



Rev. Dr. Keith A. Blank, Pastor  
October/November 2019

*"The Friendly Church on the Hill"*

From  
Pastor  
Keith



## **"Do YOU Know What You Have Done?"**

While on my annual pastoral retreat in Maine recently, I asked the above question to the counselors at Moose River Outpost. They were wrapping up a record-breaking Summer of 900 campers, looking back on what they had "accomplished". For the most part, their response was all about a list of "tasks completed".

I shifted their focus however, to have them recall whether they went above and beyond to make a life-changing impact on individual campers.

I told them the story of an older woman at the church in Sunbury, who led me to a dark corner of the basement of the church to witness to me what was important to her...how, many years ago, when she was 10 years old in VBS, there was a teacher who shared her faith and led the young girl to confess and accept Christ as her savior. This woman did not remember the crafts, the food the music or the theme of the VBS that year. She remembered the love of Christ shown to her by a teacher who was willing to step out of the "program," and show her the face of Christ personally.

So with that in mind, I ask the people of this church, "DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE DONE?" ...and in line with that question and all of our responses, what should WE ALL be doing differently?

In prayer on that same retreat, God opened a neat opportunity for our church to impact the families of this community which I would like you all to consider as we approach the Advent season. Psalm 116:14 says that we are to "show the Lord our loyalty by fulfilling our vows to him in front of His people."

I believe that we are in a season of being tested by God and by His followers... i.e. will we accept all the current challenges and step up to the plate? We need to pray that we are up to the task.

Let us focus on the kinds of things we can do to get the families of this community to take the chance to be "all in".

1 Peter 5:1-11 says we are to be examples to the flock, not because we must but because we are willing. Charles Haddon Spurgeon summed it up by saying that "Shepherds are to lead, feed, and give heed."

1 John 4:12 reminds us that we should always keep in mind that God's love is brought to full expression in us.

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Here is the concept, which in excitement, I have already shared with the Ministry Council and the Class Leaders:

### **Advent Project Proposal:**

The idea is to move families in the neighborhood to participation in the Church Advent Season for the good of their children. I believe that the parents and grandparents of this community for the most part, were exposed to the beautiful story of our Savior's birth at one time or another, but for whatever reason, they are not choosing to expose their kids to it.

You hear this: "I thought we would wait for them to make up their own minds when they get older." This is very dangerous thinking but if you look at the trends listed in the annual report of the **Barna Group** (see me if you would like a copy), you see that it is part of the world-wide malaise in the church.

The concept is that teams of two would visit houses that we know have kids. To identify recipients of a visit, we would send flyers to the elementary school and use the list of families that we have collected from Blast, VBS, and Community Day. At the visit, we would ask the parents if they ever heard the story, and then ask if they will commit to helping their kids hear the story.

If they are interested, we will ask them to do two things during Advent: share a daily advent calendar which we will give them for each child in the house with scriptures and candy for the child, and ask them to commit to attending so they can hear the prophecy and its fulfillment on the Sundays of Advent...of course culminating in their attendance at the Christmas Eve service.

This is the perfect excuse and opportunity to impress on this community how badly God is needed. So far we have been looking for that type of Advent calendar and we have found them at \$1.49 each, including a story book, and calendar with 25 Days of Scripture verses, telling the story.

I strongly urge all of us to get on board both from a financial and participation standpoint. If you know of a family in your neighborhood with young children, that would be a good place to start. Maybe even your own family would be a good place to start! Lift it up in prayer and see where the Holy Spirit will lead you to participate!

In His Mighty Name,

PK

## Director of Youth & Family Ministry



Now that school is back in session, the Wednesday evening **BLAST** program has started for elementary age children. We had 13 kids attend, and four helpers from our youth group, for our first week on September 11! We're off to a good start for the new school year. We are seeking members to volunteer to help in the kitchen and to donate meal items. If you can give an hour of your time on Wednesday evenings, it would be a huge help. You can also assist by simply donating the food for the meal one evening a month. Either way, there are always great opportunities to serve this important ministry for the children of OUR community! Please prayerfully consider giving your time on Wednesday nights, you won't regret it.

