

TRINITY TIDINGS



132 E. Main St. Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

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April 2025



TRINITY
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ON MAIN
"Sharing God's Love"



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Several mornings a week, I listen to a podcast called, "Pray as you go." It helps me focus my day with a call to scripture and prayer. On March 19, the Feast of St. Joseph, the prayer was focused on Joseph's story in Matthew 1, particularly the end of verse 20, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit."

How courageous it was for Joseph to step into God's future for him, to take Mary as his wife, knowing that her child would not be his own biological child, knowing the road ahead would be difficult, and most likely would be filled with criticism and danger. And yet those words "do not be afraid" stand out as an assurance of God's close presence during the changes that were coming.

In the springtime, we don't usually think we need courage for the coming changes. Instead, we celebrate chilly days becoming warmer, the hard ground waking up with signs of renewal and new life. The beauty of blooming daffodils opening to the sun. These are all signs of God's promised faithfulness to bring life from what seems dead and even hopeless (yes that crape myrtle will bloom again).

Of course, spring can bring changes that cause a bit of nervousness. Young people graduating and looking toward the next steps in their lives. Wedding plans and spiritual preparations for confirmands who will be affirming their faith. For many, there are more difficult changes that require courage and trust in God -- sudden unemployment, the loss of housing or assistance, or the death of a loved one.

Spring can be a time of changes, big and small, and it is likely there are some happening in your life. And it may be, that the Holy Spirit is conceiving something brand new in you -- the kind of brand new that will require changes and stepping into the future with courage. If that is you, trust in the Lord, and may the faith of St. Joseph encourage you in your time of "something different." And do not be afraid, for God is with you.

Pastor Karen



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Music Notes

Church Music Sunday is April 27

Something from last year's Church Music Sunday has stuck with me all this time:

*"We join in hymns and musical responses as a community of believers - **and yes, also as participants.** And that includes everyone, whether you're robed in the choir or seated in the congregation. **Everyone has something to offer.**"*

We were talking about this at home around a table at mealtime a few months later and my son, the teenager-fluent-in-trending-media, remarked, "It sounds like worship is kinda like a flash mob!"

I immediately replied, "Hold that thought - it's perfect for the next Church Music Sunday!"

Now, before there's concern about the word "*mob*" - and no, we are *NOT* talking angry mob (we'll leave *THAT* to the biblical accounts of Jesus' earthly encounters) - let's read today's definition of a flash mob: "*a group of people who assemble suddenly in a public place, perform for a brief time, and then quickly disperse*".

Many of the gatherings of Jesus as described in the gospels followed this pattern:

angels singing "*Gloria!*" in the fields of an impromptu audience of shepherds at Jesus' birth

celebratory crowds proclaiming "*Hosanna!*" at a triumphal entry into Jerusalem

those who assembled and witnessed events of The Great Three Days

The motif of God incarnate through Jesus Christ - fully human and fully God, victorious over death and the grave - reverberated then and has sustained through the centuries to resonate with us today.

Join us on Sunday, April 27, when we perform and proclaim through scripture, words, prayers and melodies the sounds and themes of our faith, for "*Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.*" (John 20:29)

Melissa Jacoby,
Minister of Music



Church Music
Sunday
April 27

Worship



FIRST SUNDAY KIDS

The first Sunday of each month at 10:15 worship continues to be an energetic time for families, young children, and all of us. On Transfiguration Sunday, the children learned about “burying” the alleluias on this last Sunday before Lent begins. They rang bells during the gospel acclamation, and helped to “bury” or hide their bells until Easter Sunday.

On the first Sunday in April, the children have some surprises for us at 10:15 worship! You will not want to miss April 6 for “First Sunday Kids” at 10:15 worship. And it is never too late for your child to be involved. Consider even bringing a grandchild, or neighbor, and of course your own children.

-Pastor Karen Durbin

Lenten Worship at Trinity on Main - All We Need



We are in the middle of the season of Lent and our theme, “All We Need.” (© 2024 BarnGeese Worship.)

Here is a summary of the upcoming weeks:

Fifth Sunday in Lent, April 6: the need for beauty

We all need consumable resources like food, clothing, and shelter, but beauty feeds the human spirit. Every culture develops expressions of beauty, and humans experience beauty across our senses. The scriptures point to the central importance of beauty in our devotion to God, too. God gives us the means to experience and produce beautiful things. Beauty dignifies us, and we, in turn, use beauty when we worship.

Palm Passion Sunday, April 13: Jesus needs our help

While we know Jesus must eat and drink and sleep, Jesus only expressed something he needs once; an animal ride into Jerusalem. This week, we consider how Jesus invites us to participate in the work of God.

