

TRINITY

Stories



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LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fall 2023



TRINITY *Stories*

Trinity Stories is published by the Publicity and Communications Team of Trinity Lutheran Church, Camp Hill, PA, for our members and friends.

We focus on one topic for each issue. Our first issue in the fall of 2020 included stories related to race and racism. Our second issue in the fall of 2022 was devoted to our well-known music program. This third issue contains what we call impact and generosity stories of Trinity members.

Future issues will be published as budget and time allow. We welcome suggestions for topics.

Please share this magazine with others. We also hope that you will support Trinity financially so that we can continue our ministries and expand their reach and their impact both near and far.

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C o n t e n t s

Impact and Generosity

What will YOUR story be?

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Editor's Note



Stephanie Maurer

We invited Trinity members to submit stories for this issue, stories that focused on impact or generosity.

Four people wrote their own stories (the three pastors and Maggie A).

In another case (Ron L), I replicated a Facebook post with the poster's permission. In still another (Jake M), I used responses to questions sent to him by Laura Butcher.

The remaining people answered my questions during interviews, allowing me to capture their passion and write the stories for them: Dave and Laura B, Emily A, Ryan A, Carol C, Christina F-M, Steve K, Ali K and Hailey M, Janis M, Bill and Kay R, Joyce R, and Bert W.

Thank you to all. I wish I could have interviewed more folks because there are many stories to tell. Maybe another time.

A shoutout to Konhaus Print and Marketing, particularly Kyle B, a talented graphic designer and a delight to work with.

One more shoutout, this one to Danelle Andrews, the best ever at discussing ideas and providing support. You, my friend, are seriously ("strenuously?") missed as you begin a great position elsewhere. Your new employer is lucky to have you. ◀

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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 Pastor for Parish Life – The Rev. John H. Brock
 Pastor for Engagement – The Rev. Elizabeth Frey

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 Camp Hill, PA 17011



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 Check website
 for worship times,
 news, and events



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Pastors and Council President

The Time is Now

Greetings to you in the name of the Lord,

Every story in the following pages reflects Trinity's impact even though each story is different: service, generosity, personal experience, testimony, or a combination.

There would be no stories and no impact without your help. For that reason, we ask you to join your fellow members and friends now in supporting our three initiatives for 2024.



1. **Inspire.** We look to inspire people through **worship engagement**, both in person and online. Attendance at worship nationwide has declined, and we should do all we can to turn this trend around.
2. **Impact.** The greater our **program reach**, the more we can impact lives of people near and far. Wherever we can, we will reach out. In so doing, we impact our own lives as well.
3. **Invest.** To maintain **financial strength**, we will continue to invest in activities that ensure sustainability. We should be good stewards of our building, for example, because it is the home from which we deliver God's Word and from where our work is based. We should also pursue social and environmental initiatives.

Will you consider increasing your 2024 offering to Trinity? Pray about it and respond as the Lord leads you. You can use the enclosed envelope, or you can make a commitment online. You don't have to be a Trinity member.

Mail the envelope today, or turn it in on Stewardship Sunday, November 19.

“There would be no stories and no impact without your help.”

With thanks,

Jack Horner, Lead Pastor

John Brock, Pastor for Parish Life

Seth Maurer, Council President

Liz Frey, Pastor for Engagement

Dave & Laura Butcher

Why give money, anyway? Don't we do enough as volunteers?

Earlier this year, we published a story about Dave and Laura Butcher where they told us about choosing Trinity as their church home back in 2019. Using a complex “shopping list,” they found that Trinity checked all the boxes.

After joining Trinity, and even in the past few months, the Butchers have increased their engagement here, including expanding their volunteer work and upping their financial support.

But why the latter? Why give Trinity even more financial support when they already donate so much of their time and talent?

Laura's roles at Trinity

With two young Butcher sons who themselves have busy school and social schedules, Laura helps in the church office at least once weekly during the school year. She also provides support to Pastor Frey as a member of her Mutual Ministry Team.

Laura further volunteers for various ministries and causes, including Community Outreach, Missions, and stewardship (Give, Serve, Lead). Overall, Laura embodies a doer with education, professional experience, administration skills, and an outstanding personality—qualities that outside organizations easily reward with six-figure salaries.

Dave's roles

Dave is made of the same mold. Outside Trinity, he holds a demanding full-time position as president and partner of WCI Partners, LP, a real estate development company focused on urban revitalization. At Trinity, he serves as Council vice president, as well as chair of Trinity's Give, Serve, Lead Team responsible for stewardship.

In the latter role, Dave works extensively with the Finance Committee, Trinity staff, and a fundraising consultant to measure, analyze, and track member contributions in order to develop them further.



