

MAY 2018

Transition at Trinity...

Here we go again. That's probably what a lot of us are thinking, right? It really wasn't all that long ago that we found ourselves in a similar position: at the starting line in a search for a new pastor. It is a very daunting position to be in! Yet despite all the similarities, we still find ourselves in a very different place than we were three years ago. Back then, as a typical Lutheran congregation, we launched ourselves straight into the traditional call process and were very blessed that the Holy Spirit called Pastor Larson to be our new shepherd. She jumped feet-first into ministry with us with energy, creativity, and passion. Pastor Larson gave us leadership, guidance, care, friendship, and her love. She used all of her gifts well in her service to our congregation, whether through spearheading new ministries, providing varied learning and worship opportunities, or introducing us to the joy of working with ministry students.

Today, we are not quite a 'typical Lutheran congregation' anymore, are we? We have embarked on a journey of discovery and discernment with our brothers and sisters in Christ at St. Peter's in Highspire. Where exactly this will lead, I don't know. But I do know this means that the traditional call process just isn't the right fit for us this time around. And boy aren't we blessed that we have a synod that can provide a different process - one which allows us the flexibility to continue on this journey and see where God is leading us, but still have the stability and support that we need to continue in the everyday life of our congregation. I don't know about all of you, but I'm honestly very excited about all of this! Over the past couple of years I have gotten to know many of the congregants at St. Peter's well. They are wonderful, wise people and regardless of what happens, I already consider them to be part of my church family.

The timing of Pastor Larson's call to Good Shepherd in Massachusetts may not just be about the needs of that congregation, it may also be because it is a necessary change in order to further God's plan for us (or maybe not, we don't know!). Much to human frustration, God's ways are not always our ways, and his plans aren't always our plans. But we do know that his ways and his plans are good. And he certainly has a plan for Trinity - for that we are most certainly blessed.

"Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen" – Lutheran Book of Worship

Anne Lentz
Council President

In this issue ...

- 2 Transition Updates
- 3-4 Seminary Updates
- 7 Participants in Our Service
- 8 Calendar

News & Updates

Transition Update

On Thursday 4/12/17 a council meeting was held, and Pastor Sharron Blezard was again with us to discuss our transition and the covenant. She provided a sample of what the format of the covenant will be, and it will include commitments from four parties: our congregation, the renewal pastor, our council, and the synod.

Pastor Sharron shared some great news with us – the synod has identified a candidate to be our renewal pastor that they are excited and hopeful about. They have talked with her twice, and plans were made at the council meeting for the council members to meet with her on Wednesday May 2nd, at which time she will be coming to Steelton to see the church.

If all goes well, then the next steps are as follows: first, the executive committee will meet with the synod to draft a formal version of the covenant. Then that draft will be presented to council for input and ultimately approval. Finally, there will be a congregational meeting at which time the congregation will vote on the whole package of the covenant and the renewal pastoral candidate. At this point, if everything goes well then, we are estimating that the covenant and candidate will be brought to the congregation for approval around mid-summer.

Pastor Sharron also shared that David Tringali will be our regular supply preacher until the covenant is in place, it will be wonderful having him back with us again! We'll continue to keep you apprised of progress as we walk through this process. The synod staff has been putting a great deal of care and attention into helping us during this transition, we are very blessed to have their support.

If you have any questions, please let me or another council member know and we'll do our best to answer them. Please continue to pray for God's will and plan for our congregation to be revealed.

Anne Lentz
Council President



Soup & Bake Sale

Please sign up downstairs to **help with our Soup/Bake Sale** on Tuesday, May 15. We need people to help bake and sell! If you are baking, please place your goodies in baggies to sell for \$.50 or \$1.00 a bag. Also be sure to label each type of baked good so we know what we're selling! Bring them to church on Sunday, May 13 and place them in the kitchen or deliver them on Monday afternoon from 1 – 4 PM when our secretary will be in the office. All proceeds will help to purchase comfortable seating furniture for the area in front of the new chapel (sofa, chairs, end tables, etc.) If you have any questions, please ask Jan Holwig or Peg Bowling. There are **preorder forms** downstairs for the soup and fudge. Get yours in early so that you can be sure to get your favorites!

