

Trinity Lutheran Church

October, 2011 Newsletter

Upcoming Events

October 2nd - Harvest Fellowship Breakfast -serving from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. (free-will offering). Join us for breakfast, no dishes to do and the second cup of coffee is free!

October 8th - Italian Festival at the Lutheran Home in Moorestown. See Sandy Counsellor at 11:15 or call Joanne to sign up for the dinner.

October 23rd - NEW MEMBERS' CLASS - we will begin with lunch at 1:00 pm and end approximately 3 pm. Circle "N" on the pew card and place it in the offering plate if you are interested in becoming a member.

November 6th - All Saints' Sunday when we remember those from Trinity who died during the year.

November 13th - ANNUAL MEETING and Dinner 3:00 pm. Watch for the sign-up sheet located on the Johnson Avenue side of the church.

November 20th - Sunday School Harvest Home Meet at 12:30 pm to pack Thanksgiving baskets for the needy.

Join us!





Pastor's Page

Autostereograms are pictures created on computers, wherein a 3D image is hidden in a single 2D image, until the viewer focuses the eyes correctly. I have always struggled with autostereograms. It seems that no matter how long I stare at the picture, I can never quite get the right focus to see the 3D image embedded within. When I finally do see the embedded picture I wonder why it took me so long to see it.

In 1994 a woman bites into a grilled cheese sandwich and sees an image of the Virgin Mary staring back at her. Over the years, people have reported seeing her and her famous Son Jesus in food products, the sides of buildings, crop circles, and just about anyplace you could possibly see an image. I have seen many pictures and videos of such things for years and yet I can never see what they see. Maybe such things are like autostereograms where I am too challenged to see it. Or maybe these people have such a great desire to see God in their lives that they begin to see Him in everyday things (I have a great desire to see God, so why don't I see Him like they do?). Since I have trouble seeing these things I have been skeptical about such visions.

Over the summer various news stations reported that in Colorado a vine growing on a utility pole looked like Jesus on the cross. My eyes must have been focused that day because I immediately saw the image of Jesus on that utility pole. Although I know it was not Jesus, the picture eerily resembled that of a man on a cross wearing a crown of thorns. I clearly saw this. I have watched the video on the Internet numerous times viewing over and over again the green leafy crucifixion. Several times the wind picks up giving life to this peculiar image making it look more real. Maybe I stand alongside those seekers in John 12:20 who said to Philip, "Sir, we want to see Jesus"

As amazing as the images of the vine on the utility pole in Colorado maybe (I am the vine, you are the branches John 15:5 NRSV). I know that I am not seeing Jesus when I look at them because I have already seen Jesus in so many other places. I have seen Jesus in my parents baptizing me and enrolling me in Sunday school. I have seen Jesus in the people who taught me, and many others in Sunday school. I have seen Jesus in my confirmation teachers and youth leaders. I have seen Jesus in the pastors that I knew when I was growing up. I have seen Jesus in the people who attend church week after week giving thanks and praise to God in numerous congregations. I have seen Jesus in those who have worked in food pantries and clothing closets and crop walks and gifts to Lutheran World Relief. I have seen Jesus in choir members and prayer chains. I have seen Jesus in various fellowship groups. I have seen Jesus in altar guilds along with those who clean and maintain God's house. I have seen Jesus in those who pray for me and express their care and concern for me as a pastor and child of God. I have seen Jesus both in my study of scripture and in hearing others proclaim the Gospel.

We don't need to look for Jesus in grilled cheese sandwiches or vines. All we have to do is look around us to those who follow and serve Him to realize we have seen Him in their actions, and through our words and deeds maybe others will see Jesus in us.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Andy



What a great way to begin rehearsals for a new year! Although we had just one choir member come on Labor Day Sunday, we had 13 people come on September 11th! We welcomed two new members: Keri Halko and Alison Yurcaba.

We have already put our choir assistants: Kenna Brockway and Emilee Schipske to work. This year it was time to wash all the robes so it was necessary to be able to get old robes put away and “new” ones ready to go. Many thanks to Kenna and Emilee for doing a great job!

