

Trinity Trumpet November/December 2021

Church Office: [814] 267-3234

Trinity United Church of Christ

Website: berlinucc.org

Email: berlinucc@yahoo.com

Vol. 27, No.6

Dr. David Williams, Pastor

Cell: [814] 241-3919

Email: uccvicar@gmail.com



Give thanks
to the Lord, for
He is good; His love
endures forever.

Psalm 107:1

“Thanksgiving is one of our favorite days of the year because it reminds us to give thanks and to count our blessings. Suddenly, so many things become so little when we realize how blessed and lucky we are.”



Pastor's Ponderings:

The Apostle Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 1:20 ***As many as may be the promises of God, in Christ they are yes.*** I've been pondering the promises of Psalms 90 and 91 in the recent days. The promises given there are for those who are in fellowship with God. God who is our fortress, our shield and buckler, who sends His angels to guard and protect us and more. As I ponder further the "yes" of the promises I realized that all of the promises of God find their ultimate consummation, their ultimate fulfillment, because of the work of Jesus Christ and in Jesus Christ himself. Whatever goodness we enjoy in life today, it is because of the work of Jesus Christ. And all of this goodness points forward to the even greater work of Jesus Christ in the future.

So, how are we to respond to this reality? First, we thank God looking forward. We long, we lean, we look forward and we say, "God, I love this blessing. This is a great blessing right now. I love what you are doing in my life. But God, it makes me look forward to that day when Jesus Christ will return." Second, it gives us a great sense of worship and adoration for the God who is at work in our lives today, preparing us through today's blessings for the life that is still to come.

I understand the idea of thanking God for the past and for the present. But as God's people, we must thank God for the future. We must thank Him looking forward to the thing He is yet to do,

because the things of life today are simply a shadow, a foretaste, of greater things yet to come.

As we come to the last two months of 2021, may we give thanks for the past, live in the present, and look to the future with thanksgiving and joy!

+PD

+ + + + +



Consistory Corner

The Consistory has taken the following actions during the last two months:

1. Approved a gift of \$175.00 from the Margaret Fisher Fund for the Berlin Lion's Letter.
2. Approved Commercial Carpet Care to refinish the floors on the lower level of the church and to steam clean the carpets throughout the church, church office and parsonage. The bid of \$3,671.00 was accepted.
3. Agreed to postpone the organ dedication concert at this time due to COVID-19.
4. Approved the recommendations of the Pastoral Committee and the Deacons to formulate a budget for 2022 to be presented to the congregation at the Annual Meeting.

5. The Nominating Committee is now confirming 4 persons to serve as Elder and Deacons as the class of 2025.
6. Appointed Deb Boyer as the Liaison to the Investment Committee.

Church Office Hours

Trinity Church Office Hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pastor Dave takes Monday as his Day Off. On Wednesday afternoon and Friday morning he is at Zion Lutheran, Meyersdale.



Trinity at 250 – In the Year of our Lord 2027, the Trinity Church will celebrate our 250th Anniversary. Planning for such an event will require careful thought and execution. Should it be a one-day event? Should it be a quarterly event? Do we create a history book? Do we invite former pastors back to preach on Sunday during the course of the year? Should we have several projects that need completed [new pew pads or carpeting?] or a special mission endeavor? The possibilities are endless for this celebration. The consistory is seeking people who enjoy history to work together to plan for this anniversary celebration. Speak with Tom Calvert or Pastor Dave if you would be willing to work on this endeavor.



Confirmation Class

The following students are learning about being disciples of Jesus as they prepare to publicly profess their faith and affirm the promises made at their baptism:

Cohen Clark
Lily Countryman
Colton Custer
Kaytlin Miller
Matthew Miller
Vesper Ogburn
Nathan Spangler
Cora Wright

These disciples meet with Pastor Dave and Kathy Spangler on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 6:30 p.m. for an hour of instruction. We are using two books this year: "I Believe" which is a review of the Apostles' Creed and "The Jesus Creed" [Youth Edition] written by Scot McKnight.

Students are being asked to memorize: The Lord's Prayer, The Apostles' Creed and "The Jesus Creed" which is *Hear, O Israel, the Lord God is One. Love the Lord your God with all of your heart, all of your mind, all of your soul and with all of your strength. The second is like the first, love your neighbor as yourself.* The whole of the Gospel is to love God and love others.

The Class will be confirmed on October 30, 2022 – Reformation Sunday!

