

YOU'RE WELCOME...



Happy Mother's Day
May 10, 2020



Pentecost

May 31, 2020



May 25, 2020

Information about
Vacation Bible School
will be in the June
Newsletter.

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

The **JUNE 2020** issue will be mailed on Thursday, **MAY 28**.
Deadline for articles for the **June 2020** issue: **MAY 21**.

ATTENDANCE IN MARCH


Date	Worship
March 1, 2020	226
March 8, 2020	153
March 15, 2020	142

No further worship services in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic

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

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:
EPRHATA COMMUNITY AUXILIARY

MAY

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES

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



May

1 Gloria Keller
4 Milton Jacoby
4 Charles Weidman
13 Virginia DelPiano
14 Cindy Sutton
20 Joyce Gehman
23 Ella Shupp
31 Brenda Wangman

SEND THEM A BIRTHDAY CARD OR CALL THEM WITH YOUR GREETING. WE PRAY GOD GRANTS THEM MANY MORE YEARS IN THEIR PILGRIMAGE.



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 movement.

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.



FROM THE PASTOR

Necessity is the mother of invention and in the case of the COVID-19 pandemic re-invention as well. These necessities, which have been placed in our laps, have brought about the need to do things in novel ways and adopt new regularities. This has put our creative juices into overdrive and as a fringe benefit has been fortifying our resiliency and resolve to tackle future challenges coming our way.

Weekly worship, a mainstay of faithful Christians lives, which by its very nature and purpose builds and builds up communities of faith, has not escaped the need to develop alternatives to the traditional, preconceived ideas of what worship is to look like and what is truly necessary for worship to be worshipful. Equipped with clear thinking, faithful consideration, and wise counsel, once unnecessary options to allow church families to gather remotely, as contradictory as it sounds, have allowed us to continue receiving the reassuring gifts of God's good news, anchored securely in the Word made flesh, amid the anxious and uncertain times in which we find ourselves. For that, we are grateful to the solutions technology affords and the abilities of the faithful willingly shared to make this possible. However, while acknowledging and celebrating the blessings of technology and the ingenuity being birthed at this time for our benefit, we must also monitor our zeal for quick, hastily made solutions regarding worship practices, which may be unnecessary, particularly when it comes to our sacramental practices.

This pandemic has not surprisingly bred within various faith communities and traditions rather innovative solutions for allowing the Lord's Supper to be shared. Drive up communion from the safety of one's car (social distancing?) and live-streamed communion with pre-consecrated elements delivered to parishioner's homes or elements consecrated live in the comfort of peoples' living rooms. These are just three of the ideas being tried. At first consideration, these may seem to be logical and even acceptable practices. But in adopting such practices a critical aspect of our Lutheran understanding of Holy Communion is being forgotten. As the name suggests Holy Communion is a communal activity; thus, it is intended to be celebrated within a gathering of God's people at the table. It is not to be celebrated and distributed virtually through screens or in a drive-by fashion.

The focus we as Lutherans place upon the sacraments and the nature they embody in identifying our relationship with God, through our risen Lord, is central to how we define our denominational understanding of the Christian

faith and the unique practices we observe. Yet, though the practices of a neighboring denomination are to be respected, they are not the measure by which we define or conduct our practices or make decisions regarding them. It is also important for us to remember that though the sacraments hold a special place for us as Lutherans, they do not possess spiritual magic of which we must partake with frequency if we are to remain protected or in the good graces of God. In particular, the sacrament of Holy Communion is not necessary for our salvation. As Martin Luther wrote, "the gospel and baptism are sufficient since faith alone justifies and love alone lives rightly."

The frequency of this holy meal is not spelled out for us in scripture, and we must not allow our individual desires to receive it to be our guide or allow it to become the sole identifying feature on which our definition of worship hangs. The sacrament of Holy Communion is not an action to be performed. If we make it that, we redefine it as a work to be checked off a list of spiritual duties and not a gift from God intended to gather God's children around a table of love and mercy. The *you* in Jesus' words "Given and shed for *you*" are always plural in the New Testament, which more than suggests Jesus' intended it to be a meal shared within the gathering of the faithful. Yes, the church does provide for the unique needs of the homebound and the sick who are kept from gathering with others; however, we do so out of necessity rather than out of convenience or personal desire.

