

HOLY TRINITY

Evangelical Lutheran Church

ECHOES NEWSLETTER

Parkview & Lycoming Avenue | Abington, Pennsylvania 19001

Email: secretary@holytrinity.net Tel: 215.659.2642

June, 2025

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Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Maurice Y. Lee

Staff

Mr. Thomas Hobson Williams,

M. Mus., Director of Music

Mrs. Deborah Mumford,

Office Administrator

Worship Services

Saturday at 5 p.m.

Sunday at 9 a.m. (also live-streamed)

Sunday Church School at 10:30 a.m.

Holy Communion

Saturday evening, Sunday morning

& Festival Days

**Deadline for submission
of material for the Echoes
Newsletter is 9 a.m. on
the 15th of each month.**

From the Pastor:

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

For various reasons, recently I've been contemplating our steeple.

Although I've yet much to learn about the background and stories behind the steeple and the building, housing our sanctuary, of which it's part — the cornerstone was laid in 1961, four years before I was born — it must be for anyone, knowledgeable or not, an impressive sign of the faith which gives our Christian community meaning, and of the worship of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, which gives it a living heart.

According to 65-year-old blueprints which found their way out of storage into my office, the steeple, including the 6-foot cross at its pinnacle, is more than 40 feet high; and, along with the building on which it sits, the tip of the steeple cross rises almost 90 feet from the ground. As Deb mentioned to me, it's hard to get it all within the frame of a smartphone picture without walking quite a distance away from the church.

In an eye-catching book, *Cathedrals: Masterpieces of Architecture, Feats of Engineering, Icons of Faith* (2022), the British journalist Simon Jenkins, who does not share our Christian commitment, wrote of the medieval style of cathedral-building eventually labeled Gothic:

It was more than engineering applied to theology. It created a new aesthetic. Worship or access to God was to be signified by the exhilaration of an ascending line. It replaced statics with dynamics, leading the viewer on an adventure through space. (xvii)

Continued on page 2

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Mission Statement

We proclaim the
Gospel of Jesus Christ,
worshiping,
making disciples and
serving in his name.



Altar Flowers

The Altar Flowers have been presented to the Glory of God by the people of Holy Trinity. Altar Flowers must be ordered no later than the Tuesday afternoon preceding the Sunday they are presented. They may be ordered through the Church Office (215-659-2642). You may pay by placing \$20.00 in a small white pew envelope checked, "Altar Flowers." If you know it, indicate your envelope number.

Continued from page 1

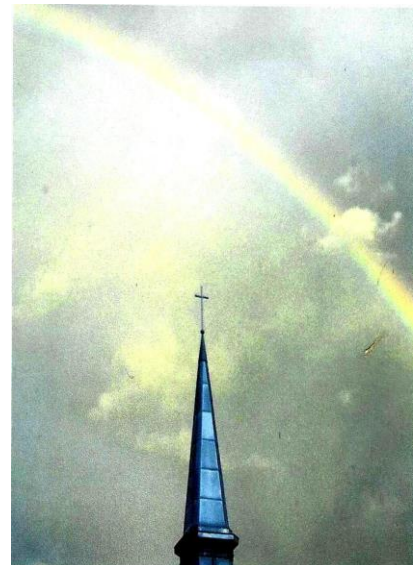
Whatever "engineering applied to theology" might mean, it's true that the spires and steeples of classic Christian churches can play a non-trivial role in an expedition that takes the eyes and the spirits of believers to almost dizzying realms, putting one in mind of the apostle Paul's admonition: "If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God" (Colossians 3:1).

(I find it amusing that the tallest cathedral in the world, with a height of 530 feet — Ulm Minster in Germany — is a *Lutheran* church, although that measurement is supposed to be surpassed at some point in the future by the Catholic Basilica de la Sagrada Familia in Barcelona. 530 feet is almost six times taller than our steeple. But, as they say, records were made to be broken; and, anyway, we would probably run into problems with Abington zoning laws were we to try to go any higher.)

I'm writing this during the week of Ascension Day, the week when we celebrate the exaltation of the Lord Jesus to an "altitude" which no building in the universe can match and which is, after all, literally immeasurable. No number could capture the significance of Christ's highness. Rather, as Paul said, what his preeminence reveals is that "in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross" (Colossians 1:19-20).

Our steeple — with its cross — is a sign, not finally of man's ingenuity (although we may certainly be thankful for that), but of God's love, which "goes beyond the highest star, / and reaches to the lowest hell. ... It shall forevermore endure / the saints' and angels' song" ("The love of God," by Fredrick M. Lehman).

Like you, a recipient of gifts,
Pastor Maurice.





Healing Prayer Ministry

Trained members of our Healing Prayer Ministry are available for private one-on-one prayer in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd directly after worship on Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings. We look forward to praying with you.



Women's Prayer Group

The Holy Trinity
Women's Prayer Group
Meets 1st Monday
of each month.
at 7:00 p.m.

Contact Rosemary @
Rosemaryhinkle@comcast.net
for more information.

All women are welcome to join.

