

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
The Rev. Nancy R. Easton
Assistant Pastor's Report
November 1-30, 2009

Sunday a.m. services:	Thursday services:	2
Preach/Preside: 3	Healing services:	1
Preside only: 1		

In addition, I preached and presided on All Saints Sunday (November 1) at Trinity Lutheran Church, Harrisburg. The 15 worshipers in attendance were grateful for the word and meal offered. It is interesting to lead worship in such a small venue, but it hearkens back to my internship when I worked with two tiny churches.

Much of November was spent preparing for the Advent and Christmas seasons. I completed work on the Midweek Advent service liturgy. Debbie Wilson and I selected music for the 10:45 service through Christmas. I prepared a liturgy to be used throughout Advent, with different Eucharistic prayers and Advent candle prayers each Sunday. I contacted various individuals and families to participate in our Advent candlelighting. (That has become a meaningful “tradition” at the contemporary service!) Finally, I worked with Barb Kriebel to prepare our Advent wreath for its use at both the 10:45 and Saturday (5:30) services. Using oil-filled candles means making certain there is enough oil to last through both services each week.

I continue to consider additional technological capabilities to use at the 10:45. We have not even scratched the surface of what is possible, and what could enhance our worship time and our worship space. Several others involved in our contemporary worship have been helpful to me in looking at various resources we could employ. It's exciting to see resources other congregations are using, and the innovative ways for speaking with a fresh voice that “old, old story of Jesus and his love...”

This month I attended two meetings---Worship Ministry and Strategic Planning—and met with my Mutual Ministry team. I serve as a consultant for the task force charged with developing a 2nd contemporary service on Sunday mornings, and have had useful discussions with both the chair of that task force and others integrally involved.

I had significant pastoral conversation with 24 persons.

On November 15, I sang special music with FaithX at the 10:45 service. While my opportunities to sing at our worship services are few, due to my other responsibilities, it is always a joy to give that gift. The other gift was helping out in the kitchen for our Thanksgiving Dinner. What fun conversation and enjoyable company while washing dishes! It was especially cool to see all the folks arriving to pick up take-out containers of the delicious meal to be distributed to our at-home members. Knowing our bounty was being shared in so many places made that Thanksgiving all the more meaningful.

Finally, I had the last of my vacation weekends for the year, which was filled with refreshing time with family. It was truly a time to give thanks for such blessings.

In Christ's Service
Nancy R. Easton