No doubt each of us wants to be out of our homes and worshiping together sooner than later, and we are eager for things to return to normal, whatever that may look like. The day when we can begin to ease our distancing and gather safely with extended family and friends will surely come. In the meantime, we need to remain faithful to our religious practices and faithful use of them. The gift of grace does not come from something we do but from God alone. God's love and the assurance it offers us amid this pandemic and the concern it engenders are not imbedded in bread or dissolved in wine but rather are given to us through the Good News, God gift of Jesus Christ. Let us find strength and be nourished in the promise of the Word made flesh and the Resurrection gift of new life to come.

Faithfully,
Pastor Mark

Life Together at Holy Trinity

May 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Easter 4	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Easter 5 Mother's Day	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Easter 6	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Easter 7	25 Memorial Day- Church Office Closed	26	27	28	29	30
31 Day of Pentecost						

Stewardship Special Giving for JULY: Milagro House

Our Mission: Milagro House provides education, housing and support services for women and their children who would otherwise be experiencing homelessness. Our vision is to prepare the women and children who come through our doors with the skills they need to break the cycle of homelessness and poverty and move from dependence to self-sufficiency. What sets Milagro House apart in our industry is the educational component to the program. Education is the underpinning of everything we do at Milagro House and is the catalyst for women moving from dependence to independence through meaningful employment at a self-sustaining wage.

Services Provided:

Educational Services

Women accepted into our program must be committed to pursuing educational advancement. The staff at Milagro House customizes each woman's program to meet her specific needs and interests. Milagro House offers two educational options for women in our program GED Program: Provides GED classes conducted by a certified teacher and volunteer tutors. Post-Secondary Programs: Works with staff to develop a post-secondary education plan and attend college and certification programs of their choice.

Residential and Support Services

Provides support through – Housing for women and children customized case management, individual and group counseling, parenting programs, life skills training, children's programs.

After Milagro House

After education, gaining employment and housing, case management staff continue to work with the families for their first year to help ensure their continued success. For additional information check their website at www.Milagrohous.org

To help Milagro House you can use your Special Giving envelope during the month of July. Thanks in advance for your support of this program.

Dear members of Holy Trinity,

Our gratitude overflows at the acts of kindness and compassion you have extended to our family. Your love, prayers, texts, phone calls and cards have all touched us in a very meaningful way. Social Distancing has made things difficult as we grieve the loss of our husband, father and granddad, Carl. Knowing that you are praying for us constantly has eased the pain of emptiness of personal contact.

Thank you to Pastor Mark for the phone calls. Thank you to Donna for the many visits, daily phone calls and prayers over the phone. All of us are living in very difficult times. You all have been a blessing to us.

God's peace.

Shirl Tobias, Ron, Carlene, David & Angela Kerschner



Dear Holy Trinity Family,

I would like to thank you all for the thoughts, prayers, and concern for me these last weeks. I am so very grateful, blessed and thankful to have such a wonderful support system here at Holy Trinity. Hopefully this recent challenge will be the last for a bit and I can stay a bit "normal" for a good while! Many, many thanks,

Blessings, Kathrin Baltz

Dear Members of Holy Trinity,

Matt and I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards and support during Bruce's hospitalization and his death. It is a long journey for Matt and I but the love and compassion we have received, has been overwhelming. We would also like to thank Pastor Mark and Donna for all the time and support they gave to us at the hospital and when making all the arrangements. We are thankful to have our Holy Trinity family.

Blessings,

Denise and Matt Shirker

To All Members of the Call Committee (Lisa, John, Christy, April, Barry, Carlene and Rob),

I know some time has passed since the death of my dad, but I wanted to thank all of you for the phone calls and text messages, your thoughts and prayers and all of the love and support during his hospitalization and in his passing. It meant so much to both my mom and I. Also, thank you for the comfort cookie.