The Butcher family: Dave, Laura, Jacob (14), Jonathan (9)

Asking for money: Not easy

The Butchers know that asking for money can be a thankless job, especially when church giving has decreased nationwide and when folks are pulled in multiple directions.

So why have Laura and Dave increased their own church giving? And, again, don't they already do enough as volunteers?

Giving to Trinity feels good

The "big secret," as the Butchers call it, is that giving to the church feels good,

"By giving, we can be active participants in the many outstanding works that result from all that Trinity does," said Laura.

"We want everyone to know that every donation, large or small, is being thoughtfully allocated to programs and activities that impact lives significantly," Dave added.

The time is now...

Laura and Dave believe that now is the time to invest in Trinity, thus enabling the accomplishment of God's work. They hope that all Trinity members will prayerfully consider a financial commitment as they are able, whether by increasing their donations or by giving for the very first time.

Laura and Dave know that, with your gifts, Trinity will continue to impact lives just as it has done for the past 125 years. ◀

Pastor Jack Horner

I give because of all that God has done for me

Like many teenagers, I had an allowance for doing tasks around my house. I mowed the grass, took out trash, and—hardest of all—tried to keep my room clean.

The going rate for a weekly allowance in those days was \$10, of which I would put \$2 in the offering plate on Sunday. Little did I know that I was probably the most generous I have ever been in giving 20 percent of my gross income to the church!

For me, then as much as today, my offering is a response for all that God has done for me in Christ Jesus. I have never seen it as a burden or an obligation, but as an opportunity to say thank you to God and the Christian community of which I am a part.

Even as a teenager I knew I was giving to something significant, an organization that truly transformed lives. I knew because I was one of those who, as in the hymn Amazing Grace, "was lost, but now am found."

I am thankful to be a part of Trinity and its mission in the world. Together we do so much more than we could do alone. And I know that, through our gifts, lives are transformed and God is glorified. ◀



Pastor Liz Frey

My parents set the example

From an early age, my parents taught me the importance of giving to the church. My parents were—and still are—generous in their giving to my home congregation, but what always struck me was how generous they were with their time. We spent Wednesday evenings at choir practices, Saturday mornings doing altar care, Sunday mornings volunteering during worship, and Monday evenings serving community meals. We definitely spent other days there as well! The church was an integral part of our lives, and the relationships were why they gave so much of their time.



Now, as an adult, I believe relationship building is an important reason to serve the church and give my own time. Before the pandemic, Trinity participated in prison ministry at Dauphin County Prison on Sunday afternoons.

This ministry, which Trinity is actively working to restore as I write this, was incredibly rewarding and powerful as we worshipped God together. After worship, we often had time before the volunteer group left the prison. During this time, we had an open conversation and heard their stories. Though we had different life experiences, this time together allowed us to connect as human beings. I believe being with and learning from those with different experiences changes us for the better. This is why Jesus calls us to break down barriers and meet people where they are. We begin to see others how God sees them and, in turn, we see ourselves as God sees us—loved and forgiven. ◀



I believe relationship building is an important reason to serve the church and give my own time.



Pastor John Brock

I strive to tithe

I don't think of myself as a generous person. I give what I give because I can. I strive to tithe to God, that is, give ten percent of both my income/earnings and my time to mission and ministry. I've tried to do this for a long time. I've not always been successful in achieving that, but I think, on the whole, I have come close.

I give of my time and resources, especially to the Church in general, and Trinity in particular, because I believe in the ministry and mission we do here. I give because I benefit from what I receive: in the building up of my faith, in my love of liturgical and praise worship, and in the relationships I have developed here.

I think generosity is often times a matter of perception. When I was a child, I gave fifteen cents a week from my allowance, which was more than a tithe. As a young person, living on my own and working in a department store, I gave ten dollars, which was

not a tithe, but what I felt I could afford. Once I got a better job, I was able to give more, somewhere around a tithe. Fifteen cents had been generous. Ten dollars had been what I could spare. Now, neither seems adequate. Now, I give what I give because that is what I feel God has first given me. ◀



I give because I benefit from what I receive: in the building up of my faith, in my love of liturgical and praise worship, and in the relationships I have developed here.

Carol Crowe

Leader of our Sewing Ministry group. Quilting is their passion.

Carol Crowe and her husband, John, first joined Trinity in 1973 because it was the church of John's sister, Becky Enney. Carol's favorite church activity was making quilts with other women in what was then called Project Sewing.

In 1983, the couple moved to Connecticut to follow John's job. Carol hoped to be involved in a quilt-making venture there based on her Trinity experience, but she found nothing comparable.

