

The Herald

Trinity Lutheran Church 1141 West Chester Pike
Havertown, PA

March 2020





March 2020

Dear Trinity,

Greetings in the name of the Holy One who loves us and desires that we be in a relationship with Him. To get our attention during the Lenten season, God calls us to the desert – just as Jesus went to the desert after he was baptized. During Lent we want to follow in the footsteps of Jesus himself. So, we produce our own deserts, often we give up some sort of food, or stopping some behavior, or contribute more money there, or adding some work of kindness and mercy. Each of these become disciplines, so that we can see God more fully.

But, the problem for many of us is that our experience of our desert is something that is temporary. Because, after all, won't we be returning from the desert back to the same eating, giving, and praying patterns we had before Lent? Aren't we, in fact, delighting in that fact? Think of all of the chocolate we'll eat at Easter, all the pizza we can eat again, all the stuff we'll get to do once Lent ends? Maybe you, too, want Lent to be over with – so that you can get back to life as usual. How much do we really want to be in the desert?

That's the tricky thing about deserts. They also produce illusions. In the desert it is common to see a mirage – of water appearing on a desert's horizon, and yet it is not really there. The things we think the desert can give to us might not be the things God wants to give us. How much do we really want God's transformation? How much will we give over our whole lives, and not just our chocolate and pocket money, to God?

Today in my morning devotions I was thinking of and reading the story of Jesus at the well with the Samaritan woman (John 4:5-42). It is important, when reading this scripture, to remember that men would not have ever spoken with a woman to whom they were unrelated. It is also important to recall that the Samaritans were considered illegitimate Jews. Samaritans were people who had intermarried with

conquering nations over the centuries which was a common way for nations to deal with their enemies.

Despite the history and the failures and brokenness in this woman's life, Jesus offers the Samaritan woman the same salvation he brings to the Jews. She has an experience of the Lord and for her, he is the Messiah, and he gives her living water. The Samaritan woman is overjoyed, tells her neighbors, and becomes one of the many people who spread the gospel in that region.

Jesus' disciples, on the other hand, are quite upset by this exchange. While they say nothing to him, they are murmuring and complaining among themselves. Jesus reminds his disciples that God will transform us and our relationships. If we are attentive to the stirrings of God, perhaps we shall find ourselves eating dinner with people we never would have expected, finding bonds of friendship with people who are of other political persuasions than us (especially in today's climate), and seeking less to return to our pre-Lenten gluttony than to find a new way of relying on God.

As we continue our journey through Lent, may we be open to the ways God transforms our lives and hearts in the desert. May God show us news ways in which we must trust and rely on Him.

Trusting and relying on God for the future,

Pastor Littleton





Bread Crumbs ...

Today being Ash Wednesday, many have probably already contemplated what it is that they plan to give up for Lent. The things that tempt them the most, but yet have been determined as not impossible to live without for 40 days – 40 days mirroring the time that Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness before starting his ministry. As a side note, the season of Lent is actually 46 days if Sundays are included (there are six), but only 40 days if they are excluded. I read online that some of the most popular things that folks have given up for Lent in the past include sugar, chocolate, coffee, meat, soda, alcohol, smoking and vaping, and negativity. All very tempting and difficult to do without for some, I am sure.

That said, I have been thinking lately of what, if I did give anything up for Lent, would be most precious to me ... something that I could do without, but yet something that would lend itself well to the period of prayer and fasting in preparation for Easter. The answer came to me yesterday as I was sitting in traffic on my way from here to there, in a rush to get where I was going to fulfill the obligations of my busy schedule, but yet the cars that lined the streets in front of me not allowing any progress. That thing that I identified as something that I could, and probably should, give up is *time*.

For most of us our schedules are filled to the brim with appointments, work, sports, must see TV shows, shopping, to-do lists, etc. -- all things that divert our time away from God. Wasting away something so precious to each and every one of us that we can never re-coop, *time – time* that could be spent with God in prayer, reading the Bible, praising and worshiping His holy name, giving thanks, in fellowship with our church family, and in service.

Trinity has many meaningful services and activities planned for this most Holy season. We pray that you will be able to participate whenever possible during this period of prayer and fasting. With that, I leave you with the following verses from Joel:

Joel 2:12-14 The Message (MSG)

12 But there’s also this, it’s not too late—
GOD’s personal Message!—
“Come back to me and really mean it!
Come fasting and weeping, sorry for your sins!”
13-14 Change your life, not just your clothes.
Come back to GOD, *your* God.
And here’s why: God is kind and merciful.
He takes a deep breath, puts up with a lot,
This most patient God, extravagant in love,
always ready to cancel catastrophe.
Who knows? Maybe he’ll do it now,
maybe he’ll turn around and show pity.
Maybe, when all’s said and done,
there’ll be blessings full and robust for your GOD!