The Three Great Days, April 17-19: the need for love, protection, and new life

Jesus reminds us of our need to love and be loved as he speaks to the disciples after the Last Supper. The violence of Good Friday shows us how deeply we need Jesus to protect us and invites us to consider protection in other parts of our lives. Waiting beside the grave on Holy Saturday, we need new life.

Resurrection Sunday, April 20: the need to rejoice

Death is inevitable, even for Jesus. On Easter, we recognize that God turns this inevitability into a new possibility. Those raised from the dead must rejoice, because there is simply no alternative. And, as Jesus reminded us during his triumphal entry just one week earlier, if the hard-hearted humans will not rejoice, the rocks around us will.

Lent cont'd...



Midweek Lenten Soup Suppers & Worship with Healing Prayer

Each Wednesday join with others for a simple meal of soup, bread, and dessert. Our different ministries will sponsor each week, but you are welcome to add to the table any Wednesday. Sign-up sheets will be posted on the west entrance bulletin boards.

A Refuge for the Heart: Midweek Worship with Healing Prayer 7 pm in the sanctuary

Our Wednesday evening healing prayer services are helping us lay down the heaviness of life and rest in God's loving grace. Join us for the remaining weeks on April 2 & 9.

Breathe. Sing. Pray.

Come early for soup supper and bring a friend. Sign up sheets to bring soup or a dessert are on the west entrance bulletin board

Palm Sunday

This year, both worship services will begin in the sanctuary. Join us for singing, waving palm branches, and reading the passion story.



Palm Sunday Breakfast



Join us for our annual Palm/Passion Sunday Breakfast following 10:15 worship on April 13. Brian Schmick is once again hosting the yummy event. He can always use help, especially from our young people. Watch for the sign-up sheet to bring pastries to share!

HOLY Week

April 17- Maundy Thursday Meal and Worship, begins at 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. After a simple meal, Holy Communion will be shared around tables. We will walk in silence to the sanctuary for absolution, and observe the stripping of the altar in recognition of Jesus being stripped of his clothing and life on Good Friday

April 18 – Good Friday

Prayer Walk through town with other

Mechanicsburg churches, 11 am – 12:15. You are invited to gather to walk and pray with others. The walk ends at First Church of God on the square at noon.

Good Friday Tenebrae at 7:30 pm. This is a quiet reflective service with readings and prayer around the cross to remember Jesus' death and sacrifice for us. This year, instead of extinguishing candles, we will light candles, one at a time, to remember that Jesus is the light that has come into the world.



Holy Week, cont'd . . .

April 19 – Holy Saturday – you are encouraged to spend some time in personal reflection and prayer.

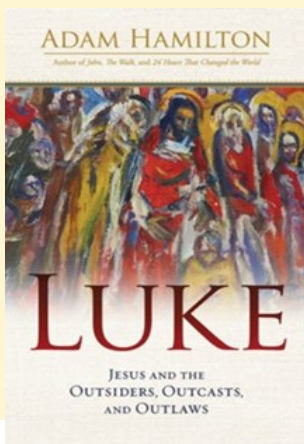
April 30 – Resurrection Sunday (Sunrise at 6:30 am, Festival Worship at 10:15 am)
Sunrise Worship is at 6:30 am. Gather with us on the steps outside the church. We will light the fire of the resurrection and follow the light and the cross into the sanctuary.

Festival Worship is at 10:15 in the sanctuary. Join us as we celebrate the joy of the resurrection, the ringing of alleluia bells, worship with full liturgy, Holy Communion, joyous music, and hymn.

Christian Education Opportunities

Snax n Study

We will finish season 4 of "The Chosen", on Sunday, April 6, with the dramatic scene of Jesus' ride into Jerusalem with the waving of palm branches. Class will not be held on Palm/Passion Sunday or Easter Sunday.



Following Easter, beginning on April 27, we will start a new study by Adam Hamilton on Luke. Hamilton writes "Jesus came to lift up the lowly. In the Gospel of Luke, a first-century portrait of Jesus, we find stories of Jesus' ministry with ordinary, unexpected people. They weren't perfect. Many of them were struggling and didn't have their acts together. Some of them were outsiders or even outlaws. Whoever they were, Jesus brought the good news of God's kingdom to those who most needed to hear it. That includes you and me."

SYNOD NEWS

The Lower Susquehanna Synod has an on-line newsletter that provides information about what is going on around the SYNOD! Just go to the LSS website: <http://www.lss-elca.org/>

MEN'S BREAKFAST

continues the fourth Thursday of each month, 8 am at C.C.s family Restaurant on Main Street, Mechanicsburg. Jim Smith will lead on April 24.



