

# HILLTOP HERALD

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

LINGLESTOWN, PA

Website: [www.churchonthehilltop.org](http://www.churchonthehilltop.org) Facebook: @Church.on.the.Hilltop.Lingelstown

## FEBRUARY 2020

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS for Lent - 2020

#### Ash Wednesday, Feb. 26

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 26. There will be two opportunities for worship on that day:

- ◆ 12:00PM - This abbreviated service (30-35 minutes) will include a rite for Confession, Imposition of Ashes, and Holy Communion.
- ◆ 7:00PM - The full service, including all of the above, and preaching.

#### Soup Suppers

##### Wednesdays, 6-6:45PM

A light supper of homemade soup and bread will be served each Wednesday during Lent (except on Ash Wednesday). While there is no "charge" for this meal, we suggest a donation of \$3.00/person. Watch your bulletin for the weekly soup. Join us!

*Following the soup suppers . . .*

#### Midweek Lenten Services

##### Wednesdays - 7:00PM

##### "At the Name of Jesus"

On Wednesday evenings beginning on March 4 and continuing through April 1, we will gather for Evening Prayer. This Lenten midweek service is based on the second reading for Passion Sunday, Philippians 2:5-11, points the assembly toward its annual celebration of the Sunday of the Passion and has the potential to clarify and reinforce the importance of reading the passion

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as the central proclamation for Passion Sunday.

- ◆ *Week one—March 4, 2020—*  
"Christ emptied and humbled himself"
- ◆ *Week two—March 11, 2020—*  
"Christ became obedient"
- ◆ *Week three—March 18, 2020—*  
"At the name of Jesus all knees shall bow"
- ◆ *Week four—March 25, 2020—*  
"Every tongue confesses Jesus"
- ◆ *Week five—April 1, 2020—*  
"Let the same mind be in you"

We will be gathering during Holy Week in April for evening worship services. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday will be a service of the Word with members of the church community preaching. If you are interested in preaching one of these nights, please let Pastor Kerns know as soon as possible. Maundy Thursday is April 9, Good Friday is April 10, and the Vigil of Easter is April 11. Plan to join us for our walk with our Lord to his death on the Cross and his Resurrection

### Financial Statements

End of the year (2019) financial statements are available on a table in the Great Room. These are both reminders of giving and important IRS documents. Be sure to pick yours up today.

**NOTE:** There are a few 2020 Offering Envelopes remaining in the Great Room. Even if you are part of the Simply Program, there are other envelopes included in the set. Don't forget to pick up yours today!

### Annual Meeting-Pt. 2 Sunday, February 2 (after the 10:30AM service)

The second part of our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 2, following the 10:30AM worship service. We will meet in the nave to review our ministry, programs and finances for the year 2019, and will begin to look ahead to 2020.

Copies of the Annual Reports are available on a table in our Great Room. Please do your best to read through these reports before the meeting.

The Annual Meeting is an important way to keep your finger on the "pulse" of our church family. Plan now on being with us!

### New Council Officers

The following new Council Officers were elected at the January meeting:

*President-Tony Wright*

*Vice President-Lynda Howard*

*Recording Sec.-Alexa Sharrar*

*Treasurer-Marilyn Book*

*Financial Secretary-John Potteiger*

When you see them (and any of these other members of Council: Melissa Gebhard, Karen Holmes, Ed Holtzman, Heather Iannantuono, Jenn Miller, Tina Morgan, Scott Sebastian, Brian Williams, & Scott Zumbum), be sure to thank them for their service to our church family.

### Snow Closings

Check for closings on TV Channels 15, 21 or 27, radio stations WHP 580, 97.3FM or 99.3FM,  
OR ...continued on page 4



## Breakfast Is Served! Sunday, February 16

Our Fellowship Team continues to put together a delicious breakfast (hot and cold items, breads, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, etc.) for all comers between 9:00—10:15AM on the third Sunday of each month, and all for a free will offering. Be sure to join us for great food, and lots of fellowship! Remember, half of the proceeds each month will go towards a local charity. This month will benefit the *Grantville Food Pantry*. You have generously supported our quest in the past; we are counting on you. Thank you.

**NOTE:** If you would like to donate your time or a hot or cold breakfast item to support the Fellowship Team, please sign up at [ttsu.me/dw5ubw](https://ttsu.me/dw5ubw) or in the Great Room.

