



# Trinity Together

Trinity Lutheran Church

357 West Main Street  
Kutztown, Pennsylvania 19530

March 2023

<b>Transitional Pastor:</b> The Rev. Dr. Dennis Ritter	484-529-7801	<a href="mailto:dsritter@ptd.net">dsritter@ptd.net</a>
<b>Director of Youth &amp; Family Ministry:</b> Seth Noggle	570-529-2325	<a href="mailto:Seth.noggle@gmail.com">Seth.noggle@gmail.com</a>
<b>Editor/Administrative Assistant:</b> Diane Spohn	610-683-3450	<a href="mailto:office@trinitykutztown.com">office@trinitykutztown.com</a>
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<b>Financial Secretary:</b> Mike Sailsbery	412-849-5255	<a href="mailto:finsectrinity@hotmail.com">finsectrinity@hotmail.com</a>
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<b>Bachelor of Social Work Intern:</b> Rachel Saienni	610-470-8437	<a href="mailto:rachelsaienni@gmail.com">rachelsaienni@gmail.com</a>

## Mission Statement:

“The mission of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is to equip God’s people to do God’s work and bring good news to hungry people.”

## Church Office Hours:

Tuesday through Friday 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Phone: 610-683-3450

Website: [www.trinitykutztown.com](http://www.trinitykutztown.com)

Sunday Worship Service at 9:30 AM

Adult Sunday School at 8:00 AM

Good News Club at 10:45 AM (after worship service)

## 2023 Church Council Members

<b>Jeff Collier</b>	Property
<b>Joseph Jedwab</b>	Christian Education
<b>Jessica Miller</b>	Treasurer, Finance and Stewardship
<b>Mary Neuenschwander</b>	Personnel
<b>Ed Rakowiecki</b>	Vice President, Personnel
<b>Dan Raudenbush</b>	President, Endowment
<b>Ann Towne</b>	Mission/Service
<b>Jean Wagner</b>	Worship Life
<b>Alicia Wood</b>	Secretary, Fellowship

## ***From the Pastor...***

Dear Disciples in Christ,

When you read this, we will be fully immersed in the season of Lent. It is a season of the church year that is based on the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness following his baptism and prior to setting out on his ministry of reconciliation. It is also a reminder of the 40 years the Israelites wandered in the wilderness between their exodus out of Egypt and their entry into the promised land.

The season begins on Ash Wednesday and ends the Saturday prior to Easter. It does not include the Sundays during that time, as Sundays are always focused upon Easter and celebrate the resurrection. The color of the season is purple. It was used as an act of derision toward Our Lord when Pilate placed a purple robe on Jesus, whom he called “King of the Jews”. Thus for Christians, purple symbolizes Christ’s pain, suffering and eventual death to redeem us and the world from our brokenness and sin.

During Lent we often use the word “journey” to identify the practice of self-reflection and discernment that the season encourages us to undertake. It is a practice that originated in the 11th century church. The journey of repentance is about “turning around” (the origin of the word) so that we might be in a right relationship with God. In a sense, we are looking for love to renew and reclaim us. When we look to God for love — not simply to the approval of others — and start with our own “turning,” we participate in the “turning around” of the world.

I look forward to sharing this journey with each of you again this year. I pray that it will be a time of new life and renewal, not only for each of us individually, but also for Trinity, as together we prepare ourselves more fully to live out Christ’s love for the world in this time and place.

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Ritter*



## ***Phase II Meeting, March 26***

Trinity's Phase II meeting of the congregation will take place following worship on Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. The agenda will include the presentation and acceptance of the Annual Reports booklet for 2022 and a report of the Strategic Planning Process that has been taking place since last fall.



