



Trinity Memorial Church
 444 Pennsylvania Avenue West
 Warren, PA 16365-2238
 Email: trinity@trinitywarren.org
 Web: trinitywarren.org
 814-723-9360 (office)
 The Rev. Matthew R. Scott, Vicar
 msrev2007@gmail.com (email)

Newsletter

Volume 23, Issue 1, March/April 2014

Our Annual Meeting held on January 26th highlighted both the many works and experiences of 2013 while also pointing the way toward what is in store for us in 2014. Be sure to get a copy of the annual report to see the thorough list of 2013 Trinity experiences put together by our former Senior Warden Addy Landrio and to read my written report outlining our objectives for 2014. Chief among that work is our focus on how we pursue our mission statement's vision of Trinity "celebrating God through enriching worship". If you have not yet found a way to engage in this, please engage with your fellow Trinity members in the many Sunday morning experiences, Wednesday night educational classes, and upcoming small group discussions around our worship.

Snow and rain may be falling and luring us to stay home and stay warm, but the abounding life at Trinity keeps beckoning us. We are in the midst of the Epiphany Season, where we celebrate how Christ's light is being made known to the world. We celebrate his teachings, his miracles, and his Church as it proceeds forth bearing his ministry into the world. For March and April, Trinity looks forward to the celebra-

tions of Lent and Easter, the great story of Christ's passion and resurrection and all that promises for us and for all of creation.

In the midst of the Christ-centered story that the church celebrates, Trinity will experience many things in our life together. Ash Wednesday on March 5th and its preparatory feast Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday will open our time together. Trinity and St. Francis' Lenten program and the Warren City ecumenical services will anchor our Lenten observance. Each Sunday after church we will be reviewing our brackets for the 2014 edition of Lent Madness. Our third Sunday morning worship experiment will begin March 30th, sure to continue our pattern of discovering greater depth and joy in our worship together. Holy Week will begin with Palm Sunday on April 13 and we will walk together to the Cross on Good Friday, April 18th and celebrate with joy on Easter Sunday, April 20th. And in the midst of Holy Week we will complete this year's Holiday Hot Meals outreach project, too!

The next two months and the rest of this year promise to bring much to Trinity, as God continues to point the way for us in pursuing Jesus' ministry for us. Through liturgy, worship, education experiences, outreach projects, and the vital life of prayer Trinity joyously celebrates the life of God that joins with us whenever we come together as his Church. Read more inside about the many parts of Christ's life happening at Trinity.

Blessings,

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CELEBRATE

Sunday Worship Experiments

As you read this, Trinity is already in the midst of our second worship experiment. Running from February 9 to March 9 during the Epiphany season, our worship on Sunday has been re-shaped to draw our attention to the Prayers of the People and the Peace. Prayers of the People each week will use different patterns so that we can learn more about our role in interceding with God for the church and for the world. We are not just blandly reciting texts during this vital time in our Sunday morning pattern of worship; we are actively engaging with the Spirit in connecting the world and God together. Come try new and different ways of doing that with us.

Likewise, the exchange of the Peace is an ancient part of our worship that stretches back to the New Testament's teachings of how the Body of Christ is to act together. By moving it into the midst of our celebration of the Eucharist, we can meditate these four weeks on how, by exchanging God's peace, we are preparing the whole community to receive the Holy Sacrament together. One could consider Christ's teaching that says we are first to seek reconciliation with one another before approaching God's altar (Matt 5:24). The purpose of the peace may mean we are to find the person with whom you need to build a better relationship rather than first seeking your close friend.

The Peace is a formal, liturgical action that makes that desire more real and present in our worship. It is an formal act of building up the community of God in the same way that receiving the Eucharist is a formal act of receiving Christ's presence into one's life.

More experiments are being sketched out for the next seasons of the church year. If you have an idea or want to see a part of our worship highlighted, please see Father Matthew!

Mardi Gras Dinner - Tuesday, March 4th



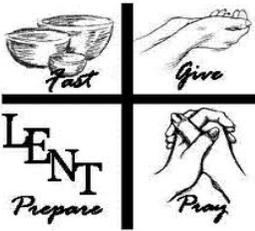
Gathering beginning at 5:30. Dinner starts at 6.

Bead Raffle Drawings at 7PM.

Also, a King Cake contest is open to anyone willing to try their hand at creating this traditional seasonal delicacy. Pick a recipe from the internet and bring your creation. Come enjoy good music and traditional pancakes and sausage to celebrate the last feast before Lent!



*Holy Eucharist and
Imposition of Ashes
12 PM & 5:30 PM*



Lenten Program 2014 – “Desert Spaces” by Joan Chittister

Joan Chittister, member of the Benedictine Sisters of Erie, is a known worldwide for her spiritual writings and thorough commentaries on the Rule of Saint Benedict. This year she has provided a small book of weekly reflections, prayers, and selected comments from ancient spiritual masters to help ground us in our Lenten journey. We will be reflecting each week on the topics of her book and offering space for all of us to pursue, as she says “becom(ing) aware of the spiritual significance of our own small lives in the midst of a global world”.

