



HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



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Trinity Messenger

May 2024 Issue 2

Alleluia. I will not leave you orphaned, says the Lord. I am coming to you. Alleluia. John 15:5



*"We had thought of God as a dispenser of all the good things we could possibly desire, but in a very real sense, God has nothing to give to all except himself." (Simon Tugwell, *Prayer: Living With God*)* I recently found this quote in Simon Tugwell's book, referenced above. This quote and its message have been running through my mind as I consider my prayer life—how I approach daily prayer and what I am seeking to get out of this activity. What do I want from God, and what do I expect in return? I do not know if I am alone in these thoughts. I imagine, if we are honest with ourselves, we may have asked these or similar questions about prayer and its benefits and why we make it an important part of our faith lives. Is it about seeking something in return for our time in God's presence or rather being with God and receiving what God knows we need and providing it without our asking? Through his words, Tugwell reminds us that prayer is best approached without a laundry list of "I want," or thoughts of what am I getting out of this relationship, and instead allow our singular motivation to be our realization of the longing need to abide with God. To be in the presence of the One who first loved us and wants to spend time with us as much as we want to spend our time with Him. We do not come to God because we want God to fix something in our lives or make a problem disappear. We approach God because we need the one-way love that only God offers. We need to know we are loved especially when we feel unlovable, and when we realize we cannot save ourselves and need a Savior to abide with us without judging us or making us feel any more broken, empty, or useless than we might already feel.

Tugwell reminds us that what God has for us is "himself," and God has an endless amount of that to give us. Prayer is best approached by knowing that God knows far better than we do what we need and when we need it. Abiding with God means trusting the One who always has our best interests in mind and invites us into a safe and nurturing place. We need to show up and allow God to give us what we need instead of what we desire, and trust that God's love is sufficient to heal us and provide the new and restored life we need on God's terms, not ours.

Trusting that God's love is enough,

Pastor Mark

May Stewardship: Aaron's Acres Embracing Possibilities Beyond Disabilities

Aaron's Acres is a Lancaster based non-profit committed to providing individuals with developmental disabilities ages 5 through 21 year-round age-appropriate therapeutically based recreation programs led by specially trained and certified staff in a supportive environment that enhances socialization and communication skills. Emotional and recreational support is offered for the entire family.

Aaron's Acres summer camp operates on the belief that every child should be able to experience the same recreational activities despite different ability levels. Supervisory staff is comprised of professionals (special education teachers) who have experience in working with children of all abilities. A low staff to child ratio (1:1 or 1:2) ensures that each child's needs are met immediately and appropriately. Lastly, a nurse is on staff to meet any medical needs that might arise.

Aaron's Acres summer camp provides children and young adults with activities ranging from arts and crafts to therapeutic horseback riding. Each day is packed with unique opportunities, including visits from therapy animals, magicians and music therapists, as well as pool time, and even the organization of a carnival. Children, regardless of disability, are able to take part in all activities offered at Aaron's Acres; everyone is a camper and everyone can have fun!

CHILD PROTECTION CLEARANCES NEEDED!

Thank you to everyone who calls Holy Trinity "home" and faithfully gives back to God's church by volunteering in any and all capacities. Our ministries would not be possible without your active and thoughtful stewardship.

Reminder, if you are planning to volunteer directly with or around children at Holy Trinity you need to complete a *Report of Criminal History* (PSP) clearance through the Pennsylvania State Police and a *Child Abuse History Clearance* through the PA Department of Human Services. Both of these clearances are free to volunteers and can be completed online for easy submission. Information regarding these is available in the church office. If your clearances are expiring you have already been contacted. You also must complete a *Reference Check for Applicant Seeking Approved Adult Status* and a *Child Protection Covenant*. Both of these are also available at the church office. All four of these documents are required by the church per our new child protection policy. To complete the latter two documents you will also need to include a photocopy of your valid PA State Driver's License. Vacation Bible School, Trini Mini Summer Camp, and other events are just around the corner, so please complete these clearances as soon as possible, if you have not already. These clearances not only protect the children to whom we minister they also protect volunteers and staff if legal action is taken against them and/or the church.