God bless,
--Vicar Kat



Lenten Café 2020 – Chapel



This year at the Café we will be reading: God Speaks Your Love Language: How to Experience and Express God's Love by Gary Chapman

Pastor has purchased 12 books for sale at \$10.50. (first come, first serve). You can also buy this book on Kindle for \$9.59.

We will have a Lenten Café on Wednesday nights starting March 4th at 7 – 8 PM. We will gather at 6:45 for light snacks, wine and non-alcoholic drinks as a time of fellowship. Invite friends who are looking for ways of growing their relationship with God.

Café 1. Wednesday March 4. God speaks your Love Language

Café 2. Wednesday March 11. Words of Affirmation

Café 3. Wednesday March 18. Quality Time

Café 4. Wednesday March 25. Gifts

Café 5. Wednesday April 1. Acts of Service

Café 6. Wednesday April 8. Physical Touch



Under this Roof

We Serve, Celebrate and Proclaim Jesus to ALL

Remember ~ It's more than a roof.

The total amount pledged to date is up to \$43,690!!! This amount added to our already raised \$30,000 gives us a good start and makes us hopeful for the real possibility to do this work this spring.

Thank you!!!



LUTHERAN CHARITY ENVELOPE

Lutheran Settlement House will be our Lutheran Charity for March and April

118 Years Serving Philadelphia!

In 1902, Lutheran Settlement House (LSH) was founded as part of the “Lutheran Social Mission Society of Philadelphia,” an urban ministry of the Lutheran Church in southeastern Pennsylvania. Lutheran Settlement House has, since its inception, served vulnerable children, adults, and families living in inner city Philadelphia, regardless of race or creed.

As part of the evolution of the settlement movement in the United States in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Lutheran Settlement House has remained in its lower Kensington neighborhood since the turn of the century.

You can go on line to learn more about the exciting ministry of the Lutheran Settlement Ministry

<https://www.lutheransettlement.org>

Let's be generous in our giving to this Lutheran Charity - look what your money can do

- \$10 dollars buys cooking supplies for teens in our after-school Farming & Nutrition program
- \$25 dollars helps to fund the presence of full-time Medical Advocates in hospitals across the city, ensuring that Intimate Partner Violence is properly identified and treated
- \$100 dollars helps to guarantee a one-night stay in a clean, safe, hotel room for a woman and her children escaping their abuser and in need of emergency shelter



CONFIRMATION CLASS SCHEDULE 2020, SUNDAY EVENINGS, 5-6 PM

March 8, 22
April 15, 19, 26
May 3, 17, 24

Second year students will be confirmed on May 31.

If we need to cancel a class because of weather then the following class will be a double class as long as it makes sense with other church scheduling. The double class will be from 4-6 PM. This year the youth and their parents will study together a Survey of the Old and New Testaments. Hopefully everyone will develop a love for God's Word.



TRINITY YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group 6th – 12th Grades will normally meet on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month (March 8 and 22) at 6:15 – 7:30 PM

Trinity loves our Middle School and High School Youth. Our program is for youth in grades 6 through 12. We spent time building relationships and having fun. When people get to know people, God is able to work through our relationships.

FRIENDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!!!

On March 27 - 29 we will have our retreat at Tuscarora Inn. We will leave the church parking lot at 4 PM and on the way we will stop at a fast food place for dinner so bring some money.



Winter Weather Policy

During inclement weather, we will do our best to keep services, programs and school operating as scheduled.

Generally if the Haverford Schools are closed we will cancel meetings at the Church during the week.

If we have snow, ice or other extreme weather on Sunday morning we will do our best to have our regular schedule and Pastor will do her best to contact congregants with an email, facebook or voice message on the church office phone if anything changes.

In all weather events please use discretion in your travel decisions by not placing yourself or your family at risk when travel conditions are marginal.

Here's how the process works:

- A decision about the 8:00 a.m. Sunday worship service and Sunday school will be made **by 5:30 a.m. Sunday morning.**
- If the decision is made to cancel the early worship service and Sunday Funday, that information will be posted on the church web site and recorded on the church phone greeting immediately.
- Every effort will be made to have the 10:45 a.m. worship service. But if extreme circumstances make cancellation of that service necessary, it will be announced on the website and by phone early Sunday morning.
- Depending upon the severity of the weather, a decision about Sunday afternoon and evening activities may be delayed until later Sunday morning. If that's the case, the closing information will be posted on the website, email and Facebook and recorded on the phone greeting.

