

TRINITY TREASURES

The Rev. Larry D. Laine, Pastor
Mrs. Bethann Kratzer, Pianist
Mrs. Kay F. Moosch, Parish Secretary
Mrs. Barbara J. Hallet, Treasurer
Mr. Lee E. Miller, Custodian

Email: telcbangor@frontier.com

Website: www.tlcbangor.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/tlcbangor

Pastor Laine's Cell Phone # - 757-613-7126

Pastor Laine's e-mail – laineparallel@gmail.com

Church Office – 610-588-2023 Fax. No. – 610-588-8904

TRINITY'S ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, November 14, immediately following the 10:30 A.M. worship service. The meeting will be held downstairs in the Fellowship Hall with a light lunch of sandwiches and salads. The 2022 Proposed Budget will be voted on and new council members need to be elected. It is important that all church members attend this meeting.

A NIGHT AT BLUE RIDGE

A fun and fellowship event will be held at the Blue Ridge Winery on Friday evening, November 5 at 6:00 P.M. A sign-up sheet is downstairs in the Fellowship Hall

THANKSGIVING DINNER

A family thanksgiving dinner is being planned for Sunday, November 21 at 4:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is asked to bring a Covered Dish.

ADVENT DINNERS BEING PLANNED

Two advent dinners are being planned for Wednesday evening, December 1 at 6:00 P.M. AND Wednesday evening, December 15 at 6:00 P.M.

ALTAR FLOWERS are needed for November 14, November 21, December 5, December 12, December 19 and December 26. Please call the church office, 610-588-2023, Monday thru Thursday, 8:30 A.M.-12 Noon. The cost is \$40.00.

BULLETIN SPONSORS are needed for October 31, November 7, November 14, November 21 and November 28. Please call the church office, 610-588-2023, (Monday thru Thursday, 8:30 A.M.-12 Noon). The cost is \$15.00 per bulletin sponsor.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS FOR OCTOBER

Gregory Bisher
Brayden Caiazzo
Riley Conrad
Lynn DeHaven
Lou Ann Doddy
Cynthia Gassler
Raymond Hartzell
Sherry Haycock

Joanne Karasek
Brian Kessler
Jessica LaBar
Lee Miller
Andrea Moser
Bryan Serfass
Jill Siegfried

**DON'T FORGET
TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK ON
ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6
SO YOU WILL BE ON TIME FOR
CHURCH ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7.**

Individualism or Christian Community?

In America, the sin of our nation is “radical individualism” – meaning, we do what we want. We say what we want. We think and act as we want. We pursue our own goals. We think and act for ourselves and our selfish interests - first and foremost. We justify our “radical individualism” with “freedom of choice, freedom of speech, freedom of individual rights, and freedom of association.” Once we have decided what it is that we want, we justify it with often vague, misinformed, unfounded rumor or gossip that we choose to believe as true. We create a reality of our own making and we live in that reality – whether it be true or not, whether it hurts others or not, whether it can be verified or not. Often we will pin and justify our whole belief system on “a feeling,” or “something I heard,” or “a small conversation about some trivial thing,” or “something someone said,” or “some past event that was negative.”

“Radical individualism” is not Christianity. To be a follower of Christ means that we first and foremost, bow to the authority of God in our lives, not our own authority. Secondly, to be a follower of Christ means we care about others. In fact, we love others and would not intentionally hurt or ignore others. Thirdly, we believe in righteousness, justice and truth. As Christians, we would never think or act without a sense of “how does that affect others,” or without “knowing what is verifiable and true.” *As Christians, our life is a life under the rule of God for the benefit of others.* As Christians, our life is never about “us.” As Christians, our life is always about “we.” As Christians, our life is always about “community” – community for each other, community for common worship, community for the care and justice of all people and of all creation. In the early Christian community, as reported in ACTS 2:

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people.”

A very appropriate analogy, as a member of a Christian community, is thinking of you not as a soloist, but rather as a member of a band. As the member of a high school band, for example:

“Students spend hours upon hours working to perfect a show for performance that will last around 8 minutes. If someone has a bad 20 seconds, it can wreck havoc on the entire band. If someone is confused, or not quite sure of the next move, there is no opportunity to call time out and get clarification. The band gets 7-8 minutes to showcase what they’ve spent hundreds of hours working on. . . . After the performance is over, not one performer will have their name in the paper, or get special recognition for their outstanding individual performance. Band is a team activity and not one person is recognized publicly for their outstanding performance that week. Everyone works hard, day in and day out, for the team-the group, knowing that they will not be singled out for special recognition. All the work is done for the good of the group.

As Christians, we are members of the body of believers, committed to God, to others, and to a belief system that includes confession, forgiveness, reconciliation, righteousness and justice. We are members of one body who share our resources for the good of all. We are members of a community that worships together, prays together and works together to share the good news of the gospel to everyone in word, thought, and deed.

May God be with you in every way, as a member of this community of believers.

Peace and blessings - Pastor Laine

-