



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 the Resurrected Christ,

Hallelujah! He is risen! He is risen indeed! That glad refrain that rang out on Easter Sunday a few weeks ago engenders new hope, faith and life in despondent followers of Jesus in all times and places, from those first disciples huddled there in that upper room in Jerusalem for fear of the Jewish religious leaders to us Christians of today, either wearing masks and social distancing in our churches or worshiping virtually at home for fear of the coronavirus pandemic. Whatever the circumstances, we've joined our lives and destinies to that great Gospel narrative.

Or should we say narratives—plural? Each of the Four Evangelists delivers his own particular slant on the happenings that first Easter Sunday. Some are rather insignificant. For instance, how many angels were there at the tomb? Matthew and Mark say “one.” Luke and John say “two.” What about the composition of those female followers who go to the tomb early Easter morning? Matthew writes of two, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, whoever that is, who “went to see the sepulcher” (28:1); while Mark has Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome who bring spices to anoint the body. Luke joins Mark in citing Mary Magdalene and James’ mother, Mary, but now Joanna replaces Salome in the litany of the women who come to the tomb along with an unnumbered assortment of other women who’d come with Jesus from Galilee. And John, the Fourth Evangelist, focuses only on Mary Magdalene, the one constant in all the narratives, who encounters the risen Christ in the garden outside the tomb.

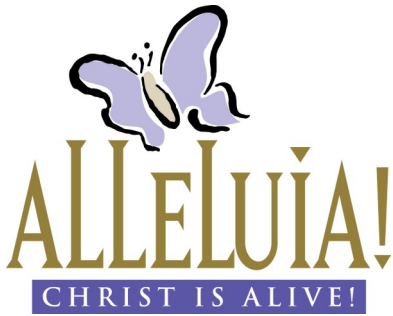
All these little differences only make the greater, unifying event of the empty tomb and resurrection appearances stand out in bolder relief. Likewise with us today, human beings give shape and meaning to their lives by the stories they tell, going all the way back to cave-dwellers who depicted hunting expeditions with stick figures 10,000 years ago.

So, what is the main narrative by which you organize and give meaning to your life? How does it complement, or perhaps conflict with, other narratives we see swirling around in society today? Is it possible, through honest and heart-felt dialogue, to share our own stories while listening to and acknowledging the stories of others, adapting to ourselves what may be helpful and discarding what may be harmful? And how do we decide what criteria to use in making such important decisions?

The answer to that question comes from within the narratives themselves, for they are usually self-authenticating. As Jesus Himself has said, “By their fruits you shall know them” (Mt. 7:16).

Your pastor and friend,
Carl W. Filer





WORSHIP AND MUSIC NOTES

Worship Attendance

| | |
|----------------|----|
| March 28 | 40 |
| April 4 Easter | 77 |
| April 11 | 28 |
| April 18 | 35 |

Worship services for May :

May 02 – 5th Sunday of Easter - 9:00 AM communion service,
10:15 AM confirmation class

May 09 – 6th Sunday of Easter - 9:00 AM worship service, *Mother's Day*
10:15 AM confirmation class

May 16 – 7th Sunday of Easter – 9:00 AM communion service,
10:15 AM confirmation class

May 23 – Day of Pentecost - 9:00 AM communion service and confirmation

May 30 --Holy Trinity Sunday - 9:00 AM worship service, *Memorial Day Observance*

NOTES ABOUT OUR FOLKS

PRAYERS:

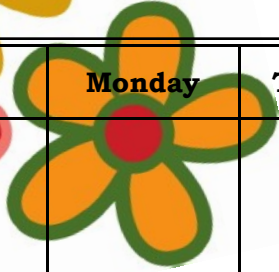
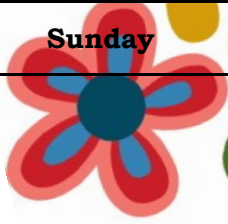
- * Shirley Weist at Columbia Cottage.
- * Cynthia Leutze at Masonic Village in Elizabethtown.
- * Pauline Bond at Maiden creek Place.
- * Lollie Seaman at Rittenhouse Village.
- * Carole Imgrund in Elizabethtown.
- * Audrey DeLong at her home in Leesport.
- * Richard Reiber in Memory Care at the Highlands.


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.*)
- * To the leaders of our congregation.
- * To all the frontline workers who continue to fight COVID 19.



