

APR 2024

Sunday, April 7, Communion

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35
Second Reading: 1 John 1:1--2:2
Gospel: John 20:19-31
Preaching Pastors Hanus

Sunday, April 14

First Reading: Acts 3:12-19
Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-7
Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48
Preaching Pastor Cliff Eshbach

Sunday, April 21

First Reading: Acts 4:5-12
Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24
Gospel: John 10:11-18
Preaching Pastors Hanus

Sunday, April 28

First Reading: Acts 8:26-40
Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21
Gospel: John 15:1-8
Preaching Pastors Hanus



“How Long O Lord? How Long?”

It is always an uphill battle to try to encourage people to celebrate the twelve days of Christmas, instead of just one day, recognizing the birth of our Lord. Even with a song that explicitly mentions “twelve” days people seem willing to accord Christmas just one day on the 25th of December.

Despite the fact that Christmas day is filled with gifts, family gatherings, wonderful food, enjoyable traditions, love, joy, goodwill, and celebrating the birth of Jesus... most people seem to believe that one day is more than enough. I disagree! You know I love joy, laughter, and being uplifted, but why would Christians limit that good stuff to just one day when twelve are available? Based on reality, the song will need to be changed to “The One Day of Christmas.” Boo! Hiss!

With that in mind, I have to ask myself why I would propose that we celebrate the resurrection of Christ for at least each of the seven Sundays of Easter. It’s like beating my head against the wall. It would never work, but it could. The Sunday of the Resurrection/Easter Sunday, like Christmas, is essential to our faith story.

(cont.)

Mission Statement

Under constraint of the Gospel, guided and empowered by the Holy Spirit, the mission of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity is to bear witness to the crucified and risen Christ as his disciples.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

31 South Duke Street
Lancaster, PA 17602
717-397-2734

church@trinitylanaster.org

With all that in mind, why would we limit our celebration to just one day? I don't believe there can be a good answer to that question. Certainly, we should not limit our rejoicing in the story of God's redemptive love - not to seven Sundays[Easter], twelve days[Christmas], or even 50 days[Easter Season].

God has made this season special, but perhaps we can strive to make it extra special. Gather with your Holy Trinity family. Be fed with the miraculous food that is Christ. Radiate love and joy. Welcome all who visit Holy Trinity. Smile. Be uplifted...always keeping in mind that our future destiny as God's beloved children is with Christ.

As St. Paul wrote to the Christian community in Corinth: "And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power."

May we find uplifting joy throughout this glorious Easter season. May we share all of God's blessings in extravagant ways!

Joyfully,

Pastor Cliff Hanus

PASSOVER SEDER SERVICE

Trinity will host a Seder Service on Wednesday, April 24th starting at 6:00 p.m. in Fondersmith Auditorium. The service will be led by Rabbi Jack Paskoff, with our pastors assisting. The Jewish Faith celebrates with a Seder during Passover. It will be the third evening of Passover when we host the event. The service is rich in Jewish tradition, as it is a celebration of the Exodus and the Israelites' freedom from captivity. The seven elements present include: parsley, salt water, a roasted egg, horseradish, matza bread, wine, charoset. A sign-up sheet will be available in the narthex on the first Sunday in April. All are encouraged to consider attending.

GUEST ORGANIST

Eric R. Riley will lead our music worship on April 7th and 14th. As an organist, Riley has won Second Prize in the Flint International Organ Competition (MI) and First Prize in the Arthur Pointer Memorial Scholarship Competition (Syracuse, NY). In addition to concert activities in the northeastern and southern United States, Riley has performed for European music festivals including the Spoleto Festival of Two Worlds, the Ravenna International Organ Festival, and the Assisi Music Festival, all in Italy. Riley holds a Bachelor of Music in organ performance from Syracuse University and a Master of Church Music in choral conducting and organ from Scarritt Graduate School of Vanderbilt University. Eric and his wife Christine live in Hummelstown, PA.

LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD ASSEMBLY

The Annual Assembly of the Lower Susquehanna Synod of the ELCA, will be held the evening of **Friday, May 31**, by Zoom, and **Saturday, June 1**, in person at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, York, PA.

