

May 2024
The 10th of the Month Newsletter

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
918 Tayman Avenue
Somerset, Pennsylvania 15501

*Together in Jesus Christ our mission
is to serve faithfully,
boldly, and joyfully.*

**YOU ARE MORE
THAN WELCOME.
YOU ARE INVITED!**

**Weekly in-person Worship
with Holy Communion
on Sundays in the Sanctuary**
8:00 a.m. Spoken Liturgy
10:00 a.m. Music and Hymns

5:00 p.m. Holy Communion
in the Chapel **each** Sunday
5:45 p.m. Prayers for Healing and
Laying on of hands in the Chapel
each Sunday



DAY OF PENTECOST
May 19

HOLY TRINITY
May 26



Pastor Ruth Kocha Jensen
pastorjensen.trinity@gmail.com

Director of Music
Nicholas Carroll
carrollpiano@yahoo.com

Child Care and Learning Center
Director
Jody Jurgevic
trinitylutheranchildcare@gmail.com

Office Manager
Ann Voytish
trinluth918@verizon.net

Sexton
Douglas Fanale

Part-time Sexton
Frank Kyle

How to Contact Us:

Phone (814) 445-5446
Child Care (814) 445-5436
Pastor Cell (814) 525-5085
Church Email
trinluth918@verizon.net

Website
www.trinitysomerset.org

Facebook
www.facebook.com/trinitysomerset

MAY
2024

Volume 25, Issue 2—May 10, 2024

From the **PASTOR**

JESUS' LIFE IS ON DISPLAY IN US

On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus shared a prayerful conversation with his Father (*John 17*):

I spelled out your character in detail
to the men and women you gave me.
They know now, beyond the shadow of a doubt,
that everything you gave me is firsthand from you,
for the message you gave me, I gave them.
I pray for them.
Everything mine is yours, and yours mine,
and my life is on display in them.
For I'm no longer going to be visible in the world;
they'll continue in the world
while I return to you.
Holy Father, guard them as they pursue this life
that you conferred as a gift through me,
so they can be one heart and mind
as we are one heart and mind.

"My life is on display in them," Jesus says of the men and women who would follow him. "Holy Father, guard them as they pursue this life so they can be one heart and mind, as we are one heart and mind."

Scripture tells us that we have been formed in the image of God and adopted into the family of the living God. While we celebrate being one in Christ, often we forget that our lives display Jesus' life and expectation that we will be of one heart and mind.

Part of our problem is that we forget to look into the eyes of another and see the eyes of Jesus, our brother and deliverer, as well as the reflection of our own eyes. We all share the same mitochondrial DNA and the same four proteins that make up all living things, including plants and animals.

We are all intimately connected to one another biologically, but even more than that, we are all connected to one another because we all—every one of us—are God's children.

Jesus has given us a new command to love one another.

There are no conditions attached to this command, for example, *love one another as long as they look like, act like, and agree with us.* Moreover, the love that Jesus commands is not just some warm, fuzzy feeling we have toward others; it is truly accepting the other, even those we don't like, as our kin. We, as the Synagogue, Church, Mosque, and individuals, believers and many unbelievers, are to model something unique—a family unity even with our worst enemies.

To be sure, this is extremely difficult since we have all, to a greater or lesser degree, have grown up with the adage: *Don't get mad; get even.* Beyond that, one of our basic human responses is anger. But anger isn't really a bad emotion; the difficulty is what we do with our anger. We can certainly get angry with one another, but we don't need to destroy another's body, mind, or spirit as we passionately express our anger.

I am more and more convinced that when it comes to modeling peace, we wait for others, and especially governments, to exhibit it in our stead. The trouble is, just like trickle-down economics doesn't work, neither does trickle-down peacemaking. The great peacemakers and compassionate lovers of humanity in our world—Jesus, Mohammad, St. Francis of Assisi, Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr., Mother Theresa—all knew and lived the passionate peace and love with which God had empowered them. As many politicians suggest—it is frightening to me that I agree—'everything is local'. We must begin with those closest to us, those whom we can influence by our lives of peacemaking. With this suggestion I don't just mean we as individuals, but especially we as a congregation.

Jesus' life is on display in us!

As we grow in the faith, our ministries will be a sign of the God who brings peace into the world. It is the little things that we

are doing and will continue to do that show our community and our neighborhoods what loving one another and peacemaking are—little things like quilts for those in need, food collected for the Food Pantry, and prayers for those suffering whom we do not even know. As individuals and members of a faith community, we are Jesus' life on display in our homes, neighborhoods, community, and world.

May God continue to grant us the courage and strength to faithfully display the life and will of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ in all we say, do, and are!

Thanks be to God,
Pastor Ruth Jensen



**Introducing Trinity's
10th-of-the-Month
Monthly Newsletter!**

One of the values expressed at our March 16, 2024 Church Planning Workshop was our church newsletter. Thank you to Ann Voytish, who faithfully publishes the newsletter seasonally.

At the workshop, a commitment was made to begin publishing the newsletter monthly. In order to include news and information from our committees and church Council on a timely basis, it makes most sense to publish the newsletter on the 10th of each month. Deadlines each month will be the last day of the month (for example, May 31 deadline for articles for the June 10 newsletter).

The next step is to begin posting our monthly newsletter on our website as well as emailing a 1-page weekly update which will include worship themes and additions to the calendar.



**Doug Fanale
Announces His
Retirement
as
Trinity's Church Sexton**

After 14 years of service to Trinity, Doug Fanale has announced his retirement, effective **June 7, 2024**. A Farewell Reception will be held between the morning worship services on Sunday, June 2.

During his tenure, Doug has been instrumental in the geothermal project and its continued maintenance; the updating of classrooms, offices, and conference rooms; and the installation of a new kitchenette in the Educational Building, as well as daily cleaning and maintenance and upgrades to the Trinity facilities and grounds. His support of our Child Care ministry and its staff members has been deeply appreciated.

