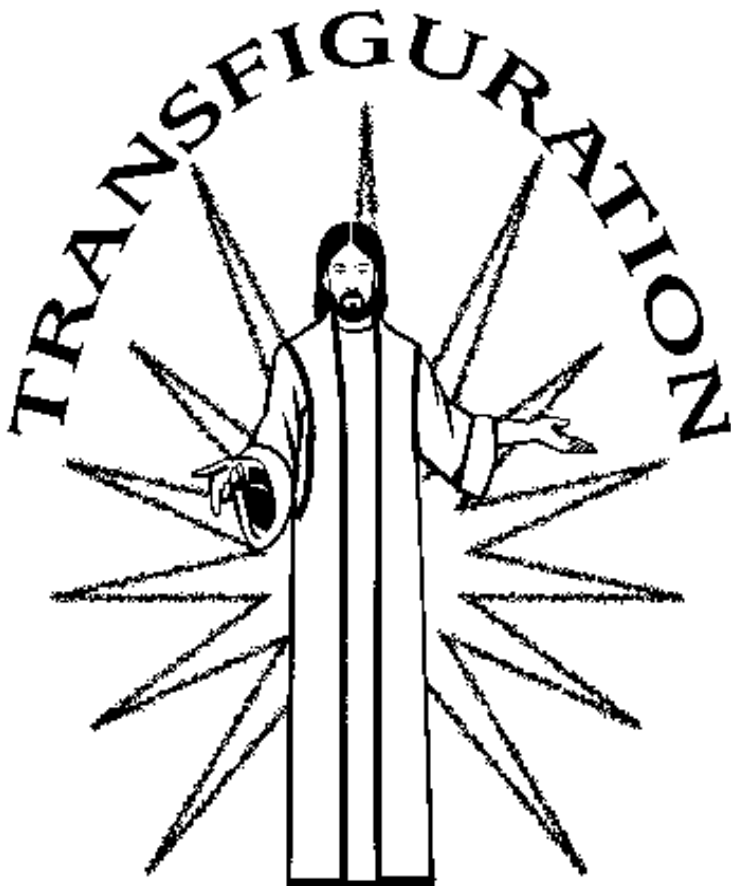
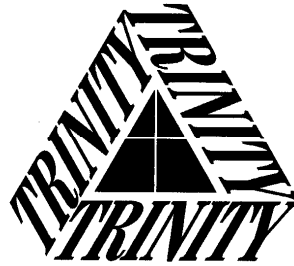


YOU'RE WELCOME...



February 14, 2021

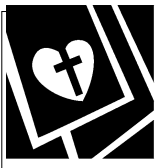


L E N T

ASH
Wednesday

February 17, 2021

**THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY E.L.C.A.
167 EAST MAIN STREET EPHRATA PA 17522 PHONE 717.733.4134**



FROM THE PASTOR

Hate is Too Great a Burden

My parents always told me that hating people was not okay. They would remind me of this each time I spoke in anger about someone for something they said or did to me and I said I hated them. They would also remind me that yes there are people who we may not like much for whatever reason, but that is was not acceptable to hate.

As a child I only understood this parental wisdom on the surface and did not fathom the depths of the destructive nature of this emotion or the word itself that I would usually speak in anger and frustration. It is troublesome to think how easy this word slips off our tongues when speaking not only of people but things we simply do not care for: I hate peas, I hate that song, I hated that movie or that book or that whatever. It is a word we cavalierly throw about far too often and with far too much ease without considering its destructive properties and vile nature or the consequences it may have, especially for ourselves. Yes, if we tell someone we hate them it may hurt the other person depending and/or the relationship, but in my experience such words thrown at me have a limited affect, and even if they hurt in the moment, eventually fade into the that place where such words end up residing.

The thing is, the hater often overestimates the staying power the hate they feel and share has a more on the one

receiving those words. I would suggest its destructive power has its limits and in the end it is the hater who is left wallowing amid the destructive aftermath and who must dig deeper and deeper into the darkness within them to keep the hate they fueled within alive.

