



The Herald

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102 Apple Street ▪ Leesport, PA 19533 ▪ 610-926-7176 ▪ www.lcht.org

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FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends in Christ,

The beginning of Lent this past Ash Wednesday has started us on a course of forty days of self-discipline that can take various shapes as we seek to deepen our Christian faith. Prayerfully discerning God's will for us and our congregation, we gather for worship Sunday mornings to hear God's Word as it is read and preached and shared (as visible Word) in the sacrament of Holy Communion. Note that the Sundays during this period are not considered to be part of the forty days of Lent but rather the Sundays in Lent. This distinction is meant to emphasize the fact that Sunday, the first day of the week, is a mini-Easter, a celebration of Christ's resurrection in the midst of the solemnity of His journey to the cross.

Individually and together with our families and Christian family at LCHT, we enhance our prayer life and study of Scripture through use of devotional materials like *The Word in Season* which is available free in the narthex and published quarterly. It contains a Bible reading, commentary, and a closing prayer on the lectionary readings for the week. Because of the coronavirus pandemic, the Schuylkill Valley Pastors' Association has chosen not to provide for mid-week Lenten services this year at the participating churches. Instead we will meet in the lower level classroom for a small group Bible study at 7:00 pm on five Wednesdays beginning March 3 for prayer, sharing, and discussion of the preceding week's Gospel lesson. Look for an open discussion and welcoming atmosphere as we walk with Jesus the way that leads to the events of Palm/Passion Sunday and Holy Week. These events include the distribution of palm crosses on Palm Sunday, the celebration of Holy Communion on the evening of Maundy Thursday (7:00 pm) in commemoration of Jesus' Last Supper with His disciples, and the observance of the solemn Tenebrae service (service of shadows) on Good Friday at 7:30 pm.

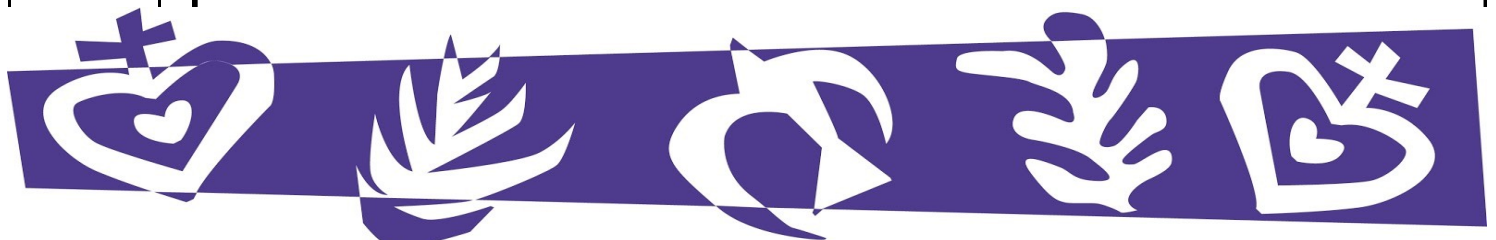
Along with enhancing our prayer and worship life, Lent also gives us opportunity to grow spiritually through the practice of fasting and alms-giving which are highlighted by Jesus in His Sermon on the Mount (Mt. 5-7). While we've all heard of Fastnacht Day, the day before the start of the Lenten fast, most of us take advantage of the opportunity to sample those delectable treats while forgetting the fast that follows. Studies have shown that selective periods of fasting can both extend life and heighten mental awareness as we meditate on God's Word and His purposes for us. And alms-giving is simply an old-fashioned way of talking about our generosity towards those who are less fortunate, "blessed to be a blessing" as God described Abraham in Genesis. I think particularly about Jesus' story of the Widow's Mite and about an individual in our own congregation who recently donated a sum of money to help a needy family in the community. During this time of economic dislocation caused by the pandemic, our willingness to share of our substance is much appreciated by those in need and as St. Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 9:11, "You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God."

Your pastor and friend,
The Rev. Carl W. Filer

BAD WEATHER INFORMATION

In the event of bad weather, please refer to the following for cancellation notification:

- * On radio WEEU 850AM
- On the internet: www.wfmz.com
- On television: channel 69 news
- By telephone: 610-926-7176 option 5 for special announcements



WORSHIP AND MUSIC NOTES

Worship services for the month of March are as follows:



March 3	Beyond Oneself Small Group Bible Study	7:00 PM
March 7	3rd Sunday in Lent Worship/Holy Communion	9:00 AM
March 10	Through the Maze Small Group Bible Study	7:00 PM
March 14	4th Sunday in Lent Worship	9:00 AM
March 17	Within the Light Small Group Bible Study	7:00 PM
March 21	5th Sunday in Lent Worship/Holy Communion	9:00 AM
March 24	In the Footsteps Small Group Bible Study	7:00 PM
March 28	Palm/Passion Sunday Distribution of Palms	9:00 AM



