



# HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



## Trinity Messenger March 2026 Issue 2

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*Lord, you are truly the Savior of the world; give me this living water that I may never thirst again. John 4:42, 15*

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### **Stewardship Special Giving for March: Konde Diocese - Our Partner in Ministry**

You may or may not know that each of the sixty-five synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has been linked with a Lutheran companion synod or church body outside the United States with which to partner in ministry and provide each other support through prayer and opportunities to engage with each other. We in the Lower Susquehanna Synod have been blessed with the companionship of the Konde Diocese, part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT). The Konde Diocese at present boasts a membership of over 125,000 members in seven church districts. Within these seven districts, more than 100 congregations are served by 160 pastors and 200 evangelists serving God's people and spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ, which they have been faithfully doing since 1977.

The operative word in beginning to understand the nature of this ministry partnership and its benefits is "companion." Each of our synods/dioceses and the congregations that make up these bodies are called to serve our neighbor and share the life-giving gospel of Jesus Christ. Doing so, whether one is part of a congregation in Ephrata, Pennsylvania, or a congregation in a village in the Konde Diocese, we can offer encouragement for each other's challenges and celebrate the joys. Through this relationship, the work we have been called to do becomes easier and more meaningful because we know there are siblings in Christ offering mutual support. Such a relationship also provides the opportunity to learn from each other through correspondence and sharing ideas. This is especially relevant as we in this nation struggle with shrinking congregations and a waning interest in organized religion. Christian churches in Africa and other less developed parts of the world are experiencing a boom in persons embracing the Gospel and its grace-filled message.

During March, the Konde Diocese will be our stewardship focus. Pastor Cliff Eshbach will be with us once again to update us on projects and activities within the diocese and how we can partner with them. I encourage us to prayerfully consider how we can actively engage in our relationship with the diocese and its individual congregations—supporting their ministries and projects as they support ours.

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## Wednesday Evening Prayer during Lent 7:30PM



### EASTER FLOWERS 2026

It is time once again to think about Easter flowers as we prepare to celebrate the Lord's resurrection, April 5, 2026. Flowers may be presented to the glory of God and "In memory of...", or "In honor of..."



Orders may be brought into or mailed to the church office. All mail orders must be received no later than Monday, March 16, and must be accompanied by payment. Make Checks payable to Holy Trinity.

**The cost of each plant is as follows:**

**Tulip - \$6.50 -6.5"pot Daffodils - \$11.00- 8" pot**

**Lilies - \$9.00 - 5-6 blooms Mums - \$7.25 - 6" pot**

**Hyacinths – \$6.50 -3 bulbs 6.5" pot**

**(Sorry, no color choice)**

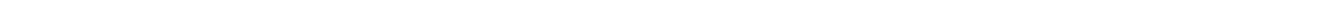
**Persons ordering flowers are responsible for picking them up following the Easter Day Liturgy.**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE**  
\_\_\_\_\_

How many _____	<b>Lily \$9.00</b>
How many _____	<b>Daffodils \$11.00</b>
How many _____	<b>Tulips \$6.50</b>
How many _____	<b>Mums \$7.25</b>
How many _____	<b>Hyacinths \$6.50</b>

**To the glory of God and:  
IN MEMORY OF or IN HONOR OF**



**AMOUNT PAID \$** \_\_\_\_\_



**Palm/Passion Sunday**  
March 29, 2026  
Holy Communion

## **The Sacred Triduum:**

### **Maundy Thursday**

April 2, 2026- Service at 7:00 PM

*Individual Absolution, Foot Washing*

*Holy Communion, Stripping of the Altar*

### **Good Friday - 7:00 PM**

For our Good Friday worship this year we will be participating in a traditional Tenebrae service. Tenebrae is a Latin word meaning 'darkness' or 'shadow'. It is a meaningful service of meditation and reflection, and scripture interspersed with music that sets the atmosphere for one's serious reflection on what Christ did for us on the cross. Please plan to take part in this powerful experience.

