

March 2024 Newsletter

10-11 So, friends, confirm God's invitation to you, his choice of you. Don't put it off; do it now. Do this, and you'll have your life on a firm footing, the streets paved and the way wide open into the eternal kingdom of our Master and Savior, Jesus Christ.

— 2 Peter 1:10-11, The Message

Dear Siblings in Christ,

A most blessed and holy Lent to you! (And at the very last hour of the month, Hallelujah! He Is Risen!)

Our modern, fast-paced society isn't easily distracted by matters of faith. In fact, the world seems to go on just fine, or thinks it does, without the interruption of faith at all. Each of us likely knows a person, or several, for whom God, in any expression of religion, isn't a thing. Their spiritual needs are either not met, or are weakly and falsely met with untruths from other communal endeavors. Our nation's passion, obsession, and financial commitment to entertainment, including music, screens, and sports, ring a bell?

The people that Peter, or those writing in Peter's name, are writing to are not so different. Enveloped in pagan practices, Hellenistic culture, and vestiges of Greco-Roman religions, they're ignorant of and resistant to the teaching of the Way of Christ. Even those who are believers and followers get sucked into the world's ways and struggle. Sound familiar? Peter uses his letters to address this cultural disparity.

The author, just before the above verses reminds Christians that the Lord has provided all that is needed to escape the corruption of the world and live a true, love-filled, free life in Christ and in the community of the Church. Then, he tells them straight in our verses above—it's time to RSVP. You're invited to new life; tell the Lord you're in!

Lent is a lot like RSVPing to God's invitation to be center stage in our lives. Following Christ calls us to be countercultural

in our striving to be good, faithful, enduring, loving, godly... and, perhaps the toughest in our day... tolerant of one another.

Too often today it's easy to dismiss one another, to turn to social media and post something nasty, to avoid clear honest communication in favor of disparaging remarks to the wrong people in the wrong places, to become angry when understanding would be far more Christlike, or to just not care. Peter's letters encourage us to remember that the gifts of God are ours to use to avoid becoming unfaithful, ineffective followers of Jesus, and unfruitful in our own ministry.

Instead, Peter says, return to the Lord and reattach to the truth that you've already been redeemed from the world's sinful nature. Confirm your own faith in Christ so that you don't stumble. Use these weeks as we journey toward Easter to remove distractions that prevent seeing God everywhere, Christ's love active in the world, and the Holy Spirit's work among us.

With focused senses, hearts, and spirits we won't notice the passing of the days, spring will come, the palms will wave, the story of Christ's great sacrifice will be told, and we'll shout, "He Is Risen!" together in joy... guests at the banquet of God's grace at Easter. Don't miss the party!

Love, Pr. Susan ☺

Save Your Palms

And the date! Ash Wednesday ashes are made by burning and preparing last year's palms from Palm Sunday. Save yours & bring them to church! We'll gather Sunday evening, March 2, **2025** for some fellowship & the fire. Watch for details in the future & mark your calendar now.

Our Mission: We are a family of Christian disciples committed to making Christ known while loving and serving God and neighbors.

Our Vision: To fulfill our mission, we will:

Worship through liturgy, music, prayer, and Sacraments;

Teach God's Word and nurture spiritual growth;

Serve and provide for those in need;

Witness to others by sharing the Gospel;

Celebrate with fellowship;

Return with joy what God has given;

Be active in our community and the Church.

Worship, Serve, Celebrate!



Bible Study for March:

Using the ELCA World Hunger program's 2024 Lent Study, everyone is invited to engage the weekly scriptures. Booklets (or digital copies) are available all over the church building, or by contacting the office.

The scheduled topics are as follows:

March 4: Transfiguration

March 11: Crucifixion

March 18: Restoration

March 25: Resurrection

The Zoom meeting ID for these sessions is **864 8792 7782**.

If you need help logging in, text Pastor Susan at 717-778-5548, or give her a call.



Drive Thru Holy Communion distribution will be held Sunday, March 3 at 10:30am. Anyone wishing to participate should arrive at the back of church to receive the sacrament from your car.

Trinity's Caregivers' Group will meet **Thursday, March 21 at**



10:00am in the chapel. Everyone who has been, is, or will be caring for a loved one is welcome to attend. No registration necessary; see Pastor Susan for more information.



Shut-in Visitation

Adopt Homebound Disciples: In this ministry, you're invited to adopt someone in our community who is no longer able to regularly attend worship or participate in activities for any reason. You'll have the chance to visit your adoptee every other month (or more often), to remember them on special days, and to simply let them know that they are still part of our faith family. Just call Judy Burgard (see Trinity's directory) or see the sign up form on the bulletin board downstairs by the elevator if you're interested. **Thanks so much to all who have remembered the homebound the past years. They really appreciate it.**

PASTORAL CARE CONCERNS should be directed to the church office or directly to Pastor Susan or Judy Burgard, our visitation coordinator (see above). We don't know when someone has had a crisis, a health concern, or other reason for care. Please share concerns so that we may love one another well. Thank you!

