

The Messenger

May 2019

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From our Pastor

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Our joyful celebration of the risen Christ continues in the coming weeks as we hear each week from the risen Christ in John's gospel and his love poured out as the firstborn of the dead, the first to be raised to new life.

One of the ways we celebrate that promise of new life is by remembering in these weeks the gift of baptism and the power of water to sustain life.

On Maundy Thursday, we confessed our sin and heard words of forgiveness and absolution. This was our last confession of sin until after the celebration of Pentecost.

In the season of Easter, we turn instead to thanksgiving for baptism each Saturday/Sunday as our preparation for worship.

Thanksgiving for baptism recalls some of the significant water stories from scripture that are the core of our baptismal theology – creation and flood, exodus and the baptism of Jesus. It also gives voice to the power of water to sustain life and the sacramental power of water connected to the word in baptism to renew God's people. In this way, it reinforces Luther's understanding of the continuing character of baptism and its presence in all of life for people of faith. Luther, in his dark moments, clung to baptism.

Thanksgiving for baptism is not only our praise of God for this gift of water, but a reminder to us that we are baptized children of God. When we are splashed with water from the font, we are reminded of this: I am a child of God.

When Luther faced the darkness of despair and discouragement, he was said to have shouted, as if to the devil himself, "I am baptized. I am baptized." Not, "I was baptized," but "I am baptized."

Baptism might be a one-time event for us, but it gives us an all-time identity that will never leave us.

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Thinking of baptism that way makes our thanksgiving for baptism so much more than a quaint custom that happens occasionally during worship when we get splashed with water. It becomes a joyful experience of being reminded of the identity to which we can cling when life is hard. "I Am Baptized!"

Being baptized into Christ's life means we are also baptized into Christ's death and his resurrection. And that changes everything.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor Brenda

Ascension Day Worship ~ May 30

A Service of Holy Communion in observance and celebration of the Ascension of Our Lord will be on **Thursday, May 30, at 7:00 p.m.**

The Ascension of Jesus (Luke 24:53; Mark 16:19-20; Acts 1:9) as recorded in Acts says, "Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands, he blessed them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God."

During his earthly ministry, Jesus, as any one of us, could physically be only in one place at a time. After his Ascension, our Lord can be present to all of his people of every time and place as they gather in worship. Let's mark this Festival Day by our gathering. We will most likely be joined by people from some other congregations.



Lutherlyn Camperships

Once again our congregation will offer camperships to our members whose children decide to attend a camp or program at Camp Lutherlyn. Church Camp is a wonderful and fun way to interact with other Christians for summer activities including Bible Study, swimming, horseback riding, etc. The church will provide **a campership of \$250.00** for each child going to Lutherlyn. Pick up your Lutherlyn brochure today outside the church office, or visit www.lutherlyn.com to register online. For information, contact the church office.



A Look at Our Celebration of The Resurrection of Our Lord

Our Easter celebration was grand and joyful, and included our movement from darkness to light during the Easter vigil, the hearing of the stories of God's salvation history, the return of our Alleluias, and the welcome on Easter Sunday of six of our young people who celebrated their First Holy Communion.

Those who were leading worship gathered in the nave before the start of the Easter vigil



Marj Stubert, Linda Armstrong, Sidney Richardson, Catherine Mott, Anna-Marie Shears, John Logan, Pastor Gary Nelson, Lauren Faber, Jazmyne Sasse, Griffin Richardson, Olivia Martin-Call, Pastor Brenda Martin, David Lineman, Marie Lineman

Some of the worship leaders share a lighter moment before the Easter vigil begins.



End of Sunday School Intergenerational Event

Sunday, May 19, - 10:45 a.m.

We gather to celebrate:

**Another year of learning and growing in faith together,
God's love that binds us to one another always, and
The life that we live as Jesus' disciples.**

There will be songs, teacher recognition and thanks, and snacks.

All parents are encouraged to attend with their student.



Good Shepherd Request for May

The Good Shepherd Center is our church community social service agency that supports the needs of many in the area.

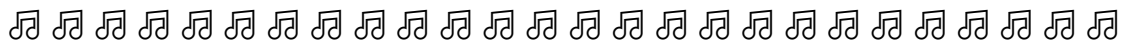
The Good Shepherd Center's request for Holy Trinity for **May is peanut butter**. Donations may be placed in the marked box in the cloister.



Good Shepherd Community Meal

On Monday, June 17, Holy Trinity will be hosting the Monday night community dinner at Good Shepherd. If you are able to assist in cooking, serving, delivery of dinners or clean-up duties please call **Linda Saverino at 724-981-2312**.