### **Holy Saturday**

April 4, 2026

Easter Vigil Liturgy at 7:00 PM

*Holy Communion*

### **Easter Sunday**

April 5, 2026

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

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### **Phillies game**

It's that time of year again, WooHoo!!! If anyone is interested in going down for a game, I will have a sheet in the gathering area with dates for games. Most votes win!! Please check it out ASAP, the sooner I secure tickets the better. 😊

Thank you,

Your devoted Philadelphia Phillies Phan!!!! (Kathrin)



**There will be no Friday Night dinner for April.** The first Friday falls on 4/3 which is Good Friday. If anyone would be interested in going the following Friday, 4/10 please let me know. Kathrin

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*Notes of* **THANKS**

Dear Pastor Mark and Trinity Members,

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks for all your prayers, visits, cards, calls and well wishes during Jake's surgery and recovery. It meant more than you'll ever know. The prayers definitely got him through some difficult times and made recovery a lot smoother. We are grateful for each and everyone of you. God's peace to all.

Jake and Linda Hinkle

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### **Think Lutheran Camping!**

It is that time of year to start thinking about summer plans. If you were in church on Sunday and attended Zach's program during Sunday School, you probably have a good idea that Camps Kirchenwald and



Nawakwa can be part of your summer plans. The theme for camp this year is Wear Love, based on Colossians 3:12-14. As campers reflect on love as the all-purpose garment of faith, they will explore how God's love – woven into our lives through kindness, humility, patience, steadfastness, and forgiveness – shapes who we are and how we live.

There are different levels of camping for kids in grades K-2 (day camp and half-week camp) and grades 3-11 (overnight camp). There is family camp for God's children of all ages and there is elder camp for those 55 and up.

More information can be found in the camp brochures in the narthex of the church on the display table. Camp makes a great gift for children and grandchildren. Full payment discount camp registration must be received at camp by **April 4, 2026**. Info at: <https://www.lutherancamping.org/> **Holy Trinity is committed to finding funds for EVERY child who wants to attend church camp. Lack of funds should NOT be the reason for a child not attending camp.** Resources are available so please talk to Pastor Mark or call the church office. Contact Lisa Garrett if you have any questions: [lrgacd@yahoo.com](mailto:lrgacd@yahoo.com) or 717-490-1927.

Watch this fun video! <https://www.lutherancamping.org/summer-camp/summer-camp-quick-video/>

### **Think Lutheran Camping Family Vacation!**

It is that time of year to start thinking about summer plans. Camps Kirchenwald and Nawakwa can be part of your summer plans! Make this the year to start a new family tradition!

Kirchenwald:

Family Camp-K-tion – The family staycation everyone can enjoy! Celebrate your family in this unique camp experience. Leave distractions at home as you grow closer together and closer to God through Bible study, worship, swimming, crafts, hikes, canoeing, Capture the Flag, and more. Strengthen the bonds of family through the challenge course and climbing tower. Create memories that will last a lifetime. Accommodations available in rustic shelters and in the Schreiber Lodge, to best suit your needs.

Family Camp Adventure – Ready to take family vacation to the next level? The Pine Creek Rail Trail is calling! With scenic views of the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon, this trip is the perfect mix of challenge and reward. Camp in tents along the biking trail. Side trips include hikes, swimming, history, and ice cream! Bring your own bike or ride one from Kirchenwald's fleet.

Nawakwa:

Family Camp – You have two opportunities to join us and experience the unique Christian community. Family Camp offers people of ALL ages. Many adults spend the morning hours in bible study with the pastor-in-residence; some sit on their porches and watch the trees sway in the breeze. Kid-size campers are divided by age group to participate in all sorts of campy activities with our counselors. Afternoons feature a full schedule of swimming, crafts, hikes, bike rides, tournament games, book discussions, playground time, and championship napping – your choice! Evenings always feature worship and some sort of festivity. Housing options include our comfortable lodges or the more rustic cabins. Partial week participation is an option.

More information can be found in the camp brochures in the narthex of the church on the display table.

Info at: <https://www.lutherancamping.org/> Contact your camp person, Lisa Garrett, if you have any questions: [lrgacd@yahoo.com](mailto:lrgacd@yahoo.com) or 717-490-1927.

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## All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast Buffet



**Saturday, April 11, 2026  
7:00-10:00 AM**

**BREAKFAST INCLUDES:** EGGS, HOME FRIES, CREAMED CHIPPED BEEF, FRENCH TOAST, BACON, SAUSAGE, HAM, COFFEE, TEA, JUICES, VARIOUS PASTRIES AND FRUIT.

