

The Bell



Bergstrasse Evangelical Lutheran Church

March 2020



LENTEN SERVICES

Join us this year as together we enter the Lenten season beginning on Ash Wednesday and then worshipping together with our brothers and sisters in the North Lancaster Cluster.

This year's theme will be "The Stories of Discipleship". We will be referencing the book of Acts for our discipleship stories. The offering from the cluster services will be sent to Lutheran World Relief Disaster Fund. Refreshments will follow the cluster services. **The services will begin at 7:00 pm.** If there is a question about the service because of the weather, please contact the host church after 10 am on the day of the service and information will be provided.

Ash Wednesday, Feb. 26th at Bergstrasse

March 4th- The service will be at **Faith United, Denver** with Pastor Jim Goodyear (Bergstrasse, Ephrata) preaching on Pentecost from Acts 2:1-21.

March 11th- The service will be at **Bergstrasse, Ephrata** with Pastor Marissa Becklin (Faith United, Denver) preaching on Faithful Stephen from Acts 6:1-15.

March 18th- The service will be at **St. John Center, East Earl** with Pastor Sandy Gideon (St. Paul's, Adamstown) preaching on Saul's Conversion from Acts 9:1-22.

March 25th - The service will be at **Muddy Creek, Denver** with Pastor Tom Darr (St. John's Center, East Earl) preaching on Peter's Vision from Acts 10:1-23.

April 1st - The service will be at **St. Paul's Lutheran, Adamstown** with Pastor Tim Craven (Mellingers, Schoeneck) preaching on the Council of Jerusalem from Acts 15:1-21

NO HOLY WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Maundy Thursday, April 9th at individual congregations

Good Friday, April 10th at Individual congregations

Included in the series is the Ascension Day service of Holy Communion which will be held Thursday evening May 21st at 7:00 at Swamp Lutheran Church in Reinholds with Pastor Schwabe-Fry (Muddy Creek, Denver).





From the Pastor's Desk

Historically, Lent was the time to 'give up something' of meaning. Then on Easter Sunday you'd joyously welcome back into your life what was given up (chocolate was always a favorite)! Over the years, I've not included this practice in my Lenten discipline. I find it more meaningful to engage more fully in faith by serving others so that through my 'death and resurrection' experiences I might change other lives. Early followers of the "Jesus Way" used lent to teach others about faith. Teachers and learners spent countless hours reflecting and engaging the message of God's love for all people, days on end. At the Easter Vigil (the Saturday night before the Resurrection Day) the learners would be baptized and welcomed into the Church. It was a time for the Church to celebrate these new disciples of Jesus!

Part of my Lenten discipline this year includes time to be challenged by the life and ministry of Jesus more fully. In recent months, I've been exposed to different readings about the Church and its role in the world. I sense Church has lost its commitment to Jesus. I wonder if the Church has lost its focus as Jesus followers of "The Way"? Has the church been afraid to speak out in the name of Jesus? I fear we've made Jesus in the image of a safe savior who makes us feel good, rather than the Jesus of scripture that challenges followers to be engaged in the daily lives of people.

As part of your Lenten discipline, I challenge you to think outside the box. Check out opportunities that will stretch your comfort zone. Read a book that offers new insights. Participate in active conversations around topics that affect your neighborhood. Serve others in a new and different way. Looking for someone to journey with you? Let me know, Jesus followers always work in pairs!

Pastor Jim



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Worship - 10:00 a.m.

The Rev. James Goodyear, Pastor
717-676-3954 (cell)

Jean Wilhelm, newsletter editor

Due date for the **April** newsletter is
March 15.



March 17, 2020
Union Barrel Works, Reamstown
Arrive for dinner around 6:00 PM
Discussion begins around 6:45 PM

Where questions of faith and life are shared

**Please contact Bergstrasse office, 717-733-7808, bergluth@dejazzd.com or sign up on the bulletin board to secure dinner reservations before March 13.*

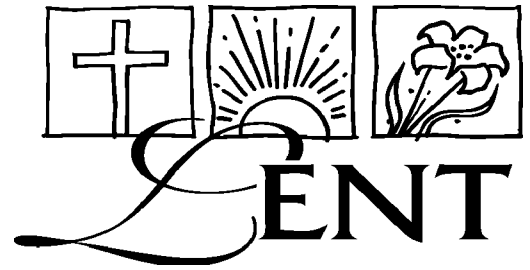
Watch worship bulletin or join Facebook Group "God on Tap, Ephrata" for topic!

