



HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



Trinity Messenger
February 2025 Issue 2

Alleluia. Jesus says, Follow me, and I will make you fish for people. Alleluia. Matt. 4:19



Stewardship Special Giving for February: The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania

The Church, in a place and time apart...Where God's presence is experienced, Faith is renewed, Christ's love is felt, and the Church is strengthened for the service and proclamation of the Gospel! Our mission is to be a gracious expression of God's love for all people.

The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania operates three facilities: Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and the Wittel Farm; with a variety of outdoor experiences in a uniquely Lutheran tradition.

Each summer, hundreds of young people, adults, and families come to camp to grow in faith through adventure, nature, and creative arts experiences.

Retreat programs are offered for all ages throughout the year. Plus, all facilities are available for rent by retreat groups, church groups, and families.

The Growing Project at the Wittel Farm is a volunteer-supported working farm that grows fresh fruits and vegetables, which are donated to address food insecurity in Lancaster County.

As a Reconciling in Christ organization, all people are invited and welcome to enjoy the goodness of God's creation through the community at camp.

Congregation Council Report

The Congregation Council held two meetings in January. Notable actions:

- Approved the request of the Lancaster Chamber Singers to use our Sanctuary for a concert Saturday, May 3.
 - Approved the recommendation of the Organist Search Committee to offer the organist and bell choir director position to Debbie Fortna.
 - Approved a counter offer to the sale of Trinity House presented by Ephrata Area Social Services and agreed the sale to EASS is to be completed by the end of February.
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Introducing Our Organist

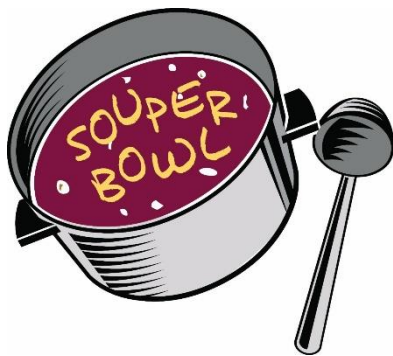
We are pleased to announce that Debbie Fortna has accepted our offer to become our organist and bell choir director. We anticipate that the first Sunday worship service for Debbie will be **March 23**. The congregation council held a special meeting to approve the recommendation

of the search committee to hire Debbie and to set her annual salary. Debbie has extensive experience as a church organist. She has two music degrees from Lebanon Valley College. Until Debbie begins in March, we have 3 organists who have graciously agreed to serve us. We thank the search committee (Donna Dinger, Barry Kreider, Deb Olson, Judy Williams, Pastor Mark) for their diligent work to bring Debbie as an applicant and for arranging for the supply organists.

Jim Hooper - Memorial Service

A time of visitation and memorial service will be held for Joyce Hooper's husband, Jim, on February 22 at the Olewiler & Heffner Funeral Chapel, located at 35 Gotham Place, Red Lion, PA. Visitation will be from 1:00-2:00 PM with the service following. Condolence cards may be sent to Joyce and her family at 309 Bank Hill Rd., Wrightsville, PA 17368.

Notice of worship/meeting cancellations can be found on our website, Facebook & Instagram page as well as ABC27 snowwatch@abc27.com and WGAL8 www.WGAL.com



Holy Trinity Souper Bowl Challenge

It's that time of year for the Super Bowl! Evangelism Committee is once again having a "SOUPER BOWL CHALLENGE"! Please bring canned food or other non-perishable items from now until February 9 and put them in the box of the team you hope will win the Super Bowl. We will count the items and announce the winner. All items collected will be donated to EASS. Thank you for supporting our community!

POTLUCK DINNERS RESUME

The Fellowship Committee will host a potluck dinner on Friday, February 21, at 6:00 PM. Further information will be provided closer to the date. Look for a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area.



Celebration Choir Schedule

Wednesday, February 12 - 7:00 PM rehearsal
Sunday, February 16 - sing "How Can I Keep From Singing"

Wednesday, March 12 - 6:30 PM rehearsal
Sunday, March 16 - sing "Teach Me Thy Ways"

Why Camp?

A place for Faith Formation and Vocational Discernment

The heart of faith formation is essentially deepening the relationship between us and God, and also between us and our siblings in Christ. Camp is a place where faith formation comes to life! Scripture and living the way Jesus teaches us becomes real. Rather than stories and poems written about and for ancient people, scripture is revealed to us as a story we enter into and are part of!



Lower Susquehanna Synod Bishop James Dunlop, who continues to attend Family Camp with his wife and grandchildren, has often reflected that his time at camp was central in his own vocational discernment, leading him to enter seminary and seek ordination. Deep conversations and time for personal devotion and prayer helped him listen closely to the Holy Spirit – and his experience was not unique!

“Camp is where I first really felt God speaking to me,” is a common refrain we hear from campers year after year – and not just from kids. We hear this from people of all ages, people in public ministry roles, and people who live out their faith in the secular world.

Maybe it’s time we rethink the value of the summer church camp experience. It’s not just a “once and done” opportunity; it’s a valuable and unmatched opportunity for lifelong faith formation and vocational discernment.

Register Now for Summer Camp at LutheranCamping.org

The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania

Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, & The Wittel Farm LutheranCamping.org



Phillies' season is upon us again

If anyone is interested in traveling on down to see a game, please place your name, phone number and amount of tickets you would like for a specific game on the sheet in the gathering area. Most names on a date wins!!

I will secure tickets and keep you informed. ⚾!

