



TRINITY HIGHLIGHTS

APRIL 2021

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

Dear Family,

I write this in the middle of Holy Week! It's so tempting to skip right over the cross and begin this letter to you with Happy Easter. We know the end of the story so sometimes we miss the meaning of Christ's Passion in our rush to get to the happy ending. Holy Week gives us a chance to slow down and not just reflect but experience in a way that makes the events come alive as we walk with Jesus to the cross. We can't experience the joy and mystery of Easter without standing beneath the cross.

We begin the three-day service, the Triduum, with Maundy Thursday on April Fool's day. It's such a delicious twist! Children and grownups alike have fun on April Fool's Day pulling harmless pranks. Jesus is conspired against by the powers of the day threatened by His popularity and His message of love for everyone especially the outcast. They think they've won as we move into Good Friday. But even as we begin this journey, we know on Easter Sunday Christ will break out of the tomb and yell, "April Fools!" Resurrection from the ashes of death and defeat. God is doing a new thing!

That doesn't make the suffering and humiliation of the cross a harmless prank. The mystery is that Jesus is 100% human as well as 100% God. He is not God in a human shell. He feels every strike of the whip and every hammer blow. Jesus understands human suffering because He experiences it. His heart is heavy with the betrayal of one of His followers, the denial of another and the disappearance of most of the rest. It was chiefly the women who followed Him to Golgotha.

Yet, despite all that, Christ returns and appears to His friends hiding away in that upper room. Through the Holy Spirit they grow from frightened rabbits to leaders proclaiming the risen Christ and God's saving promise. Jesus is clear that promise is for us NOW, not just after we die. We're invited to live differently because Jesus lives. And we're invited to join in Jesus' work of healing our broken world.

God continues to do a new thing at Trinity. Despite Covid, the renewal team has continued their work of helping us all discover who we are and what we're to be about as God's people. How are we invited to join in God's work here in Greencastle?

Using the information from conversations with the congregation about our assets, wows and needs, the renewal team discerned these principles for Trinity moving forward. We'll use these principles as lens through which to evaluate ministry opportunities moving forward.

- Passionate about God
- Feeding the hungry physically, emotionally and spiritually
- Open, welcoming, and friendly
- Courage to creatively use our gifts in the community

We'll concentrate on one principle each month over the course of the summer to explore deeply what each one means for us as a congregation. If you have any ideas about ways to help do that, please let one of the team know.

The Bible study group recently discussed this verse from Romans 6: 4
"We have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life."

May you find newness of life through the death and resurrection of Christ.

Pastor Barb



April 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Maundy Thursday Service 7PM	2 Good Friday Service 7PM	3
4 Easter Day No Confirmation No Adult Forum <i>Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live 10 AM</i>	5	6 Youth Zoom Prayer 7:30PM	7 No Bible Study	8 No Prayer Team	9	10 Youth Zoom Game 7PM
11 Adult Forum 9AM Confirmation 9AM <i>Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live 10 AM</i>	12 Worship & Music 7PM	13 Youth Zoom Prayer 7:30PM <i>Finance Team 7PM</i>	14 Bible Study 2PM Council 7PM	15 Prayer Team 6PM R3 Meeting 7PM	16	17
18 Adult Forum 9AM Confirmation 9AM <i>Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live 10 AM</i>	19	20 Youth Zoom Prayer 7:30PM	21 Bible Study 2PM	22 Prayer Team 6PM	23	24
25 Adult Forum 9AM Confirmation 9AM <i>Worship in Sanctuary and Facebook Live 10 AM</i>	26	27 Youth Zoom Prayer 7:30PM	28 Bible Study 2PM	29 Prayer Team 6PM	30	



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 1

Maundy Thursday Service of Holy Communion and Stripping of the Altar - 7:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2

Tenebrae Service - 7:00 PM

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4

We will start at the tomb and then celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord - 10:00 AM

All services will be held in the Sanctuary. They will also be on Facebook Live and downloaded to You Tube and the website after each service.

April Worship Assistants

	APRIL 4	APRIL 11	APRIL 18	APRIL 25
Assisting Minister	Dave Wolfe	Charlie Ford	Scott Valentine	Dave Wolfe
Ushers	Kippy and Karla	Don Swart	Charlie Ford	Darrell Swart
Singer	Scott Valentine	Zak Reynolds Hannah Ruffner	Matt Cessna	Zak Reynolds

PASTOR'S VACATION

Pastor Barb will be on vacation April 13 - 19. Pastor Martin Horn is available for emergency pastoral care. His office number is 717-597-3310 and he can be reached at home by calling 717-593-0924.



PLEASE PRAY WITH US

Each Thursday evening a group gathers on Zoom for pray for our congregation. Please call the office for the zoom information if you feel called to participate with the group. Otherwise, set your alarm on your phone to pray from wherever you are. That way we are praying together as a family. With Holy Week services and Pastor's vacation the team will not meet April 1 or April 8.



OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

- If we are to continue our on-line presence, we need one more person to be part of the IT and Sound Ministry Team. Brandon is providing training. Is God calling you to help with this ministry? Call the office (717-597-9348) to volunteer.
- Two delegates are needed for the 2021 Synod Assembly beginning on the evening of June 4 at 7PM and continuing June 5 beginning at 8AM. The theme is *Encountering Christ*. There will be no traveling. The assembly is on-line and our team can gather socially distanced in the Conference Room. Voting will be on our phones. Please call or email the pastor if you feel called to this important service. The deadline for early registration with a reduction in fees is April 15.



MUSIC NOTES

With all the disruptions in 2020, it is especially nice to be planning in-person services for Holy Week 2021. There is quite a variety of worship experiences to participate in either virtually or in person, so please avail yourself of as many as possible! What the Lamb of God accomplished for you and I in what we term Holy Week is truly amazing and an incredible springboard for worship!

