



Dear Friends,

One of the most transformative things in life is relationships; we meet people and they invite us to grow and change in new ways. We can all remember folks who changed us from family to friends to leaders and teachers, who transformed our lives and this is a great chance to remember those folks with thanksgiving.

This season of life has reminded us how very precious those relationships are and this is a great opportunity to reach out to those who you love and share with them how they have been a blessing to you.

As we come into the month of November, we take time to give thanks for those saints who have gone ahead to the Kingdom of Heaven, we hope that as you join us in worship either at home or in person you can light candles to celebrate them. We will celebrate our Veterans the following week, and look forward to having many of you with us in person as we honor those who have served. These are both great invitations to open our month with gratitude: for those who we have loved and lost, for those who have served with honor, and to reflect on all those who we love who God has put into our lives.

Blessings

Pastor Jen



GOOD NEWS OF TRINITY

Trinity Presbyterian Church

P. O. Box 239

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Dallas, Pennsylvania 18612

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Rev. Jennifer A. Baer

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**Website: www.dallastpc.org
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Trinity Learning Center

570-675-0689

Jennifer Sgarlat, Director

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November 2021



The Women of Trinity Notes November 2021

The Women of Trinity met on October 20, 2021 at the Rickett's Glen Hotel.

Fellowship of the Least Coin offering to date is \$100. We have met our goal for this year, and a check will be sent to them before the end of the year. We will resume offerings for this project in March 2022.

Last month we sent a check to the church for Rise Against Hunger for \$100.

Prayer Shawl Ministry is making scarves for the Dallas Senior Center members.

Greeting cards continue to be sent by Betsy Fairchild.

Our Annual Fundraiser – the Bakeless Bake Sale will take place in November and December. All proceeds will be donated to the general fund/operating account of the church. A mailer, with a return envelope, will be sent out soon.

Recent donations:

We received a very nice thank you letter from Meals on Wheels for our recent \$100 donation.

Thank Offering of Presbyterian Women – taking place in October. To date we have received \$200 which will be sent in late November.

We will be hosting the second Sunday reception on December 12th.

Discussion on venue and presentation will take place at our November meeting.

We plan to do a Christmas Project for the Dallas Senior Center. Details will be worked out in our November meeting.

November meeting will be on Thursday, November 18th at 12:30 at Barb Rinker's house in Sweet Valley. Car pool from the church at noon. Sign-up sheet will be posted. Thank you, Barb, for hosting us again.

Our December meeting will be on Wednesday, December 8th at noon at Allyson Lord's "Christmas House." And thank you to Allyson for hosting us again to get us in the spirit of the season.

Thoughts and prayers for our members, their families, our country and our world.

Trinity Women's Prayer List: Jim Snyder, Deb Cooper, Carlene McCaffrey, Barbara Rogers, Linda Griffith, Mary Morrison, Allan and Carol Hobbs' son-in-law Jules Williams, Allyson Lord's sister Bonnie Zim, Tom Pickett, C. Don Kocher, Shirley Wolfkeil, 8-year-old Nathan Gray, and Marianne Williams's brother Steve Selige



November

| | |
|-------|-------------------|
| 11/03 | Richard Burkhardt |
| 11/06 | John Baer |
| 11/13 | Kyle Borland |
| 11/14 | Kim Borland |
| 11/15 | Meryl Davis |
| 11/22 | Scarlett McKinley |
| 11/24 | Julie Sgarlat |
| 11/26 | Natalie Baer |

December

| | |
|-------|------------------|
| 12/03 | Lewis Baines |
| 12/06 | Sharon Davis |
| 12/16 | Kolbie Burkhardt |
| 12/19 | Jim Snyder |
| 12/20 | Erin Yurko |



December Anniversaries

| | |
|-------|------------------------------------|
| 12/14 | Allan & Carol Hobbs |
| 12/28 | Wayne & Marianne Williams |
| 12/30 | Larry Rittenhouse & Michele Steele |

Trinity Men's Club

Our November breakfast meeting will be held @ Lum's in Dallas on November 13 so that all our men can participate in The Rise Against Hunger event on November 6.



Men's Club



Meals on Wheels~ If you would like to volunteer for Meals on Wheels on any open dates, please call Meryl Davis @ (570) 310-1556.