The Season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, February 26, ending on Holy Thursday, April 9 when we remember the evening Jesus gathered his disciples around a table offering a new commandment – That you love one another.

Worship during Lent begins on Ash Wednesday Service February 26, 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. As part of our 2020 Lenten Journey, together we will look at the Six Marks of Discipleship. These spiritual practices will accompany us as we look into our hearts for the meaning of God's love for each of us.

The Six Marks of Discipleship include:

- Sunday March 1 – Prayer
- Sunday March 8 – Study Scripture
- Sunday March 15 – Worship
- Sunday March 22 – Celebrate Generosity
- Sunday March 29 – Serve Neighbor



Game Night is Back!
Friday, March 13
6:00 PM
At Pastor Jim's home
Time to play Ephrataopoly

Bring your favorite board game,
a snack to share and a friend!

**Three Score and
Ten Banquet at
Holy Trinity,
Ephrata
April 19, 12:15 PM**

Holy Trinity is inviting all Bergstrasse members 70 years old and older to join them at their banquet. An invitation will be mailed to you by Holy Trinity.

Let the office know if you did not receive an invitation and want to attend.



**Egg Hunt returns to the
East Ephrata Hill!!!**

Yes, Bergstrasse Church will host a Community Egg Hunt on Saturday April 4 for children ages 3 to 10. Details are still being worked out, you can begin to spread the word!

Watch for ways you can help to make this a welcoming event.



Fellowship

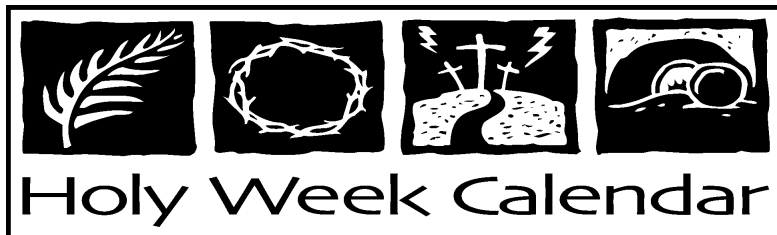
Bergstrasse Lutheran Church Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Salem Lutheran Church

Representatives from all three Ephrata area congregations are committed to getting to know each other through fellowship events! Imagine the impact together we can have in our local community as we express love in all we do. Here is a snapshot of the activities currently being planned:

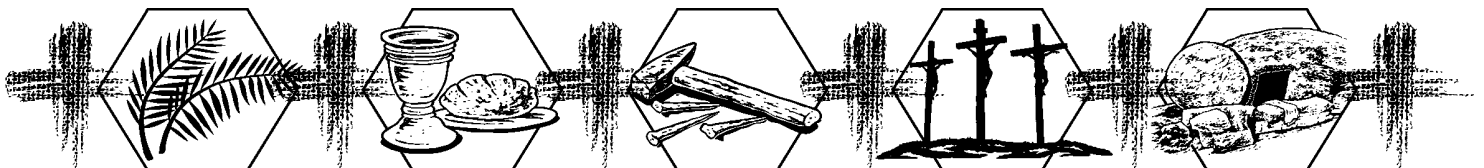
- June 14 – Picnic at Grater Park -- worship, picnic meal and games
- A “Spaghetti Miracle” fundraiser dinner at Bergstrasse Church
- October 25 - “Trunk or Treat” a safe Halloween activity at Salem Church
- Bus Trip to Winterthur, May 13 – contact Salem Church
- Ephrata Fair Parking – combined efforts!
- Participating in Mission Trips coordinated through Pastor Beard

Events and activities in progress:

- Last Saturday of month – Men’s Breakfast at Udder Choice, 9 AM
- Third Tuesday of month – God on Tap, Union Barrel Restaurant
- Luther Lunch Ladies – widows building community, contact Holy Trinity Church



- Saturday April 4 - Community Egg Hunt at Bergstrasse Church
- Palm Sunday April 5 - begin with procession
- Holy Thursday April 9 - begin with Covered Dish Supper at 6pm
- Good Friday April 10 - 3:00 pm at Bergstrasse AND 7:30 pm at Holy Trinity
Both services Pr. Jim preaching, Pr. Mark as liturgist
- Easter Sunday - 6:15 am Community Sunrise at Bergstrasse Cemetery, Pr. Mark Luscombe preaching, breakfast to follow; 10:00 am Resurrection Worship



Managing Motherhood

is a mercy ministry of Salem Church (Ephrata). This ministry's aim is to assist women, mothers and young children with baby care supplies; hygiene supplies, feminine hygiene supplies, children's books, catechisms and baptism information. Salemephrata.org

On Sunday March 29, we welcome representatives from Salem Church to share with us information about Managing Motherhood, including opportunities to be a part of this local mission.