From our Director of Music



The Director of Music's topic beginning this month, and for additional months required to present several different examples, is *HYMN TUNES*. Usually a hymn is without refrain or chorus, has certain harmony, and is either long, short, or common meter. Sometimes a *hymn tune* is named for a place or for a composer, that is, the composer of the melody.

Essentially, a *hymn tune* is a melody or tune to which a variety of hymn texts might be sung. In this very brief article, a familiar hymn is cited as one example. Most people are familiar with the hymn *Amazing Grace*, whose text is by John Newton, a captain of slave ships for many years of his life. The first four stanzas of the text were written by Newton; the fifth stanza . . . 'When we've been there ten thousand years...' is anonymous. Newton did NOT compose the MELODY or tune to which his text /words is/are sung.

In Evangelical Lutheran Worship there is only one version of *Amazing Grace* [first line index] and its hymn tune name is *New Britain*, a place name. However, in The Hymnal, an ecumenical [for its time, early 1950's] hymn collection used at the Presbyterian Church, there are two versions of *Amazing Grace*; the first hymn tune is *Arlington*, a melody by the English composer, Thomas Arne, dated 1762. The second hymn tune is *Amazing Grace*, described as an early American melody arranged by Edwin O. Excell (1851-1921). Both versions are settings of Newton's text. The second tune is the version sung by the Assembly of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. The next article in this series will cite other hymn tune examples.

Maidene Hackett

We Welcome Bishop Jones on Pentecost Weekend

Mark your calendars for our celebration of Pentecost, June 8 and June 9.

The Rev. Dr. Ralph Jones, bishop of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod, will be with us at worship on that Saturday and Sunday as our preacher. It will most likely be his last time worshipping with the congregation at Holy Trinity before his retirement this summer.

Please plan to be with us at worship that weekend as we give thanks for his ministry to our synod over the last 18 years as bishop and look ahead to the new life God promises us as we make the transition to new leadership of our synod.



Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has a program called Thrivent Choice Dollars in which qualifying Thrivent members can direct dollars to the institution or charity of their choice. Holy Trinity received \$516.00 in 2019 from Thrivent through this program.

Holy Trinity Scholarships Applications are Due June 1

The deadline for all applications is **June 1st**. The deadline includes submission of your transcripts and financial assistance you may be already receiving. The Scholarship Committee will meet and make recommendations for action at the June Council meeting.



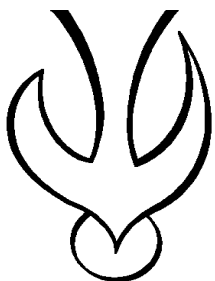
Calling All Graduates

Members graduating from high school, college, or graduate school are asked to please fill out and return the information forms that will be mailed to your home as soon as possible. We would like to publish your information in the Messenger. Please help your church family to celebrate your accomplishment!



Our Graduates Recognition Day is set for Sunday, June 9. Watch for details in next month's newsletter. Plan to be present to congratulate our Holy Trinity graduates, and enjoy refreshments at the reception after our 9:30 a.m. worship where they will be guests of honor.

The Day of Pentecost (Greek: "the fiftieth day.")



On Sunday, June 9, at 9:30 a.m. we will celebrate the Day of Pentecost, with pre-service music at 9:15 a.m. Pentecost is a principal festival of the church year, celebrating the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples fifty days after Easter (Acts 2:1-4).

In Judaism, the fiftieth day after Passover was celebrated as an agricultural festival, known as the Feast of Weeks (Exodus 34:22; Deuteronomy 16:9-10).

The Christian Pentecost was celebrated as a festival by the late fourth century.

Pentecost is the final day of the Easter season. This festival commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit and the Baptism of 3,000 converts. **Red is the liturgical color of the day. All are encouraged to wear something red to worship this weekend.**

Note: There WILL BE Saturday 5:30 p.m.

Second Mile Giving for May ~ Lutherlyn Campership Fund

Each month, we offer the opportunity for our members to reach out into the greater community to those who are seeking to minister to people with specific needs, through our Second Mile Giving – our financial gifts beyond our regular offerings. **In May, we are seeking to assure that no child will ever be turned away from Lutherlyn due to financial circumstances. This is possible through support for the Campership program.**

At Lutherlyn they combine the love of God, fun, friends, horseback riding, swimming, adventure challenges, Bible study, worship, cookouts, campfires, discoveries in nature, opportunities to hear the Word of God in exciting ways, and a few surprises in unforgettable Life Changing Adventures in Faith.