Each meeting will take place on the Wednesdays of Lent, starting at 6:30PM. We will rotate between Trinity and St. Francis locations, starting at Trinity on March 12th. Please thank Diane Brant for sponsoring our Lenten program through the purchase of 30 books!

GROW

Schedule for the Ecumenical Lent Services in Warren City

We will continue to join with the Lutheran, Roman Catholic, and Presbyterian churches of Warren City this year in observing Lent through Tuesday Evening worship services. Below is the schedule. All services start at 7PM and will be followed by fellowship time. Our discussion during fellowship will be based on and hand-out entitled “Disciples Teaching Disciples: A Lenten Discipline”.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Preacher</u>
March 11	First Presbyterian, 300 Market Street	Pastor David Blank
March 18	First Lutheran, 109 W. Third Avenue	Fr. Rich Toohey
March 25	St. Joseph RC, 600 PA Avenue West	Fr. Matthew Scott
April 1	St. Paul’s Lutheran, 306 Conewango Avenue	Pastor George Johnson
April 8	Trinity Episcopal , 444 PA Avenue West	Pastor Jeff Ewing

And another Lenten thing: Lent Madness 2014

You may not have caught Father Matthew’s facebook posts last Lent, but he enjoys a little ‘spirited’ competition each year called Lent Madness. Styled after the college basketball March Madness, Lent Madness features a field of Saints pitted against one another, where daily voting determines who advances all the way to the Golden Halo. Learn more at www.LentMadness.org.

It is slightly tongue-in-cheek, which is in line with the generation of priests and lay people who run the project each year. It is also a chance for us to reflect on the lives of the saints of God as we make our Lenten Journey each year. Each Sunday we will offer a reflection after worship about a match-up in the coming week and we will track the progress of our brackets. You can get your free guide to Lent Madness and a blank bracket at Trinity.

Oh, and although wagering is a common attribute of the March style Madness, we’ll be keeping it friendly for Lent. Just bragging rights if you pick the best bracket at Trinity!

Holy Week Schedule



Palm Sunday, April 13th 9:30AM Service

Holy Wednesday, April 16th

5:30 PM Contemplative Eucharist

Maundy Thursday, April 17th

7 PM Ecumenical service at First Lutheran Church in Warren, with First Presbyterian also participating.



Good Friday, April 18th

12 Noon Stations of the Cross

7 PM Good Friday Office

Easter Vigil, April 19th

8 PM The first great feast of Easter!

Easter Sunday, April 20th

9:30AM Worship

Good Friday Offering

Since 1922, Episcopalians have supported the ministries of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East through Good Friday Offerings. Through the work of the Episcopal dioceses in the Middle East, Christians maintain a peacemaking and stabilizing presence in the region, serving their neighbors regardless of faith background.

Envelopes will be available in the narthex throughout Lent.

EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to contribute towards Easter Flowers, please fill out the form below and return it with your contribution. You may place it in the offering plate on any Sunday or return by mail **by Monday, April 7.**

In Memory of _____

In Honor of: _____

In Thanksgiving for: _____

Given By: _____

Easter Meals

Join us on Saturday morning, April 19 as members of Trinity and First Lutheran Church prepare and deliver hot meals to homebound in Warren and Forest Counties. Two shifts are set up for volunteers to cook, prepare and serve as well volunteers to deliver and donate cupcakes. All cupcakes should be delivered to First Lutheran on Thursday, April 17th. Please sign up in the narthex. Any questions, please see Addy Landrio or Father Matthew.

SERVE

Diapers and Things collection drive:

Diapers and Such Ministry is a new ministry aimed at helping to fill a need for diapers, feminine hygiene items and toilet paper in our community. Half of the items will be going to A Safe Place for use in their shelter. Remaining items will be available for distribution through Trinity. People who are in government programs such as WIC or on Food stamps can not use these benefits to purchase the items being collected.



If you would like to help fill this need, please bring:

- Baby Items: disposable diapers (all sizes), baby wipes, diaper rash cream
- Feminine hygiene items: Pads (regular, heavy and overnight)
- Toilet paper: single rolls, multi-packs
- Monetary donations can be made directly to the church, just note that it is for "Diapers and Such Ministry"
- Manufacturer coupons for items being collected

A list will be placed in the Narthex of needed items, and will be updated to reflect specific needs as items are collected to try and keep a balance of inventory.

Please see Jenn Campbell or Diane Brant for more information and to offer your help.



Thanks to *Addy & Gary Landrio* for hosting coffee hour in January and to *Mary Lou & Tom Watt, Addy & Gary Landrio* and *Lynda & Jim McCollough* for hosting in February.

Check out the table in the narthex for open Sundays for your opportunity to serve in this fellowship ministry.

