

THE PIPER



MARCH 21, 2021

Trinity Lutheran Church

2221 North Oak Lane

State College, PA 16803

814-238-2024 www.trinitystatecollege.org



PRAYER LIST

TLC DISCIPLES

Jerry Wion, Carol Bernlohr, Dee Kiel,
Linda Leslie, Jim Knapp

TLC FRIENDS

Sandy Conard, Mike, Jayne, Alan, Steve,
Jeff, Rita Shetler

READINGS

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 51:1-12

Hebrews 5:5-10

John 12:20-33

TRINITY EVENTS

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

YouTube Worship Service w/Bulletin
Recorded & Emailed

10:00 am Zoom Coffee Hour

11:00 am Deeper Waters Zoom

MONDAY, MARCH 22

7:00 pm Zoom Bible Study

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

10:00 am Psalms Zoom Small Group

6:00 pm Psalms Zoom Small Group

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

11:30 am - 1:00 pm Soup Pickup

Holden Evening Prayer

Recorded & Emailed

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

10:00 am Zoom Bible Study

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

PALM SUNDAY

YouTube Worship Service w/Bulletin

Recorded & Emailed

10:00 am Zoom Coffee Hour

11:00 am Deeper Waters Zoom

EASTER SERVICES w/Communion

Outdoor Easter Worship Services
are being planned.

Saturday, April 3rd at 5:00 pm

Sunday, April 4th at 9:00 am and 10:30 am

All services will be outside, weather
permitting. In the event of
threatening weather, an email will be
sent out 1 hour prior to the service.

Please bring your lawn chair and face mask.

Social distancing, please.

The church will not be open, so there will
once again be a portable toilet outside
behind the shed for everyone's convenience.

A recorded service will be available later on Easter Sunday and
posted on Facebook, as well. The service will be recorded
during the Sunday service, so it will not be available at
5:00 am as in previous weeks.



Interfaith
Human Services

IHS is looking for someone or a
group to coordinate the Free
Furniture Recycling Program.

The position can be paid but also open
to volunteers. The position is roughly
15 hrs/week and requires a
clean driving record and the ability
to move furniture w/volunteer help.

Contact: Curt Krouse (814) 234-7731
if interested.

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Beloved of God,

In one of St. Paul's great chapters on Spiritual Gifts, the apostle teaches:

¹² Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴ Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many. (1 Cor. 12)

Referring to a human body, he then goes on to explain that the foot, even though it is not a hand is still, nonetheless, a part of the body. Furthermore, the hand cannot tell the eyes that they are not needed. All the different parts of the human body, though different in form and function are all important to the human body. Comparing the human body to the body of Christ he concludes the chapter: ²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it...? ³¹ Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

Each of us in the church (that is, Trinity, for example), though different in form and function, are all nonetheless important parts of the Body of Christ. We together form the Body of Christ together. We work together to receive and share the "greater gifts" which, Paul describes in ch. 13, as love shown in, through and by Jesus Christ.

This past year, fulfilling this mission or ministry has been challenging beyond what anyone might have expected just a few short years ago. We all have missed receiving and sharing love that happens when people can meet in-person. Still, here we are. The church still exists. We, the church, the body of Christ are still here. Thanks be to God!

The Congregation Council has had many lengthy conversations and discussions about how to continue our ministry. A Return to Worship Task Force has been working to collect the most current state and local guidance for resuming in-person activities, including worship. Both groups have sought to be responsible and diligent in fulfilling their leadership duties with great love for everyone. No, it has not been easy or clear. It has been a rich blessing to work with these people.

So, much to the relief of many, I am sure, we will resume meeting, in-person for worship. After many conversations and discussions, the Congregation Council, has set Easter as the weekend to resume in-person worship. Three services will be offered: Saturday, April 3 at 5 pm; Sunday, April 4 at 9 am and 10:30 am. All the services will be held in the Outdoor Chapel (weather permitting) and Holy Communion will be celebrated. Due to the continued threat of COVID-19, however, our music will not include singing. There will be no zoom Coffee Hour or Deeper Waters class on Easter Sunday.

Not everyone is quite ready to attend in-person public gatherings. That is to be expected and to that end, the 9 am service will be video recorded and posted as we have been doing this past year.

As St. Paul, reminds us, the church is comprised of a wide variety of differing people. God certainly likes diversity, or so it seems. With that in mind, the leadership have sought to move cautiously and carefully as we all seek to navigate the most unusual and trying of times. While we may not agree on how to proceed, we are nonetheless "the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."

May God continue to bless us and work through us utilizing the variety of gifts each of us contributes to this ministry as we move into God's future. We may not know what the future holds, but we certainly know who holds that future! Thanks be to God, who blesses us beyond measure that we might be a blessing to each other and to others in the name of Christ!

Thanks to each of you for being a part of this church, the body of Christ we know as Trinity Lutheran Church! Hope to see you in worship as soon as you are ready and able!

In Christ's name,

Pastor Ron

CANCELED

Once again this year our Annual Yard Sale has been a casualty of the COVID19 pandemic. We will not be holding the Yard Sale again this year but look forward to having it next year and making it the Biggest and Best Yard Sale we have ever had. Hopefully everyone can hold on to those unwanted items for one more year and donate them next year.



OUT OF THE COLD VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

You may remember back in January Trinity hosted overnight guests through Out of the Cold. Their mission statement is "Out of the Cold is a community supported organization that answers the call to serve those experiencing homelessness in our community by providing shelter, food, and support services during the transition to permanent housing."

They are currently seeking volunteers for their day shelter, which operates at The Meetinghouse at 318 South Atherton Street. They are open 9 am - 7 pm Monday through Friday, and 10 am - 4 pm on weekends. Day Shelter volunteers welcome guests, facilitate shower schedules, interact with guests (playing games, chatting, etc.), help with cleaning, donation organization, and more.

