

**Tree of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**825 Forest Ave**  
**Jamestown NY 14701**

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 438  
Jamestown, NY

MAILING  
LABEL

# LEAVES OF LIFE



**Tree of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church**

*“For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church in all times and places, of which these congregations - Holy Trinity and Immanuel, and their buildings have been a part, we give thanks and praise. For the men and women that founded these congregations, who made personal sacrifices in order for it to grow and flourish, and who used their talents and skills in building up a community of faith, we give our thanks and praise. For these congregation’s ministries throughout their lives, its gatherings for praise, prayer and fellowship; and for its faithful use of the means of grace, its study of scripture, we give our thanks and praise.”*

Brothers, Sisters and Friends of Tree of Life Lutheran Church,

The above prayer petition, from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Occasional Services, is a fitting prayer in this time of change and transition as Holy Trinity and Immanuel congregations make this tangible step in moving forward as a newly redeveloped congregation, Tree of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church. As the Immanuel building closes its doors for worship and we make adjustments to house our worship at 825 Forest Avenue, we take time to thank God for the many ways these congregations have touched your life and the lives of the community.

Your ministries have nurtured and fed the saints for 132 years. You have faithfully cared for Word and Sacrament as the priesthood of all believers along with your pastors, embracing the promises God made to you in your baptisms; and were empowered with God’s light so that others might see your good works and glorify our Father in heaven.

I thank God for each of you. As we have worked together over the

past two and half years to bring Holy Trinity and Immanuel together as Tree of Life. Through Vacation Bible School, Confirmation, Sunday worship, Sunday School, Ashes to Go, Pie Church, Blue Christmas, Youth Advent Program, Choir, First Communion Classes, Weddings, Baptisms, Funerals, Food Cupboard, Mobile Food Market, Care Team, Vision Team, Council, Fellowship and Worship; I've felt supported by your prayers in times of uncertainty and how our ministry would be shaped in the future. None of us knew where the Spirit was leading, and in days to come we are still not sure of what our ministry will become.

However, in the midst of our questions paired with grief for what was, we hold excitement for lies ahead. I give thanks to God for your commitment, faithfulness and stewardship as we have become something new... Tree of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church. First, we will share a time of mourning for what will no longer be possible and then will takes steps working together as we lay hold of what may yet be possible for the sake of Christ and his Church through the ministry of Tree of Life Lutheran Church. In days to come, may we walk in God's grace and continue extend peace, compassion and empathy to all we travel with as well as those who are already waiting us, just around the bend.

*Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; Where there is injury, pardon; Where there is doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope; Where there is darkness, light; and Where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console; To be understood, as to understand; To be loved, as to love. For it is in giving that we receive – It is in pardoning that we are pardoned; And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*

(Attributed to St. Francis of Assisi.)

*O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good*



If you would like to order an Easter plant for our Chancel in *honor* or memory of a loved one, please let Rosemary at church office know, **no later than Monday, April 1st.** FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT CHURCH.

Price this year is \$8.00 (allowing for delivery charges). Brigiottas is doing a variety of plants that will enhance the Sanctuary for Easter. Payment should accompany your order.



**NOTE:** UNTIL THE MOVE OF OFFICE IS FULLY COMPLETE, when signing up for **ALTAR FLOWERS AND/OR BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP**, please **contact the church office** 716 488-4235 or email Rosemary



[admin@toljamestown.com](mailto:admin@toljamestown.com) with requested date & what you would like printed in the bulletin that week and any specific request on choice of flowers or colors. Rosemary will contact Jan to order flowers. *It is fine for flowers and bulletin sponsorship on same day, just specify which you would like.*

## FINANCIAL PICTURE

### TREE OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH---GENERAL FUND

	JANUARY	Actual Y-T-D	Budget Y-T-D
Income	\$10,420	\$10,420	\$14,808
Expense	14,476	14,476	18,377
Balance	-\$4,056	-\$4,056	-\$3,569