1/31	42
2/07	CX - snow
2/14	30
2/17	16 Ash Wed.
2/21	42

Other Notes:

The next Worship and Music meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2021

NOTES ABOUT OUR FOLKS

PRAYERS:

- * Shirley Weist, at Columbia Cottage.
- * Delores Seaman, at Rittenhouse.
- * Cynthia Leutze, at her daughter's Mohrsville home.
- * Pauline Bond, at Maiden creek Place.
- * Carol Imgrund in Elizabethtown.
- * Audrey Delong at her home in Leesport.
- * Richard Reiber at the Highlands in Wyomissing.



THANKS TO:

- * Ron & Judy Corl, Helen Stoudt and all our other volunteers who help with the SV Food Pantry.
- * Everyone who has and continues to support the Gift Card program.
- * Those who save Redner's tapes. *(Remember to use your save-a-tape card.)*
- * All our service people and healthcare workers fighting COVID-19.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Submitted by Karen Bausch

Good morning!

This last newsletter article is written with a heavy heart!
Due to the lack of registered Scouts, unfortunately Troop 160 will be disbanding at the end of March 2021.

The current and past Troop leadership as well as all the Scouts throughout the years would like to thank the entire LCHT congregation for your support, encouragement and guidance!

Take care and God bless!



March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 1:00 PM WELCA meeting	2	3 7:00 PM Small Group Bible Study <i>Beyond</i> <i>Oneself</i>	4 7:00 PM Choir Re- hearsal 7:30 PM NA Group Mtg	5 5-7 PM Scout Troup 160 sandwich prep	6 7-10 AM Scout Troup 160 sandwich sale 8:30 PM AA Meeting
7 <i>3rd Sunday in Lent</i> 9:00 AM Worship/Holy Communion 10:15 AM Confirmation Class	8 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	9	10 7:00 PM Small Group Bible Study <i>Through the</i> <i>Maze</i>	11 9:30 AM Pastoral Care Team 7:00 PM Choir Re- hearsal 7:30 PM NA Group Mtg 8:00 PM Worship & Music Meeting	12	13 8:30 PM AA Meeting
14 <i>4th Sunday in Lent</i> 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Confirmation Class	15 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	16 7:00 PM Council Meeting	17 7:00 PM Small Group Bible Study <i>Within the</i> <i>Light</i> <i>St. Patrick's</i> <i>Day</i>	18 7:00 PM Choir Re- hearsal 7:30 PM NA Group Mtg	19 2:00 PM Food Pantry Delivery	20 9:00 AM Food Pantry Distribution 8:30 PM AA Meeting
21 <i>5th Sunday in Lent</i> 9:00 AM Worship/Holy Communion 10:15 AM Confirmation Class	22 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	23	24 7:00 PM Small Group Bible Study <i>In the</i> <i>Footsteps</i>	25 7:00 PM Choir Re- hearsal 7:30 PM NA Group Mtg	26 Pot Pie Prep	27 Pot Pie Sale 8:30 PM AA Meeting
28 <i>Palm/Passion Sunday</i> 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Confirmation Class	29 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	30	31			

For up to date calendar information, visit our website, www.lcht.org and click on the Calendar tab.

MARCH VOLUNTEERS

Altar Flowers

07-
14-Ron Davidheiser
21-
28-

Bulletins

07-
14- Ron Davidheiser
21-
28- Biehl

Nursery

no attendant but room will be open



*See bulletin board to sign up to sponsor flowers for \$25 or bulletins for \$15.
Thank you*

Ushers

07-Helen Stoudt Diana Biehl, Phyllis Heffner
14-Vicki Fetterman, Phyllis Heffner, Janet Kleffel
21-Linda Roshong, Helen Stoudt, Dennis Biehl
28-Janet Kleffel, Helen Stoudt, Diana Biehl

MARCH CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays:

01 - Sally Miller
02 - Judy Geisinger
08 - JoAnn Gruber
11 - Kerry Miller
16 - Kenneth Frankhouser
18 - Macy Zimmerman
19 - Darlene Savage
20 - Linda Reichard
21- Judd Weber
27- Sarah Strause
31- Carole Imgrund



Anniversaries:

07 - David & Patricia Easterbrook
24 -Dave & Tracy Stoudt

*If you do not see your Birthday or Anniversary listed, it means the office is missing this information. Please write your information down, drop it by the office, or email it to:
lchtsecretary@comcast.net.
Thank you.*



ROCKING HORSE PRESCHOOL

Submitted by Mrs. Woods and Mrs. Lesher

February has proved to be a very snowy month! We have had a lot of snow days and now will be making those missed days up over what was supposed to be our Spring break. Let's hope we have seen the last of the snowfall for this winter.

