

trinity tidings

Volume 54 - No. 10

October 2025

Church Office Hours:

Mondays thru Thursdays 9:00 - 12:00 PM
Closed on Fridays

The Rev. Althea Seidel, Pastor (pastoralthea3@gmail.com)
Stephanie Kaylor, Newsletter Editor (stephanie@trinityleb.org)
Visit us on the web at www.trinityleb.org

trinity tidings is the newsletter of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 723 Lehman Street, Lebanon, PA 17046

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

I have been saddened by the number of recent diagnoses and deaths

within our congregation. I am thankful we are a supportive and caring congregation. From what I can see, we do well caring for one another and for our neighbors.

I know our struggles go beyond our church as well. We have had various shootings in Pennsylvania and in our country. Some of them are politically motivated and all of them have involved persons who are mentally unstable. No matter where we stand politically, I know these acts affect us. None of us want to see our fellow

human beings experience such trauma and tragedy.

We continue to hold one another, our neighbors, our friends, and our fellow members in our daily prayers. I hope we can all do our part to draw attention to those struggling so they receive help and encourage our lawmakers to do what they can to prevent such tragedies.

I have heard that some are curious as to my reasoning, views, and feelings on various



current events. I am always happy to share the Lutheran theology and history on various topics. However, my approach to ministry is to remain as neutral as possible

with members when it comes to actual political affiliation. I certainly have personal beliefs which I may or may not choose to share at appropriate times. Overall, I feel Christ calls us to love one another, but also pray for our enemies whoever they may be. We can't go wrong doing our best to love one another, serve our neighbor, and pray for those we feel are against us.

Continued on page 2



Continued from page 1, From The Pastor

Since I have become a pastor, I feel Christ works through me the best when I care for everyone as equally as possible. I do my best to preach, listen, pray, and advocate for the ways we interpret and use our Lutheran tradition to guide us. If you would like a more extensive explanation, I am always happy to discuss this. If you have Facebook, a little while ago I posted a video from a professor who taught me at Susquehanna University. Professor Jeffrey Mann expresses a very similar view to mine when it comes to not expressing politics in church and/or as a pastor in pastoral care. God is the ultimate judge for each of us and as a leader, I strive for unity and cooperation within our faith community. I will always try my best to provide a non-judgmental space for listening and wrestling with tough topics and struggles in the world.

Let us continue to check in with one another. Life is more meaningful and interesting because we are all different. I pray we do not let our differences divide us as friends and as a community of faith, but rather let us look for the beauty and choose caring conversation whenever we are able.

All Saints Sunday will be particularly difficult this year for many of us. I pray we will have a nice remembrance of our loved ones that day as we lift their names to God. We don't know how the spirit world works exactly, but we hold onto the love we had for all those we have lost. We entrust God to watch over them and hold them close in eternal life until we meet again.

In Christ,

Rev. Althea Seidel

Church Council Members

Neal Galbraith (President)

Louise Lundquist (Vice President)

Nancy Brightbill (Secretary)

Brad Bishop (Church Treasurer)

Kathy Bishop

Jay Brown

Karen Fitting

Pam Gainer

Heidi Gerver

Jessie Green

Renee Hunter

Lynn Kern

Henry Wampler





George Smith

September 7, 2025

Marilyn Gerberich

September 15, 2025

Linda Wolford

September 18, 2025

The Rev. Conrad Youse

September 23, 2025

Committee Chair Persons

Worship & Music: Paul Copenhaver

Finance:

Horace Ehrgood

Christian Education: Elizabeth Hershey

Property:

Henry Wampler

Archives:

Open

Social Ministry: Jim Dibert

Social Activities: Stephanie Kaylor







October Worship Schedule

October 5, 12, 19, and 26 9:00 AM—Traditional Service 10:15 AM— Adult Sunday School

Online Worship Service:

Our online worship will continue to be available. You can find the service by going to https://www.trinityleb.org/links. Here you will find links to the live-stream, the bulletin, and the replay of the service so that you can watch at any time you wish during the week.