# SERVING TREE OF LIFE

**MARCH**

## ASSISTING MINISTER

3RD: Darcy Whitney  
10TH: Sue Priester  
17TH: Susan Bailey  
24TH: Wolf-Dieter Krahn  
31ST: Lisa Gustafson

## COMMUNION ASSISTANT

3RD: Darcy W, +1 (need)  
10TH: Dodie E, Mike F  
17TH: Chris R, Paula H  
24TH: Carol S, Cindy S  
31ST: Sandy S, +1 (need)

## COUNTERS TBA council

## LECTORS

3RD: (need)  
10TH: Anne Buffone  
17TH: Lisa Gustafson  
24TH: Kelly Myers  
31ST: Linda Smith

## ACOLYTE:

3RD: need  
10TH: Ella Storms  
17TH: Sydney Moss  
24TH: Allie Moss  
31ST: Lilly Moss

## GREETERS

3RD: Joyce Atkinson, Jan Bechmann  
\*6th: (Ash Wed) Jim & Anne Buffone \*  
10TH: Carole Dean, Dodie Erickson  
17TH: George Hitchcock, Ev Owen  
24TH: Cindy Swan, Darcy Whitney  
31ST: Joyce Atkinson, Jan Bechmann

## USHERS

3RD: Al J, Matt K  
\*6th: (Ash Wed) \*  
Paul & Kim H, Gary C, Dan G  
10TH: Darcy W, George H, Sandy S  
17TH: Mike F, Dennis A,  
Roberto C, Brenda D  
24TH: Al J, Matt K  
31ST: Paul & Kim H, Gary C, Dan G

**\* if ASH WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY SERVICE AT THIS LOCATION\***

**ALTAR CARE TEAM FOR MARCH**

**If you are unable to serve  
on your Sunday, you are responsible for finding a replacement and calling to let the office know who is serving for you.**

**Pre-School Sunday school class needs teacher..**

**CALL PASTOR TARA**

*courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

**Walking in Grace,  
Pastor Tara Lamont Eastman**

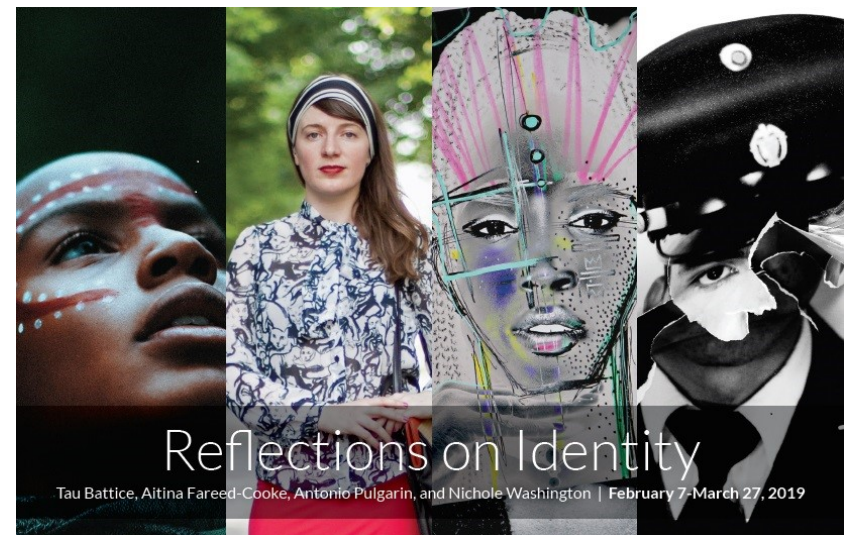
***Tree of Life Church: united in worship, sharing Jesus and serving all people.***

## What's your theme?

Disgusted by a tasteless dish, Winston Churchill once summoned a waiter, saying, "Take this pudding away. It has no theme!"