Mission-in-Motion Mission Trip: Plans are being made for a mission trip to Guatemala through Tree 4 Hope in January 2025 to volunteer at the school for girls. If you are interested in knowing more and possibly going on the trip, please see Pastor Terry for details.

Hey! Doing Christ's work all over really matters! Thanks for doing your part!

THANKS TO OUR SYNOD ASSEMBLY VOTING MEMBERS

Thank you to Mike & Sherry Brown for volunteering to serve as Trinity's 2024 & 2025 Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly voting members! This year's business will include all the procedures for electing a new bishop in 2025. Watch for more details as we get closer to the assembly May 31-June 1 to learn more about the business and learning conducted at a synod assembly. (synod = local region of the national church)

WELCA News

The women of ELCA will meet **Tuesday, March 5 at 7 PM** in the social hall at Trinity. We will be assembling boxes and planting fresh lettuce seeds. We are hoping to have them growing in time to pass out to the April Food Pantry families. We may ask you for your help by taking boxes home to nurse them along in your own windowsills.

On March 20, Trinity is hosting the mid-week Lenten Luncheon in our social hall. The women of ELCA will be preparing a soup and sandwich meal to serve before the service.

All women of Trinity Lutheran Church are invited and encouraged to attend our meetings. We hope to see you there!

Upcoming Lectionary Scriptures



The Sunday worship texts come from the Revised Common Lectionary. To prepare you for worship, study, and devotion, here are the upcoming texts for March:

March 3rd, Lent 3: Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19;
1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

March 10, Lent 4: Numbers 21:4-9;
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

March 17, Lent 5: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12;
Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33 (*subject to change due to commemoration of St. Patrick*)

March 24, Palm Sunday: Isaiah 50:4-9a;
Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 11:1-11

March 28, Maundy Thursday: Exodus 12:1-14;
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26;
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

March 29, Good Friday: Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22;
Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18:1-19:42

March 31, Easter: Acts 10:34-43;
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11;
Mark 16:1-8

♥ Thank You!! ♥

The Mystery was solved on February 18th in the church social hall with the help of the characters and the audience. The culprit was Wanda Crackett and the victims were Pastor Terry McCarthy and Kay Hinkle. Thank you to Parish Life (Anita Madsen, Ruthann Bowen, Deb King, Wanda Crackett and Jackie Messinger) and all the others who stepped up to help, for all the work they did and for the preparation (and appetizers) to make the event so enjoyable. Thanks to Bob King for taking care of the technical "stuff." Thanks to Pastor Susan for the pre-dinner prayer. Also, we can't forget to thank all the character actors who did such a great job with their costumes and staying in character during the whole event: Pastor Terry McCarthy, Kay Hinkle, Glenda Dove, Mary Jacobs, Wanda Crackett, Rick Madsen, Bob King, Jay and Susan Smith, Bill Bowen, Louise Boyer, Sherry Brown, Mac McMaster, Barb Kauffman and Sami Kurtz. A huge thank you to Judy Burgard for the wonderful photos that she took and posted on Facebook. Thank you to Trinity's secretary, Jen Guiher, who did a lot of printing for the event and to Hughes Meats for a delicious meal. It was an enjoyable event for all!

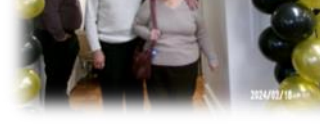
(And a very special Thank You to Shelly Livingston for organizing the whole event!)





More photos on the next pages...





A MURDER MYSTERY DINNER





THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®

In 2023, Trinity received \$1,770 in Thrivent Choice Dollars grant funding. As a reminder, eligible

Thrivent members with remaining 2023 Choice Dollars® have until March 31, 2024, to designate any undirected funds. For more information, visit

Thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 800-847-4836 and say “Thrivent Choice” after the prompt. Through Thrivent Choice®, clients with membership can contribute to organizations and causes they care about—and influence how Thrivent distributes some of its charitable grant funding through Choice Dollars®.

Together, we make a difference Through Thrivent’s Generosity Programs

A heartfelt thanks to all of you who have used Thrivent’s generosity programs to support Christ’s work here at Trinity. Once again you showed us how, together, we can make a difference by helping to strengthen communities and change lives. Go to Thrivent.com/generosity to learn more.



Good News & Brews is held the second Tuesday of each month at the Altland House in Abbottstown. Join with other local disciples to enjoy conversation, food and refreshments. Next meeting is March 12 from 6:30pm-8:00pm. EVERYONE IS INVITED!