## Thank You . . .

- ◆ “To My Church family, thank you so much for all the snacks that you sent my way! It’s always a great feeling to know I have so many people who care about me! Thanks again and God bless, Dan Getz”
- ◆ “I just wanted to let all members of my church know how appreciative I am of the snack boxes I have received throughout my three semesters at Penn State. Always nice to have people around me supporting my college efforts and the snack boxes go a long way in reminding myself I’m not the only one on this journey. Thank you for the words of encouragement and best wishes to all church members. Peace and Blessings, Brady Straub”
- ◆ “Dear Friends, on behalf of the Ecumenical Food Pantry, and those who benefit by your generosity, I would like to thank you for the generous contribution of \$125.00 we received in November. May God continue to richly bless you! Jacqueline Young, Corresponding Secretary”
- ◆ “The Linglestown Fire Company would like to thank you for your recent donation of \$200.00. Your donation means a lot to the members of the fire company. We appreciate your support. Members of Linglestown Fire Company #1”
- ◆ “Dear Christ Lutheran, thank you for your generous donation of \$206.00. Your continued support of Nutri-packs is very much appreciated. Pam Jones, Co-Director, Nutri-Packs Program CDSD”
- ◆ “To Pastor, children & congregation—Pastor, thank you for your visits, I look forward to them very much. Children, thank you for the wonderful cards I received with your thoughts and prayers. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone! Janet Farling”
- ◆ “Dear Christ Lutheran Church, thank you for your generous gift of \$100.00 to Evangelical Lutheran Church in



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- ◆ Church in America (ELCA) ministries through ELCA Good Gifts. Thank you for your leadership in the vital ministries that we do together—and for your very good gift! In God’s abundant grace, Rachel Wind, Executive for Development“
- ◆ “Dear Friends, thank you so much for your recent donation of \$324.75 to Bethesda Mission. Your gift is a wonderful blessing to many people in need this holiday season. The role that your generosity plays in this is greatly appreciated and we look forward to your continued support. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Scott Dunwoody, Executive Director”
- ◆ “Dear Church family, thank you so much for the lovely bouquet of flowers they are beautiful. I absolutely love them. I have so much to be thankful for, especially with your support. Joyce Miller”

## RECYCLED TEENS

This is our group for the senior members (55+) of our church family and surrounding community—they will resume meeting on *February 12*. The monthly meetings of this group begin with a hot lunch (at a low price of \$6.00), prepared by our Food Services Team, served at *Noon*, followed by a brief “business meeting.” After that, some kind of activity or presentation is scheduled. This month, our entertainment will be bingo.

If you have not yet made the meetings of this group part of your monthly schedule, make plans to do so now. Hope to see you on the 12th, at Noon!

## MARDI GRAS,

## FEBRUARY 23

Come one, come all to Mardi Gras! Mardi Gras will be held on February 23rd in Fellowship Hall directly following the 10:30AM church service. There will be games, food, burning of the ashes, and more! Bring along some friends to experience a fun time with our great church family. All are welcome!



## MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR UPDATE:

(1) We have remedied the sewer back up issue and have finished the necessary excavation and repairs to the broken fittings in the sewer line. We also now have the location of the septic tank and an idea where the drain field is located. The septic tank was pumped out and a raised cleanout was installed so that we do not have to excavate to pump the tank out later. (2) The Church Council has voted to accept a bid to replace the exterior doors outside of Fellowship Hall and a fire door on the north stair tower exit door and to repair the walls in the hallway. More information will be coming in the near future.

**LENT BEGINS ON ASH WEDNESDAY** which falls on February 26 this year. Ash Wednesday points us to the story why God's beloved Son gave up his life for us. On Ash Wednesday, we learn again how Adam and Eve disobeyed the Lord God in the Garden of Eden. God had created Adam "from the dust of the earth," according to the story. God had given Adam and Eve everything in the Garden to eat—except the fruit of the tree. "In the day you eat of that one, you will die," God warned them solemnly.

But they were tempted by Satan and they disobeyed. God confronted them in the Garden: "What have you done?" and reminded them of the consequences: "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." That's why many Christians observe Ash Wednesday by wearing ashes on their foreheads. That's also why Scripture readings for Ash Wednesday urge us to "return to the Lord, your God" by confessing our sins and seeking God's forgiveness and we sing, "Create in me a clean heart O God."