Return to quilt-making at Trinity

When it came time to talk about retirement, Carol and John wanted to return to Camp Hill. They could be closer to family, and they could re-join Trinity. Accordingly, in the fall of 2011, they became members for the second time, allowing Carol to participate once again in making quilts.

Leading the ministry

By 2012, Carol had been asked to lead the ministry. Over time, and with some changes in how they sewed the quilts, the women increased the number of quilts completed to more than 30 a year.

It's logical to think that the pandemic would put the brakes on the quilting. But such was not the case. Six weeks into Covid, the women were working from home. By the end of 2020, they had upped their yearly production to 52 quilts!

Eventually the group returned to meeting in person and got together weekly rather than monthly. Some women still worked from home but, in whatever way



they chose to work, their yearly output has stayed above 50.

Keeping people warm

Carol speaks for all when she describes the impact of each quilt. "It's making something that will be used to keep people warm and help with their lives, whether it's Africans who use it as a floor under them or a roof over their heads, or a blanket to keep them warm. It's making something for local victims of domestic violence who are re-starting their lives, or for local veterans or others."

Half the quilts go to Lutheran World Relief to make an impact around the world—examples include Africa, India, and Chile. The other half stay local.

Looking for quilters—no need to sew

Anyone can participate in this group, Carol said. “You don’t need to know how to sew. If you can tie a knot, we can teach you how to make a quilt.” ◀

Weekly meetings (Jan. through Thanksgiving) are Tuesdays from 9 to noon, or from 9-3 on the third Tuesday of each month. Stay as long or as little as you’d like, or take the work home. Contact Carol Crowe at 717-737-2936 or carolcrowe50@hotmail.com.



Janis Martinez

A woman on the move

Janis Martinez traveled many paths until landing at Trinity as a volunteer with a major role in securing funds and supplies for our Guatemalan ministry partner, Tree 4 Hope. She believes that God has directed every step.

Earning degrees, teaching, raising sons

Between 1975 and 2017, Janis earned a bachelor's degree in music education, a master's degree in organ performance and literature, certification in English as a Second Language, certification in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages), and a second bachelor's degree in Spanish, with certification in translation and interpretation. She raised two boys, now adults. She lived and taught in St. Croix, was music director at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in York, organist at a Lutheran church in Reading, and a K-5 music teacher for Central Dauphin School District.

Learning Spanish, becoming a Lutheran, volunteering in Guatemala

Janis became determined to study Spanish following an education trip to Mexico, where she discovered that music helped Mexican farmers better cope with government trade provisions affecting their livelihood. Today she is fluent in speaking, writing, interpreting, and translating.

In 2000, she joined Trinity. She basked in simply enjoying church music after having

spent so much time working in it. She also wanted to put her passion to use volunteering to help refugees, immigrants, and others in need.

Janis went on the first Trinity-to-Guatemala trip in 2019. Her praise is effusive for our Missions Team, who added Tree 4 Hope as a ministry partner, and for the Trinity volunteers and staff members who have come together to support it.

Praising our collaboration

"It's a privilege to witness such collaboration at Trinity," said Janis. "This is how the church works. I don't believe I've ever seen such a concrete example of the Holy Spirit and Christian love at work. It's wonderful to see how people get involved." ◀





Christina Fortin-Maurer

The impact of first communion and its memories

Seth and I truly appreciated the first communion for our daughter, Veronica, at Trinity. A first communion is memorable, and its impact lasts forever. I remember mine in 1995, how studiously I had prepared for it, and exactly where I asked to go for lunch afterwards. It was a Chinese restaurant, and I spilled soy sauce on the lace of the white dress my mom had gotten for me!

On March 26, 2023, Veronica wore that same dress (her Mimi replaced the stained lace) with the same accessories. My parents came from New York, and we were all touched by this milestone and the memories that we shared. We even went to a Chinese restaurant for our after-Communion lunch. No soy sauce on the lace this time! The dress has been carefully packed away again, this time for Veronica to pass along when she is a mother. ◀



Jake Miller

He's come a long way since he first saw the sun shining on Trinity

Jake Miller describes himself as “a husband, dad, educator, business professional, and chair of Pastor Frey’s Mutual Ministry Team.” He says that, in addition, “I’m a big fan of Trinity.” He became a member in 2008.

“I did a lot of sinning before Trinity,” he admitted. “I had grown up Lutheran but left the church.”

So how did Jake end up here and get his faith back on track?

Yes, fate played a role

Although he’s “not a big believer in fate,” he thinks that fate may indeed have played a part in making the Trinity connection. Here’s what happened:

Originally from Jim Thorpe, Jake said that when he moved to this area he would occasionally take rides deliberately trying to get lost. On one of those rides, a thunderstorm erupted, causing him to pull over.