Palm Sunday Invitation

Sunday, March 24th we’ll open worship with a processional anthem for all ages (not the usual...). Please consider singing and processing with the every-age choir that morning to begin our worship. See Karen Wire for details. ALL singers welcome, (even if you just want to lip-sync!)



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday March 24 – 9:00am

Maundy Thursday March 28 – 7:30pm

Good Friday March 29 – 7:30pm

Easter Services March 31:

7:00am – Easter Sunrise Service

8:00am – Easter Breakfast

9:00am – Children’s Easter Program

10:15am – Easter Festival Service

Join us in person or online: **Palm Sunday** (not Passion Sunday) in the sanctuary at 9:00am. **Maundy Thursday** in the social hall at 7:30pm. **Good Friday** in the sanctuary at 7:30pm. **Easter Sunrise** service including Holy Communion in the sanctuary at 7:00am. **Continental Easter Breakfast** at 8:00 am followed by the **Children’s Easter Program** in the social hall at 9:00am. The **Easter Festival Service** in the sanctuary at 10:15am including Holy Communion and a pick-up choir with the Hallelujah Chorus! Everyone is invited to lift their voice to the Lord and sing out, for **HE IS RISEN!**



The children assembled care bags in February sharing God's love with the community!





The Children's Easter Program will be held on Easter Sunday, March 31st in the Social Hall at 9:00 AM. All are welcome!

We will be having the Children's Easter Program practice, Egg Hunt, and Dinner (hotdogs, drinks, and rolls will be provided. Bring a food item to share - a sign up sheet will be on the bulletin board near the back door) on Saturday, March 30th from 4-6 PM in the Social Hall. 4:00-5:15 is program practice and 5:15-6:00 is the Egg Hunt and Dinner. If you have any questions please contact Pastor Susan or Joshlyn Sharrer at 717-752-5741.



Kids' Quarter Collection: The next Tin-Cup Quarter Collection will be on Sunday, March 3 with a **NOISY OFFERING.**

Please bring your quarters with you to worship that day.

All the money we collect goes to
Laundry Love.

GET INVOLVED WITH THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Do you knit or crochet? Would you like to learn? Want to gather for fellowship and to pray over the shawls others make? Feel called to be on the shawl distribution team? Join us for the next gathering of the Prayer Shawl Ministry **Monday, March 11 at 2pm** in the church parlor. Beginning in April, we will meet on Wednesday evenings at 7pm. See Pat Bjonnes (see directory) for more information or with questions.



WEDNESDAYS FELLOWSHIP & FAITH

You're welcome at the **Wednesday Morning Prayer** service @ **10AM in the Chapel**, or worship online through the Trinity Lutheran EB Fellowship Group on Facebook. A fellowship time will be held at **8:30 at Graybill's Diner, Abbottstown** for breakfast, Dutch treat.



HAVE YOU BEEN WORSHIPPING ONLINE?



In the last 30 days, we had 305 video views, with 92 hours of watch time. Of those 305 views, 245 were return viewers and 56 new viewers! We now have 186 subscribers! Thank you to those worshipping from home (and away). If you're an online worshiper, please feel free to contact the church office with requests for connection, pastoral needs, and feedback about your online experience. We'd love to hear from you!



Music, Gettysburg! presents a concert of the Boston Shawm and Sackbut Ensemble with the Cantorum of Gettysburg. On April 6, 2024 at 4:00pm at the Church of the Abiding Presence, United Lutheran Seminary, join us for this FREE concert. These two renowned ensembles come together to perform THE GOLDEN AGE OF LUTHERAN CHORAL MUSIC (Martin Luther to Johann Sebastian Bach, 1500-1750) Contact Becky Rinehart if you have questions.

A Holy Groaner—

God is talking to one of his angels and says, “Do you know what I have just done? I have just created a 24-hour period of alternating light and darkness on Earth. Isn’t that good?”

The angel says, “Yes, but what will you do now?”



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

In February’s newsletter Pastor Susan invited your questions about Trinity, the bible, Lutheranism, the Christian faith, etc. To the date of this publication, she’s received only two, read on...

Was Galileo named after Galilee? Maybe. You’d have to ask his parents to be sure, but Galileo derives from the Latin “Galilaeus” which means “of Galilee.” We have no way of knowing if his parents were thinking of that region of Israel, or of Jesus when they named him.

What are we doing when we worship? The easiest answer is that we’re showing adoration to God, but to do so well we follow a format that has ancient roots and includes: song, prayer, scripture, proclamation (sermon), offering, sacraments, silence, praise, supplication (submission) to the Lord, fellowship, joy, wonder, confession... We could spend a LONG time answering this question. What helps you worship in person and/or online?