Congregations may send two lay voting members to the Assembly. Loren Good and Beth Diehl Petka will represent Holy Trinity, along with Pastors Hanus.

PASTOR GREEN

On April 24, The Rev. Dr. Donald Green will be presented with a 2024 Celebrated Lifetime Ministries from the United Lutheran Seminary in Gettysburg. Congratulations to Pastor Green on this recognition of his ministry.



SENIOR COMMUNITY WORSHIP

Communion at Willow Valley - Wednesday, April 17 at 3 p.m.,

Manor North Auditorium

Communion at Woodcrest - Thursday, April 18 at 1 p.m.,

Eagle Commons Chapel

UPDATE - Livestreaming

Livestreaming Changes

At the beginning of the pandemic, Holy Trinity started livestreaming its services. When the church was not being used and when attendance was low, equipment was installed quickly which resulted in wires being run openly around the sanctuary, and furniture that was at hand was used to facilitate the livestream. This created a bit of an eyesore in our sanctuary.

After some careful planning over the last year, with vestry support, and with some monetary support given in memory of Geoff Herr, we have begun a project to create a more permanent and less visible installation.

The project has three main components:

1. Installing new permanent wiring and jacks in the walls, ceilings, and basement of the building so that the wiring is not visible and provides flexibility for future uses.
2. Moving the livestream booth to the back left corner of the sanctuary, where it is less visible, and installing new furniture with covers that hide the equipment when not in use that blends in with the rest of the woodwork in the building.
3. Replacing the electronics used to do the livestream as the current equipment is aging and no longer being supported by the manufacturer.

While we have already begun some of the work, the more visible aspects of this project will wait until after Easter. Please pardon any mess during April as we complete this project to minimize the distractions to the beauty of our sanctuary.

*Alan Sutter,
Vestry Vice President*

VESTRY ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD IN MAY, at which time the congregation will be asked to elect persons to serve in leadership capacities. Please prayerfully consider suggesting the names of Trinity members who you feel should be considered for nomination, including your own name, and write the name/s below. Fold the paper and place it in the offering plate or mail to the church office. All recommended persons must be age 18 or older, worship regularly, contribute to the life of the congregation through time and talent, and be maturing disciples of Christ.

Name *Address or phone number if known*

Name *Address or phone number if known*

Name *Address or phone number if known*

Name *Address or phone number if known*

BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP

Breaking Barriers. Building Community.

Each week, Holy Trinity Church serves a hot breakfast at 7:45 a.m. to as many as 165 guests who are in need or unsheltered. Breakfast Fellowship meets in Fondersmith Auditorium and also includes a weekly worship service at 8:15 a.m. led by Doug Frazer and Tim Wentworth with piano by Linda Flick. Holy Communion is celebrated on the third Sunday of the month by Pastors Hanus.

Our leaders are to be commended for their hard work and generosity in doing as Jesus asked, "Feed my sheep." Especially, we thank Cathy Dobish, Doug Frazer, and Tim Wentworth and their core group of volunteers.



In February, Breakfast Fellowship set a record for meals served. We served 855 meals, including hot breakfasts and lunches, and February has only four Sundays! We continue to serve many older guests as well as children. Members of the congregation have asked if we need anything for Breakfast Fellowship. We could use donations of individually wrapped snack items such as crackers, pretzels, chips, popcorn, etc., and **cartons of eggs!**

Thank you for all your donations and prayers.

EDUCATION

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP 10:30-10:45 a.m. in the Fondersmith Auditorium, prior to Forum.

SUNDAY FORUM

The Sunday Forum begins at 11:00 a.m. in the Fondersmith Auditorium.

Adult Forum Schedule:

April 7th - International Ministries Small Group. A panel discussion is led by Loren Good.

April 14th – Potpourri – The Ancient World, The Bible, Some Things you May Not Know, or Wish you Didn't with Loren Good

April 21st - Quentin Bernhard – YAGM (Young Adults in Global Ministry), an ELCA ministry

April 28th – Congregation Report from the Vestry and Brunch.