# Schedule & Volunteers

## ASSISTING MINISTERS:

March 5	9:30 AM	Alicia Wood
March 12	9:30 AM	To Be Determined
March 19	9:30 AM	Dan Raudenbush
March 26	9:30 AM	Bob Hobaugh

## LAY READERS:

March 5	9:30 AM	Alicia Wood
March 12	9:30 AM	To Be Determined
March 19	9:30 AM	Dan Raudenbush
March 26	9:30 AM	Bob Hobaugh

## ACOLYTES:

March 5	9:30 AM	Isaac Jedwab
March 12	9:30 AM	Liam Miller
March 19	9:30 AM	Isaac Jedwab
March 26	9:30 AM	Liam Miller

## USHERS/GREETERS:

March 5	9:30 AM	Sue & Jeff Collier
March 12	9:30 AM	Donna Keglovits & Denise Scheidt
March 19	9:30 AM	Amy Pfeiler-Wunder & Doug Wunder
March 26	9:30 AM	Becca Gilligan & Alicia Wood

## TECH COORDINATORS:

March 5	9:30 AM	Andrew Neuenschwander
March 12	9:30 AM	Isaac Jedwab
March 19	9:30 AM	Andrew Neuenschwander
March 26	9:30 AM	Isaac Jedwab

**MONEY COUNTERS:** Michele Zimmerman & Linda Geiring

**FLOWER CHAIRPERSON:** Linda Geiring

**ALTAR COMMITTEE:** Lisa Finke & Nancy Hildenbrand

## IMPORTANT DATES:

<b>March 3</b>	<b>World Day of Prayer</b>
<b>March 20</b>	<b>First Day of Spring</b>
<b>March 26</b>	<b>Phase II Congregational Mtg.</b>

## Committee Meeting Dates...

Worship Life	Tuesday, March 7, at 7 p.m.
Church Council	Tuesday, March 14, at 7 p.m.
Strategic Plan Team	Monday, March 20, at 7 p.m.
Eucharistic Ministry	Tuesday, March 21, at 1:30 p.m.
Strategic Plan Team	Thurs., Mar. 23, at 7 p.m. (if needed)

## From the Church Office...

The church office hours are Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m.-3 p.m. The office is closed on Mondays.

Deadline for articles for the April newsletter is Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Please note:** To email the church office, please use the address: [office@trinitykutztown.com](mailto:office@trinitykutztown.com)



Remember to "spring ahead" on Saturday evening, March 11<sup>th</sup>, as Daylight Savings Time begins on March 12<sup>th</sup>!

## Assisting Minister and Lay Reader Schedule...

There are openings on the Assisting Minister and Lay Reader schedule for 2023. Please consider volunteering to serve in these roles for worship services. Sign up at: <https://bit.ly/TrinityWorshipLeaderSchedule> or contact Laurel Ziegler or the church office. Thank you!

## From the Finance Committee...

Approved 2023 Budget --	\$339,983
Unrestricted income through Jan.	\$ 14,560
Expenditures through Jan.	\$ 25,365
Balance through Jan.	\$(10,805)
Average monthly offering	\$ 13,835
* ( ) will indicate a deficit	

## ***Mid-week Lenten Worship and Bible Study Opportunities...***

Again, this year Trinity will be joining with St. Paul UCC to sponsor 5 mid-week Lenten worship opportunities. The theme this year is “**Looking for Love in All the Wrong Places**”. Each evening will begin with a meal at 6 PM at the host church that night and will be followed by worship at 7 PM at the same location. **Trinity will not be providing a zoom option for these services.** The schedule for this series is as follows:

- **March 1**, Trinity Lutheran Church (Pr. Adamson preaches)
- **March 8**, St. Paul UCC, (Pr. Ritter preaches)
- **March 15**, Trinity, (Pr. Adamson preaches)
- **March 22**, St. Paul UCC, (Pr. Ritter preaches)
- **March 29**, Trinity, (Pr. Ritter preaches)

In addition, five Bible study opportunities are scheduled during Lent for Tuesday mornings at 10 AM and will take place at St. Paul UCC. The series by Max Lucado is entitled, “**He Chose the Nails**”. The schedule and leaders for this series are as follows:

- **February 28**, Pr. Ritter
- **March 7**, Pr. Adamson
- **March 14**, Seth Noggle
- **March 21**, Seth Noggle
- **March 28**, Pr. Adamson

Finally, Trinity’s regular Bible study, led by either Pr. Ritter or Seth Noggle on Thursday mornings at 10 AM with a zoom option, will continue as well, so as you can see there will be a variety of opportunities to gather in worship or study during the season of Lent. May you find more time for self-reflection, prayer, study and just being.

