



Tradewinds

The newsletter of Trinity Lutheran Church
Called by Christ + Gathered in Grace + Joyfully Serving
108 S. Robeson Street, Robesonia, PA 19551
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Linda Holt

Parish Planning Council

Anne Burd – Executive Director
John Fraunfelter – Human Resources
Denny & Louise Bowers - Fellowship
Vera Cervellero & Jim Dotzenroth -
Evangelism
Linda Purdin – Social Ministry
Steve Bobick – Lay Ministry
Lorna Fraunfelter - Stewardship
Mike McGuire - Property
Sally Krick - Christian Education
Walt Muir - Finance
Teri Rothenberger - Worship & Music
Josh Mountz – Youth

We return to our regular worship schedule on September 16th

Saturday - 5:00pm – Informal Service with Holy Communion

Sunday - 8:00am – Traditional Service with Holy Communion

Sunday School for all ages at 9:15am

Sunday – 10:45am – Traditional Service with Holy Communion

Children's Sermon & Nursery provided at 10:45am.

The Well – Wednesday Night - Meal, Activity, Worship 6-8:00pm

Dear Friends in Christ,

In a recent issue of Christian Century, Peter Marty wrote:

"Americans are increasingly defining themselves by their partisan identity, and doing so in idolatrous manner. For reasons that may have to do with the loss of deeper purpose, the disintegration of traditional communal bands, or a general indifference to religion and the church, tribalism is spiking. People on the left and the right are turning to politics as their deepest source of moral meaning. Holding sharply different views and values, different camps ascribe an almost sacred purpose to their party or tribe.

Most of us think of ourselves as wise, logical, smart, and discerning. So when the "other side" is for something, our superior perspective must necessarily be against it. We decide we must devalue, dismiss, or demonize the other's idea. And our preferred news networks and social media loyalties demand that we stand our ground and fire back.

It's time we name and unmask this idol. Our daily default to partisan identity does us no favor. Like all other idols, it offers promises it can't fulfill, assumes powers it was never meant to have, and leaves us empty in the end. If the charm of partisan identity doesn't eat us alive, it's surely going to keep disappointing us, especially as we step back and look for what makes for lasting meaning and abundant life."

(Christian Century – July 18, 2018)

I will gladly give you a copy of the whole piece, but what Pastor Peter writes is so true. Our world is becoming more and more fractured, and the divisiveness is destroying the foundation of our communities. As the church, more and more appears on the outside looking in. I ask if it is not time to regain our identity from the cross of Christ, one who emptied himself completely, to restore us into right relationships with one another.

I encourage us to move beyond what divides us, and come together around Jesus. I encourage us to come together around a common bond of loving God and neighbor. I encourage us to look through the lens of Jesus and see each other as sinners in need of forgiveness, grace, love and compassion. And by so doing, building communities, states, and countries that live into these same ideals. See you in worship! And let us remember that we are beggars, helping other beggars to find bread, the bread of life....Jesus!

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Bill