**Family Movie Nights** return this fall with movies scheduled once a month through the winter months. Please consider supporting this time of fellowship and outreach by attending the next movie scheduled for October 11. We will be showing "**Saved by Grace**". The film is about a retired police officer who is mourning the loss of his family. He considers making a drastic decision until he meets a mysterious woman who gives him reason to re-examine his life. The movie start time is at 6 p.m. with popcorn and drinks provided. Please feel free to bring your favorite snacks as well. This is an outstanding feel good movie.

Mark your calendar for our next **Family Movie Night** on Friday, November 8 featuring the major motion picture "**Breakthrough**". This film was recently released in theaters across the country and is based on a real-life true story about a 14-year-old Missouri teenager trapped underwater for more than 15 minutes. He fights for his life while his adoptive parents (Chrissy Metz & Josh Lucas), and their Pastor (Topher Grace), stay by his bedside and pray for a miracle.

The **Youth Group program** started up again for the school year on September 8. Over the summer, we took some time off from our regularly scheduled meetings on Sunday nights and hosted "check-ins" on Thursday nights as a way to stay connected. We had a few new faces attend the mission trip this year and are hoping to build our numbers by asking the kids to invite their friends and spread the good news of Jesus Christ. Both programs are full of new faces this year as the kids are growing and graduating from one program to the next. A new generation of kids are coming to Trinity to hear the Gospel! Praise God!

On the horizon for the youth group is hosting a **Halloween outreach** called **Trunk or Treat** on Thursday, October 24 in our church parking lot. The youth always has a good time handing out candy and meeting the community so come say hello. Also coming up is the annual **30 Hour Famine** scheduled for November 8-9. This is always a great opportunity for the youth to perform acts of service while reflecting on how fortunate they are, while drawing closer in their relationship to the Lord.

Please keep all the kids in your prayers and consider volunteering your time to help sprinkle the seeds of faith in their young lives.

Blessings,

Cathy Shaffer



Director of Music News  
Dave Shover

### Do You Like To Sing?



Anyone who can talk can sing? Do you play an instrument? If you've thought about joining the Choir and/or Praise & Worship Team stop procrastinating and take the leap of faith! We'd love to have you join us in one or more of our musical ensembles at Trinity EC Church. No experience necessary. Choir rehearses on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The Worship Team rehearses on Wednesday nights at 8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. If interested, contact Dave Shover at 717-343-8831 or email [dshover356@gmail.com](mailto:dshover356@gmail.com)

We're always looking for individuals to provide Special Music in our services at Trinity EC Church. If you play an instrument, sing, dance (seriously), have, or know someone else who has any other musical talents, and would be willing to share those talents with us, please contact Dave Shover at 717-343-8831 or email [dshover356@gmail.com](mailto:dshover356@gmail.com)



### Mark your calendars!

*Trinity Choir's Annual Christmas Cantata*  
Sunday evening, December 15, 2019  
(more details to follow)

Join us for an evening of beautiful music honoring the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

## Trinity Seniors Luncheon Second Wednesdays @ Noon

Trinity Seniors is an outreach to all senior citizens in the Rutherford community. We gather together for lunch and entertainment at noon in Fellowship Hall for a nominal fee of \$5.00. **Our next luncheon is October 9** at noon for pot roast with all the fixings, applesauce, drinks and dessert. Mark your calendars for the **November 13** lunch. On the menu will be a traditional turkey dinner. Bring a friend for good food, fun, fellowship, and faith! Call 717-564-1528 with questions.



## World-Wide Communion Sunday October 6, 2019

Communion will be offered at the  
8:30 & 11:00 a.m. worship services.



## Free Movie Fridays Return!

Join us in Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m. for free popcorn and drinks. Babysitting will be provided for those attending the movie.

*Mark your calendars for these upcoming movies:*

**October 11, 2019 - 6:00 p.m. - "Saved by Grace":**

This unrated movie is about a former police officer, who tragically lost his wife. He is estranged from his son and bitter at God, when a young woman named Grace comes into his life, and her name soon seems like a perfect fit. Her warm and loving ways, openness and acceptance, and sense of adventure begin to break down the walls that he has erected.