## ***Christian Education...***

### **Good News Club!**

The Good News Club, our Sunday School Ministry, meets on Sunday mornings after the worship service. We invite our Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade friends to join us!

## **Adult Sunday School**

The Adult Sunday School Class welcomes you to join us in enjoying “Jesus Calls Us,” a program that invites us to see how we might respond when Jesus Christ asks us to follow. We just completed a quarterly session about how we might share the light of Christ in a broken world. Now we will explore the theme of call in biblical and modern times. We will look at stories of how we can see beyond our preconceived notions of salvation; how disciples responded to Jesus following the resurrection; and how we, like the disciples, can respond to Jesus’ call. We sing in hymn 696, “Jesus calls us o’er the tumult...Christian, follow me.” Rev. Mary C. Lindberg, an ELCA pastor and author, will guide us to see how we can follow that call in the tumult of the modern age. Please join us Sundays at 8:00 am in the Parlor for discussion, coffee and fellowship.

### **Bible Study**

Bible Study is on Thursdays at 10:00 AM. You can join the Bible study group in-person or on Zoom. To join the group electronically use the Zoom platform. Here’s the Zoom link to click:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84530518506> To dial-in by phone, call this number: 1 301-715-8592. Then, when you are prompted, enter this Meeting ID number: 845 3051 8506. No other password is needed.

### **First Communion Instruction**

First Communion instruction is planned for three Sundays in March. The instruction will take place on Sundays 3/5, 3/12 and 3/19 following worship. The completion of this instruction will enable individuals to receive the Sacrament of Bread and Wine (Holy Communion) whenever and wherever it is celebrated in the future. To learn more about this opportunity to grow in the faith for our youth, you can contact Pastor Ritter or Seth Noggle.

## **Winter Weather Information...**

When winter weather turns bad, information concerning in-person cancellations and time changes of activities at Trinity will be sent out via...

- Channel 69 news & WFMZ website
- Email blast and All-Call
- Calling Trinity's Office (610-683-3450) for messages regarding changes in schedule

Worship will be live streamed through Zoom and posted on our Facebook and YouTube pages for later viewing.

## **Youth News...**

### **March Schedule for our Youth Groups**

My E-mail is [seth.noggle@gmail.com](mailto:seth.noggle@gmail.com) if you would like to E-mail me and ask to be on the youth group list. That's the best way to be updated on Youth Group activities.

#### **March 5<sup>th</sup> – at St. John's**

Primary Youth Group (K-6<sup>th</sup>)

Time: 4:30 – 6:00 PM

Secondary Youth Group (8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 PM

#### **March 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> (Fri.-Sat.) – LOCK-IN at Trinity**

Who: Youth Group (Grades 8-12) Friends welcome!

Time: 7:00 PM-9:30 AM

RSVP: By March 5<sup>th</sup>

What: This will be held at Trinity and will be an all-nighter at the church. Volunteers are needed!

What to Bring: Sleepwear, sleeping bag or something comfortable to sleep on, pillow, snacks (not required).

#### **March 12<sup>th</sup> – at Trinity**

Primary Youth Group (K-6<sup>th</sup>)

Time: 4:30 – 6:00 PM

#### **March 19<sup>th</sup> – Service Project Day**

Project to be determined

#### **March 26<sup>th</sup> – No scheduled Youth Group**

## **Upcoming Events...**

### **Kutztown Kitchen**

The next Kutztown Kitchen community meal will be on Sunday, March 26, from 4:30-6:00 p.m. For questions or to request a ride or delivery, please call Ann Towne at 484-239-5314 or the church office.

## **Rejoicing Spirits Ecumenical Community Ministry...**

The next Rejoicing Spirits of Eastern Berks County service is at 3:00 pm, Sunday, March 5, 2023, at St. Paul's UCC, 47 S. Whiteoak Street, Kutztown, PA 19530. All are welcome at this no-shush worship that enriches the lives of all people, especially those with disabilities. We meet the first Sunday of every month, at 3:00 pm at St. Paul's UCC, