THE PIPER

SEPTEMBER 6, 2015

Trinity Lutheran Church 2221 North Oak Lane

State College, PA 16803 814-238-2024 www.TrinityStateCollege.org



The flowers are given by Brian Woodland.

PRAYER LIST

TLC DISCIPLES

Chris Snyder, Jerry Wion, Alicia Musheno, Barb Trout, Don Leslie, Ray Petersen (military), Kris Glad (military)

TLC FRIENDS

Joe Adkins (heart surgery), Elaine Seymour (cancer), Lynea Morgan, William Lee, Colleen Wisniewski (cancer), Janet Spencer and family, Roger Shouse and daughter, Ed and Evelyn Connor Family (daughters Amy Triple Negative Breast Cancer and Judy colonrectal cancer)

NEWCOMER CLASS

Saturday, September 12 <u>or</u> 26 9:00 am – 12:00 noon Reception of New Members – Sunday, October 4 Contact Pastor Ron for details: <u>TLCRevRon@comcast.net</u>

Sunday School Begins September 13

Sunday School will be starting on Rally Day, September13, 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall. Ages 4-17 are welcome to attend. We are starting a new curriculum this year called WHRL.

Help is still needed for Sunday School. If you are willing to help or would like more information, please contact Valerie Frey, <u>VAF4077@gmail.com</u>.

Pastor Ron will be working with the students of Deeper Waters on Sunday morning. There is a person interested in teaching the Adult Class so watch for more details!

WORSHIP CHANGES

9:30 am Outdoor Worship ends on Sunday, September 6 5:00 pm Worship resumes on Saturday, September 12

Holy Communion is celebrated weekly.

TRINITY EVENTS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 8:15 am Worship with Communion 9:30 am Outdoor Worship - Blessing of Animals 10:45 am Worship with Communion

> TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 5:45 pm Zumba

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 7:00 pm Yoga

<u>THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10</u> 5:45 pm Zumba

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 9:00 am Newcomer Class 10:00 am Zumba 5:00 pm Worship with Communion

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 8:15 am Worship with Communion 9:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Joyful Voices 10:45 am Worship with Communion 11:45 am Coffee Hour

Special Blessings

Sunday, September 6 – 9:30 am Blessing of the Animals Bring your pet or a picture of your pet.

Sunday, September 13 – All Services Blessing of Back Packs and Students

Sunday, September 20 – All Services Blessing of Teachers, Staff, Administration All those involved in the educational system.

Monday Night Adult Study

Monday nights, starting September 14 7:00 – 8:30 pm <u>A People's History of Christianity</u> by Diana Butler Bass Faith Room (next to Pastor's office) Bring a copy of the book. For details contact Pastor Ron, <u>TLCRevRon@comcast.net</u>.

DAY OF CARING

The 50th Anniversary Committee thought it would be a great idea for our congregation to participate in some type of community service. We would like to get a team from Trinity to take part in the United Way Day of Caring on October 1, 2015. There are opportunities for full day or part of the day participation and there would be a chance to pick what type of work we would like to do. More specific details about worksites, etc. will be available after September 1. There is a sign up sheet available on the Fellowship Hall door where you can indicate your shirt size and what type of work desired (i.e. painting, yard work, etc.) We'd love to have you join us!

CALLING ALL SINGERS

Joyful Voices will begin rehearsing on September 13, at 9:30 in the Sanctuary. We would love to have you join us. The choir practices on the 2nd and 3rd Sundays of each month from 9:30 to 10:20 and we sing at the 10:45 service on the 2nd and 3rd Sundays. If you are going to attend Sunday School you can still sing with the choir. All we ask is that you come to rehearsals by 10:00 to run over the anthems for the next two Sundays. I will work the rehearsals so that you will have plenty of time to learn the songs. If you would like more information on the choir you can talk to any of the current members or give me a call at 237-2107. I hope you will consider joining us on Sunday, September 13 and give us a try. Donna Weller

On Sunday, August 30, we welcomed Wyatt Douglas LaRue Neidig into our TLC family by way of Baptism. Wyatt is the son of Adam and Suzanne Bulazo Neidig.	Lessons for September 6 Isaiah 35:4-7a Psalm 146 James 2:1-17 Mark 7:24-37 Lessons for September 13 Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 116:1-9 James 3:1-12 Mark 8:27-38	TLC FINANCIAL INFORMATION July 1, 2015 – August 31, 2015 Income \$41,299.23 Expenses \$42,465.20 Difference -\$1,165.97 These amounts represent operating income and expenses and do not include any interest, dividends or investment value changes.
ALLEGHENY SYNOD 701 Quail Avenue <u>814-942-1042</u> www.alleghenysynod.org		

Altoona, PA 16602-3010

Fax 814-941-9259 office@alleghenysynod.com The Rev. Michael L. Rhyne, Bishop

Companions in Christ's Mission with the Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church

Dear Friends,

Grace and Peace to you in the name of God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. On this the first anniversary of serving with you as Bishop of our Allegheny Synod, I share with you the exciting ministry opportunities we have worked on together as well as the challenges that lie before us.