**Messiah College Concert Choir
Sunday, March 22
4:00 PM
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
167 E. Main St., Ephrata**

**Amy Yovanovich
Mezzo-soprano soloist
Sunday, March 29
3:00 PM
Jerusalem Lutheran Church
36 Church St., Rothsville**

Bangladeshi Meal & Fundraiser Saturday, March 14, 5:30 PM

to support the work of Richard Sarker in his native land. Yes, the school is complete, and a residence for the community pastor is ready, but the work of keeping everything in order continues. Richard and his team are looking at other possibilities to continue to show love in Shambhunganj, Bangladesh.

The annual Meal & Fundraiser is set for *Saturday March 14, 5:30 pm at Akron Mennonite Church located at 1311 Diamond Street.*

RSVP your intention to attend to: Richard at 717-271-1585 or email rassar47@hotmail.com. Please make any donation checks payable to Conscience International. Bergstrasse Church continues to receive your donations also.



- Thank you from the Salvation Army, they reported the proceeds from the Red Kettle Campaign assisted 3,246 individuals from over 882 families. "God bless you as you offer heart to God and hand to man. We sincerely appreciate your valuable support."
- Thank you from EASS for the donation. It will help us to supply food, clothing and transportation to those in need in the Ephrata-Cocalico area.
- Thank you from Lutheran World Relief for the \$251 donation to the Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund.
- To the more than 175 persons of the Mennonite community who attended a concert at Bergstrasse February 2.
- For your presence at the Installation Service for Pastor Mark Luscombe at Holy Trinity Church on February 9.
- To the group of ten men who leveled out the holes created when tree stumps were removed.
- For Kelly Ernst Warner and her work with the North Lancaster Hub, a ministry for the people of Ephrata and Cocalico areas experiencing issues of poverty.
- To the group of dedicated quilters who gather monthly to create quilts for distribution around the world through Lutheran World Relief.
- For your generous contributions of time, talents and financial resources.
- Is there something that you are thankful for you'd like to share? Expressing gratitude is a spiritual practice of the Christian community. When you recognize gratitude in your life, it empowers you to share as you are able. May you experience love through gratitude every day!

Worship participants for March

March	1	8	15	22	29
Greeter	Kathy Buck	Sandy Lausch	Gladys Horvath and Nevin Rutt	Deb Burkholder	Ben and Polly Gunzenhauser
Lector	Bonnie Grater	Peggy Rushton -Witmyer	Lisa Conway	Curt Hare	Cleone Rudisill
Counters	Ben and Polly Gunzenhauser	Ben and Polly Gunzenhauser	Ben and Polly Gunzenhauser	Cathy Feather Lisa Conway	Cathy Feather Lisa Conway
Flower Sponsors			Peggy Rushton- Witmyer		
Bulletin Sponsors					

	Ushers	Communion Ushers March 1	Altar Guild
March	Jane Pittman Darlene Kreider	Lisa Conway Ben Gunzenhauser	Jane Pittman

Council highlights February 10, 2020

Treasurer Lynn Hibshman reported income in January was \$10,359.81, expenses were \$12,095.63, leaving a deficit of \$1,735.82.

Council approved tentative times for Holy Week services, including Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. Final times will be announced next month. Council also approved inviting Holy Trinity, Salem and our two neighbor churches to attend the Sunrise service on Easter Sunday.

Bonnie Grater, Jane Pittman and Cathy Feather are members of the Worship and Music Leadership Team.

Council approved the bid of Mark Federer of Lititz of \$816.85 to re-line and repair the chimney in the parsonage. The funds for this will be taken from the Improvement Fund.

Council also approved Steve Smith's bid of \$983 to install four air conditioners in the downstairs rooms occupied by Penn DOT, as agreed in our original agreement with them.

Council also approved the request of Tom Perry, owner of Beam's Music Store, to use our facilities for guitar lessons Wednesday evenings from 5-8 PM. Remuneration will depend on the number of students.

You are invited Salem Lutheran Church, Ephrata

Lenten Retreat at Salem Lutheran Church, Ephrata on Saturday, March 7, 9 AM to 1 PM. Professor Laurie Mellinger, professor of Christian Spirituality at Evangelical Seminary, Myerstown will lead the retreat, "Prayer in Lent". Lunch is included. RSVP to Salem Lutheran Church by March 1, 717-733-6646 or office@salemephrata.org.

