



The Herald

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

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From the Pastor

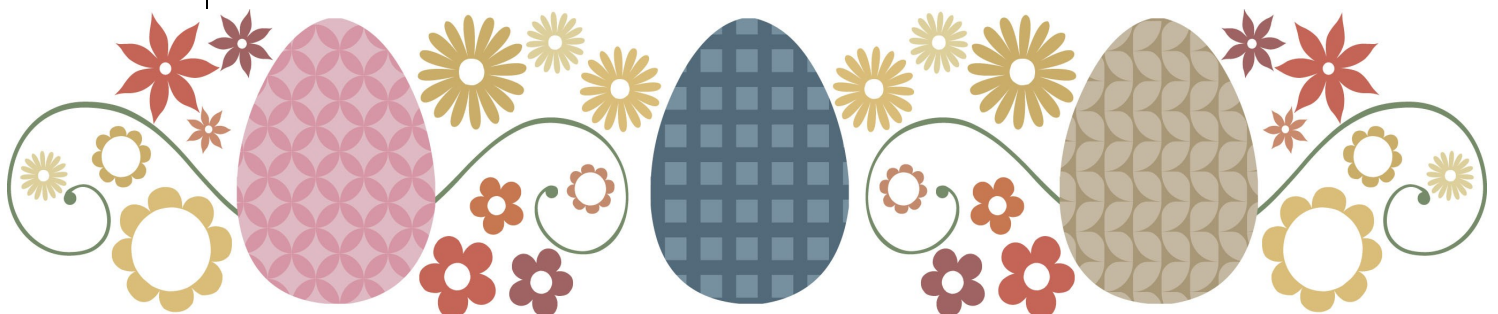
Dear Friends of the Resurrected Lord,

A happy and Christ-filled Easter to one and all! I hope that our solemn observance of the events of Holy Week have provided the foundation for a joyous celebration of the New Life we receive in Jesus' victory over death on Easter Sunday morning. Many thanks to all who participated in our mid-week small group Bible studies of the Sunday Gospel lessons. They provided a meaningful complement to my Sunday sermons on the five covenants in the Old Testament between God and Israel—and us today. I also want to commend those who supported the purchase of the beautiful spring flowers that decorate the chancel for the Easter Sunday service of worship. Especially during this long season of the coronavirus pandemic, they provide a colorful expression of our movement from a long, cold, snowy winter to the promise of spring with the chance to get outdoors once again and renew our communion with nature.

I know that all of you join me in hoping and praying for a swift cessation of the grip this coronavirus and all its variations have had on the world and its people. Without doubt we want to take to heart some lessons learned, such as the need to be patient and disciplined in following the best advice of our public health officials, even as some of that advice modulates in light of new scientific findings. As we mourn the loss of those 500,000-plus lives to the pandemic, we can take solace in the great outpouring of support for the affected families as well as gratitude for the thousands of health care professionals who've risked their lives to tend to the COVID-19 patients. Their sacrifices will always be remembered and honored.

As we eventually do come out of this pandemic, let us covenant with one another to deepen our understanding of God's abiding providence. We can indeed depend on Him to care for us in any and all circumstances. Working together with key leaders of this congregation, I'd like to envision a process whereby we can grow spiritually: as individuals, as a congregation, and as a community beyond the walls of our church building. Let us unite in our witness to the resurrected Savior of the world, Jesus Christ the Lord.

Your pastor and friend,
Carl W. Filer



WORSHIP AND MUSIC NOTES

Worship services for April:



- April 1 - *Maundy Thursday* - 7:00 PM Communion Service
- April 2 - *Good Friday* - 7:00 PM Worship Service
- April 4 - *Easter Sunday*- 9:00 AM Communion Service
- April 11 - *2nd Sunday of Easter* - 9:00 AM Worship Service
- April 18 - *3rd Sunday of Easter* - 9:00 AM Communion Service
- April 25 - *4th Sunday of Easter* - 9:00 AM Worship Service

Worship Attendance



2/28	38
3/7	37
3/14	31
3/21	41

Other Notes:

We are continuing the use of the prefilled communion cups with wafers for communion. The cups will be in a basket next to the basket with the bulletins. Please take a cup when you pick up your bulletin upon entering the church. There is also an instruction sheet on how to open the cup in the basket.