When we were at school we were busy learning the letters P, S and T and the numbers 19 & 20. During the month of March we will learn about pets, farm animals and Easter. At the end of the month will have our class Easter parties where we will dye Easter eggs and go on an egg hunt!



Little Caesars

We will be having a Spring Fundraiser this year. Keep an eye out for our Little Caesar's Pizza Kit Sale! Who doesn't love pizza!! This is a great way to support the preschool and get some yummy items to keep on hand for those busy nights.

As a reminder we are now accepting registrations for the 2021-2022 school. These can be found on the church website as well as by emailing us at rhps@comcast.net.

SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

Save the Dates: June 3-5, 2021 Synod Assembly 2021

We are still moving forward on our Synod Assembly for June 3-5, 2021. The theme will be “Growing Young and Vital” and will feature new ideas for ministry around three vital signs – healing the hurting, loving the land, and engaging the stranger. By the first week in March, a final decision will be made about whether the Assembly will be all online, or in-person at the Kalahari resort – even if that may mean delaying some portions to a later date. It will depend on the progress of the vaccine distribution and how well we can make arrangements that keep everyone safe. SAFETY IS OUR HIGHEST CONCERN. Registration will begin after March 31. We will also know by the end of March, more details about the program and the hours of each day’s schedule. For now, save the dates and stay tuned for more information coming soon, over the next few weeks.

Growing Young

Want to reverse the effects of aging? Need more energy in your life? Sick of fine lines and wrinkles? Check out Growing Young! What is Growing Young? It is a movement in NEPA and throughout the greater ELCA and beyond that is based on a book of the same name which studied churches of all sizes, denominations and locations throughout the country who are maintaining and attracting youth and young adults in their congregations. The authors of Growing Young have identified 6 key strategies that these congregations have and that others congregations can utilize to help youth and young people discover and love the church. They are: Unlocking keychain leadership, Empathizing with today’s young people, Taking Jesus’ message seriously, Fuel a warm community, Prioritize young people everywhere, and Be the best neighbors. These are not just strategies to help you attract young people, but are also 6 great strategies for great ministry, regardless if another young person ever walks through the doors of your church building or logs onto your worship service. Growing Young cannot help you personally look or feel younger; it will not get rid of your wrinkles. But these strategies can help your congregation feel and be younger by reigniting energy in your members and attracting new younger worshipers that will reverse the effects of aging within our congregations. For more information about Growing Young, read the book “Growing Young: Six Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church” by Kara Powell, Jake Mulder and Brad M. Griffin from Fuller Youth Institute.

Meet Deacon Travis Woodfield, Director of Congregational Legacy

Hello! I have been fortunate to have a colorful adventure of a life, so, here’s a little of my story. I studied Philosophy from the Franciscan University of Steubenville, and Franciscan Studies from St. Bonaventure University. I’ve been fortunate to have life experience ranging from a fishmonger, admissions counselor, Franciscan friar, hospital chaplain, and Campus Minister. I also have a MDiv. from Wake Forest University. Studying at Wake allowed me the chance to intern and work with the Center For Congregational Health. While I was working there, I found a vocation that combined many of the things I was interested in. When I was a hospital chaplain, I loved getting to walk alongside people when they were making meaning of changes in their life. I am honored that I get to do the same with churches in their meaning-making work, whether that be launching to a new vision, reconsidering what ministry the church is called to, or even considering what end-of-life care and legacy-making might look like. Rachael, my wife, and I have been married 7 years. We have one cat who runs the house. In my spare time I love to play video games, cooking dinner, and playing guitar. I am also an amateur magician. When I get the pleasure of meeting you ask me if I have a deck of cards and I’ll show you something!

LCMT MINISTRIES INFORMATION

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:

Ideas for new projects are always welcome. We have not been having monthly get-togethers, but you can work on projects anywhere. Anyone who has any questions or suggestions, see Darlene Savage.



FOOD PANTRY:

Our church is the distribution site for the Schuylkill Valley Food Pantry. It is a monthly distribution done on the third Saturday of each month, from 9 to 11 a.m. Please contact the church for further information.

Canned fruits and vegetables continue to be in need due to the increased number of families we are serving.



FEED THE HUNGRY

GIFT CARD PROGRAM:

Gift cards continue to be available for Redner's and Weis. Giant gift cards are available upon request.

All cards are available in \$25, \$50 and \$100 denominations.

Cards can be purchased after church on Sunday mornings from Phyllis Heffner.

If Phyllis is not in attendance she can be reached at 610-926-1004.

Please leave a message with your request and she will make arrangements to deliver your cards.