Fellowship Report

Thank you to Bill Lux for sponsoring our April dinner on April 8. Delicious spaghetti and meatballs cooked by our great chef Mike Anthony. Also thank you to everyone who helped set up and clean up.

The salad was one-of-a-kind and the cupcakes (in the shape of a cross) were divine! It was Pastor Larson's last Sunday with us. She was presented with a \$250 Visa card and a framed picture of the sanctuary which we all signed as a farewell to her. Good luck and God bless you, Pastor. Thanks for all your hard work!

In May our dinner will be sponsored by Matt and Mary Hunt, and Mike again will be cooking. Be sure to plan to attend on May 6th.

Our **Women's Banquet** will be on Saturday, May 19 beginning at 6 PM. Our head chef will be Mike Anthony. You will have a choice of a stuffed chicken breast or a creamed vegetable medley over rice dinner with all the fixings! There will be entertainment and lots of door prizes! Tickets are on sale before and after church. (\$12 for adults and \$8 for anyone under 12) You will also be able to sign up for reserved table seating so get your tickets as soon as possible.

- *Jan Holwig & Gay Rezin*

The following is a letter from Bishop James Dunlop, Acting President of United Lutheran Seminary

Dear Children of God in Lower Susquehanna Synod,

First, I want to say how grateful I am for the many expressions of support and encouragement I have received upon taking a temporary absence as bishop to serve as acting president of United Lutheran Seminary.

We know that in their nearly 200 years of providing theological education, the Lutheran Seminaries at Gettysburg and Philadelphia have played invaluable roles in advancing the Lutheran witness across our continent. They have trained hundreds of leaders who have brought the liberating Good News of Jesus Christ to millions of God's people. Our church has always valued the well-educated, competent leaders that our seminaries train. To meet the challenges of the 21st Century, our church needs that leadership expertise more than ever.

That is the reason why, when the newly constituted United Lutheran Seminary faced a severe leadership crisis last month, I agreed to step in as acting president. My objective was – and still is – crystal clear: to provide the leadership necessary to stabilize United Lutheran Seminary long enough to identify and put in place an interim president.

Along with members of our Synod Council and staff, I pray that the time needed will be brief – measured in only weeks or, possibly, several months. Addressing some of the questions and speculations that have arisen, I wish to make it clear my call remains as the sitting bishop of our Lower Susquehanna Synod. I intend to resume fully my synodical responsibilities as soon as I am able. Again, to clarify any concern or confusion, I will not be a candidate for either the interim president or permanent president of ULS.

In the meantime, God's mission and the core work of our synod continues. As he has several other times in his 19 years on synod staff, the Rev. Thomas E. McKee is serving as acting bishop. Some of his regular duties are being shared by the rest of the staff, who are also stepping up in this hour of need. I have total confidence in Pastor McKee and the staff to keep our synod on track until I return.

Meanwhile, I ask your prayers for the synod staff, for our congregations, for the United Lutheran Seminary community, and for me. May the Holy Spirit guide, support, sustain and encourage our church and its leaders as we move into God's preferred future for us.

Yours in Christ,

†James S. Dunlop, bishop



The next SOHL meeting will take place on Monday, June 4, at 6 PM at St. Peter's Highspire. It begins with a light meal (bring a side dish or dessert if you would like) followed by a 4-church meeting. Come join your

The following is a reprinted letter from Acting Bishop of Lower Susquehanna Synod Bishop Thomas McKee.

Dear people of God in the Lower Susquehanna Synod:

I am deeply honored and humbled to be appointed by Bishop Dunlop and confirmed by Synod Council to serve as acting bishop during the period when Bishop Dunlop temporarily serves as acting president of the United Lutheran Seminary. Thank you for the many cards, emails, and calls of congratulations (and of condolence!) I have received since my appointment. I especially have appreciated and truly rely on the many promises of sustaining prayer for me and for the rest of our staff during this period.