Inclement Weather Policy: If Church is going to be cancelled due to weather, it will be posted on our website page: www.trinityleb.org. Don't forget to refresh your browser when viewing the website. You can also find information on our Facebook page: facebook.com/htlclebanonpa. The decision will be made by 7 p.m. the Saturday prior to service.

Prayer Partners

If you would like your name added to the list for prayer, please call the church office, 717-273-8567 or email at stephanie@trinityleb.org.

If you no longer wish to be included in the prayer update list, please let the Church Office know to remove your name.



We ask our readers to include the following people in their prayers:

Barb Atwood, Terry Clearwater, Janice Copenhaver, Deb Dobson, Susie Eckert, Dan Fox, The Family of Marilyn Gerberich, Mike and Nancy Hentz, Patty Hess, Joette Hollinger, Jim & Judi Light, Dean Moyer, Katelyn Moyer, Janice Peiffer, Rachel, Ed Ream, Cookie Rothermel, The Family of George Smith, Marie Smith, Nancy Warner, The Family of Linda Wolford, Mary Yeagley, and The Family of The Rev. Conrad Youse.



Our Vision...Our mission is to grow in faith and discipleship, share the Good News of Jesus through word and deed, love others as Christ loves us, and celebrate life in Christ through worship, sacraments and service.

Our Mission...We are a community of believers who come together in:

- ₱ Worship to be transformed by the presence of Jesus Christ in and through God's gift of Word and Sacrament.
- ☆ Christian Education to deepen our faith and strengthen us in faithful service, trusting in the creative activity of the Holy Spirit.
- ₱ <u>Friendship</u> to celebrate our unity in Christ and sustain and nurture each other as we journey with Him in our day-to-day lives.
- ➡ Stewardship to gratefully use the time, talents and possessions we have been given in furthering our mission in response to Jesus' call and the leading of the Holy Spirit.
- **The Evangelism** to share the Jesus story so that others may come to know God's reconciling grace and the peace, joy and hope that his divine grace gives.
- **Social Ministry** to respond to the spiritual, mental and physical needs of our neighbors and advocate for the poor, hungry and vulnerable peoples of the world.



Luther's Small Catechism

The CARE Class will resume its study of the Lutheran Catechism on Sunday, October 5. Lessons will focus on the 10 Commandments using Luther's Small Catechism—written as a foundation for our youth—and Large Catechism—written for adults, especially for parents and teachers, which Luther wrote in conjunction with each other in 1529. The class is open to everyone, even if you can attend only occasionally. The class meets immediately after worship in the Social Room. Coffee, tea and a sweet-treat are provided to carry you over to lunch, including anyone who is unable to attend class.

From the Archives: Building of the Church

This is the sixth in a series of articles featuring the 1954 build. The photos were graciously donated to Holy Trinity by the late, Jim Rittle.



(left) The cornerstone in place.

(right) The new building begins to take shape.



(left) The stonework slowly rising from sidewalk level.

The Voice of God

For hundreds of years, God spoke to the prophets in many ways. God spoke aloud, in dreams, on mountains, through callings, through nature, and in prayers. It seems that we have been dealing with lots of death lately, the journey from earthly life to be with God in the spirit is a sacred and holy journey. We have experienced the death of friends, loved ones, death of other' loved ones, some unexpected deaths and some deaths that we welcome due to pain and suffering.

Famine, wars, natural disasters, accidents, all happen every day in different parts of the world, and we cannot avoid

the one thing that will eventually come to each of us: death. We associate our faith with Jesus as our Good Sheperd. However, our dying brothers and sisters in Christ, are not the only ones who we believe hear the Lord's voice. What does God's voice look like for us? How does the living Christ speak to us while we continue on our journey?

The scripture from John which has been on my mind often is John 10: 25, 27-30: "Jesus answered, 'I have told you, the works that I do in my Father's name testify to me, My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, in regard to what he has given me, is greater than all, and no one can snatch them out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one." Even as we continue in this life, God never lets us go. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are one. Each part of the Trinity guides us throughout our joys and our hardships.