In my estimation, we as a nation are standing on the edge of a cliff from which we have the option of stepping off and willingly falling into an abyss of hate for others who think, look, act, or live differently than we do, and residing there indefinitely, or we can purposefully step back from the edge and replace hate with something more constructive and life affirming for others and ourselves. This choice does not mean we hide our differences and falsely pretend everything is rainbows and roses or we agree to avoid conflict no matter what. That would be unhealthy and unproductive, and such behavior would likely foment the feelings of hate we are trying to prevent through the frustration it would engender.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said "hate is too great a burden to bear." The act of hating takes a lot of energy that would be better utilized to foment love and respectful understanding rather than division. In life people will make us angry, they will disrespect us, and they will treat us badly in a variety of ways. This is unavoidable. Our response is to let God deal with that and with them. We win by not hating back and instead sticking to the love we have been shown by God in Christ, a love we are called to share at every opportunity.

Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do

Merry Christmas to everyone at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church that sent me that beautiful bouquet of flowers for Christmas. That was a surprise and a very nice Christmas present. Thank you again and I wish everyone a very "Merry Christmas" and a "Happy New Year."



Dear Church Family,

Oh how the altar flowers in their glorious red, white, and green have brought smiles and we say Heartfelt Thank You for your loving kindness! We thank God for His healing mercies & thank you for your prayers & encouragements. His continued blessings to all of you!

Love, Joy, Peace,
Gloria Hall & Cleone Rudisill

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church,

Thanks to Pastor Mark for his phone call and prayers. Also, thank to Donna for her phone calls and the altar flowers. Many thanks for the prayers and to those who sent cards.

MOW Emergency Food Kits

A huge thank you to everyone who was able to step up and fill over 22 emergency food kits for Meals on Wheels to distribute when the meals they usually deliver are at short notice not available. These clients are dependent on receiving these meals and your efforts have allowed this life-giving service to continue uninterrupted. Thank you for your generosity and concern for our neighbors in need.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We want to thank you for the prayers, cards, and flowers sent to us during our bout of Covid-19. We also want to thank Donna and Pastor Mark for the phones calls to check up on us. I would also like to thank those who shared their vocalist talent during the Sunday Services. May God Bless all of you.

Love in the name of Christ,
Patti Fassnacht and Dave Hunt

Dear friends at Trinity Church,

We would like to thank Donna, Gary, Alan, and Amanda Nace for all they do for Trinity Lutheran Church to keep things going at this difficult time. Thanks to Donna for coming out to Ephrata Manor (when se was allowed) to give us communion.

Most Sincerely,

The **March 2021** issue will be mailed on Thursday, **February 25**.
 Deadline for articles for the **March 2021** issue: **February 18**.

ATTENDANCE FOR DECEMBER ONLINE

Date	Worship
12/6/20	234
12/13/20	120
12/20/20	174
12/24/20	95
12/27/20	118

Holy Trinity's services are now online at Sermons.net. Just copy and paste the link below into your browser.
<https://holytrinitylutheranchurchephratapa.sermon.net/>

E-Mail: Holy Trinity needs your e-mail address to supplement, facilitate and economize the information highway from the church office to you! Your e-mail address won't be placed in a church directory. It will only be used for mailings originating in the church office. If you want to be included, please print your name and e-mail address on an index card (by the box) and place in the box provided.

Prayer Chain Participants:



Kitty Dickersheid, Patricia Fassnacht, Joyce Gehman, Carlene Kerschner, Henrietta Mull, Mary Stophel, Cindy Sutton, Judy Zimmerman.
To submit names for prayer, please call the church office at 733-4134.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!!!

As a result of Federal Law, hospitals are no longer able to provide the church with any information about patients without prior patient permission. The only way we will know about **ADMISSIONS AND ROOM NUMBERS**, is if you inform us.

OUR SERVANTHOOD TO THE COMMUNITY

DAILY ON WEEKDAYS:
 MEALS-ON-WHEELS S. JUNE SMITH CENTER

1ST TUESDAY EACH MONTH:
 EPHRATA COMMUNITY AUXILIARY

FEBRUARY

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES

To the members of Holy Trinity who are 70 years and older birthday and celebrating a this month.



