

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
The Rev. Nancy R. Easton
Assistant Pastor's Report
October 1-31, 2009

Sunday a.m. services:		Thursday services:	2
Preach/Preside:	2	Saturday services:	1
Preach:	1	Baptisms:	1
Preside:	1	On-Call weekends:	1

In addition to my worship leadership noted above, I preached/presided at a worship service for male inmates at Dauphin County Prison. Such experiences are personally and professionally rewarding. The prisoners are grateful and hungry for the Good News. Vicar Holdcraft received clearance and was able to join us in worship. I've worked with Roberta Smith to line up six dates in 2010 when we will lead worship at DCP. I'm hoping Vicar Tom will attend again, and possibly preach.

This month I created a new liturgy for the 10:45 service to be used in the last days of the Pentecost season. There are solid resources out there which provide ideas for confession, Eucharistic prayer, post-communion prayer, and benediction—or at least a framework from which I can create our own. The worshipers at 10:45 appreciate fresh wording in contemporary language. In addition, I developed our Midweek Advent service theme. It revolves around the Advent hymn (and familiar carol) *Joy to the World*.

On two Sundays I led the Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) class in a study and discussion about God, with emphasis on the 1st article of the Apostles' Creed, monotheism, and the 10 Commandments. The participation was great, particularly in the small group time provided.

A number of members needed special care this month. I had significant pastoral conversation with 30 Trinity folk. Also, it was a joy once again to receive new disciples into our fold, as well as celebrate with them at a potluck on October 25.

Meeting Pastor Glenn Ludwig, our interim Senior Pastor, was a delight. I look forward to his maintaining the pastoral collegiality, cooperation, and communication we presently experience here with Pastor Hardy. Pastor Ludwig's presence does much to alleviate anxiety in the transition time of the call process.

The council has recommended we implement an additional contemporary service in Fellowship Hall. I've had helpful conversation with Worship chair Jeff Weaver and Becky Enney (chair of the task force assigned this charge by Worship). It seems we are always moving forward with creativity and energy, striving to find new ways to speak Jesus Christ in this place. What a great congregation to be part of!

I volunteer on Mondays, tutoring young children at Foose Elementary in Harrisburg. While tutoring is not part of my job description as pastor, it is a way for me, Nancy Easton, to serve in the wider community. I am grateful my part-time status makes it possible for me to do such things. As well, in October I needed to tend to my sick children, help my youngest child through oral surgery, and assist my mother in caring for my father following his surgery. A month full of ministry indeed!

In Christ's Service,
Nancy R. Easton