Applications for the position of full-time Church Sexton (40 hours/week, flexible schedule) are being received either in writing to:

**Trinity Lutheran Church
Attn: Sexton application c/o Kathy Mitchell
918 Tayman Avenue
Somerset, PA 15501**

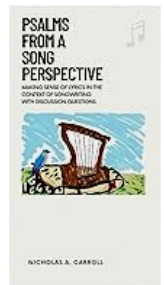
To speak with Kathy Mitchell, congregation president and chair of the Personnel Committee, call 814-279-6162.

VIEW FROM THE LOFT

Sacred Music is, well... Sacred.

I began piano lessons at the age of 6, but I didn't really like it. It took me until I was a teenager to love playing instruments. One of the things that made me come around was sitting in church year after year singing along to hymns, listening to the organ and piano, and hearing the liturgy. Eventually through experience, I realized that music is powerful and something everyone can do. Music wasn't just a performance for rock stars or praise bands with flashing stage lights. I also learned that music is most fun when everyone is sharing it. It is such a gift to children to be able to attend worship that not only teaches them about the love of God, but also that allows them to experience sacred music. When well done, sacred music not only teaches great theology, but also teaches musical skills.

I recently published a book titled, *Psalms from a Song Perspective* <insert shameless plug noting that it is available on Amazon>. In the book, I explore how being aware that the book of Psalms is made up of musical pieces and not just poems can change the way we read and understand them. From my experience people are often surprised to even be told that psalms were musical pieces, let alone to read them that way. When we read a psalm each Sunday in worship, I invite you to remind yourself of this.



In modern times we are blessed with generations and generations of hymnody, something our Lutheran heritage is particularly gifted in. A great deal of thought and effort is put into selecting music and liturgy that make our worship more fulfilling. Yet, many still think of music as "a nice extra." The fact that the Bible contains an entire book of Psalms (as well

as many other songs and references to them) and our Lutheran tradition, both beckon us to see music as more than “extra.”

Did you ever notice that Jesus sings? Matthew 26:30 tells us that Jesus and his disciples sang a hymn before the central events of Good Friday and Easter. Hebrews 2:12 instructs us that Jesus sings hymns of joy and praise when acknowledging we humans as his brothers and sisters. Romans 15:9 reminds us that songs of praise are the proper response to Christ’s acceptance of all people. Many people will recall that Jesus “cries out” from the cross quoting from Psalm 22...perhaps he was singing in anguish and not just quoting? Makes you wonder what Jesus’s singing voice was like doesn’t it? I don’t think it was trained or perfect. I think much like his appearance (Isaiah 53:2) Jesus would have had a regular voice, showing us once more that he is one of us.

I think all music is a gift from God, not just that which specifically is meant for worship or praise, but sacred music is especially powerful to us. I am continually thankful to be blessed with a congregation that sings together, has many who are willing to play handbells, and many who are willing to sing in a choir. We are already blessed by sacred music, just like we are already recipients of God’s grace. Many times, all that is lacking is our awareness. Open your ears to the birds, the winds in the trees, the barking of dogs, the scratching of little tortoise claws, etc. There are sacred sounds everywhere. Music in worship is yet one more reason to join a beloved community rather than worshipping alone.

-Nicholas Carroll
Director of Music

Thank you to all of the choir members and also the congregation for singing along on Easter.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, 2024

- ▲ Accepted John Centi’s resignation from the Endowment Fund Committee, effective April 1, 2024. Approved Peter Jacobson to replace John Centi as Council Representative to the Endowment Committee for 2024.
- ▲ Approved Mosholder Insurance for Workers Comp Ins.
- ▲ 2024 Synod Assembly Delegates are Nicholas Carroll, Jack Illar, Pete Jacobson, and Pastor Ruth Jensen.
- ▲ Pam George volunteered to be back-up secretary to record the Council Meeting minutes.
- ▲ Planned celebration of the 30th anniversary of Ann Voytish’s service to Trinity for Sunday morning, April 28.
- ▲ 2023 Parochial Report is completed.
- ▲ Council accepted with thanks John Centi’s resignation from the Council as of April 1, 2024 and pray God’s blessings on John and Sue in their new community. Approved Gretchen Knupp to finish John’s Council term.
- ▲ Approved new members to be received in February.
- ▲ Recommended that the volunteer list for Trinity’s Office be restarted to insure office coverage for the times the secretary is unavailable.
- ▲ Approved new members received in April.
- ▲ Received progress reports on installation of security system.
- ▲ Approved Pastor Ruth’s vacation and continuing education plans.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Our grateful thanks for members who have donated by designating their Thrivent Choice Dollars to Trinity. In 2023, Trinity received \$951 in Thrivent Choice Dollars grant funding which can be used for any purpose. We are thankful for your generosity and kindness.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

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HOLY BAPTISMS:

February 18, 2024 **Jace McKee**, son of Cheyann Trout and Ryan Seth McKee.

March 24, 2024 **Kocey Adams Sanner**, son of Sam and Bailey (Barron) Sanner.

MEMBERS RECEIVED BY AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM:

February 18, 2024 Melissa "Missy" Huston

February 18, 2024 Cheyann Trout

February 22, 2024 Patty Lavan

February 22, 2024 Bradley Lavan

April 14, 2024 Ruth Gilbert

April 14, 2024 Cameron Rhoads and Carissa Scekere

April 14, 2024 William "Bill" and Susie Sutara

MEMBERS RECEIVED BY LETTER OF TRANSFER:

April 14, 2024
Hubert "Butch" and Nancy Barkman and their adult daughter, Courtnie Renae Barkman from Friedens LC; Friedens, PA

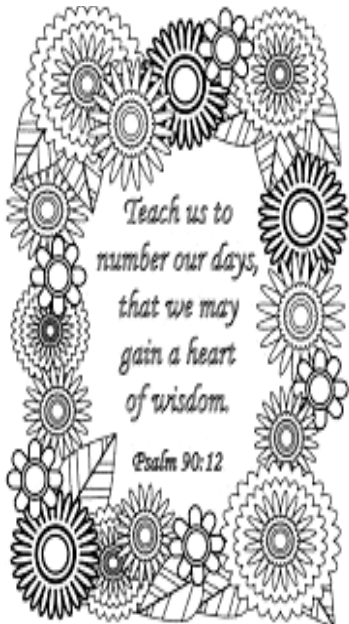
MEMBERS REMOVED BY LETTER OF TRANSFER:

February 23, 2024
John and Donna Cascio to St. Peter's LC; Lancaster, PA

MEMBERS REMOVED BY DEATH:

February 28, 2024
Patricia Ann (Mason) Woy

March 26, 2024
Anna Bertha "Bert" (Christner)



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PASTORAL ACTS/FUNERALS:

February 2, 2024 David "Buck" Griffith*

March 2, 2024 Patricia Woy Funeral

March 10, 2024 Betty Grace (Trent) Lavan*

April 6, 2024 Bert Adams Funeral

*Non-members

PASTORAL ACTS / ORDINATION:

March 7, 2024 Preacher at the Ordination Service of The Reverend Regina Holliday, former vicar at Trinity LC, Somerset



Ms. Stacey and Ms. Tonya helping the Child Care children with their Easter snack.