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| November 4, 2021 | Meryl Davis | Curtis Goodwin |
| November 18, 2021 | Rich & Drena Gorgone | |
| December 2, 2021 | Volunteers | Needed |
| December 16, 2021 | Volunteers | Needed |

LITURGISTS - The Session wishes to thank everyone who has volunteered to serve as Liturgists.

If you are interested in serving as a Liturgist, please check the poster on the bulletin board in the hallway and select a date. Rev. Baer is available to talk to anyone who has never been a liturgist but wants to give it a try.

Nicole Fleschut, Administrative Assistant, will send you your material prior to the date you are scheduled to be the Liturgist.

Thank you, Art Peoples, Clerk of Session

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| November 7, 2021 | Meryl Davis |
| November 14, 2021 | Wayne Williams |
| November 21, 2021 | Barbara Rinker |
| November 28, 2021 | Doug Stevens |
| December 5, 2021 | |
| December 12, 2021 | Wayne Williams |
| December 19, 2021 | Ken Jones |
| December 24, 2021 | Barbara Rinker |
| December 26, 2021 | Lessons & Carols |

Flower Chart There is a flower chart sign-up sheet in hallway for anyone wishing to honor a loved one. The cost of flowers has increased to \$35 per week so please plan accordingly.



| | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| November 7, 2021 | Harry & Deb Cooper | December 12, 2021 | Clarence Givens |
| November 14, 2021 | Beth Davis | December 19, 2021 | Nancy Williams |
| November 21, 2021 | Betsy Fairchild | December 24, 2021 | |
| November 28, 2021 | Cindy Williams | December 26, 2021 | Ken Jones |
| December 5, 2021 | Ken Jones | January 2, 2022 | |



The Mission Outreach Committee will be sponsoring the Rise Against Hunger event on Saturday, November 6, 2021. Meals for feeding 10,000 hungry and malnourished people around the world will be packed in a matter of a couple of hours at our church if we are able to get enough help that morning. We will start packing promptly at 10:00 AM and should be done by

12:30 PM. If you can volunteer at this meaningful event, there is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church, or you can get in touch with Barbara Rinker or Jennifer Sgarlat. There are tasks for those who may need to stand, sit, walk around, or whatever your physical limitations are, there are all different types of help needed. Feel free to invite your relatives, friends, coworkers and anyone else that may be willing to help feed some hungry people in our world. If anyone needs a ride to come help out please call the church office @ 570-675-3131.

Thank You so much for thinking of the children and families of our county. The countless gifts from the church, are greatly appreciated beyond measure!



Thanks a million! ❤️ Sincerely, Jennifer Rogers



Dear Friends,
Neil and I would like to thank you for the many phone visits, prayers, cards and for sharing the beautiful flowers. Even though we are not there in person we still feel close to all of you because of your caring. We hope to see you soon. God Bless Mary and Neil

Thank you to everyone who made a monetary donation to the Back Mountain Food Pantry on World Wide Communion Sunday. A total of \$82.00 was received and delivered to the pantry. These funds will help with the Thanksgiving basket program to assist those in need in our community to have a nice holiday dinner. And thank you to Kathy Stevens and others for baking all the wonderful breads that people were able to take home to enjoy. *Sandy Peoples*



DEACONS NEWS



| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Board of Deacons: Cindy Williams, President | |
| Linda Baines | Al Brown |
| Tracey Chappell | Fred Hunt |
| Sandy Peoples | Barb Rinker |
| Michelle Rittenhouse | Karen Sassaman |
| Nancy Thomas | Nancy Williams |

On Sunday November 14th, the Deacons will be hosting 2nd Sunday in honor of our veterans. If you are a Veteran and are able, please plan on attending so we can get a group picture. If you are not able to attend, please send us a picture of you in your uniform. If you know of a Veteran who has passed, please send us their photo as well. We will be creating a "Wall of Honor" that we can keep on display. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Williams or Cindy Williams.

The Deacons will hold their annual Poinsettia sale starting November 14th. We will be selling red poinsettias for \$10.00 each. Please mail-order forms to P.O. Box 239 Dallas, PA 18612.



***Checks should be made payable to Trinity Presbyterian Church Deacon Account.**

The Deacons will be collecting non-perishable food items starting the week of 10/17, and ending 11/21. The food will be donated to the Back Mountain Food Pantry. We are also adopting 6 families from the Back Mountain, and will be presenting them with Weis gift cards if you would prefer to make a cash donation.