In addition, we remember on the first Easter morning that the angel says, "He is not here. He has been raised!" from Matthew 28:6. As we journey from our earthly life into death, it is a holy journey. We remember that our loved ones are no longer here! They have been raised as saints of the Lord. We trust God walks with us in these moments whether we are left behind or we are the ones moving into the holy realm of God.

We pray, that in times of death and in hard times of life, when we walk through the valley that's God's



strong rod and staff comforts us. Our Good Sheperd is with us, he has never left us nor forsaken us. When we hear Jesus' words, "My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand." We hear strength. We hear a holy promise. After all, on Easter we read, "He is not here..." We remember that just as Christ was raised, we, too, hold onto a deep and everlasting hope that eternal life awaits us.

Some of our loved ones may not be here anymore, but we cling to a trust and faith that goes beyond our understanding. God's promises hold true from thousands of years ago and have never stopped. Each Sunday, we have tangible signs of God's covenant with God's people in the water and in the bread and wine.

Paul encourages us to have peace which goes beyond our comprehension, beyond our understanding. Peace, that we will be with one another again. Peace, that we will be held by our Lord, and peace, that we are and will be forever loved. Thanks be to God!

In the meantime, let us turn to God who holds us close, strengthens us, and whispers to our hearts. Let us turn to one another and allow ourselves to experience change, loss, and even grief. Come to church. Come to Bible study. Meet with your pastor. Call a friend! Look for ways to find gratitude and thankfulness for all we have now in the present moment. Thanks be to God for his blessings! Come, Lord Jesus, be our Shepherd always! Amen.



Highlights of Church Council Meeting, September 18, 2025

- For the month of July, Income was on the low side.
- Major Expenses on the Balance sheet were taken from Building & Maintenance Fund. This was for the computer upgrade at a cost of \$3058. There was a member donation of \$1500 that helped to offset this expense.
- For the month of August, the Income was average for the month.
- Major Expenses on the Balance sheet taken from Building & Maintenance Fund were for a \$5000 deposit for the new AC unit. This was a total of \$13,480.
- New members, John & Sallie Habecker, were installed on September 14.
- Blessing of the animals will be coming up on Thursday, October 2 at 7:00 p.m.
- Lunch and Learn on Wednesdays will start again for the month of October.
- Confirmation will be held on Sunday October 19.
- A major discussion for the Finance Committee meeting was the closing of the Fulton Financial Investment account for 223,717.85 and where this money should be re-invested.

- A decision was made to replace the motor in the Chancel AC for a cost of \$657 and to replace the Sanctuary (East) AC unit for a cost of \$13,480. and to enter into a complete AC maintenance contract for all units at a cost of \$2189 per year.
- The AC motor in the Chancel is not working. This can be replaced at a cost of \$657. The Sanctuary (East) AC unit is not working and can be replaced at a cost of \$13,480.
- The plasterer will be coming to fix the ceiling behind the organ.
- The carpet has been replaced in the 2nd floor meeting room.
- Beginner Bell choir needs more people. They lost 3 members.
- Pastor will do a healing service in November with anointing and prayers.
- Congregation Constitution Update. Neal is looking for 4 or 5 council volunteers to review the constitution and decide what needs to be adjusted. The updated version will be presented to the entire Council and then to the congregation at the Congregational meeting. This constitution is 10 years old.

Church Treasurer's Financial Summary - August 2025



	Month of August	Actual Year to Date	Budget Year to Date
Income	\$16,176	\$189,540	\$207,049
Expenses	\$(21,228)	\$(210,576)	\$(212,837)
Net Income	\$(5,052)	\$(21,037)	\$(5,788)



LCCM Food Bank Item

The items requested in October is **condiments** and **sugar.**

Items can be brought to the church at any time and placed in the red shopping cart labeled "LCCM Food Bank" located in THE GIVING PLACE (Arnold St. side annex of Luther's Place).

Please continue your generosity by continuing to donate to the Food Bank. Your donations are greatly needed and appreciated.

Donation Item

The items requested in October are granola bars, pasta, sauce and deodorant.