Worship Leader Schedule

We need volunteers for the

Date	Assisting Minister	Communion Helper	Lector	Usher
Mar 3	Sue C.	Violet C.	Bob K.	Bob K./D
Mar 10	Amber N.	Mark B.	Greta H.	Jim/Noell
Mar 17	Violet C.	Jim K.	Sandy E.	Rick/An
Palm Sunday Mar 24	Chris L.	Ruthann B.	Pr. Terry	Leon/
Maundy Thurs Mar 28			Dona L.	Ricky
Good Friday Mar 29	Ruthann B.		Pr. Terry	Jay
Easter Sunrise Mar 31 7am	Ruthann B.			
Easter Festival Mar 31 10:15am			Sami K.	Mark/

Note: If you need to change the date you are scheduled to serve, please contact our



Pump Organ Dedication—Hymn Sing— On Sunday, February 4, Trinity held a hymn sing to dedicate the new pump organ generously dedicated by the Hoffman family

Schedule—March 2024

Fill in the empty spaces below!

Members	Altar Guild	Cantor(s)	Acolyte	Cookie Break
Deb/Sandy	Janet M.	Chris L.	Konner H.	Erin H.
Dee/Ruthann	Sami K.	Becky R.	Claire W.	Giovanna B.
Anita/Mark	Deb K.	Barry B.	Tristan B.	Laura R.
Jay/Sue	Noelle K.	Sue C.	Grace W.	Lisa M.
Dee/Anita	Anita M.	----		----
Dee/Sue	Anita M.	Sami K.		----
	Kathy K.			----
Jay/Sue	Kathy K.	Dona L.		----

Members on the list and arrange a swap. Please notify the church office of the change.



“Shine, Jesus, Shine” was performed in sign language by our youth on Sunday, February 11. Our instructor, Paula Haldeman is a sign language interpreter with Lincoln Intermediate Unit 12.

Ministry Pages



THE SHARING SHELF update:

◆ Please remember the Sharing Shelf when you shop and keep in mind meals and snacks that don't require heating, other ingredients, or even utensils. Our homeless neighbors and hungry kids appreciate this!

◆ The shelf feeds our neighbors in between trips to the Food Pantry, between paychecks, and/or when a crisis occurs. Thank you!

Bring donations to the office, or to worship any time! See Deb King (see directory) if you are interested in learning more about, or helping with the Sharing Shelf.

Get New Glasses Recently? The East Berlin Lion's Club has a donation box for old eye glasses at Trinity located under the bulletin board near the elevator. Thanks in advance for thinking of others.



The next **Ruth's Harvest Collection Bag Packing** is **Wednesday, March 20 at 12:40pm** at the old firehall near St. John's in Abbottstown. Each month of this school year, we pack 105 bags of food for students at Bermudian Springs Elementary. The Ruth's Harvest Ministry continues because of the support and generosity of Trinity and five other area congregations. Thank you! **The most needed items right now are individual tuna/chicken salad packs, mac & cheese cups, non refrigerated milk, and cereal.** See Sandy Emig (check directory) or contact the office to get involved!

Laundry Love Ministry Update: Russell Russinger, Laundry Love Co-founder, provided an update on how much was accomplished in 2023. There were 54 new locations this year. There are 287 active locations. There were 106,000 loads of wash, 60,000 people cared for, 100 million lbs. of laundry. EVERY person is HONORED, SEEN & VALUED. THANK YOU!



EB Laundry Love will be held **Tuesday, March 12 from 5:00-6:30pm**

at the White Dove Laundromat in East Berlin behind Jim & Nena's Pizza. Laundry Love is getting busier each month. We have approximately 25 people making use of this ministry. We need volunteers for the second Tuesday of each month from 5:00 to 6:30 PM. To sign up to help at the laundromat see the sheet on bulletin board by the elevator. This ministry is always in need of quarters. **March 3rd's Noisy Offering will collect quarters for this ministry,**



or you may drop them any time in the collection box in the narthex (upstairs lobby). Quarters or other monies (all carefully labeled) may also be offered in the Offering Plate. Thank you for your support of this important, loving, ministry.

Food Pantry: New Hope Ministries is bringing the mobile pantry from 4:00-6:00pm on Wednesday, March 6. **There will be requests for donations in the bulletins.** **REMINDER:** Volunteers are needed to serve as personal shopping assistants, set-up and tear-down, stockers and loading assistants. No need to sign-up in advance to help. Simply show up anytime after 3:00 p.m. on the day of the Food Pantry. Any questions, contact Anita Madsen.

Fellowship Hour is held the first Wednesday of every month from 3:00-4:00pm. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy some time playing games, talking, doing a puzzle, and having a time of prayer as needed. Light refreshments will be served.