CHILD CARE MINISTRY NEWS



We all had fun with our season of Lent and celebrating Easter with the kids. We did lots of games, activities, crafts, and egg hunts, but more importantly we talked about the resurrection of Jesus. Ms. Stacey taught the kids all about the Easter story through a fun little snack for all the kids.

Jody Jurgevich, Director



We are all so happy that spring has sprung. If you are around during the day, you will notice kids back outside running and playing all around. We enjoy playing on the playground, the blacktop, and in the fenced area. We are eagerly awaiting for the grass to dry up so we can play in the field and take walks all around. With the fresh air, we all have a rejuvenated spirit and continue to have fun with the kids.

We are working on some fundraisers currently, so please stop by and help us out:

The first is a **car wash coupon** from Tidal Wave Auto Spa for \$10 each. Each coupon is good for a \$30 car wash at their facility on North Center Avenue.



Our next fundraiser is a ticket for **hanging baskets**. Stop in the Child Care Office to get a ticket for \$30. Take your ticket to Somerset Floral on East Main Street anytime from May 1 to 31 to pick up your floral hanging basket.

You can get these coupons and tickets by stopping by the Child Care Office during the week or call me at (814) 445-5436 for more information.

Thank you for your support of our Annual Chicken BBQ held on Friday, May 3. You benefited from a delicious meal, our child care center benefited from your generous donations.

Our **Learning Academy Graduation** will be on **Wednesday, May 29** at 4:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All are invited!

Thank you all for your continued support. We are looking forward to a summer filled with fun. If you have any questions or would like to hear more about our program, please reach out to me at (814) 445-5436 or email me at: trinitylutheranchildcare@gmail.com

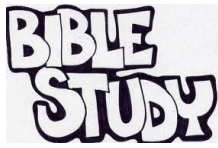
-Jody Jurgevich, Director

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL is doing a series from "The Great Courses: Revelation" taught by George Kaufman. All are invited to this each week at 8:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



TRINITY'S MEN'S GROUP meets **every Tuesday** at the Turnpike McDonald's at 9:00 a.m. All men are welcome to join us.



ADULT BIBLE STUDY led by Pastor Ruth meets every **Wednesday** at 12:30 p.m. in the Conference Room. Drop in for an introduction to the following Sunday's gospel text, provoking group discussions, and lots of off-the-wall humor! No

experience is necessary. Use your own Bible or we will provide you with one!

WORSHIP SERVICES are livestreamed on Facebook live. Trinity's Online Worship is available in real time and remains available afterwards on Trinity's Facebook page.

RED GERANIUMS AT PENTECOST (Sunday, May 19) reminds us of the fire of the Holy Spirit. You may order a geranium by placing \$4.00 per plant ordered in your offering envelope and marking it "Geraniums." The flowers will be planted on Trinity's grounds as a summer reminder that the Holy Spirit gives us power to share the Good News of the Resurrection. Order deadline is **Wednesday, May 15**. Please wear red on Pentecost Sunday if you are able.



ADULT AND CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL will finish their classes on **May 19** for the summer. Our many thanks to our amazing Sunday School teachers and helpers! We are so thankful for your talents and your willingness to volunteer.

SECURITY AT TRINITY

In the words of Bob Dylan, "The times they are a-changin'." From unwelcome visitors and active shooters to property crimes, there are numerous threats that can disrupt the peace and sanctity of houses of worship. Using a church security system is key to an ongoing, comprehensive security plan and is essential in addressing safety concerns and maintaining a safe environment for all.



After much study over the course of 9+ years, the new security system in the Educational Building has been fully installed and will be **in full operation on Monday, May 13**. Special thanks to Pete Jacobson, Jody Jurgeovich (System Administrator), and Ann Voytish for your hands-on labor.

Our intention is not to prevent church members and/or Child Care staff and parents from entering the Educational Building. Many folks have legitimate reasons to be in the building, for example: Child Care parents, Trinity members, Committee members, Church Council, Food Pantry volunteers, those attending Sunday afternoon worship in the Chapel, Sunday School staff and students, and church employees. The goal is to eliminate the use of outside keys for the Educational Building and keep everyone safe.

People who frequently need access to Trinity's Educational Building will receive or already have received a 4-digit pin code to access the building via the **center doors**.

1. Type in your code on the keypad next to the door.
2. Listen for the beep.
3. Watch the red line on the keypad turn green.
4. Pull the left door handle to open the door.

It is not necessary to depress the lock on door handle.

5. When you enter the building, the door will automatically close and lock behind you.

Throughout the week, the “Child Care” door nearest the Chapel will be permanently locked. The “Playground” door will also be permanently locked except on Wednesday mornings when Food Pantry clients are picking up food.

On Sundays, the “Middle or Center” door and “Child Care/Chapel” door will be unlocked from 8:15 to 10:15 a.m. for Sunday School, confirmation students, parents, and teachers. The “Child Care/Chapel” door will be unlocked 4:15 to 6:15 p.m. on Sundays to accommodate folks attending Worship at 5:00 p.m. and the 5:45 p.m. healing service.

To register and activate your 4-digit security pin code, please contact Ann in the church office if you haven’t done so yet. Together, the staff will be troubleshooting any issues when the security system is first activated on Monday, May 13.