Matt Shirker

Thank you to Pastor Mark and Donna for your phone calls and concern: We are fine and hope all is well at your end also—stay well & keep the Faith. Hope to see you both after this ends!

Vicki Strock & Grace Long

Brothers and Sisters in Christ. At this difficult time for all, We would like to thank all of you for taking the time to pray, email, text and send cards offering condolences for the passing of my father. Death is difficult at any time. But during the COVID 19 pandemic, I think it is a little harder. Our congregation has lost several loved ones recently and we should keep all of them in our continued prayers.

Tom and Beth Smith

Transportation to church: Cancelled for now.

If you need transportation to church on Sunday morning, please call the church office: 717-733-4134.

Transportation is available.



Coronavirus Information regarding the church office.

The church office remains open with lots to do. Bills still need to be paid, bulletins prepared for emailing, donations entered, taxes, newsletters, schedules, and the list goes on and on.

Hours will be curtailed during this time. Most days Sue will be in 8-11. If you do not have email access or you cannot get on the Holy Trinity website for updates, please call the church office on Thursdays or Fridays from 8-11 for church worship and activity updates.

We are trying to limit physical contact here in the office. If you have something to drop off in the office and it will fit under the door, please slide it under the door.

The *Christ in Our Home* booklets are available in the lobby outside the office. They are in a box on the chair. Please pick yours up between 9-11 on weekday mornings.

Power Packs:

Power Packs provide free weekend meals for Ephrata Area School children who receive subsidized meals at school. The program is operated entirely by volunteers, and the weekly power packs are picked up on Thursdays at the Rec. They need donations of protein items: peanut butter, big cans of chicken and tuna. Bring donations to church. A box will be available in the Gathering Area. Thank you.

DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

Continuing with this issue of the newsletter, we have emailed it to all members whose email addresses we currently have. This will save considerable paper, printing and postage costs.

Since you are receiving a "hard copy", it means that we do not have your email address. If you have an email address, please submit it to the church office so we can add you to the list of those receiving the newsletter by email. If you have access to the internet, you can also read the newsletter on Holy Trinity's website.



Women's Prayer Group
CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Tornado or Flood Lutheran Disaster Response. NOTE: If you give through Holy Trinity....please make your check payable to Holy Trinity....mark in memo for Disaster Relief.

NOTE FOR THRIVENT MEMBERS: If you are a Thrivent member please pick up instructions on the table in Assembly Area about matching funds. Your donation must be made online through Thrivent.com to receive matching funds.

AMAZON SMILE
We are now receiving automatic donations into our account when members use AmazonSmile for their purchases on Amazon. Please use this link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-1384954> when you make your purchases. You should see that you are supporting Holy Trinity at the top left of the screen when you go to the AmazonSmile site.

Luther's Lunch Ladies cancelled until further notice

TRINI MINI: Cancelled until further notice.

GOD ON TAP: Cancelled until further notice.


MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST:
Cancelled until further notice.

Friday Evening Dinner:
Cancelled until further notice


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.


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: \$.2500. Not bad for items that would have just been thrown away!!**

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 Smart Phone and follow the QR code.



IN THE COMMUNITY:

Assistance Needed!

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.com

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



EPHRATA AREA SOCIAL SERVICES

Ephrata Area Social Services:

MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION

PLEASE! Ephrata Area Social Service is in need of food items. Beverage products (cool aid, juicy juice, coffee, tea, etc.), cake

mixes, canned fruits (LOTS, if possible. We are especially low in this), canned meats (spaghetti, spam, tuna, ravioli, etc.), canned vegetables, canned soups, cereal, hamburger helper, instant potatoes, premixed Jell-O snacks, pancake mix and syrup

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!

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.

Volunteers needed to deliver the altar flowers to sick/shut-in/hospitalized members following the 2nd liturgy. All deliveries will be local. If interested contact the Pastor or the church office.

Meals on Wheels

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



Additional Nursery volunteers are needed to assist with child care on Sunday mornings. If interested, contact the church office.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

The Stewardship Committee would like to thank you for generously and faithfully sending your offerings to support the ministries of our congregation during this time. Even though we cannot gather as a community, the work of the Church goes on.