MAY 2020



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---------|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| | | | | | | 1 8:30 PM AA Meeting |
| 2 <i>5th Sunday of Easter</i> 9:00 AM Worship/Holy Communion 10:15 AM Confirmation Class | 3 1:00 PM WELCA Meeting | 4 | 5 | 6 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM NA Group Meeting | 7 | 8 8:30 PM AA Meeting |
| 9 <i>6th Sunday of Easter</i> <i>Mother's Day</i> 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Confirmation Class | 10 | 11 | 12 7:00 PM Council meeting | 13 9:30 AM Pastoral Care Team Meeting 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM NA Group Meeting | 14 2:00 PM Food Pantry Delivery | 15 9:00 AM Food Pantry 8:30 PM AA Meeting |
| 16 <i>7th Sunday of Easter</i> 9:00 AM Worship/Holy Communion 10:15 AM Confirmation Class | 17 | 18 | 19 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal | 20 7:30 PM NA Group Meeting | 21 | 22 8:30 PM AA Meeting |
| 23 <i>Day of Pentecost</i> 9:00 AM Worship/Holy Communion Confirmation | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 7:30 PM NA Group Meeting | 28 | 29 8:30 PM AA Meeting |
| 30 <i>Holy Trinity Sunday</i> 9:00 AM Worship Memorial Day Observance | 31  Memorial ★ Day ★ | | | | | |


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

MAY VOLUNTEERS

Altar Flowers

02 - Ron Davidheiser
09 - Dennis Biehl
16 - Helen Stoudt
23 - Virginia Lash
30 -

Bulletins

02 - Ron Davidheiser
09 -
16 - Dennis Biehl
23 - Virginia Lash
30 -

Nursery

no attendant but room will be open

See bulletin board to sign up to sponsor flowers or bulletins.

The cost to sponsor flowers is \$25. The cost to sponsor bulletins is \$15.

Ushers

02-Phyllis Heffner, Janet Kleffel, Diana Biehl
09-Phyllis Heffner, Dennis Biehl, Vicki Fetterman
16-Janet Kleffel, Linda Roshong, Diana Biehl
23-Vicki Fetterman, Helen Stoudt, Dennis Biehl
30-Helen Stoudt, Dennis Biehl, Phyllis Heffner



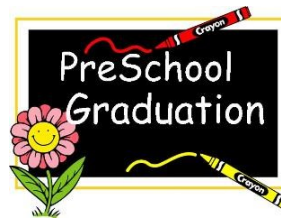
ROCKING HORSE PRESCHOOL

Submitted by Mrs. Woods

April is flying by! We can't believe we are in the last month of school! Our students have been busy finishing out our alphabet books and learning about all things Spring. Our sensory table is in full bloom and the kiddos are having fun making colorful bouquets and looking for bugs.



In May we take some time to focus on our families while we create Mothers and Father's day gifts. We are also looking forward to having a "sports" day where we get to have our whole day outside in the sun. Hopefully it will be warm enough to even enjoy some water play.



To close out our school year we will be holding our annual graduation program for our 18 PM students on the evening of Thursday May 27th.

We are so proud of our students who have managed to grow and learn despite our school year being turned upside down.

Lastly, we want to thank everyone who purchased items from our Little Caesar's Pizza Fundraiser. We are happy to report we met our goal!



As a reminder we are still accepting registration for the 2021-2022 school year. Registration can be found on the church website or by emailing us at rhps@comcast.net

GIFT CARD PROGRAM

Gift cards continue to be available for Redner's and Weis.

Giant gift cards are available upon request.

Our church will receive a 5% rebate with each gift card you purchase.

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.



LCMT MINISTRIES INFORMATION

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. There is an income guideline and a registration form to fill out, giving us your name and address as well as the number of family members in your household. Also, there are brochures and information available on heating assistance, ways to conserve energy and general concerns of limited income families. Please contact the church for further information.

The food pantry continues to serve an increase number of families.

All donations are greatly appreciated.

There is a box in the vestibule for donations.



WOMEN OF THE ELCA

MONTHLY MEETING

Join us on Monday, May 3 at 1:00 p.m. for our monthly meeting.

REDNER'S REGISTER TAPES

Submitted by Janet Kleffel

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 go 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.

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.

Current items needed by our vets include the following-

Toilet paper,

paper towels,

laundry detergent,

liquid body soap

and dish liquid.



Thank you



LCHT NEWS

FIGHTIN' PHILS NIGHT

Plans are being made for us to attend a Fightin Phils game as a group this June!

However, reservations are not being taken for June games until May.

We are planning on attending a game on June 13 in the Club 67 picnic area along the 3rd base line.

The price is \$31, for anyone age 5 years old and up. Age 4 and under are free but must be included in the count.



Chicken Pot Pie Fundraiser

The fellowship committee would like to THANK everyone who participated in this fundraiser. Your participation helped the church raise \$2,016.00.