Call Pete Jacobson (814) 443-3987 or Pastor Ruth Jensen (814) 525-5085 if you have any questions.

ANY MEMBERS OR GROUPS wanting to use Trinity’s facilities or Pavilion should call the church office (445-5446) to schedule the date and time for the year, even if you have used it for the same date/event in the past. Often we have multiple requests for the same date, especially the Pavilion.



Happy Mother's Day

May 12, 2024

D.U.O. is



Thursday, May 23, 2024
(“Do unto others” Conference)

9:00 a.m. to noon with lunch following and breakout sessions in the afternoon. Hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church in the Fellowship Hall. **If you can help brown hamburger for sloppy joes, serve, or clean up the meals, call Ann at Trinity’s Office (445-5446).**

S.A.M. (Somerset Area Ministries) invites clergy, service organizations, non-profits, businesses working with disadvantaged populations, and individuals focused on helping people in our region to a seminar with panels focused on:

- 9:00 a.m. The Church as a Resource and Help
- 9:30 a.m. Baby/Child Care • Single Parents Resources • Foster Care • Resources in School
- 10:00 a.m. Food Access
- 10:30 a.m. Behavioral Health • Recovery • Medical Care • Senior Care
- 11:00 a.m. Transportation and Housing
- 11:30 a.m. Hospice • End of Life • Funeral Planning

Questions, please reach out to event coordinator:

Rev. Regina Holliday

Horner Lutheran Church, Stoystown

Call or text (202) 441-9664 or email reggieart123@yahoo.com

There will be 5 dinners (see below for the dates)
in the Pavilion
Supper at 6:00 p.m. and Worship at 6:30 p.m.

Phone _____

DATE	SET UP/ DRINKS	CLEAN UP	COOK THE MEAL	I WILL BRING
June 12				
June 26				
July 10				
July 24				
August 14				







TRINITY WILL HONOR ITS GRADUATES on Sunday, June 2 during 10:00 a.m. worship. Please inform Trinity's Office by calling 445-5446 (or by filling out the form below) with the names of those in your family graduating from high school, college, technical school, or graduate school **by noon on Tuesday, May 28** so that they may be acknowledged in the bulletin.



Home Phone # _____



TRINITY'S OFFICE AND CHILD CARE WILL BE CLOSED
on **Monday, May 27** for the holiday.

Preparing Our Hearts and Minds for Worship	
May 5: 6th Sunday of Easter 	Acts 10:44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5:1-6 John 15:9-17 Christ the friend and lover
May 12: 7th Sunday of Easter 	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Psalm 1 1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19 Christ's prayer for his disciples
May 19: Day of Pentecost 	Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104 Romans 8:22-27 John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15 Christ sends the Spirit of truth
May 26: Holy Trinity 	Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 29 Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17 Entering the reign of God through water and the Spirit
June 2: 2nd Sunday after Pentecost 	Deuteronomy 5:12-15 Psalm 81 2 Corinthians 4:5-12 Mark 2:23—3:6 Doing the work of God on the sabbath
June 9 : 3rd Sunday after Pentecost 	Genesis 3:8-15 Psalm 130 2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1 Mark 3:20-35 Doing the work of God as brothers and sisters of Christ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
			1 8:00a FP (Conference Room) 12:30p Bible (Conference Room)
5 6 th Sunday of Easter 8:00a Worship W/ Communion (Sanctuary) 8:45a SS (EB/FH) 10:00a Worship W/ Communion (Sanctuary) 11:15a TLC Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 11:30a Wittenberg Bells (Choir Loft) 5:00p Chpl Worship Service W/ Communion/ Healing 5:45p	6	7 9:00a Men's Group (McDonald's Turnpike)	8 8:00a FP (Conference Room) 12:30p Bible (Conference Room)
12 Mother's Day 7 th Sunday of Easter 8:00a Worship W/ Communion (Sanctuary) 8:45a SS (EB/FH) 10:00a Worship W/ Communion (Sanctuary) 11:15a TLC Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 11:30a Wittenberg Bells (Choir Loft) 5:00p Chpl Worship Service W/ Communion/ Healing 5:45p	13 6:00p Property Committee (Conference Room)	14 9:00a Men's Group (McDonald's Turnpike) 5:00p Child Care Parents/Finance Meeting (Fellowship Hall)	15 Deadline 8:00a FP (Conference Room) 12:30p Bible (Conference Room)
19 Pentecost 8:00a Worship W/ Communion (Sanctuary) 8:45a SS/Last Day for Youth and Adults (EB/FH) 10:00a Worship W/ Communion (Sanctuary) 11:15a TLC Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 11:30a Wittenberg Bells (Choir Loft) 5:00p Chpl Worship Service W/ Communion/ Healing 5:45p	20	21 9:00a Men's Group (McDonald's Turnpike)	22 8:00a FP (Conference Room) 12:30p Bible (Conference Room)
26 The Holy Trinity 8:00a Worship W/ Communion (Sanctuary) 10:00a Worship W/ Communion (Sanctuary) 5:00p Chpl Worship Service W/ Communion/ Healing 5:45p	27 Memorial Day No School Office and Child Care Closed	28 9:00a Men's Group (McDonald's Turnpike)	29 8:00a FP (Conference Room) 12:30p Bible (Conference Room) 4:00p Child Care Academy Grad (Fellowship Hall) 6:30p Welcome Members and Hall