Dates	March 15--17 (Friday, Saturday, Sunday)
Where	Zinn-Tozer Lodge, Camp Nawakwa, Ardentsville, PA 30 minutes from East Berlin. Carpooling available.
Goals	Fun, Fellowship, Great Food, Family activities plus R&R Faithbuilding experiences, Games Theme: God invites us to invite God's people
Who	Families and people of all ages (from 2 to 102)
Night Stay Options	2 night stay (Friday <u>and</u> Saturday, or 1 night stay (Friday <u>or</u> Saturday), or 0 night stay (Day Use) Friday, Saturday, and Sunday
Beds	10 rooms, each with a flat double bed and 3 bunk style beds Enough for 2 adults and 3 children Shared bathrooms (Men's and Women's) with showers
Day Use	Come for the day activities (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday) Sleep in your bed at home each night
Costs	Night Use \$75 <u>per room</u> for the first night (2 adults, 3 children) Second night free!!! Includes room, activities and all 5 meals Day Use \$25 <u>per adult</u> for entire weekend (kids free) Includes activities and all 5 meals



Scholarships are available for retreat attendance if the cost is prohibitive for your family (Trinity membership not required for retreat or scholarship participation). See Pastor Susan with requests, which will remain confidential.

2024 March	Friday (15th)		Saturday (16th)		Sunday (17th)	
	Kids	Adults	Kids	Adults	Kids	Adults
7:00			Breakfast in PJs (Prayer at 9:50)		Breakfast in PJs	
8:00			Cleanup and Free Time		Free Time Cleanup and Pack	
9:00			Learning Activities	Programing	Worship Service	
10:00			Activities & Games		Cleanup and head home	
11:00			Prayer at 11:55 Lunch & Free Time			
12:00			Learning Activities	Programing		
1:00			Activities & Games			
2:00			Prayer at 4:50 Dinner & Free Time			
3:00			Learning Activities	Programing		
4:00			Activities & Games			
5:00			Arrive anytime after 5:00			
6:00			Campfire with Hot Dogs, S'mores, Stories, Songs and Skits Devotions at 8:30			
7:00			Devotions & Movie			
8:00	Devotions & Movie					
9:00	Bedtime?	Social Time Cards & Games	Bedtime?	Social Time Cards & Games		
10:00	Bedtime?	Social Time Cards & Games	Bedtime?	Social Time Cards & Games		
11:00	Bedtime?	Social Time Cards & Games	Bedtime?	Social Time Cards & Games		

YOU ARE INVITED!

Trinity's Retreat weekend at Camp Nawakwa is a chance for us all to get away together to share in fellowship, fun, worship, and faithful learning. Come for all or just part of the weekend. Our theme this year is **God's Radical Hospitality**—we're all invited to the Lord's grace, love, banquet, community, LIFE!

Folks who are newer to Trinity's community are especially invited to attend so that we can all get to know one another. Please see Pastor Susan or Mike Brown if you have any questions. Please come!

Worship Schedule

(All Sunday services begin at 9am unless indicated otherwise)

- March 3—Lent 3
- March 10—Lent 4
- March 17—Lent 5
- March 24—Palm Sunday
- March 28 7:30p.m.—Maundy Thursday (social hall)
- March 29 7:30p.m.—Good Friday (sanctuary)
- March 31—7:00a.m. Easter Sunrise Service (sanctuary)
- March 31—10:15a.m. Easter Festival Service (sanctuary)

Midweek Morning Prayer Service

Every Wednesday at 10AM (chapel)

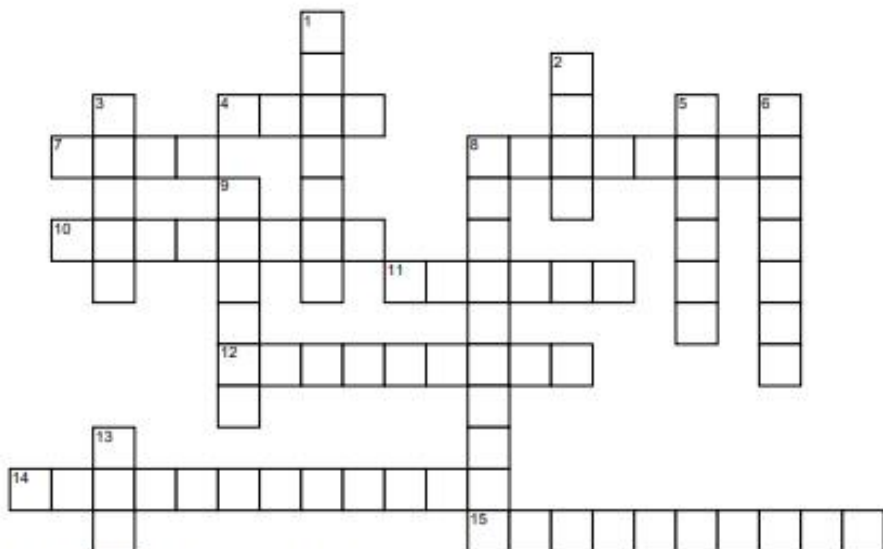
Drive-thru Holy Communion Distribution will be held Sunday, March 3 at 10:30 a.m. in the rear of the church near the disability parking.