That was when he saw the sun shining on Trinity. “Guess I’ll give this place a try,” he remembers thinking.

Initially, because of Trinity’s size, Jake didn’t feel much like he belonged. “This church is just so massive that new congregants could often sift through the cracks.”



Laying eyes on the singer who became his wife

He credits a longtime member, now deceased, with transforming his sense of not belonging. She started to sit with Jake during worship, eventually introducing him to other members and then suggesting that he run the sound board.

After about a year, Jake laid eyes on Devin Ackerman for the first time. He describes her as “the beautiful singer who is now my partner.”

Fate again? Jake and Devin married in 2013; they have two boys, Jonah, 8, and Isaiah, 5.

Making the most of his life

Asked to describe where he is now in life, Jake says this: “In this post-Covid world, we cleared our schedules and reevaluated our priorities. I was so involved in things, running for office and too involved as a schoolteacher. Now the thing that’s most important to me is making the most of the thousand weekends I have with my kids before they’re adults.”

Jake has come a long way since that day he saw the sun shining on Trinity and first felt the impact.

We’re glad he’s here. ◀

Ali Koch and Hailey Maser

A Trinity connection with fond memories

Ali Koch, 21, and Hailey Maser, 20, have known each other their entire lives. Their families became close at Trinity and even vacationed together.

Lots of Christmas Eve services

One of Ali and Hailey's fondest memories is that, on every Christmas Eve, the two girls would try to attend each one of the traditional services. But it was more than attending; it was actively participating.

At the children's service, they would be acolytes, or they'd help the kids at the yearly pageant. Then they'd be off to the Masers' house for dinner with both families.

Timing was important. They'd rush back to the church to make the 8 pm service, where they'd sing with the choir.

Soon after would come the 10 pm service, where Ali would play the cello and Hailey would bring a guest to watch, listen, and participate in worship.

Obligation turned into tradition

Yes, explained Ali, it's true that their involvement started out as almost an obligation. After all, dad Tim Koch is in charge of Trinity's traditional music, and mom Amy Koch directs the children's pageant. But, per Ali and Hailey, their "obligation" evolved into a tradition that they came to love and value.

The two young women are still close. And why wouldn't they be? The Trinity impact grew as they grew, and the connection remains strong. ◀

Ali is a senior at Messiah University; Hailey is a junior at Chatham University in Pittsburgh. They talk and text often. In both pics, Ali is on the right.



Emily Andrews

Volunteering since preschool

When I went to VBS from preschool on, I always enjoyed it and looked up to the crew members. Even in the days leading up to VBS week, I loved working with my mom and the other adults to get all the set-ups ready.

When I could finally be an “official” crew member (sixth grade), I really liked making relationships with the kids and getting to know them better. It’s fun, and I know many of the kids when I see them in church.

Same with Sunday School. I attended since preschool, looked up to the teachers and helpers, and I currently volunteer with the preschool class.

I’m 15 now and in ninth grade. My engagement has shown me that it can have a true impact on others just as the engagement of others has had an impact on me. ◀

Emily also volunteers with the tech crew for the livestream service, serves as a lector, and generally helps wherever needed.

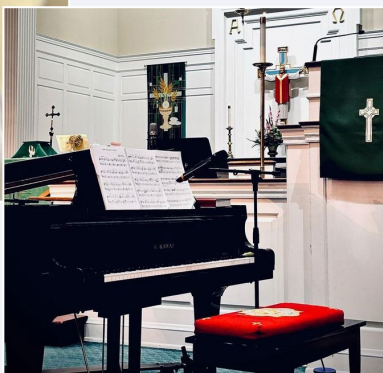


Ron Livingston

The feeling is deep. The impact is great.



Ron Livingston serves as assisting minister, pianist, and substitute organist.



While my history with organized religion has been somewhat traumatic, I’m blessed beyond measure to have found a “home” and community where I can share the music that feeds my soul. And they in turn show me how much they appreciate my gifts. The healing that has occurred at this keyboard, and is still occurring, cannot be put into words. And I am so grateful to have these people and this space to grow.

Words will never convey the depth of what I feel when I play here and the love I feel in return. ◀

*“Summer and winter and springtime and harvest
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.”*

--Great is Thy Faithfulness

Bill Range

Impacting lives of our homebound members



Bill Range started sending birthday cards to our homebound members around eight years ago. He does it because he can no longer come into the church office to help with weekly bulletins like he used to do.

It makes people feel good

"We don't have a car anymore," he explained. "So this is the only way I could do something for the church. I like doing it. It makes people feel good when we remember their special day."

Bill also sends sympathy cards to members who have lost a loved one, or get well cards to members who are ill.

