

REPORT TO CHURCH COUNCIL
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
RE: TRINITY, SOUTH HARRISBURG RELATIONSHIP
SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

Since May 17, 2009, the staff of Trinity LC, Camp Hill has been providing pastoral services and care for Trinity Lutheran Church of South Harrisburg under a one year contract. Located on the corner of 18th and Rolleston Sts., this small congregation of 43 members is using this year to work with Pastor David Fisher, Assistant to the Bishop of our Synod in discerning their future.

Trinity's staff has been providing leadership at their Sunday, 9:00 a.m. worship services. Preachers have been Pastors Brock, Easton and Edmiston, AIM Judy Collins, and Seminarian Cheryl Korte. From September thru November, preachers will be Pastors Brock, Easton, Edmiston, David Fisher, Thomas Kraus, and Seminarian Cheryl Korte. Pastor Kraus has provided supply services for Trinity over the past year when their former Pastor Evelan was in ill health and unable to serve. I am grateful for his willingness to help us when an ordained Pastor is needed to conduct communion services and none of our Pastors is available.

In addition to Sundays, I have visited their five homebound members twice and have conducted one funeral. There have been no members in the hospital during this period.

On November 8th, Pastor David Fisher will be leading their worship and will then meet with their council and others in the congregation to begin the process of deliberate discernment.

One of the interesting realities for Trinity, SH is having an African-American congregation renting their building for Sunday services. Their Pastor and his family have regularly worshipped with Trinity on Communion Sundays. This congregation may figure significantly in future decisions about Trinity, SH.

It is also interesting that several members of Trinity, SH have worshipped with us during the recent months. We will also be inviting them to share in our activities here in Camp Hill such as our concert series, Advent and Lenten mid-week educational opportunities, etc.

Compensation for pastoral services and care is provided by Trinity, SH through the contract agreed upon figure of \$15,000. A monthly check is sent to our congregation by their treasurer.

Members of Trinity, SH have repeatedly expressed their appreciation to our congregation for the care they are receiving. I have also repeatedly stated that with our upcoming period of transition in pastoral leadership, it is probably best to assume that the one year contract will be the extent of our ability to provide pastoral care. If they are near to a decision in the Spring, we can consider whether to extend our services for a longer time. I will keep you informed as time progresses. Please keep our staff and Trinity, SH in your prayers

Guy Edmiston, Coordinating Pastor