MUSIC MINISTRY – ADULT CHOIR AND BELL CHOIR

Creativity and the Brain

Back in the beginning of 2019, researchers in Great Britain spoke with 50,000 survey participants to get a sense of how they utilize creative activities (art, music, dance) in their lives. 76% of the sample said that they use creativity to relieve stress and anxiety. 69% use it as a development tool to increase their self-worth, and 53% use it for contemplation or get fresh "headspace" to solve problems.

The most gain comes from live activities in groups like singing in a choir, or participating in an art class. The most important part--- you don't have to be 'good' at it. The study showed that the participation in the actual activity was more important to improving quality of life.

And of those activities: 12% sang or participated in art, 10% gardened and 10% played a musical instrument. The moral of the story: creativity makes you feel better!

Top Reasons Why Churches Aren't Singing

From an article in *Renewing Worship*, the author, Kenny Lamm, reviewed the top reasons why churches have stopped singing and asks music directors to review with their congregations. Please let me know if any of the following are true!

1. The hymns are unknown.
2. They hymns are too high.
3. The music is too loud.
4. The music is too hard.
5. It's the choir's job to sing.

There is always room for improvement! Feel free to reach out, even if it's just to sing a hymn we haven't done for awhile.

~Kirsten Halker-Kratz



Trinity Lutheran Nursery School & Mother's Morning Out News

No snow outside but plenty inside our Nursery School. We have snowmen with jewels, snowmen in scraps, square boxy snowmen, sparkling silver snowmen and shaving cream puffy snowmen. We have snowflakes that are blue and silver, some jeweled and some that are just plain white. The penguins and the igloos make things look cold. One set of penguins are on a glacier. We have ice skates on a silver pond and mittens that are matched in pairs. Be careful upstairs because you'll find a group of bears hibernating. The Eskimos were posed for a photo shoot outside their igloo. They looked cold.. There is plenty of winter inside our school. A big thank you to the non-robotic groundhog . We're all so happy he saw his shadow! The crocuses are too!

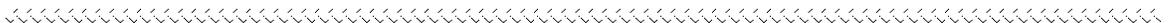
"Love is in the Air." We have a lovely Matisse-looking heart masterpiece hanging in the gallery. Hearts of all sizes and colors are mounted on a background of black for emphasis.

Valentine Parties passed the love from one another while they shared their goodies and cards with their classmates.

Bold silhouettes of Washington and Lincoln reminded us of honesty and hard work.

A light Mardi Gras celebration with costumes, games, beads and music welcomed the Lenten season. Whether you call it Faschnacht, Pancake Day, Carnivale, Fat Tuesday, or Mardi Gras, everyone loves a donut!

~~Miss Marian





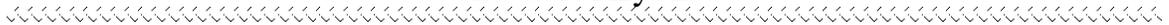
If you have are experiencing medical issues or are hospitalized please let Pastor Littleton know – she wants to pray with you and/or visit with you. You can reach pastor at DrDee3@gmail.com, her home 610-353-1103, or office 610-446-6398.

If you have moved, changed your email address or phone number, please let the office know by contacting Darlene at office@trinityhavertown.org or by calling 610-446-6398



PRAYING THROUGH MEMBERSHIP

Edna Kley Keough, Joan Kirkpatrick, the Koch Family,
Connie and Robert Langzettel, Darlene Leech, Marilyn and Ray Lindelow,
Kurt Lindelow, Scott Lindelow, Pastor Littleton, the Lord Family,
and Carol Lyons.



Please Pray for... Bill Bast, Connie and Jere Young, Dorothy Plantholt,
Don and Nancy Cornman, Susan Haines, Carol Lyons, Lee Zampetti,
Dave Huntington, Louise Wallace, Maria DeFeo, Claire Gray,
Connie Langzettel, Glenn Miller, Gene Hale, Brenda Teague, Allen Dick
and Anita Doherty.

MOVIE MINISTRY

March 10

A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood

Pizza Dinner at 5:45 for \$6.00 and movie at 6 PM
Faith discussion following the movie

Primary Audience: • Adults • Young-Adults • Family

Genre: Drama

Length: 1 hr. 48 min.

