



# HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



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## Trinity Messenger

March 2024 Issue 2

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*God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life. John 3:16*

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### **Palm/Passion Sunday**

**March 24, 2024 at 9:00 AM**

Blessing of the Palms

Sunday School at 10:15 AM

*Reading of the Passion according to Mark*

### **The Sacred Triduum:**

#### **Maundy Thursday**

**March 28, 2024-** Service at 7:00 PM

*Individual Absolution, Foot Washing*

*Holy Communion, Stripping of the Altar*

#### **Good Friday**

Traditional Liturgy

**March 29, 2024** Egg Hunt 10AM

Service at 7:00 PM

#### **Holy Saturday**

**March 30, 2024**

Easter Vigil Liturgy at 7:00 PM

*Holy Communion*

#### **Easter Sunday**

**March 31, 2024**

**Festival Liturgy with Holy Communion - 9:00 AM**



## Being a Reflection of God's Light

The 17th-century Dutch artist Jan Vermeer incorporated what some art historians have termed *holy light* into many of his paintings. This aspect of his painting style introduced sunlight from the outside world, as a separate character, into the interior world of his painting subjects who were going about their daily lives as they tended the mundane tasks of everyday life.

One of Vermeer's best-known paintings, *Young Woman with a Water Jug* ca. 1662, which depicts a young woman beginning her daily tasks in the light of a half-opened window, is a prime example of this characteristic of his work. At first glance, the viewer might assume that the woman, who is peacefully wrapped in her thoughts, as well as the objects of her domestic material world, including her white headdress that adorns her and copper jug and ewer sitting on the table next to her, are the objects of focus in this painting. Yet, these objects and all else the morning light illuminates as it softly bathes the room are merely the pretext. The purpose of each object on which light falls is to celebrate the presence and gift of the light and its revealing and transforming nature, which has entered this young woman's world. The nature of these objects is secondary to the gift of light and its nature. This week's Gospel (John 3:14-21) calls our attention to the gift of light, the Son of God, sent into the world to save the world from itself and not to condemn it. The Son is the light whose purpose is not to shame us by pointing out the sinful deeds of individuals but rather to shed light on the sinful behaviors of a world that loves darkness and often embraces the injustice, hate, and lack of mercy that it hides in the shadows in the hope of not being discovered.

The season of Lent invites us, softly bathed in the gracious, holy light of God's love, to consider how we might be a reflection and celebration of the presence of the light of the Son that has been sent into the world to offer redemption and the gifts of justice, compassion, love, and equality through our light-giving activity. Let us faithfully find ways to be the light that God shines on us in a world where darkness is far too prevalent. Living in and by God's gracious light,

## Pastor Mark

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### Stewardship Special Giving for March      Lutheran Disaster Response

Lutheran Disaster Response shares God's hope, healing and renewal with people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

- [Middle East Crisis](#)
- [Hurricane Response](#)
- [U.S. Flooding](#)
- [Horn of Africa Drought](#)
- [U.S. Tornadoes](#)
- [Eastern Europe Crisis Response](#)
- [U.S. Wildfires](#)
- [U.S. Severe Storms](#)
- [South Sudan Relief](#)
- [Middle East and Europe Refugee Crisis](#)
- [AMMPARO: Protecting Migrant Minors](#)

## How We Work

We are a church that is a catalyst, convener and bridge builder. Lutheran Disaster Response collaborates with other disaster response organizations and religious entities in the United States and around the world. This enables the greatest stewardship of resources and maximum impact of response. We are a welcome partner because we respect the perspectives and strengths of others. We recognize that every disaster is local. Because of this, we believe every response needs to be rooted in the community; we work to accompany that community from immediate relief through long-term recovery. In our international work we partner closely with companion churches and other Lutheran and ecumenical relief agencies to make sure local needs are being addressed and met. In the United States, we work through our extensive affiliate network and other partners to address these same concerns.

Lutheran Disaster Response strives to help the church continue to be church in the midst of disaster — following Christ's call to share hope and healing with our neighbor in need. Some key areas of work include:

- Providing emotional and spiritual care for people who have been affected by a disaster and for leaders who respond to a disaster
- Coordinating volunteers through our local affiliates
- Assisting refugees in a holistic way by meeting the varied needs of the community
- Promoting disaster risk-reduction by helping communities build their assets thereby reducing the effects of likely disasters
- Providing long-term recovery efforts by addressing the unmet needs months or even years after a disaster strikes

The Rev. Daniel Rift

Director, ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response Fund  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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## Three Score and Ten Banquet-

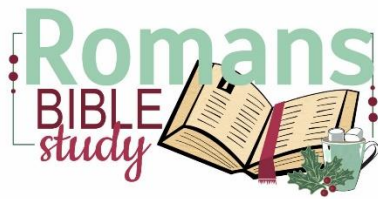
**This year's Three Score and Ten Banquet will be on Sunday April 7<sup>th</sup> at noon. Invitations have been mailed out. A signup sheet for servers, delishers, and cleanup crews is in the Gathering Area. A response is required no later than Friday, March 22nd.**