Any good dish, book, movie or sermon needs a good theme. So does a good life! That's why a personal motto or mission statement is helpful. William Carey's was "Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God." Joan of Arc's was "God must be served first." And St. Paul's was "to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified" (1 Corinthians 2:2, ESV).

tor Curtis Nigh says, "If the heart does not have a noble or goodly theme, then it develops an anti-theme." What noble theme can you live by as you live for Christ?



# Tree of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Welcome to

### Tree of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church

**825 Forest Ave, Jamestown NY 14701**

**(716) 488-4235 - FAX: (716) 488-2336**

## Contact info:

**Office hours: 8am-noon—Monday thru Friday  
(pastor in office: M-Th after 9:30)**

***Pastor Tara Lamont Eastman***

**(716) 969-3950 (call or text) to schedule meeting**

***Regular Schedule: Sunday School 9am & Worship at 10:15  
Sunday School thru last Sunday in May  
Summer Worship time TBA***

## TREE OF LIFE emails:

[pastor@toljamestown.com](mailto:pastor@toljamestown.com)

[admin@toljamestown.com](mailto:admin@toljamestown.com)

[income@toljamestown.com](mailto:income@toljamestown.com)

[expense@toljamestown.com](mailto:expense@toljamestown.com)

[music@toljamestown.com](mailto:music@toljamestown.com)

- Pastor Tara Eastman
- Rosemary DiDomenico
- Beryl Emley
- Jan Coleson
- Eric Hester

**TOL Website:** [www.toljamestown.com](http://www.toljamestown.com)

Tree of Life is on Facebook

**PLEASE BE PATIENT WITH US AS WE  
TRANSITION OFFICE FROM  
E Second St to Forest Ave this month**

# Mission Message

## WHAT IS ADVOCACY?

An advocate is someone who intercedes for someone else, often someone with little or no resource to do so for himself. God sent Jesus to be our advocate, and if, through our faith, we want to extend the hand of Jesus to others, then we will be their advocate. ELCA Advocacy identifies issues that affect the quality of life for people who may not be able to speak for themselves. Issues like minimizing the effect of the entertainment industry on youth smoking; training truck drivers to recognize and aid victims of sex trafficking; assessing the impacts of global warming; identifying socially responsible funds for investors. Surprised by the diversity of issues? There are vastly many more! This is how it works:

ELCA Advocacy works for change in public policy based on the experience of Lutheran ministries, programs and projects around the world and in communities across the United States. We work through political channels on behalf of the following biblical values: peacemaking, hospitality to strangers, care for creation, and concern for people living in poverty and struggling with hunger and disease. Advocacy happens in both Albany and in Washington, DC, to strive for justice for all.

There is surely an issue that you, too, are concerned about. (To see all the work being done, visit [ECLA.org](http://ECLA.org), click on the “our work” tab, and you will find advocacy in the list under “publicly engaged church.”) Through ELCA Advocacy, your concerns become the church’s concerns, and action is being taken. You are part of this ministry through your congregation’s Mission Support to the synod.

## Thank you!

We are church together for the sake of the world.

God’s Work. Our Hands.

***Marcia Brown, Mission Interpreter***



**Note: IF YOU WOULD LIKE  
NAME REMOVED FROM OUR  
MAILING LIST, PLEASE LET THE  
CHURCH OFFICE KNOW.**

716 488-4235—Rosemary  
admin@toljamestown.com

## ELCA LECTIONARY C

### Sunday, Mar. 3 –

#### ***Transfiguration of Our Lord***

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalms 99

2 Corinthians 3:12 — 4:2

Luke 9:28-36[37-43a]



### Sunday, Mar. 10 –

#### ***First Sunday in Lent***

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16

Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13

### Sunday, Mar. 17 –

#### ***Second Sunday in Lent***

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Psalms 27

Philippians 3:17--4:1 Luke 13:31-35

### Sunday, Mar. 24 –

#### ***Third Sunday in Lent***

Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalms 63:1-8

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9

### Sunday, Mar. 31 –

#### ***Fourth Sunday in Lent***

Joshua 5:9-12

Psalms 32

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

## HOSPITALIZATIONS

In case of hospital emergency,  
please contact Pastor Eastman at  
716 969-3950.