Women at the Well - New Women's Group at Trinity

Gather with the Women at the Well at Trinity

Amy and I have met at the Well, listened to your suggestions, and put together a few events for you ladies to consider in everyone's busy schedules. First, it is ok to make time for just you, and make time to spend with the "just the girls", and devoting time to be a servant of God with the Women at the Well at Trinity. We hope we will grow with each other during all the various activities, have special times, laugh and cry, and developed special bonds with each other. After all...we are all women at the well.

We have planned several activities over the next few months, and we hope to see you at one or more of these special times. Please sign up at the "Gather With the Women at the Well" board near Fellowship Hall.

May 18th - We will be Gathering at the Well for a developmental extension of creating cards - "Techniques with Card Making". Amy and Patsy have some great ideas for you to develop your own special gifts to make your cards "Your Signature Cards!" We hope you will enjoy expressing your ideas through card making. Again, this activity will begin after second service, around 12p. Please sign up by May 1st on the sign-up sheet.

June 17th - We will be Gathering at the Well for a creative activity and will be doing a "Rock Walk of Friendship" in our community! First we will be decorating these "feel good rocks" and then we will be placing them in areas around town to brighten up others' day. Please meet us in Fellowship at 6 p.m. We will supply the rocks and decorating supplies. Bring your bags of ideas!

August 10th - We will be having a Mother/Daughter/Sister-friend for "Movie on the Lawn. Movie of fun to be announced sooner to the event. Please reserve the date.

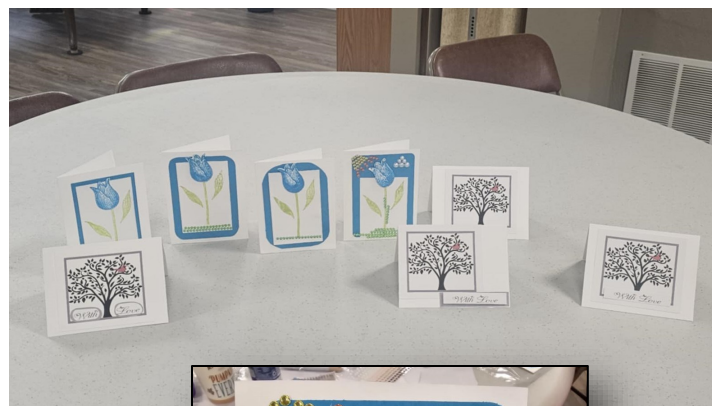
For the fall, we will be beginning our Needle Working at the Well! Stay tune for more information, and save your leftover yarn balls, needle point threads, and material swatches and scraps you will never be using again. This will be a time to gather, share ideas, stories, laugh, and click needles, if you like!

We are also considering a fall retreat for our Women at the Well! If you have any ideas, please share them with us. Thank you ladies, and we hope to see you at the Well!

If you have any questions, please give me a call!
- Ja'net



We had a fun time at our card making event on March 16. Be on the lookout for more of these in the future!



Youth News

- Confirmation Classes continue on Sundays.
- Harrisburg Confirmation Camp 2025 is June 15 – 21 at Camp Nawakwa.



On March 8, a group from Trinity, including Koen Thomas and Kolten Kramer, attended the conference at the United Lutheran Seminary in Gettysburg, "Hope in a Divided World." This event was sponsored by LAMPa (Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in PA). Highlights of the day included lectures on advocacy and Dietrich Bonhoeffer. The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, had lunch and conversation with the youth and young adults, and then preached during the afternoon worship service.



Youth Group

All Trinity Youth are invited to participate in St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Mechanicsburg, Youth Ministries. Director of Youth Ministry, Kellen Michalowski, has graciously invited our youth to be part of all the great stuff that is available. Koen Thomas and Kolton Kramer are taking advantage of this opportunity. Ask them about Dinner Church.

There are two age tracks:

SPYG is open to all current middle and high school age youth (6th through 12th grade).

SPYG Jr. is our "junior" youth group, open to all current elementary school aged youth (kindergarten through 5th grade).

Community Outreach

Blessing Box Update

Bridging the Gap Ministries continues its focus of "Soup for the Soul" during Lent to help replenish the soup supply for our Blessing Box. All varieties are appreciated. Soup donations can be placed on the table outside the church office.

In conjunction to Trinity collecting cans of soup Saint Peter's Lutheran Church, Mechanicsburg is collecting jars of peanut butter and jelly, helping to support our ministry. We received a delivery of PB & J with more on the way.

Thank you for your on-going support of our ministries.

