



HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



[Events](#)

[Bulletin & Server  
Schedule](#)

[Outreach](#)

[Online Service](#)

[Online Giving](#)

# Trinity Messenger

February 2023 Issue 2

*Jesus says, I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will have the light of life. John 8:12*

## **ATTENTION: Offering Envelopes for February**

Church Budget....the company we use to supply the monthly offering envelopes called and said they cannot send the February envelopes due to the paper shortage. They will be sending pew envelopes to the church and those will be available for your use. Please clearly include your name and giving number on the outside of the envelope. February 5 & 12 were included in your January mailing.

“When Jesus speaks, God speaks.”

I read this simple sentence recently as I was preparing my lesson on the second article of the Apostles' Creed for the adult forum. As you likely remember, this article of the creed defines the prominent Christian understanding of the nature of “Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord” and was written to refute the heretical teachings of fringe Christian groups such as the Marcions and Gnostics during the early centuries of the Christian church.

The message of this sentence is simple; yet it carries with it a powerfully important reminder that what Jesus, who is fully human and fully divine, says and does in the gospels are not just the words and actions of a man but rather of God. Jesus’ words are God’s words. Jesus’ love is God’s love. Jesus’ frustration is God’s frustration. Jesus’ grace-filled message and ministry, despite how difficult these may be to emulate, are God’s message and ministry. So, God’s need for our lives to reflect these is not an option if we desire to follow Jesus rightly or be taken lightly or conveniently ignored because it’s too hard, rubs us the wrong way, or does not fit our world view.

The only view Jesus cares about is the one that involves loving our neighbor no matter who that neighbor might be. There is no question that this familiar command from Jesus and the broader connotations and expectations attached to it are challenging. However, if we each wish to be faithful in our discipleship, and I believe we sincerely do, this is the mission Jesus has given us and its expectations are clear.

“When Jesus speaks, God speaks,” and we need to listen and respond faithfully.

Faithfully yours,

**Pastor Mark**

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## **FEBRUARY STEWARDSHIP: The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania**

The Church, in a place and time apart...Where God's presence is experienced, Faith is renewed, Christ's love is felt, and the Church is strengthened for the service and proclamation of the Gospel! Our mission is to be a gracious expression of God's love for all people.

The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania operates three facilities: Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and the Wittel Farm; with a variety of outdoor experiences in a uniquely Lutheran tradition.

Each summer, hundreds of young people, adults, and families come to camp to grow in faith through adventure, nature, and creative arts experiences.

Retreat programs are offered for all ages throughout the year. Plus, all facilities are available for rent by retreat groups, church groups, and families.

The Growing Project at the Wittel Farm is a volunteer-supported working farm that grows fresh fruits and vegetables, which are donated to address food insecurity in Lancaster County.

**As a Reconciling in Christ organization, all people are invited and welcome to enjoy the goodness of God's creation through the community at camp.**

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### **Trini Mini Invites You to Join Us for Naturalist Programs**

Trini Mini has received funding for providing special programs during 2023. We want to invite the congregation and friends thereof to join us for these programs. All programs are on Tuesdays from 4:15 to 5:15. We will meet in the Gym or fellowship Hall. Please join us as we learn more about the following:

February 14, 2023 ---- Maple Sugaring

March 21, 2023 ---- Birds, Nest, Eggs and Babies

April 18 ---- Catch the Wind

May 30, 2023 ---- Butterflies and Moths

October 24, 2023 ---- Backyard Wildlife

Nature programs provided by Lancaster County Department of Parks and Recreation, Environmental Education Team. Funding for the Programs provided by a grant from the Anne Brossman Sweigart Charitable Foundation, Dan Doremus, grant writer.

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## **Visioning Team**

The Visioning Team (Pastor Embley, Ed Quirke, Natalie Mull, Judy Wechter, Elaine Sernoffsky, and Pastor Mark) met last week with our coach, Pastor Dave Daubert, who is a church renewal consultant with the ELCA. This first meeting was fruitful and has placed the team on a clear and faithful path in beginning the process of identifying who the congregation of Holy Trinity is on the other side of the pandemic and where God is leading us as we move forward. As I mentioned in my announcements this past Sunday, our first assignment is to seek your answers to three questions that are being distributed in worship for the next two Sundays and will be included on the back cover of the bulletin that is mailed to our shut-ins and others without Internet access each week. The team is asking that you prayerfully reflect upon these questions and provide us your constructive answers by Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. There will be a box on the large wooden table on the right side of the Gathering Area in which you may place your completed questionnaires. Once your questionnaires are received your answers will be compiled into a usable document that will be used for our small group discussion time during the adult forum on Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. Placing your name on your questionnaire is optional; however, if we need to clarify an answer it would be helpful. Your answers to the questions will be anonymous. To help us move forward in an effective manner it is vital that as many people as possible participate in this first step in renewing our congregation and defining clearly its vision and mission within the kingdom of God.