Because the Junior Bell Choir was not able to rehearse due to getting the bell tables recovered and ordering a new table and because we had Promotion Sunday and Installation of Sunday School teachers on Sunday, September 18th, it was decided to wait until October 16th to begin singing in church.

On October 16th we will be singing “Tell Everyone You Meet.” A peppy song, it was originally a part of Vacation Bible School several years ago.

Looking forward to this new choir year, there will be a variety of new music and perhaps some new “moves” as the year progresses.

The Junior Choir is always open to new members and everyone in grades 1-8 is welcome! Rehearsals are Sunday mornings for just 15 minutes before Sunday School begins. So come to the choir room at 9:45 and sing with us. Letters are sent home monthly with the words to our songs so Mom and Dad can help children become familiar with the words.

For the fall season Mrs. Susan Dilks will be accompanying us. Then Mr. Kraemer will once again resume his creativity on the 88 keys!

Many thanks to everyone who works together to make our schedule complete!

Love to all,
Mrs. Schmidt



"God is our loving, reliable guide for life."

What a terrific Rally Day our Sunday school classes had on September 11th! All teachers and students met in the Fellowship Hall for a big celebration with the theme *"Team Up with Jesus."* Each one received a red "Rally Towel" which we all waved for Jesus. Each class made a team poster to put in their classroom.

A fun time was had by all, teachers and students alike, especially when we received a bag of freshly made popcorn! Many thanks to Karen Cundiff, Elaine Ranck, Paul Ranck and Cindy Spino for all the planning.

We will be helping Ranch Hope as our Missionary Project, and flyers will be given to all students along with a dime folder to fill. If you wish to help, please see me.

Plans are in the making for our annual Christmas program to be held on Sunday, December 18th at the 10:00 Service.

The staff continues to do an excellent job of teaching our students about Jesus, and how they need to know Him personally. Their bulletin boards are other ways of bringing the love of Jesus to them.

Happy fall to all! Looking forward to seeing all the beautiful colors our Lord gives us each year. He is the Master Designer!

The next staff meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 4th at 7:00 p.m.

A final thought: *"Time with God is the most worthwhile time of all."*

To God be the glory,
Pat Henry



HELP!!!

Both handbell choirs need ringers. The Jr. Bells need 3 more children to have an all children handbell choir. The Sr. Bells need 2 more ringers so that Mike Steet and Jim Shisler don't have to play two positions. If interested, join us on Thursday evenings. Jrs. Meet at 6 pm and Srs. meet at 6:30 pm.

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!





YOUTH NEWS

The upcoming year looks to be an exciting and fun filled year for Trinity Youth!

We started the new school year off with an outing to the Cowtown Rodeo on Saturday, September 10th. There were 26 of us who enjoyed fellowship and the rodeo atmosphere. After the 11:15 am Service on Sunday, September 11th, lunch was enjoyed in the Fellowship Hall by those who attended and a planning meeting was held to plan the upcoming year. We also enjoyed a kick ball game in the parking lot of the church.

For the month of October, there are 4 events planned for our youth. We will again be helping with the Clothing Drive on October 1st. On October 8th, we will be helping out at the Moorestown Home Italian Festival. For those who help at this event, it will count as a Service Project. On October 16th, we are planning a bowling outing after the 11:15 am service. Watch for flyers with details of this event. We will end the month with a Halloween Party on Saturday, October 29th at 7:30 pm. After the party, we have also planned a "Lock-In". Those who chose to do this will be locked in the church overnight for fun and games. We will have snacks, games and movies along with fellowship. (And hopefully sleep!!)

One of the most exciting things planned for this year is a mural for the High School Sunday School Room! We have asked the kids to participate in planning, drawing and painting a mural for that room. We have a number of artistically talented youth who have volunteered for this project. With guidance from the advisors, we think it will be a great success for all involved.

We are also planning on going to the Youth Encounter Quake/Zone again next spring. We will have information available in the upcoming months about this event for those who are interested.

We also still have T-shirts available for \$12.00 for anyone who is interested in purchasing one.