The blessing of serving as Bishop is that I get to meet all of you: joining you for worship, visiting with your Councils, and seeing you at events in and around our Synod. What I have learned in this last year is that we are a Synod of wonderful people. I get to see firsthand that our congregations are full of good people who love Jesus and want to serve him. Even in places that may find themselves in times of struggle (since our Synod Office works with our sisters and brothers in conflict), we find people who really want what is best. I thank God for all of you, and the many ways you serve Jesus in your congregations and the way you reach out to your community.

We are in this together, and as we work together, we are able to do so much more than we ever will apart. During this past year, we as a Synod have done remarkable things from the 25,000 Can Challenge in December and January that together we gathered over 36,000 items of food to care for our sisters and brothers in need in our local communities. In April and May we had the Kenya Motorbike Challenge to help purchase motorbikes for our companion synod in Kenya. Our goal was one bike at \$5,000. Together we raised over \$12,500 and look to be close to \$15,000 for three bikes! These funds make it possible for pastors to reach their more remote churches and take the gospel to places that are hard to reach. When the Allegheny Synod works together we do amazing things.

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We have also seen the Spirit at work in our Synod in this last year sending us new leaders and opening people's hearts to consider the ministry. The Lord has sent us nine new leaders to our Synod in this past year. Five of these were newly ordained pastors, two were pastors new to our Synod, and two were pastors who were returning to our Synod. We thank God for them.

The more amazing thing the Spirit has done is in forming new leaders. When I began in our Synod office we had two people from our Synod in Seminary. In this past year we have had seven people start the process of preparing to go to Seminary. By this Fall we will have seven Seminarians taking classes at ELCA Seminaries, and two preparing to start in the spring or summer. In addition to this, we are blessed by those people who participate in our DYD program (Lay Worship Leader Training) to become authorized to lead Sunday services in congregations where a pastor is not available. We authorized seven new Lay Worship Leaders for our Synod this year. We thank God for them and for their openness to serve their sisters and brothers in our Synod.

I hope you hear all of that as good news. There are many wonderful things going on in the Allegheny Synod.

I told you that there was also a challenge and an opportunity. The challenge is a financial one, which is the same challenge many of our congregations are facing. Our Synod has seen support from congregations decrease between \$20,000 and \$25,000 a year since 2004. In spite of the valiant efforts of our Synod's Stewardship and Finance teams, we have continued this steady downturn. The first few years our Synod budget was able to absorb the reduction in support. Eventually we had to begin cutting financial support to our partner ministries. Now there is not a lot more to cut. We find ourselves in a place where we need to first plug up the leaks in the boat and it is time for us to work together to try and turn this around.

Now the great and good news is that we can turn this thing around. To shore up and better support our congregations and our Synod we are not talking about major capital investments from each of us. Here is an example. We have 8,100 people in church in the Allegheny Synod on an average Sunday. If each of those people gave an <u>additional dollar a month</u> to support the mission of the Synod, we would produce \$97,200 a year for extending the mission and ministry. It is not hard when we all work together.

I also understand that times can seem tough. I know that you are doing the best that you think possible. I also know that sometimes we think that maybe we could give a little more, but what would another \$5 or \$10 dollars do. The truth is that God takes what we have, and combines it with what our sisters and brothers have, and pretty soon God makes a pretty big difference.

So working with the Stewardship/Mission Interpretation and Finance teams of our Synod, we are going to be intentional about reaching out, working with, and putting forth programs to help congregations. We have a program we are starting this fall with our new leaders to our Synod that is intentional stewardship training. We are also going to be working intentionally to help tell the story of what we do together as a Synod. It is a whole lot easier to support the mission and work of your congregation, our Synod, and the greater church when we know the wonderful things we are doing together.

We can do it. We can turn the trend that we are seeing in our Synod and in many of our congregations around. This is not something that we are simply going to fix tomorrow. It is going to take some time, and that time starts now.

I want you to hear that is much to be excited about in our Allegheny Synod. We are doing wonderful ministry. We have a financial challenge in front of us, but we can turn this around. As we do, we will be able to extend the ministries of our Synod and be able to reach out further with the love of Jesus to this world.

Please know that you, the churches, leaders, and individual members of our Allegheny Synod are in my prayers always. Thank you for the many ways you reach out to this world and the ways that you share the love of Jesus Christ with this world.

In Christ,

Bishy Michel Z Rhyre

Bp. Michael