We want to remind you that there are several ways you can give

The first way is for you to send your offering envelope and check to the Church Office at:

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

167 East Main Street

Ephrata PA 17522

Another way for those who have internet access is to go into the Church's website and click on **Online Giving**



The screen shown below will open



Online Donation

[View Mobile Site](#) [Return to our Home Page](#)

Donations

If you've already created a profile, please "Log In" on the right, otherwise continue.

General Fund/Unified Budget:

Stewardship Special:

Capital Campaign/Building Fund:

Total: \$0.00

Donation Frequency: ([About recurring donations](#))

Donation Start Date: mm/dd/yy

Log In [help](#)

Email Address:

Password:

[Forgot your Email Address or Password?](#)

Create Your Online Profile

Continued.....

You can fill in the \$ amount(s) in the Giving categories and submit each week or you can
Click on the Choose One Dropdown and select the frequency you want your offerings to be sent.
(Read About Recurring Donations). By using this option you do not have to go into this site everytime you want
to send in your offering.

Donation Frequency:

Choose One ▾

[\(About recurring donations\)](#)

What is a recurring donation?

A recurring donation is a donation set up to occur automatically on a regularly scheduled basis.

What are the benefits of setting up a recurring donation?

- Reduces check writing for frequent donors
- Allows donations to continue uninterrupted during absences
- Allows donations to be spread out over time
- Reduces administrative costs for organizations
- Consumes fewer resources than paper check processing

Donation Start Date:

04/18/20

mm/dd/yy



[Continue](#)

Continued.....

After you read About Recurring Donations, click on Create Your Online Profile to continue if you want to use this option; and fill in the required information.



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Ephrata, PA

Online Donation

[Return to our Home Page](#)

Create Profile

Enter a valid email address below.

This will be used as your User ID.

Email Address:

Confirm Email Address:

Privacy Notice

You are on a secure webpage hosted by Vanco Services, LLC, an industry leader that processes transactions for thousands of clients. Vanco was chosen by Holy Trinity Lutheran Church to process your online transactions.

The information Vanco receives from you will only be used to process your transactions and will never be shared with any other party, except as required by law. Your information will be safeguarded in strict compliance with federal standards for nonpublic personal information.

The password you select is also important in protecting your information; keep it secure and follow the best practices suggested [here](#). View Vanco's Privacy and Security Policy by clicking [here](#).

We, as your Stewardship committee highly encourage you to use this option for your offering/giving method.

You do not have to remember to write a check each week. The system will take care of it.

I have been using the Online option for many years and I know my offering will be there, even if I am not.

The other method you can use is to set up a Bill Pay option thru your bank and have funds designated to come to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church on the frequency you choose. You will need to work with your bank on getting this setup.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

We pray that you and your families are well and we look forward to the day that we can once again gather as a community. If you have access please worship each week online. Pastor Mark sends the link for each week to all who have given their email addresses to the church office.

Your Servants in Christ

Mothers Day

DIRECTIONS: Fill in the puzzle grid with the name of each item following the number and direction indicated. Use the word bank if you get stuck.

3 →

4 →

8 →

11 ↓

9 ↓

10 ↓

12 ↓

21 ↓

14 ↓

15 ↓

51 ↓

16 ↓

17 ↓

111 ↓

71 ↓

18 ↓

131 ↓

19 ↓

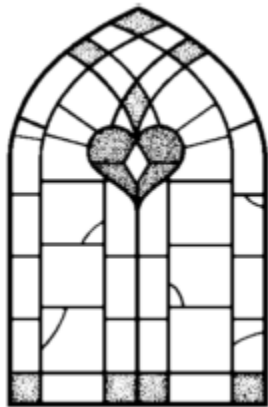
144 ↓

BABY	GRANDMA
BALLOON	HOME
BREAKFAST	HUG
CAKE	ICE CREAM
CANDY	JEWELRY
CARD	LOVE
CARNATION	MESSAGE
CHOCOLATE	MOM
COFFEE	PERFUME
GIFT	ROSE

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*

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

MAY 2020

Holy Trinity's Staff:

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