Items can be brought to the church at any time

and placed in the bin labeled **"SHARE & CARE"** located in THE GIVING PLACE (Arnold St. side annex of Luther's Place).

October 22: Bog Turtles In Your Backyard by George Gress

Bog Turtles In Your Backyard is about the life cycle and research that has been done on



the bog turtle, a federally listed species. George is recently retired from the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Nature Conservancy after more than 31 years of service. During his time as a land steward, he managed properties in Pennsylvania for TNC, and also managed the PA bog turtle program. He enjoys gardening, woodworking, and photography. He has over 150 images published in local, state, and international publications.

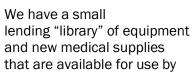
Program starts at 7 p.m. in Luther's Place.

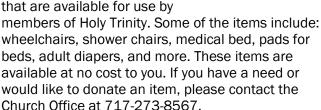


Aluminum Can Collection

The church continues to collect aluminum cans for recycling. Please bring the aluminum cans (rinsed & flattened) to the church weekdays during church office hours, or bring them along to church, Sunday School, or any other church function. A container for them is located in THE GIVING PLACE (Arnold St. side annex of Luther's Place).

Medical Equipment & Supplies







The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania

Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, & The Wittel Farm

Upcoming Events:

October 5: Capture the Flag at Kirchenwald

October 7-9: Adult Study Retreat at Nawakwa

October 19: Fall Foliage Day at Nawakwa

October 26: Fall Foliage Day at Kirchenwald

November 2: Annual Quilt Auction at Nawakwa

November 7-9: Women's Craft Retreat at Nawakwa

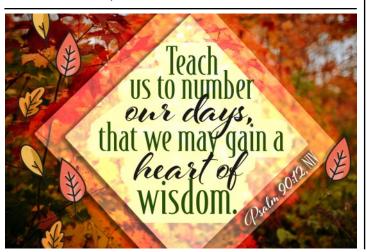
For more information, please visit: www.lutherancamping.org



Arn-Karrich: Harvest Home Service Sunday, October 19, 2024

"A church celebration of gratitude for the year's harvest, sill practiced among rural Pennsylvania Dutch congregations, during which the altar and sanctuary are adored with samples of produce from the kitchen garden and farm fields and a special liturgical blessing and prayer of thanksgiving is offered. The food is typically distributed to the poor in the community." –William Woys Weaver in *Folk Tales of the Pennsylvania Dutch* (Forward and illustrations by Patrick J. Donmoyer), Pennsylvania Cultural Heritage Center, 2022.

Every October Holy Trinity continues the tradition of Harvest Home with some accommodations to the 21st Century. Although our gifts are no longer homemade, the central focus of celebrating God's goodness and giving food to families in need in our community remain. Gifts of in-kind items and money collected during the month of October will be donated to the Lebanon Country Christian Ministry's Food Bank. To make a monetary donation, please either place a note in your offering envelope or use a specially marked Harvest Home envelope found at either Welcome Table or in the pews.





October is Clergy Appreciation Month. We are encouraging you to join churches around the country in thanking our pastors for their dedication to the service of God. There are many ways to say thank you to our clergy: Attend church regularly, year-round; pray daily for our clergy and for their families; read the Bible daily as a devotional; pledge service to the church by giving of your time and skills; and send a card to say thank you to the pastors.

Please take a moment to thank the following Pastors:

Rev. Althea Seidel Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 723 Lehman Street Lebanon, PA 17046

Rev. and Mrs. Dan (Sue) Donmoyer 725 South 5th Avenue Lebanon, PA 17042

Northwest Elementary Classroom Wish List Campaign

The 2025 Campaign will be conducted from October 1 to November 15. Black Expo markers and glue sticks are at the top of the list for school



supplies. Boxes of tissues are always appreciated. And regarding clothing, underwear is the biggest need the nurse has. The nurse can use boys and girls sizes 4-16. Additionally, sweatpants for boys and leggings for girls of various sizes are also needed. Lastly the school received a large donation of girls' shoes but no boy's shoes. Boys' shoes one to two pair in each size would be helpful. In closing Stephanie Courchesne emailed, "Honestly anything you collect is appreciated. We are just so grateful for the support from you and your church." The Women of the ELCA have volunteered their collection barrel in The Giving Place as the collection site for these needed items. Please prayerfully consider participating in the Classroom Wish List Campaign.



