

The Messenger

November 2022

Volume 87 Issue 11

What's Inside

New and Noted:

- From our Pastor
- Office closed
- Advent Morning Prayer
- From our DOM
- Flying Quilts Update
- From our DOPM
- Sunday School Advent Projects
- History Lesson
- Calendar
- Poinsettias Order Form

Social Ministry/Giving

- Good Shepherd Thanksgiving Request
- Good Shepherd Request

Birthdays/Anniversaries

From our Pastor

Stewardship: Time, talent, treasure

O 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.

I come to you in the name of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray for all things.

As November rolls around in the church year, you can bet that money is going to be a topic of conversation in the church. It's the time of year that we begin preparing a church budget for the coming year; it's the time of year you'll hear temple talks or talk from the pulpit about being good stewards and sharing with the church what's first gifted to you by God.

In the midst of the ongoing pandemic and the economic uncertainty that continues to linger, let me first talk about how we've done financially this year.

Even though the continuing pandemic has pushed our worship attendance down by about 15-20 percent, you provided. Or to be more clear, God provided. The Holy Spirit worked through you to continue mailing or dropping off your offerings when you have not been in worship attendance. For most of this year, your giving has fallen only slightly short of our budget expectations. In some areas, giving is ahead of expectations. For all of that, we give thanks to God.

But stewardship isn't just about money, it's also about the gift of talents and time that God has given you. In this area, the pandemic has challenged us, and it has challenged congregations throughout the church. Our church and many of the churches in Greenville have found that because people's lives have been changed by the pandemic — everything seems to take more time and be more difficult to manage, and many of us seem to be in a constant state of weariness — people are also more protective of their time with families. That makes finding people to commit their time to other things more difficult.



When we talk about stewardship during the month of November, we'll talk about returning to God what we have first been given in all of these areas — time, talent and treasure.

At our Sunday worship in November, you will notice a familiar routine. You will hear temple talks from people about how the ministry of Holy Trinity has been felt in their lives. We'll have a Commitment Sunday when we will turn in our promises for what we can share with the church in 2023. This is important, because it helps us to prepare our budget. But we'll also ask you to think about sharing your time and talents.

Through it all, we'll explore how we live into God's story here in Mercer County, Pennsylvania, and how living into that story asks us to show generosity in all areas of our lives, living into knowing that with God, all things are possible.

So let's live into the grace we've been given, together.

Pastor Brenda +



Office Closed for Thanksgiving

The Church Office will be closed **Thursday and Friday, November 24 and 25** so that the staff may enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday with their families. Have a safe and happy holiday!



Order Poinsettias, Donate to decorate the church and/or Donate to the Domestic Disaster Response

Please note the Christmas Poinsettia/Decorations and Domestic Disaster Response order form in this month's Messenger on **page 9**. Poinsettia orders and donations must be into the office by **Sunday, November 27, 2022**.

Advent Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer will begin on **Monday, November 28** and conclude on **Friday, December 23** in the choir pews. It begins at 8:30 a.m. and concludes at 8:50 a.m. Please use the rear parking lot door for entry. Take this opportunity for quiet reflection at the beginning of your day as a way of making spiritual preparation during Advent.

If you would be interested in leading Morning Prayer one day a week please call the church office.

From Our Director of Music



This article resumes the review of Baroque organists/composers influenced by Dietrich Buxtehude, G.F. Handel and Johann S Bach. The topic is: GEORG PHILIP TELEMANN, who was born in March 1681, in the Prussian Duchy of Magdeburg in what is now considered northeastern Germany and western Poland. Telemann was highly regarded among his contemporaries and was the most prolific of all the Baroque composers. He was influenced by Buxtehude via his associations with Handel and J.S. Bach, both professionally and personally. For example, Telemann was godfather to and, in a way, a namesake for Bach's second son, Carl Philip Emmanuel. Some writers suggest that Telemann's father Heinrich [Deacon at the Church of the Holy Spirit (Heilige Geist)] disapproved of his musical interests, but as Heinrich died when Georg was four, the narrative is somewhat unlikely.

Telemann's first music lessons began at the age of ten in Magdeburg by a local organist. Thereafter he developed his interest in music, in composition particularly. His mother and other relatives opposed his music lessons, so he studied in secret throughout his early adolescent years in Magdeburg. Later, he attended Gymnasium in Hildesheim. It is here that Georg's musical interests were encouraged and supported especially by the rector. It was at this school that his performance and composition improved rapidly. Telemann, the ultimate autodidact, became proficient on recorder, flute, violin, viola de gamba, oboe, and other instruments- laying the foundation for future chamber music compositions.

