

Trinity Episcopal Church

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Pottsville, PA 17901

DEADLINE FOR **NOVEMBER TOPICS** **MONDAY OCTOBER 24**

October Birthdays

- 1 - Jordan Franko
- 2 - Lewis Yeager
- 3 - Justin Franko
- 4 - Charlotteann Petlansky, Tiarra Nelson, Nancy Rinehart
- 5 - Georgine Curtier
- 6 - David Raring, Bill Rutecky
- 7 - Warren Schach
- 12 - Stephanie Bensinger, Nathan Reedy, Leah Van Horn,
Branden M. Fehr
- 13 - Kaitlyn Esemaya
- 14 - Alan Viduszynski, Howard Russell, Randy Bedford,
Timothy Witman
- 15 - Lora Brennan
- 16 - Mary Ellen Viduszynski
- 17 - Betty Bradley
- 20 - Suzanne Franko, Zoe Lynn Holden
- 22- David Foy
- 21 - Eric Ryland, Anthony Lindenmuth
- 23 - Sue Bednar, Gaye Ann McLaughlin, Kelly Bruce
- 25 - Ava Goodman, Justin Fox, Jason Brocious
- 26 - Justine Myro
- 27 - Melissa Rutecky
- 28 - Barbara Tokarz, John Menuchak
- 29 - William Collins, John Ross
- 30 - Chloe Bledsoe





A word from Fr. Jim

Dear People of God at Trinity,

I am writing this note to you while attending the annual Diocese of Bethlehem Clergy Retreat. Our program is interesting and engaging. But at such gatherings I often find that some of the most rewarding and thought provoking moments come out of the quiet informal conversations that I have with my colleagues and this retreat is no exception.

In a conversation with one of my associates we were sharing the “goings on” in our parishes. Happy and with some enthusiasm I told him about last Sunday and what a thrill it was for me when seven of our young people from Trinity were confirmed. He lamented that often once young people are confirmed we seldom or never see them in church again. However I was happy and perhaps a bit prideful when I spoke of our young people’s commitment, as I have witnessed it in numerous ways, to live and show by word and example “*the Good News of God in Christ*”.

As I sat with another priest who comes from one of the towns along the Susquehanna River, he talked of the terrible devastation that befell his community during the recent floods. But, he also pointed out that God was present and at work in the midst of it all reaching to those in need through the hands emergency and relief workers as well as other just ordinary people.

A short while later sitting quietly in the chapel waiting for evensong to begin, I realized that these were not two separate stories. They were both just a part of one story. The connection was a third story that lay back on my desk at the office. Let me share that story with you.

The evening of September 10 and the day of September 11 I was working in an American Red Cross shelter that was located in Pine Grove. There were many victims of the tragedy that had to come to the shelter to get some food. That was where I was working, in the concession stand of the Pine Grove High School. I volunteered to serve the people. I was very glad of the fact that I could help those people in need. Most of the people were exhausted and muddy from cleaning their homes, but they came in need of food.

Jacquelyn Curtis
(One of Trinity’s acolytes and a recent confirmand.)

Three little stories. Three stories that are not unique in and of themselves. But, three little stories that are linked together. Linked together and connected to an even larger story. And not just a larger story, but THE STORY. That is the GOSPEL STORY.

Yours in Christ,

Trinity's Mission Statement

*“To be a Christ-centered parish, that knows Christ and makes Him known to others
by sharing our gifts, striving for justice,
and respecting the dignity of every human being.”*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS & SIGN UP

FOR

*FOOD,
FUN,
& FELLOWSHIP*



***TRINITY FAMILY FUN
NIGHT***

Saturday, October 15th

Trinity Parish Hall

6:00pm – 9:00pm

Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, and Beverages will be provided.

The Rest is Potluck.

For Planning Purposes – Please sign up if you plan to come.

The Sign-up Sheet is on the Bulletin Board Opposite the Parish Lounge



United Thank Offering (UTO) thanks you for your generous contributions to this year's ingathering. Over \$325 was collected on Sunday, September 18th. A check from Trinity will be presented at the Diocesan Convention on October 7 and 8 in Bethlehem and then when combined with other diocesan church offerings, sent on to the national UTO Committee in New York City.

Remember, "Thanksgiving was never meant to be shut up in a single day," so grab your new Blue Box and continue counting your blessings every day throughout the entire year by dropping coins in your box.