NOTES:

- The following elements are available during Communion: wheat bread, wine, grape juice, gluten-free wafers, pre-blessed sealed wheat wafer and grape juice packages
- At any time during Holy Communion you may step out of line to spend time at the chancel rail as you desire. If you are unable to come forward, please let an usher know and the distributors will come to you.
- *Anyone interested in serving as a Lector, Assisting Minister, Communion Assistant, Usher, Hymn Leader, Acolyte or Altar Guild is asked to contact the church office.*

Do you have a voice remote with your smart TV or cable box? If you do, try saying, “**Trinity Lutheran Church, East Berlin, YouTube,**” with the remote’s microphone button held in. Your remote lets you select the service you’d like to attend by watching. Please join us! Call the church office if you need help.

Lenten Crossword



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ACROSS

- 4 Catholics don't eat this on Fridays during Lent.
- 7 The Last Supper was on _____ Thursday
- 8 We don't say or sing this during Lent in the church.
- 10 _____ of the Cross
- 11 Jesus prayed for 40 days here
- 12 This sacrament started during the Last Supper
- 14 We spend Lent preparing for Jesus' death and _____.
- 15 The day Jesus died (two words)

DOWN

- 1 During Lent, we should spend more time doing this.
- 2 A week before Easter is _____ Sunday.
- 3 There are _____ days in Lent.
- 5 Palm _____
- 6 When you go without food
- 8 During Lent, we give to the poor.
- 9 The Liturgical color of Lent
- 13 _____ Wednesday

WORD BANK: Stations, Desert, Violet, Eucharist, Ash, Sunday, Holy, GoodFriday, Almsgiving, Fasting, Praying, Resurrection, Palm, Meat, Forty, Alleluia.

March Birthdays

3-3 Rev. Dan Biles

3-3 Pam Eisenhart

3-4 Scott Young

3-4 Ivy Livingston-Ramirez

3-5 Jack Miller

3-6 George Vance

3-7 Melinda Brasher

3-10 Eva Boyer

3-10 Jordan McSherry

3-11 Mary Jacobs

3-12 Dave Livingston

3-13 Weston Fortuna

3-13 Trace Fortuna

3-15 Joshua Hinkle

3-16 Patricia Bjonnes

3-18 Quintin Arber

3-18 Dana Carter

3-20 Anita Madsen

3-20 Rodger Grim

3-22 Myles Anthony

3-23 Henry Bowen

3-24 Carly Eisenhart

3-24 Alex Sharrer

3-26 Tristan Biles

3-28 Chase Storm

3-29 John Rinehart

3-29 Jack Crackett

3-30 Abby McSherry

3-30 Robby Sebright

3-31 Claire Warner

3-31 Grace Warner



**HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY**

3-19 Earl & Barb Kauffman ~ 6 Years

3-20 Barry & Mary Jacobs ~ 59 Years

3-28 Ryan & Pam Eisenhart ~ 15 Years

3-30 Hal & Kathy Atkinson ~ 33 Years



**DON'T FORGET TO CHANGE
YOUR CLOCKS ON MARCH 10.**



Midweek Lenten Luncheon & Services

are held each Wednesday in Lent at 12:00pm. The service begins with lunch at 12:00noon and is followed by the service. Please join us for one or all of these ecumenical services. The schedule is below.

March 6—St. John's Lutheran Church

March 13—Immaculate Heart of Mary

March 20—Trinity Lutheran Church

East Berlin Community Singers: The next season is about



to begin for The East Berlin Community Singers. The performance will be held Sunday, May 19 at Paradise Lutheran Church in Thomasville at 3p.m. Rehearsals held at Trinity will begin Sunday, March 3rd

at 6:00pm. We always welcome new members (no audition necessary). For information on joining the group, or concert information, contact Julie at jmaher78@comcast.net.

**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
February 9th - 7:00 p.m.**



Present: Pastor Susan McCarthy, Bob King, Sue Clauser, Mark Boyer, Bob Aims, Joshlyn Sharrer, Dona Lerew, Michael Sheads, Sandy Emig. Via Zoom were Sherry Brown, Barb Kauffman, and Le-on Leas. Absent was Karen Sheaffer

Bob called the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda. The following addition was made:

9.2 Laundry Love suggestion

Secretary's Report was reviewed and the following modifications were made:

- As noted additional individuals are able charge expenses for the church. However, this only relates only to those purchases made at Cashmans.
- No additional Signatures were added to the Financial Accounts. Following review by Sue it was concluded will remain the same.
- Incorrect spelling of Leas – change from Lease to Leas.