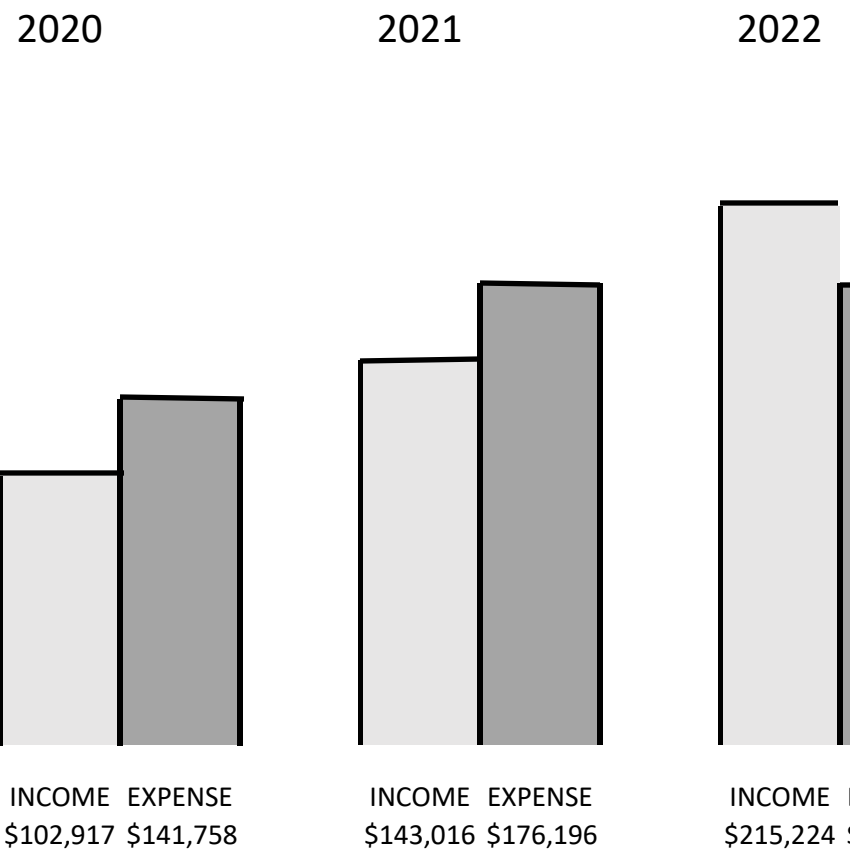
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Conference Study Room)	2 10:30a Child Care (Chapel) 4:30p Personnel Committee (Conference Room)	3 2:30p Child Care Fundraiser Chicken BBQ/\$10 Meal/\$8 1/2 Chicken (Portico) 4:45p Camp Sequanota Spring Benefit Dinner (Camp Sequanota)	4
(Conference Study Room)	9 10:30a Child Care (Chapel) 11:30a Book Group/Bring Your Lunch (Conference Room) 1:00p Worship Committee (Conference Room)\	10	11
e: Geraniums Conference Study Room)	16 10:30a Child Care (Chapel) 6:00p Finance Committee (Conference Room)	17	18
P (Conference Study Room)	23 9:00a SAM 'DUO' Event/Breakfast/Lunch Fellowship Hall 10:30a Child Care (Chapel) 6:00p Council (Fellowship Hall)	24 No School	25
P (Conference Study Room) Care Learning Graduation Hall) me Gathering for New Council (Fellowship	30 10:30a Child Care (Chapel)	31 Last Day of School	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
2 2nd Sunday after Pentecost 8:00a Worship W/ Communion (Sanctuary) 8:45a Farewell Reception for Doug Fanale (Fellowship Hall) 10:00a Worship W/ Communion/Honor Grads (Sanctuary) 5:00p Chpl Worship Service W/Communion/Healing 5:45p	3	4 9:00a Men's Group (McDonald's Turnpike)	5 8:00a FP (Conf 1:00p Bible Stu (Conference Ro
9 3rd Sunday after Pentecost 8:00a Worship W/ Communion (Sanctuary) 10:00a Worship W/ Communion (Sanctuary) 1:30p Nicholas Carroll Piano Studio Recital (Sanctuary) 5:00p Chpl Worship Service W/ Communion/Healing 5:45p	10 6:00p Property Committee (Conference Room)	11 9:00a Men's Group (McDonald's Turnpike)	12 8:00a FP (Conf 1:00p Bible Stu (Conference Ro 6:00p Summer Church/Dinner Worship 6:30pm (Pavilion)
16 Father's Day 4th Sunday after Pentecost 8:00a Worship W/ Communion (Sanctuary) 10:00a Worship W/ Communion (Sanctuary) 5:00p Chpl Worship Service W/Communion/Healing 5:45p	17	18 9:00a Men's Group (McDonald's Turnpike)	19 8:00a FP (Conf 1:00p Bible Stu (Conference Ro 6:30-8:00p Trin Faith Explorers- Fellowship Hall
23 5th Sunday after Pentecost 8:00a Worship W/ Communion (Sanctuary) 10:00a Worship W/ Communion (Sanctuary) 5:00p Chpl Worship Service W/Communion/Healing 5:45p	24	25 9:00a Men's Group (McDonald's Turnpike)	26 8:00a FP (Conf 1:00p Bible Stu (Conference Ro 6:00p Summer Church/Dinner Worship 6:30pm (Pavilion)
30 6th Sunday after Pentecost 8:00a Worship 10:00a Worship 5:00p Worship/Healing 5:45p			

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1
Room) dy om)	6 10:30a Child Care (Chapel)	7 Doug Fanale's Last Day	8
Room) dy om) Supper 6pm/ n	13 10:30a Child Care (Chapel) 11:30a Book Group/ (Conference Room) 1:00p Worship Commit- tee (Conference Room)	14 6:00p Synod Assembly Worship (Zion, Holidaysburg)	15 8:30a Synod Assembly (Blair County Convention Center)
Room) dy om) ity Youth	20 10:30a Child Care (Chapel) 6:00p Finance Commit- tee (Conference Room)	21	22
Room) dy om) Supper 6pm/ n	27 10:30a Child Care (Chapel) 6:00p Council (Fellowship Hall)	28	29

