

HILLTOP HERALD

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

LINGLESTOWN, PA

Website: www.churchohilltop.org Facebook : @Church.on.the.Hilltop.Lingletown

MARCH 2020

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.

Lenten Offering Boxes

Included in this mailing is your *Lenten Offering Box*. We encourage you to consider your stewardship as we move through the forty days of the Lenten season. We ask that you give as you are able to support the ministry of our church. Thank you.

Midweek Services

Wednesday 7:00PM

On Wednesday evenings through April 1, we will come together at 7:00PM for Evening Prayer. Our theme is: "At the Name of Jesus" and is based on Philippians 2:5-11. Please plan now on making these services a part of your observance of this holy season.

And... Soup Suppers

Wednesdays 6-6:45PM

We will be serving a light supper of homemade soup and bread each week. In March our "menu" will be:

- ◆ March 4-Chicken Noodle
- ◆ March 11-Baked Ham & Bean
- ◆ March 18-Vegetable Beef
- ◆ March 25-Baked Potato, Bacon & Ham

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This supper will be served in Fellowship Hall from 6-6:45PM, and will be followed by time for clean-up and for fellowship, with our evening's worship beginning promptly at 7:00PM. While there is no "charge" for this meal, there is a suggested donation of \$3.00/person to help cover expenses.

What is the Triduum?

The introduction for our worship bulletin for the Triduum or better known as the "Three Days" gives us a simple explanation. The booklet also introduces us to services for the three days. The following comes from our worship booklet for the Three Days. It may be something you have read before but a reminder can be helpful as we move forward.

"On several key days at the center of the church year worship takes a particular shape. These central days have come to be known as the Three Days, (Triduum), recalling Jesus' own words to his disciples that he would be handed over to death, and that "after three days he will rise again" (Mark 10:34). The Three Days encompass the time from Maundy Thursday evening through the evening of Easter Day. In particular, the services of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter unfold in a single movement, as the church each year makes the passage with Christ through death into life."

On Maundy Thursday, the congregation gathers in silence. It is the beginning of the Three Days during which we participate once again in the saving power of Jesus' passing over from death into life. At the heart of the Maundy Thursday

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liturgy is Jesus' commandment to love one another. (The title Maundy comes from mandatum which means "commandment".)

On this night in which Jesus was handed over to death, we also gather around the Lord's Supper which he instituted this evening. We remember Jesus' sacrifice of his life, even as we are called to offer ourselves in love for the life of the world. At the service's conclusion, the altar area is stripped of furnishings as a sign of Jesus' abandonment.

The Good Friday Service continues the journey through the Three Days of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection. At the heart of this service is the passion reading according to John, which celebrates Christ's victory on the cross. As Jesus draws all people to himself, we pray for the whole world for which Christ died. Finally, we honor the cross as the sign of forgiveness, healing and salvation. With all God's people we are invited to bow before this mystery of faith. Christ has died, so that we may live.

On the night before Easter Day, The Easter Vigil, Christians around the world gather to celebrate Christ's passage from death to life. The service includes strong signs: new fire in darkness, light spreading from the light of Christ, the water and Word of baptism, the first resurrection meal. And powerful words: the great saving stories of Hebrew Scriptures and the first Easter Gospel. We keep this wondrous night in the spirit of vigil, our lamps lit, awaiting Christ's coming both now and at the end of time. Alleluia! Christ is risen! And Christ will

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It's Here...

“The 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!



ADULT FORUM

The Adult Forum continues to meet Sunday mornings between the worship services in the Youth Room (#10) on the lower level. Please come and join us as we will be exploring Adam Hamilton's video journey entitled “24 Hours That Changed the World.” In this video series, Hamilton guides us, step by step, through the last days of Jesus' life. Hamilton takes

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us to visit the sites where those events took place. We do not meet on the third Sunday and encourage everyone to join us for breakfast in Fellowship Hall.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY

NOTE: WE ARE STILL IN NEED OF A LAY FEMALE VOTING MEMBER for the Synod Assembly being held at *Messiah College on June 6*. Tony Wright has agreed to be our lay male voting member. We will be electing the Synod Vice President (who is a lay person) and Synod Council members.