2025 Schedule
June 2

"All these with one accord were
devoting themselves to prayer,
together with the women
and Mary the mother of Jesus,
and his brothers."
Acts 1:14

Prayer List

One of the beautiful aspects of Christian Fellowship is that we can share one another's concerns through prayer. Please pray for the following:

Please pray for the following individuals & their families: *(we cannot add last names or initials)* Adriene, Alan, Allan, Allyson, Amanda, Angie, Ann, Anne, Antonette, Barbara, Beth, Bill, Blake, Bob, Brett, Carly, Carol, Caroline, Cheryl, Christine, Christopher, Cindy, Clare, Dallas, Darren, Dave, David, Deb, Derek, Donna, Emersyn, Emily, Eric, Erica, Erin, Ernie, Gavin, Gene, Gloria, Grace, Hannah, Jamie, Jennifer, Jenny, Jill, John, Julia, Kathy, Kellie, Ken, Kevan, Kim, Laney, Laura, Levi, Linda, Lisa, Logan, Loreto, Lori, Mandy, Mark, Martha, Marty, Mary, Mary Kate, Matthew, Melania, Melissa, Mike, Nancy, Nat, Pastor Jeff, Pat, Paul, Peter, Phil, Rich, Rick, Roger, Rose, Rosemary, Ross, Ryan, Sandy, Sam, Sharon, Sherri, Skylar, Solomon, Sophia C., Steve, Thea, Tiffany, Todd, Tom, Tracy, Troy, Trudy, Valentine, Vera, Vicki, Willow.

All of the families of Holy Trinity, together with those they love and pray for; especially we pray for: Berkovitz, Boehm, Cannan, Custer, Delucia, Diener, Eisenmann, Erb, Gregg, Hendrickson, Johnson, Lacy, Maieron, McGeary, Necker, Novak, Riehm, Rothermel, Schenck, Schmidt, Staedtler, Steinhof, Tavella.

Please pray for the following petitions:

That God would bless and protect all members of Holy Trinity, together with those they love and pray for.
That God would guide each of us to grow in grace and that He would please send workers into the Harvest.
For all who are chronically ill and/or shut-in. For all who are fighting addiction to drugs and alcohol.
For those who are struggling with cancer of any kind.
For the sick and the grieving.
For all congregations of the NALC.
For all travelers and for the dying.
For the military and their families.
For all Native Americans living on U.S. reservations.
For refugees and immigrants.
The unemployed, the underemployed & the uninsured, especially those in our own families.
All Caregivers, rescue workers, doctors, nurses, firefighters, EMTs,
For the members of the Mekane Yesus Lutheran Church in Ethiopia, and for the Nifas Silk Congregation.
For our sister congregations: Nifas Silk in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and First Lutheran in Kirkland Illinois.
For all Christians who are being persecuted for the faith throughout the world.
For the victims of rains, wildfires, earthquakes, hurricanes; for favorable weather & an abundance of crops.
For all in financial difficulty that they may be totally restored.
For those suffering from racial injustice, bigotry, and oppression in our nation and in the world.
For the people of Ukraine.
For peace in the world and shootings to stop in our cities.
For a peaceful political atmosphere.

CHURCH COUNCIL



Notes from Council:

We will be giving highlights from our last council meeting each month in Echoes. Once the minutes are approved from the previous month, they will be available in the Narthex.

Council met on Wednesday May 7th

Property – Council approved up to \$25,000 in funding from the Special Projects fund to renovate the bathroom in the Study to make it fully handicap accessible. We will need a special congregational meeting to approve. This is scheduled for June 1st.

Live-Stream equipment – The equipment will begin to be installed on May 20th

Stewardship – The committee discussed how we can pay down the deficit and are looking for a campaign that will begin in the fall.

Worship and Music – There will be an Ascension Service on Thursday May 29th at 7:30 p.m. This will be a Communion Service. The committee is looking for ways to communicate the importance of the Postlude.

Bread of Heaven – the Picnic will be held on June 1st

Evangelism–The Walk for Water will be held on May 17th. We are encouraging Council members to be involved. The next Prayer services will be held on May 24th after the 5 p.m. worship service.

New Business – The Next Convocation will be held in Pittsburgh from the 7th of August to the 8th. We will see who would like to attend.

As always if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas, please talk to any of the council members. If you are unsure who we are, our pictures are in the Narthex.



CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Kelly Elizabeth Darreff ~ Upper Moreland High School
studying BioChem
at West Chester University

Matthew Ian Gregg ~ Upper Dublin High School
studying Nuclear Engineering
at Georgia Tech.

Mikayla Hesdon ~ Abington High School
studying Political Science & Pre-law
at University of Pittsburgh

Juno Miriam Roscoe ~ Lebanon Valley College
B.S. Psychology

Allyson Nicole Staedtler ~ Plumstead Christian High School
studying at B.C. Community College

James Thomas Tegler, Jr. ~ Elon University, NC
M.S. Business Analytics



**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP IS AVAILABLE
LIVE ON YOUTUBE (thehtlconline)
OR OUR WEBSITE HOLYTRINITY.NET
JOIN US AT 9 AM ON SUNDAYS**

Treasurer's Report

April 30, 2025 (For the Year 2025)

Surplus/(Deficit)2025 (\$41,791.75)

The full treasurer's report is available upon request.

Support Us

Please consider a gift of appreciated securities to Holy Trinity as you do your tax planning for this year. You may direct questions about how to do this to Alan Hinkle @ alanhinkle@comcast.net

Luther Quotes:

"The cross alone is our theology."