## DAYS OF CREATION

Play this game to remember when  
God made each of his masterpieces.

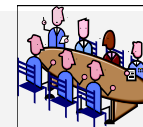


### What you need:

- Paper
- Rulers
- Pencils
- Markers or crayons
- Dice
- Bibles (open to Genesis 1:1-2:3 for reference)

### What you do:

1. To make game boards, draw a grid with four rows and seven columns, totaling 28 squares.
2. Across the top row, write DAY 1 in the first square and continue through DAY 7.
3. Take turns rolling one die, or all players can roll at once. For the number rolled, draw something God created on that day (in the correct column).
4. When you fill an entire row, draw a smiley face in the DAY 7 square. The first player with two smileys wins.



## Tree of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church Council

**President:** Darcy Whitney  
**Vice-Pres:** Dorie Deyo  
**Treasurer:** Deb Morlock  
**Secretary:** Linda Johnson

### Council members:

Dorie Deyo  
Thure Fransen  
Linda Johnson  
Matt Kubinski  
Debbi Morlock  
Sue Priester  
Cindy Swan  
Darcy Whitney



### NOTE:

If local schools are closed, be sure to call office prior to make sure we are open. Also will be on local TV stations cancellations & closing & local radio stations as Tree of Life.

Choir rehearsals are on  
Wednesdays at 7:00



To all volunteers who give their time to help out as needed. You are truly appreciated.

# Tree of Life News



**ESTHER CIRCLE meeting** will meet on

**Wednesday, March 6th for this month**••

Regular meetings are the First Wednesday of each month at **1:30 in church library (Bible study will be from the current GATHER Magazine )** unless change noted.

Any women from Tree of Life and their friends are welcome to attend.

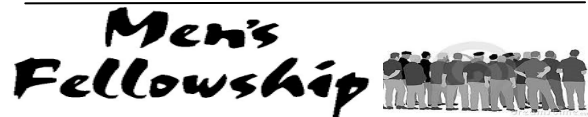
We use the Bible study found in Gather Magazine and have refreshments and good conversations afterwards!

••

**LABOR OF LOVE** will meet on **each Monday in March - 9am** in Anderson Hall . They meet 1st Monday of month thru December, weekly January-May

**WOMEN KNIT TOGETHER NOT MEETING ANY LONGER.**

••



**SENIOR MEN'S FELLOWSHIP WILL MEET ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 10AM AT FRIENDLY'S RESTAURANT**

## HOSPITALIZATIONS

The church office no longer receives calls from the hospital when a member is hospitalized. It would be appreciated if someone from the family would call the church office when a hospitalization occurs. In addition to calls no longer being made to the office by hospital volunteers, the computer used by the clergy at the hospital to locate hospitalized members has been removed. Thank you for your assistance. **In case of hospital emergency, please contact Pastor Eastman at 716 969-3950.**

## Christian Symbol



**CHALICE & CROSS** — The chalice with a cross rising from it symbolizes Christ's obedient suffering, even unto death. The cross is called a "passion cross," with pointed ends that represent suffering. We remember that in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus begged his Father that the "cup" of suffering be taken from him. But ultimately, he prayed, "Not as I will, but as you will" (Matthew 26:39, NIV).

**Note:** Rosemary will be out of the office on Thursday, March 21—Monday, March 25. We will be traveling to our daughter's in Rhode Island for a very special occasion.