The Assembly will be held on *Saturday, June 6*, at Messiah College. There will also be two offerings of edification on *May 16* at St. Peter Lutheran Church, Neffsville, in Lancaster County and on *May 30* at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in York. We will choose one of these to attend, if you are able. If you have any questions, please speak to Pastor Kerns.

After-Five Group

This month we will meet for lunch at Noon on *March 4* at Panera Bread on Jonestown Road. Join us, no reservations necessary. Just show up!

REMINDER—

SCHEDULING FOR THE HILLTOP HERALD

If you know you will not be available for a particular Sunday, please contact the office 717-545-4211 and leave a message, send an email to secretary@churchonthehilltop.org, or you may even write a note on the back of your Sunday attendance form before the 15th of the preceding month. We will do our best not to schedule you for any duties in the following month.

Also...Be sure to notify the office of any changes in your address, telephone number or email address. We can only keep you informed if we have your current information. Thank you!

FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

This is Black History Month and there is an important historical connection between Gettysburg Seminary, now part of United Lutheran Seminary, where Alexander Payne, one of the first African Americans, as far as it is known, attended a Lutheran Seminary and the first to attend Gettysburg Seminary (1835-1837). Payne went on to be an ordained Bishop in the AME Church. AME students still attend ULS campuses.

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come again.

We are all invited to take part for our Lenten journey beginning with Ash Wednesday and concluding at the Easter Vigil and Easter morning. Please don't take these services for granted and come and join the journey as we gather in our Lord's name. It may be a challenge to attend these services, but we are also challenged to take part in them as part of our Lenten discipline and our Easter Celebration. Hope to see you all join us on our journey through Lent and the "Three Days."

Peace, Pastor Kerns

Maintenance Update—

The chair of the Maintenance and Repair Committee met with the Finance Committee at their last meeting to discuss maintenance and upgrades for our facility. We are going to seek some bids for the work to be completed and will bring these upgrades to the congregation for consideration when the bids have been received. We will be asking the congregation to assist in the final plans and the costs of the upgrades. There is going to be a need to raise the funds for these upgrades as well as considering using some of our reserves. There is always the opportunity to contribute to the Capital Improvement Fund to help offset the costs of ongoing projects and upcoming projects. We hope you will prayerfully consider these needs.

CAN YOU HELP?

We are in need of a few volunteers to help out around the church.



We could use a few more **Sunday School Teachers**. This would help with the scheduling and would mean that folks would not have to teach as often. So please consider helping out and contact Alissa Parker if you are interested in helping out.

The **Bell Choir and Tone Chimes** could use a few more hands at this time as well. If you can count you can play the bells, according to the directors. You don't have to have an intensive music background and you can enjoy the comradery of either group. If interested or if you have any questions, please speak with Alan Wadsworth (Handbells) or Colleen Bartholomew (Tone Chimes)

The **Vocal Choir** is back practicing and if you would like to join them they would appreciate a few more voices as well. Please speak with Gail Hrobuchak.

Breakfast Is Served! Sunday, March 15 9:00AM-10:15AM

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 freewill 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, half of our free will offering will be donated to the Nutri-Packs Program—a service that provides healthy food for elementary school-age children on weekends and currently serves over 500 families locally.

Join us on March 15 or you can make a donation anytime during the month of March. You may place your check (payable to "Christ Lutheran Church") in the offering plate noted "Nutri-Packs Program" on the envelope...and please, give generously. Thank you.

NOTE: If you would like to donate a hot or cold breakfast item, or your time, to support the Fellowship Team, please sign-up in the Great Room or online at www.timetosignup.com/ChristLutheran.

DID YOU KNOW...

Our Church & Community Group collects cancelled postage stamps for the **"Stamps for the Wounded Warriors"** program, which distributes stamps to hospitalized servicemen and women for use in stamp collecting therapy sessions. If you would like to contribute to this worthy cause, tear off the cancelled postage stamp (if you are able, please allow a 1/4 to 1/2 inch border around the stamp) and place in the box on the bottom shelf of the table in the Great Room.