There are two cellophane covers on top of the cup. Remove the first cover to get the wafer and the second cover uncovers the wine. Please dispose of the cup and covers in the trash can that will be provided. Do not leave the empty container in the pew.

Next meeting date: Thursday, April 8, 2019 at 8:00 p.m.

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.

NOTES ABOUT OUR FOLKS

PRAYERS:

- * Audrey Delong at her home in Leesport.
- * Shirley Weist at Columbia Cottage.
- * Carole Imgrund in Elizabethtown.
- * Delores Seaman at Rittenhouse.
- * Pauline Bond at Maiden creek Place.
- * Cynthia Leutze at her daughter's home in Mohrsville.
- * 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 contribute Choice Dollars to the church.
- * Those who save Redner's tapes. (*Remember to use your save-a-tape card.*)
- * To all the leaders of our church, the nation and the world.
- * All the frontline workers continuing the fight against COVID 19.

APRIL 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00PM <i>Maundy Thursday</i> Worship/Holy Communion 7:30 PM NA Group Meeting	2 7:00PM <i>Good Friday</i> Worship	3 8:30 PM AA Meeting
4 <i>Easter</i> 9:00 AM Worship/Holy Communion 10:15 AM Confirmation Class	5 1:00 PM WELCA meets 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	6	7	8 9:30AM Pastoral Care Team Meets 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM NA Group Meeting 8:00PM Worship & Music meeting	9	10 7:00AM-1:00PM Hall rented 8:30 PM AA Meeting
11 <i>2nd Sunday of Easter</i> 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Confirmation Class	12 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	13	14 7:00 PM Council Meeting	15 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM NA Group Meeting	16 2:00 PM Food Pantry Delivery	17 9:00 AM Food Pantry Distribution 8:30 PM AA Meeting
18 <i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i> 9:00 AM Worship/ Holy Communion 10:15 AM Confirmation Class	19 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	20	21	22 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM NA Group Meeting	23	24 8:30 PM AA Meeting
25 <i>4th Sunday of Easter</i> 9:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Confirmation Class	26 6:30PM Cemetery Board Meeting 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	27	28	29 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM NA Group Meeting	30	

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

SYNOD E-NEWS

Women's History Month: Elizabeth Alvina Platz

On November 22, 1970, Elizabeth Alvina Platz became the first woman ordained by the Lutheran Church in America, and as such was the first woman ordained by any Lutheran denomination in America. The first woman ordained by the American Lutheran Church, Barbara Andrews, was ordained in December 1970.

Mission Sites who are Growing Young & Vital: Loving the Land, Healing the Hurt, & Engaging the Stranger.

During our Virtual Synod Assembly 2021 the program team is planning to highlight congregations who are already showing vital signs by loving the land, healing the hurt, and engaging the stranger. We're looking for congregations doing things both big **AND** small. For example: A congregation who hangs bags of food on their fence for people experiencing homelessness. This exemplifies a congregation that is healing the hurting and engaging the stranger.

For more information email: lauren@nepsynod.org



ROCKING HORSE PRESCHOOL

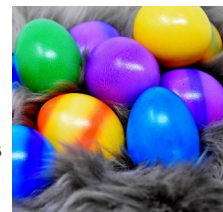
Submitted by Ms. Wentzel

March has given us some nice weather finally! We got to go outside and enjoy the weather for our Easter egg hunt during class.

On Wednesday March 3rd we had a very successful picture day full of smiles!

Miss Kelly from the library came in on Thursday March 4th and read some fun books about pets.

On Thursday March 18th, Pastor Filer had the classes in the sanctuary to share the Easter story about Jesus on the cross and sang some new songs.