**Congratulations to our son-in-law**

LT Matthew A. Robinson

who is retiring after 22 years from the US Navy Medical Service Corps on Friday, March 22nd .. Event will be on the Historic Ship Nautilus at Groton, Connecticut



## TREE OF LIFE



### MARCH

3/1 Daphne Thurnau  
 3/3 Susan Bailey  
 3/4 Cynthia Hansen-Barlow  
 3/7 Andrew DuBois  
 3/8 Zach Gustafson, Maddie Johnson  
 3/11 Heidi Swan-Leuze  
 3/12 Leah Scalise  
 3/13 Connor Kilbury  
 3/15 Sallie Swanson  
 3/16 Dan Gustafson, Nicholas Slagle  
 3/18 Tom Olson  
 3/19 Margarite White  
 3/20 Madison Kubinski  
 3/12 Kevin Swanson  
 3/22 Edward Evanczik  
 3/23 Andrew Christian, Sandra Dole  
 3/24 Gloria Lombardo, Charlotte Lombardo  
 3/25 Sandra Forsberg  
 3/26 Mason Kubinski, Dominic Mazzone  
 3/27 Sheldon Anderson, Timothy Smith, Becky Darroch  
 3/28 Jonathan Mazzone  
 3/29 Yvonne Wolf  
 3/30 Donald Anderson



*God's Blessings to you!*

PLEASE LET THE CHURCH OFFICE  
 KNOW if this needs update

### How peace bears witness

Christians ought not to be smothered in fear. There is a spiritual readiness, where we return to having the peace of God stand guard over our hearts and minds.

What an incredible witness it is to a lost and fearful society when the Christian acts like a child of God, living under the loving sovereignty of the heavenly Father. The Christian needs to walk in peace, so no matter what happens they will be able to bear witness to a watching world.

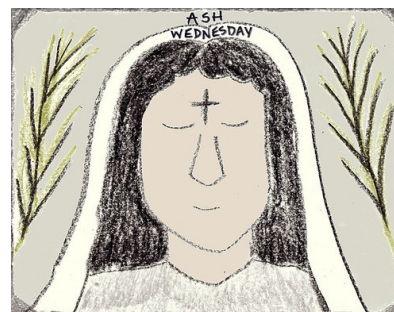
—Henry Blackaby

## Pastor's message..

Let the dough rise  
 by Pastor Tara L. Eastman



The season of Lent and Ash Wednesday is a holy time that brings reflection and contemplation to the center of life. Ash Wednesday and its prayer...



*From dust you came and to dust you shall return,* causes me to reflect on spiritual matters that I am otherwise too busy to notice. As we move to the end of winter and begin to look forward to the spring days of Easter, Lent allows us the space to rest and fully settle into a unique season of repentance (turning towards God) and closer to the promise of Jesus' resurrection and new life.

In this season of Lent, there is time for reflection and resting in God's care that could be com-

pared to bread dough in a bowl, rising under a damp cloth, growing and changing as it prepares to become something new.

Throughout Lent, you may choose to engage in some new spiritual practices being ushered into this season with Ash Wednesday on March 6<sup>th</sup>. On this day, Tree of Life Lutheran Church will offer for the third year, **Ashes to Go** from 7:30-11:30 am: a time of prayer, blessing and a hot cup of coffee for folks on the go at our 556 East Second Street parking lot. At 7pm, we will offer a worship service for Ash Wednesday at 825 Forest Avenue site.

Ash Wednesday and Lent is a time to be honest about our vulnerability and limits. Just like the ash cross marks our foreheads, Lent makes space for resting in God's presence, like the bread dough that gently sets in a bowl to become something new.



## pastor con't..

As we move into Lent, we are invited to embrace our humanity and to rest in God's grace to learn, grow and live into the ashes of who we are. We are not perfect, but we are beloved by God. From dust we came and to dust we shall return, but today for this moment – we rest in the ever loving hands of God.

This Lent, God help us to rest as imperfect but beloved people of God. Help us to be like bread dough slowly rising in a blue Pyrex bowl: cozily growing under a muslin cloth. God help us to relenting from rushing. To let go of our plans and become people kneaded by the hands of God to become something new.

We are ashes, we are resting bread dough, we are imperfect - but perfectly loved by a God who really knows and loves each lovely lump of dough. Lent is a very good place to rest.