Lutherlyn provides a summer camping experience in the finest tradition of Lutheran Outdoor Ministry through:

- an unfaltering commitment to Gospel-centered living;
- a commitment to experiential learning;
- the witness and role-modeling of an intensively trained staff of mature Christian men and women;
- small group “family” living;
- a diverse offering of both familiar and “out-of-the-box” program activities;
- a commitment to respect all life and care for the earth;
- and a creative and practical approach to Bible study and worship.

Lutherlyn provides children and youth an opportunity to grow:

- in a sense of the joy and goodness of life;
- in living a Christ and faith-centered life;
- in stewardship of self, others, and the earth;
- and in a sense of their God-given worth, gifts, and ability to make a difference.

The Lutherlyn staff consists of 60 dedicated people specially trained (including First Aid & CPR) to ensure a safe, meaningful, and enjoyable adventure in faith! A registered nurse, certified water-safety instructor, and lifeguards are on site at camp all summer long to provide for the health and safety of each camper.

Campers live in cabins furnished with bunk beds and bathrooms, including showers. Counselors live with their cabin group and campers are never left unsupervised. Cabin groups eat, play, learn, and live together as a family. There are also opportunities each day for campers to explore their own interests and get to know others in the whole camp community. Meals are served buffet style in the Dining Hall. All summer programs at Lutherlyn include morning devotions, Bible study, worship, and evening devotions every day regardless of the focus of the camp program. All specialty programs (everything that is not “classic” camp) will spend several hours each day focusing on their specialty activity but they will also have the opportunity to do all of the traditional camp activities (crafts, swimming, ropes course, games, nature activities, hikes, etc.).

Lutherlyn’s Goals are:

- to provide the highest quality programs possible.
- to serve all community income levels, and
- to preserve camp for generations to come.

Second Mile envelopes can be found in the pew racks, or you may mail your contribution to the church office in an envelope clearly marked, “Second Mile Giving.” All Second Mile contributions received during the month of May will be given to the designated cause.



Pentecost Flowers



Help decorate the chancel for the Day of Pentecost, May 20, by ordering a geranium.

An additional option is that donations may be made to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's "Disaster Response." All donations may be designated in memory or in honor of a loved one or in celebration of an event as indicated below.

All plants are \$8.00 each

You may take them home following the Service or leave them for outdoor planting around the church.

All orders must be turned into the Church Office by *Sunday, May 19, 2019.*

Envelope #: _____

I would like to order _____ geranium(s) at \$8.00 each.

I would like to donate \$_____ to ELCA "Disaster Response."

Total Amount enclosed: \$_____ (___ cash) (___ check)

Information for the Pentecost bulletin:

In honor of (living): _____

In memory of (deceased) _____

In celebration of (event) _____

Order placed by _____ Phone _____

____ I wish to take the plant(s) following the Sunday Service.

____ I wish to leave the plant(s) for the planting around the church.

May Birthdays

1	Nancy Ullstrom
2	Pastor Brenda Martin
4	Don Achenbach
	Larry Franklin
6	Melodie Knapp
	Jerry Smith
	Gianna Weaver
8	Cassie Mozes
	Debbie Yoos
10	Rachel Oros
12	Dalton Daniello
17	Jan Harris
18	Nancy Knapp
	Mervin Newton
	Bob Olson
19	Christine Clark
	Brian McCall
23	Jim Currie
24	Catherine Mott
25	William Bubeck
26	Barry Oman
28	Milo Anderson
	Shirley Hildebrand
	Gretchen Minetti
29	Lynne Wilson
30	Bob Gargas
31	Mary Jo Skruck



May Anniversaries

The following members of our congregation are celebrating anniversaries this month. Congratulate them when you see them.

B.J. and Lori McCann	28 years	May 4, 1991
Jim and Lucy Shaffer	47 years	May 6, 1972
Ted and Vicki Hildebrand	34 years	May 11, 1985
John Logan and Catherine Mott	10 years	May 24, 2009
Todd and Tammy Daniello	23 years	May 25, 1996
Mervin and Sara Newton	29 years	May 26, 1990
Pastor Martin and Sally Roth	52 years	May 27, 1967
Ray and Lisa Mozes	26 years	May 29, 1993
B.J. and Kristy Mozes	16 years	May 31, 2003



Trinity Travelers

If you visit another church, drop off a bulletin from that church, with your name on it, so that you can be a *Trinity Traveler*.

John and Mary Moore

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
Warner Robins, Georgia
The Rev. John Barichivich

Anna-Marie Shears

St. Francis Episcopal Church
Bushnell, Florida
The Rev. Lawrence R. Recla

Ken and Lori McEwen

St. Philip Lutheran Church
Mt. Dora, Florida
The Rev. Johan Bergh



