



# Holy Trinity

## Herald Tribune

Dear families and friends of Holy Trinity Catholic Church,

First I want to thank Paul Resch again for volunteering to be the lead editor and coordinator for this parish newsletter. It is no small task, and Paul already gives of himself generously in various parish and community groups and activities before he agreed to add this commitment as well. So thank you, Paul, and all the contributing writers, photographers, and editors, for providing our parish (and especially our home-bound or moved-away parishioners) this beautiful recap of our parish life since the last newsletter edition!

As the world slowly adjusts to all that's happened since the beginning of 2020, and the "new normal," we can feel a bit rocked, a bit anxious, a mix of various feelings. An important question we need to ask in these feelings is, "Where am I experiencing God in all of this?" God is peace, stability, meaning, and love, where am I getting some of that in this moment?

It is much easier to experience God in our lives, especially in times of suffering, or confusion, in the familiar surroundings of a parish church. The connection with the transcendence of our God, who communicates his peace to us from beyond the rough sea of our world; the quiet surroundings that help us forget all the noise for a moment; the comforting words of the Holy Scriptures; the grace, mercy, and nourishment of the Holy Sacraments. Especially in our beautiful church: to sit in the same space where generations before us have sat and asked God many of the same things, can help us feel connected to them, part of our larger family of faith.

Perhaps we can even find God in coming together again in the familiar parish activities that are slowly returning to us: Forty Hours, the 300 Club, the Feather Party, and thinking ahead—the Parish Christmas Party, and hopefully the fastnacht bakes! Volunteering and getting involved in church activities that make us more attentive to God's presence and love, and ministering to and with others, can help encourage us through difficult times. Not just to distract our minds from our troubles, but to invite God into them, and trust ourselves in love to His Sacred Heart.

Let us look for God's little messages of his love in our daily life, and help others to find God's love and peace in the difficult times of their life! Let us live the love of the Holy Trinity!

With prayers and blessings,

Fr. Stephen Kelley, pastor

## Geraldine M. Shutt - 101 Years of Faith & Unconditional Love

1920 was the beginning of the famous “Roaring Twenties.” It was the year the League of Nations was established, women gained the right to vote and the 18th amendment was signed into law prohibiting alcohol in the United States. The traffic light, hair dryer, Band-Aids and Eskimo Pies were invented. And Frank and Mary Wickenheiser celebrated the birth of twins, Cletus and Geraldine.

Geraldine (Gerl) Maricia Wickenheiser was born on September 20, 1920. Her twin, Cletus, passed away seven short weeks later. As the daughter of a wallpaper hanger and a homemaker, Gerl was second to the youngest of 18 children. Her upbringing, while humble, was not short on faith, family and love. She learned at a young age the importance of living simply, caring for your neighbor and placing God first. She was baptized, received her First Holy Communion and was confirmed at Holy Trinity. She attended Holy Trinity School and was frequently called on to babysit for local families and often looked after our own Donald Nikolaus. Gerl volunteered making fastnachts in her younger years and had the privilege of meeting Willard Scott when he visited Holy Trinity. She was an active member of the school’s Mother’s Club and is a member of the Altar Rosary Society. Along with her mother and eight sisters, the women were active members of the Loyal Order of the Moose. Gerl was the Childcare Training Chair for many years with a purpose to raise money to help support orphaned children of Moose members.



Geraldine met William W. Shutt (Shutty), a highly sought-after baseball pitcher, through a mutual friend and the couple were married in the Holy Trinity Rectory on June 26, 1942. They took up housekeeping in Washington Boro and, two years later, welcomed their first child, William C., to the family. Gerl and Shutty longed for more children and after many appointments with Dr. Weinberg, Ruth Ann was born in 1957. Both children attended Holy Trinity and graduated from Lancaster Catholic High School and have blessed Gerl with five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Gerl worked at Becker’s and spent more than 10 years preparing lunches and cleaning rooms at the Wickensheiser Hotel (owned by her brother Henry) in Landisville. She and Shutty tended a large garden and sold their famous tomatoes at their home front stand. Gerl could often be found canning red beets, tomatoes and other harvested vegetables and sharing them with many family and friends.

On more than one occasion, Gerl opened her home to friends and relatives who were displaced by flood or just needed a place to stay. Her generous spirit didn’t stop there. It wasn’t uncommon for her to entertain up to 20 family members on a Sunday afternoon for games of pinochle, laughter and her famous lunches. Dessert specialties included graham cracker pies,

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cracker pudding, pineapple upside down cake and, for birthdays, homemade ice cream. Her home was always open no matter the time of day.