In His Name,
Trinity Youth Ministry Team



Trinity Lutheran Church Cradle Roll

It is now October and we have started a new Sunday school year. The children who turned 5 years old by September 30th were promoted to our kindergarten class. I will now be taking down their bootie and their picture to make room for the new children who will be baptized this coming year. If you would like to have their bootie and picture, please give me a call at 856-227-6325 and I can make arrangements to return them to you.

I hope you have all taken time to stop by to see our Cradle Roll Bulletin Board, which is located by the Pre-K room. When a child is baptized, a bootie is placed on the bulletin board with their name, date of birth and date of baptism. When the children, who were baptized, have turned three years old they are sent an invitation to come to Pre-K Sunday school. A red ribbon is then added to their bootie showing they are now a Pre-K Sunday school student. Their picture is taken and put up on the Pre-K Bulletin Board, which is attached to the Cradle Roll bulletin board. All of the children whose pictures are on the Pre-K bulletin board are now attending their first Sunday school class and their pictures stays there until they are promoted to kindergarten.

Please take the time to stop by and see all the wonderful children with which we have been blessed. Remember Jesus loves the little children and so do all the Sunday school teachers.

Mary Raws
Cradle Roll



IHOC Interfaith Homeless Outreach Council

MALL WALK

Congratulations to Trinity's Youth Group for coming in first place and raising \$1,433.66 -they received sincere thanks from IHOC along with goodie bags of stuffed animals and a giant size chocolate chip cookie.

A sincere thank you to those at Trinity who supported our Youth Group during this walk.

★SAVE THE DATE★

MALL WALK SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 26, 2012

The fall season is upon us once again. It kinda feels good to get a little more structure back into our lives. Having our Sunshine meeting on September 13th was the first of many activities to begin again.

Our meeting was full of autumn leaves as decorations with fall colors for plates and napkins. Lois Lyszkiewicz and Dot Offer were the hostesses. They had carrot cake, chips and dip, candy kisses, etc., all good!

We discussed our plans to give money to the pantry this time around because the back-to-school program was a huge success and the pantry really needs extra help.

Our next meeting will be held on October 11th. Dolly Gibelyou and I will be the hostesses for our Halloween month party. Come out and join us for a ghostly good time with the ghouls.

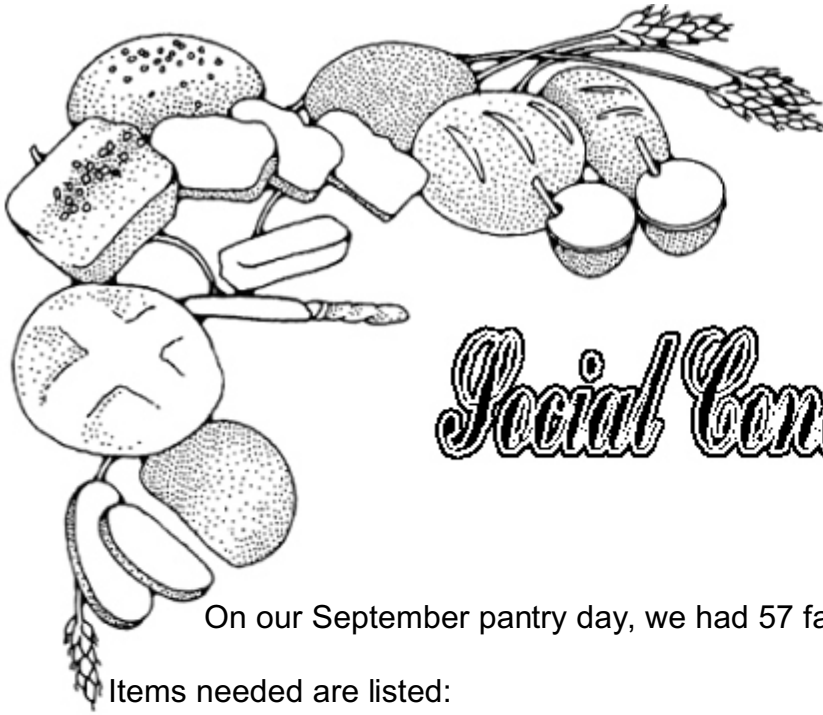
God's love at work,
Pass it on!

Linda Brown.