**November 8, 2019 - 6:00 p.m. - "Breakthrough":**

The film tells the real life story of a St. Louis teenager who slipped through an icy lake in January 2015 and was underwater for 15 minutes before resuscitative efforts were started. Although being rescued, he is in a coma, and his family must rely on their faith to get through the ordeal. Rated PG. This recently released film stars Chrissy Metz, Josh Lucas, and Topher Grace.

## *You are not alone!*

**"Hurting Moms, Mending Hearts" Program**  
begins Monday October 21, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.  
meeting in the Church Office Conference Room.

A Hurting Mom is someone who has recognized that they need help because their child is making poor choices, has become estranged from the family, or is living in a way that could ultimately lead to his or her destruction. It is a scripture-based ten-week program, focusing on an opportunity for Hurting Moms to come alongside one another as they bear their pain, learn to understand the struggle that they are going through, and gain insights learned from their own and other's experiences. This nationally recognized program is available to the church and the public. Please contact Dani Blank at 717- 512-2394 for more information or [www.hurtingmomsmendinghearts.org](http://www.hurtingmomsmendinghearts.org)

## Election Day Food Sale Tuesday, November 5, 2019 (use Huntingdon Street entrance)

Hot dogs, soup, sticky buns, drinks, and other snacks will be available for purchase.  
Be sure to stop by after you vote!

## Trinity's Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, November 10, 2019



One Worship Service will be held at 9:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary followed by light refreshments then the meeting begins at 11:00 a.m. There will be no Sunday School. All members of Trinity are encouraged to attend. Your attendance and participation is very important for the good of the church.

ThankOffering  
Guest Speaker



**Come meet Missionary  
Ken Sears!**

Thankoffering Service  
Sunday, November 17, 2019  
8:30 & 11:00 AM

Our guest speaker, Ken Sears, is currently on home assignment in the US from the Ukraine and will speak at both services. Join us to discover what Ken and his ministry is all about.

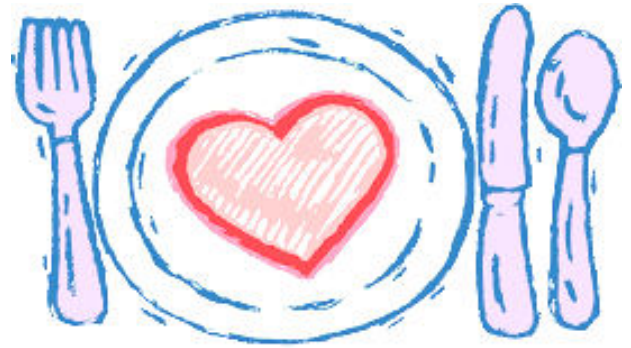
TRUNKS, TREATS & MORE!  
**TRUNK  
 OR TREAT**



Thursday, October 31  
 6-8 pm

Join us for a fun, safe place to  
 Trick-or-Treat in Trinity's Parking  
 Lot @ 165 N. 67th Street.

In case of rain, Trunk or Treat will be  
 hosted in Fellowship Hall.




**Free Community  
 Dinner**

Sunday, October 27  
 @ 5:30 PM

**Trinity EC Church  
 Fellowship Hall**  
 (use Huntingdon Street entrance)

Join us for this free community  
 meal! We'll be serving a pasta  
 dinner, salad and dessert.  
 Come enjoy a fun time of food  
 and fellowship.

**"For Paints Sake" Ladies Get Together**  
 Saturday, November 16, 2019  
 10 a.m. to Noon in Fellowship Hall

Have you always wanted to be an artist (painter), but didn't  
 think you could? Well now is your opportunity! We will have  
 an artist from "For Paints Sake" coming to Trinity  
 to show us how to paint this seasonal picture. 

The painting is 12 x 16, and the cost is \$20.00 per person.  
 Sign-up sheets are in the church. If interested or if you have any  
 questions, call Dani Blank @ 717-512-2394.

Join us and invite a friend!



## Trinity Scouting News



Girl Scout Troop 11006 ~ FALL MIX  
Saturday, October 5, 2019  
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

The Senior and Ambassador girls will host the Central PA Blood Mobile along with a craft/vendor fair and food sales in Trinity's Fellowship Hall. Please bring ID to donate blood. We hope you will join us in this blood drive and troop fundraiser. Together we can continue to make a difference in our area. Thank you all for your support!