Based on the above modifications a motion to approve was made by Pastor Susan and seconded by Bob.

Treasurer's Report:

Currently a couple thousand ahead. Current positive market returns are having a positive impact on the Endowment Funds.

Ministry Reports:

Learning and Youth:

No Report.

Worship & Music Committee:

W&M Committee Agenda/Minutes 2/1/2024

Attending: Noelle, Pastor, Andy, Karen, Becky, Dona

Next Meeting: Thurs, Mar 7, 9AM – Check if Andi Available.

Review of Worship Leader roles (expand for more young people involved)

- Acolytes- get there on time.
- Ushers Greeters Lectors AM's (Mark Boyer training pending)

- Headset #2 and Handheld should not be on at same time
- Altar Mike interferes with sound system (late development)
- Training AM for headsets (Alex Sharer)
- Communion Distribution
- Altar Guild – Kathy Kuhn and Leon.
- Bell Choir – practice begins Wed nite, starting 2/21. 2 octave choir.
- Keep watch for new worshippers to play leader roles.
- Review worship improvements- consider ways to keep worship more engaging and focused, in-person and on-line
- Review of previous services/practices – to help in future planning.
- Announcements
- Standardized form for written announcements
- Pastor will point person on spoken announcements end service. Consistency & Clarity, and Invitational.
- Becky will email committee chairs
- Epiphany season Epiphany candles – make it more visible. Mention candles in a children’s message.
- Future Worship Planning
- Hymn Sing Feb 4th, 3PM for with Pump Organ. Soft sound.
- Transfiguration Feb 11th. Come and Enjoy. Gathering, Word, Meal and Sending. Coloring sheets. Visual. HOD Shine Jesus Shine – hymn leader will be Addie, Carly, Grace. Hymn leader for opening hymn is Tristan, and Violet. Listen God is Calling. Sami and Dona Hymn Leaders.
- Camp Sunday (March 17) – Supply Pastor Biles. St. Patrick’s Day readings. Tristan as Hymn Leader.
- Ash Wednesday 10AM. Ashes to Go: 11-1PM. Men's group hands out bag lunch. 7PM service.
- Sunday services during Lent: focus on Lent scriptures. Change setting.
- East Berlin Community Choir will use church for rehearsals starting in March, Sunday 6-8PM thru May.
- Girl Scout Sunday March 10th. Greta as reader. Girl Scouts to bring elements forward. Help with cookie break?

Holy Week.

Maundy Thursday 40 people- acoustic not good in chapel. Move to social hall. Make atmosphere warmer.

Good Friday.

Easter Sunrise inside.

Easter 10:15. Brass Quartet for JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN.

Endowment Responsibilities

In honor of benefactors, Ralph and Kathryn Eisenhart, altar flowers will be

provided at least two Sundays each year.” We plan a floral arrangement on cabinet(w/door – ask property where this went, along with offering plate), 2 Sunday’s a year. All Saints Day. Transfiguration.

Also, the Worship and Music Committee all be responsible for putting potted plants on Memorial Day

Capital Improvements Scope – worship impact. Find ways to exploit new capabilities of sound system in worship.

Refinish Floor in Choir Loft

Deter if Piano in Choir Loft is doable

Keep eyes and ears open to baby grand piano deals.

Finance:

Oral report.

Parish Life:

Parish Life committee met on Thursday, February 1st at 2:00. We made plans for the murder mystery play and dinner to be held on Saturday, February 17th at 5:30.

Shelly went over the parts and the timeline for the mystery. We made final plans for the food and drinks, decorations and place setting needs. We will have another meeting on Wednesday, February 14th at 1:00 to make final plans and we will meet on Friday, February 16th to set up and decorate.

We made plans for the Easter rehearsal meal for the kids on Saturday, March 30th. We will supply hot dogs, rolls, pb&j sandwiches, chips and drinks. Parents usually bring side dishes and desserts.

We also planned for the Easter breakfast. We will have donuts and muffins, fruit and drinks.

Social Ministry:

The Next Food Pantry will be held Wednesday, March 6 from 4:00-6:00pm. A Fellowship Hour will be held at Trinity at 3PM prior to every Food Pantry.

Our Next Laundry Love date is Tuesday, February 13 from 5:00-6:30pm at the White Dove Laundromat.

WELCA

WELCA will not meet in February and will resume meeting March 5 at 7 PM in Trinity's social hall. Upcoming in March, we will host the Lenten Lunch-

eon on March 20, serving soup and sandwiches.

Men's Ministry

The Men's Group will meet March 2 to make soup.

Mission-in-Motion:

No Report.

Outreach:

No Report.