In 1701 he entered the University of Leipzig to study law which met with his family's approval but not to his own satisfaction; surprisingly he withdrew within several weeks of enrollment. Yes, he was a college drop-out, then chose the life of a free-lance musician and composer. Fortunately, there was ample opportunity for both in Leipzig at that time.

At 25, Telemann left Leipzig for an assortment of positions; first in Poland, then to Eisenach [Bach's birthplace]. While in Eisenach c. 1709 he married his first wife A. L. J. Eberlin, who died shortly after the birth of their first child in 1711. He moved to Frankfurt and became the city's music director, in addition to serving as Kapellmeister at two churches. Professionally he flourished, his composition increasing to the level at which he composed while in Leipzig. In Frankfurt he married for the second time and sired nine children. In 1721 he began his final and longest position in Hamburg.

He became cantor at Johann. Lateinschule and music director of five city churches. His first few years in Hamburg were marred by marital problems predicated mostly on his wife's gambling debts. In 1740 at the age of sixty, Telemann semi-retired and pursued hobbies like theoretical studies and gardening an avocation he shared with Handel. He continued composing and performing until his death in June, 1767 at the age of 65. Interestingly, his Hamburg positions were assumed by his godson C.P.E. Bach.

What is remembered most about Telemann is the number and variety of compositions: 1043 sacred cantati, 600 overture suites, and chamber music concerti for instrument combinations never before employed by other composers and several manuals for organ pedagogy based on modes. All these made him the most prolific of the Baroque era.

Flying Quilts Update

It was such a good feeling to see all the people actively involved in help Flying Quilters pack the quilts and baby care kits on that Sunday after the service. Thank you to all who stayed to prove that "many hands make light work". Thanks to Bob Massing for use of his truck and for driving the boxes to the Lutheran Church in Zelienople where they will be picked up by a semi-truck to be carried to the Lutheran World Relief warehouse in Windsor, Maryland where they will be baled into watertight bales ready to be shipped to those needing them in the world.

Thanks to the dedicated Quilters who show up to put the quilts together on Tuesdays and to those who do "homework" making it possible for us to achieve 118 quilts and 20 baby care kits - records for us.

Our goal is to do better each year. Won't you consider coming to help???

*Bonnie Massing
Flying Quilts*



Good Shepherd Thanksgiving Holiday Request

Plans are underway at the Good Shepherd Center for special Thanksgiving food distribution. **Their request of Holy Trinity is 50 packets of gravy.** The deadline for this request is **Sunday, November 13.** These donations can be placed in the marked box in the cloister or dropped off at the office during office hours.

Good Shepherd November Request

The Good Shepherd Center is our church community social service agency that supports the needs of many in the area. The Good Shepherd Center's request for Holy Trinity for November **after the Thanksgiving request is canned vegetables or fruit and cake mixes.** Donations may be placed in the marked box in the cloister.

From Our Directors of Parish Ministry

As summer 2022 races the calendar into the history books and as we marvel once again at the beauty of fall, we bristle with anticipation of the upcoming holiday season. While Advent and Christmas are surely the Queen and King of the holiday calendar, we would like to take a moment to reflect on what is becoming an almost invisible celebration-Thanksgiving.

According to Wikipedia (who never gets it wrong): “Thanksgiving is a national holiday celebrated on various dates in the United States, Canada, Grenada, Saint Lucia, and Liberia. It began as a day of giving thanks for the blessing of the harvest and of the preceding year. Similarly named festival holidays occur in Germany and Japan. Thanksgiving is celebrated on the second Monday of October in Canada and on the fourth Thursday of November in the United States and around the same part of the year in other places. Although Thanksgiving has historical roots in religious and cultural traditions, it has long been celebrated as a secular holiday as well.”

As we enter into our fifth month in our Parish Ministry positions, we are delighted to invoke the Spirit of Thanksgiving and thank our beloved congregation for the support and love we have received as we staggered our way around the job description. Thanks to all who have kept us from getting in our own way time and again.