Also, aluminum can pull tabs are collected for the **Ronald McDonald House** in Hershey, which are subsequently redeemed for cash to cover operating costs. If you would like to contribute to this worthy cause, bring in your aluminum pull tabs and place in the large plastic container, marked specifically for the tabs, located on the same bottom shelf of the table in the Great Room near the box for the stamps.

It may seem like a little thing to do, but you can help one or both of these great organizations! Won't you help us to help them?

Youth Happenings —

Christ Lutheran Youth (CLY/Grades 7-12)

- ◆ March 8 - Meeting/Movie w/a message, 6-8:30PM
Retreat forms and checks (\$100) due to Sean

Upper Elementary Youth (UEYG/Grades 4-6)

- ◆ March 8 - Game Day! (following 10:30AM service)

Congratulations!

Brooke & Michael Elser on the birth of their son, Jacob Michael, on February 9. His vital statistics: 5lbs., 13oz., & 16 1/2 inches. Jacob's proud grandparents are Kathy & Carl Elser.



Baptized . . .

Mila Zoe Nieves Andrades, daughter of Billy Felo & Enid Nieves (also granddaughter of Charyl Felo and great granddaughter of Angenette Miller) was baptized on February 16 in the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. Welcome to the Lord's family!



Rest Eternal Grant Her, O Lord . .

Janet L. Farling, a member of our church family died on January 20. Funeral services were held on January 24 at the Hoover Funeral Home with Pastor Kerns officiating. Please remember her family, and all those who mourn in your prayers.

. . .and Let Light Perpetual Shine Upon Her

Easter Flowers



You can sponsor flowers at a cost of only \$13.00 in memory or in honor of someone or a special event. A reminder that the deadline for ordering flowers for our Easter Chancel Garden is Monday, April 6. Order forms will also be available in the Great Room and/or weekly Sunday bulletins.

Thank You . . .

- ◆ "Dear Church Family, thank you for thinking of me while attending college. I really appreciated the care package with all the treats inside. It is thoughtful especially over these stressful times with my schoolwork. It is comforting to know that my church is thinking about me and praying for me. Thank you again and God bless. Braden Stehr"



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- ◆ "A shout out to Tim Kimberlin who has again donated dozens of fresh eggs for our Fellowship breakfasts! We at Christ Lutheran Church thank you!"
- ◆ "Dear Sisters and Brothers, it was a busy, wonderful holiday season at CCU! Your donation is part of this tremendous community support that has a tangible impact! Thank you to your church family for supporting the CCU Ministries Heating Angels with your check in the amount of \$2,280. Thank you, also for being there for our neighbors in need, Steve Schwartz, Director of Development"
- ◆ "Christ Lutheran Church, thank you for your \$571.00 donation to the Grantville Area Food Pantry. All of the donations received are very much needed and we appreciate that you thought about us in your time of giving. Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we continue to serve those in need in the Grantville community and the wider surrounding areas. Once again, thank you, for taking part in this important mission. Sincerely, The Rev George Robertson, Founder & Director; & Karen Keaton, Operations Team Member
- ◆ "Dear Friends, on behalf of the Ecumenical Food Pantry, and those who benefit by your generosity, I would like to thank you for your generous contribution of \$500 we received in December. Sincerely, Jacqueline Young, Corresponding Secretary."
- ◆ "Dear Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, thank you for your charitable contribution of \$537.50 in December. Pastor Jamie Wilson at Bethany Church of the Nazarene"
- ◆ "Dear Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Pastor Kirk, on behalf of all of us here at Family Promise we thank you for your donation of \$274.00 for our Club 24/7 Appeal. Your support is greatly appreciated and imperative to the success of our organization. We are excited for the lives our organization will impact in 2020 and that you will be a part of it. Family Promise could not do what it does without the support of a caring and invested community. Thank you again for your support. Many blessings and thanks, Angela Mountz, Executive Director"

REMEMBER —



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
TIME BEGINS ON
SUNDAY, MARCH 8**