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Trinity Messenger
March 2025 Issue 4

Jesus began to proclaim, Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near. Matt. 4:17

Wednesday Evening Prayer during Lent 7:30PM



Treasurer's Report: March, 2025

February Financial Report

Unified Budget Income	\$29,565.31
Unified Budget Expense	\$20,985.40

Year To Date:

Income	\$65,581.28
Expenses	\$60,793.45
Surplus	\$ 5,057.83

Note: Part of the surplus is due to not paying an organist salary in February. That payment begins March 17.

March Council Meeting Report

The Congregation Council discussed several issues at the March 13 meeting, but none required action. Two notable announcements made at the meeting:

- The church picnic will be held Sunday, June 15, at Ephrata Township Park.
 - Ownership of Trinity House, the transitional living house at 233 East Main Street, has been transferred to Ephrata Area Social Services. Also transferred to EASS is the \$25,810 Holy Trinity held in reserve for maintenance of the property.
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**Stewardship Special Giving for MARCH:
Konde Diocese- Our Partner in Ministry**

Konde Diocese, one of the dioceses (synods) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT), is our stewardship focus for March. The Konde Diocese is our companion in ministry and at present boasts a membership of over 125,000 members in seven church districts. Within these seven districts, more than 100 congregations are served by a growing number of pastors and evangelists serving God's people and spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ. They have been faithfully doing so since 1977.

Each of our synods/dioceses and the congregations that make up these bodies are called to serve our neighbor and share the life-giving gospel of Jesus Christ. Doing so, whether one is part of a congregation in Ephrata, Pennsylvania, or a congregation in a village in the Konde Diocese, we offer encouragement for each other's challenges and celebrate the joys each is experiencing. Through this relationship, the work we have been called to do becomes easier and more meaningful because we know there are siblings in Christ halfway around the world offering mutual support. Such a relationship also provides the opportunity to learn from each other and share ideas. This is especially relevant as we in this nation struggle with shrinking congregations and a waning interest in organized religion while Christian churches in Africa and other developing parts of the world are experiencing a boom in persons embracing the Gospel and its grace-filled message.

The third hospital building is almost completed, thanks to the faithful generosity of our synod and the congregations that define its generous character. We can now help make this hospital a place with state-of-the-art medical care. Though the building is nearly complete, there remains a need for plumbing, electricity, beds, and medical equipment to treat patients. You can assist in making this hospital a reality by giving as the Spirit moves you through the link or QR code in the information below. Please consider making this important life-saving medical ministry a part of your stewardship giving this year, as well as giving toward the Konde Diocese stewardship focus for March.



LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD'S 2024 GENEROSITY APPEAL

CONTRIBUTE NOW!

Support the 2024-2025 Generosity Appeal to help build a new Lutheran hospital in Mbeya, Tanzania, as part of our commitment to the Konde Diocese and global Lutheran community. In many parts of the world, the question is not about insurance or prescriptions—it is simply, "Where can we go when we are ill?" Our companions in the

Konde Diocese are working hard to answer that question by expanding healthcare access in their region. Your gift to this appeal will help complete and furnish this vital new hospital, filling crucial gaps in healthcare. Together, let's make a life-changing impact and bring hope to those in need.

Learn More & Donate At
bit.ly/kondediocese



Attention Volunteer Cleaning Team Members-There will be a brief meeting with volunteers from Trinity's 3 cleaning teams on Sunday, April 6th after the Worship Service. We will gather in the Conference Room. Thank you. Carlene Kerschner

HANDBELLS

Calling all those with an interest in ringing handbells for Easter. First rehearsal is Tuesday 3/25, 7–8 PM, with additional practices 4/1, 4/8, and Wednesday, 4/16 6:15 PM – 6:45 PM. We will rehearse Cynthia Dobrinski's "Thine Is the Glory," and a selection for May. All are welcome! Contact Debbie with any questions.



THE ADULT (all adults are welcome) LUNCH BUNCH will be going to The Brickerville Restaurant after the liturgy on April 6. We'll meet downstairs immediately after the liturgy. All are welcome. Plan to join us! Please call Cheryl Plummer at 625-3187 to reserve your place!

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



Notes of THANKS

Dear Siblings in Christ at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church,
Thank you for your recent gift of \$634.26 designated for unrestricted use. We praise God for all the blessings we receive from God's bounty. Chief among them is devoted and supportive friends such as you. Thank you for helping create a life-changing experience for our campers. We will never know exactly how many lives have been blessed through our outdoor ministries over the past 96 years. But we know that the love of Christ will continue to be shared and lives will be changed as we continue toward our one hundredth anniversary in 2028. We hope you will have the chance to join us sometime soon at Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and/or the Wittle Farm. May the peace that transcends time and place be with you.

Yours in Christ, Michael Youse, Executive Director, Lutheran Camping Corporation

Phillies Phans, I have secured tickets for June 14, 2025@4:05@ Citizens Bank Park Section 139. \$88.00 per ticket. Please see me for more information and to submit your payment.

I have secured a few extra tickets so let me know if you have someone who would like to join us!

Thanks so much!! Kathrin Baltz



POTLUCK DINNER

Let's all spring ahead for another pot luck 🌸

Our next pot luck dinner will be held on March 21st in the Fellowship Hall, 6-7:30.