## Donate Hygiene Items



**Social Ministry is collecting hygiene and laundry products for EASS. This includes shampoo, conditioner, bodywash, deodorant, baby powder, laundry soap, and fabric softener. Place items in the designated box in the Gathering Area.**



## New Bible Exploration

Continuing on Tuesdays you are invited to join in a study of the book of *Romans*. The study will take place each Tuesday morning from 11:00 AM to roughly 12:00 PM. "In his *Preface to Romans* Martin Luther writes, 'this epistle is really the chief part of the New Testament, and is truly the purest gospel...It is a bright light, almost sufficient to illuminate the entire Holy Scriptures'" (*Martin Luther's Basic Theological Writings*, second ed., Fortress, 2005 pp. 98-99). *Romans* is also the most challenging of the Pauline epistles and will likely provide those participating with significant, in-depth discussion and new ideas to chew on as we wade through it and learn and grow together in our faith lives and our relationships with God and our Lord. There will be sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area for those who are interested in participating.

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**If you are interested in volunteering for The (Compassion) Project in July, please contact Rob Gilbert.**



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THE ADULT (all adults are welcome) LUNCH BUNCH will be going to Caruso's Restaurant after the liturgy on March 10. We'll meet downstairs immediately after the liturgy. All are welcome. Plan to join us!

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Looking forward to another dinner with friends? Then come join us for a Pot o' Gold Pot luck dinner 🍲 on March 15...6:00 Friday. Sign up in the gathering area...please bring something to share.....chips, casserole...cookies. Salad. Whatever. We will provide ice cream 🍷 Let's see what happens....still a good time to chat with friends and family.  
Fellowship committee 🌸 🌸

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**Easter Egg Hunt-  
Saturday, March 30 at 10AM**

Please donate individually wrapped candy for our egg hunt. Candy may be placed in the basket on the piano in the gathering area.



Easter Egg Hunt



Notes of **THANKS**

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Thank you so much for your donation to our food pantry. Your thoughtfulness helps our clients fulfill their needs. It is deeply appreciated by our local community.  
Ephrata Area Social Services

**Pickleball update**

Pickleball Court is available every Tuesday from 8:00 to 10:00 AM. Anyone who is experienced or a beginner is welcome. See Ron Kerschner if you have any questions.



\*Wednesday, March 27 - 6:45 PM - Celebration Choir "Christ is Alive!" rehearsal in the sanctuary

\*Sunday, March 31 - Easter - sing "Christ Is Alive!" - meet at 8:20 AM in the sanctuary to rehearse before the service

**Senior Choir rehearsals are Wednesdays at 6:45 PM! All are welcome!!!**

\*The Senior Choir will be rehearsing the Easter anthem "Christ is Alive!" every Wednesday from 7:10-7:20 PM. If you attend Lenten Services, come a little bit early and join us each week!

**BELL CHOIR Rehearsals are Tuesdays at 7:00 pm.**

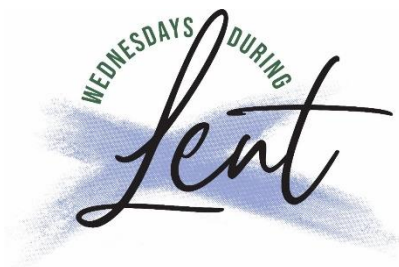
## March 10-16 Calendar

Remember to set your clocks ahead an hour before you go to bed Saturday night.



Game Day on the Second Sunday of each month is cancelled due to lack of interest.

<b>Sunday, March 10</b>	
9:00am	Worship
10:00am	Coffee Hour After Worship
10:15am	SCS
11:00am	Lunch Bunch
<b>Monday, March 11</b>	
10:00am	Women's Prayer Group
6:30pm	Yoga
<b>Tuesday, March 12</b>	
8:00am	Pickleball
11:00am	Bible Study
3:30pm	Trini Mini
7:00pm	Bell Choir
7:00pm	Finance Committee
8:00pm	Executive Council
<b>Wednesday, March 13</b>	
6:30pm	Senior Choir
7:30pm	Evening Prayer
<b>Thursday, March 14</b>	
3:30pm	Trini Mini
6:00pm	Community Meal
7:00pm	Yoga
7:00pm	Thursday Worship
7:30pm	Council Meeting
<b>Saturday, March 16</b>	
7:30am	Walking Group



### Wednesdays during Lent

#### Evening Prayer:

Wednesday: February 21, February 28, March 6, March 13, March 20, March 27.

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

### March 10th Servers:

**Council Team:** John Weiss & Bill Spitzer  
**Assisting Minister:** Kathy Kuhns  
**Lector:** Kathy Kuhns  
**Acolytes:** Anya Gilbert  
**Ushers:** Ron & Carlene Kerschner,  
David Kerschner, Rob Gilbert  
**Altar Guild:** Brenda Wangman,  
Heather Zimmerman, Lisa Garrett  
**Linens:** Brenda Wangman  
**Flowers:** Heather Zimmerman



### Office Hours March 11-15, 2024

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 Donna's Cell: 717-669-7831**

**Office email: [officeholytrinity@ephratalutheran.org](mailto:officeholytrinity@ephratalutheran.org)**

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

### Make Your Regular Offering Electronically

On the Holy Trinity website ([www.holytrinityephrata.org](http://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!*