All Saints Day

*The Lord redeems the life of
his servants;
none of those who take refuge
in him will be condemned.*

Psalm 34:22



All Saints Sunday, November 7

The Feast Sunday of All Saints is November 7. We will celebrate the Saints who have gone before us in this past year. As is our tradition, the names of those remembered will be read individually as the tower bell tolls, and family members will be invited to the chancel to light a candle in memory of their loved one. Following worship the family is invited to take the votive candle and the white rose from the table to continue to remember and give thanks for the life well lived.

We remember the following:

Evelyn Hillegass
Charlie E. Will
Lester Coslic
Charles Diest Jr.
Rev'd Charles R. Dunn
Derron Twombly
Dorothy Black Davis
James Platt
Lucas Hayman
J. Fredrick Doering

Pastor Dave will preach from John 11, the story of Lazarus based on vs. 35, the shortest verse of the Bible – ***Jesus Wept.*** The scripture gives us this promise that our tears of mourning will be turned to joy in the morning.



Veterans Sunday – November 14

Sharon Engleka is once again preparing the video presentation in memory and honor of those who have served our country. If you have someone to add to her presentation, please contact her directly.

Sound System and Live Sunday Service Online Upgrade

Chip Schweikarth of the Music Emporium, Altoona provided all of the necessary upgrades to our sound and video system October 21-23 that we will now be “live” online on Sunday mornings. You may go to our Facebook Page or to the church webpage to watch our Sunday worship service. It will be automatically saved and you can watch the service outside of the Sunday broadcast schedule.

Thanksgiving Sunday – November 21

As the liturgical year comes to an end and because there will not be a community Thanksgiving service again this year, we will have Thanksgiving Sunday on November 21st. A morning to reflect and be thankful. We will sing with great joy several of the traditional Thanksgiving hymns and other songs of joy. Pastor will use the

hymn – *Now Thank We All Our God* as the basis of his sermon entitled *Martha Stewart Is Not Coming to Thanksgiving This Year!*

It's the
most
Wonderful
Time
of the year

Advent – Christmas Sermon Series – *The Characters of Christmas*

This year as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, we will explore the lives of those characters most involved with Christmas.

November 28 – *Zechariah*

December 5 – *Mary*

December 12 – *Joseph*

December 19 – *The Wisemen*

December 24 – *Shepherds*

Christmas Eve

There are 3 opportunities for worship on Christmas Eve. The schedule will be as follows:

5:00 p.m. Family Christmas Service at Trinity, Berlin

7:00 p.m. Christmas Communion with Candles at Zion,
Meyersdale

11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Carols and Candles with music by Bells
at Trinity, Berlin

Approximately 15 minutes before the start of each service Pastor will provide a festive organ prelude of carols to prepare for the celebration.

Pastor's Christmas Eve Message – ***Follow!***

Christmas Decorating

We will be having a simple Christmas this year at Trinity. Last year and again this year the “big tree” will not be displayed. Rather the beautiful wreaths will be hung, the Nativity will find itself in the front left corner of the sanctuary [like last year] and smaller Christmas trees will be in the chancel. The Christmas Decorators will be doing their work the week of November 14. If you would like to help, speak with Nancy Bittner, Ann Slifco or Jean Ann Darr.

Annual Congregational Meeting

The Consistory of Trinity Church calls for the annual congregational meeting for Sunday, December 5th following the morning worship service to act upon the nominating committee's recommendation for Elder and Deacons, to approve the 2022 budget, and any other business to come before the congregation.

It appears we have a lot of “Secrets” going on!!

TOP SECRET

“Secret Pals” Program

We are gearing up for another round of the Secret Pals program beginning in November. The reveal from this past year is currently being planned for November 21st at 8:30 a.m. The applications are enclosed in this newsletter as well as posted on our church community bulletin board.

“Secret Santa”

We want to begin collecting for Secret Santa beginning October 24th through November 21st. All proceeds will benefit families in the Berlin Community. Please submit donations in the offering plate indicating “Secret Santa” as the subject. If anyone is interested in shopping for the cause, please contact Julie Petro at (814) 442-5124.

Willard D. Glessner Estate

The late Willard Glessner left a portion of his estate to the Trinity Church. We received an initial gift of \$50,000 which was deposited into the Church Endowment Fund. This past week we received the final distribution from the estate in the amount of \$8,600.00. This will also be deposited in the Church Endowment Fund.

Gifts to the Church Endowment are carefully invested and income received is placed in a restricted account that may be used as directed by the Consistory and Congregation to support the mission and ministry of the church.