Thesis 28:

"The love of God does not find, but creates, that which is pleasing to it. The love of man comes into being through that which is pleasing to it. "

Luther explains:

"Sinners are lovely because they are loved; they are not loved because they are lovely. That is why the love of man avoids sinners and evil persons. But Christ says: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners (Matt. 9:13). And this is the love of the cross, born of the cross, which betakes itself, not where it may find something good to enjoy but where it may confer good upon the poor and the needy; for it is more blessed to give than to receive, says the apostle. (Acts 20:35).

**Keep in your prayers
the following
individuals serving
in the armed forces:**

Christopher Biehl

Conor Gowton

Shaun Hall

Eric Henderson

Nathan Quinlan

Jamie Riley

Vikas Shah

Jonathan Skilton, MD

Jeremy Zar

**Please remember your
Church in your will.**



NOTE OF THANKS

Dear Holy Trinity Family,

With the help of so many, the LCW was able to deliver 124 gift bags to our church neighbors. Our first attempt delivering the bags was postponed due to rain but the following day God blessed us with a gorgeous day and our mission was accomplished! Our thanks and gratitude for all of your help and support.



walk
for  water
water mission®

A huge shout out to all who participated, we had **25 walkers** for our first Walk for Water, to all who donated, we had a goal of raising \$2,000 for Water Mission and the great work they do, not only in providing safe drinking water to communities in need worldwide, but in advancing the Gospel of Jesus Christ through word and deed.

Thanks to your generosity we raised \$3,000!!!

We plan to make this an annual fundraiser -- so mark your calendars for the first Saturday after Mother's Day!

For those who like to plan ahead, next year that falls on **Saturday, May 16 at 10:00 a.m.**

Most humbly thankful,
Your Evangelism Committee



May 5, 2025

Ps 37:3-5: Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Dear Friends,

As I reflect on breakthroughs in my own life and among our praying community of commissioned workers over the last several days, I realize again how much we have to be thankful for.

My faith was strengthened by how God answered a personal prayer. Lois and I had no money to repair our vehicle again, but after several weeks of failure, yesterday I fixed it by the grace of God. No sooner had I fixed it than my brother called me and asked if I could help him get an \$80,000 bobcat skidder out of a swamp. After four hours of prayer and battling a sinking machine, we managed to extract it, again by the grace of God. Those might seem like small things, but they can loom large. When we trust and delight in the Lord and commit our way, he answers!

I'm pleased to share some encouraging updates from our workers that highlight the truth in Psalm 37.

From Tim and Lisa Ruohoniemi: It was a real joy to travel together over the past 6 weeks and visit WMPL workers in Pakistan and the Middle East. We were encouraged to see God at work in some very challenging circumstances. It touched our hearts to pray with refugees who may lose their lives because of their faith in Jesus. Tim attended board meetings of partners who face an uncertain future, and an urgent need to fill key leadership positions. We also visited the hospital where we used to work in Nepal, and rejoiced at the remarkable growth of the church in the area: now, 71 congregations in the surrounding district! Please continue to pray that leaders will rise.

A thank-you letter to WMPL from Arsim Lutheran Primary School -Kenya: Previously, the school faced numerous challenges: Lack of resources, poor infrastructure, high dropout rates, especially among girls, and poor performance outcomes, especially among girls during national examinations. Early pregnancies among teenage girls were leading to high dropout rates. Because of many interventions from stakeholders, like WMPL, during last year's national assessments, most of their girls exceeded expectations. Thank you for your prayers and partnership!

From the Peace Rehabilitation Center (PRC) Nepal: A 14-year-old girl came to live at the rehab home. A rape and human trafficking case was registered on her behalf. Pray for healing from trauma and courage as she goes back to school. In February and March, PRC registered two human trafficking cases in Nepal, and one offender was arrested. Six India rescues were accomplished, and border staff intercepted 287 women and children from being trafficked. They performed interviews and gave counseling about human trafficking to 7573 people.

At WMPL, LAMB Hospital, Stacy Saha trained 16 staff nurses, nursing midwife instructors, and interning nurses in the Saline Process Witness Training -how to be a witness of their faith through their jobs as nurses. Stacy has become the new treasurer of National Christian Fellowship International (NCFI). In June, she plans to attend and speak at the Christian Connections in Health (CCIH) conference in Washington, DC. This partnership has enabled LAMB to disseminate its research findings to impact international healthcare policy and practice.

Thank you for your partnership in ministry!

In Christ,

Kyle Scott
Executive Director



TOGETHER IN CHRIST, GLOBAL PRAYER & MOBILIZATION

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4837 52A St
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Congratulations to Our Youth



Sunday, June 8, 2025

Gloria Mae Ischinger

Jonathan Dudley-Festus Mutashobya

Santanna Mary Alice Smith

Scarlett Aurelia Smith



Sunday, June 1st

following the worship service,
for Holy Trinity's annual church picnic.



Join us at the
**Church
Picnic!**

Come out and meet new members
and catch up with those you haven't seen
in a while. Hamburgers and Hot Dogs will
be provided. Families are encouraged to
bring a side dish to share.

Once again we will be having our 4th Annual Cornhole competition,
so grab a partner and sign-up to compete.