Buys the cards and supplies on his own

He buys the cards and the postage on his own, organizes the cards by date months in advance, and sits at his dining room table to do the work. He signs each card, "With love and blessings, Bill and Kay Range, Trinity Church." He even keeps a journal of the cards he has sent.

The number of cards each month varies. It's enough to keep him connected to others, and it's an extension of his life of service.

1966: The year they married and became members, too

Members since 1966, which is also the year they married, Bill and Kay came to Trinity from Loysville, Perry County. He worked in public relations and was also a church organist. He would play on Sundays, come home for a quick lunch, and then go to Country Meadows to play for three worship services there.

At Trinity, he sang in the choir for 50 years, plus he coordinated an art display in the Gathering Space, helped Pastor Horner with the purchase of icons, worked in the kitchen, and at one time served on Council and various committees.

With all that he's done, what does he like most about Trinity?

Loves the people and says he'll be here forever

"I love the people. And I like the way that things are run here. I miss church if we can't go. Without a car, we have to depend on someone to take us, so Phil and Meg Groff pick us up every Sunday. We're very grateful," he said.

"We have a spot in the columbarium, too," he laughed. "So we'll be at Trinity forever." ◀

Bill's birthday is January 22. Call the church office for his address if you want to send him a card.



Kay Range

Made with love: Prayer shawls for sick children

When a chaplain at Penn State Hershey Medical Center came across some prayer shawls that Trinity's Prayer Shawl group had donated there, she was drawn to the message that accompanied them:

*There are no rules for when or why you wear this shawl.
You can wear it when you read, study, pray, or rest.
You can wear it in times of trouble, concern, or fear.
You can wear it in times of joy or celebration.
In short, you can wear it any time at all.*

*Whenever you wear your shawl, remember this:
It was blessed by the women who made it.
Their caring thoughts are entwined in every stitch.
All together, those stitches will wrap you in God's love.
And that love enfolds you always.*



Prayer shawls for sick children?

The chaplain reached out to Trinity, where eventually she connected with Kay Range and Terry Powell, coordinators for our prayer shawl group, as well as member Donna Campbell. Was it possible, the chaplain asked, for the medical center to get smaller prayer shawls sized just for children? Kay, Terry, and Donna brought the request to the group, who with no hesitation said yes.

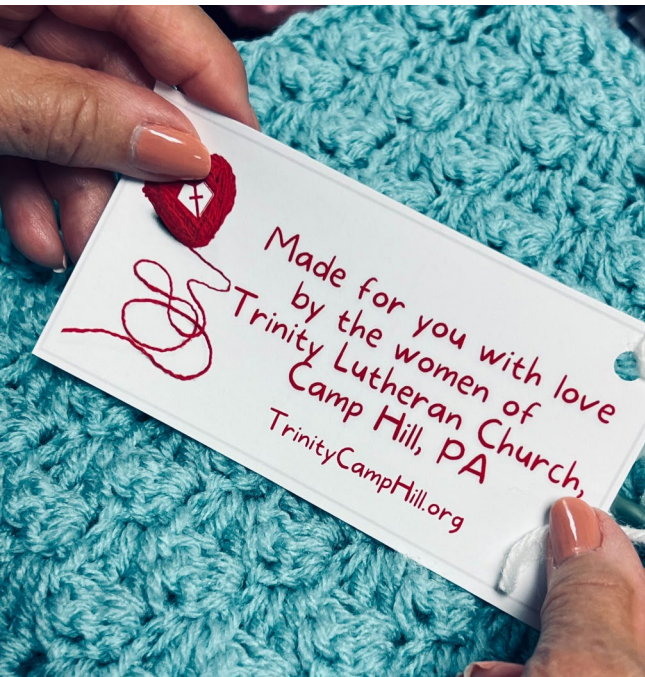
By mid-June, there were 70 completed children's shawls. But the women then decided to increase their production to 125 as a nod to Trinity's 125th anniversary. In addition, they also crafted 40 mini shawls when they learned that young patients often bring their dolls and like to dress them too!

TV station called the women "Hometown Heroes"

Local television station ABC27 aired a segment about the group, dubbing the women "Hometown Heroes."

The 70 children's shawls, plus the 40 doll shawls, were delivered to the medical center in mid-June. The remaining 55 shawls were finished afterward and delivered in October, along with 26 extras and 61 pocket prayer squares.





Kay, Terry, Donna, and every woman of this group take their ministry seriously. When there's a need, they meet it. They truly do impact lives. ◀

Trinity's Prayer Shawl Ministry began in 2004. The women work individually in their homes and together at monthly meetings. In July 2015, a major milestone was reached with the completion of 1,000 shawls. Anyone who can knit or crochet, or who wants to learn, can join the group. Just contact the church office and we'll put you in touch with the group leadership.