Evangelism:

- Trinity's Retreat is planned for March 15-17 at Camp Nawakwa, Ardentsville, PA.
- The purpose is for attendees to grow in faith while having fun and fellowship.
- This year's theme centers on "Radical Hospitality". Just as Jesus invited his disciples to join him and practiced radical hospitality, Jesus invites us, and invites us to invite others, to enter into a "radical" relationship with him.
- Activities begin Friday night with a campfire and end with a worship service Sunday morning.
- Pastor Susan will be at Nawakwa for the entire weekend. A supply pastor will take care of the worship service in East Berlin.
- Costs for the supply pastor as well as the entire retreat will be paid for out of the retreat funds. No general funds will be used.
- Scholarships/Camperships are available through Pastor Susan for whom cost may be a burden.
- The details and design of the East Berlin worship service that Sunday will be determined by the Worship and Music committee.
- Note: Trinity's annual retreat is not just a tradition or a fun activity. It is part of our mission to "make Christ known" by providing a format for strengthening the relationships of all of God's children as well as all of creation. Last year's theme "One Bread, One Body" emphasized that we are all part of the body of Christ (the church). This year's theme "Radical Hospitality" highlights the need to extend the love of Christ to our neighbors.

Property:

Gazebo Update: The variance we applied for in order to install a gazebo on the side grassy area, was approved. This gazebo is being installed as a memorial to Paula Lerew Wolf, a former member of Trinity who was baptized, confirmed, and married in Trinity. She is Anita Madsen and Dona Lerew's sister, and Deb King's cousin. Her husband, Dudley Wolf, asked to have a memorial to her at Trinity and the idea of a gazebo seemed fitting. Paula was a florist and an amazing gardener so this seems perfect. The idea was presented to the property committee who supported it and began making plans. However, the permit was denied because Trinity's property is 3.9% over the allotted non vegetative property. We filed for a variance and it was accepted! Installation will be some time in the late spring. The project will be totally funded by Dudley Wolf and family. We hope this gazebo will be used in a variety of ways such as outdoor Sunday school, a spot for prayer, a place to enjoy lunch during Colonial Day, shelter for the students at the bus stop, etc.

Stewardship

No Report.

"Governance" Mutual Ministry/Constitution Committee:

No Report.

A motion to accept the Ministry Reports was made by Bob King and seconded by Bob Aims.

Pastor's Report:

Made 5 visits; saw 2 people for pastoral concerns; working with Worship & Music to make worship more focused; hosted two cocktail hours; transitioned bible study from a study of Joseph in Genesis to the topic of Forgiveness for Lent; participated in Ruth's Harvest packing; completed plans for Trinity Family Retreat kids' games and devotional/worship times; encouraged Souper Bowl of Caring participation and sportswear Sunday; prepped and taught intergenerational Sunday School on what Love means in the bible—really well attended and a lot of fun; continuing to lead Wednesday morning prayer with a fellowship breakfast prior, plan to have Holy Communion during Lent; served Drive-thru Holy Communion to 4 people; continuing to work with council re: reorganization; participating in the Wellness group's FirstPlace4Health endeavor; hosted Ash Wednesday events: Morning Prayer w/Ashes, Ashes-to-Go with Men's Group lunch

(THANK YOU!), and 7pm Ash Wednesday service; hosted a Grief Group, only one attendee but a great time of sharing and prayer; participated in the Valentine's banquet at Inn 94 (Thank you to Parish Life!); looking forward to the Lenten Lunches in March, worked with area pastors to plan for these, I preach on 3/15 at Immaculate Heart about Joseph of Arimathea. Oh, and we buried the Alleluias in the font!

Old Business

Ministry Re-org – Re-org picture being drafted, as well as a pamphlet next month

New Membership/Disciples Guidelines. Waiting on Synod direction.

Revised Facilities Use Agreement and new Fee Structure: Review by Property Committee; Targeting next month.

Synod Delegates Needed: Sherry Brown volunteered; Still need Male delegate.

New Business

Potential change in the Council Meeting standard Date and Time was discussed but no decision.

Laundry Love: Suggestion was made to use a portion of the money to purchase a used washer/dryer for one of the families – perhaps one of the larger with more kids. No decision made.

Important Upcoming Dates

Newsletter Deadline – February 20, 2024

Next Council Meeting – March 14, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Susan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Bob Aims seconded. All agreed and the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mark Boyer

Easter Flowers: Tulips & Lilies are available for purchase for our Easter Sunday service. All flowers will be \$9 each. Deadline to order and pay is March 10. You may also order by calling the church office or emailing the secretary. Thank you!



Please complete the lower portion of this form, including your payment (make checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church). You may place your order in the collection plate or the church office.

Deadline for ordering flowers is Sunday, March 10

___ Lilies - \$9.00 ea. _____

___ Tulips - \$9.00 ea. _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Presented by:

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____