This created a question for consideration. What is the connection with creation as we think about Ash Wednesday? This brief article was part of one of our resources that we use for worship planning. *The dust of Ash Wednesday connects us not only to the soil but to the cosmos. Scientists estimate that forty thousand tons of cosmic dust fall to the earth each year. This dust is composed of the elemental building blocks of the material world. In 1990, Voyager 1 entered the fringes of our solar system and trained its lens back at Earth from a distance of four billion miles. Earth appears as a tiny point of light. Carl Sagan wrote, "Look again at that dot.... That's us. On it everyone you love, everyone you know, everyone you ever heard of, every human being who ever was, lived out their lives. The aggregate of our joy and suffering ...every king and peasant, every young couple in love, every mother and father, hopeful child,...every saint and sinner in the history of our species lived there—on a mote of dust suspended in a sunbeam. (Sunday and Seasons Year A 2020 page 111 Augsburg Fortress Minneapolis, MN)*

Lent is a time for us to remember that we are dust and to dust we shall return as we journey with our Lord to his cross. Dedicate yourselves to be part of the journey this Lent. Peace, Pastor Kerns

Continued from page 1... **Snow Closings**  
the web sites cbs21.com, cw15.com, or abc27.com. In addition, you may call the church office to check if a message has been left on our answering machine. Above all, use good judgment - we want you here, but most of all, we want you safe!



## Coming Soon...

### March 1

## "Lenten Campaign"

### In Support of the Ecumenical Food Pantry



During each of the past four years, the Church and Community Committee has held a "weekly focused" special campaign during the Lenten season to support the work of the Ecumenical Food Pantry at Messiah Lutheran Church. Each year your generosity has grown and we have been able to provide increased contributions to the Pantry! Again, in this fifth year we have identified a list of specific items which are always in need at the Pantry and selected one category to be our special focus for each of the six weeks; each of the five Sundays in Lent and Palm Sunday:

The suggested items for each week are as follows:

- ◆ **March 1** – Fruit juice (cans, bottles, or concentrate, as well as individual boxes) and canned fruit
- ◆ **March 8** – Cereal (boxes, bags, oatmeal packets, pop tarts, granola bars, etc.) and powdered milk
- ◆ **March 15** – Canned meats (tuna, chicken, turkey, spam, Vienna sausages, etc.)
- ◆ **March 22** – Dry pasta, spaghetti sauce, tomato sauce, and diced tomatoes, boxed macaroni and cheese
- ◆ **March 29** – Peanut butter, jelly, and saltine crackers
- ◆ **April 5** – Personal care products (shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, toilet tissue, sanitary products) and individual cakes of soaps (FYI...Ivory soap, can be used for personal care as well as to wash dishes)

Kindly place your donated items in the designated area located in the Great Room through *Sunday, April 5, 2020*. And as always, we extend our sincere thanks for your very generous support of families in need!

### After-Five Group

This month we will meet for lunch at Noon on *February 5* at Panera Bread on Jonestown Road. Join us for good food and fellowship. No reservations necessary. Just show up!

Hilltop Herald  
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**Annual Meeting-Pt. 2**  
**Sunday, February 2**  
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**Recycled Teens**  
**February 12**  
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**Fellowship Breakfast**  
**February 16**  
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**Ash Wednesday**  
**February 26**

## Youth Happenings —

Christ Lutheran Youth (Grades 7-12)

- ◆ February 9 - CLY Meeting, 6-8:30PM
- ◆ February 23 - CLY Meeting, 6-8:30PM

Upper Elementary Youth (Grades 4-6)

- ◆ Nothing currently scheduled for the month of March

## HOLY BAPTISM



Charlotte Anne Sharrar, infant daughter of Alexa (nee Maurer) and Greg Sharrar was baptized on January 19 at the 10:30AM service. May God guide her footsteps in her journey of service and of faith!

**NOTE: WE ARE IN NEED OF ONE MALE AND ONE FEMALE LAY VOTING MEMBERS**

for the Synod Assembly in June. This year we will elect the Synod Vice President (who is a lay person) and Synod Council members.

Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve your church. If you have an interest or any questions, please talk to the Pastor.

## Choirs, Choirs, Choirs



Both of our choirs are ready to resume rehearsals — our Handbell Choir will *resume* rehearsals on Tuesday, February 4 (Room 6—Bell Room at 6:45PM), and our Adult Vocal Choir will *resume* on Thursday, February 13 (Room 7—Choir Room at 7:00PM).

All voice parts are welcome. There is still plenty of time to include participation in one (or both) of these choirs in your personal ministry for the coming Lent/Easter season. Interested? Speak with our Director of Music, Gail Hrobuchak, or our Director of Handbells, Alan Wadsworth, if you have an interest or any questions.

## STONE CHIMES



This is a way for our children to be involved musically *without* even knowing how to read a note. Colleen Bartholomew directs the children, who meet to practice every Sunday morning at 10:00AM in Room 6. Please support this ministry.