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| |  | | --- | | [**B﻿ulletin**](https://holytrinityephrata.org/bulletins-a-newsletters.html)  [**Server Schedule**](https://holytrinityephrata.org/bulletins-a-newsletters.html) | | |  | | --- | | [**Online Service**](https://holytrinitylutheranchurchephratapa.sermon.net/main/main/21678299) | | |  | | --- | | [**Online Giving**](https://secure.myvanco.com/YNES/home) | |

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| |  | | --- | | **Trinity Messenger**  June 2024 Issue 4 |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  | | --- | | *Alleluia. Now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation. Alleluia.*2 Corinthians 6:2 | |

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| |  | | --- | | **NO PASTOR IS AN ISLAND**  Let me begin by expressing my profound appreciation to all of you for your kindness in remembering and providing a time of celebration recently in honor of my twenty years of ordained ministry. The cheesecakes were delicious and added significantly to the lasting memories I will carry with me in the years of ministry that lie ahead, which I pray God will grant me. Those twenty years have gone quickly, although I must admit, certain periods of time seem much longer than they were. Those two years of pandemic and figuring things out by trial and error could not end fast enough.  During twenty years of ministry, I have learned a great deal. Four years of seminary education can only teach one so much. It is the day-to-day parish experiences that teach you the most and help you develop as a spiritual guide and leader as you continue to develop your understanding of your faith and relationship with God along those with whom you have been called by God to serve with. Proof positive of this is the existence of a Facebook group for ordained church leaders called *Things They Didn’t Teach You in Seminary*. Believe me, there is a lot that cannot be taught. Only experienced, muddled through, and figured out with ongoing trust in God and the Spirit’s welcomed guidance.  Experience is the best teacher, and God’s grace is the consistent reminder that perfection is unachievable, not God’s expectation for us, and is a detriment to thoughtful and authentic ministry.  And that there is only one suffering servant, and his name is not “Mark.”  One of the most profound realizations I've had in these twenty years is that our ministry is not about the individual, but about the community. We are not just individually called to serve through baptism, but we are baptized into a community. Each of you, my fellow servants in Christ, is an integral part of this community, and your contributions are invaluable to our shared mission. It is only when we serve God and the mission of God’s church together that the full impact of our combined efforts and the faithfulness that propels us is truly witnessed. No one can effectively do it alone.  As we stand on the threshold of the future, with its unknown challenges and uncertainties, we do so with the assurance that we are not alone. We are part of a community that prays for each other, recognizes and encourages the use of each other’s gifts, and is committed to discovering what God has in store for Holy Trinity. Our shared faith and dedication to our call to serve, in whatever capacity the Spirit leads, will guide us through the uncharted territories of the future.  Faithfully in Christ,  Pastor Mark | |

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| |  | | --- | | **Unified Budget Monthly Financial Update**  May Income                                   $25,611.17  May Expenses                               $26,287.77  Income Year to Date                     $145,326.22  Expenses Year to Date                 $136,381.34  **June Congregation Council Meeting Report**  At its June 13 meeting, the Congregation Council:  ·       Approved hiring Diirner Roofing to do needed repairs on the east and west side roofs along Main Street and a repair to correct a leak in the roof above “The Place” along the alley. All work will be done on a time and material basis. The estimated total cost is $20,000 but that depends on whether other repairs are needed that cannot be seen in either location.  ·       Received a report from the Finance Committee that the budgeted computer server and desktop computer replacement, along with needed software updates, is to be scheduled for this summer.  ·       Heard a report that Love Inc is instituting in July increased financial and training requirements on all Lancaster County Homes of Hope entities. The Ephrata Homes of Hope committee finds the increased costs beyond their ability to pay, so they are looking at joining a new program being considered by Ephrata Area Social Services.  ·       The Property Committee reported that it is purchasing an additional security camera to provide more complete coverage of the parking lot. The cost is $680.  ·       The Property Committee reported that it recommends that interior thermostats be set at 73 degrees for cooling and 68 degrees for heating except for special occasions.  ·       The Property Committee reported that due to unapproved use of outside faucets, all valve handles have been removed. | |

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| |  | | --- | | **June Stewardship Special:**  **ELCA World Hunger**  More than 820 million people - that's about 11 percent of people in our world today - are hungry.  As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond. We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work.  Working with and through our [congregations](https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/ELCA-World-Hunger/Get-Involved/Domestic-Hunger-Grants), in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands Lutheran churches overseas and other partners, **ELCA World Hunger** is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.  **Hunger facts**   * 821 million people around the world - that's more than 1 in 10 - can't access the food they need to live active, healthy lives. * According to the most recent estimates, 736 million people live in extreme poverty on less than $1.90 per day. That's 10% of the world's population. * At some point in 2017 (the most recent year available), more than 40 million people in the United States were unsure where their next meal might come from. * 39.7 million Americans were living in poverty in 2017. For a family of four, this means their annual household income was below $25,094. | |

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| |  | | --- | | To my Trinity Church family,  Thank you for all of your gifts to the Fishes & Loaves Fund in memory of my husband Lloyd "Mike" Mull. God bless all of you, for your kindness.  Most Sincerely, Henrietta Mull & family | |

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| |  | | --- | | **MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE**! Ephrata Area Social Service is in need of food items this summer and we need to start stocking their shelves now. With financial hardship and rising food prices it is getting harder and harder for some of our local families to provide meals for themselves.    Items needed:  Beverage products (Kool-Aid, Crystal Light-Drink mixes, etc.), Canned fruits - sugar-free  Canned hearty soups, Canned meats and pastas (spaghetti, spam, tuna, ravioli, etc.)  Canned vegetables, Condiments  Dish soap, Hamburger helper, Individual snack packs (chips, pretzels, crackers)  Instant potatoes, Jelly, Laundry detergent, Oatmeal, Pancake mix and syrup, Paper towels, Pasta - gluten free, Peanut Butter, Premixed Jell-O snacks, Spices    Gift cards to Giant, Redner’s, or Weis to support fresh produce, meat, and dairy items    This year our goal is to provide **50 full** boxes of food items this summer and we need your help! Please bring one or two items each week to help reach our goal. If everyone donates – “*many hands make light work*”. Let’s help those in need in our community. The Social Ministry Committee thanks you for your continued support! | |

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| |  | | --- | | **MOYER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**      The John H. Moyer and Erma R. Moyer Scholarship Trust of The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity has been established through a gift by their son, John R. Moyer, to honor his parents and perpetuate the family’s belief in the importance of higher education.      The Trust provides for a one-year scholarship of $1,000.00 to be awarded annually to an active member of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. As the investment grows, the Finance Committee can recommend to the Congregational Council increasing the amount. The Finance Committee will notify the Congregation Council in June each year of the amount available to be awarded so the Council can determine the number of scholarships that can be offered.  Applications and detailed Scholarship selection information can be obtained from the Church office. Completed applications and transcripts must be returned to the Church office no later than July 15. Congregation Council will approve all applicable scholarship applications. Scholarship checks will be produced and presented to each approved applicant in September. | |

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