Although Gerl turned 100 in 2020, COVID-19 prohibited the momentous celebration she deserved. She was, however, the guest of honor at the 30th annual Wickenheiser Family Reunion held in August where the family celebrated her sweet spirit, unconditional love and shared long-time memories.

The woman of valor described in Proverbs 31:10-31 comes to mind when reflecting on Gerl's remarkable life. *She is faithful and loves Jesus with all of her heart. She is a faithful bride. She is a loving mother and her children call her blessed. She takes care of her physical, mental, and spiritual health. She serves others with love and kindness. She is a wise steward of the gifts God has given her. She is a good manager of her home. She spends her time on that which is good. She is creative and embraces beauty and godliness.*

At 101 years of age, Gerl still hasn't acquired a taste for sauerkraut, but continues to sing some of her favorite songs: Old Rugged Cross, You Are My Sunshine and Jesus Loves Me. Her advice to others is "don't worry, be happy," "treat yourself" and "tell others what God has done in your life." As she ends each day, she reminds herself that "Jesus will never leave me or forsake me." She carries Him close in her thoughts knowing that he is truly there and holding her in His loving arms. What a life example for all of us.

## Eucharistic Procession on Corpus Christi Sunday



The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, more commonly known as Corpus Christi Sunday, was observed in the Catholic Church on June 6. It commemorates Christ's institution of the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. A Eucharistic procession was organized by the Knights of Columbus Council No. 2294 on the occasion of its 100th anniversary this year. Led by Father Stephen Kelley and Father Anthony Swamy, then pastor of St. Peter Parish, the procession began at Holy Trinity and processed through town to St. Peter's. The procession drew 300 participants.

# Stewardship Committee goals: grow, evangelize, renew

In November 2020, members of the Parish Finance Council discussed ways to help reduce the deficit that has been reported each week in the Sunday Bulletin. With COVID-19 canceling the last two weeks of the Fastnacht Bake in 2020, as well as the Parish Festival in June, and “in person” Masses being canceled for several weeks, it was imperative that a Revival Task Force be established to ensure that the vitality of our wonderful Holy Trinity Parish family remain strong and enduring well into the future.

With Father Kelley’s blessing, an invitation went out to the members of our parish in December 2020, to come to a meeting and organize a committee to address opportunities for growth, tithing, recommitment, renewal and evangelization.

The first organizational meeting was held on January 6, 2021, in the Rectory Basement. Twenty parishioners assembled, wearing face masks, and discussing ideas to meet these opportunities and goals.

In addition to Father Kelley, the following parishioners were in attendance: Deacon Henry Reese, Mary Barninger, Dave and Chrissy Anderson, Victoria Baldwin, Sr. Anna Cosgrave, Michelle Detz, James and Missy Horn, John Leaman, Leo Lutz, Gerald Nikolaus, Jean Marie Nobile, Paul Resch, Matt Samley, Roseanne Settino, Bob and Leann Sload, Regina Watkins, Mickey Willy and Bill Kloidt.

As president of the Parish Finance Council, Bill Kloidt volunteered to chair the Revival Task Force Committee, and Deacon Henry Reese took on the role of Secretary and recorded the minutes. Volunteering to chair committees were Paul Resch, Communications and Marketing; Roseanne Settino; Parish Activities; and Mary Barninger, Income/Fund Raising.

The committee has been meeting monthly since January, except for the month of July. As the main purpose of a task force is to find solutions to a problem within a short period of time, this committee has picked up momentum, strength and success and has decided to continue meeting into the future, but under a new name of “Stewardship Committee.” The committee will continue to meet the first Wednesday of the month. The presidents of each parish organization were invited to attend the September meeting to lay out a plan of awareness of each organization’s strengths and to establish a groundwork of assistance and cooperation.

Representatives from the parish organizations who attended the September 8 meeting and gave an overview of their mission and work were: Hal Snyder, Men’s Club; Mark Grab, Holy Name Society; Paul Nikolaus, St. Vincent de Paul Society; Bernie Wickenheiser, Music Ministry; Laura Kemmick, Youth Ministry; and Mandee Sahd-Havrilla, Tina Grove and Sara Greth, Our Lady of the Angels School. Also serving on the Stewardship Committee and representing the following Parish Organizations were Rosanne Settino, Companions on a Journey and the Legion of Mary; Betty Mahan, Altar Rosary Society; and Sr. Anna Cosgrave, Religious Education.