Ryan Andrews

But I'm bored!

More than a year ago, it was getting increasingly difficult to encourage Ryan Andrews, now 12, to attend Sunday worship.

Ryan has been with Trinity since birth and baptism, worshiping with his parents and sister nearly every Sunday, attending classes and activities, playing in the Bell Choir, and making friends.

However, for this bright young man with tons of energy and an active sports calendar, every Sunday service was starting to feel much the same. It all seemed a bit boring, despite his faith and interest.

In short, Ryan was not inspired.

Serving made a difference

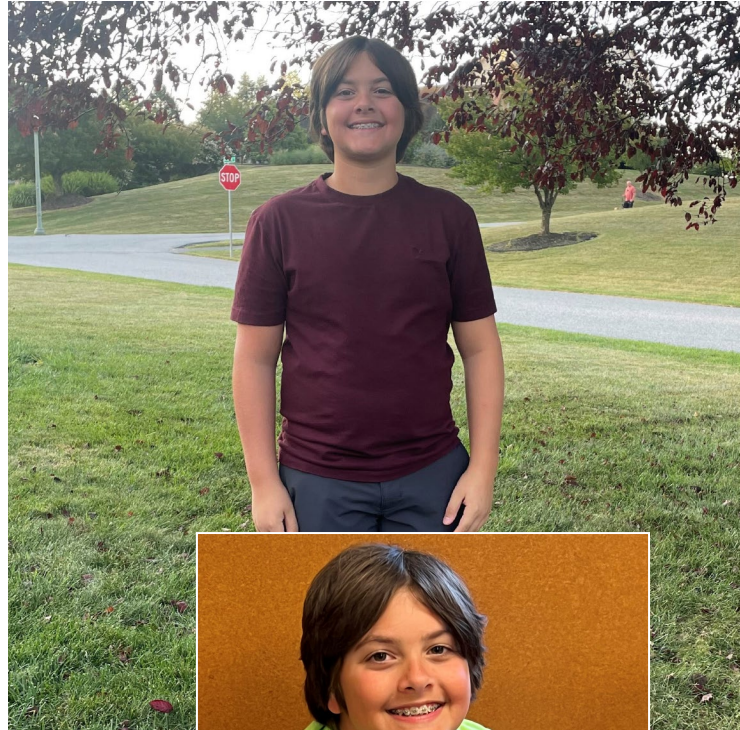
That feeling changed when Trinity introduced an activity called Worship and Serve. It was held monthly in 2022 on summer Sunday mornings from 10 am to noon at an external location. Worship and Serve was true to its name. First, participants worshipped briefly and received Holy Communion. The bulk of the time was then spent providing a service.

On the two Sundays that Ryan and his family participated, they joined others to complete chores like outdoor weeding and indoor cleaning or organizing. One Sunday was spent at a mission partner's inner-city location, where help is provided to people facing homelessness and poverty. The other Sunday was spent at a mission partner's thrift store, where proceeds go to help women with breast cancer.

No longer bored

Here's the thing. Ryan loved it. Not only was he eager to go, but he also appreciated the abbreviated worship, the direct look into the work of mission partners, and the chance to be active in doing something that the partners need and appreciate. It was also special, he found, to work side by side with others in a true multigenerational setting, particularly when those far older than Ryan marveled at his outstanding work ethic. ◀

Ryan looks forward to a re-start of Worship and Serve, where he can see firsthand how Trinity's work and financial support impact others.



Joyce Roy

Turning grief into help for others

Joyce Roy is a longtime and active Trinity member. Her husband, Chuck, was equally active, and the couple attended worship and events regularly with their three children.

In 2017, just a month after Joyce and Chuck's 45th wedding anniversary, Chuck died suddenly and unexpectedly. He was only 66. Joyce and her adult children were devastated.

Moving ahead was a struggle

Joyce continued to attend Trinity, but the memories were hard to face. Because the couple had been so active in their church lives, Joyce saw reminders of Chuck at every turn. Her struggles with grief weren't confined to Trinity; they were everywhere. She looked for a grief support group, found one offered by another church, and completed the 14-week course.

Not only had Joyce learned that grief is hard, but she also learned that grief support is critical.

Starting a ministry, one that's growing

With her firsthand experience guiding her, Joyce approached our Director of Faith Formation about forming a grief support ministry. It was a perfect fit for Joyce to be the coordinator, but the launch was delayed when the pandemic hit. Joyce was steadfast in keeping the idea on the front burner and eventually was able to proceed. The first 10-week course went well, and it is now being offered on a regular basis.