**ADMISSION BY DONATION  
PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE  
TO: NORTH LANCASTER  
CONFERENCE DEAN'S FUND**

*PROCEEDS BENEFIT LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD LUTHERAN  
DISASTER RESPONSE MINISTRY IN 2026*

**SWAMP LUTHERAN CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL  
275 SWAMP CHURCH ROAD,  
REINHOLDS**



**PHONE 717-336-2849**

**GOD'S WORK...OUR HANDS.**

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### ELEVATOR RESTORATION PROJECT UPDATE

In keeping with the promise made previously, as chairman of the Stewardship Committee, I am pleased to inform you as to the contributions received to date.

In October 2025, the donations totaled \$11,063.94. The Treasurer's Report for November 2025 indicated a total of \$6,717.00. Therefore, the total to date amounts to \$17,735.94

We have started with a very positive indication of what can be done to meet the challenge. Let us continue on the same path for the future. Thank you for your support.

I will provide another report in the March 2026 (due to snow storm) Trinity Messenger.  
Norman A. Wangman



### Welcome to Holy Trinity Sunday School on the Move!

Please join us for Sunday School the 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month, the next one being March 15. Children will proceed downstairs after the Children's Sermon. For those not attending church, please meet us at 9:20 in the Cafe area. All are welcome for our Journey with Jesus!! ♡.

Love and Peace,  
Holy Trinity Christian Ed

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**NOTICE: Holy Trinity's website is sometimes up, sometimes not. A new website is being pursued and will be up and running as soon as possible. If you are looking for the livestream connection it is here:** Holy Trinity's services are now online at Sermons.net. Just copy and paste the link below into your browser. <https://holytrinitylutheranchurchephata.sermon.net/main>

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### **Celebration Choir Schedule**

Wednesday, March 4 – 6:45 PM – Rehearsal

Wednesday, March 11 – 6:45 PM – Rehearsal

Sunday, March 15 – sing “Be Thou My Vision” arr. Alice Parker

Wednesday, March 25 – 6:45 PM – Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 1 – 6:45 PM – Rehearsal

Thursday, April 2 (Maundy Thursday) – sing “A New Commandment”

Sunday, April 5 (Easter) – sing “Christ Is Alive” arr. Hal H. Hopson

Wednesday, May 13 – 7:15 PM – Rehearsal

Sunday, May 17 – sing “God We Gather as Your People” by David Lohman

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### **Handbell Choir**

#### **Handbell Choir Schedule:**

**\*\*Handbell rehearsals will be held at 6 PM on Wednesdays during Lent.\*\***



#### **Upcoming Performances:**

Sunday, March 8: *Balm in Gilead*

Easter Sunday, April 5: *Thine is the Glory*

Sunday, May 24: *Holy Is the Lord*

For Questions contact Debbie: 717-681-5985 [Elegantkeys88@gmail.com](mailto:Elegantkeys88@gmail.com)

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### **CELEBRATE RECOVERY**

The local branch of the Christ-centered support group, *Celebrate Recovery*, has begun meeting in the church social hall on Monday evenings from 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM. The group was meeting at City Gate but outgrew their space and reach out to Holy Trinity to see about finding room in our facility. *Celebrate Recovery* is a world-wide ministry that offers support to persons seeking “freedom from their hurts, hang-ups, and habits” and is not limited to those recovering from addiction. It seeks to serve as well those persons struggling with various types of dependency and the pain and trauma associated with these. If you are interested in finding out more about this group and/or how it might be helpful to you, please check out their website at [celebraterecovery.com](http://celebraterecovery.com). All are welcome!

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## **Concordia College Choir Concert in Harrisburg.**

The world-renowned Concordia Choir of Moorhead, Minnesota, under the direction of Dr. Michael Culloton, will perform at Saint Patrick Cathedral, 212 State St. in Harrisburg on March 10 at 7:00 PM. The 68-voice Concordia Choir continues to affirm its reputation as one of America's finest a cappella choirs. 2026's tour is Michael Culloton's first tour through the Northeast United States as conductor of The Concordia Choir, who took over the position following René Clausen's retirement in May 2020. From the music of J. S. Bach to familiar hymn arrangements, The Concordia Choir will amaze you with their technical mastery and incredible sound. To purchase tickets, visit [ConcordiaTickets.com](http://ConcordiaTickets.com).

Deb Olson is a graduate of Concordia College and she sang with this choir from 1979-1983.