Financial Reports submitted by our Financial Secretary, Renee Gindlesperger and Treasurer, Jean Ann Darr

August 1 – September 30, 2021

	CURRENT	MAINTENANCE	BENEVOLENCE
Beg. Balance	\$49,785.43	\$8,267.84	\$675.00
Receipts	\$27,032.76	\$1,570.00	\$1,960.00
Distributions	\$26,257.27	\$1,410.92	\$2,635.00
Ending Balance	\$50,560.92	\$8,426.92	\$.00

Benevolence disbursements as follows: Berlin Food Pantry (Individual Donations) – \$385; Berlin Food Pantry (Benevolence Budget) - \$108; OCWM - \$1,641.69; Trinity Outreach (Benevolence Budget) - \$410.31; Global Missions – Child Sponsor - \$90

Memorials (as of 9/30/21):

A gift was given to the Memorial Music Fund in Memory of **Lucas Hayman**.

Thank You

To Our Church Family,

Thank you for the thoughts, prayers, cards, flowers, meals and visits during the loss of our precious Lucas.

Most of all thank you for being the greatest church family ever.

Lucas loved every last one of you!!! He felt at home at U.C.C. and that is because of you!

Our lives have been forever changed at the loss of Lucas but forever blessed because of him.

God Bless you all,

Jonathan, Holly & Sami Jo

On behalf of the J.B. Schrock Board of Directors, thank you for your financial support of \$122. Your donation will help to pay the directors salaries and maintain the grounds and equipment so that the families that come to the park can safely enjoy a day of fun.

The playground has been a part of our community for many years, and it is our hope that it will be here for many years to come.

In appreciation,

J B Schrock Community Playground Committee

Thank you to those who have returned our family update forms.

We appreciate your assistance in verifying the information we have on file.

If you have not received yours yet, this is an ongoing project and very time consuming so don't be concerned....you will in the near future.



Those Remembered in Prayer:

God's guidance and protection for Armed Forces.

Shut Ins:

Lewis & Barb Berkley, Roy Bucher, Helen Diest, Mary Forespring, Janet Gindlesperger, Cynthia Kelly, Lois Krause, Deb Luteri, Lois Saylor, Dirkje Stellingwerf.

Healing Concerns:

Sally Altfather, Mark Amyot, Donnie Baxter, Abigayle Broadwater, Pam Crooks, Linda Gallick, Dawn Gindlesperger, Barry Landis, Larry McCullen, Bayley Mull, Bonnie Murphy, Nancy Schrock, Avis Specht, Dirkje Stellingwerf, Robin Walker, Harry & Jane Watkins, Heather Weighley, Nancy Weighley, Karen Will, Kimberly Kay Roos Zimmerman.

Worship Assistants November / December

November 7th

Sound: Lori Gindlesperger, Russ Hillegas

Flowers: Chris King

Bulletin: Craig & Amanda Stiffler

November 14th

Sound: Tom Croner, Pam Bush

Flowers: Barry Landis

November 21st

Sound: Tyler Gindlesperger, Gaye Maust

Flowers: Alissa Wright

November 28th

Sound: Tom Croner, Jim Darr

Flowers: Michele Romesberg

Special Flowers: Jeannie Keidel Williams

December 5th

Sound: Russ Hillegas, Pam Bush

Flowers: Judy McCullen

December 12th

Sound: Tyler Gindlesperger, Chris King

Flowers: Dave & Missy Miller

December 19th

Sound: Tom Croner, Gaye Maust

Flowers: Carl & Karol Saylor

December 24th 5PM

Sound: Jim Darr, Lori Gindlesperger

Bulletin: Craig & Amanda Stiffler

December 24th 11PM

Sound: Terry Luteri, Russ Hillegas

Bulletin: Craig & Amanda Stiffler

December 26th

Sound: Tyler Gindlesperger, Pam Bush

Flowers: Dale Gindlesperger



The Whole Congregation in Ministry and Assisted by

Pastor: Rev'd Dr. David A. Williams

Church Secretary: Pam Bush

Financial Secretary: Renee Gindlesperger

Chancel Choir Director Emeritus: Linda Gallick

Handbells: Jeanne Hillegas

Church Office Hours – Tuesday through Thursday

9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Church Office Phone: 814-267-3234

Snail Mail: PO Box 86, Berlin, PA 15530

Email: berlinucc@yahoo.com

Website: www.berlinucc.org

Pastor's Contact Information

Cell Phone: 814-241-3919

E-Mail: uccvicar@gmail.com

603 Fletcher Street, Berlin, PA 15530



Sharing with you
the Glory, the
Wonder, the
Miracle of this
Holy Season.
Have a Blessed
Christmas and
New Year.

"Believe In the Miracle of The Season"