Joyce had turned her devastating experience with grief into good. She knows she can now help others as much as others have helped her. Thanks to Joyce, Trinity has a new ministry. It's one that's been growing, too,

with the addition of Jen Lee as a co-facilitator. ◀

Your gifts and generosity make all our ministries possible, and your support is appreciated.



Joyce had turned her devastating experience with grief into good. She knows she can now help others as much as others have helped her.

Bert Weaver

With our prayer group, you are not alone.

Trinity Prays is "just a group of ordinary women who meet monthly to pray for others," said facilitator Bert Weaver.

Her modesty cannot hide the group's sincerity, passion, and diligence.



Teaching a class was not the actual "ask"

In May 2022, when Trinity's Director of Faith Formation asked Bert (given name Roberta) to teach a class, she learned he was really seeking people to pray for others based on the varied requests that make their way to Trinity.

Thus began Trinity Prays. Prayer requests come from our website or through pastors, staff, and others, including group members who know of folks in need.

Lots to pray for

At each meeting, the women take turns holding a small wooden cross while naming the person(s)

and praying. Bert compiles a list—around 50 a month—and later texts it to the group so they continue to pray on their own. Up to half may result in calls to get updates and see if additional prayers are needed.

"When we pray, we feel enveloped by the Holy Spirit," Bert said. "It's absolutely nothing that we do ourselves. It's what God does through us, the Holy Spirit working the way the Holy Spirit works."

Loving those in prayer

"We fall in love with the people we pray for, every one of them, but we are not in charge of the outcome. Instead, we are going through their journey with them—their needs, their pain, and their joys."

"The most important thing for people to know is that when we pray for you, we are with you," she added. "So let us pray for you. Don't hold back or be embarrassed. We truly do care, and you'll know that you are not alone."

Need our prayer group to pray for you or someone you know?

We care about you and will journey with you.



Visit our website at www.TrinityCampHill.org and click on "Prayer Request" midway down the home page. Or call the church office at 717-737-8635. Requests are confidential.



Steve Kauffman

Neither accepted nor welcomed?

Steve Kauffman, 42, was raised in an anabaptist Christian church in a rural area of central Pennsylvania. He continued that tradition when he moved to Harrisburg as a young adult. At the same time, he sought to develop and expand his passion for religion by exploring other faith communities.

As part of that exploration, he realized that the church he had attended for most of his life was not the best fit for him as a gay man. Even with his strong faith, including his unshakable belief in God, he knew and felt that he was neither fully accepted nor fully welcomed in his church community.

An invitation to Trinity made a difference

An active Trinity member and longtime friend—who has since become a Lutheran pastor—invited Steve to worship here. He immediately felt welcome and began to attend regularly. Within months, he had become active himself: chair of Fellowship, usher, lector, communion assistant, and eventually assisting minister.

After more than a decade of membership, Steve was hired for the position of Trinity's Director of Administration. Soon thereafter, he also assumed the duties of property manager. He is a trusted, valued, and respected member of Trinity's staff.

Glad to be a member of the Trinity family

Steve knows that not everyone agrees with who he is as a person. Yet he has never felt that he cannot be that person at Trinity, or that he has had to hide his identity. He appreciates the acceptance and is glad to be part of the Trinity family. ◀

Your support of Trinity's mission and ministries allows everyone to feel welcome here. Steve and the entire staff of Trinity thank you for your generosity.

