

Trinity Lutheran Church
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May 19, 2020

Dear Members and Friends of Trinity Lutheran Church,

Our Church Council met online this past Sunday, May 17, and we'll meet through Zoom again on June 7, 2020, at 4:00 PM. I am grateful for our Council's leadership, and their deep concern for the well-being of our faith community and anyone else who enters our building's doors. While Juniata County will move to the Yellow Phase of Reopening on May 22, which would allow groups of 25 or less to gather, our council has made the decision to wait to allow any gatherings. They would prefer to err on the side of caution, safety and love for the neighbor, by continuing all ministry activities online for now. They felt that meeting in person poses an unnecessary risk at this time. *Anyone entering the building is to follow CDC guidelines, practice safe social distancing and wear a mask.

- **Worship** will continue on our website: www.trinitymcalisterville.org, and on our YouTube and Facebook pages. Audio CDs of worship are available for those who request them, and we will soon have DVDs available for those who do not have internet access and would prefer a DVD of the worship. Please let the church office know if you need one.
- **Online Bible Study** will continue at least through the end of May, on Wednesdays at 10:30 AM and 7:00 PM. Online confirmation has been meeting at 11 AM on Sunday mornings. You need a link to join. Please contact me if you need that link.
- **Thank you** for your ongoing care for one another and your financial support for our ministry together. Our regular offerings have been nearly the same as a year ago, which has sustained ministry, and helped us continue to give beyond ourselves to help our community. Our offerings to support Sonbeam Staff and others through our emergency Discretionary Fund, have been far above and beyond normal giving. I am grateful to God for you and for your generosity!
- **Our Sonbeam Staff is now receiving Pandemic Unemployment**, which is about half of their regular pay. We are grateful that has come through on top of ongoing gifts to support them through our church community.
- **Sonbeam ELC Plans.** While childcare centers can reopen once we are in the Yellow Phase of Reopening, Sonbeam Early Learning Center will not reopen yet. They have started preparing supplies and forming a plan for reopening. One of the members of our Director Team, Sonya Nace, is hosting online staff and parent meetings, as we begin to make decisions about reopening. Both the Council and the Sonbeam Board are a part of making those decisions.

Finally, if you are struggling in anyway: with loneliness, depression, anxiety, finances or spiritual hurt, please reach out to your Shepherd Leader, a Council Member or me. It is a sign of strength to admit that we cannot, nor are we meant, to handle everything ourselves, but we are gathered by Christ into community to lift up and be lifted up by one another.

Christ's Peace, Presence and Guidance be with you all,

Pastor Erin

Shepherd Leaders (*Contact the Church Office if you're unsure of your group*)

Shepherd Group 1: Raymond and Clarice Pellman

Shepherd Group 2: Peggy Inch

Shepherd Group 3: Peggy Nipple

Shepherd Group 4: John and Angela Monteleone

Shepherd Group 5: Hannah and Derek Shelley

Shepherd Group 6: Betty Lou Naylor

Shepherd Group 7: George and Sandy Snyder

Council Members:

John Monteleone, Council President

Chuck Rishel, Council Vice President

Jean Barnard

Susan Hackenberger

Sue Leister

George Snyder

Matt Snyder

Dot Spancake

Jerry Wagner

Council Secretary:

Angela Monteleone