



TRINITY HIGHLIGHTS

MARCH 2022

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

Family in Christ,

Since Covid 19, we have been living into new ways of proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It certainly hasn't been easy for any of us, especially for those who are older and do not use computers.

We have spoken on occasion about how our outreach into the community as well as our worship have changed due to Covid 19. It is very easy for those who fear coming out to worship because of the spread of the virus, to feel less of a part of things. Especially if they were used to coming together to worship at the church building, it can be hard to feel you even belong anymore. Once things begin to get better some may still decide to worship from home.

It is easier for some to feel safer worshipping from afar. Perhaps they are people who have no church home, people who may have been hurt by the church at some point in their lives, people who don't want to be judged, or who simply don't have the time to, or simply don't make the time to physically come to church.

The decision for us is how to minister to those no longer with us in person. How do we minister to those who cannot find us on Facebook? How do we bridge the gap that has been caused in our congregations by the pandemic?

These questions are for all of us to consider. How do we who are in church for worship keep in touch with those who are not? How do we make them still feel that they are a part of things? Think about this. Each one of us has a role to play in the life of our congregation. Which one of you might call folks missing from worship in person and tell them we are thinking of them, that they matter? Which one of you might send notes or cards out to them? Who might safely visit them?

We are coming upon the season of Lent, in preparation for Holy Week and Easter. This will be a season that many will miss because of the solemn, penitential preparation for the Great Three Days, and because Lent puts us in the right frame of mind for Holy Week and Easter. How might you do something special for those who cannot or will not be with us?

We are family gathered in the name of Jesus. How can we connect with those with us in spirit, but not in body? We are the body of Christ gathered in this place. This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here. Know that you are loved and that you are cherished. We are Christ's church. All people are welcome in His name.

In Christ,

Pastor Denise





MARCH 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Worship & Music 7 PM <i>Young Adult</i> Zoom 7PM	2 Ash Wednesday Service 11 AM TLC <i>Ash Wednesday</i> Service 6:45 PM ELC	3	4 AA 7PM	5
6 Sunday School 9AM <i>Worship in</i> <i>Sanctuary and</i> <i>Facebook Live</i> 10:15 AM	7 AA 7PM	8 <i>Young Adult</i> Zoom 7PM	9 Lenten Supper TLC 6PM <i>Lenten Service</i> TLC 6:45 PM Council 7PM	10	11 AA 7PM	12 
13 Sunday School 9AM <i>Worship in</i> <i>Sanctuary and</i> <i>Facebook Live</i> 10:15 AM Fellowship Time	14 AA 7PM	15 <i>Young Adult</i> Zoom 7PM	16 Lenten Supper ELC 6PM <i>Lenten Service</i> ELC 6:45 PM	17	18 AA 7PM	19
20 Sunday School 9AM <i>Worship in</i> <i>Sanctuary and</i> <i>Facebook Live</i> 10:15 AM	21 AA 7PM	22 <i>Young Adult</i> Zoom 7PM	23 Lenten Supper SLC 6PM Lenten Service SLC 6:45 PM	24	25 AA 7PM	26
27 Sunday School 9AM <i>Worship in</i> <i>Sanctuary and</i> <i>Facebook Live</i> 10:15 AM Fellowship Time	28 AA 7PM	29 <i>Young Adult</i> Zoom 7PM	30 Lenten Supper TLC 6PM Lenten Service TLC 6:45 PM	31		

March Worship Assistants

	MARCH 6	MARCH 13	MARCH 20	MARCH 27
Assisting Minister	Dave Wolfe	Scott Valentine	Don Swart	Dave Wolfe
Ushers	Donna Wolfe	Alan Shank	Charlie Ford	Darrell Swart
Singer	Scott Valentine	Guest Singers	Matt Cessna	Ella Swart
IT Ministry	IT Team	IT Team	IT Team	IT Team
Communion Preparers	Bud & Donna Wolfe	Don & Carol Swart	Sue Wunderlich	Charlie & Beth Ford



PLAN NOW TO ATTEND ON THE WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 2. Services on Ash Wednesday will be held at Trinity at 11 AM and at Evangelical at 6:45 PM. Both services will include the Imposition of Ashes. Please plan to attend the one which works best for you.

We will be joining with the members of Salem, Marion and Evangelical, Greencastle for weekly Wednesday evening services during Lent. The first weekly service will be held at Trinity at 6:45 PM on Wednesday, March 9. The theme and location of each service is below.

A light soup and sandwich supper will be held at 6 PM before each Lenten Services. The first supper will be held on March 9 at Trinity. The supper will be held each week at the church sponsoring the service. If you can't attend the supper, please plan to come to the service at 6:45 PM.



2022 MIDWEEK LENTEN SERIES

Evangelical, Greencastle

Salem, Marion

Trinity, Greencastle

<u>DATE</u>	<u>THEME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TIME</u>
March 2	<i>Ash Wednesday Worship</i>	Trinity	11 AM
	<i>Ash Wednesday Worship</i>	Evangelical	6:45 PM
March 9	<i>Open My Eyes, Lord</i>	Trinity	6:45 PM
March 16	<i>Open My Hands, Lord</i>	Evangelical	6:45 PM
March 23	<i>Open My Ears, Lord</i>	Salem	6:45 PM
March 30	<i>Open My Heart, Lord</i>	Trinity	6:45 PM
April 6	<i>Open My Life, Lord</i>	Evangelical	6:45 PM



MUSIC NOTES FROM SAUNDRA

It's good to have Pastor Denise at the helm! It's a blessing to have volunteers keeping the institution functioning - Council and committee members, assisting ministers, communion preparers, ushers, tech personnel, singers, and folks behind the scenes!

