

# *TRINITY HIGHLIGHTS*

*APRIL 2020*

*The monthly newsletter of  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Greencastle, PA*

Dear Family,

Knowing life was soon to become sad and complicated, before His last supper, Jesus spoke these words of strength and comfort to His disciples.

*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. (John 14:27)*

In this age of coronavirus, it's hard to conceive of peace and an untroubled heart. We are concerned about so many things; our health and the health of family and friends, feelings of loneliness and isolation especially if we live alone, financial concerns for people who are furloughed because of business shutdowns, etc, etc. Put the regular stuff of life on top of all that and we have a recipe for anxiety and fear.

Yet, Jesus promises peace – not as the world gives – but peace that God provides. The peace Jesus talks about isn't that sense of contentment that settles in when life is comfortable. No, this peace is calm in the middle of chaos swirling around us.

God's peace doesn't ignore fear and anxiety. Instead, peace names the fear and allows us to feel it fully. Then, we lean into God's love and the fear loses its power to control us. We're free to respond to tough situations in new and creative ways.

We're doing that as a family of faith. Social distancing doesn't have to mean isolation. We're taking our directories and checking on our friends and elders. We're praying for one another and finding out how to use the computer to gather. We're worshipping together on-line. We're learning to connect our heart spaces even as we have to maintain our physical distances.

Holy Week we will walk with Jesus to the cross. In His suffering and death Jesus shows His complete solidarity with our suffering. Jesus understands betrayal, pain, and death. He completely trusts God as He walks that path to Calvary. He opens His arms and gives Himself totally. And the world weeps thinking it's all over.

It isn't. God loves you! Jesus' victory over death comes three days later. He is raised from the dead and that promise is yours as well. This new life is something we experience NOW, TODAY, not just at the end of life when we transition to new life with God. God is active TODAY in your life bringing new possibility and resurrection from the ashes of defeat.

The gift is we are not alone. God walks with us through every circumstance in our lives. It is that promise that brings peace in the midst of chaos.

Blessings on your journey,  
*Pastor Barb*





**Governor Wolfe has now issued a stay at home order until April 30.** Trinity Lutheran is considered an essential “business” because we are life sustaining. WE are the church. CHRIST is our anchor and reason for our being. In this age of social distancing, it is vital that we find creative ways to connect with one another and serve the least, lost, lonely and unfortunate among us.

As sheltering in place continues, sheltering will become harder.

**We are NOT ok! Connection, even by phone, is crucial.**

Please make every effort to make at least **two calls a day** to different families in our directory. Yes, the directory doesn’t include our newest members, but it is all we have. Hopefully, you’ve saved the information we’ve included in past newsletters. If you need contact information about a member and don’t have it, please call the pastor.

Please take time to **write cards** to our elders and those you know in pain. Yes, cards – in the mail.

There is something about receiving something written you can see over and over that fills the heart and lets people know they aren’t alone.

When you leave your home to go to the grocery store, swing by the church and **add something to the food pantry box.** The poor are most vulnerable in this time. The pantry in Waynesboro which also serves Greencastle is fully operational and needs donations.

**Participate in the activities of the congregation as much as possible.** Gather for worship on Facebook or the Website. Gather for Bible study and prayer via Zoom. Continue your spiritual tithe. Attend Zoom team meetings so the work of the church continues.

In this time of anxiety and uncertainty, it is tempting to close in, hunker down and ignore everyone else.

**Jesus tells us they will know we are Christians by our love.** For now, love looks like social distancing. It doesn’t have to be ignoring our fellows. When you are out in the grocery store, **smile** and look others in the eye even if they ignore you. It is one way we can share Christ and perhaps make a difference in someone else’s day. If they ask how you can be so positive, you can share that Christ gives you hope in the face of uncertainty.

Being cooped up and stuck together can be especially hard on families. Please be careful with one another. Find creative ways to be with one another in playing and working together. Learn a new skill. Take the time to really connect. **If you are having difficulty, please reach out. Call the pastor or reach out to a mental health professional.** These are tough times for everyone.