Year of Release: 2019

Rating: PG for some strong thematic material, a brief fight, and some mild language.

Featuring: Tom Hanks ... Fred Rogers
Christine Lahti ... Ellen
Matthew Rhys ... Lloyd Vogel—journalist
Susan Kelechi Watson ... Andrea Vogel—Lloyd’s wife
Chris Cooper ... Jerry Vogel—Lloyd’s father
Enrico Colantoni ... Bill Isler—President and CEO of Family
Communications
Wendy Makkena ... Dorothy
Tammy Blanchard ... Lorraine
Maryann Plunkett ... Joanne Rogers—Fred’s wife

A true story based on the real-life friendship between Fred Rogers and journalist Tom Junod, and inspired by an article on Rogers that Junod wrote for Esquire in 1998 called “Can You Say Hero?”. According to producers, and contrary to early belief, the film is not a biopic of Fred Rogers. Rather the film centers around journalist Tom Junod and his experience interviewing Rogers, and the impact it had on him. It was shot in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania, with much of it right at Fred Rogers Studio.

Tom Hanks, who is arguably one of the greatest living actors, delivered a remarkable performance. Like a true actor, he prepared well. At the 2019 Toronto International Film Festival, Tom Hanks mentioned that he watched “hundreds of hours” of footage of Fred Rogers on set and behind the scenes in order to get into character.

Director Marielle Heller brings us an excellent story, that has a simple yet profound and unique message. Fred Rogers was a unique person who had a message of kindness and forgiveness that the world really needs to hear right now. Heller noted that Rogers “doesn’t have the dynamic nature you need for a protagonist for a movie’ and considered him “the antagonist [] who comes into someone’s life and flips it upside down through his philosophy and the way he lived his life.’

Whether you are familiar or unfamiliar with the true story, and we won’t get too much into the details of the plot, this is a film worth seeing. It has at its heart a message of forgiveness. The film does not delve deeply into the specifics of Roger’s Christian faith, and its message is not explicitly Christian, though the concepts of love, forgiveness, and kindness are clearly biblical.

Movie Ministry

March 24

Just Mercy

Pizza Dinner at 5:45 for \$6.00 and movie at 6 PM
Faith discussion following the movie

Primary Audience:• Adults• Young-Adults

Genre: Legal-Drama History Adaptation

Length: 2 hr. 16 min.

Year of Release:2019

Rating: PG 13 for thematic content including some racial epithets.

Michael B Jordan ... Attorney Bryan Stevenson
Featuring: Jamie Foxx ... Walter “Johnny D.” McMillian
Brie Larson ... Eva Ansley

Rafe Spall ... Tommy Champan
Tim Blake Nelson ... Ralph Myers
O'Shea Jackson Jr. ... Anthony Ray Hinton

I loved this film and I am so proud of Bryan Stevenson's work. I knew Bryan in college – and knew him to be an outstanding young man with a strong faith. Even as a 19 year old I knew that God was going to use Bryan to do great things. This movie tells of Bryan's work with folks who have been unjustly prisoned and place on death row. After graduating from Harvard, Bryan Stevenson went to Alabama to defend those wrongly condemned or those not afforded proper representation. One of his first cases is that of Walter McMillian, who is sentenced to die in 1987 for the murder of an 18-year-old girl, despite evidence proving his innocence. In the years that follow, Stevenson encounters racism and legal and political maneuverings as he tirelessly fights for McMillian's life.

“Just Mercy” was inspired by the book *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* written by Bryan Stevenson. Mr. Stevenson is a well known and respected civil rights attorney to this day. He founded the non-profit organization Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) which is growing.

Stevenson is an African Methodist Episcopal. His faith plays an integral part in his profession and philanthropic endeavors.

Bryan and Walter remained life-long friends until the latter's death in 2013 at the age of 71 due to early onset of dementia. Sadly, Walter never fully recovered from his ordeal in prison, having spent 18 months on death row prior to his original trial and another 6 years once convicted.

It is reported that 1 in 9 inmates on death row are innocent.

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The need to feed the homeless increases by the day. Donations of the following items for our meal program at the Life Center are always needed and very much appreciated:

Cans of tuna; creamed soups – any kind; mayonnaise; applesauce; pasta – no spaghetti.

Thank you all for supporting our Homeless Ministry. If you have any questions or concerns about our meal program, please contact Linda Weiser (for cooking) and Ann Shiffer (for serving) or Brigitte Gdovin for general information.