FEBRUARY

- 1 Rick Woerner
- 5 Warren Fegley
- 8 Scott Eaby
- 9 Kathy Kuhns
- 9 Earl Dinger
- 12 Pat Fassnacht
- 14 Darryll Kuhns
- 17 Joy Althouse
- 19 Anne Houck
- 28 Grace Myers
- 29 Ron Price



YOGA CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

The Yoga group would like to invite anyone interested in Yoga to come to our practice on Monday evenings. We meet at 6:15PM and end about 8 in the Gathering Area. Bring a mat and wear comfortable clothes that allow for

BULLETIN "RECYCLING"

In order to save on the expense of printing the bulletin, the bulletins from the 8:00 service will be "recycled" for use at the 10:30 service. The information inserts will be available for one per family to take home.

Life Together at Holy Trinity

February 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 ZOOM Mazon 6:30 ZOOM Book Study	4 Property 7PM	5	6 Walking Group 7:30AM
7 Epiphany 5 Live- Stream 9AM	8	9 Finance 7PM Executive 8PM	10 ZOOM Mazon 6:30 ZOOM Book Study	11 Church Council 7pm	12	13 Walking Group 7:30AM
14 Transfiguration of Our Lord Live- Stream 9AM	15	16	17 Ash Wednesday Noon: parking lot Bergstrasse 5:30-6:30: ashes to go Trinity	18 Newsletter Deadline	19	20 Walking Group 7:30AM
21 Lent 1 Live- Stream 9AM	22 ZOOM God on Tap 6:30PM	23	24 Wednesday Eve- ning Prayer Live-stream 7PM ZOOM Mazon 6:30	25 Newsletter Mailing	26	27 Walking Group 7:30AM
28 Lent 2 Live- Stream 9AM						

COUNCIL MINUTES

Thursday, January 14, 2021 -7:00 PM ZOOM Meeting

Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity

Ephrata, Pennsylvania

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 P.M., Deb Hornberger, President

ATTENDANCE: Natale Benigno, Christy Boos, Lori Brusk, Michelle Cable, Peggy Dean, Adam Doughty, Kevin Gingrich, Deb Hornberger Tina Morgan, Phyllis Peters, Todd Peters, John Weiss, Larry Hummer, Pastor Mark, Sue Johns

DEVOTIONS: Todd Peters

AGENDA ADDITIONS AND APPROVAL: Moved, seconded, all in favor.

MINUTES OF CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING:

December 10, 2020 – moved, seconded, all in favor

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President's Report- Committees should begin planning for when programs can reopen. Tentative plans for a late summer picnic should be planned by Fellowship Committee.

Vice President's Report- Homes of Hope house update- roof on, drywall & insulation coming.

Secretary's Report – Homes of Hope info: \$26,000 in donations have come in and 16 companies have donated labor and materials. When completed- plan a volunteer thank you event.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER:

Monthly "Review of Financial Status"- ended 2020 in a very good position.

The \$24,736.59 deficit was erased by the PPP grant of \$47, 987.50

The remainder of the PPP grant was carried over into the 2021 UB.

Recommendation on use of Sweigart and Lauman foundation grants- see action items.

Holy Trinity does not qualify for the second round of PPP.

Annual Accountant Audit- everything is in order, no problems found.

PASTOR/STAFF:

Pastor Mark's Report– reviewed

ACTION ITEMS:

- Finance Committee recommends that the Sweigart (\$2,500) and Lauman (\$500) grants be used as follows: \$2,000 be used to reimburse some of the cost of the livestream equipment and \$1,000 be set aside for Trini Mini, especially to purchase a sound bar and to pay for bus transportation of students from Fulton Elementary School. Motion properly seconded, motion passed unanimously.
- ELM recommends that Holy Trinity and Bergstrasse cooperate for Ash Wednesday, mid-week Lent, and Holy Week worship services. The presumption is that staff will meet to plan these worship services, and that some of the worship services will be at Holy Trinity and some at Bergstrasse. Motion properly seconded, motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: all items in process

- ELM Recommendation that Holy Trinity and Bergstrasse cooperate for Ash Wednesday, mid-week Lent, and Holy Week worship services. The presumption is that staff will meet to plan these worship services, that both pastors will be involved in the worship services, and that some of the worship services will be at Holy Trinity and some at Bergstrasse. See action item.
- discussion on letting the Historical Society and the Auxiliary start meeting again in 2021-on hold.
- Staying in contact with the congregation via phone calls to check in with members- going well.
- Develop measurements for decisions on reopening. Safety Committee is working on plans.