FAITH TALK: Basically Lutheran

Starting on April 14, Faith Talk will start a new series, Basically Lutheran, a discussion of some of the basics of the Lutheran Reformation. While our discussion will concentrate on what makes us Lutherans, we will see that many of our core beliefs are also part of essential Christianity. You can find resources for these conversations at Holy Trinity's website (Small Catechism and Augsburg Confession): www.trinitylancaster.org/about/who-we-are/ You can also find Faith Talk discussions on the Small Catechism and The Augsburg Confession at <https://www.youtube.com/@FaithTalk-HolyTrinity>

Faith Talk meets after the church service, or about 10:30 a.m. each Sunday, in the Library in the Parish House. We also operate a Zoom link if you would like to attend remotely. The Zoom link is available by contacting the church office, or by contacting Doug Frazer. Each class session is independent, so we encourage you to attend when you can.

Schedule of Classes in the Basically Lutheran Series

April 14 The Five Solas, concepts such as by faith alone (the others are word, grace, Christ, glory to God)

April 21 The doctrine that Luther concluded by which the whole Church stands or falls, justification by grace through faith alone.

April 28 No Class - Faith Talk will attend the Forum to participate in the Vestry Report to the Congregation

May 5 The two natures of Jesus Christ - true man and true God.

May 12 God's word is divided into Law and Gospel, and thereby, we can make sense of God's revelation.

May 19 Faith and Good Works: Do Lutherans do Good Works, or is that a Catholic thing?

May 26 The Real Presence in the Sacrament of the Altar and why this doctrine has divided the church, including Protestants, for 500 years.

Next Topic: Starting approximately June 2, we will begin the Gospel of Matthew.

TWIST (Trinity Women in Study Together)
meets Wednesdays at 9:45 a.m. in the Café from September
through May.

All women are invited.

CHILDREN, FAMILY AND YOUTH MINISTRY

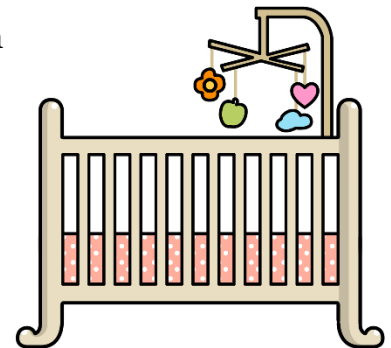
BABY SHOWER

HE IS RISEN! Easter isn't just a Sunday, it's a SEASON! It starts at sundown on the eve of Easter and goes until Pentecost Sunday. The Easter season commemorates the time that Jesus spent with his disciples following the resurrection, prior to his ascension.

To mark this special time in our church calendar, we are going to celebrate with a Friendship Baby Shower for Bethany Christian Services! Just as Jesus gives all of us a new life with God through his resurrection, we will show love to our neighbors as they welcome new life into their homes!

A crib will appear in the Narthex starting **Sunday, April 7th**, and remain there until Sunday, May 5th. You can drop a baby shower gift of diapers (any size, any brand) in this crib on Sunday mornings before or after church.

Then, everyone is invited to party on **Sunday, May 5th** following worship in Fondersmith Auditorium. There will be special refreshments and baby shower games! Mark your calendars to attend the baby shower on Sunday, May 5th, and during worship that morning, listen to how the lessons (1 John 5:1-6 and John 15:9-17) use the image of the risen Christ to show friendship, love, and a deep mutuality of the relationship into which we all are called.



MAKE WAVES VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Registration is now open for Vacation Bible School 2024. Our theme for this year is called “Make Waves;” a VBS that encourages every child to know that with God’s power in them, they can change the world!

We are partnering with Grace Lutheran Church on 517 North Queen Street, Lancaster, to offer VBS this year. We will meet on Wednesday evenings throughout June and finish up in July. Each evening will begin with a family dinner at 5:30 p.m. The dates, locations, and nightly themes are below:

- Wednesday, June 5th, Grace Lutheran Church – “God made people with a purpose.”
- Wednesday, June 12th, Trinity Lutheran Church – “Jesus invited people to follow him.”