February Servers: Ann Shiffer, Leslie Carden, Ed Johnson, Dr. Berry Robben, Kim Robben (friends of Ann), Gary Prasalowicz of St. Anastasia.

February Cooks: Marilyn Lindelow, Linda, Karah Weiser and Amy Gagas

We need servers for the meals we serve at the Life Center on the first Tuesday of each month.

Currently there are only a few Trinity members who have offered to serve our monthly meal. None of them can serve every month so I find friends to serve. We really need more Trinity members to sign up as servers.

This is a wonderful way to follow Christ's admonition to serve those who have less than us.

You can contact Ann Shiffer (610 853 1484 or t.shiffer@comcast.net) or Darlene at the church office (610 446 6398).



On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you are prompted to select a charitable organization from the list of eligible organizations.

We are listed as:
Trinity Lutheran Church of Havertown
When you shop make sure you are in Smile.Amazon.com
Those using Chrome as your browser will be able to download an App that will
take you automatically to AmazonSmile.

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**Dates to Remember**

**COFFEE HOUR**

**Following the Sending Service for Kendyll Ward  
in the Fritsch Room following the 10:45 service**

**LENTEN CAFÉ**

**March 4, 11, 18 and 25**

**Gather at 6:45 PM - bring light refreshments to share with each other  
Book discussion begins at 7 PM**

**CONFIRMATION CLASS**

**March 8 and 22 – 5 PM in the Fritsch Room**

**YOUTH GROUP**

**March 8 and 22, 6:15-7:30**

**Bring a friend or two or three.....**

**MOVIE MINISTRY**

**March 10**

**A BEAUTIFUL DAY**

**5:45 PIZZA DINNER - \$6**

**6 PM MOVIE**

**FAITH DISCUSSION FOLLOWING THE MOVIE**

**CHURCH COUNCIL**

**March 17, 7 pm**

**All are welcome to attend**

**MOVIE MINISTRY**

**March 24**

**JUST MERCY**

**5:45 PIZZA DINNER - \$6**

**6 PM MOVIE**

**FAITH DISCUSSION FOLLOWING THE MOVIE**



**REMINDER**

**Daylight Saving Time in Pennsylvania will begin at 2 AM on  
Sunday, March 8.**

**Set your clocks AHEAD one hour when you retire on  
Saturday night.**

*Thank You*

**MARCH VOLUNTEERS**

**Please let the church office know if you are not able to serve on your designated date so that coverage may be arranged.**

**Bulletin Folders**

1 Marilyn Lindelow  
8 Marilyn Lindelow  
15 Marilyn Lindelow  
22 Marilyn Lindelow  
29 Marilyn Lindelow

**Church Openers**

1 Brigitte Gdovin  
8 Leslie Carden  
15 Brigitte Gdovin  
22 Tom Shiffer  
29 Leslie Carden

**Altar Flowers**

1 The DiSciascios  
8 Volunteer  
15 The McDevitts  
22 Volunteer  
29 Leslie Carden

**Acolytes 8:00**

1 Nicolas Robinson  
8 Nicole Coffey  
15 Devin Blackwell  
22 Nicole Coffey  
29 Devin Blackwell

**Lectors 8:00**

1 Vicar Kat  
8 Emily Moser  
15 Matt Carden  
22 Crystal Mangir  
29 Emily Moser

**Acolytes 10:45**

1 James Simpkins  
8 Dylan Johnson  
15 Iris Simpkins  
22 Tyron Quarshie  
29 Olivia Carson

**Lectors 10:45**

1 Peggy DiSciascio  
8 Amy Gagas  
15 Kendyll Ward  
22 Freddy Quarshie  
29 Wendy Ward

**Altar Guild 8:00**

1 Nicole Stokes Robinson  
8 Bernice Coffey  
15 Vicar Kat  
22 Bernice Coffey  
29 Darlene Leech

**Ushers and Greeters 8:00**

1 Matt Carden  
8 Jim Hasselman  
15 Matt Carden  
22 Jim Hasselman  
29 Matt Carden

**Altar Guild 10:45**

1 Heather Seifert  
8 Alice Huntington  
15 Debbie and Caitlin Maguire  
22 Heather Seifert  
29 Darlene Leech

**Ushers and Greeters 10:45**

1 Marilyn Lindelow, Dave Huntington  
8 Marilyn Lindelow, Jim McDevitt  
15 Marilyn Lindelow, Joe Polidoro  
22 Marilyn Lindelow, Dave Huntington  
29 Paul Bazik, Mitch Zalkind