We have had six special events during our tenure and would like to publicly thank the volunteers who helped put the special in the special event:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Alyssa Martin | Gretchen Minetti | Mary Beth Bradley |
| Beth Hall | Heather Balas | Mary Reames |
| Bob Massing | Jackson Weaver | Matt Morgan |
| Bonnie Massing | Jen Martin | Michael Bradley |
| Brandon Stubert | Jim Martin | Michelle Wentling |
| Bryce Stubert | John Weaver | Mike Balas |
| Carol McQueen | Josh Stubert | Nancy Knapp |
| Catherine Mott | Judi Moinet | Nancy McLaughlin |
| Catherine Richardson | Judy Teets | Nikki Weaver |
| Cindy Farrell | Julie Morgan | Ruth Gruber |
| Clara Balas | Kathy Nanz | Ruth Heil |
| Denise Hall | Linda Armstrong | Sheryl Lanning |
| Duane Lewis | Linda Broadbent | Sydney Balas |
| Ed Pitcher | Linda Oman | |
| Georgia Perkins | Marie Riley | |
| Gianna Weaver | Marj Stubert | |

There have been scores of others whom we have called who, due to circumstance, were unable to help at that time. But we are happy to report all pledged their support for future events. We are certain you will get your chance. To paraphrase Martin Luther: “Good works do not make a good person, but a good person does good works.” We are so blessed to have so many good people in our congregation. Thank you again for all your help and for the opportunity to serve this ministry. Enjoy your holiday seasons!

Sunday School Advent Projects

The Parish Education Committee is asking the congregation to consider participating in one or both of our collection projects for this Advent season.

As we have done for the past several years, we will once again be helping our friends at the Good Shepherd Center provide gifts for some of the children in the local community who might not otherwise receive something special for Christmas. There will be a small Christmas tree located in the narthex that has tags on it; these tags will include the gender, age, and gift ideas for a child who has been specifically selected by GSC staff. You can take a tag and make a purchase that corresponds to the information on the tag, and bring your gift back—unwrapped—to the church, with the tree tag included. This project has received a terrific response from Holy Trinity in the past, and the GSC is pleased to accept our help once again. If you choose to purchase gifts for this project, please be sure to have the gifts dropped off at the church by **Sunday, December 11**, so they can be transported to the GSC in plenty of time for packing and delivery.

Also this year, we would like to try a new and different collection challenge for all of our Sunday School classes—our youngest group, Confirmation learners, and Adult class. We invite our students, starting on **Sunday, November 13th**, to bring an offering to class (no offering is too small!) that will be collected and set aside for a special gift that we'll make through the **ELCA Good Gifts Program**. This program provides many gift-giving options that grow the church, fight hunger, and transform lives—supporting the churchwide ministries of the ELCA. As an example, just \$60 will purchase a goat and a flock of chicks to present to a struggling family. That same amount could also purchase two piglets for two families. We will see how much we can collect, and make our gift choices as we get closer to Christmas! The reason we are starting this collection *prior* to the beginning of Advent is so that we can have five Sundays for collection; the last day to bring an offering for this project will be **Sunday, December 11**, which is the last Sunday of classes for 2022.

Thank you all so much for considering these opportunities to give to people in need!

Kris Abraham, Parish Education Chairperson



November Birthdays

| | |
|----|--------------------|
| 2 | Sean Oros |
| 5 | Marc Franklin |
| 8 | Linda Broadbent |
| 9 | Jim Shaffer |
| 10 | Marie Riley |
| 13 | Olivia Martin-Call |
| | Sharon VanKanegan |
| | Robert Wilt |
| 14 | Albert Meeker, III |
| | Warren Roth |
| 15 | Zachary Morgan |
| 19 | Hailey McKinney |
| 20 | Jonathan Oros |
| | Tillie Schell |
| 24 | Lori McEwen |
| 25 | Rae Johnson |
| 28 | Tyler Martin-Call |
| 30 | David Hollenbaugh |

November Anniversaries

The following members of our congregation are celebrating anniversaries this month. Congratulate them when you see them.

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------|-------------------|
| Wayne and Darla Swift | 63 years | November 6, 1959 |
| Joe and Paula Banco | 27 years | November 25, 1995 |



A Bit of History

Several weeks ago, the children of Ralph and Gladys Sibley, Lynn Sibley and Keith Sibley, contributed the flowers for the altar in memory of their parents. For those of you who didn't know them, I thought I'd do a history lesson.



Dear Scholarship Committee,

Thank you so much for the generous contribution to my education, I would not be where I am today without the support of my church.

Thank you !

Sincerely,
Aubrey Martin



Gladys Sibley was one of the leaders and organizers of the needlework project. She was an instructor for those new to needlework and completed several of the cushions herself. When the women started working on the kneelers, they discovered that sometimes the white mesh of the canvas peeped through. Ralph Sibley took on the job of coloring with permanent markers all the backgrounds of each kneeler in the appropriate color. They were Sunday School teachers and superintendent, on church council, active in the women's group, filling many roles as needed. The couple were really "pillars of the church."