Again this year will be a church pie / cake raffle. Donations of cakes and pies (baked by our wonderful church members) will be raffled off and all proceeds will be donated to the Bread of Heaven Food Pantry. You will purchase raffle tickets (1 ticket is \$2.00 or 3 tickets for \$5.00) and place your ticket(s) by the cake or pie you want to win. Winning tickets will be drawn after the cornhole competition and hopefully you go home with a delicious cake or pie (and maybe a cornhole trophy!!)

A Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for:

- Attendance & Side Dish
- Donations of a cake or pie

We hope to see you there!!!



FAMILY MINISTRY'S SUMMER SUNDAY STAYCATION

Fun times are planned for each Sunday after service this summer, so that all our church family can stay and have fun, whether for a little while or a big event (see the calendar).

We want to encourage all our church family to have fun times and connect with each other as a church family. If you have a skill or craft you would like to share with others, please let Deb know (secretary@holytrinity.net) and we can schedule it for August, since June and July are already booked.

These are like Single Serve: you can come for one or all, no pressure. They will start during the Sunday School hour and may end by noon if they take place at church.

We start with our **Church Picnic on June 1**, and the rest of June will be less intense. We'll have ice cream sundaes and game time on June 8, celebrate your own dad (not a group meeting) on June 15, New Members Lunch on June 22, and a pasta bar and crafts day (hey crafters!) on June 29.

In July we're looking at a 4th of July leftovers event on the 6th, Pizza & Pool Party at Deb's with homemade ice cream (if you have an ice cream maker, bring it!) from 11-4 on the 13th, Ocean City day trip on the 20th, and Aussie food and set up for VBS on the 27th.

August is still open, and there's five Sundays! Some ideas for those include putt-putt golf, an escape room experience, crafting things for Shoeboxes or Bazaar, build a model, read and improv skits. Bring your ideas, bring food for the theme, and show your church family some love!

(Beth is a point person as well as anyone on the Family Ministries committee.)

2ND

FRIDAY NIGHT ers

Our next Friday night gathering will be
Friday, June 13th at 6:30 p.m.

The theme for the evening is Potluck, so bring your favorite dish to share. There is always something yummy to try at a potluck!! If the weather looks good, we will sit outside so bring a chair or you can use a folding chair from Fellowship Hall. Each month we always have delicious food and wonderful conversation, so if you haven't had a chance to come out before, please join us!!

Any questions, contact Susan Schied at slschied@verizon.net

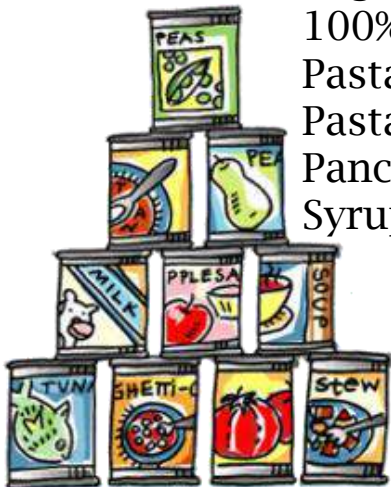
Hope to see you June 13th!!



127 is the number of guests we served in MAY with 13 new guests signed up, bringing our monthly total to 460 people.

The Bread of Heaven food pantry is currently looking for donations of these items:

Sugar	4 lb. or larger
100% Fruit Juice	64 oz. or larger
Pasta Sauce	24 oz. or larger
Pasta	1 lb. or larger
Pancake Mix	32 oz. or larger
Syrup	24 oz. or larger



Food Needed

It's Back!

A - BOX - O - BAG - A - METER

(If you say it fast, it won't sound so bad)

Bread of Heaven is again in need of

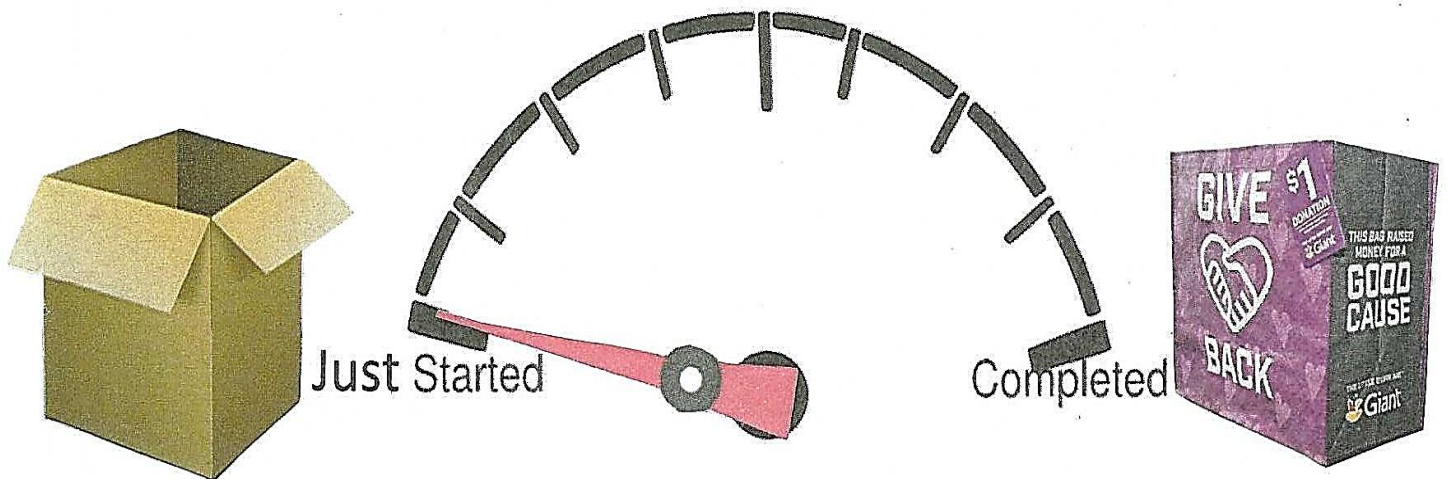
NEW Reusable grocery bags.

