Programs, **"Moments With God" and "The Lutheran Hour,"** during the month of May are in memory of Bill Stinard, by Nancy Stinard and family.

**Many thanks to** Darlenea Scheck, Judy Miller, Kathy George, George & Jody Koncar, Barb Thompson, Kim Jones, Liz Snider, Rhonda Lefevre, Paul & Donna Roberts, Donna Dickson, Pat & Dan McConnell, Mike & Carla Reed, Terrie Laudenbacher, Ryan Ankrom Cathy Ankrom, Gerald & Linda Hina, the Ladies' Aid Group and to congregant members who helped to make the Trinity Treasure Trove rummage sale a success in so many ways.

**Ladies' Aid** —On Thursday, June 6th, the Ladies' Aid will meet from 11am-3pm at the Trinity Church Park for a summer potluck.

**Trinity Church Park** is available to rent from May 1-October 31st. Call the church office at 740-453-0744 to reserve your dates.

**The deadline for the office to receive** information for the June 2024 Newsline, is Monday, May 20. You may email your articles and send photos to Mollie Winland at <u>molliegpru@yahoo.com</u>.

**Our radio programs,** <u>Moments With God</u> and <u>The Lutheran Hour</u> are available for you to sponsor. Each program is \$40 per week to broadcast. If you would like to sponsor one or both, please contact the church office. The programs may be heard beginning with <u>The Lutheran Hour</u> from 8-8:30 am on AM-1240/FM 103.7 and <u>Moments With God</u> from 8:30-9:00am. Your sponsorship is greatly appreciated.

**Offering Envelopes:** Please be sure to mark the amount given on the **front** of your envelope, so that you are credited correctly. Hall . The money counters would also appreciate no tape or stickers on your envelope.

#### CONTACT LIST

Dial the church at 740-453-0744 and appropriate voicemail box number Pastor Extension 1

Rev. Andrew Wilson

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#### President

Extension 8

- Kathy Cavinee
- Executive officer of the congregation

#### **Vice-President**

Jeff Rittberger

• Assistant to the president

#### Elders

#### **Extension 9**

(Head Elder) George Koncar, Gerald Hina, Jeff Rittberger, Bob Corbett, Doug Scheck, Marc Thomas, and Eric Holsky

 Assist the pastor in all matters pertaining to the spiritual welfare of the congregation, and in carrying out the official duties in the cultivation of peace and harmony among the members.

#### Trustees

#### **Extension 4**

(Head Trustee) Sue Edwards, Kim Jones, Mike Havens and B.J. Fox

• Administer all property belonging to the congregation and keep it in good condition and repair.

Office Manager Stacy Martin Extension 0 Office: 740-453-0744 Fax: 740-453-2331 Email: telcz@sbcglobal.net

Pre-School DirectorExtension 2Olivia KirkbrideOffice 740-453-3131Email: director@trinityzanesville.org

Church Custodian Sam Dykes Extension 7

Choir Director - Donna Roberts

Ladies' Aid President- Nancy Corbett

Volunteer Coordinator – Mollie Winland

Quilters - Dottie Schultheis

Fellowship Club - Mike Havens, or Carla Reed

# Trinity Fellowship Club

The Fellowship Club welcomes singles or couples to our group. There are no special requirements for participation. We usually meet quarterly on the 1st Sunday of the month to enjoy Fellowship and food.

Mike Havens serves as President, George Koncar, as Treasurer, and Carla Reed, as Secretary. We currently have around 20 members.

In June we will be going to the Wilds. Look for a signup sheet on the table near the office and add the date you would be available. We look forward to spending time with you in faith and fellowship.

### **Special Anniversary Offering**





May 2024	Thu	2
	Wed	ļ
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church	Tue	
	Mon	
Trini		

Sat 23 ፼ Ħ 4 Scouts sort flowers, Noon, Church Parking Lot Ē 24 ₽ ₽ 3 3 Preschool Year End Celebration, 6pm Elders/Ladies Auxiliary, 5:30pm Men's Bible Study, 4:30pm Men's Bible Study, 4:30pm Men's Bible Study, 4:30pm Preschool Last School Day Men's Bible Study, 4:30pm Men's Bible Study, 4:30pm Ladies' Aid, Noon Quilters, 10am Quilters, 10am Quilters, 10am Quilters, 10am Quilters, 10am 23 뭥 ≘ m Preschool Bible Story Time, 9:30am Bible Study, 10am Bible Study, 10am Choir, 5pm Choir, 5pm Choir, 5pm **22** Chair, 5pm **29** Choir, 5pm ξ œ Retiree Brunch, 10:30am, Bob Human Care Committee, 2pm **21** Circuit Pastor's Meeting Evans on Underwood Church Council, 5:30pm 28 4 5 13 Walk in the Word, 10:30am, OUZ, Women's Bible Study, 5:30pm Women's Bible Study, 5:30pm Women's Bible Study, 5:30pm Happy Memorial Day! Scouts, 7pm, Church Park Scouts, 7pm, Church Park Collegial Woods Trail Scouts, 7pm, Church Park Office Closed School Board, 6:30pm <u>Newsline</u> deadline 2 77 œ Youth Confirmation, 10:30am Transitions Door Offering, sponsored by the Human Care Committee Youth Confirmation, Bam Service Happy Mother's Day Scout Flawer Pickup 26 Haly Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion Service Sun 2 Ð 5

## Thank you to our members who sponsor the Newsline each month!