We have been busy this past month learning the letters U, V, W, X, and Y. During April we will learn about Z, pond life, bugs and insects, and April showers.



We are happy to announce our Spring **Little Caesar's Pizza Fundraiser!** If you love pizza as much as we do, you won't want to miss out on this! Keep an eye out for the sign up.

We are still accepting registrations for the 2021-2022 school year. Registration forms can be found on the church website as well as by emailing us at rhps@comcast.net.

SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

“So then if any person is in Christ, that person is part of the new creation.

The old things are gone away, and look, new things have arrived”. 2 Corinth. 5:17, CEB

New Life and Vital Signs

We are resurrection people living in the hope and promise of eternal life in Christ. For us as Christ’s followers, new life follows death, and there are signs of new life everywhere! Sometimes, it feels as if we have been in a place between sleep and waking for these past twelve months, but new life is happening! If last spring was a time when we experienced more closely than ever the kind of fear and sadness the disciples may have felt at the death of Jesus, this year, while there is still much grief and weariness of these difficult days, we are also experiencing the newness of life, in powerful ways, as we head toward the empty tomb and lives of liberation, aliveness, and joy of the resurrection! Some of the most moving moments of new life for me in recent weeks has been visiting people in local nursing homes for the first time since last year. It was wonderful to be physically present and spending time with God’s people. There is much energy and new life at Christ Lutheran Conyngham, and it feels exciting, like when the beautiful spring flowers pop out of the thawing ground in spring. Some of the new and renewed life, includes getting started with Growing Young, and having our first get together this week to dive into the book and the six essential strategies so that we might continue to engage people of all ages in the life of the church. We hope to create excitement and vitality for people of every age on the disciple’s path engage in leadership, and God’s ministries in action. For Easter there are various exciting things happening... Among them, Christ Lutheran will have its first Outdoor Sunrise Easter Service, and stations of the cross set up in the outdoor areas. We’ve invited people from the congregation and community to pick up a devotional, and take a self-guided prayer walk any day during Holy Week. We are also re-establishing a congregational care team and adding some new ways for folks to minister to one another. We also experience new life in getting back to many of the already established life-giving ministries here! Thanks be to God for new life, new creation, and new beginnings!

Bishop Installation:

You’re invited to worship with us as we install our Bishop, Christopher deForest. This will take place after the synod assembly. Whether you attend the synod assembly or not, you’re invited to participate fully in the Installation Worship! We will broadcast the installation worship live for all to participate and witness this truly joyous occasion. More information will follow letting you know how to connect to the worship and specific start time. Please plan to attend as we connect all three expressions of the church!

Growing Young & Vital: June 4&5, 2021 Registration for the 2021 Virtual Synod Assembly will run from the beginning of April through May 17, 2021. Our theme for this year is “Growing Young and Vital,” which engages three different lanes: loving the land, healing the hurt, and engaging the stranger. We are a church in three expressions, Churchwide, synods, and congregations. In each expression of the church we seek to find joy and vitality in ministry with people of all ages. This year we’ll welcome Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton to participate in the installation of our Bishop, Christopher deForest! We’ll also elect members of our synod to attend the Churchwide Assembly (CWA) as voting members in 2022. Along with electing voting members to the CWA, we will be engaging important issues and topics, attending to the business of our synod as outlined in the constitution, and participating together in festival worship. While we talk about, wonder about, and carry out our theme: Growing Young and Vital, we’ll be setting the stage for asking congregations and ministries throughout our synod to identify their vital signs and places they’re healing the hurt, engaging the stranger, and loving the land!

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

MONTHLY MEETING

Join us on Monday, April 5 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.



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.