Giant bags or that size
fits the paper bags best!

Starting JULY 6TH

Fill the BOX -O -BAG

Move the Meter



(Giant Grocery Store offers the bags for 99¢
with a percentage going to charity)

HELP CHRIST'S HOME MEET SUMMER NEEDS

School is almost out and Summer days are fast approaching. Pastor Maurice, Karen McGovern, and Rosemary Hinkle recently met with Anthony and Brenda at Christ's Home, and they shared several specific seasonal needs that they would like to have ready to go by the end of June.

Beach Towels



Regal Movie Theater Gift Cards



We will collect through mid June. Please place beach towels in the basket in the narthex and give movie gift cards to Karen or Rosemary. You may also give money if you prefer to have us shop for you.

Christ's Home also needs air fryers for the older boys and girls who live in apartments and are learning to be self-sufficient. You may give designated money, and we will make the purchases.

For any of the above, you may give a contribution clearly marked "Christ's Home" and place it in the collection plate.

Questions: Karen McGovern or Rosemary Hinkle



Happy Anniversary, Martin and Kati!

In recent years, we have been celebrating the 500th anniversary of several special events in the world of Evangelical Christianity:

October 31, 1517- 500th anniversary of the Reformation; the date Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses on the door of the University Church in Wittenberg.

April 16, 1521 – The Diet of Worms, where Luther refused to recant his teachings, with his famous, “Hier stehe Ich, Ich can nich anders.”

September 1522 – the 500th anniversary of the publication of Luther’s translation of the New Testament into German, providing the way for other translations of the Bible into vernacular languages making the Bible accessible for people both at church and in their homes.

June 13, 2025 – This year we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the 41-year-old priest, Martin and the 26-year-old runaway nun, Katharina von Bora. During their 21 years of marriage they raised 6 children, living in the dormitory of the University of Wittenberg. In their marriage, Luther “practiced what he preached” about the Biblical basis for married clergy. The story of Martin and Kati’s marriage is the stuff novels are made of. A good novel to read is “Kitty, My Rib” by E. Jane Mall. It’s in our church library! The marriage of Martin and Katherina re-established the blessings of pastors to marry and the foundation for the modern parsonage.

This year at the celebration of this famous marriage, we have the opportunity to Celebrate and honor the God-ordained blessing of marriage as clearly defined in God’s Holy Word. We may celebrate and honor our marriages with thanksgiving to God along with a reaffirmation of love and commitment of husband and wife. We also may celebrate and honor the pastor’s family within the local congregation.

We thank God for the blessing of marriage and all the love and commitment of marriages based on the love of Christ and His Church.

Congratulations, Martin and Kati!



Holy Trinity is hosting a blood drive

On Friday, July 11, 2025

12:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Did you know...

That every 2 seconds, someone in the US needs blood

That every unit donated can save up to three lives

That type O blood is the blood that hospitals request most

That 16-year-olds can donate blood with their parent's permission

That you can donate blood every 56 days

If you are able and willing to donate
please call Karen McGovern at 267-968-5485 for an appointment.



Unofficially **SUMMER HAS ARRIVED!**

There is a great need at Sarnelli House
for gently used warm weather clothing -



Shorts, tee-shirts, sneakers, sandals & hats.

**New men's and women's underwear
is an urgent and on-going need.**

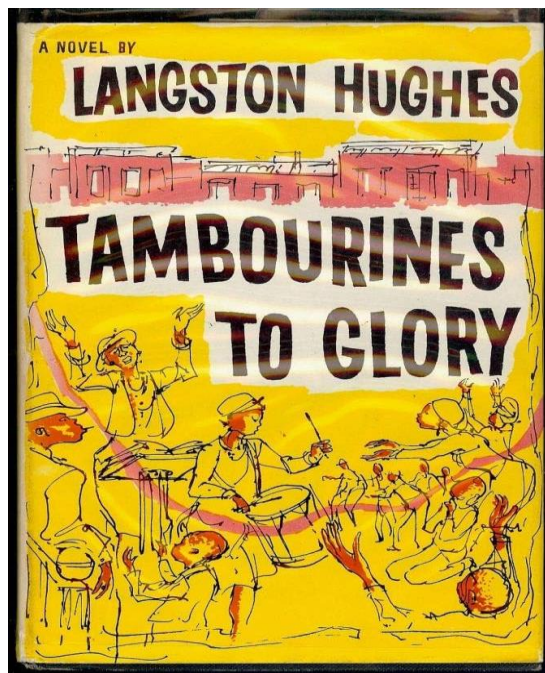
Thank you for your continued consideration of this vital ministry.