Fellowship Bazaar: Saturday, November 8th 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Come and Shop all your favorite booths: White Elephant, Books and Puzzles, Homemade Candy, Homemade Jellies and Chow Chow, Plants and Garden, Homemade Baked Goods, Jewelry, Totes, and Handcrafted Christmas Décor.

Breakfast: Eggs, Pancakes, Bacon, Hash Browns, Toast, Breakfast Sandwich, Drink

Lunch: BBQ, Hot Dogs, Homemade Veggie and Noodle Soup, Chips, Drinks, Dessert

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS: We need help setting up Sunday, October 26 after church. We need much help with clean up November 8 at 2pm. We need your homemade dessert donations to be delivered to the church on Nov 5, 6, and 7.

We continue to take donations for White Elephant, Books and Puzzles, Jewelry, and Plants and Garden which can be brought to church during office hours.

MONETARY DONATONS for the Bazaar Fund are always welcome and appreciated. Please include a note with your donation that it is for the bazaar.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND TELL your friends about our Bazaar. Word of Mouth is a super advertiser and it is free. We look forward to your being part of this annual event. Coming together to share the work and spend time with family and friends is the FUN and KEY TO THE SUCCESS of this event. Profit is the by-product of our hard work and dedication

Please contact the Church Office with any questions.



TODAY GEAR TODAY









STORES.CRSAPPAREL.COM/HTLC

Scan the code with your phones camera!





3 - Virginia Sholly 27 Sunrise Drive Lebanon, PA 17042

4 - Frances Barr 1356 East Queen Street Annville, PA 17003

Carol Koehler 53 Strathford Drive Lebanon, PA 17042

6 - Taran Copenhaver 70 E 350 N Ivins, UT 84738

7 - Leanne Snyder 19 Fox Run Road Lebanon, PA 17042

9 - Sallie Habecker 1141 Alden Way Lebanon, PA 17042

10 - Deborah Eckert 826 East Mifflin Street Lebanon, PA 17046

> Karen Weaver 1045 South Lincoln Avenue Lebanon, PA 17042

12 - James Bailor 142 Julia Lane Lebanon, PA 17042

> Debra Dobson 1 Margaret Avenue Lebanon, PA 17042

14 - Jeremiah Johnson (celebrating his 4th birthday) 35 Canal Street Lebanon, PA 17046

16 - Eleanor Hoke 573 Doris Drive Lebanon, PA 17046

18 - David Engle 447 Mill Bridge Drive Lebanon, PA 17042 20 - Gina Battistelli 1133 Alpha Avenue Lebanon, PA 17046

> Ann Mark 354 Wheatstone Lane Lebanon, PA 17042

21 - Doris Grace 105 Spruce Street Lebanon, PA 17042

> Charlene Hurst 6 Chris Lane Lebanon, PA 17042

22 - Barbara Copenhaver 1203 Heritage Avenue Lebanon, PA 17046

23 - Brenda Galbraith 22 Ridge Avenue Lebanon, PA 17402

25 - James Dibert 12 Shellie Street Lebanon, PA 17046

> Katelyn Umberger 19 Hoke Avenue Lebanon, PA 17042

26 - Pennie Dodson 922 Sycamore Lane Lebanon, PA 17046

> Isaac Johnson (*celebrating his 10th birthday*) 128 Village Court Lebanon, PA 17042

29 - Sue Jordan 15 Elizabeth Avenue Lebanon, PA 17042

> Andrew Rhoade 18 Laurel Lane Lebanon, PA 17046

Please consider sending a card or giving them a phone call to celebrate their special day.





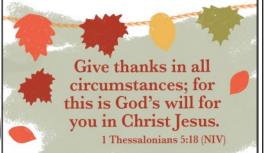
Celebrate the season of gratitude by creating a colorful Thankful decoration.