TIME TO STEP DOWN

Americans enjoy an abundance of freedoms. From what career we'll pursue to what we'll eat for lunch, we're constantly making decisions about what we want out of life. So it's hard to find peace when our plans go awry and our circumstances seem out of control.

A wise person suggested, "For peace of mind, resign as general manager of the universe." What if we stepped down and let God be God? He created the universe, after all. Shouldn't we trust him to run it?



Social Concerns Ministry

On our September pantry day, we had 57 families visit.

Items needed are listed:

Canned fruit, crackers, pasta & sauce, mac & cheese, soap bars, peanut butter & jelly, canned fruit & vegetables, paper towels and toilet paper.

All of your generous donations to the pantry are very much appreciated as it helps us to help those in our community who are in need.

The Clothes Closet is open on Share Sunday (the second Sunday of the month) to members of our congregation from 9:30 am - 10:00 am and from 11:00 - 11:30.

We are in particular need of mens clothing such as jeans, sweatshirts, and t-shirts. Please no suits and the clothes be clean &" gently used."

DATES TO REMEMBER

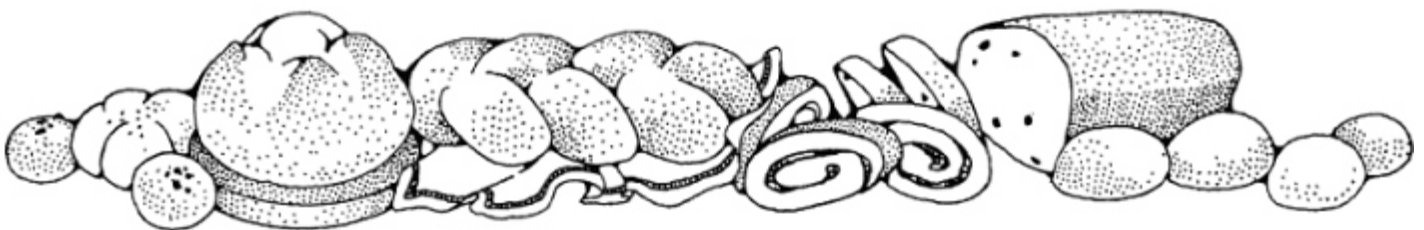
Oct. 1.....Clothing drive

Oct. 9.....Share Sunday & Social Concerns meeting

Oct. 27.....Pantry open from 9-11 am and 6-7 pm

"It's not the outlook but the up look that counts"

Caring and Sharing
Sharon Fetters





Pantry Day

Mark your calendar! The date has been set!
October 9th, 2011 is PANTRY DAY
at Trinity!

Each year with the permission of Social Concerns, it is my privilege to address the congregation to explain what a wonderful ministry we have in serving some 82 families living in the Runnemede and specific adjacent communities. Families consisting of one person to 2 or 3 adults and several children of public school age would be hard pressed to put dinner on the table at the end of the month without the Pantry, it's staff and your support.

Since 2004 we have been blessed to receive a sizable monetary gift from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans as "seed money" to help foster an annual necessary financial contribution to the work of the Pantry.

While we sincerely appreciate and really need the material food items you donate on the second Sunday of each month, designated Share Sunday, we must have significant financial donations to extend those items to include the ever increasing number of individuals in need of the basic essentials offered monthly by our Pantry. (From the time the pantry first started some 20+ years ago, the number of families coming to us has more than quadrupled!)

Won't you please pray about how much you can give in a sacrificial way to sincerely make a difference to those in need? Envelopes will be in the church bulletin three Sundays in October: 9, 16 and 23. This includes October 9th when I will explain this project in greater detail.

Thank you for your time, consideration and monetary gifts.

Pat Schmidt
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
Advocate at Trinity



Making It Better, Together.

We would like to thank the Camden County Freeholders for presenting Pastor Andy, Pat Henry and our Social Concerns Ministry with a Proclamation and a check for \$100.00 as recognition for the outstanding job the pantry does in providing food for needy families in Runnemede, Bellmawr, Glendora and Barrington.