***Wednesday, May 22 - 7:00 PM - Celebration Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary *Sunday, May 26 - sing "Canon of Praise" - meet at 8:30 AM in the sanctuary to rehearse before the service**





Tea Time for Tea, Ladies!
May 19th 2-4 in Fellowship Hall
Still time to sign up in gathering area ... we are asking for donations of teatime goodies sign up also in gathering area. Come enjoy the fun and fellowship

Please consider volunteering to weed, trim and possibly mulch the outside of the church property May 18, 2024 @ 8:00 AM. Bring tools if you have them, gloves, wheelbarrows, etc.

We will begin with weeding and trimming bushes and if time permits get into mulching.

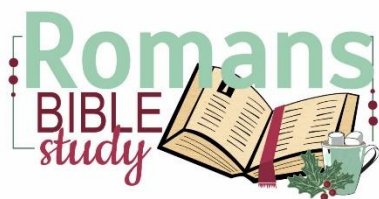


MOYER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

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. Congregation Council will approve all applicable scholarship applications. Scholarship checks will be produced and presented to each approved applicant in September.



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.



CORNHOLE
TOURNAMENT

Fundraiser benefitting the
Lutheran Camping Corporation &
The Penryn Food Pantry
Saturday, May 18 @ 4:00 PM
ST. PAUL PENRYN 1258 NEWPORT ROAD PENRYN
\$30 REGISTRATION FEE PER TEAM
Food truck & Beer. Dogs welcome
TO REGISTER CALL 717.665.6093
OR EMAIL
STPAULPEN@GMAIL.COM

Salem Lutheran Church invites you to join us at Dutch Apple Dinner Theater on Sunday, September 8, 2024 for: *Jersey Boys- a musical about Frankie Valli*. 5:30 -Buffet Dinner, 7:00- Show. You must provide your own transportation. Show includes some adult language. Cost: Adult- \$72, Students, age 13-18- \$34, Students, age 3-12- \$29. Reply by August 8. Send your check made payable to: Salem Lutheran Church office, 1331 W Main St. Ephrata, PA 17522.

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





THE ADULT (all adults are welcome) LUNCH BUNCH will be going to Old Hickory Inn after the liturgy on May 19. We'll meet downstairs immediately after the liturgy. All are welcome. Plan to join us!



Why Camp? A place for families

“My family absolutely LOVES Family Camp at Nawakwa. We love it so much that we start a countdown for the next year as soon as our week at camp is over. Seriously, we are that excited!” ~ Amy Koch
 “Every year, the first dates we put on our new calendar are Family Camp at Kirchenwald. We’ve been going since our first child was a baby, and our children have never known a summer where we weren’t at Family Camp.” ~ Pastor Alex Martini

People often talk about Family Camp as though it’s just another vacation option, like going to the beach or Walt Disney World or the Grand Canyon, but Family Camp is so much more than that. Pastor Martini says, “We have made new friends we see year after year. Our faith is strengthened in worship, Bible study, and conversations with the staff and other campers. Our children have learned to love

camp and God’s creation in new and profound ways.”

Koch says her favorite thing about Family Camp is the people. “Our first year, we met a family from another congregation, and we have grown extremely close. We get together throughout the year, and I love that our friendship has a foundation built on faith.”

Maybe it’s time to rethink the value of Family Camp. It might be just what your family needs to reconnect with each other and with God’s family.

Register Now for Summer Camp at LutheranCamping.org

The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania
 Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, & The Wittel Farm LutheranCamping.org

May 12-18 Calendar

Sunday, May 12	
Mother’s Day	
9:00am	Worship
10:00am	Coffee Hour After Worship
10:15am	SCS
11:00am	Lunch Bunch
Monday, May 13	
10:00am	Women’s Prayer Group
6:30pm	Yoga
Tuesday, May 14	
8:00am	Pickleball
3:30pm	Trini Mini
Wednesday, May 15	
12:00pm	Luther Lunch Ladies
6:30pm	Senior Choir
Thursday, May 16	
3:30pm	Trini Mini
7:00pm	Yoga
7:00pm	Thursday Worship
Saturday, May 18	
7:30am	Walking Group

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

May 12th Servers:

Council Team: John Fuehrer, Ed Quirke
Assisting Minister: John Weiss
Lector: John Weiss
Acolytes: Natalie Mull, Matthew Sheaffer
Ushers: Peggy Dean, Ed Quirke
Altar Guild: Brenda Wangman, Heather Zimmerman, Lisa Garrett
Linens: Brenda Wangman
Flowers: Heather Zimmerman



Office Hours May 13-17, 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: officeholyltrinity@ephratalutheran.org

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-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!