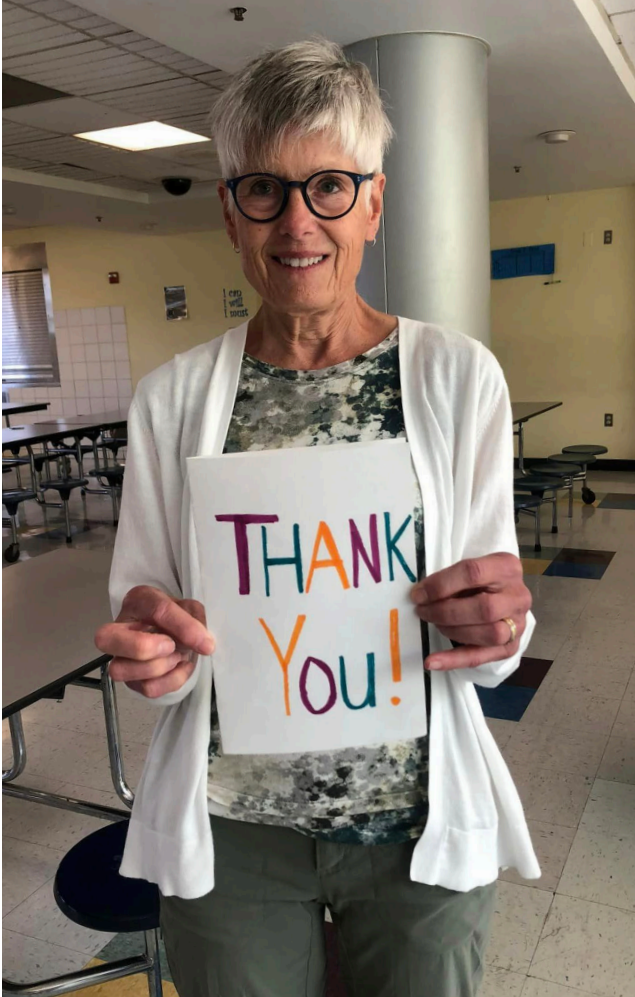


Steve knows that not everyone agrees with who he is as a person. Yet he has never felt that he cannot be that person at Trinity.



Maggie Ackerman

Which is first: Following Jesus or impacting lives?



Follow Jesus, Impact Lives? It's usually not in quite that order for me.

Years ago, a friend told me about a cool little thrift store that could use some work. I knew it had to do with helping people in their journey with cancer but, hey, it was a thrift store. So when I retired and looked for a way to give back to the community, I visited Pink Hands of Hope, met with the founder, and was hooked. That was 12 years ago.

While it was the thrift store that brought me in, what keeps me engaged is being part of an organization that offers hope, support and much more to women (and men) in their journey through breast cancer. Helping a newly diagnosed, very scared patient with compassionate listening is first. Next is maybe helping with a wig or bra choice and information about Pink Hands' other programs. But BEST is having that patient walk out smiling, hopeful, and not alone. I get so much more than

I could ever give. I can see how faith works through me, and it starts with the Holy Spirit giving me that little nudge to use my God-given gifts.

Tutoring is the same. I joined a group that later became Trinity Tutors. It's fun and fulfilling to work with the kids and to be there when that light goes on and something clicks, or even just to be in the right place to offer encouragement to a struggling reader.

Do I do these things because I'm following Jesus? Or is the Holy Spirit guiding me to do something I enjoy and THEN I become aware of following Jesus? Whichever it is, my faith is bolstered by the thought that I'm able to be in a place where I can impact lives. ◀



**I get so much more
than I could ever give.
I can see how faith
works through me.**

Talk about a story!

More than 200 Trinity people came together on September 9-10 for **IMPACT LIVES WEEKEND**.

- ▶ We assembled 48 personal care kits for the Health Ministries of Christ Lutheran Church, Harrisburg, plus 30 more for JFT Recovery and Veterans Support.
- ▶ We provided 30 meals for homebound members.
- ▶ We helped clean up Siebert Park in the Camp Hill Borough.
- ▶ We served full meals to Family Promise for folks who have lost their homes.
- ▶ We made cards and had a hymn sing for residents of Camp Hill Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.
- ▶ At Trinity, we pulled bushes, laid down mulch, painted basement doors and trim, and helped our Sewing Ministry complete 7 quilts for Bethesda Women's Shelter, Domestic Violence Services of Cumberland and Perry Counties, a refugee settlement organization, and Lutheran World Relief.



More on next page



- ☐ I want to receive a postcard reminder of upcoming concerts. I've filled out my name and address below.

Name _____

Address _____

- ☐ I want to be a patron of the 2023/24 concert season. I'm sending a check payable to Trinity Lutheran Church, with **Concert Series Patron** noted.

☐ Friends: \$25 - \$49 ☐ Cherubs: \$50 - \$99 ☐ Angels: \$100 - \$249 ☐ Archangels: \$250 or more

All contributors will be noted alphabetically in the programs. Contributions are tax deductible.

Name(s) exactly as it (they) should appear in program _____



TRINITY

Concert Series

2023-2024

TUES. OCT. 10	7:30pm	Stuart and Friends Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra, Maestro Stuart Malina and HSO musicians
SUN. NOV. 19	3pm	125th Anniversary Choral Concert Messiah University Concert Choir, Trinity Concert Choir, Trinity Children's Choir <i>A reception will follow the concert.</i>
SUN. DEC. 3	3pm	Holiday! With the Harrisburg Singers Susan Solomon Beckley, Director, H. Timothy Koch, Accompanist
SUN. DEC. 10	3pm	Christmas at Trinity Concert Choir, Children's Choir, Bell Choirs, FaithX and Orchestra
MON. FEB. 12	7:30pm	Harrisburg Symphony Youth Orchestras
SUN. APRIL 14	3pm	The Konrad Paszkudski Trio
SUN. MAY 19	3pm	Hymn Festival with David Cherwien



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To memorialize a departed loved one with an inscribed border brick in our memorial Peace Garden shown below, go to TrinityCampHill.org/PeaceGarden.