---

**CHURCH IS ALWAYS OPEN BECAUSE  
CHURCH IS NOT A BUILDING OR A  
BUSINESS. CHURCH IS A PEOPLE  
LEARNING TO LOVE LIKE GOD LOVES  
THE WORLD.**

---

*Trinity Highlights  
is a publication of  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
1186 Jason Drive, Greencastle, PA 17225*

**Rev. Barbara Barry, Pastor**

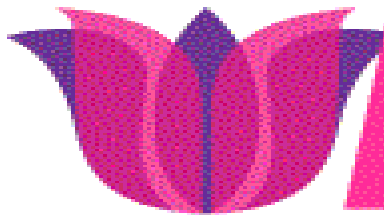
**Office Phone: 717-597-9348**

**Office Email: [tlcsecoffice@gmail.com](mailto:tlcsecoffice@gmail.com)**

**Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM**

**Sunday School for All Ages 8:30 AM**

**Fellowship 9:15 AM**



# APRIL 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1  Lenten Worship Online	2  Prayer for Trinity 6PM <i>Bible Study 7PM</i>	3	4
5 <i>Palm Sunday</i>  Confirmation Class 10 AM  Worship Online	6	7   Finance 7PM	8   Lenten Worship Online <i>Council 7:00 PM</i>	9  Maundy Thursday Worship Online  <i>Zoom Prayer Service 7PM</i>	10  Good Friday Worship Online  <i>Zoom Prayer Service 7PM</i>	11
12 <i>Easter</i>  Worship Online	13	14	15	16   Prayer for Trinity 6PM	17	18
19 Confirmation Class 10 AM  Worship Online	20	21	22	23   Prayer for Trinity 6PM	24	25
26 Confirmation Class 10 AM  Worship Online	27	28	29	30   Prayer for Trinity 6PM		

# HOLY WEEK



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Holy Week is no less vital nor important because we can't gather in the sanctuary for worship. In 2020 we are LIVING the walk to the cross with the sacrifices we are making to help slow the spread of the coronavirus. We are learning new ways to be the church. Please look carefully to see how you might participate in the worship of this most holy season.

**Palm Sunday, 4/5:** ☐ Sunday worship will be videotaped and downloaded to Facebook, the Website and YouTube. Create palms with your family so you might experience Jesus' victory ride on a donkey into Jerusalem. We will be sending via email the story of the passion in preparation for the service.

**Maundy Thursday, 4/9:** ☐ Worship will be videotaped and downloaded to Facebook, the Website and YouTube. ☐ At 7pm, we will gather for prayer via Zoom, a video conferencing app. Directions to join the prayer service will be emailed.

**Good Friday 4/10:** ☐ The Tenebrae service of light and dark will be videotaped and download to Facebook, the Website and YouTube. To enter the service fully please have ready 8 lighted candles to extinguish or 8 rocks to throw away as we listen to the story of the crucifixion and mourn the death of Jesus. ☐ At 7pm, we will gather for prayer via Zoom. Directions to join the prayer service will be emailed.

**Easter Sunday, 4/12:** ☐ Sunday worship will be videotaped and downloaded to Facebook, the Website and YouTube. We will celebrate Easter in the sanctuary the first Sunday we are able to gather as a family of faith.



### LOOKING AHEAD

Easter Worship will be held in the Sanctuary the first Sunday we are able to gather again

May 10 is Mother's Day.

Youth Sunday, May 17, has been cancelled due to lack of time for planning

May 25 is Memorial Day





I guess none of us anticipated a Lenten fast of worship services and preparation for them. I have missed the people connection that praise team and choir brings and am certainly hoping and praying that we can all be back together soon!

Meanwhile I continue to practice the organ and work on independence of hands and feet, and I have met with Mr. Lawless and his associate, Jonathan, to discuss specific affordable and necessary repairs they can make to the organ in 2020.

I thought you might enjoy the photo of what might happen at choir practice when we are not singing - WE HAVE SNACKS provided by the Pastor under the watchful eye of Worship and Music Committee chair, Ralph Burdick! HAHA!



Worship, the act of freely giving love to God, is our spiritual practice as beloved children. We freely offer our time, talent and money for God's work in the world sharing the blessings with which God has so generously given us. Trinity now has four ways to give to God's work in the world: in person, Simply Giving, mail and on the computer. For now, with the stay at home order, please use Simply Giving, mail in your offering or use the "give" button on the website from your computer or phone. The on-line giving can be used for one-time or recurring donations. Simply Giving is for recurring donations only.

On-line giving is supported by VANCO which is the same company we use for Simply Giving. Your donation will be safe and secure. The process is user friendly, however, a separate email from the treasurer and finance secretary will be coming with detailed instructions in case you would find that helpful.



### STAYING CONNECTED

We are learning new ways to be the church in this time of social distancing. Gatherings for prayer and meetings are happening using a videoconferencing platform called Zoom. The host sends an email giving directions for entering the meeting and a meeting ID. Using the meeting ID participants join the meeting and can see and talk with everyone who is part of the meeting. We thank God today for the technology to keep us all connected.