Treasurer's Report—Operating Fund to January 31, 2014

Beginning Balance	25,650		
	Actual to 1/31/14	Budget to 1/31/14	2014 Budget
Member Pledges	\$8,139	\$8,486	\$101,828
Other Regular Member Contr.	\$130	\$667	\$8,000
Miscellaneous Other Givers	\$100	\$83	\$1,000
Total Contribution	\$8,369	\$9,236	\$110,828
Other Income	\$255	\$833	\$10,000
Plate Income	\$114	\$83	\$1,000
Sub Total Income	\$8,738	\$108,522	\$121,828
Endowment	\$8,016	\$8,016	\$104,554
Total Income	\$16,754	\$18,169	\$226,382
Expenses	\$24,105	25,037	\$226,382
Difference	\$-7,351		
Ending Balance	\$28,770		

Organ Sale Update

We continue to work with the Holtkamp Organ company to arrange a sale of the organ. We have been notified of a potential buyer but await more details before committing to a transition plan for our worship. The Bishop's Committee has committed to keeping the parish informed of all the steps taken in this process, so look forward to more information as we make progress.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

March

- 2 - Donna Brown
Jennifer Scalise
- 4 - Rebecca Frazer
- 5 - Jack Glarner
- 12 - Susan Wolfe
- 15 - Bill Renninger
- 24 - Kato Watson
- 25 - Alan Baldensperger
- 26 - Robert Dilks
- 28 - Elaine Moriarity
- 29 - Michelle McLaughlin
- 30 - John Willis
- 31 - Betsy & Jerry Bowersox

April

- 1- Ellen Eberly
Renee Cunningham
- 2 - Denise Ely
Marya Yurick
- 5 - Jessica Hesch
- 11 - Keith Hinsdale
Taylor Madigan
- 14 - Bryden Bowley
- 16 - Lilee Renninger
- 17 - Myles McLaughin
- 21 - Ralph Peterson
Kurt Smith
- 25 - Gail Wright

- 26 - Guy Grow
Pauline Steinmeyer
- 27 - Tristan Boger
- 28 - Clayton Hesch
- 29 - Murry Quiggle
- 30 - Christopher Madigan
Pam Taylor
Scott Taylor

Prayers

Homebound: Mickey Ettinger (Cambridge), Mickey Conroy, Helen Kroemer, Veryl Riley (Golden Living), Marcia Baker, Jean Gibb, (Suites at the Rouse), Marian Edwards (Warren State Hospital)

The Bishop's Committee: Diane Brant, Lana Creal, Deb Davis, Denise Ely, John John, Gary Landrio, Connie Michell

Illness/Surgery/Other Needs: Denny Brown, Jon Ettinger, Gene & Janet Ely, Kurt Glarner, Terry Brant, Ed Brant, Dick & Mary Klancher, Kelly Hamm Tom, Stacey & Ryan Sorensen, Cody Stalder, Gar & Beth Spicher, Jen Spicher, Scott Mitchell, Jeff Washburn, Brian Knisley, Ash & Jean Brant, Susan Bennett, Kara Donaldson, Carrie, Susan Wolfe, Reiner Peters, Ted, Peggy Skinner, Cathy Swanson, Lacy Brant, Julie Eberly & the Eberly family, Ellen, Rick S., Joe Wallo, Cathie & Merl, Betsy, Bill & Celia, Jake Glenn, Magda, Ann, Dave & Bonnie Dickson, Derek, Betty West & daughter, Barb & Rosie, Burke Johnson, Ed Barlow, Jim & Vickie Eggleston, Cheryl, Peggy & Sam, Mary R., Joan, Mariah, Ashley & Stefan, John, Susie, Libby & family, Mary, Bill Nuhfer, Roger, Regina Davis & Dami, Mike & Lindsey, Deb, Danielle, Christine, Heather, those with inadequate food, clothing & shelter, Mom's successful surgery, safe travels, Rick Naill & Virginia Eberly, for wisdom to discern and courage to embrace our future, Billy Moriarity family, Donna Harman

Serving in the Armed Services: Curtis Delattre, Grant Brown, Parker Hahn, Cody, Toby, & Jeremy Williams, Jackie Shaw, José Sepulveda, Nathan Lake

The Clergy: Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop; Sean Rowe, our Bishop; Martha Ishman, Canon to the Ordinary; Matthew Scott, our vicar

Serving justice and peace: Christian Peacemaker Teams; House of Hope, Birds of the Sky, and Good Samaritan House in India; Asociacion Rescate

Prayer for the Diocese

O God, by your grace you have called us in this diocese to a goodly fellowship of faith. Bless our Bishop, Sean, and other clergy, and all our people. Grant that your Word may be truly preached and truly heard, your Sacraments faithfully administered and faithfully received. By your Spirit, fashion our lives according to the example of your Son, and grant that we may show the power of your love to all among whom we live; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Or Current resident

Trinity's Vision of its place in Christ's Mission



Celebrate God through enriching worship,

Grow through the transforming power of the Spirit, and

Serve by sharing the healing we find in Christ.

Come witness the power of God's Love with us.