Join us for fellowship and food(Oh the food!) 😊

Overall, a very pleasant evening. Sign up in the gathering area 🌸

Fellowship Committee

Celebration Choir Schedule

Wednesday, April 2 – 6:30 PM – Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 9 – 6:30 PM – Rehearsal

Sunday, April 13 (Palm Sunday) – sing “The King of Glory”

Wednesday, April 16 – 6:30 PM – Rehearsal

Thursday, April 17 (Maundy Thursday) – sing “A New Commandment”

Sunday, April 20 (Easter) – sing “We Know that Christ Is Raised”



Please consider joining us and sharing your musical talents! All are welcome!!

Strengthening the Church, One Camper at a Time

Recent studies have shown that individuals who experience church camping as children and youth are more likely to stay involved in faith communities as adults.

Why?

- Church camp experience offers opportunities to live a faithful life in a non-threatening environment.
 - Campers practice living as Jesus intends us to live in a community of people striving to do the same.
 - Campers have opportunities to practice times of quiet, individual devotion, as well as active, participatory worship.
 - Campers are given a safe space to discuss faith topics with peers and mentors.
 - Campers are given opportunities for worship leadership and participation.
 - Campers learn how to be faithful Christian disciples, eager to proclaim the Gospel and serve others.
- All of this faith formation takes place within the setting of an outdoor community that seeks to build character, foster independence, encourage good relationships, and teach life skills...benefits that campers will carry for the rest of their lives. Congregations, in turn, will grow and flourish with members who are eager to lead and serve.



Since 1929, the Lutheran Camping Corporation has provided a Christ-centered ministry for people in all stages of life. LCC is in partnership and cooperation with congregations of the Lower Susquehanna Synod for the proclamation of the Gospel.

The camps of LCC provide unique and effective settings and experiences where the Gospel is shared, and faith is nurtured in the lives of children, adults and families. LCC's programs serve as an extension of congregational ministry, and participants of all ages return to their homes and families renewed and strengthened for Christian living.

Register Now for Summer Camp at LutheranCamping.org
The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania

Sunday Church School for God's Children on the Move!

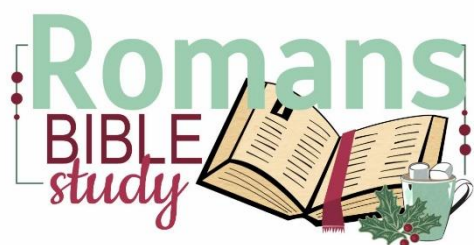
The dates for Sunday School are: April 6 (Easter is April 20-no SCS) and May 4 & 18.

The location for Sunday School is the gymnasium. Parents and children are encouraged to stop in the Café just outside of the gymnasium after church for snacks until 10:30AM. Sunday School will be from 10:30 until 11:00 AM. Parents need to stay close by and may attend Adult Forum, sit in the gym or remain in the Café, during Sunday School.

Activities chosen for the children will be determined by safety factors including considering number and ages of the children. On occasion, after initial physical warmup activities, younger children may move to a class room near by. They will be returned to the gym by 11:00 AM

We look forward to seeing you!

Winnie Gerlach, Mike and Elaine Sernoffsky, Kathleen and Darryll 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 – What's New?

What's new? Continuation of helping out Landis Homes personal care unit with items needed. New volunteers added to our hard-working crew. New bathrooms in closet wing of church for our use. Thanks Bergstrasse Lutheran Church! We are averaging at least 5 to 10 new families each time we are open. Boxes of clothing donated to Career Link, to help people with outfits for job interviews. Boxes of clothing and items given to Community Action Five to Thrive, and Refugee Connect.



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

2025 Hours, Saturdays and Sundays listed from 12PM to 2PM:

April 5&6, 19&20

May 3&4, 17&18

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. 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. Sue (church office) also needs to know so she can get events on the calendar in a timely manner.

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>

MARCH 23-29 Calendar

23	MAR, SUN	● LENT 3
●	9am	Worship
●	10am	Coffee Hour After Worship
24	MAR, MON	● 10am Women's prayer group
●	6:30pm	Yoga
25	MAR, TUE	● 9am Coffee Klatch
●	11am	Bible Study
●	6pm	Pickleball
26	MAR, WED	● 7pm Historical Society
●	7:30pm	Evening Prayer
27	MAR, THU	● 3:30pm Trini Mini
●	6pm	Community Meal
●	7pm	Thursday Worship
28	MAR, FRI	● (No title)
29	MAR, SAT	● 7:30am Walking Group

[View This Month's Interactive Calendar Here](#)

MARCH 23rd Servers:

Council Team: John Weiss, Christy Boos

Assisting Minister: John Fuehrer

Lector: John Fuehrer

Acolytes: CH: Natalie Mull

Ushers: Denise Shirker, Trig Olson, Matt Shirker

Altar Guild: Brenda Wangman,
Heather Zimmerman, Lisa Garrett

Linens: Lori Spitzer

Flowers: Winnie Gerlach



Office Hours MARCH 24-28, 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: officeholyltrinity@ephratalutheran.org

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