Saturday, March 27 PM Palm Sunday community worship service posted on tlcgreencastle.org, featuring musicians Pastor David Rawley, Hannah Ruffner, Zak Reynolds

Sunday, March 28, 10 AM Palm Sunday worship service

Thursday, April 1, 7 PM Maundy Thursday worship service

Friday, April 2, 7 PM Good Friday worship service

Sunday, April 4, 10 AM Resurrection Day worship service, featuring trumpeter Larson Thomas and a vocal quartet

As Psalm 66:2 says, come and let us "make His praise glorious"!!!



THANK YOU

From the Paul Freeman family:

After five long months, Paramount Sr. Living finally opened their doors to allow visitors. Paul was emotional, but happy to see us. We took the

get well cards with us and read them to him. He says thank you to everyone who sent him cards and it made his day! Thank you again for all your thoughts and prayers, they were greatly appreciated.

From the Greencastle-Antrim Food Pantry:

Thank you for the food drives you held for the Food Pantry. The community has been very generous with needed food items and our shelves are currently full! Thank you for the important part you played in this and for generously supporting our pantry.

From Women-In-Need: *Thank you for the generous gift of \$192.00. Your willingness to help victims of abuse during times of uncertainty makes all the difference for women, men and children whose world has turned upside-down.*

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*.

WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN GOD?



The Renewal Team continues to invite our family to notice God active in our lives. The more we notice God in our lives; the more we'll see God as the anchor on which we stand both personally

and as a family of faith. Send us your God moments or fill out the form in your bulletin and we will share them next week in the Parish News. *Here are some ways our congregation saw God this week:*

- My child is doing much better this week both academically and mentally. Praise God!
- In the green grass and blooming flowers.
- I experienced God in the face of an eight month old I was holding.
- In being able to attend worship again especially for Holy Week and Easter.
- The Community Palm Sunday service was very moving. I saw God in the message and the music.

APRIL FOOD COLLECTION ITEMS

Each month we assign items needed by the Greencastle-Antrim Food Pantry. Please bring them along to worship or drop them off at the church. Items needed in March are:

- April 4 - cookies
- April 11 - pudding and jello mixes
- April 18 - paper towels
- April 25 - toothpaste or soap



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.

- Members of our family of faith who tithe in these difficult times stopping by the office, mailing in their donations or using Simply Giving or the on-line Give button on the website.
- Brandon Sidoli for his weekly commitment to providing on-line worship through Facebook Live.
- Beth Ford and Tom Sidoli who are now part of the team training for Facebook Live.
- Scott Valentine for formatting the screens each week for worship and for helping the office prepare for the Holy Week services.
- Bud and Donna Wolfe who keep the altar candles filled with oil and paraments changed.
- Saundra Wingert who is practicing hard to provide traditional organ music as part of our worship service.
- Darrell Swart who donated the hardware and hung the new camera.
- Tom Sidoli changed the outdoor sign to reflect in-sanctuary worship.

Trinity Highlights
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YOUTH CORNER

Join us Saturday April 10th at 7pm on Zoom to all play *Among Us* together virtually. Download the game app ahead of time. The Zoom code is 940 2059 3017 and password is ETYouth1! We will moderate the game thru Zoom and get you the code to the game that way. This is the same Zoom we use for Tuesday night devotions at 7:30 if you'd like to join us. If you have questions, please reach out to Rachelle.

FINANCE UPDATE

Great New! We all know our sins are forgiven by God. Now the Small Business Administration (SBA) has officially forgiven Trinity's Payroll Protection Plan loan. The \$18,915 proceeds are free to be used as needed.

A special thanks to Carol Swart for successfully navigating the government program.

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY



Each Wednesday at 2 PM a group meets on Zoom to study the book of Romans. Email the office (tlcsecoffice@gmail.com) or the pastor if you would like Zoom information to participate in the class. Unfortunately, we have discovered we will be unable to post the recorded meetings onto the website.

The group will not meet on Wednesday, April 7 due to the pastor's vacation.



Neighborhood Food Collection
March 14, 2021

STEWARDS OF OUR NATURAL WORLD

“God saw everything that God had made, and indeed, it was very good.” –Genesis 1:31



Type “glacier loss” into an internet search engine, examine photos of ice sheets today versus just a few decades ago, and you will draw the same conclusion as the world’s best scientists: We are losing ice, and fast.

But melting glaciers is just one of the many crises facing our natural world. Stressed by warming temperatures, rising sea levels, shifting weather patterns, acidifying ocean waters, and pollution of land, air and water, nature itself is under grave threat. Thousands of species of insects, plants and animals are going extinct as habitat, from coral reefs to rainforests to estuaries, is destroyed.

“Our planet is in crisis,” says campaignfornature.org. “The natural world is disappearing at an unprecedented rate.” For God’s people, appointed as caretakers of God’s creation, this is not just troubling news but also a call to action.

This April 22, the 51st Earth Day, let’s dedicate ourselves to learning about and fighting for God’s creation. Here are some ideas:

- Learn about the growing crises and how they threaten our lives. Teach others.
- Pick one problem and make it a focus for education, awareness, and action in your family or congregation.
- Connect with nature by visiting a park or wild place near you.
- Pick up litter and trash from the street or public land.
- Learn about the plants and animals that live in your area.
- Plant flowers, herbs, vegetables, or trees.
- Advocate for public policies that will promote conservation.
- Find a special way to observe Earth Day in your family, congregation, or community.

Our natural world is under threat, but God’s people can make a difference by caring and getting busy.

--Rob Blezard

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