Nancy Rinehart



"In Search of 'The REAL' Paul"

Our Fall Study Groups will examine the Life, Writings, and Theology of St. Paul, exploring his relevance for his time and for the modern Christian.

**Group Meetings will be:
Mondays at 7:00pm or Wednesdays at 11:00am**



The Fall Sessions runs September 12th thru November 16th

For further information, contact Fr. Jim.



A Thought about Stewardship

Almost every Sunday we hear these words: ***“Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God.”*** Using the words of St. Paul, this Offertory Sentence invites us to walk in love with Jesus, as Jesus loves us. Jesus died on Calvary’s Cross because he loves us so much. Our offerings are given as a love response to the love that Jesus has for us. Thank you for your offerings—a living, tangible way of saying, ***Jesus, we love you.”***

A word from “Trinity” the Church Mouse

Dear Parishioners,

Well Fall is here!! This is my favorite time of the year. Summer can be quiet and sometimes lonely for me here at the church. But, now with the services returning to Trinity, I hear the choir voices and the footsteps of children in church school. Programs and activities are taking place daily. I hope as I peer out from one of my little cubbies I’ll see your smiling face.



Trinity

Diocesan Convention

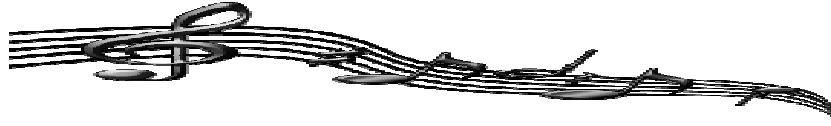


The 140th Convention of the Diocese of Bethlehem will take place October 7th & 8th at The Cathedral of The Nativity in Bethlehem. Representing Trinity as delegates will be Kurt Kovalovich, Nancy Rinehart, and our Rector, Fr. Jim. Albert Portland will be acting as our delegate-alternate. Please keep them and the delegates from all the parishes in your prayers as they take counsel for the furthering of the mission and ministry of the Church.

A Prayer for The Diocesan Convention

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel in The Diocese of Bethlehem for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach them in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide them to perceive what is right, and grant them both the courage to pursue it and grace to accomplish it;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

THE MUSIC CORNER by Cora A. Gamelin-Osenbach



What a glorious celebration as we witnessed the confirmation of seven young people by Bishop Paul on September 25th. The liturgy and music affirmed the conviction of our community in faith, its traditions and the future that is already present with us.

Some choir members are preparing to join the community choir as part of Michael Kiehner's annual Reformation Day organ recital to be held on Sunday, October 30, 3 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church. Some of that choir will also join us at our community Thanksgiving Eve service on November 23.

The opening concert in the fifth year of our series was held on September 25. Mezzo-soprano Jennifer Laubach and pianist Carol Comune presented a fantastic program that enthralled a good-sized audience. Our attendance is growing, and the quality of our programming remains superior. Thank you to all who contribute as patrons, bakers and chefs, decorators, photographers, flyer creators, clean up crew – you are all vital to this wonderful community outreach. We are blessed here at Trinity to be able to share our gifts with others.

TRINITY ARTISTS – a reminder that our annual art exhibit will take place on Sunday November 20 in conjunction with our concert series. Please start your creative process now in a medium of choice so that you can be ready to share your talents with the parish and community. Thank you! The deadline for submitting works is Friday, November 11th.



Parish Directory Updates and Changes

This will be a new section in each Topics newsletter where we will post changes and updates to the parish directory. Please call the office at 622-8720 or e-mail babercem@verizon.net with any changes.

Vestry Highlights



- A review of all employment contracts is proceeding.
- The 2012 budget committee will be starting their work soon.
- Emil Rarick will again service the church through a heating oil pre-buy contract.
- The Consecration Sunday committee is continuing its work.

Submitted by Kurt Kovalovich

Topics Newsletter Now Online!



Good news! You can now access this complete Topics newsletter in newsletter form along with those from the past few months on our parish website!

Simply go to www.trinityepiscopalpottsvillepa.org and click on the link to the Topics newsletter in the tabs on the left side of the page.

Continued thanks to Pam Foley for all of her hard work on our well-done website and for making our newsletters accessible in this way!