Bonnie Massing

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---------------------------|--|--|---|----------------------------|---|
| | | 1 7:00 AA and AA Women's discussion | 2 6:00 Parish Choir Rehearsal | 3 7:00 Happy Hour (Zoom) | 4 | 5 5:30 Liturgy of Holy Communion (with prayers for healing) |
| | | | | | | TURN CLOCKS BACK |
| 6 All Saints' Sunday, Lec 32 8:30 Parish Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Liturgy of Holy Communion 10:45 Ruth Study Group 10:45 SCS/Confirmation Classes 4:00 GACMA Prayer service prior to election 7:00 AA Big book meeting | 7 7:00 Property | 8 9:00 Flying Quilts 10:30 Staff meeting 5:15 Worship and Music 7:00 Parish Ed 7:00 AA and AA Women's | 9 6:00 Parish Choir Rehearsal | 10 5:00 Officers' Planning Mtg 6:30 Finance Committee 8:00 Happy Hour (Zoom) | 11 <i>Veteran's Day</i> | 12 5:30 Liturgy of Holy Communion (spoken) |
| 13 23rd after Pentecost, Lec 33 8:30 Parish Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Liturgy of Holy Communion 10:45 SCS/Confirmation Classes 7:00 AA Big book meeting | 14 | 15 7:00 Congregation Council 7:00 AA and AA Women's discussion | 16 6:00 Parish Choir Rehearsal | 17 7:00 NO Happy Hour (Zoom) | 18 | 19 5:30 Liturgy of Holy Communion (spoken) |
| 20 Christ the King 8:30 Parish Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Liturgy of Holy Communion 10:45 SCS/Confirmation Classes 7:00 AA Big book meeting | 21 | 22 9:00 Flying Quilts 7:00 AA and AA Women's discussion | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 5:30 Liturgy of Holy Communion (spoken) |
| | | | | <i>Thanksgiving</i> Office closed | Office closed | |
| 27 1st Sunday in Advent Year A 8:30 Parish Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Liturgy of Holy Communion 10:45 SCS/Confirmation Classes 7:00 AA Big book meeting | 28 8:30 Morning prayer | 29 8:30 Morning prayer 9:00 Flying Quilts 7:00 AA and AA Women's discussion | 30 8:30 Morning prayer 7:00 Parish Choir Rehearsal | November 2022 | | |

Christmas Poinsettias

I would like to

purchase _____ Poinsettia(s) at **\$11.50** each.

contribute \$ _____ toward decorations (greens, wreaths, swags, etc.)

contribute \$ _____ toward the ELCA "Domestic Disaster Response"



**Deadline for all orders and/or contributions is
Sunday, November 27, 2022**

Envelope #: _____ Total amount enclosed \$ _____.

To the Glory of God and in Memory (deceased) of: _____

To the Glory of God and in Honor (living) of: _____

To the Glory of God and in Celebration (event) of: _____

By: Name of Donor(s): _____

I / We wish to: _____ pick up my / our poinsettia following the liturgy on Christmas Day.

_____ have my / our poinsettia delivered to a shut-in.

If you are interested in any of the following, please call the church office. This is on a first come first served basis.

Altar flowers \$25.00 for each arrangement or a total of \$50.00 for both

Columbarium flowers \$25.00 for each arrangement or a total of \$50.00 for both.

(As with all flower arrangements, you will be billed directly by the florist.)

One large Christmas Tree Price will not be known until the tree is delivered.

One small Christmas Tree Price will not be known until the tree is delivered.

(When the amount of the tree is known, you will be notified.)

Evangelical Lutheran Church
of the Holy Trinity
One Trinity Place
Greenville, PA 16125



The Messenger is a publication of:

The Evangelical Lutheran Church
of the Holy Trinity
1 Trinity Place
Greenville, PA 16125
724-588-8870

Email address

holytrinitygreenville@verizon.net

Website:

www.holytrinitygreenvillepa.com

Staff

Pastor:

Pastor Brenda Martin

Director of Music:

Maidene Hackett

Office Administrator:

Catherine Richardson

Sexton:

Jennifer Martin

Officers of the Congregation

Vice-President:

Bob Massing

Secretary:

Linda Armstrong

Treasurer:

Tammy Daniello

Financial Secretary:

Lana Mozes

Council Members

Linda Armstrong
Mike Bradley
Tammy Daniello
Debbie Faber
Chuck Lanning
Jim Martin
Bob Massing
Matt Morgan
Bob Olson
Ed Pitcher
Barbara Swartz
Nicole Weaver

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.