Father Kelley’s sermon on September 12, following the September Stewardship Committee meeting, included visiting priests’ comments about all the activities and organizations that are listed in our Sunday Bulletin. Father recommended that everyone should become involved by selecting and then participating in one of these wonderful organizations. He also urged the parish to attend Holy Hour and Adoration on Sundays in the church at 4:00 p.m.



# Vacation Bible School: 'Go to Joseph'

A happy and fun week was enjoyed by 62 children in Kindergarten through 6th grade at Holy Trinity's Vacation Bible School, which was held July 26 to 30. The theme, "Go To Joseph," was chosen because we are celebrating the Year of St. Joseph. Attendees were treated to a skit each evening performed by 16 youth helpers. Other activities included observing a master carpenter teaching skills to a young learner. Games and crafts were on each day's theme.

Themes for each day were:

Day One: God's Angel Tells St. Joseph to Take Mary as His Wife. Spouse of the Mother of God, Joseph Most Just [Matt 1:19-25]

Day Two: St. Joseph Wishes to Provide a Suitable Place for the Birth of Jesus. Foster Father of the Son of God, Lover of Poverty [Matt 2:1-12; Luke 2:1-20]

Day Three: St. Joseph and Blessed Mary Present Jesus in the Temple. Head of the Holy Family, Joseph Most Obedient [Luke 2:22-38]

Day Four: St. Joseph Takes the Holy Family to Egypt and Returns Safely to Nazareth. Diligent Protector of Christ, Joseph Most Strong [Matt 2:13-23]

Day Five: St. Joseph and Blessed Mary Find the Child Jesus in the Temple. Joseph Most Prudent, Mirror of Patience [Luke 2:41-52]

The script was inspired and written by our Seminarian, Rich Groff, who has the gift of presenting the sacred message in a holy and appealing way to children. Rich was on hand each evening and was assisted by 16 adult directors and behind the scenes helpers. The theme song for the week was (sung to the melody of Ghostbusters):

*"When you need some help,  
Who do you call?  
SAINT JOSEPH"*





# Youth Masses held in Spring and Fall

During World Youth Day in 2020, Pope Francis stated: “The youth are not the future of the Church; they are the Church.” He went on to encourage young people to dream, to take risks and to let their voices be heard.

With this message in mind, Holy Trinity celebrated its first Youth Mass on April 18 to allow the youth of our parish to take this challenge: to witness to their faith. The youth took ownership of all aspects of the Mass, serving as greeters, ushers, lectors, cantor and taking up the gifts. The Youth Masses were the idea of Michelle Detz, a teacher at Our Lady of the Angels School and member of the Stewardship Committee.

Feeling the enthusiasm of our youth and knowing they are the future of the Church, parishioners of all ages were highly receptive of the Youth Mass. To continue to encourage the youth to be active members of their faith,



the parish celebrated a second Youth Mass on September 26 as our parish began its 40 hours of Eucharistic Devotions. Through the Mass, all parishioners were encouraged to come and spend time with the Lord. We all look forward to our next Youth Mass as they continue to build our Church and walk us into the future.



# Fundraisers boost parish finances in 2021

The Fundraising Committee of the Revival Task Force has been busy planning, coordinating and carrying out several events to help boost the parish finance accounts. The first was a food stand at Thunder on the River Car Show on June 19. An assortment of baked goods donated from parishioners, ham and cheese sandwiches, hot dogs and soft pretzels netted \$887 in profit. The next undertaking was the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Holy Trinity Art & Craft Yard Sale on June 26. The Janson Foundation graciously granted permission to hold the event at Janson's Park. More than 40 art, craft and food vendors along with several parishioners rented spaces to sell their wares and homemade goodies. This event brought in \$1,918. Feedback from stand holders was so positive, the committee is already planning a repeat for June 4, 2022.

With the parish festival cancelled for a second year, the committee resurrected the annual cash raffle and following Mass on July 31, Mark Grab and Elvis (aka Ben Grab) moderated the live drawing of the Shake, Raffle and Roll fundraiser. The raffle cleared \$5,270.

The next undertaking was a stand at the Albatwitch Festival on October 9 at the Columbia River Park. This project raised \$1,114 by selling homemade apple dumplings, pies and other delicious dessert items.