The following food items are needed:

peanut butter, jelly, canned vegetables, stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, canned fruit, gravy, instant potatoes, canned or bottled juice, rice or rice mixes, cereal, sugar, salt, flour, cake mixes, icing, canned tuna or chicken, coffee, tea, pie filling, canned soup, pudding & Jell-O mixes, spaghetti or tomato sauce, pasta, powdered drink mixes.

**Session
Highlights**

Session members: Arthur J. Peoples, Clerk of Session

**Mark Chappell
Mary Jane Leo
Karen Perzia
Kathy Stevens**

**Sharon Davis
Sherri Newell
Jennifer Sgarlat
Wayne Williams**

The regular meeting of the Session was held on October 25, 2021, at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Dallas, PA. The following items were discussed and acted upon by the Session.

- Dave Brague, Pastor, Committee on Ministry and Zackary Coy, Eagle Scout Candidate, were guests at the Session meeting.
- Zackary Coy, Life Scout, Troop 181 joined the members of the Session to present his request for his Eagle Scout Project. Zackary's project proposal is to beautify the area across the road from Trinity Presbyterian Church, between Irem Road and Route 309. In addition, he would make a nature trail and grove in the wooded area behind the church. The grove could be a meditation area, have a small fire ring, or both.

The project would be beneficial to Trinity Presbyterian Church and the community. The beautification project will help add to the landscape of the church and promote conservation. The nature trail and the grove would allow for a quiet place for Bible Study or to teach Sunday school. The community could also use the trail and the grove for physical activity and to learn about nature.

- Rev. David Brague, Commission on Ministry, Lackawanna Presbytery, met with the Session to discuss the future of Trinity. It was a pleasure to have David Brague

back at Trinity. Many of you may remember that David spent his childhood at Trinity. Rev. Brague mainly came to listen to members of the Session to find out how we got to where we are today. After prayerful deliberation, Rev. Brague indicated that he was going to meet with the Commission on Ministry on November 10, 2021. Following that meeting, he will return to Trinity, preferable on a non-session meeting date, and continue the discussion. The Session thanked Rev. Brague for his time and looked forward to meeting with him again.

- Rev. Baer reported the following:
 - a. That she is looking forward to celebrating Reformation Sunday (10/31) and to Remembering All the Saints (11/7).
 - b. Rev. Baer continues to check on the welfare of our members over text, phone, and email.
- The Board of Deacons reported the following:
 - a. The Deacons need volunteers to help with the recording of church services.
 - b. The Deacons are producing a Church Directory
 - c. Rummage Sale—
 - \$3000 went to general fund
 - \$1000 went to Rise Against Hunger
 - Purchasing new tables has been tabled for now
 - d. Food Collection—Deacons collecting food and donating it to the Back Mountain Food Pantry.
 - e. The Deacons will be giving Weis gift cards to the families in need instead of packing boxes for Thanksgiving. Delivery for Thanksgiving gift cards is projected for the week of November 14th.
 - f. Veteran's Day
 - November 14th Deacons will do a reception.
 - And create a "Wall of Honor" with pictures of veterans and soldiers in active duty to celebrate their special day
- Elder Mark Chappell submitted the following report for October.
 - a. Fall cleanup scheduled for Saturday, November 20, 2021 starting at 9:00AM.
 - b. Wayne Williams met with D.A.M.A. to look at our sump pump. We need to relocate discharge from sewer to outside, into a gutter drain.
 - c. The Session agreed that Trinity should transfer their heating and A/C service to Newell.
 - d. Our snow removal guy will not be available to plow this year. He recommended a friend to Trinity. Elder Chappell has calls into other companies just to compare prices.

- Elder Jennifer Sgarlat reported that the Mission/Outreach Committee would host a program at Misericordia University's Women with Children program on December 8, 2021 to build Gingerbread Houses with the children.
- The Session approved a reduction in the Trinity Learning Center rent from \$3,045 to \$2,000 per month.
- Elder Wayne Williams reported that the next Men's Club meeting will be held on November 13, 2021.
- Sandy Peoples reported that the next meeting of the Women of Trinity is scheduled for November 18, 2021 at Barbara Rinker's house, and the December meeting will be held on December 8, 2021 at the home of Allyson Lord.
- The Session readdressed the issue chartering the Boy Scouts. After reviewing our insurance policy, Trinity would be amenable to chartering the Boy Scouts if they are no longer chartered by the Methodist Church.