OLD BUSINESS

- Live streaming issues: John Fuehrer is looking into options. Suggestion to involve Communications and anyone else with expertise in livestreaming.
- License for Kitchen-Michelle will work on getting the license.
- Ephrata Homes of Hope house update
- Candy Snyder's retirement Party

Stewardship Special for February: United Lutheran Seminary

To the communion of saints at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Ephrata Pennsylvania,

As we enter our fifth year of raising up leaders for the church and world, United Lutheran Seminary is building on our rich heritage while faithfully educating future church leaders. We are blessed with over 350 students from over 28 denominations who learn and live on two campuses and all over the world. We celebrate the gifts of our faculty as they teach and converse with our students, equipping them for the work of ministry in a myriad of contexts. This past May, we virtually conferred degrees on 70 students, of which 47 were Masters of Divinity and Master of Arts in Ministerial Leadership recipients. In addition, 14 students received certification from the Urban Theological Institute. Other degree programs included the Doctor of Ministry, Masters in Public Leadership, and Masters of Sacred Theology.

Our financial picture is hopeful. The ULS endowment is strong thanks to the legacy gifts and contributions of saints past and present. Because of this, we are able to offer up to full tuition for all degree-seeking students. Our annual fund goals are aspirational, yet we are continuously amazed by the generosity and passion of seminary supporters.

Much of our annual operating funds come through direct synodical support. In the last fiscal year, over \$1.2 M was received from the fourteen synods of ELCA Regions 7 & 8. This is a significant portion of how we provide for every student, every day. Individual congregations have also made significant contributions. In the last fiscal year, 219 congregations gave nearly \$150 K in support of theological education. Funds went to our food pantries, libraries, worship facilities, and other areas to enhance the faith formation of all students.

This year, we want to continue lifting up and celebrating those congregations that are already contributing to the ULS scholarship and general fund on a regular basis and make a special invitation to your congregation to join in the ranks of those who support us through prayers and gifts. Through the **United Partner Initiative**, your congregation can journey with seminary students as they experience faith formation, learning, and finding their own unique way to answer God's call for them in a broken world. Information about this new initiative is available by clicking here. I do hope your congregation will join this growing program as you are already an annual contributor.

I give thanks to all the people who are part of the ministry at Holy Trinity in Ephrata. Your annual focus and support are an example to congregations throughout ELCA Regions 7 & 8. As we move into the seasons of Lent and Easter, I am filled with a deep sense of humility and gratitude for you all and the great cloud of witnesses who make Lutheran theological education possible here in the Northeastern United States. Thank you for your partnership and prayers.

In Christ,

Rev. Dr. Guy Erwin President, United Lutheran Seminary

Homes of Hope House Donations

In response to requests, there is a link on Holy Trinity's website for people who desire to contribute to the renovation of the Homes of Hope house. On Holy Trinity's website, select the "Online Giving" tab at the top. The page that opens contains the funds to which you can contribute, including a line where you can enter a contribution for Homes of Hope House. You can also mail contributions to the church office or drop them off-be certain to designate that the contribution is for the Homes of Hope house. All contributions will be used to purchase materials for the renovation or to defray other costs associated with the renovation. Thank you for helping us as we move quickly to

Mazon:

Cancelled for now

Handbell Choirs:



Women's Prayer Group

Cancelled for now.

Make Your Regular Offering Electronically

On the Holy Trinity website

(www.holytrinityephrata.org), a new tab on the menu bar called "Online Giving" will now take you to a secure web site for you to give.

You can now give your Regular Offering, your Special Appeal donation, and your Capital Campaign donation... ONLINE. Or, you can use your



IN THE COMMUNITY:



COMMUNITY MEAL



UP-DATE: Cancelled until further notice.

The community meal program in Ephrata, continues to be an important part of the ministry here at Holy Trinity. There are a number of people who help with food preparation, food and monetary donation, and also coming out to help serve. The more people that help, the more successful the program is. The help that we get is greatly appreciated. The meal program in Ephrata continues to grow. A weekly Thursday evening meal is served at one of three Ephrata Churches. Watch the weekly bulletin for opportunities to contribute food or to help with meals. If you have any questions, please call Sue Watts at 738-2327