### Trinity EC Rutherford Boy Scout Troop & Pack 308 News

**Sign-up Time** – It's a new school year and the beginning of our scouting year. If you or someone you know would like more information about joining scouts, please contact us. Cub Scouts ages are kindergarten thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade; Boy Scouts are 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Scouting for Food** – On November 2, the Troop and Pack will distribute door hangers to as many neighborhoods in Rutherford as possible. On November 9, we will collect food that is left at your front door. The items will be taken to the local Rutherford Food Pantry. We would like to thank you ahead of time for your contribution. If we did not make it to your home and you would still like to contribute, please let us know. Pack & Troop contact info: [papack308@gmail.com](mailto:papack308@gmail.com) or Teresa @ 717-580-7868.

**Summer Camp** – Ten Boy Scouts in Troop 308 had a busy week at summer camp. In July the boys and their leaders spent a week at Bayshore Boy Scout Camp. Camp Bayshore is in the foothills of the Blue Mountains of central PA. The new scouts worked hard to earn requirements towards their first three ranks while other scouts worked on earning merit badges such as archery, rifle shooting, swimming, hiking and cooking.

Two Cub Scouts entering their Tiger year plunged right into the fun of scouting by attending summer camp at Camp Tuckahoe in Dillsburg. They had a great time with scouts from all over. In July, one of the same scouts also experienced a Day Camp held in Hershey.

**Thank You** - Many thanks to Trinity EC for your continued support of the Rutherford scouting programs. Thank you to the Rutherford Lions Club and the Rutherford Fire Company for your support. For information on scouting please email [papack308@gmail.com](mailto:papack308@gmail.com) or call/text Teresa @ 717-580-7868

**Congratulations** – Congratulations to all of our scouts for the hard work you have done over the last year. Troop and Pack 308 are proud of your accomplishments.

Continued on next page

## Eagle Scouts News – Congratulations to our latest Eagle Scouts:

Austin Carpenter completed the requirements and obtained the rank of Eagle Scout on September 13, 2019 following a Board of Review. Austin's project benefited the Homeward Bound Animal Rescue. Homeward Bound focuses on rescuing moms and their pups.

Austin raised enough money to purchase four outdoor kennels and three play yards. In addition, he collected over 600 items for donation to the rescue including towels, blankets, dog toys, treats and cleaning supplies. He had an information table at several local pet stores where he had display boards and handouts educating the public on various aspects of getting a pet from a rescue.

Austin will have his Eagle ceremony later this year. Austin is a graduate of CD East Class of 2019 and is attending Keystone College studying Wildlife Biology. His grandmother Jill was a den leader for several years and his mom, Meghan, has served Pack and Troop 308 in various leadership roles for the past 11 years.

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Mayur Deshpande completed the requirements and earned the rank of Eagle Scout on May 4, 2019 following a Board of Review. His project benefitted the Hindu American Religious Institute (HARI).

Mayur built solid wood supply cabinets in the HARI temple basement. Mayur raised \$660 to buy material to build the cabinets by holding a hot dog fundraiser at local Bass Pro Shop. With the help from his family, scouting leaders and friends, he was able to design, cut wood, assemble and mount the new cabinets.

Mayur had his official Eagle Court of Honor Ceremony on May 11, 2019. Mayur is a 2019 graduate of CD East and is attending Penn State Main Campus studying Computer Engineering with a major in Computer Science. His brother, Mihir, is currently in the troop working his way through the scout ranks. His parents, Mandar and Manasi, are proud of them both and have helped with Troop and Pack 308 in many ways.

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Troop 308 Eagle Scout Sean Zimmerman used his expertise as an information systems technology student at Dauphin County Technical School to develop his Eagle project, an interactive map directory of 20 U.S. veterans who are buried at Historic Midland Cemetery in Swatara Township.

Sean graduated with a certificate in Information Systems Technology from Dauphin County Technical School in June 2019. He now is working toward a degree in Computer Information Security at Harrisburg Area Community College from which he already earned several credits while still in high school.

Sean started his Scout career as a Tiger Cub Scout in the first grade, continuing through all ranks of Cub Scouting at Trinity E.C. Church before crossing over into the Boy Scouts in April 2012. Besides his Eagle project, Sean earned a total of 36 merit badges and attended summer camp for six years during his tenure as a Boy Scout. His parents, Jerry & Phyllis Zimmerman, served on Troop 308's committee for several years.