Agenda

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|-------|---|-------------------------------|
| I. | Call meeting to order | Rev. Jennifer Baer |
| II. | Opening devotions and prayer | Elder Kathy Stevens III. |
| | Approve Agenda | |
| IV. | Clerk's Report | Elder Art Peoples |
| | Roll Call/Affirm Quorum | |
| | 1. Minutes for approval – | |
| | a. Session Minutes dated June 28, 2021 | |
| | b. Special Session Meeting dated July 14 – 17, 2021 | |
| | c. Special Session Meeting dated August 5, 2021 | |
| | 2. Correspondence | |
| | a. Incoming – Letter from the Law Office of Maureen Thede. | |
| | b. Outgoing - Cards for birthdays (4), Thinking of You (2) and Anniversaries (2). | |
| V. | Treasurer's Report | Elder Karen Perzia, Treasurer |
| VI. | Pastor's Report - | Rev. Jennifer Baer |
| VII. | Deacons' Report – | President Cindy Williams |
| VIII. | <u>Committee Reports (permanent committees)</u> | |
| | 1. TRINITY LEARNING CENTER – Sherri Newell, Session Representative | |
| | 2. NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Arthur Peoples/ Sherri Newell | |
| | 3. BUILDING AND GROUNDS – Elder Mark Chappell | |
| | a. Kitchen Sub-Committee – | |
| | 4. ENDOWMENT: Sandy Peoples, Chair/Treasurer | |
| | 5. FINANCE AND PERSONNEL – Elder Mary Jayne Leo | |
| | 6. HOWORTH TRUST- Elder Jennifer Sgarlat | |

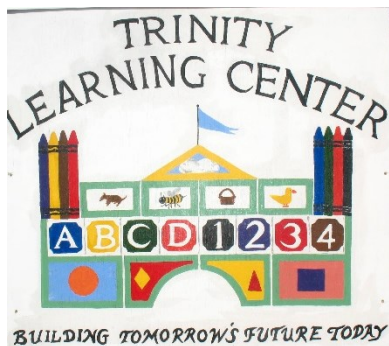
7. MEMBERSHIP - Elder Wayne Williams
 - a. Fun and Fellowship – Kathy Stevens
 8. MISSION / OUTREACH – Jennifer Sgarlat
 - a. Budget Request
 9. WORSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE – Sharon Davis
 10. STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE – Open
 11. REPORT PRESBYTERY COMMISSIONER – All Elders
- IX. Committee Reports (Special Committees appointed by Session)
- Memorial Wall & Garden Committee – Wayne Williams
 - Trinity Men’s Group – Fred Hunt
 - Women of Trinity - Sandy Peoples
- X. Old Business:
- XI. New Business:
- XII. Joys and Concerns
- XIII. Adjournment and Closing Devotions Elder Sharon Davis

REMINDERS:

NEXT SCHEDULED SESSION MEETING: NOVEMBER 15 @ 7PM

DEVOTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER: Jennifer Sgarlat

ELDER OF THE MONTH FOR SEPTEMBER: Jennifer Sgarlat



October is a busy time at TLC. The children have settled into their routines, and we were able to enjoy some traditions this month that were unable to be done last year because of Covid. This past month we had vision screening from Northeast Sight Services, a fire safety visit from Back Mountain Regional Fire and EMS, and also wrapped up our first of 4 fundraisers for the nursery school. We raised \$400 towards our goal of \$1500 for new block sets and a sensory table to diversify our curriculum. At the end of the month the children enjoyed a trip with their families to Whistle Pig, and celebrated Halloween with a parade and a Trunk-or-Treat event sponsored by the TPC outreach committee. The Men's Club provided hot dogs for the children at the event, and it was the perfect start to a fun holiday weekend for the children. Thank you to all that contributed to the event.

This past month we held our first Friday playgroup. It is an unstructured opportunity for families with children ages 0-4 to come and play with their child; and socialize with other children. It was a small group, but we plan to hold it weekly as long as we have more than 3 families interested. In October we also added an additional day to our

1/2-day Pre-K program and we are looking to do the same in November for our Pre-nursery program as long as we have enough interest.

We are happy to report that the session has approved a rent decrease that was necessary to the operations of TLC this year because of decreased enrollment. In a typical year we would have 80 students, this year we have 35. Also, this is the first regular year that we do not have a Kindergarten extension program, since Dallas went to all day Kindergarten. This program alone generated almost 16K of income for TLC. Unfortunately, the reduction in rent leaves about a \$14,000 gap from the typical income that TPC depends on for operations. With our upcoming Stewardship campaign, we would appreciate your generosity in increasing your pledge if you are able in order to minimize the impact of this essential and temporary decrease of rental income. We appreciate your support, and are thankful for those that have made the decisions to commit to the success of the church and the learning center. I hope that everyone has a great Thanksgiving season.