Peter's Porch Prep

Peter's Porch at Zion Lutheran Church (435 Main Street, Akron) is open every third Saturday of the month. Doors open at 8:00am till 10:00am. Join us for a free breakfast, free clothing and free groceries/toiletries for families and singles. Would you be willing to volunteer at this community outreach? The two Wednesdays before Peter's Porch is prep... packing groceries and sorting through donations. Clothing donations may be dropped off at Zion Monday – Friday 9am-2pm. In addition, there is a Peter's Porch at Faith United, Denver on the 1st Saturday; at Lititz Mennonite on the 2nd Saturday; and Landis Valley Christian Fellowship, Lancaster on the 4th Saturday...all from 8-10AM. For more info see flyer on bulletin board. Questions can be directed to Tracy in Zion's Church office: (717)859-2100 zionluth@dejazzd.co

Bingo!- Cancelled until further notice.

First Monday of Each Month
Luther Acres from 2:00 to 3:00 P.M.

If you would like to brighten the afternoon for some of the wheelchair bound residents, please give Darryll or Kathy Kuhns a call: 610-937-0850. Transportation is available. We arrive around 1:45 and volunteers who are able to do so assist residents in their wheel chairs to the Activity room. Our main task is to help the residents find their lucky numbers on the card. Some residents even win while dozing off! After Bingo, we help the residents back to their rooms. We are finished around 3:15 PM.



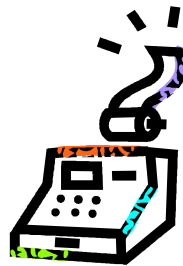
Ephrata Area Social Services:

Ephrata Area Social Service is in need of the following items: beverage products (cool aid, juicy juice, coffee, tea, etc.) cake mixes, canned fruits, canned meats

(spaghetti, spam, tuna, ravioli, etc.) canned vegetables, canned soups, cereal, hamburger helper premixed Jell-O snacks, pancake mix and syrup, instant potatoes, laundry detergent, toiletries, cleansing products Items may be dropped off at the church and placed in the wishing well In the hall to right of the glass doors. If everyone donates – "many hands make light work". If you have any questions, please call Rob Gilbert (721-3822). This year more than ever our community needs our help. Thank you for your continued support

Volunteers needed to deliver the altar flowers to sick/shut-in/hospitalized members fol-

Redner's Save-A-Tape Program Redner's Tapes ONLY...please!



Redner's Market offers a program for members who shop at Redner's Markets to help their congregations support a designated community program. **You MUST apply for a Redner's Save-a-Tape card and show it each time you make a purchase. Your receipt MUST say Save-a-Tape at the bottom, or it will not be eligible for this program.** Place your receipts in the designated box in the Assembly Area. Redner's will contribute 1% of every \$5000 worth of purchases. Our designated program will be the community meals. **The total raised through this program has been over: \$.2575 Not bad for items that would**

Meals on Wheels

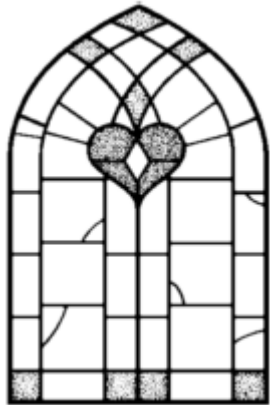
Meals on Wheels needs drivers to deliver meals. Please call Kelly 733-4846 between 8:30 & 11:00. Thank you!



Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity
167 East Main Street
Ephrata, Pennsylvania 17522-2720

Return Service Requested

«TITLE»«FIRST» «LAST»
«ADDRESS1» «ADDRESS2»
«CITY» «STATE» «ZIP CODE»



*"A Window is but a transparent wall,
through which one can see out and in."*

THE WINDOW

*The Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity
167 East Main Street Ephrata, PA 17522
Phone: 717.733.4134 Fax: 717.733.4135
Website: holytrinityephrata.org*

<p>HOLY TRINITY EMAIL ADDRESSES GENERAL CHURCH EMAIL: htrinity@ptd.net PASTOR MARK: micah65@ptd.net SUE JOHNS: suzanj@ptd.net DONNA NACE: dnace1740@gmail.com</p>
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FEBRUARY 2021

Holy Trinity's Staff:

The Ministers	The Members
The Pastor	Rev. Mark Luscombe
Church Musician/Educator	Donna Nace
Administrative Assistant	Suzan Johns
The Sexton	Colleen Shaub
Sr. Choir Director	Deb Olson