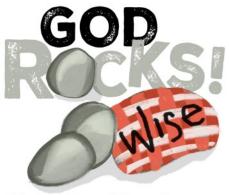
What you need:

- Construction paper in a variety of fall colors
- Pencil, marker, or crayons
- Yarn, ribbon, or raffia
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- Spray bottle filled with water
- Real leaves (Optional)
- Wooden or plastic beads, (1) (2)
 cereal with holes (Cheerios, (2)
 Froot Loops, etc.), or any
 dried pasta with a hole (Optional)

What you do:

- 1. Draw or trace leaf shapes onto construction paper.
- Lay the paper flat and spray with water until the paper is completely wet.
- 3. Crumple the wet paper into balls.
- Open the paper and let the sheets dry flat.
- 5. When dry, cut out each leaf.
- On each leaf, write the name of one person or thing you're thankful for.
- 7. Punch a hole in each leaf.
- 8. Lace the leaves, beads, cereal, and pasta onto the yarn, ribbon, or raffia.
- 9. Tie the ends and hang your garland.





Make decorative stones as reminders of God's many great attributes.

What you need:

- Flat, smooth stones
- Printed, decorative napkins
- Paintbrush
- Clear-drying craft glue
- Scissors
- Permanent marker

What you do:

- Unfold the napkin, carefully separating the printed side from the solid side.
- Brush a thin layer of glue atop
 a stone. Lay the napkin (printed
 side up) on the glue and press down.
 Paint more glue over the napkin.
 Let dry.
- Turn the stone over and paint more glue on the back. Wrap the napkin edges around the stone, trimming as needed. Paint more glue over the napkin. Let dry.
- On the stone, write an attribute of God (loving, wise, powerful, merciful, etc.).
- 5. Repeat with more stones. Use them as gifts, paperweights, table decorations, etc.





Lectionary Readings

Sunday, October 5

17th Sunday after Pentecost Habakkuk 1:1 - 4, 2:1-4 Psalm 37:1-9 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke 17:5-10

Sunday, October 12

18th Sunday after Pentecost 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c Psalm 111 2 Timothy 2:8-15 Luke 17:11-19

Sunday, October 19

19th Sunday after Pentecost Genesis 32:22-31 Psalm 121 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5 Luke 18:1-8

Sunday, October 26

Reformation Sunday Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 46 Romans 3:19-28 Luke 8:31-36

Sunday, November 2

All Saints Sunday
Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18
Psalm 149
Ephesians 1:11-23
Luke 6:20-31





		Octo	ber 2	2025		
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Æ	Sat
EVERY SUNDAY: 9:00AM Service of Holy Communion 10:30AM Sunday School	November 2025 S M T W T F S 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	Look Ahead November 2025 1 All Saints' Sunday 2 Daylight-Savings 11 Veterans Day 27 Thanksgiving	LUNGH and EARN 12P LUNCH & LEARN	Blessing OF THE PETS TO BLESSING OF THE PETS	ε	12P CHURCH PICNIC AT KNOEBELS
ស	6 6P PRAISE RINGERS 7P PSALM RINGERS 7P PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING	7 SENIOR CHOIR	8 QUILTING @ ST. LUKE'S 12P LUNCH & LEARN 6:30P SOCIAL MINISTRY	6	10	11
12	13 6P PRAISE RINGERS 7P PSALM RINGERS	6:30P FINANCE COMMITTEE 7P SENIOR CHOIR	15 12P LUNCH & LEARN 5:30P MENTOR A MOTHER 6P WELCA	16 6:30P EXEC. MEETING 7P COUNCIL MEETING	17	18
19 CONFINATION	50 6P PRAISE RINGERS 7P PSALM RINGERS	NOON MEAL @LCCM	22 12P LUNCH & LEARN 7P QUITTAPAHILLA AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING	23	24	Private Event
SEFORMATION BAZAAR SET UP BEGINS	6P PRAISE RINGERS 7P PSALM RINGERS	28 TP SENIOR CHOIR	LUNGH and EARN 12P LUNCH & LEARN	30	Happy Halloween	DAY CARE MONDAY - FRIDAY 5A - 6P