Thanks to God for Ash Wednesday and for Lent – a time to relent from rushing, so we gently rise with the Christ that was, that is and ever will be – the giver of life.

God's blessings to you as you

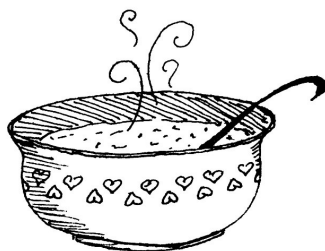
reflect, rise and grow in faith this Lenten season. May you be blessed and remember you are beloved by God each step of the journey.

Walking in grace,

Pastor Tara L. Eastman



**Lenten Practices for you to take part in:** Throughout Lent, you are invited to pick up a copy of “**Practicing Lent**” devotional in the Narthex beginning March 3<sup>rd</sup>. It is a Lenten devotional booklet to enhance your times of Lenten reflection



## COINS FOR KATIE



Have you thought about giving up something for Lent? Here's an idea – try losing all that extra change hanging around in your pocket, on your dresser or wherever it tends to pile up and give it to **Coins for Katie**. What's **Coins for Katie**? Glad you asked. But first a little info.

Full name: Katharina von Bora (1499 – 1522; pictured above); married to: Martin Luther (reformer of the Roman Catholic Church). Katie offered much support to her husband and family, leaving a legacy in small, but significant ways to the Church, especially in Women's ministries.

So, in 1997, Women of the ELCA, Churchwide, established **KATIE'S FUND**, a **one-million-dollar endowment**, providing grants in three ministry areas – *leadership development, global connections and living theology*. They now hope to increase the endowment to three million dollars by 2020. And that's what **Coins for Katie** is all about.

The Southwestern Conference Women of the ELCA asks for your help in this effort. Just put that loose change in a jar during Lent (use the label below, if you like). Then after Easter, contact me for final details: [rumfelt@stny.rr.com](mailto:rumfelt@stny.rr.com) or 664-4409.

Join your Southwestern Conference Sisters in Christ and help Katie's Fund reach its new goal!

Thanks and God bless!

*Spis A. Rumfelt*





**From Major John W Merchant (Salvation Army)..** Thank you for a job well done .. 2018 Red Kettle Campaign exceed this year's goal of \$115,300 with total of \$120,180.20. your volunteering strengthened the mission & ministry to our community. You have truly been a blessing!

**"Leaves of Life " DEADLINE**  
**FOR April NEWS Is Sunday March 17th**  
 Work party to assemble  
 will be 9am at TOL  
**Wednesday, March 27th**



### **COMMUNITY EVENT**

**"Dining in the Dark"**  
**April 12<sup>th</sup> at the Chautauqua Harbor Hotel**  
**Call the Blind Association for tickets**  
**716 664-6660**

### **Soulful Soup Wednesday's:**

6pm throughout Lent, join us at 825 Forest Ave. site for soup, fellowship and discussion of the book, "Good Grief". The dates for soup dinner will be: March 13, 20, 27 and April 3 10, and 17. Free will donations for soup dinner appreciated. If you would like to help with set up for soup dinners, please contact Pastor Eastman at 716-969-3950.



### **Save the date for Striders** **Mentoring Pilot Program at** **Fletcher School:**

In May and June, Striders Mentoring Program is trying out an afterschool pilot program. One weekday a week for 1 ½ hours, Striders staff, caring and vetted adult volunteers and school staff will hold an activity group starting the first week of May and ending at school year close. If you are interested in applying to be considered as a volunteer for this program, please contact Pastor Eastman and fill out an application.



**TOL has an email Prayer Chain-** Prayer requests can be made through the pastor 969-3950; the church office 488-4235; or direct to Dodie 665-5062 her email is [dodie2417@gmail.com](mailto:dodie2417@gmail.com). If you would like to be a part of this important mission please send your email address to Dodie.