Please Remember in Your Prayers

Those serving in the armed forces especially:

Michael Steinruck, Cassie Kauffman Holm, Tom Austerberry, Joseph Nangle, Erik Ryland, Larry Reedy, II, Stephen M. Reier, Michael J. Reier, Jeffrey J. Bohanick, Ethan Garrity, Jake Shirey, Eric Walls

Those sick or in need of healing: especially:

Fr. Cal Adams, Duane Barnhart, Anne Barton, Ray Barton, M. Jean Bedford, Henry Bigg, Alexis Bohr, Ron Boris Jr., Ron Boris Sr., Darlene Bouch, Betty Bradley, Ivana Bradley, Joan Cake, Sara Conlen, Phyllis DeMarco, Jean Ebling, Norm Emery, Ruth Fasold, Jerry Field, Ken Fisher, Margaret Frederick, Ron Frederick, Dorothy Frye, Robert Glovich, Ed Harris, Ida Heckman, Holly Hedstrom, Walter Howells, Robert Hubler, Larry Kachelries, Dotte Kelly, Martha Kline, Barbara Kull, George LaHoop, Lena Levkulic, Jeff Lippencott, Anthony Merlino, Jr., Robert Miller, Patrick Moore, Rose Morgan, Espn Murphy, Rita Murphy, Wendy Nabholz, Heidi Nangle, James Oerther, Michael O'Malley, Maxine Peroutka, Betty Price, Elizabeth Pritiskutch, Sally Ring, Jennifer Robinson, Donna Ross, John Ross, David Rupnow, Harry Russell, Bill & Tina Rutecky, Julie Sells, Rayne Slackus, Abigail Smith, Heather Anne Smith, Vivian Smulley, George R. Stone Jr., Wendy Stone, Kathy Strouse, Lora Hart Wentzel, Tish Wetherill, Sophie White, Nancy Williams, Peter Williams, Mary Witman, Shirley Woodring, Arlen Zerbe, Ron, Bob, Joan, Judy, Lea & Trent, Mike, John, Paul, Mark, Betty, Jen, Linda, Ben, Kim, Jessica, Tom, Jane, Lois, Deno, Walter, Betty, Dot

NEWS FROM MARION C. PRICE TRUST

Operation We Care - Our next mailing to our local servicemen and women stationed in Iraq & Afghanistan is scheduled for November. Please help us show them that they have not been forgotten by their home town on this 10th anniversary of 9/11. Non-perishable food and personal care articles are welcome items when our boxes are received. Please call Kathy Burda at 621-3220 with questions or if needed to arrange a pick up.

Senior Adventures – Our next adventure is to Sholl's in Pine Grove on Thursday, October 27, 2011. We will leave Trinity at 11:00 AM. Please call Kathy Burda at 621-3220 to make your reservation today.

Healthy Resolutions 2011 – 10:30, Friday, October 28, 2011 at Trinity. Cynthia Shirey, RN, RMT, CCH, will present “Seasons of Life” a presentation about how hypnosis can change your life. This free program is open to the public and brought to you by Diakon Prime Time Health and the Marion C. Price Trust Fund.

Medicare Part D Open Enrollment – The plan that's best for you this year might not be the best plan for you next year. Part D plans can change their costs and benefits every year, and most do. These changes may include premiums, deductibles, co-pays, the drugs they cover and whether they offer any coverage in the doughnut hole.

To ensure that you get your best deal on your medications next year (2012) – a plan that covers all your drugs at the least cost and with fewest restrictions – you should carefully compare the plans available to you for next year during the open enrollment period from **October 15 –December 7, 2011**. Call Kathy Burda at 621-3220 or Debbie Pauzer, APPRISE at 624-3026.

LIHEAP- (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) helps low-income families pay their heating bills. LIHEAP offers both cash and crises grants, and is open for application later this year. The cash grant payment is made directly to your utility company or fuel provider and it will be credited on your bill. The Crises grant helps families who have an emergency and are in danger of being without heat. Emergency situations include: broken heating equipment, a fuel shortage that may leave you without heat or having utility service shut off. If you have questions about LIHEAP or a heating emergency please call your local county assistance office at 621-3072.

Are You Sure You Are Insured? Although most insurance agents are reputable, some unscrupulous agents target the elderly or ill with “get-rich” schemes that leave the agents rich and the elderly with nothing, or far less than they bargained for. Insurance products are complicated and an unscrupulous agent can use these complexities, coupled with high pressure tactics, to lure unsuspecting consumers into worthless or overpriced insurance policies. Some examples of such policies include cancer insurance and fixed premium/decreasing coverage term life insurance.

The most important thing is to be an informed consumer. You must be sure you understand what is covered under the policy and its benefits, as well as any costs, conditions or exclusions associated with the policy. For example, the policy may have important provisions on pre-existing conditions, limitations on benefits or waiting periods for coverage. Above all, make sure you read and understand what you are signing.