Thank you, Kathrin Baltz

Dear Widows and Widowers,

Swamp Lutheran Church has an active widow and widower’s group. We would like to invite others from your congregation to join us. Our next luncheon will be the day before Valentine’s Day. This holiday can be a time for widows and widowers to reflect on love and loss. It can be a lonely time. So please come to be with new and old friends. Let’s shift our focus from the hearts and flowers and stand together on the truth and positivity of our Heavenly Father’s unending love



and amazing grace. So, with that said, we've invited Pastor Scott Brubaker of Swamp Lutheran to be our guest and speak on "LOVE".

What: Widow and Widowers Luncheon

When: Thursday February 13th 11:30 am

Where: Udder Choice Restaurant, Ephrata, PA

Turn right after entering. Private room on the right. (separate checks)

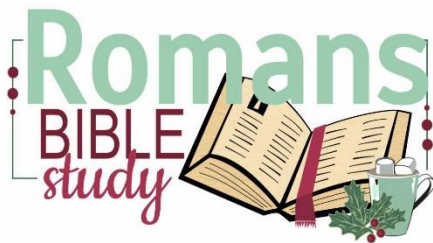
Guest: Pastor Scott Brubaker

For the February 13th luncheon Please RSVP to our church office at (717)-336-2849.

If you have a widow or widower friend, please bring them along, just RSVP for a count for the restaurant.

Sunday Church School on the Move!

Children and Parents are invited to attend Sunday School in the gymnasium on February 2nd and 16th at 10:20-10:50 AM. Snacks can be gotten in the cafe right after church until 10:20 when Sunday School will start in the gym. Parents are asked to remain. Any questions or concerns can be directed to Darryl or Kathy Kuhns.



Bible Study

The weekly study of Paul's letter to the Romans will be on Tuesdays, at 11:00 AM. All are welcome to come and explore this relationship-defining epistle with much to teach us about God's grace and the depth of God's relationship with us through the gift of His Son. See you soon!

Bergstrasse Community Closet 2024 wrap up.

We are excited for 2025! All are welcome here, no questions asked, no strings attached. There is plenty for everyone. We thank God, to always manage to bring to us what we need in donations, and the ability to provide this ministry to all who need it.

Thank you to all of our donors, and the many of you who support us in so many ways!



2025 Hours:

Feb: 1&2, 15&16 from 12 to 2.

March:1&2, 15&16 from 12 to 2.

Starting 2025, we have made both Saturday and Sundays, 12 to 2 so our volunteers can enjoy Bergstrasse Lutheran Church worship service on Sundays 10am.

Donations for the clothing closet may be left in the box in the narthex of Holy Trinity Church. Please contact the Clothing Closet on Facebook if you are interested in volunteering.

Sharing Upcoming Events and Information

Congregational committees and other ministries of Holy Trinity are invited and encouraged to share the details of upcoming happenings with the congregation and beyond via our recently updated Facebook page and our webpage. If you have anything that will be occurring between now and Christmas and needs sharing, please contact Theresa Mull (theresakmull@gmail.com), our Facebook page administrator, and Adam Doughty (adamc.doughty@gmail.com or 717-445-0007), our webpage administrator if you would like your group's activities shared. They are waiting to hear from you to help share your information with a broader audience.

HOLY TRINITY HAS A NEW FACEBOOK PAGE!!

Please follow this link to the new page:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61563831542098&mibextid=LQQJ4d>

February 9-15 Calendar

9 FEB, SUN

- 9am Worship
- 10am Coffee Hour After Worship
- 11am Lunch Bunch

10 FEB, MON

- 6:30pm Yoga

11 FEB, TUE

- 11am Bible Study
- 3:30pm Trini Mini
- 6pm Pickleball
- 7pm Finance Committee
- 8pm Executive Council

12 FEB, WED

- 7pm Celebration Choir Rehearsal

13 FEB, THU

- 3:30pm Trini Mini
- 7pm Thursday Worship
- 7:30pm Council Meeting

15 FEB, SAT

- 7:30am Walking Group

February 9th Servers:

Council Team: Ed Quirke, Barry Kreider

Assisting Minister: Kathy Kuhns

Lector: Kathy Kuhns

Acolytes: CH: Norm Wangman

Ushers: Ron & Carlene Kerschner,
David Kerschner, Rob Gilbert

Altar Guild: Brenda Wangman,



Heather Zimmerman, Lisa Garrett

Linens: Brenda Wangman

Flowers: Dan Doremus

Office Hours February 10-14, 2025

We recommend you call the office prior to stopping in to ensure hours have not changed.

Office Phone: 717-733-4134 Pastor's Cell: 315-317-8517

Office email: officeholytrinity@ephratalutheran.org

Day	Sue	Pastor
Monday	8:00 AM- 4:00 PM	9:00 AM-12:30 PM
Tuesday	8:00 AM- 12:00 Noon	9:00 AM-12:30 PM
Wednesday	8:00 AM- 4:00 PM	9:00 AM-12:30 PM
Thursday	8:00 AM- 12:00 Noon	9:00 AM-12:30 PM
Friday	8:00 AM- 12:00 Noon	OFF

Make Your Regular Offering Electronically

On the Holy Trinity website (www.holytrinityephrata.org), a tab on the menu bar called "Online Giving" will take you to a secure web site for you to give. You can also give your Regular Offering, your Special Appeal donation, your building fund, or your Homes of Hope fund donation by using your Smart Phone and following the QR code.



Thanks for reading! Have a great week ahead!