APRIL CELEBRATIONS

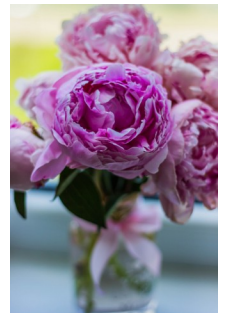
Birthdays:

01 - Kenneth Stoudt
02 - Bruce Buchalter
07 - Vicki Fetterman
Juliana Clery
11 - Owen Manwiller
16 - Eldon Kibler
Patricia Easterbrook
19 - Dennis Biehl
20 - Leanna Stoudt

21 - Weston Hawkins
22 - Angel Zimmerman
24 - Mary Gruber
27 - David Biehl
28 - Glenn Miller

Anniversaries:

11 - Ronald & Donna Kessler



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.

APRIL VOLUNTEERS

Altar Flowers

04-
11-Ron & Donna Kessler
18-
25-

Bulletins

04-
11-
18-
25-

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

01-Janet Kleffel, Dennis Biehl, Phyllis Heffner
02-Phyllis Heffner, Diana Biehl, Vicki Fetterman
04- Dennis Biehl, Janet Kleffel, Linda Roshong
11-Phyllis Heffner, Diana Biehl, Helen Stoudt
18-Helen Stoudt, Vicki Fetterman, Linda Roshong
25-Dennis Biehl, Janet Kleffel, Phyllis Heffner

LCHT MINISTRIES INFORMATION

FOOD PANTRY:

Our church continues to be 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, if you are in need or know of someone who is in need of supplemental food.

The need continues to be great in our area.

All donations are greatly appreciated.



Pastoral Care Team Alive and Well at LCHT

Some may have heard of the Pastoral Care Team at Trinity through their perusal of the Annual Report at the spring congregational meeting. Others may have first-hand experience of the team's ministry through its help at a time of crisis in their lives. Because of confidentiality issues, the PCT generally "flies under the radar." While we do want people to contact the team in time of need, we don't want to be specific in citing cases for fear of compromising people's privacy and comfort level in asking us for help.

Our particular Pastoral Care Team at LCHT is presently comprised of six members: Susan Biehl, Sally Miller, Donna Kessler, Phyllis Weaver, Sue Reiber, and Gordon Kistler; with Pastor Filer as team captain and facilitator at meetings. Meetings are held once a month in the downstairs classroom and last from 1 ½ to two hours. The first third of the meeting is a time for devotions and prayer, a sharing of highs and lows among the team members themselves, and discussion of any joint reading the group is doing. Currently, they are engrossed in a book by PCT founder and Lutheran pastor, the Rev. Dr. Kenneth C. Haugk, entitled *Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart: How to Relate to Those Who Are Suffering*. Team members have shared their sense of the book's relevancy for their work in this caring ministry. The second third of the meeting is a review of cases the team has been considering. Often these cases deal with grief from the loss of a loved one, coping with illness and disability, and dealing with a family crisis such as divorce or substance abuse. It should be emphasized that cases are not presented or discussed in the PCT meeting unless permission has been granted by the person(s) in question.

The limitations of doing ministry during this time of the coronavirus pandemic have certainly challenged the LCHT Pastoral Care Team to be creative and resilient in its approach to its work. If home visits are impossible at present, then contact has to be made either by phone, Zoom, or social media. Meetings at the church are held with masks and social distancing. Despite the impediments, however, if you or someone you know, whether a church member or someone in the community, has a need, please don't hesitate to contact the pastor or a team member either directly or through the church office at 610-926-7176.



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 at 9 a.m.

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: Mon., Wed., Thurs. 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:

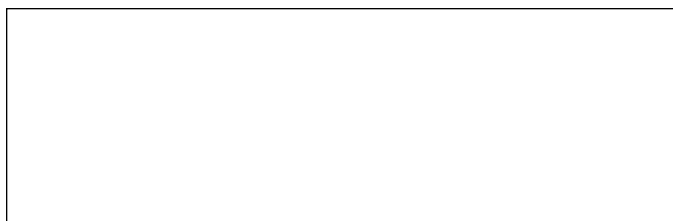
Teachers: Mrs. Aliesha Woods
Ms. Kimberly Wentzel
Office: 610-926-7176 ext. 3
Email: rhps@comcast.net

Mailing Address:

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

Website: www.lcht.org

April 2021



Return Service Requested

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