When the bishop asked me if I was willing to accept this responsibility, I agreed for many reasons. I have served as acting bishop three other times during which our synod continued to fulfill our mission. I love our synod and would do whatever I could for its benefit. I have accumulated a vast amount of knowledge about our synod, its congregations and its leaders and the polity of our Church. I understand the importance of our seminaries for our whole church and desire that the United Lutheran Seminary would flourish. I knew that I would hold this position for a short period of time and that my major role would be to keep things stable so that our mission can move forward. But most importantly, I agreed because I knew that I would receive the help that I would need. I knew that I could rely on the help of God, my refuge and strength. I knew that my partners in ministry would be praying for me and for our synod and would be asking, "What can we do to help?" I also knew that I could count on our wonderful, talented, and dedicated synod staff to continue with the cooperative work we have been doing together.

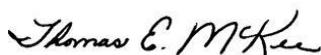
The staff and I have heard your concerns about the work load that I have. To accommodate my new responsibilities as acting bishop, the following plans have been formulated. Deacon Marsha Roscoe will once again assume the responsibilities of assembly manager. Debbie Clark will serve as scribe for recording Executive Committee and Synod Council minutes. Marty Shifflett will assume coordination of our synod chapel. Pastor Richard Jorgensen and Pastor Jennifer Hope-Tringali will become the pastoral staff liaisons to the Lancaster, North Lancaster, North York, South York, and York Conferences. The committees for whom the staff serve as liaisons are composed of dedicated and talented people who will be asked to assume greater responsibility for the work of these committees.

Bishop Dunlop continues to be the seated bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod. He will continue to fulfill certain responsibilities for our synod while serving as acting president of the United Lutheran Seminary. He will continue to approve candidates for consecration and ordination, ordain and consecrate, and chair Synod Assembly. He will fulfill as many of his episcopal visits to our congregations as his schedule permits. I am comforted by the assurance that he remains our bishop. We remain in close contact to ensure that nothing is neglected during this period.

Please know that I am here for you. If you need to talk with me, please do not hesitate to call or email me directly or to contact Debbie Clark to make an appointment. The shift in responsibilities makes it possible for me to be available as your acting bishop.

Finally, please know that the office of bishop, whether seated, interim, or acting, is primarily a call to be a synod's pastor. With the help of God, I promise to be faithful in my preaching, teaching, and administration of the sacraments and in providing pastoral care and leadership for this synod, its congregations and leaders.

Yours in Christ,



+ Thomas E. McKee, acting bishop
Lower Susquehanna Synod, ELCA



Picnic Information for Sunday, June 3, 2018 RAIN OR SHINE

Our combined St. Peter's/Trinity picnic will be held at Cibort Park in Bressler. From Front Street in Steelton, look for the Family Dollar Store. Turn up the hill onto Chambers Street. Look for Center Street on the right and turn. Follow Center Street until you see the park in front of you. Look for the park's entrance sign. Turn into the park and follow the road around to the back of the pavilion. There is plenty of parking there!

Our service will begin at 10:30 followed by food, cakewalks, our famous balloon toss, guessing games, and Bingo! There are two sign-up sheets in the foyer: one for attendance and one for type of food you can bring. Also plan to bring your own drinks and possibly a lawn chair to sit in during the service. Each family is asked to bring a homemade dessert and/or cake for the cakewalk. We will have a big "share your dessert" buffet so please bring your goodie **precut** and ready to serve.

If you have any questions at all, don't hesitate to call Jan or Ed Holwig at 717-564-6360 or Sally Schonewolf at 717-265-3342.

SEE YOU AT THE PARK!

Memorial Gifts

Contributions have been received in memory of the following. We thank the contributors for their generosity and thoughtfulness.

In Memory of Paul Flickinger

Helen Bailey
Lenny & Peg Bowling
Carl & Anna Zeiders
John & Nancy Brunner
Ann & Bob Emrich
Jacqueline Acri
Henry & Vicki Koller
Bob & Edith Carrillo
Michael Miller
Mary Brown
Kathy & David Gruber
Fran Dubesky
Richard & Darlene Martz
Anna Kline
Richard Schultheisz
Thomas & Susan Orris
Bert Fry & Jane Wigand

In Memory of Kathryn Steigler

Richard Schultheisz
Mark & Sherri Harkin & the Dorazio family
Thomas & Susan Orris

In Memory of Anna Guyer

Bert Fry & Jane Wigand
Ed & Jan Holwig
Elizabeth Faul
John & Nancy Brunner
Peg & Lenny Bowling
Richard Schultheisz
Margaret & Kenneth Olson

In Memory of Linda Lokey

Thomas & Susan Orris

In Memory of Bill Ward

Thomas & Susan Orris
Elizabeth Faul
Anna Gawel

Memorial gifts may be given at any time and in memory of whomever you would like. Envelopes are available by the Memorial Book in the entryway of the church.