- Wednesday, June 19th, Grace Lutheran Church – “You can trust Jesus with your life.”
- Wednesday, June 26th, Trinity Lutheran Church – “Love others the way Jesus loves you.”
- Wednesday, July 10th, Grace Lutheran Church – “God can help you change the world around you.”

This is a family-style Vacation Bible School, parents are encouraged to attend and participate with their children, tweens, and teens! No one is too young or too old for VBS!

Contact Rachel at rachel@trinitylancaester.org for information regarding parking when Grace Lutheran hosts VBS. There is a registration form in this newsletter. Fill it out and snail mail, email, or drop it off at Holy Trinity’s office. Thank you!

Vacation Bible School Planning Meeting

For anyone interested in volunteering at Vacation Bible School this year, please come to the planning meeting on Wednesday, April 17th at 4:30 p.m. in Trinity's library.

*Rachel Kramer,
Director of Children’s and Family Ministry*

Make Waves Vacation Bible School
Wednesday, June 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th, and July 10th
Starting at 5:30 pm with a family dinner

Child(ren) Name(s): _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone # & Email: _____

Permission to Participate: I give my
child(ren) _____
permission to participate in Make Waves Vacation Bible School.

Choose one:

_____ Without restrictions
_____ With restrictions (please list all food and medical allergies and any
special considerations)

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Media Release: I/we understand that, during Vacation Bible School, the participate may be photographed or recorded and hereby authorize and agree to Holy Trinity's use, reuse, and distribution of images and recordings for any purpose, including, but not limited to educational, Facebook, and other public media as may be deemed appropriate. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church will not include children's names in such publications.

_____ I have read and understand that my child may be
photographed/recorded during VBS.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

ONLINE/DIRECT DEPOSIT GIVERS

Thank you for your generosity!

Online giving is an option for those who want to contribute to support the mission and ministry of Holy Trinity Church. To make an online gift, open the Camera App on your phone and scan the QR code on this page. You will be directed to a secure webpage to make a contribution. Thank you for your generosity!



A laminated blue card is available in the pew racks and can be placed in the offering plate as an act of worship, symbolizing the gift you have given using online, direct deposit, or other means.

CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY

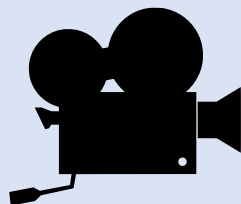
If you need the "new" last page of the directory either email Loren Good at loren@trinitylancaster.org or see him in church. If you wish to purchase a directory, please make checks payable for \$10 to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

Apr 11 Corinthians 15:35-49
Apr 2 1 Corinthians 15:50-58
Apr 3 Mark 16:1-8
Apr 4 Acts 2:42-47
Apr 5 Psalm 133
Apr 6 John 12:44-50
Apr 7 John 20:19-31
Apr 8 1 John 2:3-11
Apr 9 1 John 2:12-17
Apr 10 Mark 12:18-27
Apr 11 1 John 2:18-25
Apr 12 Psalm 4
Apr 13 Luke 22:24-30
Apr 14 Luke 24:36b-48
Apr 15 1 John 3:10-16
Apr 16 2 John 1-6
Apr 17 Mark 16:9-18
Apr 18 Acts 3:17-26
Apr 19 Psalm 23
Apr 20 Mark 6:30-34
Apr 21 John 10:11-18
Apr 22 1 Peter 5:1-5
Apr 23 Revelation 7:13-17
Apr 24 Mark 14:26-31
Apr 25 Acts 8:1b-8
Apr 26 Psalm 22:25-31
Apr 27 Mark 4:30-32
Apr 28 John 15:1-8
Apr 29 Galatians 5:16-26
Apr 30 James 3:17-18

SILENT MOVIE NIGHT

Friday, April 6th, Holy Trinity is hosting a silent movie night presented by organist Don Kinnier. The 1927 Buster Keaton film, "College" is being featured. Bring your friends. It'll be a fine evening of entertainment. The show begins at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

A free-will offering will be accepted.



INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY

THANK YOU!