The presentation was made on September 15th during a Freeholder Board Meeting at the Harry Williams Building in Runnemede. The presentation was made by Freeholder Director Cappelli along with Mayor Sis Kalvaitis.



Lutheran Care at Moorestown



The first meeting of the Lutheran Home Auxiliary for the 2011-12 year was held on Thursday, September 8th at 11:00 am. Everyone brought a dish to share.

The Italian Festival will be held on Saturday, October 8th, with three seatings at 4, 5 and 6 pm. The menu will be spaghetti and meatballs, salad, Italian bread and homemade desserts. The cost is \$15 for adults and \$6 for children 12 and under. Anyone interested in attending may purchase

tickets from Sandy Counsellor or sign up with Joanne at the church office. Our wonderful youth group will be helping to serve. They always do a great job!

Needed are: small stuffed animals for birthday bags, birthday, get well and sympathy cards, nail polish remover and cotton balls. Needed for bingo: nickels, dimes, small packages of cookies and peanut butter crackers.

Saturday, October 8th - Italian Festival in the Lutheran Home Social Hall, 4, 5 and 6 pm.

Thursday, October 13th - Auxiliary Meeting, 10:00 am.

Tuesday, October 25th - Residents Birthday Luncheon, 12:15 pm.

Thursday, October 27th - Art Exhibit in Social Hall

Monday, October 31st - Residents Halloween Party, 2:00 pm.

Thursday, November 10th - Auxiliary Meeting, 10 am with a Volunteer Luncheon following at noon.

Please call or contact me if you would be interested in helping out with any of the activities at the Home on occasions or on a regular basis. Any and all help is always appreciated. You and the Home and residents will all come away blessed!

Hope you too, are enjoying the fall days.

In Christ,
Sandy Counsellor
856-939-4411



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Welcome back to our Prayer Shawl Ministry. After a short break for summer, we are here again raring to go! Some of us just took a breather while others just knitted and crocheted their way into our fall meeting. Even though we see each other in church or around town, it was great to be together. We all have the same goal -- to help the Lord with His ministry by supplying our shawls and blankets for the good of others in need. Pastor Andy is our go-between. He delivers our product and passes along his own blessings at the same time. JoAnn, our church secretary, also plays a part by being available to our needs. We are all blessed to be a part of this ministry. Thanks be to God!

Our September 2nd meeting began at 10:10 am with the Lord's Prayer. In attendance were Elaine Alspach, Barbara Anconetani, Beverly Bethany, Val Colasuonno, Cathy Hornibrook, Dolores Keller, Carolyn Lunn, Helen (Sis) McGarvey, Sally Miller and Mary Raws. We received 1 baptismal blanket and 9 shawls. Members donated 14 more shawls over the summer to another charity and a relative. Outstanding accomplishments over a long hot and wet summer. Our hearts are full and our spirit of giving is glowing.

A most welcome visitor, Pastor Andy was present with words of praise to thank us for our work. He noted we have 5 baptisms on the calendar for October. Since our supply is getting low, we have to get busy and make a few more. Members had the opportunity to ask Pastor questions and bring ourselves up to date on some items. We did ask for a closet for our PSM storage. For the time being, that is on the request list.

Corresponding Secretary Barbara Anconetani read the following thank you received from Leslie Santo on the death of her father. She has made and donated some no-sew blankets to us: "Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer shawl. I was so touched that you and the women at church would think of me. It really does help to be surrounded by prayers and love at this difficult time. I am sure Dad is sailing from above, Love Leslie."

Our Baptismal Historian Mary Raws brought us up to date on the latest baptisms. They are always listed in our Sunday Bulletin.

Someone brought to our attention that JoAnn's Fabrics Store was currently having a sale on fleece (used for the no-sew blankets). 50% off.

Sally Miller read our closing blessing which was very significant to all.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:59 am.

We do want to remind you that everyone is welcome to attend our meetings. If you have questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to call Carol at 856-939-0434. If you do not wish to attend, but would like to make shawls, just call and we can pick them up. God Bless Everyone.

Our next meeting is the first Friday of October, the 7th, at 10:00 am. We hope to see you there.

"Until We Meet Again, May God Hold You in the Palm of His Hand."

Carolyn Lunn
President