Coram Deo

For the month of June

Monday, June 9 at 7:30 PM



Thursday Morning Meanderings

Biblical and theological discussions
with Pastor Maurice on *3:16 Bible Texts Illuminated*,
continue throughout the summer. In the month of June
meeting on **Thursday, June 5, 19, and 26**
at 10:00 a.m.



Bagels and such on the house, of course!



BACK HALF OF FELLOWSHIP HALL:

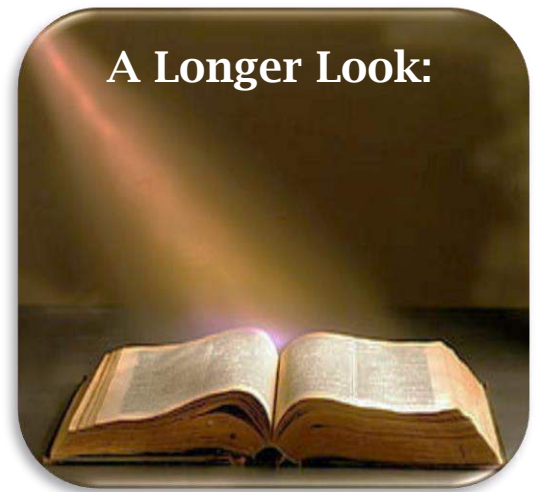
Here is an opportunity to dig deeper into each week's three Scripture readings with

A Longer Look at the Lessons.

This Bible Study, based on the Bible readings in our worship, provides information about the readings and their contexts.

The class will continue through the month of June (8, 15, 22 and 29) in Fellowship Hall after worship.

Pastor Guenzel facilitates the discussion.
All older teens and adults welcome.



FOLLOWED BY:

Five Short Letters

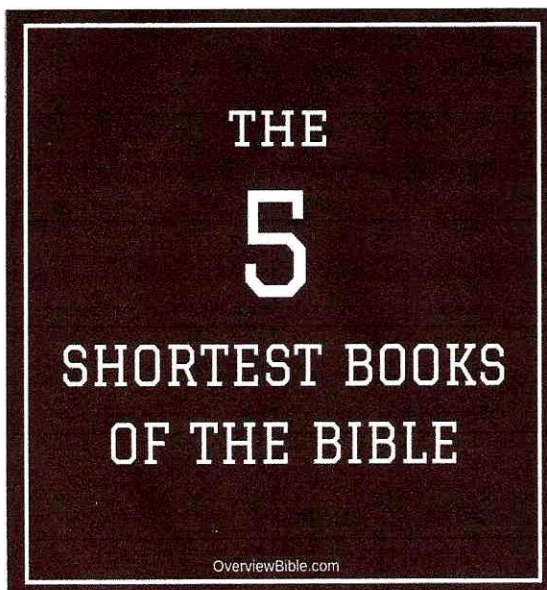
The Sundays of July 2025

we will have the opportunity to study the five shortest letters of the New Testament, **Titus, Philemon, 2 John, 3 John, and Jude.**

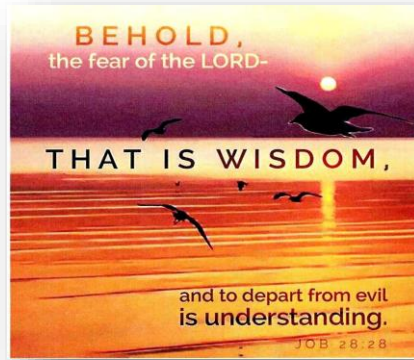
Each week's study will be independent of the others so if you miss a week or two, you can still fully participate in the sessions you attend. We'll meet in the Fellowship Hall immediately after Sunday worship.

Pastor Guenzel will lead the class and the Holy Spirit will be our Guide.

All are welcome!



Lutheran Church Women's Circle Bible Study



June Gatherings

The Holy Trinity mission statement reads, "We proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, worshiping, making disciples, and serving in His name." The LCW Circles finished the study of Job: Where is God in My Suffering? This study helped us to understand the message of Job more fully, guiding us through Job's suffering so that we can both relate it to our own pain and ultimately to the willing suffering of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In June, Circles may gather for a special lunch or dinner and enjoy a time of fellowship and socializing. Even if you have not attended a meeting this year, now is a great time to informally gather with a circle, fellowship with a meal, and mark your calendar to reconvene in September to begin a new bible study.

Eve Circle - Thursday, June 12 at 6:30 p.m. at Cheesecake Factory

Leader: Noreen Weld (215) 659-8089 lajennyda@aol.com

Ruth Circle - Wednesday, June 18 at 6:30 p.m. Potluck dinner at Donna Zar's home.

Leader: Katie Beyer (215) 572-6864 kbeyer0403@gmail.com

Hannah Circle - No meeting in June.

Contact: Deb Mumford (267) 210-1789 Debssam@msn.com

Miriam Circle - No meeting in June.

Leader: Sandy Schmidt (215) 657 - 5065 sandyschmidt19001@yahoo.com

Regarding the LCW's Giant Gift Card Program...



- If you don't happen to shop at the Giant you could buy the cards to donate to the ***Bread of Heaven*** Food Pantry...
- Every card purchased goes to help the LCW provide scholarships for the women of Holy Trinity...
- It's easy to order-speak to Nancy Ischinger any given Sunday...
- Card purchases are offered in any denomination...
- Now that you know why not order some...