RECAP OF GIVING & EXP

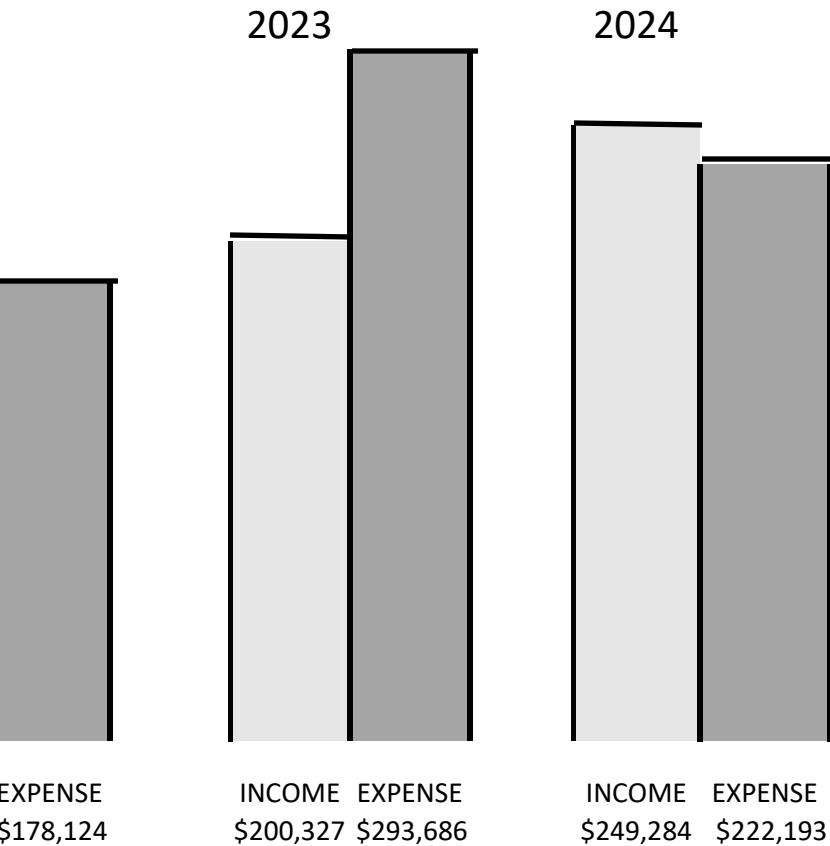
PAST 5-YEAR 1ST QUARTER



2024 is the first time recently we have ended the first quarter in a positive position but that was a result of covid grants given at the beginning of the year. The result of stronger member giving and a strong improvement in the Church. With growing weekly attendance, stronger member giving, and Child Care we are positioned to make 2024 one of our best years ever.

EXPENSES 2020-2024

PER COMPARISON



ve position income to expense. 2022 showed
 nning of the year. 2024's improvement is
 hild Care running much closer to breakeven.
 e rates that are comparable to payroll costs,

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS to Kelsey and Andrew Pletcher on the birth of their son, Colson Drew Pletcher on Friday, May 3. He was 8 pounds, 10 ounces. He is joined by his sister, Teagan. Proud grandparents are Amy and Gary Weimer and great-grandparent, Dick Adams.



TRINITY WILL ACTIVATE the new security system on the center doors of the Educational Building on **Monday, May 13**. In order to enter the building, you will need to have a 4-digit pin pad code or ring the bell at the center doors to have the door unlocked for you. Call Trinity's Office (445-5446) if you need a code. We encourage all members and approved non-members to enter Trinity's secure and safe environment.

WELCOME GATHERING for new members from this year, last year, and potential new members not received yet will meet in the Fellowship Hall for dessert on **Wednesday, May 29** at 6:30 p.m. to meet and greet each other. Council members and committee leaders are invited to attend.

CAMP SEQUANOTA EVENTS

SPRING WORK DAY

Saturday May 11, 2024

9:00 a.m.—Main Camp Dining Hall

Cost: Free and includes lunch

Grab your work gloves and a sturdy pair of shoes to help prepare camp for the upcoming season. Contact the Camp Office (814) 629-6627 for more information or to let us know how many volunteers to expect.

CAMP SEQUANOTA (CONT'D)

MOTHER'S DAY BANQUET

Sunday, May 12, 2024

2 Seatings: 11:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.

Reservations required

Cost: Freewill donation

This tradition has been happening for over 15 years at Camp. We all want to go out and celebrate together, but the restaurants' wait lines can be long. Bring your mom and your whole family to Camp. We have two seatings at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. We can handle big and small families. Call for a reservation, and your table will be waiting for you. Afterwards go for a hike or sit around and enjoy the day under a shade tree telling stories. RSVP: (814) 629-6627

THE TEND FESTIVAL

(Formerly the Well Festival)

June 20-23, 2024

Where are you filling up your faith as the church begins to shift to live in our new post-Christian culture. God's people still need a place to be inspired and grow in our faith. It is hard to do weekly Sunday School or Bible Study. Come to the Tend Festival to share in intentional time of faith discussions, good music, art, worship, ecology, and fellowship. We all still need community support and nurture, and this event has been a great way to find that community. This event will have an open schedule allowing participants the freedom to pick what is right for them. It will include options for multiple workshops, open recreation, hiking, food, and time to refresh yourself and the family. More information about the event and workshop topics can be seen at Sequanota.com.

CONGRATULATIONS!

TRINITY MEMBERS HAVING SIGNIFICANT BIRTHDAYS (80 YEARS AND OLDER)

Judy Trent—May 14

Jack Hess—May 21

Luther Shaulis, Jr.—May 21

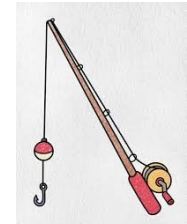
I. Richard Adams—May 22

Kenneth Walker—May 30

Janet Morocco—June 28

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

JUNE 16, 2024



BIRTHDAYS IN MAY



- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Rebecca Mitchell | |
| 2 Martin Siemon III | |
| 4 Brandon Rhodes | 20 John Minnich |
| 7 Trisha Miller | 21 Barbara Coonahan |
| Jonathan Walter | Jack Hess |
| Butch Barkman | Danielle Lloyd |
| 9 Valerie Kleinert | Luther Shaulis, Jr. |
| 11 Shelby Bailey | Brooke Spangler |
| Jack Emswiler | 22 I. Richard Adams |
| Claire Zufall | 23 Robert D. Christner |
| 12 Nancy Webb | John Harvey |
| 13 Donna Jacobson | 25 Maddox Lehman |
| 14 Judy Trent | 26 Robert P. Harrold |
| 15 Aaliyah Leslie | 27 Anthony Sanner |
| 17 Stacy Gibson | 30 Robert Weimer |
| 18 Douglas Shaffer | Kenneth Walker |
| Ryan Spangler | 31 Ty Trent |
| 19 Jaxson Pizer | Nicholas Anderson |