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## **Weekly Bible Study: Tuesdays at 11AM**

### **NEW BIBLE STUDY**

A New Bible study focusing on the Acts of the Apostles will begin on Tuesday, January 6. The class will meet in the church conference room at 11:00 AM. There is a participant's book for the class that can be ordered through Amazon. The book is entitled *Acts: Catching Up With The Spirit*, authored by Matthew L. Skinner. If you have any questions please direct them to Pastor Mark. We look forward to having you as part of the study and learning more about the early activities of the Jesus' followers.

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Salem Lutheran Preschool, 1331 W. Main St., Ephrata, is now taking registrations for Fall 2026. Classes for 3s and 4s are available. For more information, call the Church office at 717-733-6646 or email Stephanie Frymyer at [sfrymyer@ptd.net](mailto:sfrymyer@ptd.net)

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Salem Lutheran Church, Ephrata, is planning a bus trip for May 12, 2026. "Chesapeake City Dine Around," includes soup and salad at Shaefer's Canal House, main course at the Chesapeake Inn. Then enjoy a narrated historical cruise along the C&D Canal, and a short stroll away to the Canal Creamery for a treat of homemade ice cream. Finally, a 45-minute driving tour highlighting several points of interest and beautiful scenery of the Chesapeake Bay area. Cost is \$161.00 per person, registration and payment by April 14, however we have been filling the bus for these trips in 2-3 weeks. For more info, call or text Laurel Kluck, 717-701-0266

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**Bergstrasse Community Clothing Closet** is open the first and third full weekend of every month for persons in need of clothing and other household goods. Entrance is accessible via the door off the lower parking lot. Hours are Saturday and Sunday noon – 2pm.



**Donations:** Currently there is a need for men's pants, shorts and shoes. There is always a need for children's clothing. All clothing in good shape is accepted. Due to space constraints, household items are no longer accepted. Donations may be dropped off directly at Bergstrasse when the Community Clothing Closet is open or in the box at the back of the narthex in Holy Trinity.

**Volunteers:** sort clothing, hang it and tag it by color to keep track of what is moving and what is not, and greet shoppers at the courtesy desk. Shoppers check in and specify how many people they are shopping for and what items are of particular interest. Volunteers are needed from 11:30 – 2:30 on Saturdays and Sundays. You do not need to be there the entire time to volunteer – whatever time you have available within those timeframes is fine.

If you have further questions, you may either stop by the next time the Closet is open and have a look around or call Pattie Martin at 717-344-1347.

Thank you so much for all the donations you have been giving!

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## HOLY TRINITY HAS A NEW FACEBOOK PAGE!!

Please follow this link to the new page:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61563831542098&mibextid=LQQJ4d>

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### March 8-12 Calendar

<b>8</b>	MAR, SUN
●	Lent 3
●	9am Worship
●	10am Coffee Hour After Worship
●	10:15am Adult Forum
●	11am Lunch Bunch
<b>9</b>	MAR, MON
●	10am Women's prayer group
●	6pm Celebrate recov.
●	6:30pm Evangelism ZOOM
<b>10</b>	MAR, TUE
●	11am Bible Study
●	3:30pm Trini Mini
●	6pm Pickleball
●	7pm Finance Committee
●	8pm Executive Council
<b>11</b>	MAR, WED
●	6pm Handbell Choir
●	7:15pm Celebration Choir
●	7:30pm Evening Prayer
<b>12</b>	MAR, THU
●	3:30pm Trini Mini
●	7pm Thursday Worship
●	7:30pm Council Meeting

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

**March 8th Servers:**

**Council Team:** Bill Spitzer, Rob Gilbert

**Assisting Minister:** John Weiss

**Lector:** Lori Spitzer

**Acolytes:** Patrice Mull

**Ushers:** Dave Bowers, Bob & Ann Snader

Tom & Kitty Dickersheid

**Altar Guild:** Heather & Scott Zimmerman

Kathy Shaeffer

**Linens:** Lori Spitzer

**Flowers:** Jo Hurst

**AV:** John Fuehrer



**Office Hours March 9-13, 2025**

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**

**Office email: officeholytrinity@ephralutheran.org**

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

**PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS A NEW QR CODE...DO NOT TRY TO USE THE OLD ONE.**

**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 Elevator Improvement fund donation by using your Smart Phone and following the QR code.



*Thanks for reading! Have a great week ahead!*