They are also looking for volunteers to provide lunch on the weekends.

You may sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0f45a9ad2ba5fa7-daysshelter1>

For more information visit the Out of the Cold website at: <http://www.ootc3.org/>

Volunteer trainings are every Thursday at 10 am. Barb Trout has gone through this training and if anyone has questions, she would be glad to answer those she can. Her email address is: bt Trout0516@gmail.com

Watch your email for the next **Return to Worship Survey**. It will be sent out soon.
The results will help the congregation formulate procedures for full return to worship. Thank you.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

For everyone, who over the past few months, have picked up their offering envelopes - Thank you.

For those of you who did not have a chance to come by the church for your envelopes, they have been mailed.

You should have or will be receiving them soon.

As always, a HUGE THANK YOU, to all who have continued to give generously to the church during this pandemic. We have a very generous congregation and appreciate each and every one of you. THANK YOU!!!

Soups that can be picked up on Wednesday, March 24th from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Chicken Barley Soup (GF/DF)
Corn & Potato Chowder (GF/DF)
Cheesy Broccoli Soup
(DF-dairy free/GF-gluten free)



We have Palms ordered. They are scheduled to arrive next week. We hope they will be here before the soup pick up time and anyone who would like a palm (or 2) can take them when getting soup.



Jean Quinn	1
Dick Frisque	3
Delores Breon	4
Taylor Gonet	5
Bethany Fedorko	10
Danielle Lanagan	12
Caitlin Gallo	12
Tim Lorich	14
Angelo Card	15
Seth Trout	16
Matthew Gustafson	19
Robert Bernlohr	20
Rachel Webb	22
Carol Smith	24
Jacob Wenrich	26
Linda Lorich	27

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

STAFF

Pastor Ronald C. Miller, Jr.
tlcrevron@gmail.com

Vicar Ted Williams
wwilliams001@luthersem.edu

Beth Robbins
Office Administrator
tlcoffice2@comcast.net

Barbara Roberts, Pianist
barbroberts1960@gmail.com

Brian Woodland, Custodian
opgrade9@yahoo.com

COUNCIL

JULY 2019 - JUNE 2022

EXECUTIVE TEAM

John Fryer, President (chenita@earthlink.net)
Carol Smith, Vice President (piffy1957@gmail.com)
Laurette Gonet, Secretary (Laurette.Gonet@gmail.com)

CHURCH PROPERTIES TEAM

Jay Aubuchon (jayaubuchon@gmail.com)
Bob Coyle (bcoyle63@gmail.com)

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Kayla Smith (kayjosmith22@gmail.com)
Sue Glad (susieglad@comcast.net)
Elaine Burn (ejb559@comcast.net)
Sue Ellen Krupa (sekrupa77@gmail.com)

FINANCIAL TEAM

Christy Bartley, Treasurer (bartleychristy49@gmail.com)
Debbie Fryer, Financial Secretary (debbieconrad19522@yahoo.com)



Allegheny Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

701 Quail Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602 • 814-942-1042 • 814-941-9259 fax • office@alleghenysynod.com
Bishop Michael L. Rhyne

March 17, 2021

Dear sisters and brothers of the Allegheny Synod,

May God's grace and peace be with you. We have now lived one full year with COVID-19. March 15, 2020 was our last 'normal' Sunday. That day I was blessed to worship with Trinity Lutheran in Johnstown and that afternoon gather with First Lutheran in Portage to celebrate the installation of Pastor Mark Fisher. We could still shake hands, be closer than six feet, and none of us had masks. The following week our statewide shutdown began. It has been one year-- however, it feels like much more time has passed.

I believe that is because we have carried so many burdens during this pandemic. We were working (and we still continue to work) to take care of our family, our friends, and ourselves when the world seems to be turning upside down. This has been hard. If you are like me, you are ready for all of this to be behind us. We are all ready to be in that place where we have gotten a majority of people vaccinated and we can see each other face to face again, safely.

I want to first thank God and our Lord Jesus that we have been given the strength and courage to make it through thus far. Throughout the pandemic, Jesus continued to lead and guide us even when the church buildings were closed. **Because of Christ, the work of the church has continued on.**

In this last year, congregations learned how to be church together even though we were apart. We have learned about livestream and Zoom services. In better weather we took the worship of Jesus into our parking lots and into the streets. Many congregations found ways to make sure that our members who were most vulnerable were being taken care of. We have seen congregations find new ways to reach out to and support the community. The Holy Spirit has shown us, time and again, that God will find a way to see that God's will is done. God does that in and through you. My deep and abiding prayer is that this is a lesson that we can take from this time.

I also thank God that we have seen rates of COVID infection begin to go down since the beginning of February. We have seen vaccines begin to be distributed. I hope you see these as signs that we will get through this.

What is important for us now is to continue listening to and following that recommendations of the CDC and the PA Dept. of Health. Since things are finally looking a little better, the temptation is for us to slacken our adherence to our safety protocols. That is a natural human response. We want this pandemic to be behind us, we want to move on with our lives. **However, if we stop these safety practices before health and science officials tell us it is safe to do so, we could see another spike in infections and the spread of the virus.**

As we begin to gather together more in groups, and we are prayerfully considering when we will resume our worship in person, I cannot overstate how important it is for us to continue the good work that we have been doing. Continue to maintain social distance. Keep wearing your masks when in public. Until we begin to reach the point where 70 – 80% of the population is vaccinated continue to wear masks, use hand sanitizer, and refrain from group singing in worship.

We are going to get through this. We have to hold on for a little bit longer and make sure we are doing our part to prevent any further infection and transmission of this virus.

May God bless you and keep you.

+Bishop Michael Rhyne