The congregation of Holy Trinity has once again shown its generosity and concern for others through its contributions to the International Ministries' 2024 Valentine Appeal. This year's appeal received \$6,620 for the MaaSae Girls Lutheran Secondary School (MGLSS) in Tanzania. These funds, administered through Operation Bootstrap Africa, will go directly toward scholarships for these young women. The amount raised by Holy Trinity will pay for a student to attend at least four years of secondary school at MGLSS.

The MGLSS is a Christian boarding school offering education to girls from both the Maasai ethnic group and other semi-nomadic groups. It has been demonstrated that education has a tremendous positive influence on a young woman's life, opening opportunities both to the girls and to their families and communities.

Thank you for caring for our brothers and sisters in Christ, demonstrated by your generosity!

COMMUNITY

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The African American Historical Society of South-Central PA holds its annual tea in Holy Trinity's Fondersmith Auditorium on **Saturday, April 27th** from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. The speakers are Dr. Sheryl Jones-Henderson and Dr. Camille Upchurch. Music provided by Music for Everyone under the direction of Dr. Michael Jamanis.



AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY WALKING TOUR

The African American Historical Society's walking tours begin on **Saturday, May 4**. Groups depart from the Lancaster Visitors' Center, 38 Penn Square, Lancaster City. Conductors lead guests on a tour of twelve sites around town, including four with connections to the Underground Railroad.

Please go to <https://www.aahsscpa.org/programs> for ticket prices and the complete schedule.

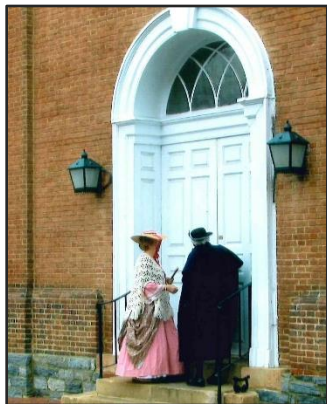
QUEST FOR LEARNING

The Quest for Learning program's Spring sessions begin on April 4 and continue through May 9, Thursday mornings in the Parish House and Church. Register online at www.questlanaster.org



LANCASTER HISTORICAL TOURS

Beginning in April, the Holy Trinity sanctuary will again be open and included in the Lancaster Historical Tour Tuesdays. The sanctuary has not been open for these tours since 2019. As the season progresses, we will consider adding Friday and possibly Saturday as well.



CONCERT

On Thursday, **April 4th** at 7:00 p.m., the Performing Arts Department at Lancaster Catholic High School presents a concert at Holy Trinity called ***A Fresh Field of Music***. The concert features Dr. Amanda Kemp, spoken word; Dr. Maria Corley, piano; Theresa Thomasen, vocalist; Frances Veri, piano; and Dr. Michael Jamanis, violin. Admission is free and donations will be accepted for CHOP (Children's Hospital of Pennsylvania).

FESTIVAL OF VOICES

The ***Music For Everyone Lancaster Festival of Voices*** is an annual celebration of the vocal arts in Lancaster. The Saturday program will take place at Holy Trinity on April 20th. For this year's schedule visit <http://lancasterfestivalofvoices.com/fov-2018/>



VITA

VITA volunteers wrap up another tax season on April 16th. In 2023 they assisted 9,123 people with their tax returns. It's not just VITA volunteers connecting with those needing help with their taxes. As of the writing of this newsletter, Trinity's staff had 115 interactions by phone or in person, with people asking for directions, asking questions about how to make an appointment, and so on. The Parish House is a busy place!

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity
31 South Duke Street
Lancaster, PA 17602

Address Service Requested

Nonprofit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lancaster, PA
Permit No. 757



Deaths

Jim Whitehead on February 24, 2024

Jack Wittmaier on March 6, 2024

Elvin Musselman on March 8, 2024

Arline Hulme on March 18, 2024

Rev. Cliff Hanus and Rev. Linda Hanus, Interim Pastors;
Rachel Kramer, Director of Children's and Family Ministry; Loren Good, Director of Marketing

For centuries, this has been a place of inspiration and courage. We are devoted to breaking barriers between people through social outreach and by providing a nurturing environment that embraces all viewpoints in hearty discussions about faith. We are passionate and unwavering in our pursuit to build a thriving community.

We are Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

Holy Trinity Church is affiliated with