JUNE BIRTHDAYS



- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 1 Ava Fanale | |
| 2 Janet Fetterolf | |
| Scott Lloyd | |
| 4 William Peck | |
| 5 Bruce Rhodes | |
| Coen Fetterolf | |
| Charlotte Zellem | |
| 9 Evan Walter | |
| 11 Evan Fetterolf | |
| Zeke Pizer | |
| Kathy Mitchell | |
| 13 Samantha Hause | |
| 14 Diane Wagner | |
| Andrea Crawford | |
| Nathan Weimer | |
| 15 Emily Barnes | |
| 17 Pamela Croyle | |
| 18 John Centi | |
| 20 Madelyn Mitchell | |
| Avery Appleby | |
| 21 Judy Greig | |
| Jonathan Jacobs | |

- | |
|-------------------|
| 24 Ian Fetterolf |
| 25 Maggie Baker |
| 28 Taylor Demchak |
| Alyssa Morocco |
| Janet Morocco |
| 30 Kathy Johnson |



STAFF NEWS

MY DEEPEST APPRECIATION AND THANKS to all of my Trinity family and family who attended my reception celebrating 30 years working at Trinity on Sunday, April 28. Thank you to all of the Committee who arranged for food and even games for the kids to play including Pam George, Sandy Harvey, Donna Jacobson, Becky Minnich, Becky Mitchell, and Kathy Mitchell. Thank you to Pastor Ruth and those attending for your kind words.

The huge card signed by many was a treasure as well as a beautiful keychain which reads:

Happy 30 Years Work Anniversary
May you be **Proud of** the work you do
the person you are and the
Difference you make

Because of all of you, it makes my job here so much better and is why I have not retired! I was very humbled by your kindness and thoughtfulness.

--Ann Voytish, Office Manager



IT IS WITH GREAT SADNESS that Trinity announces the retirement of Doug Fanale as our full-time Sexton. He and his wife, Carla, want to travel while their health is still good. Doug's last day will be **Friday, June 7**. He will be missed!

If you know of anyone interested in a cleaning/maintenance/snow shoveling position, have them call Kathy Mitchell, congregation president/Personnel Chairperson at 814-279-6162.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



What Is Stephen Ministry?

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2, NRSV).

Stephen Ministry offers a proven and effective way to organize, equip, and supervise a team of congregation members—called *Stephen Ministers*—to provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties.

Who's Involved in Stephen Ministry?

STEPHEN LEADERS are pastors and lay leaders trained to provide ongoing leadership for their congregation's Stephen Ministry. They are equipped for this key role through the Bridge Leader's Training Course offered by Stephen Ministries St. Louis.

STEPHEN MINISTERS are congregation members trained by their Stephen Leaders to offer care to people who are hurting. A Stephen Minister typically has one care receiver at a time and meets with that person once a week for about an hour.

CARE RECEIVERS are individuals in the congregation or community who are going through a crisis or life difficulty. Potential care receivers first meet with a pastor or Stephen Leader, who assesses their needs for care and matches them with a Stephen Minister. The caring relationship lasts for as long as the need persists.

What are the Blessings of Stephen Ministry?

Stephen Ministry multiplies blessings throughout the church and community.

Congregations carry out Christ's commandment to "*Love one another as I have loved you*" (John 15:12 RSV) in a powerful and practical way.

Pastors have a team of gifted, trained, and committed lay caregivers ready to minister to hurting people.

Laypeople nurture and use their gifts in meaningful ministry, growing spiritually as they serve others.

People who are hurting have a caring Christian presence to provide emotional and spiritual support.

In short, Stephen Ministry helps carry out the mission of the church.

Stephen Ministry Is Coming to Trinity!

At their April 2022 meeting, the Church Council of Trinity Lutheran Church voted unanimously to grant permission as well as provide start-up funds for initiating the Stephen Ministry Program as part of our ongoing ministry.

The program will be coordinated by a 3-person leadership team including Pastor Ruth and two laypersons. The first step is for the coordinating team to complete training which will be provided by Stephen Ministry.

Once this happens, the leadership team will recruit and train Stephen Ministers – laypeople from our church who will provide one-to-one care (averaging one hour per week). Our Stephen Ministers will be carefully selected, well equipped, supported, and supervised within our congregation to provide that ongoing care. They will be trained in essential caregiving topics like:

- Active listening
- Confidentiality
- Crisis theory and practice
- Maintaining Boundaries
- Ministering during specific types of crises
- and more

Then, our Stephen Ministry leadership team will match our Stephen Ministers with people who need care in our church and the wider community.

Does this mean that Pastor Ruth will no longer provide pastoral care and counseling for those in need? **Absolutely not!** Pastor will always be available and willing to meet with any person(s) in need of pastoral care. This **does** mean that through caring conversations and an ongoing commitment to meet together, Stephen Ministers can provide additional emotional and spiritual support for as long as the need for care exists.

Please pray for this new and vital ministry venture and its leaders.



WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

at both the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Sunday morning services as well as for funerals. Having ushers and a sound technician at the 8:00 a.m. service will be something, but definitely needed.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration to this opportunity to serve the Lord by extending worship hospitality and managing the sound board so that all can hear and understand what is being proclaimed.

8:00 a.m. **Ushers** (1-2 ushers/service)
 Lectors (1 lector/service)
 Sound Technicians (1 sound technician/service)
 Acolytes (1-2 acolytes/service)

10:00 a.m. **Lectors** (1 lector/service)
 Acolytes (1-2 acolytes/service)

Funerals **Ushers** (2 ushers/service)
 Sound Technicians (1 sound technician/service)

If you can help, please call to schedule with:

Becky Mitchell for Lectors (814) 279-2926

John Minnich for Ushers and Sound Technicians (814) 445-7660 who will provide training

Pastor Ruth Jensen for Acolytes (814) 525-5085 who will provide training

What's Going On for our Children and Youth this Summer?