Thank God for our families

[Jesus was dying on the cross.] When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." -John 19:26-27

On the second Sunday of this month we celebrate the mothers and mother figures in our lives, and then in June we celebrate our fathers and father figures. What a wonderful opportunity to honor the strong bond between parents and children. How strong? The first use of the word "love" in the Bible, Genesis 22:2, describes the connection between Abraham and his son, Isaac.

Family is one of our most valuable gifts from God, and one that, as all holy gifts, we are entrusted to treasure, love and nourish. As parents, we are responsible for nourishing children to become healthy adults. And as children, we are responsible for caring for parents as they age.

Jesus indicates in the passage above that there need not be a blood connection for a parent-child relationship (as any family with adopted children can attest). In Matthew 12:46-50, Jesus actually redefines family, saying that all who love and follow him are mothers, brothers, sisters, fathers. So, all of us are parent, child and sibling to one another. Now THAT'S some family!

As we honor the mother and father figures this spring, we can also challenge ourselves to be better stewards of the family bonds God has given us.

- Explore through Scripture what it means to be a family, including a faith family.
- Work with your congregation promote healthy family connections.
- Support and accompany families that are in crisis or paralyzed by dysfunction.
- Learn about foster-parent programs and support foster families.
- Explore and support Big Brother and Big Sister programs. Be a mentor to a child or youth.
- Befriend a senior citizen who may not have children (or children nearby).
- Remember that not all family relationships are positive. Avoid judgment and listen thoughtfully to those whose experiences may differ from yours.
- With your congregation, explore ways to live as brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers to one another.

God ordained families to be the fundamental unit of human life. We can be good stewards of family relationships by caring for one another and helping everyone to grow into the faith family God intends.

--Rob Blezard

Copyright © 2018, Rev. Robert Blezard. Reprinted by permission. Pastor Blezard serves as an assistant to the bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod and also works as content editor for www.stewardshipoflife.org.

Thank You

The family of Anna Guyer would like to thank everyone who helped them with the funeral and luncheon. We would especially like to thank Pastor Utter, who took a great deal of time and compassion in the delivery of the eulogy.

God Bless You,

Anna & Carl Zeiders

May Participants in Our Service

Date	Greeter(s)	Communion Assistants	Ushers	Lay Reader	Acolyte	Bulletins, Candles \$17	Flowers \$25
May 6	?	Judy Krovic	Bob Emrich, Richard Martz	Matt Hunt	Zachary Anthony	in loving memory of her husband, Stephen Brown by Alice Brown	in loving memory of her husband, Stephen Brown by Alice Brown
May 13	?	?	Shelley and Mark Radic	Jim Canning	Brady Holwig	in honor of my daughter, Karen Clugston's birthday by Ann Kline	in honor of all mothers by Sandy & Jim Canning
May 20	?	Matt & Mary Hunt	Jim Canning, Bill Stickle	Matt Hunt	Ni'Shaun Ward-McMullen	in honor of the birthday of his wife, Nancy Brunner, by John Brunner	in honor of the birthday of his wife, Nancy Brunner, by John Brunner
May 27	?	?	Carl Zeiders, Lenny Bowling	Lenny Bowling	Gabe Whary	to honor all of Trinity's members by Lenny & Peg Bowling	in loving memory of Lenny's mother, Betty Bowling by Lenny & Peg Bowling
Altar Guild for April: Peggy Bowling, Shelley and Mark Radic							

The deadline for the June Trinitarian is May 24th. Submissions can be sent to the church office, Matt Hunt's box, or emailed to mjonhunt@gmail.com.



We pray for those...