*In Loving Memory*  Of:  
**ROBERTA GRAHAM**

From:  
*Sandy Kindberg*  
*Karin & Michael Flynn*  
*David & Pat Howard*  
*Parson's Children*  
*Bill & Linda Uhl*  
*Gordon & Marlene Nelson*



# Decode The days

At this time of year, God's creation "springs" to life.

*Directions: After reading Genesis 1:1-2:3, write the correct Creation day number under each picture. Then add up each day's total and write it on the correct blank below.*


Day 1 (light) \_\_\_\_ Day 2 (waters) \_\_\_\_ Day 3 (land and plants) \_\_\_\_ Day 4 (heavenly bodies) \_\_\_\_

Day 5 (birds and water animals) \_\_\_\_ Day 6 (land animals and people) \_\_\_\_ Day 7 (God rested) \_\_\_\_

Answers: Day 1 = 3, Day 2 = 3, Day 3 = 10, Day 4 = 6, Day 5 = 10, Day 6 = 15, Day 7 = 2

## 2019 Honduras Mission Trip

The Honduras Promise Children Mission Project is planning their Mission Trip for 2019, and we are looking for new team members. This is an ecumenical group, although St. Timothy Lutheran Church is the sponsoring organization. We have been involved in Honduras for about 25 years.

We plan to fly on Saturday April 19<sup>th</sup> and return on Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup>. These dates are in the school vacation of some schools.

We will be traveling to our on-going project in the small village of la Villa de San Francisco. We sponsor 31 children in this village, and support a staff of 3 for their weekly program of education, spiritual learning, recreation, social/psychological guidance.

During the trip, we will meet with the children and staff daily, and also with their families. We will bring activities as a group, plus work with the on-going projects that our staff leads throughout the year.

We welcome all team members- men, women and teens. We will fly from Toronto, staying overnight before and after the trip. The total cost for everything will be about \$1000.

**For more information, contact Sarah Goebel 716-450-2986 or [goebel.sarah3@gmail.com](mailto:goebel.sarah3@gmail.com); or Tammy Haas 716-410-4135 or [ma-haas1@gmail.com](mailto:ma-haas1@gmail.com)**

**TOL CHURCH COUNCIL WILL MEET @**

**6:30PM March 11th**

### **ATTENTION MARRIED COUPLES:**

Time is running out to sign up for your spring Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend! Don't delay--remember that because we are celebrating 50 years of Worldwide Marriage Encounter, we are offering 50% off on all registration fees for 2019! Learn how to create more joy and intimacy in your marriage by attending a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend!

The 2019 Northeast US spring Weekends are: April 5-7, 2019 at the lovely Country Inn & Suites just off of Hwy 99 in State College and April 26-28, 2019 at the newly-remodeled Heritage Hotel Lancaster in Lancaster, PA.

We are also taking reservations for our fall Weekends: October 11-13, 2019 at the Hyatt Place Pittsburgh/Cranberry in Cranberry Township, PA, and November 1-3, 2019 at Hampton Inn Berkshires in Lenox, MA.

Please go to the website: [www.GodLovesMarriage.org](http://www.GodLovesMarriage.org), click on "view all weekends" and select the Weekend of your choice to see the very reasonable, group-rate cost for that Weekend. Two nights lodging, 5 meals for each of you, and all supplies are included, and financial assistance is available for those in need. Simply fill out the form, and complete your registration with a credit card, or you may choose the option to mail a check. For questions, or if you would like a brochure mailed to you, please contact Northeast US Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at [fjschamber@comcast.net](mailto:fjschamber@comcast.net) or 724-325-3166. Act TODAY while there are still openings!

The second Sunday of the month is FOOD SUNDAY..

We ask that you bring a non-perishable food item for our Food Pantry Any food will be welcome.