Be careful if an agent:

- Makes an unannounced visit at your doorstep
- Suggests that a fairly new policy (less than a year old) can be replaced with a “better” policy
- Suggests replacing your insurance policy without a reason
- Pressures you into signing forms or making changes to existing policies
- Shuffles forms and policies in front of you with a signature required on each page
- Offers any kind of “package deal” that includes several types of coverage or benefits
- Demands payment in cash or money orders only or gives you no receipt for payments
- Requests check be made payable to the agent instead of the insurance company
- Asks you to sign documents that are not complete but will be filled in later by the agent
- Insists that you sign forms containing false or incomplete information about such things as your address; pre-existing medical conditions, problems or history; or the use of your car
- Discourages you from having others review documents or talking to other customers with the same type of policy and coverage

Look out for these tell-tale signs of a possible scam:

- You don’t receive a policy within six weeks
- You don’t receive annual reports and other correspondence from the company
- The declaration page of your policy contains coverage you did not want to purchase
- Your policy statements show loans against the policy not authorized by you
- The agent states or implies that he/she is endorsed by the government

To avoid becoming a victim:

- Do not sign any forms unless you’ve had sufficient time to review them
- Get a receipt every time you make a payment
- Never change an insurance policy unless you have had time to review all the forms completely
- Never let an agent talk you into coverage you do not need or want
- Read carefully any correspondence about you policy that you receive from the company

Remember, there is no reason to rush into decisions concerning the purchase of insurance policies, whether they are for life, health, automobile or homeowners’ coverage. If you feel that an agent is pressuring you, do not sign anything until you have had time to review the documents completely.

When purchasing a life insurance policy, you have a minimum of 10 days, from the date of delivery of the policy, to review and return the policy to the insurance company for a full refund if you are not completely satisfied. If you decide to buy an accident and health insurance policy, you can return the policy directly to the agent or the company by certified mail with 10 days of receipt of the policy for a full return of the premium paid (this only applies to individual policies, not group policies). For Medicare supplements and long-term care policies, new policyholders have 30 days to return the policy and receive a refund.

Reprinted from the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General’s Consumer Reference Guide for Seniors-How to Avoid Scams & Fraud. Toll Free Senior Helpline 1-866-623-2137.

TRINITY BELL TOWER TO BE REPAIRED

HOW YOU CAN

HELP!!!!

Some years ago the deteriorating condition of the louvers in Trinity's Bell Tower were identified as a property issue in need of attention. For financial reasons a project of repair and restoration was put on hold. However, we can no longer forgo addressing this problem. The louvers have deteriorated to the point that there is a distinct and ever-present possibility that one or more of the louvers will detach and fall. This of course presents us with a liability situation. With this in mind our Vestry, having reviewed several proposals, made the decision at its September meeting to enter into a contract for replacement of the louvers with Highclimers, Inc., a Philadelphia area company specializing in steeple and bell tower work. The project calls for all eight of the louver panels to be removed and replaced with identical cypress louver panels. Any necessary repair of the surrounding molding will be done and the molding and louvers will be repainted in the same color that we have now. This plan has received the approval from the Pottsville Historical District of which we are a part. The cost of this project will be \$17,800.00 and YES, this is where you can help. We are asking all parishioners to consider one of two ways of giving to help offset the cost of this project. First, consider giving a one-time gift in any amount. Or consider giving your gift, whatever it may be over a three-year period.

For the next several weeks you will find a steeple at each entrance to the church. Attached to the steeple you will find a packet containing "giving cards". Please take one and prayerfully consider what God is calling you to commit to this project. Then complete the card and put it into the offering plate or mail it to the office.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and if you have any questions, speak to a vestry member or to Fr. Jim.