Children's Lent Event: The Journey to Easter at Salem Lutheran Church, Ephrata on Saturday, March 7, 10 AM—12:30 PM for ages 3-10. Games, stories, songs and crafts. Lunch is included. Register by March 1 at Salem Lutheran Church, 717-733-6646 or office@salemephrata.org.

Salem Lutheran Church, Ephrata is hosting a bus trip to the Brandywine Valley on Wed., May 13. The trip includes a tour of Henry du Pont's home Winterthur, lunch at Brandywine Prime and a wine tasting at Chaddsford Winery. Reservations are due April 7. Call Stephanie Frymyer at 717-733-6057. Registration forms are available on the bulletin board.

Salem Lutheran Preschool, 1331 W. Main St., Ephrata, is now taking registrations for fall 2020. The 3 year old class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 to 11:30. The 4 year old class meets Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9:00 to 11:30.

For more information, contact Salem's church office at 717-733-6646 or email office@salemephrata.org.



*In Our Thoughts
& Prayers*



Kim Davies (friend of
Sandy Lausch),
Ken Garner, Lisa Rudisill
(Cleone's daughter-in-law),
Beth Weaver



Congratulations to those with
March birthdays:

19 Kathryn Sweigart
21 Jaidyn Feather
22 Cleone Rudisill
26 Bryan Redcay



**THRIVENT
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Connecting faith & finances for good

Are you a Thrivent Member?

Did you know you can support mission projects by applying for an Action Team? When your application to make a difference is approved, you will receive \$250 of 'seed money' to make your mission project a reality. Thrivent members can apply for two Action Teams per calendar year. Go to your online Thrivent account for details and an application.

For the Safety and Security of all who enter

We are living in a time when fear seems to be the operating factor whenever we engage with other people. At Bergstrasse, we are taking steps to ensure that we have appropriate measures in place to keep all people safe and secure. As these measures are worked out, we will do our best to inform you. It is everyone's responsibility to be aware of your surroundings. If something looks out of place, tell someone. Your council, and pastor will do our best to make appropriate changes.

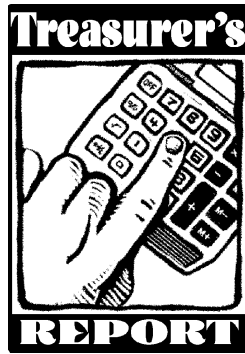
Two measures currently in place:

1. In the event of an evacuation from Bergstrasse Church, move as quickly as possible to either the Parsonage or Sexton House. Once there, you will receive further instructions from church leadership, the police, or other safety authorities.
2. When using our building, it is helpful to have a person(s) in the entrance area for welcoming and to also give direction as necessary. Once the meeting or worship has begun, it is suggested to lock the doors. In the case of worship, those persons arriving late will be directed to enter through the original doors. Why are we doing this? It has been our practice to close the door to the sanctuary for worship. If the glass doors remain unlocked, anyone can enter, and move about freely without even entering the sanctuary! By entering the original entrance, persons are immediately faced with seeing someone. As for meetings or rehearsals, once everyone has arrived that you are expecting, please lock the doors. This is especially important if you are using the lower West door from the lower parking lot.

We appreciate your cooperation in these matters so that everyone feels safe when using our facility. Be aware of your surroundings and respond appropriately. The telephone in the lobby is for your use to notify police or contact 911.

Balance as of 1/31/20

General Fund	\$ 824.72
Improvement Fund	\$ 4,393.61
Mission Plus	\$77,727.97
Mission Plus 2	\$ 2,759.77
Memorial Fund	\$ 9,503.68



Food bank

Please bring the following food items during March:

- 1 toilet paper, dish soap, laundry soap, bath soap
- 8 cake mixes, cookie mixes, pancake syrup
- pancake mixes (preferably made with water)
- 15 canned fruits and vegetables, fruit juices
- 22 pasta and sauce, macaroni and cheese
- 29 diapers, baby wipes, baby soap/shampoo



**Ephrata Lutheran Men's Breakfast
Saturday March 28, 9 AM
Udder Choice Restaurant, Ephrata**

Please contact Bergstrasse to confirm your attendance before March 22.

Sign up in the fellowship hall, email bergluth@dejazzd.com or call 717-733-7808.

Easter Flowers

Name _____

In honor / thanks / memory of _____

_____ Lily \$7.25 \$ _____

_____ Tulip \$5.45 \$ _____

_____ Daffodil \$5.40 \$ _____

Total \$ _____



Please return form by March 8, 2020.