### **Worship ATTENDANCE**

Jan 27—82	Feb 3—70
Feb 10—80	Feb 17—85

### **To God you shall return**

The traditional Ash Wednesday words "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return" might seem depressing. But in our often death-denying culture, some might find it refreshing to hear the frank statement that we can do nothing to save ourselves, physically or spiritually — that, no matter how we try to avoid sin, we can't untangle ourselves from self-interest. How liberating, then, to know we don't have to! God loves us as we are and sent Jesus to break sin's power over us.

A pastor described Ash Wednesday as the point you can pinch in the middle of a long piece of ribbon, such that when you lift it high, the two ends — one symbolizing our baptism and the other, our funeral — meet and touch. We come from dust and will return to dust, but we also come from God and will return to God. Ash Wednesday reminds us that we're always safe in God's love.

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Special dates**

World Day of Prayer, *March 1, 2019*  
Transfiguration of Our Lord, *March 3, 2019*  
Ash Wednesday, *March 6, 2019*  
First Sunday in Lent, *March 10, 2019*  
Daylight-Saving Time begins, *March 10, 2019*  
Second Sunday in Lent, *March 17, 2019*  
First day of spring, *March 20, 2019*  
Third Sunday in Lent, *March 24, 2019*  
Fourth Sunday in Lent, *March 31, 2019*

\*\*\*

"It's better to bite your tongue than to eat your words."

—Frank Sonnenberg


\* \* \*

"You do not need to wallow in guilt. Wallow in the mercy of God."

—St. John Vianney

# March 2019

Note: TEAMS will be notified on dates of these meetings:  
WORSHIP & MUSIC; FINANCE; FAITH FORMATION; MUTUAL  
MINISTRY; VISION, & STAFF MEETING

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																										
<b>Activities at E 2nd St—for this month:</b> Healthy Bones: M-W-F, 9am SR Center Bingo: M, 11:30am Tai Chi: M (11am) T & Th, (10am) Peer Support: 1st M, 7pm SR Center Tureen: 4th T, noon					1 10-2 Food Cupboard	2																																										
3 Transfiguration SS 9, W 10:15 Kween Bees mtg. 4pm	4 Labor of Love, 9	5 Ministerium 10-3 MHA—Gateway Chapel 2	6 Ash Wednesday <b>Ashes to Go at E 2nd St</b> SR MEN Fellowship, 10 <b>Friendly's</b> Esther Circle, 1:30, lib Ash Wed. Service, 7pm	7 TOPS 9-NOON	8 10-2 Food Cupboard	9 Remember to set clocks AHEAD 1 HR 																																										
10 1st Sun. in Lent SS 9, W 10:15 FOOD SUNDAY	11 Labor of Love, 9 Council, 6:30	12 MHA—Gateway Chapel 2	13 staff mtg, 10 10-2 Food Cupboard Soulful Soup, 6 Choir, 7	14 TOPS 9-NOON	15 10-2 Food Cupboard	16																																										
17 2nd Sun. in Lent SS 9, W 10:15 <b>D/L FOR APRIL NL</b> <b>ST. PATRICK'S DAY</b> 	18 Labor of Love, 9	19 MHA—Gateway Chapel 2	20 (Spring!) 10-2 Food Cupboard Soulful Soup, 6 Choir, 7	21 TOPS 9-NOON Rosemary off	22 10-2 Food Cupboard	23																																										
24 3rd Sun. in Lent SS 9, W 10:15	25 Labor of Love, 9 Rosemary off	26 MHA—Gateway Chapel 2	27 Apr n/l mlg 10-2 Food Cupboard Soulful Soup, 6 Choir, 7	28 TOPS 9-NOON	29 10-2 Food Cupboard	30																																										
31 4th Sun. in Lent SS 9, W 10:15	Get your EASTER plant order in now—forms at church					April 2019 <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30				
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																										
	1	2	3	4	5	6																																										
7	8	9	10	11	12	13																																										
14	15	16	17	18	19	20																																										
21	22	23	24	25	26	27																																										
28	29	30																																														

Jan Coleson will be off Mar 9-20