The current venture underway is the "Tis the Season" Christmas Calendar. This raffle highlights a daily drawing for 32 consecutive days beginning December 1. Thanks to generous donations from local and regional businesses and parishioners, each day a prize valued between \$50 and \$500 will be drawn. Winners will be posted daily on the parish Facebook page and will be notified by phone or email. Two calendars, at a cost of \$20 each, were mailed to parishioners in early October. To enter the raffle, simply return the completed portion of the calendar and payment to the Rectory or drop in the weekly collection basket no later than November 30.



**Bernie Wolgemuth, Jr. and Hal Snyder, front, remove chickens from the racks while Andrew Reese, back middle, and other volunteers package them for pickup.**

Additional calendars are available for sale at the Rectory and unsold tickets should be returned if possible.

Our parish is blessed with the giving spirit of many parishioners who played an instrumental role in the success of these fundraising activities. Special thanks to Don and Becky Murphy, Ben Gorman, Stephen Horn, Roseanne Settino, Sr. Anna, Hal Snyder, Miranda Askey, Joan, Gary and Leanne Kauffman and Deacon Henry Reese for the active roles they had with the car show food stand. A big shout out goes to Bill Kloidt and the Janson Foundation, Mark Grab and the Holy Name Society, Rick Morrison, Ben Grab, Staci Henry, Kathleen Lutz and the members of the Legion of Mary for making the Art Craft & Yard Sale a great success. Many thanks to Kevin Kraft and Clyde W. Kraft Funeral Home for underwriting the printing costs of the Shake, Raffle & Roll tickets and to our parishioners who came through ticket purchases.

An army of volunteers came out to peel, core and slice apples, mix 50 batches of dough, roll dough, assemble, tend ovens and package more than 255 freshly made apple dumplings. Those responsible were Kathleen Lutz, Mary Elizabeth Helm, Pam Grove, Jody Way, Jane Grab, Pat Byard, Bev Droege,

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Regina Fisher, Beth Wolgemuth, Julie Warfel, Laura Barninger and Julie McCarty. Special thanks to Our Lady of the Angels School and Kathy Scott for opening up the school kitchen to prepare the scrumptious dumplings.

None of these events would have been possible without the selfless efforts of the parish secretary, Christine Horn, and the members of the Fundraising Committee who worked all of the events: Jean-Marie Nobile, Janelle Barninger, Bob Sload, Regina Watkins, Chrissy Anderson, Betty Mahan and Mary and Jay Barninger. Anyone interested in getting involved in any of the Task Force committees is encouraged to contact the parish office.



Kathleen Lutz, Emily Shank, Sara Greth, Staci Henry, Regina Fisher and Sr. Anna assist with the chicken BBQ.

## OLA students crown the Blessed Mother

Throughout history, Catholics have long honored the Blessed Virgin Mary during the month of May. To symbolize her significance in the Church and in our lives, the May Crowning is set up to display her queenship as the mother of Jesus. At the close of the procession a statue of the Blessed Virgin is crowned with a crown of flowers honoring Mary as “the Queen of May.” The queen symbol was attributed to Mary because she was a perfect follower of Christ, who is the absolute “crown” of creation. This is a time honored tradition for our 2nd graders at Our Lady of the Angels.



Kateri Herskowitz crowns the Blessed Mother. She was assisted by Chase Royce.



# Saint Spotlight: Lucy

Lucy's name means light, with the same root as lucid which means clear, radiant, understandable. Unfortunately for us, Lucy's history does not match her name. Shrouded in the darkness of time, all we really know for certain is that this brave woman who lived in Syracuse lost her life in the persecution of Christians in the early fourth century. Her veneration spread to Rome so that by the sixth century the whole Church recognized her courage in defense of the faith.

Because people wanted to shed light on Lucy's bravery, legends grew up. The one that is passed down to us tells the story of a young Christian woman who had vowed her life to the service of Christ. Her mother tried to arrange a marriage for her with a pagan. Lucy apparently knew that her mother would not be convinced by a young girl's vow so she devised a plan to convince her mother that Christ was a much more powerful partner for life. Through prayers at the tomb of Saint Agatha, her mother's long illness was cured miraculously. The grateful mother was now ready to listen to Lucy's desire to give her money to the poor and commit her life to God.