Wednesday, June 19	Trinity Youth Faith Explorers 6:30—8:00 p.m. W*O*W!! Grades K-5 and Grades 6-9 Scripture, Games, Projects, Food ... Fun!
June 20-June 23	Sequanota Cabin Camp 4-day week Grades K-6 Grades 6-12
June 23-June 28	Sequanota Cabin Camp 5-day week Grades K-6 Grades 6-12
June 30-July 3	Sequanota Cabin Camp 4-day week Grades K-6 Grades 6-9
Wednesday, July 3	Trinity Youth Faith Explorers 6:30—8:00 p.m. So FUN!!! Grades K-5 and Grades 6-9 Scripture, Games, Projects, Food ... Fun!
Wednesday, July 17	Trinity Youth Faith Explorers 6:30—8:00 p.m. CRAZY!! Grades K-5 and Grades 6-9 Scripture, Games, Projects, Food ... Fun!
Wednesday, July 31	Trinity Youth Faith Explorers 6:30—8:00 p.m. This is US!! Grades K-5 and Grades 6-9 Scripture, Games, Projects, Food ... Fun!
July 28-August 2	Sequanota Cabin Camp 6-day week Grades K-6 Grades 6-12
August 5-August 9	Sacred Art Camp at Trinity 9 a.m.—Noon YES!!! Those entering K-Grade 8



Welcome, New Members of Trinity Lutheran Church

Welcome to the following new members of Trinity who
were received into membership on April 14, 2024:

Butch (Hubert) and Nancy Barkman

156 Hawthorne Lane, Somerset PA 15501

Contact Butch (c) 814-442-1156 (h) 814-267-4807

Nancy (c) 814-442-7210 (h) 814-267-4807

Birthdays Butch 05/07/1944 Nancy 07/23/1947

Courtne Renae Barkman

Contact Winona, Missouri c/o Butch & Nancy Barkman

Birthday 04/16/1989

Ruth Gilbert

147 Valley View Drive, Somerset, PA 15501

Phone (c) 814-233-0544 (h) 814-443-4757

Email ruthgilbert_50@hotmail.com

Birthday 10/07/1952

Patty Lavan

2832 Glades Pike, Somerset PA 15501

Contact (c) 814-442-2537 (h) 814-445-2537

Email lavanshouse@aol.com

Birthday 02/28/1961

Bradley Lavan

2832 Glades Pike, Somerset PA 15501

Contact (c) 814-233-2905 (h) 814-445-2537

Email lavanshouse@aol.com

Birthday 04/10/1993

continued on next page

Cameron Rhoads and Carissa Scekeres

233 Brandywine Lane, Greensburg, PA 15601

Contact Cam 724-237-2542; camrhoads10@gmail.com
 Carissa 724-493-7226; Jetercarissa2@gmail.com

Birthdays Cam 02/04/1999
 Carissa 11/02/1999

Wedding 08/31/2024 at Trinity

Bill (William) and Susie Sutara

131 Brent Lane, Somerset, PA 15501

Contact Bill (c) 828-279-3612
 Susie (c) 828-279-4334

Email ws.sutara@live.com

Birthdays Bill 11/27/1966
 Susie 2/21/1970



All Members who have joined Trinity within the last two years
 along with church Council members and committee representatives
 are invited to an informal

GET TOGETHER**on****Wednesday, May 29****6:30 to 8:00 p.m.****in the****Fellowship Hall**

Enjoy a dessert buffet, get to know other Trinity members,
 take a tour, find out more about the life of the congregation
 and the ministry we share in Christ Jesus.

This is an informal, kid-friendly event!

Our church Council recently approved the creation of a

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND

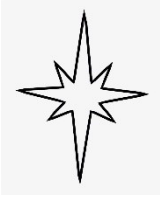
This fund will be made available to assist people in need with necessary expenses, such as: food, shelter, utilities, medical bills, and funerary needs. The balance of the fund can be shared with members of the congregation at any time upon request. Congregants and community members in need may confidentially be provided with help from this fund at the discretion of the Pastor and/or church Council.

Thank you to members of Trinity for making contributions to this account as an alternative to purchasing Easter lilies in March. The account balance is currently \$1,453.

2024 Sacred Art Camp!**Monday - Friday, August 5-8****9 am - Noon****at****Trinity Lutheran Church****Ages K - Grade 8****Registration forms will be available in June.**

FUN FACT: Did you know that the very abilities and artistic talents of Bezalel and Oholiab in the Bible are directly from God? God enables these artists to create art through the indwelling of God's Spirit!

SHINE THE LIGHT OF YOUR LIFE



In faithful response to our congregation's 2023 end-of-the-year budget deficit, the people of Trinity responded to the challenge to match an anonymous one-time gift of \$25,000 with a special congregational offering to be deposited into the general fund. The offering officially began on Epiphany (*January 6*) and concluded Ash Wednesday (*February 14*).

It was the hope that together, we would
EXPERIENCE the joy of sacrificial giving; and
SHINE the light of our lives for the sake of Jesus Christ
and his ministry in this time and place.

With joy and thanksgiving, I will reiterate the good news: our *SHINE* offerings exceeded the \$25,000 goal! **The total offering received from the congregation was \$41,300**, which after prayerful consideration, the anonymous giver matched.

Further, our weekly offerings remained consistent. In other words, *SHINE* offerings were *given in excess of regular tithes and offerings!*

THANK YOU, dear brothers and sisters in Christ, for responding to the opportunity to meet the financial needs of our congregation through regular, purposeful, and sacrificial giving! This is just one sign of a renewed sense of vision, energy, and commitment to ministry that is igniting our congregation through the power of the Spirit.

May God continue to bless, keep, and energize you as together, we SHINE the LIGHT of our LIVES – Jesus Christ our risen Savior and Lord.

Pastor Ruth Jensen



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
918 Tayman Avenue
Somerset, PA 15501
(Address Service Requested)

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Somerset, Pennsylvania
Permit No. 149

2024 EASTER

TRINITY'S NEW SECURITY WILL BEGIN ON
MONDAY, MAY 13. ALL DOORS AT TRINITY
WILL BE LOCKED. PLEASE SEE THE ARTI-
CLE ON PAGE 14 FOR FURTHER INFOR-
MATION TO ACCESS THE BUILDINGS.