WOMEN OF THE ELCA

MONTHLY MEETING

Join us on Monday, March 2 at 1:00 p.m. for our monthly meeting.

REDNER'S REGISTER TAPES

Submitted by Janet Kleffel

Did you know that Redner's Warehouse Markets gives 1% of purchases back to the Women of the ELCA? This one percent can really add up! And the monies goes to good things like the Mission Trip, VFW, Berk's Women in Crisis, just to name a few.

In order for Redner's to count the receipt (a.k.a. - register tape), it has to be the ENTIRE receipt, and it has to have a "save-a-tape" number on it. How do you insure this? Well, you must use your pump perks card or save-a-tape card at the checkout. Then, just drop the ENTIRE receipt in the box at the ushers station in the narthex. DO NOT cut the bottom off. We only get credit for COMPLETE tapes! Also, please be sure to turn your tapes in in a timely manner, as Redner's will not accept any over three years old.

Your help is so appreciated. If you have any questions, please see Janet Kleffel.

Veterans Making a Difference is an ongoing project through WELCA and Pastoral Care.

There is a box in the narthex for collecting needed items for the veterans. Items will be delivered as they accumulate. Requests include personal care items, laundry detergent, large size winter coats, boxer shorts, white socks, large size flannel night pants, Crest toothpaste and Old Spice deodorant.



LCHT NEWS

A FRIENDLY REMINDER:

Please make sure to fill out a communion card at least once at the start of the year for our records of communing members.

Cards are located in the pew racks and can be placed in the offering plate or left in the office.

Homemade Family Style Chicken Pot Pie

Saturday, March 27, 2021

4-7 PM



Pot pie - quart \$8.00

Homemade pepper cabbage - pint \$4.00

Baked goods will also be offered for sale.

Order form will be posted on the bulletin board or orders can be placed by calling Daren DeAntonio at 610-926-6402.

Pick-up only at LCHT

UPCOMING EVENTS

LEESPORT AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL SPRING FLOWER & BAKE SALE

Location: Corner of Route 61 and Apple Street at Steve Moyer Subaru.



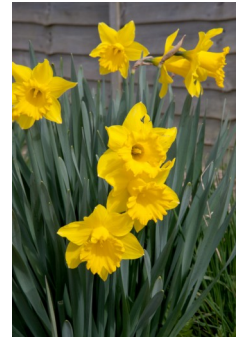
Dates and times:

Saturday, March 27 from 10 AM to 6PM

Sunday, March 28 from 11AM to 4 PM

Friday, April 2 from 8AM to 6PM

Saturday, April 3 from 8AM to 6PM



Bake sale items include 8 inch shoofly pie for \$8.00; 1/2 dozen fastnachts for \$6.00; 2 apple dumplings for \$9.00.



Baked goods are preordered. Order forms are on the bulletin board. Please return form along with your payment so that it is received no later than 3/22/21 for the first weekend pick-up and no later than 3/29/21 for the second weekend pick-up. Checks should be made out to LAHS. Mail to LAHS, PO Box 204, Leesport, Pa 19533. Or you can call 610-926-5770 for a drop off location for your order.

Proceeds support LCHT and Leesport Area Historical Society Programs.

About The Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity

Our Mission:

"The Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity is a worshipping community of faith in Christ Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit to reach out and serve all people with God's love."

About The Herald:

The Holy Trinity Herald is a newsletter distributed at the beginning of each month, except August. Articles can be submitted to the church office or e-mailed to the Secretary (preferred).

Deadline for article submission is the 15th of each month.

LCHT Sunday Schedule:

Worship at 9 a.m.

LCHT Staff Information:

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Carl W. Filer
Office: 610-926-7176 ext. 2
Cell: 610-223-7318

Secretary: Debra Berg
Office : 610-926-7176 ext. 1
Email: lchtsecretary@comcast.net
Office hrs: Monday 8-2, Thursday 8-2

Sexton: Ana Calencea

Treasurer: Pat Miller
Email: lchttreasurer@comcast.net

Music Director: Virginia Lash
Home: 610-916-1316
Email: vlash224@comcast.net

Mailing Address:

102 Apple Street
Leesport, PA 19533

Website: www.lcht.org

Church Fax Number: 610-926-7273

Rocking Horse Preschool Information:

Teachers: Mrs. Aliesha Woods
Ms. Kimberly Wentzel
Office: 610-926-7176 ext. 3
Email: rhps@comcast.net

Mailing Address:

Rocking Horse Preschool
The Lutheran Church
of the Holy Trinity
102 Apple Street
Leesport, PA 19533

Website: www.lcht.org

March 2021

Return Service Requested

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity
102 Apple Street
Leesport, PA 19533