Unfortunately, legend has it, the rejected bridegroom did not see the same light and he betrayed Lucy to the governor as a Christian. This governor tried to send her into prostitution but the guards who came to take her away found her stiff and heavy as a mountain. Finally she was killed. As much as the facts of Lucy's specific case are unknown, we know that many Christians suffered incredible torture and a painful death for their faith during Diocletian's reign. Lucy may not have been burned or had a sword thrust through her throat but many Christians did. We can be sure her faith withstood tests we can barely imagine.

Lucy's name is probably also connected to statues of Lucy holding a dish with two eyes on it. This refers to another legend in which Lucy's eyes were put out by Diocletian as part of her torture. The legend concludes with God restoring Lucy's eyes.

Lucy's name also played a large part in naming Lucy as a patron saint of the blind and those with eye trouble.

Whatever the fact to the legends surrounding Lucy, the truth is that her courage to stand up and be counted a Christian in spite of torture and death is the light that should lead us on our own journeys through life.



**St. Lucy's stained glass window at Holy Trinity. She is the patron saint of blindness Her feast day is December 13 .**

# Holy Trinity Cemetery and Chapel

## By the Holy Trinity Archives Committee

In 1865, five years after the founding of Holy Trinity Parish, Father William Pieper, then the church's pastor, purchased three acres of ground on Barber Street for use as a cemetery. Until that time, all Catholics were buried in St. Peter's Cemetery. On the occasion of his 25th anniversary as pastor in 1888, Father Pieper donated an additional lot to the cemetery and he purchased another one and three-quarter acre lot in 1894. That same year, he announced from the pulpit that he would build a stone chapel in the cemetery at his own expense. At that time, Peter Bittner, the owner of Bittner's Hotel, was purchasing stone to build the new hotel. Father Pieper worked with Mr. Bittner to acquire enough additional stone to construct the cemetery chapel. The chapel was built at a cost of \$5,000, most of it paid by the pastor. Although no collection was taken up, parishioners contributed \$1,623 toward the effort. In appreciation for the parishioners' contribution to the project, Father Pieper purchased a number of stone statues from Germany, which he donated to the parish. Several of the statues were placed in the chapel, while the others went into the church, the original Holy Trinity church.

In the mid-1950s, during the pastorate of Father Stump, the road into the cemetery from Ninth Street was paved and the land bordering Tenth Street opened to accommodate additional graves. A statue group depicting the death of St. Joseph, originally purchased by Father Pieper, was moved from the cemetery chapel to the oval area which faces Central Avenue in 1956. At



the same time, the men of the parish, supervised by Rev. Joseph Smith, assistant pastor, re-painted the interior and repaired the exterior of the chapel. John Geltz and William Nikolaus were the chairman and co-chairman of the workers, respectively, while Louis Bittner, Francis Draude, Leroy Cramer, Ronald, Arthur and Vincent Fischer, John Jr., and Peter Geltz, Paul Stein, Philip Haberstroh, Paul Weisser, and Frank Sahd assisted in the effort. Work began in September 1956 and was completed in time for the reopening of the chapel on All Souls Day. The Tenth Street gate was constructed the next year.

After standing in the oval area of the cemetery for several decades, the statue depicting the death of St. Joseph had deteriorated to the point that it was removed and buried in the cemetery. Several years

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later, in November 2007, the Trinity Crucifix was installed in the oval area, replacing the St. Joseph statue. Designed at Mid-Atlantic Church Supply in Harrisburg and sculpted in Italy, the Trinity Crucifix was donated by an anonymous family in memory of their deceased family member.