Thanks, Jen Sgarlat

THE IMPACT OF RECENT FEDERAL SOCIAL LEGISLATION AS IT TRICKLED
DOWN TOTPC AND TLC IN LITTLE OLD DALLAS, PA

First Federal Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), applied for loan/grant status on 5/19/2020 \$39,700.00. The loan subsequently changed to grant status upon submission of volumes of payroll information to validate first the loan application and subsequently the loan approval. Changed to grant status upon approval by SBA.

Second Federal Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) applied for on 2/28/2021, again loan/grant status for another \$39,700.00 and again changed from loan to grant status by SBA upon submission to SBA evidence that entire proceeds was exclusively for only payroll.

Luzerne County Covid-19, grant only, was squeezed in between the above PPP Program in the amount of \$20,000.00. Application was submitted on 10/15/2020. Subsequently \$20,000.00 was electronically deposited into the checking account on 12/19/2020. The difference between the Federal PPP Program and County Program, the County was an immediate grant and not loan to grant status.

In Summary, volumes of payroll records, and applications, approval etc. had to be forwarded electronically. This was done because of the knowledge and expertise of our Administrative Assistant, Nicole Fleschut. If there was no Nicole Fleschut, the volume of paperwork would still be in a drawer in the TPC office.

How did all of the above impact that little old church in Dallas, PA total grants amounting to \$99,400; of which \$38,593 was TLC's share for payroll and the remaining \$60,807 TPC. The easiest comparison for me follows:

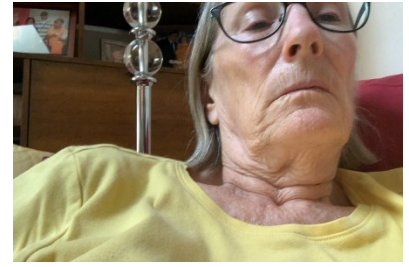
| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Terms of Call 2020- Effective salary | \$59,718 |
| Music Director | \$19,130 |
| Administrative Assistant | <u>\$13,520</u> |
| | \$80,200 |
| Less: PPP reimbursement | <u>\$60,807</u> |
| <u>Financed by TPC Treasury</u> | <u>\$13,393</u> |
| | |
| TLC Fiscal year 2020 salaries | \$108,869 |
| Less: PPP reimbursement | <u>\$38,593</u> |
| <u>Financed by TLC Treasury</u> | <u>\$70,276</u> |

In essence then \$99,400 received from the Federal and County PPP Programs helped to extend the life of that little old church in Dallas, PA.

Respectfully former Treasurer,
Clarence C. Givens, Jr.

Dear friends,

A series of medical problems with my parents makes it necessary for me to go home and help out for much of November.



My mother had a shoulder surgery and is not able to drive right now. All was well and fine with my father taking care of her until she was back on her feet. However, my father had a major cardiac incident and is now in the hospital waiting for open heart surgery. This was not the plan for this season and much as I love my parents this isn't the moment I would have chosen to step out of my life and go see them. They love me and also wish they could take care of themselves and not have me intruding on them. This is simply what we need to do for this season to get everyone through.

I will be gone from November 3 to the 12th so that I can help with things like driving to doctor appointments and making meals, and will likely need to travel again at the middle of the month. I have arranged for Bruce Jordan, one of our newest Commissioned Pastors, to be with you on November 7 to celebrate All Saint's Day. The Reverend Dr. Martha Jordan will be covering all the major Pastoral Care needs but I encourage you to also be sure to be supporting each other and asking Deacons and Elders for help as needed. None of this is ideal and none of this is what any of us would choose it is simply what is necessary in this moment.

Please be praying:

- for my father as he prepares for and goes through surgery
- for my mother as she tries to recover and care for him
- for my sister who lives with them and who is recovering from surgery herself
- for myself and my brother who are stepping out of our usual patterns
- for my family who is being left behind
- for poor John whose birthday is in November

I am sure that there will be other things we need help with and we will ask as soon as we know what they are.

Yours in Christ

Pastor Jen

PS if you are wondering why the photos are a little off it is because Calvin took them.