In need:

Rana Sweiden
Jackie Day

Bereaved:

Friends and family of
Anna Guyer
Paul Flickinger

Continued prayer:

Bill Schick
Dennis Smith
Jeremy Martz
Chuck Korte (7/31, Gay's bro-in-law, MS. Not going to get better. Almost completely better.)
Emil Schultheisz (10/1--Several strokes, nursing home, brother to Dick)
Christopher Orris (9/24--advanced Crohn's disease)
Hank Schonewolf

Serving in our military:

Kyle Anthony
Anthony Szekeres
Scott Whary

The following are those who cannot get to church because of physical problems, etc. Please remember them with a card, a visit, and/or your prayers.

Nancy Brunner
2115 James Buchanan Dr.
Elizabethtown 17022

Darlene Martz
97 Brompton Rd.
Hummelstown, 17036

Kathleen Michtich
S2 -228A Spring Creek
1205 S. 28th St.
Harrisburg 17111

Rene & Joyce Stickle
224 Elm St.
Steelton 17113

Katarina Schuech
4805 E. Circle Dr.
Harrisburg 17111

Jackie Day
335 Wesley Dr. Apt. 601
Mechanicsburg 17055

Bernie Campbell
100 Freemason Drive
Masonic Village

Elizabethtown 17104

Ray Stoner
S310-A Spring Creek
1205 S. 28th St.
Harrisburg 17111

Fran Dubesky
517 Kelker St.
Steelton 17113

Christine Miller
4800 Lancer Court Apt. C
Harrisburg 17109

This year, our four churches are co-hosting a VBS program from June 25th-29th, in evenings from 6:30-8pm at Salem Lutheran in Oberlin. Pre-registration will be June 24 at 2:00pm at Salem. Donations of Gold Fish, Juice Boxes, Chex Mix, Water, M&Ms, Fruit Snacks, Pretzels, and Cookies will be appreciated. Or you can give a cash donation to buy fruits and vegetables. We are also looking for donation of empty toilet paper rolls.

May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2 6:30pm - Choir	3	4	5
6 9:30am – Choir 10:30am – Worship 6pm – Life & Death Group	7 6pm The Tribe 6pm SOHL @ Salem	8	9 6:30pm - Choir	10 6pm - Council	11	12
13 9:30am – Choir 10:30am – Worship 6pm – HAYI @ St. John’s 6pm – Life & Death Group	14 9:30am – Bible Study 6pm The Tribe	15 Office closed Soup & Bake Sale	16 6:30pm - Choir	17 Deadline for newsletter	18	19
20 Pentecost 9:30am – Choir 10:30am – Worship 6:00 pm – Life & Death Group	21 9:30am – Bible Study 6pm The Tribe	22	23 12:30pm - Golden Agers	24	25	26
27 9:30am – Choir 10:30am – Worship 6:00pm – Life & Death Group	28 Memorial Day Office closed 6pm The Tribe	29	30	31		

						Mike Miller
						27 th Fran Dubesky *
						29 th Bill Shick
						Joe Harkins
May Birthdays (* 80 or older)						
2 nd	Robin Cobb					
15 th	Jacqueline Acri *					
	Bill Lux *					
16 th	Alice Brown * (80!)					
17 th	Mary Jane Haase *					
18 th	Shelley Radic					
	Chuck Reider					
21 st	Nancy Brunner *					
23 rd	Kaleb Anthony					
						May Anniversaries
						1 st Bob & Ann Emrich
						2 nd Peg & Lenny Bowling
						8 th Mark & Sherri Harkins
						27 th Jan & Ed Holwig
						29 th Doug & Leslie Martz



MISSION STATEMENT

To work harmoniously within the spirit of the church

To create a comforting atmosphere for families of believers and a place to heal the soul

To connect people to Jesus Christ and to each other

To establish an experience where people feel an allegiance to their almighty Father

To exemplify our Christian stewardship by representing our members with Christian dignity, proper regards to the rights of others, while promoting God's message of respect, love, and charity

Contact Us

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
221 South Second Street
Steelton, PA 17113

717-939-4998

trinitysteelton@yahoo.com

<http://www.trinitysteelton.org>

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
221 SOUTH SECOND STREET
STEELTON, PA 17113