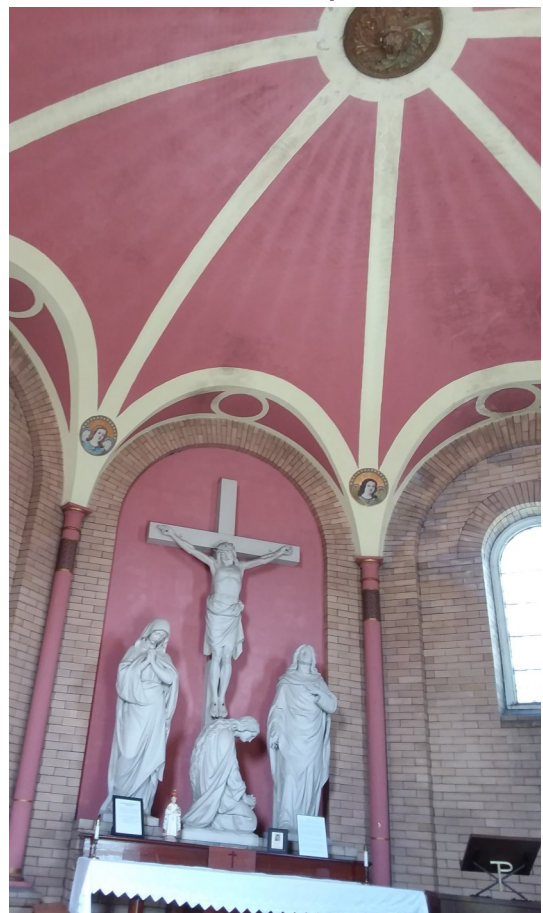
One of the more ironic events in the history of the cemetery occurred approximately 15 years after the chapel was completed, when Peter Bittner was found dead in the chapel that he had been instrumental in constructing. Newspaper reports of the incident note that Mr. Bittner, by then retired as manager of Bittner's Hotel, often went to the cemetery to walk and pray. When he did not return home for lunch on August 27, 1909, his family began to look for him. Knowing that he had a key to the cemetery chapel, they checked the building and found him lying on the altar platform beneath the crucifix, with his jacket folded under his head like a pillow. It was assumed that Mr. Bittner had begun feeling ill while walking in the cemetery and that he went into the chapel to rest, where he died of a heart attack.

The information for this article has been taken from a number of parish historical sources. The sources don't contain information indicating exactly when the statue group related to the death of St. Joseph was removed from the Tenth Street area of the cemetery or where it was buried, nor do we have any photographs of the statue. If anyone has this information or a photograph from which we could create a digital image, please contact the Archives Committee at [holytrinityarchives@gmail.com](mailto:holytrinityarchives@gmail.com).

The current members of the Archives Committee are: Mickey Willy, Kitty Sload, Teresa Weissner, Michael D. Witmer, Regina Fisher, Betty Mahan, Carol Shenberger, Gerald Nikolaus, and Beth Fry.



**Father William Pieper donated several stone statues for the chapel.**



# Parish Music Ministry: Choral Program Returns

The parish choir returned for re-formation on September 16, the first rehearsal of the season. The choir was in service at Mass on September 26 for the opening of Eucharistic Forty Hours Devotions. That Sunday was witness to our youth participating in various liturgical ministries. Serving in Music Ministry were Noah Horn as cantor and Emily Shank as flutist.

The primary role of pastoral musicians is to lead and accompany the communal song of the assembled people of God. Responding to the call to music ministry this new, fall season was Paul Resch who lends his voice to

the tenor section. We also welcome Renee Armer to the alto section.

A choir service commitment may be full time or seasonal, e.g., Christmas. High school students and adults who may have considered singing with the choir are invited to sing with our Christmas Choir at 7:00 p.m. December 24. Rehearsals on December 2, 9 and 16 will provide you an opportunity to observe, participate, and experience the music program and the joy of singing God's praise! For further information contact the parish Director of Music Bernie Wickenheiser at [bwickmusic1@aol.com](mailto:bwickmusic1@aol.com) or 717-252-5731.



Front: Noah Horn, Emily Shank, Regina Fisher and Betty Mahan. Middle: Patti Fisher, Victoria Carl, Ann Helwig and Missy Horn. Back: Matt Samley, Paul Resch, Mike Helwig and Andy Gotwols. Not pictured: John Leaman, Tink Lutz, Kathleen Lutz, Pat Byard, Beth Fry, Mary Elizabeth Helm, Brittany Siegfried, Jeff Kirchner, Renee Armer and Jeani Zell.

## 'We need sacred music now more than ever'

Bernie Wickenheiser, Holy Trinity's Director of Music, was a virtual attendee at the National Pastoral Musicians Annual Convention in New Orleans, July 27-30. The theme was ***Christ - Broken + Shared + Sent***. In her Plenum Address, Sister Helen Prejean, C.S.J. noted that with all the turmoil in the world today, "We need sacred music now more than ever before. Music takes us to a place in our hearts that we don't even know we have. You (Pastoral Musicians) are healers, the servants of 'deep soul'

connections for people." Sr. Helen shared her journey with the inmate on death row (Dead Man Walking, 1993). As the last person he saw before his execution, Sr. Helen arranged to have *Be Not Afraid* sung, the words of which can breathe dignity and give strength. Her new book, River of Fire, is a call for restorative justice.

*Know that . . . you are seen, valued, and needed in the Body of Christ.*

~ As the psalmist declared, "*sing and make music for the Lord*"!