Assisting Sean with his project were: Voice Over Narrator - Troop 308 committee member Ann Ariano; Sound Technician - Sam Krepps; Script Writer - Phyllis Zimmerman; Troop 308 Assistant Scoutmaster & Project Coach - Richard Joel; Troop 308 Scoutmaster - Anthony Ariano; Researchers - Troop 308 Boy Scouts Sean Zimmerman, Peter Ariano, Austin Carpenter, Mayur Deshpande, and committee member Phyllis Zimmerman: Initial Map template design and programming - Sean Zimmerman with assistance from Adam Dawson, a web development and design instructor at Dauphin County Technical School. Sean's Eagle project is posted at <http://midlandcemetery.com>



## Tuesday Adult Bible Study On the Gospel of Luke

9:00 - 10:30 a.m. & 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

If you can't make the class on Tuesday morning at 9 a.m., the same study is repeated Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m. Both classes meet in the Library every Tuesday. Call the church office at 717-564-1528 with questions or if you would like to attend.

## Trinity Prayer Time

A Tuesday Evening Prayer Gathering

We are a group of people who meet to pray every Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. in Trinity's Adult Sunday school room. It's an informal time of prayer. We open with a song and a brief devotional about prayer. Prayer concerns are mentioned and the praying begins. Join us when you can.

## B.L.A.S.T.! Kids Program Building Lives Around Solid Truths!

Our Wednesday evening kids program has begun! This program is for ages 3 to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The evening begins with a light meal from 5:30-6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall and then B.L.A.S.T.! from 6-7:30 p.m. with songs, bible verses, bible stories, and a craft/prayer time. Email Cathy Shaffer with questions at trinityceyouth@gmail.com or call 717-564-1528.

## Check out Trinity's Library!

Are you looking for a good book to read or movie to watch? Trinity's Library has great books and inspirational movies for both children and adults. Books and movies for adults are in the Library on the first floor. Children's material is on the lower level in room 6. Book donations are welcome. Contact Glenna Stump at glennag@comcast.net with questions.



## "Operation Christmas Child"

**The world's largest Christmas project of its kind uses gift-filled shoeboxes to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world.**

Once again, Trinity is participating in "Operation Christmas Child". Below is a list of items recommended for boys & girls ages 2-4, 5-9, & 10-14.

Bins marked "Operation Christmas Child" will be in the Narthex and

downstairs for your items/boxes. If you would like to fill a "Operation Christmas Child" box yourself, there are some available in the Narthex and downstairs for you to take home, fill, and return. Large empty shoe boxes are also needed and can be placed in the bins. If you would like to donate money for supplies, or for shipping, the cost to ship each Christmas Box is \$9.00. **Items are due by Sunday, November 10, 2019.**

**Personal care items:** comb, hairbrush, hairbands, barrettes, toothbrush (NO TOOTHPASTE), wash cloth & bar soap, adhesive bandages (kids like colorful ones), chapstick (NO LIPGLOSS). **For older kids:** nail clippers & files, stick deodorant.

**School supplies-pencils:** small pencil sharpeners, colored pencils, pencil case, pens, markers (NOT PERMANENT), crayons, coloring books, water color set & brush, chalk, blank index cards, pads, tablets- lined & unlined, composition books, notebooks, glue sticks, stickers, scissors, rulers.

**Items for 10 to 14-year olds:** sewing kit containing 1 to 2 yards of material, pins, needles, thread, & ribbon, small tool kits containing screwdrivers, hammer, screws, nails - NO SAWS-POCKETKNIVES, T-shirts, socks, gloves, bandanas.

**Toys:** foam ball, tennis ball, finger puppets, slinky, cars & trucks, dinosaurs, animals, action figures, playdoh (cookie cutters), jump rope, small frisbee, yo-yo, playing cards, jewelry, small purse, compact mirror.

**Every box should have a WOW! Item** such as a doll, musical instrument, jewelry, solar powered calculator, baseball & mitt, football, soccer ball, or kickball with pump.

If you have any questions, please call Darlene Leach at 564-7967.

Thank you, The Missionary Fellowship Committee