2025 Vacation Bible School

Yes, it's that time of year again.
Unofficially summer is soon to be upon us!
With that in mind, we are planning this year's VBS.

Our theme for VBS 2025 is
"Epic Australian Adventure,
An Unforgettable Journey with Jesus."

We need *your* prayers, and we also need **your participation** to provide the best Vacation Bible School possible. We need all kinds of people with their gifts and abilities. Please consider volunteering your time and talent to make this year's VBS one of the best weeks of the summer for the children in our community.

Thank you for your willingness to help! Please place the volunteer form in the offering plate or return it to the office. The earlier I have the classes and centers staffed, the sooner I can distribute all of the necessary materials. If you have any questions please contact Nancy Ischinger at 267-803-1384 or email at nancymaeisch@yahoo.com.

VBS Dates: July 28th to August 1st 9:15 AM to 11:45 AM

Be a Vacation Bible School Volunteer! Don't miss the fun!!

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Full Address: _____

Yes! I would like to help with VBS in the areas I have marked below.

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Pre-School teacher/helper | ☐ Bible Story Center leader/helper. |
| ☐ Kindergarten teacher/helper | ☐ Game center leader/helper |
| ☐ Art Center teacher/ helper | ☐ Group Guide |
| ☐ Snack Center helper | |

All volunteers over the age of 18, will need to provide a copy of their PA state clearances in order to volunteer

* You can register as a participant or volunteer by going to our website www.holytrinity.net

New Shoebox Opportunity: Will You Participate?



This Roma (gypsy) community in Romania is built on a trash dump. Montgomery County OCC Area Coordinator Rania Metry participated in a shoebox distribution here in early May. The children have no schooling and cannot read or write. A missionary minister and his wife teach the children Bible lessons. They blow a horn, and the children come running. They are then locked in the building below (for safety reasons) for fun and learning. The children had never received gifts and opened their boxes cautiously as they have been taught to guard what little they have and feared others taking their gifts.



Samaritan's Purse security guards lock in volunteers and pray outside the shoebox distribution. A child happily discovers her copy of *The Greatest Journey* book.

With Pastor Maurice's leadership, your Social Ministry committee is initiating a summer collection of items for Holy Trinity's Operation Christmas Child fall shoebox packing party. Each month, features suggested items we hope to pack. Your contributions, including money—marked "OCC" if you prefer us to shop—will help defray supply costs. Please do not let these collections take away from your personally packed boxes. Here is the summer overview.

All Summer: We are collecting stuffed animals. (Think beanie baby size.)



June

- ♦ Coloring Books for boys & girls ages 2-4 and 5-9 (especially boys 5-9). TIP: avoid books with word games and lots of activities with directions. Mazes and dot-to-dots are fine, but books should be mostly for coloring.
- ♦ 24-Count boxes of Crayola crayons & Crayola Colored Pencils. (deals at Walmart)
- ♦ Washcloths in bright colors; NO white or tan as many have inadequate laundry facilities.
- ♦ Rubber Balls especially Pinky balls or similar sizes with good bounce.

July

- ♦ Blunt-edge scissors.
- ♦ Hand-crank flashlights (available at Amazon)
- ♦ Spiral notebooks, either 8 x 10 or 6 x 9
- ♦ Rulers wooden or plastic
- ♦ Glue sticks, NO liquid glue permitted.

August WOW Gifts

- ♦ The shoe that grows (We expect to receive info in July about new, reduced-price shoes.)
- ♦ Soccer balls with pumps.
- ♦ Chelsea or Barbie dolls and if possible, include some accessories/clothes.
- ♦ Lego sets for different ages

Will You Start Packing Shoeboxes this Summer?

Tis the season of many sales...after July 4th, back-to-school, change of seasons.

Please think of the children throughout the world who have never received a gift, which is hard for us to grasp. Think of the children and their families who do not know Jesus and how knowing Him and having a church community of worshippers can change their lives...forever!

Look for a carton of shoeboxes in the Narthex later in June, for you to take and fill. Questions: Rosemary Hinkle or Nancy Ischinger.

Packing with children or teens? Let them have the joy of shopping for items for boys or girls their age. They not only know what they would like to receive, but also if they provide their name and email and even a photo, the receiving child might be excited to correspond.

Important Reminders:

- Never seal shoeboxes; they must be inspected before leaving the country.
- Place at least one rubber band around them to hold the lid shut.
- Place age/gender tag at one end of lid—Not in the middle please.
- Fill to full but not overflowing; lids should close easily and not bulge. If you have concerns about families asking for money, Samaritan's Purse says to tell recipients you are praying for them. NEVER send money.
- In Romania, they ran out of boys' boxes and had to give girls' boxes. Remember the boys!

May 2025 Shoebox Distribution in Romania



Stuffed animals, whistles, notebooks, toothbrushes, and their own copy of *The Greatest Journey* book ...all treasures to these children.



Ideas for Packing Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

NO toothpaste, food, liquids, creams, or war-related items. Nothing breakable.
NEW: NO Soap! (Customs problem)

Select your Gender & Age Groups:

Boys and Girls 2-4, 5-9, 10-14

All Children Need A Shoebox!

Boys 10-14 & 2-4 receive the fewest number.



All children prize their stuffed animals.

Ideas to Get Started!