Blessing Box Needs:

Cereal
Peanut Butter
Canned Meats - Chicken, Tuna, Spam
Canned Pasta
Soups - All varieties
Beans - All types
Canned Potatoes
Canned Tomatoes/Sauce
Rice or Pasta Pouches
Spaghetti and Pasta Sauce
Macaroni and Cheese
Hormel Single Serving Meal

Please no glass jars or containers. Place donations on the table outside of fellowship hall.
Thank you, Carol



 **FREE** 
Adult Clothing
Saturday, APRIL 12
9-11am



Trinity's Closet on Main
132 E. Main St.
Mechanicsburg, PA



Need help? If you or someone you know needs help with food or dealing with a financial crisis, please contact us.
(717) 432-2087 or www.nhm-pa.org

Volunteer with us!
There are many volunteer opportunities available. Please give us a call, or visit our website to see how you can be a part of our ministry!

Trinity's Clothing Closet

Big Thank You to our congregation, and all their friends and families that have donated clothing to our Clothing Closet. Your participation is reaching many neighbors in need and provides a positive impact within our community.

For our June 14th Clothing Closet, we would like to hand out a small bag of personal hygiene items in place of the normal bag of breakfast items. Of course, we will have water and coffee available too. We are looking for donations of personal care items such as, a washcloth, hand towel, soap, shampoo, cream rinse, body wash, body lotion, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, wipes, comb, brush, floss, tissues, mouthwash, fingernail file, fingernail clipper, razor, lip balm, hand sanitizer, q-tips. Donations are due by June 11th.

Thank you, Heather

Birthdays, Etc.



4/2	Curtis Moats
4/4	Zachary Schmick
4/5	Jim Lynch
4/9	Shea Arbogast
4/12	Shelby Sieber
4/28	Lena Wagenheim
4/30	Danielle Sabatini
4/30	Rebecca Zielonis

Is your birthday missing?
Please let us know
so we can update
our database!

Church Council Highlights

- *Women at the Well* has started to meet. Watch the bulletin and Tidings for events in the future.
- Snax & Study will begin a new topic on April 27th.
- Koen Thomas and Kolton Kramer will be attending the Harrisburg Confirmation Camp 2025 at Camp Nawakwa in June.
- Parvin Paving was awarded the contract to reseal and repaint Trinity's parking lots.
- Pastor Karen and Harold Miller are beginning to review the information for the *Annual Parochial Report*.
- The church doors are being rekeyed for updated security.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
Philippians 4:6

COMMUNITY DINNER

Our next community meal will be held on June 1st at First Church of God on Main Street. This is a great opportunity to gather to share good food, friendship, and prayer.



TIDINGS DEADLINE:

JUST A REMINDER that the deadline for newsletter items is the 10th of each month for the following issue. Please email or submit your written items to the church office by that date. Thank you!

Office Contact Info

Church & Staff Office Hours
Mon. – Thurs. 9 AM – 2 PM
(other hours as needed)
Phone: 717-766-2662

trinitymburgoffice@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/TLCMech
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MECHANICSBURG AREA CHURCHES invite the community to the

GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER WALK

Friday, April 18th | 11 AM - 12:15 PM

Led by local pastors, prayer walkers will start at one of the prayer sites and then cover the surrounding area in prayer.

All participants will join together at 12:00 PM at the Mechanicsburg First Church of God on the square (28 East Main Street) for closing prayer and worship. All are welcome!

PRAYER SITES

Mechanicsburg Area Senior High
500 South Broad Street

First United Methodist Church
135 West Simpson Street

St. Mark Lutheran Church
117 West Keller Street

**Soldiers & Sailors
Memorial Park**
1 Memorial Park Drive

Town Square Green Space
1 West Main Street

Turning Point Church
201 East Green Street

Visit [Mechanicsburg & Upper Allen Area Churches Facebook Page](#) for more information.

APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30 pm Women at the Well BookStudy	2 5:45 pm Lenten Soup Supper 7 pm Midweek Worship with Healing Prayer 7:30 pm Choir	3	4	5
6 8 am Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study Class 9 am, Confirmation Class 10:15 am Worship First Sunday Kids	7	8 6:30 pm Women at the Well BookStudy	9 5:45 pm Lenten Soup Supper 7 pm Midweek Worship with Healing Prayer 7:30 pm Choir	10 7 pm, Church Council	11 4 pm, Set up for Trinity's Clothing Closet	12 9 am, Trinity's Closet-on-Main
13 Palm Sunday 8 am Worship 10:15 am Worship 11:30 am Palm Sunday Breakfast	14	15	16 6:30 Bell Choir 7:15 Choir	17 6:30 pm, Maundy Thursday Meal & Worship	18 11 am, Good Friday Prayer Walk 7:30 pm, Good Friday Tenebrae Service	19
20 Resurrection Sunday 6:30 am Sunrise Worship 10:15 am Festival Worship with Music	21	22	23 6:30 Bell Choir 7:15 Choir	24 8 am, Men's Breakfast	25	26
27 Church Music Sunday 8 am Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 9 am Confirmation Class 10:15 am Worship with Music	28	29	30 6:30 Bell Choir 7:15 Choir			