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## February 5 - February 11

### Sunday, February 5

- 9:00am Sunday Worship
- 10:00am Adult Forum
- 10:00am Coffee Hour After Worship
- 2:00pm Free Winter Movie Day

### Monday, February 6

- 10:00am Women's Prayer Group
- 6:30pm Yoga
- 7:00pm Evangelism

### Tuesday, February 7

- 3:30pm Trini Mini
- 7:00pm Bell Choir
- 7:00pm Fellowship Committee Meeting
- 7:00pm Finance Committee
- 8:00pm Executive Council

### Wednesday, February 8

- 6:00pm Bell Ensemble
- 6:30pm Mazon: Middle & High School
- 6:45pm Senior Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, February 9

- 3:30pm Trini Mini
- 7:00pm Yoga
- 7:00pm Thursday Worship
- 7:30pm Council Meeting

### Saturday, February 11

- 7:30am Walking Group

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

## Office Hours: February 6 - February 10

We recommend you call the office prior to stopping in to ensure hours have not changed.

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



*Notes of* **THANKS**

To Our Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Kathy and I thank you for all your prayers, expressions of support and love you have sent our way during this most recent bump on the road of life: Darryll's hip replacement surgery and recovery. You have filled us with inspiration and energy.

Thanks Be to God, The Kuhns

I would like to thank everyone for all the concerns, prayers and cards during my recent part replacement. I am currently in the break-in stage and everything seems to be going well.

John Fuehrer

Dear Holy Trinity,

Thank you for being a champion for children and your adults with disabilities in our community by supporting our organization. We very much appreciate your donation of \$1,058.06 through your December Stewardship that will help us to deliver meaningful programs for our participants! Our mission is able to continue and lives are being changed because of your generosity!

Sincerely, Risa C. Paskoff, Executive Director of Aaron's Acres

To our Family at Trinity Lutheran Church,

We so appreciate the love and support you have given us during this hard time! We are blessed to have all you in our lives! Mom cherished all the visits, cards and flowers that she received from all of you! The beautiful and meaningful service for Mom meant a lot to all of us! It was everything my mom would have wanted! We really appreciate the gift of time and energy that everyone put into planning the service and luncheon afterwards!

Peace be with you, Michelle Cable and Family

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## Watching or Listening to Worship Services

### To watch live:

<https://holytrinitylutheranchurchephratapa.sermon.net/main>

- click on *Now Playing*
- click on *Tune in Live*

### To watch a recording:

- click on *Now Playing*
- click on *Play Video*

### To listen live on a phone:

- call (717) 733-4134
- Once the church message begins dial 7001. If that does not work, try 7001#.
- Call 5 minutes before the service begins.
- Please remember to mute your phone during the service or remain silent

## Snow or Inclement Weather

Notice of worship or meeting cancellations can be found on:

- TV Channel ABC 27 or their website: [www.abc27.com](http://www.abc27.com)
- WGAL 8 website: [www.WGAL.com](http://www.WGAL.com)
- Front page of Holy Trinity's website: [holytrinityephrata.org](http://holytrinityephrata.org)

## COFFEE KLATCH

Join in this Fellowship event to enjoy conversation, sip coffee and a bit of sweets. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall the Fourth Tuesday of the month from 9am to 11am. Contact Candy Snyder for more information.



Choir Concert

Holy Trinity Lutheran church cordially invites you to a free community concert performed by *Essence of Joy Choir* from Penn State University on Sunday, March 26, 2023 at 4:00 PM. This concert is sponsored through a grant from the Anne Brossman Sweigart Charitable Foundation.

## 2023 SOUPER BOWL CHALLENGE

The Kansas City Chiefs and the Philadelphia Eagles are headed to Super Bowl LVII on February 12! Collection bins will be set up this week at the back of the church for the teams. Bring in your non-perishable food and toiletry donations and place them into the bin of the team you think will win the Super Bowl. Whatever your reason, pick your team and DONATE! Whichever team collects the most items by February 12th (after worship) will be declared the winner of the Holy Trinity SOUPER BOWL CHALLENGE!

All items will be donated to Ephrata Area Socials Services.

## Free Winter Movie Day

Sunday, February 5 at 2PM  
Hosted by Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
167 E. Main Street, Ephrata

Bring a chair or blanket & pillow



Movie Theater Snacks will be Available

Enjoy a Sunday afternoon football movie in Holy Trinity's gym! Bring a chair or blanket & pillow to relax and watch "Little Giants"

Open to the entire Ephrata community  
Admission to the movie is free - please consider bringing a food donation for EASS  
All children must be accompanied by an adult 18 years or older  
In case of inclement weather, the makeup date will be 2/11 @ 2PM  
Cancellation will be announced by 12:00PM 2/5 via [holytrinityephrata.org](http://holytrinityephrata.org)  
Facebook page @[holytrinityephrata](https://www.facebook.com/holytrinityephrata) and Instagram @[holytrinityephrata](https://www.instagram.com/holytrinityephrata)

## Free Movie Day Sunday, February 5th @ 2PM

The Evangelism Committee will be showing "Little Giants" in the gym. This event is open to the public. Please share the attached flyer with anyone who may be interested! (click the picture above for the flyer)

## Movie Donation Request

In support of the free movie day, donations of individually wrapped "movie theater" snacks (chips, pretzels etc) would be appreciated.

### NO CANDY PLEASE

You can place donations at the back of the church.

Please have them by **Sunday February 5** at the end of the service.

## AMAZON SMILE

Amazon is discontinuing its Amazon Smile program on February 20, 2023.

Looking for more information not included in this week's newsletter?  
Be sure to checkout our website!

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*Thanks for reading! Have a great week ahead!*