School Supplies

Notebooks, Pads, Journals
 Pencils, Pens, Sharpener, Crayons/Colored Pencils
 Ruler, Eraser, Glue Stick, Scotch Tape, Scissors
 Solar Calculator
 Stencils, Stickers, drawing & construction paper

Toiletries

Washcloth, Toothbrush, Chap Sticks
 Nail clippers, Emery Boards, Band-Aids
 Large-tooth Comb, Sports Towel, Tissue Pack
 Mirrors (only plastic), Feminine products

Accessories

Socks, Gloves, Scarves, T-Shirts
 Ball Caps or Visors, Sun Glasses—UVA protection required
 Barrettes, Hair Ties, Headbands, Bandanas
 String bags, Small Zipper Bags (Cosmetic size)

Toys

Stuffed Animals, Dolls (Barbie, Chelsea, rag)
 Marbles, Glo Sticks, fold-up Frisbees, Yoyos
 Coloring, Maze, & Dot-to-Dot Books
 Vehicles of many kinds (no war)
 Puzzles, Legos, Hand-held Pinball games
 Playing Cards, Uno, Dominos
 Musical Instruments: Harmonica, Kazoo, etc.
 Definitely A Ball! (Pinky, bouncy, beach, sports)
 Play Doh, Play Doh tools, Water Colors (dry)/Brush

Misc.

Flashlight with extra set of batteries (tape ends) or hand crank.
 Soccer Ball & Pump, small Tool Set
 Manicure Set, Jewelry making kits, Sewing kits
 Small Backpacks

BE CREATIVE! Think Age-Appropriate.

Pease remember that quality is essential. This shoebox might be the only gift a child receives, and we want the items to have staying power.

Date for Your Calendar!

Church Packing Party—Saturday, November 15

Want to Volunteer in the Baltimore Packing Center right after Thanksgiving? Pleaa tell Rosemary Hinkle.





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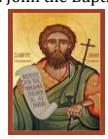
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June Worship Assistants Schedule

June 1			
Usher 1	Lectors-Sat Bruce Freer Sun Julia Gregg	Cantor	Tom Schied
Stream Team Gloria Ischinger	Acolyte David Tolton	Healing Prayer	Wayne Laudenslager
Christophers Sherry & Linda	Crucifer Matthew Gregg		
June 8			
Usher 2	Lectors-Sat Karen McGovern Sun Kathleen Ingerson	Cantor	Dean Lawrence
Stream Team Frank Ganther	Acolyte Michael Mutashobya	Healing Prayer	Sue Tolton
Christophers Beth & Frank	Crucifer Charlie Tolton		
June 15			
Usher 3	Lectors - Sat Linda Cassady Sun Nancy Ischinger	Cantor	Sophia Breslin
Stream Team Charlie Tolton	Acolyte Gloria Ischinger	Healing Prayer	Sherry Breslin
Christophers Nancy & Wayne	Crucifer David Tolton		
June 22			
Usher 4	Lectors-Sat Bruce Freer Sun James Necker	Cantor	
Stream Team Rob Ischinger	Acolyte Jim Necker	Healing Prayer	Deb Mumford
Christophers Deb & Sue	Crucifer Nancy Necker		
June 29			
Usher 5	Lectors - Sat Karen McGovern Sun Deb Mumford	Cantor	
Stream Team Hannah Mumford	Acolyte Scott Brown	Healing Prayer	Helen Haun
Christophers Sherry & Linda	Crucifer Suzanne Brown		

If you cannot serve please contact someone on the list for that particular service team and find a replacement.
If you cannot find a replacement contact the office (215)659-2642 or email Deb at secretary@holytrinity.net

Called to *Serve*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Easter 7 9:00 Holy Communion 10:30 Congregational Meeting  6:00 NA	2 7:00 WPG	3	4 7:30 Council	5 10:00 Bread of Heaven 10:00 Meanderings 7:30 Chancel Choir	6 7:30 AA	7 5:00 Holy Communion 7:00 AA
8 Pentecost 9:00 Holy Communion 10:30 Adult SS 10:30 Games & Sunday Sundaes 6:00 NA	9 7:30 Coram Deo	10	11	12 10:00 Bread of Heaven 6:30 Eve Circle 7:30 Chancel Choir	13 6:30 2 ND Friday Nighters 7:30 AA	14  5:00 Holy Communion 7:00 AA
15 Holy Trinity 9:00 Holy Communion 10:30 Adult SS HAPPY FATHER'S DAY  6:00 NA	16	17	18 6:30 Ruth Circle at Donna Zar's home.	19 10:00 Bread of Heaven 10:00 Meanderings	20  7:30 AA	21 5:00 Holy Communion 7:00 AA
22 Pentecost 2 9:00 Holy Communion 10:30 Adult SS 11:00 New Member Lunch 6:00 NA	23	24 St. John the Baptist 	25	26 10:00 Bread of Heaven 10:00 Meanderings	27 7:30 AA	28 9:00 - 4:00 Council Retreat 5:00 Holy Communion 7:00 AA
29 Pentecost 3 9:00 Holy Communion 10:30 Adult SS 10:30 Crafts & lunch 6:00 Deacon Dinner 6:00 NA	30	SPECIAL DATES: *Flag Day, June 14, 2025 *Father's Day, June 15, 2025 *First day of summer, June 20, 2025 *Saint John the Baptist, June 24, 2025				