---

### A POST FROM A PASTOR:

*I trust God....and wear my seatbelt.  
I trust God....and I wear a motorcycle helmet.  
I trust God....and there are enough life jackets in my boat for everyone on board.  
I trust God....and I use oven mitts with really hot dishes.  
I trust God....and I lock my house at night.  
I trust God....and I have smoke detectors in my house.  
I trust God....and I take my prescribed medicines.  
I trust God....and I will follow the best guidelines to share the task of flattening the curve.  
Acting with caution and wisdom does not indicate a lack of trust in God.*

---





## RENEWAL NEWS

Stay tuned for a rescheduling of the potluck lunch to discuss the direction of our congregation in light of the PAWN conversations we had as a congregation. Don't forget to continue to watch for God active in your life. We will resume filling out God moment slips and vocational interviews when we return to worship in the sanctuary.



## HELP NEEDED

Two individuals are needed to perform an audit for the congregation's 2019 books. Please notify the office if you feel called to serve.

## APRIL SPECIAL APPEAL

The Special Appeal for April is Project Big Love. Project Big Love helps Franklin County families prepare to go back to school. Funds are used to provide needy families with free sneakers and school supplies for each child. Families are also provided with food, haircuts and other services. If you desire to make a monetary donation, please mark your envelope for Special Appeal or use the white envelope in the pew rack and mark it "Special Appeal".

## FOOD PANTRY



The children's backpack program has enough food to last the rest of the year. We will change our focus to the food pantry until school begins in the fall. For the present moment, there are tubs placed outside the doors under the portico. Please drive by and place non-perishable food items in the tubs. We will assign more specific food items each week when we begin to gather in the building.



With the restrictions on us from the Coronavirus, the youth group's service event at the Antietam Humane Society had to be cancelled. Paul and Heidi still went to deliver the pile of donations: dog food, cat food, cat litter, treats, a dog crate, toys, and towels. Both churches donated a lot. They also had a check from the cash donations that totaled \$225.00. They stayed for about two hours. They washed litter boxes, washed cat food bowls, washed outside dog pens, and distributed dog toys to cages. A joint ET planning meeting was held via Zoom. The Youth who have expressed a desire to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering in 2021 were discussed.



God has blessed Trinity with an abundance. Many of our family give time, talent and supplies behind the scenes so our work as the people of God can happen. Each month we will take some time to say thank you. You are appreciated! If you know of someone who should be on this list, call the office.

- ♦ Sandra Wingert and Brandon Sidoli cleaned and organized the sound room.
- ♦ Brandon Sidoli videotaped and edited the worship videos.
- ♦ Dave Wolfe and Hannah Ruffner: Worship Leadership in the videotaped Holy Week Services.
- ♦ Brandon Sidoli and Pastor Barb cleaned and organized the copy room.
- ♦ Scott Valentine organized the cupboard in the secretary's office.
- ♦ Tom Sidoli changed the front sign to feature our website and made repairs to the conference room wall and the wall over the fellowship doors.
- ♦ Charlie Ford and Darrell Swart created a pad with paving stone for the trash cans.
- ♦ Rachelle Gehr made weekly calls to some of our family in need of connection during the coronavirus quarantine.
- ♦ All our family who are maintaining their tithe in midst of trying circumstances.
- ♦ Pam Arnold and Carol Swart for their extra work and the time they are spending taking care of the church financial needs.



Thank you to Dave and Sarah Wolfe who have volunteered to represent Trinity Lutheran Greencastle at the spring assembly meeting on June 6.



*Presenting Check to Humane Society*

## **STEWARD THE EARTH, OUR ONLY HOME**

*"The good leave an inheritance to their children's children."* –Proverbs 13:22a

Look at the babies in your congregation and your circle of friends and family. You want them to grow up in the same kind of beautiful, safe, abundant world you did, right? But that's increasingly in doubt.

In the next 50 years, climate change and environmental crises will disrupt patterns of nature and civilization that have developed over millennia. Some scientists even wonder whether the planet will be habitable in 2120.

Australia's horrific wildfires may be just a sample of things to come, along with worsening hurricanes, more-frequent tornadoes, rising sea levels, rapid desertification, and melting glaciers and icebergs. It's not that our world did not already have serious problems with such issues as war, refugees, hunger, species extinction, pollution and extreme weather, but climate change is making them all much worse and much more complicated.

Christians trust in the Almighty, while we also recognize that God calls us to love one another and care for the only home God has given us.

"If we truly believe we've been given responsibility for every living thing on this planet (including each other) as it says in Genesis 1, then it isn't only a matter of caring about climate change," writes evangelical Christian and climate scientist Katherine Hayhoe. "We should be at the front of the line demanding action."

This month we have much to celebrate in the new life we have through our resurrected Lord. We also celebrate spring, seedtime, and Earth Day on April 22. Let us commit ourselves to renewing and protecting the only home we have, the only home we will leave for our children.

*--Rob Blezard*

**Trinity Lutheran Church  
1186 Jason Drive  
Greencastle, PA 17225**



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.