October 2011

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Pentecost XVI <i>"Blessing of the Animals"</i> 8:00am Holy Eucharist I 9:45am Church School 10:00am Holy Eucharist II | 3 7pm Study Group | 4 10am Diakon Thought Exchange 2pm Clergy Bible Study | 5 10:30am Zumba Class 11am Study Group 12noon Holy Eucharist 7:30pm Choir | 6 | 7 ----- Diocesan 7:00-9:00pm Pottsville Recreation Ballroom Dancing | 8 --- Convention |
| 9 Pentecost XVII 8:00am Holy Eucharist I 9:45am Church School 10:00am Holy Eucharist II | 10 4:30pm Soup Kithchen 7pm Study Group | 11 7:00pm Vestry Mtg. | 12 10:30am Zumba Class 11am Study Group 12noon Holy Eucharist 7:30pm Choir | 13 10:30am Diakon Pilates Class 7:00pm HALOS | 14 7:00-9:00pm Pottsville Recreation Ballroom Dancing | 15 1:00pm Moran/Boyer Marriage 6:00-9:00pm Parish Dinner |
| 16 Pentecost XVIII 8:00am Holy Eucharist I 9:45am Church School 10:00am Holy Eucharist II | 17 ----- <u>NO Study Group</u> | 18 ----- 7 | 19 <u>Rector Out of Town</u> 10:30am Zumba Class <u>NO Study Group</u> 12noon Holy Eucharist 7:30pm Choir | 20 ----- 10:30am Diakon Pilates Class | 21 ----- 7:00-9:00pm Pottsville Recreation Ballroom Dancing | 22 |
| 23 Pentecost XIX 8:00am Holy Eucharist I 9:45am Church School 10:00am Holy Eucharist II | 24 7pm Study Group | 25 7:00pm Diakon "Belly Dancing Class" | 26 10:30am Zumba Class 11am Study Group 12noon Holy Eucharist 7:30pm Choir | 27 10:30am Diakon Pilates Class 11:00am Senior Adven- tures, Pine Grove 7:00pm HALOS | 28 10:30am Healthy Resolutions 7:00-9:00pm Pottsville Recreation Ballroom Dancing | 29 NYC—Dead Sea Scrolls Trip |
| 30 Pentecost XX 8:00am Holy Eucharist I 9:45am Church School 10:00am Holy Eucharist II | 31 7pm Study Group | | | | | |

| DATE | READERS | ALTAR GUILD | CHALICE BEARERS/ ACOLYTES | GREETERS USHERS | COUNTERS | ALTAR FLOWERS | LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|---------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| October 2 8 a.m. 10 a.m. | C. Field Church School | K. Portland A. Portland B. Bacon | B. Rutecky H. Mitchell Acolytes C. Demcher Jacquelyn Curtis | C. Gearhart B. Rutecky Church School | B. Bednar A. Portland | In Loving Memory of Emily F. Mortimer by Mary Mortimer | |
| October 9 8 a.m. 10 a.m. | K. Kovalovich OT F. Brocious NT F. Osenbach POP H. Mitchell | K. Portland A. Portland B. Bacon | G. Moyer E. Barnwell Acolytes John Curtis C. Menuchak | C. Gearhart B. Rutecky E. Barnwell B. Bacon | H. Mitchell B. Bednar | In Loving Memory of Jean & LaMar H. Brokhoff & LaMar S. and Martha Harron by Charles Brokhoff AND In Loving Memory of George R Stone, III by the Field and Stone Families | Carol Field to Martha Kline |
| October 16 8 a.m. 10 a.m. | D. Beausang OT A. Portland NT P. Bortner POP T. Malarkey | K. Portland A. Portland B. Bacon | B. Rutecky A. Portland Acolytes Jacquelyn Curtis John Curtis | C. Gearhart B. Rutecky J. Mansell T. Malarkey | H. Mitchell N. Buehler | In Loving Memory of Charles Albert Buehler by Nancy Buehler AND In Loving Memory of Betty Merlino by the Eckert & Merlino Families | Peter Bortner to Ida Heckman |
| October 23 8 a.m. 10 a.m. | C. Field OT F. Brocious NT J. Brocious POP J. Bednar | K. Portland A. Portland B. Bacon | G. Moyer J. Mansell Acolytes C. Demcher C. Menuchak | C. Gearhart B. Rutecky E. Barnwell B. Bacon | A. Portland N. Buehler | In Loving Memory of Kathryn Isabel Nabholz, Leonard, Raymond, & Robert Nabholz by the Nabholz Family AND In Loving Memory of Elizabeth & Albert H. Brennan by Allen Brennan & Family | |
| October 30 8 a.m. 10 a.m. | K. Kovalovich OT T. Malarkey NT J. Giansello POP H. Mitchell | K. Portland A. Portland B. Bacon | B. Rutecky P. Bortner Acolytes John Curtis Jacquelyn Curtis | C. Gearhart B. Rutecky J. Mansell T. Malarkey | B. Bednar A. Portland | In Loving Memory of Nancy G. Lewis & Russell E. Muench, Jr. by Celie Muench | |