Whether you sold pot pie, ate pot pie, baked a cake or pie, volunteered your time or said a prayer for us we appreciate your support. The group prepared 219 quarts of pot pie, 62 pints of pepper cabbage and about 100 slices of assorted baked goods.



This event would NOT be possible without YOU!!



**Submissions
deadline for the
June Newsletter will
be
Monday, May 17**



MAY CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays:

- 05 - Makayla Lowery
- 13 - Harold Bond
- 17 - Jesse Gruber
- 18 - Susan Biehl
- 24 - Ron Corl
- 26 - Janice Weaver
- 27 - Linda Roshong
- 30 - Jake Biehl



Anniversaries:

- 05 - Dennis & Darlene Savage
- 08 - Glenn & Sally Miller
- 14 - Scott & JoAnn Gruber

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.

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

Our Synod is trying something new – and we need you! As many of you will know, our 2021 Synod Assembly (SA21) was scheduled to be at the Kalahari Resort in the Poconos. COVID canceled that plan. Our Synod Assembly for this year is to be virtual once again and is scheduled for June 4 & 5.

Our theme for SA21 is “Growing Young and Vital.” It will showcase our commitment to the nation-wide church renewal program called “Growing Young”. It will also introduce our three-pronged Synod-wide emphasis on the “Vital Signs,” signs of life and thriving among us.

These Vital Signs are: Loving the Land, Healing the Hurt, and Engaging the Stranger. Our goal was to invite many churches and ministries in the Synod to participate by bringing your ministries in the three areas to display at the Kalahari Resort.

So, what to do, now that SA21 is virtual? Introducing NEPA Ministry Lab 2021! (MinLab for short.)

MinLab is your opportunity to spotlight how your churches or organization’s ministries are already showing evidence of these Vital Signs. Where is your congregation shining as a “Jesus-Centered Community” (Growing Young)? Think of this day exactly as the name implies: a ministry laboratory. 1.) we give you a display area. You showcase your ministry in that space exactly how you choose. It is up to your creativity. 2.) this is your opportunity to mingle with others doing ministries like yours. And, 3.) perhaps most importantly, be inspired by others doing ministry around one of the other vital signs.

We will hold the event mainly outdoors at the Lutheran Center in Allentown – our Synod headquarters – on August 14, 2021 from 10:00AM to 3:00PM. More details about exactly when and how to participate will be coming soon.

This is where you come in! How can your churches or organization’s ministries help all of us in our synod to see the signs of life among us? This is your opportunity to proclaim to all the signs of life that are active in your local community. To inspire others to partner with you, or to start a ministry of their own. To show the rest of us how it works, right where you are planted. There will be lots of fun and excitement on full display. We will use as much of the Lutheran Center’s parking lot and property as we can to accommodate all who want to participate. There will be music – with an emphasis on Growing Young and Vital. Does your church have a ministry in music that reached out to others? Please bring that gift to share with us. There will be food – with an emphasis on food insecurity – an excellent example of all three of our vital signs. Loving the Land by using locally sourced ingredients; Healing the Hurt by sharing generously with those in need; Engaging the Stranger by showing love and compassion to “the least of these”.

Join us!! -Dan Raudenbush, Trinity Lutheran Church, Kutztown

Meet the Staff: Rev. Lauren Wolfe Blatt

I joined the synod staff in January as the Director of Communication and Events. I also serve full-time at St. John’s, Mahoning, which is a small rural congregation nestled in the Mahoning Valley farmlands. I received my undergraduate degree in Philosophy from Alvernia University, my Mdiv from Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, and I am currently working on my DMin from United Lutheran Seminary. I was ordained in 2017 as a Minister of Word and Sacrament, and I love pastoring God’s people. I enjoy spending time at home with my wife, Hannah, our dogs (Riley & Sirius), and our cats (Finnegan & Tank). In my leisure time, I enjoy anything related to Pokemon, reading, video games, and completing projects around the house!



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 by the beginning of each month, except August. Articles can be submitted to the church office or e-mailed (preferred) to the Secretary.

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

LCHT Sundays' Schedule:

Worship services are being held in the sanctuary every Sunday at 9:00 AM.

LCHT Staff Information:

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Carl W. Filer
Office: 610-926-7176 ext. 2
Phone: 610-223-7318
Email: lchtpastor@outlook.com

Secretary: Debra Berg
Office : 610-926-7176 ext. 1
Email: lchtsecretary@comcast.net
Office hrs: M-W-Th. 9-1

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 St.
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
Leesport, PA 19533

Website: www.lcht.org

2021



Return Service Requested

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