We have a musical treat in store with two guest musicians planning to be part of the service on March 13. There are plenty of opportunities to press into God with the community this Lent beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 2 and the five Wednesday evenings thereafter. Holy Week is just around the corner. Stay tuned for special plans for that!

I am praying much for the future of Trinity! Since God said in Isaiah 55:9, "*As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts,*" then I am trusting Him that His Word "*shall not return to [Him] empty, without accomplishing what [He desires], and without succeeding in the matter for which [He] sent it.*"

ALTAR FLOWER CHANGES

The first silk arrangement were donated and placed on the altar for the Christmas/Epiphany season. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive so that there is no need for a survey.

- A new arrangement has been donated for the season of Lent.
- For the present, 3 more sets of flowers will need to be purchased for the major Church seasons: Advent, Easter and Pentecost.
- Live flowers can still be used. Ordering, pick up, cleaning up the flowers after the service and notifying the office so the information can be in the bulletin are the responsibility of the person sponsoring them.
- Each set of 2 silk flower arrangements will be \$150. If you are interested in donating a set for one of the other Church seasons, please contact the office at 717-597-9348 or tlcsecoffice@gmail.com



WORSHIP TIME HAS CHANGED!

Sunday morning worship services will now begin at

10:15 AM!

The later time will allow Pastor Denise time to travel from Salem in Marion to Trinity. Worship will continue to be streamed at 10:15 AM on Facebook Live and then on YouTube.

Sunday School for all ages will continue to be held at 9AM. Fellowship Time will be held following worship on the second and fourth Sundays of the month.

FELLOWSHIP TIME



Fellowship Hour is now the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month after worship. Everyone enjoys staying after the worship service, having conversation and getting reacquainted. Plan to stay!

MARCH SPECIAL APPEAL

The special appeal for March is Waynesboro Area Community and Human Services. This agency serves people who live in the Waynesboro Area and Greencastle-Antrim School Districts. They have funds to help people with utility, housing and other kinds of bills. They also have large, free food and clothing banks. If you desire to make a monetary donation, please mark your envelope for "Special Appeal".



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Barbara Graine at the Greencastle Food Pantry is asking for our help to stock the shelves for fall and winter. To help us focus our efforts, each week we'll assign a food item. Please bring the assigned item when you come to worship to place in the box in the narthex or place it in the box by the front door anytime.

- March 6 - Canned vegetables
- March 13 - Canned meat
- March 20 - Rice or pasta mixes
- March 27 - Canned fruit or applesauce

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 and we will share them next week in the Parish News.**

Here are some ways our congregation saw God this week:

- Open hearts that love without judgement.
- Several times during the District Band program where two of our members played.
- In the joy of friendships I experience at Trinity.

Send us your God moments and we will share them each week!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Two delegates are needed for the 2022 Synod Assembly beginning on the June 3 and continuing June 4. 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 let Pastor Denise know if you feel called to this important service.



CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Greencastle-Antrim Christian Women's Fellowship will meet on March 22 at 9:30 AM in the Memorial Fellowship Hall of Evangelical Lutheran, Greencastle. The speaker will be Pastor David Grove. His topic is *Prayer That Changes Everything*.

*Trinity Highlights
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ASH WEDNESDAY STEWARDSHIP

"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." -Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 254

With these ancient words from Genesis 3:19 and the swipe of a dirty thumb across our foreheads, Ash Wednesday propels us into Lent with the proper context to understand our lives as stewards of the riches God entrusts to us.

The essential teaching of Ash Wednesday – that we are just mortals, after all – crushes our ego, dispels our pretensions, and drives us deep into God's mysteries. Why are we here? What are our lives all about? What's really important?

Pray over these questions and profound insights emerge. We are dust. Yes, but we are God's dust. Our body consists of trillions of atoms, each a speck of "dust" created by God, billions of years ago. God put us together from the stuff of the universe. Therefore, we are quite literally "earthy" beings, made of the same material as air, water, soil and stone. Part of creation, we work to preserve and sustain God's creation for future generations. Therefore, we revere and care for our bodies through healthy living. We are breath. We are not only dust. Genesis 2:7 describes us as "dust" into which God has "breathed the Holy breath of life."

Our lives are the breath of God in our dust. Therefore, every breath we take is holy, a prayer that whispers God's praise. Therefore, we look to God to align our lives with God's holy reality that arcs towards peace, love, joy, justice, and truth.

Our time is brief. The "dust" that is us will return to the earth. We have a finite number of minutes. Therefore, every hour, every second is sacred. There is not a single moment one to waste. We spend our time wisely, carefully, prayerfully.

Therefore, we do not cling to our possessions, knowing that we will leave it all behind. • Therefore, we nourish our lives with lasting treasures – relationships, trust, love, joy, service, generosity, and harmony.

This Lent spend time in prayer, with openness and honesty. See how God will transforming you into the person you were created to be. Reflect each day on Ash Wednesday. "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

--Rob Blezard Copyright © 2018, Rev. Robert Blezard. Reprinted by permission. Rev. Blezard serves as pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church and as content editor for www.stewardshipoflife.org.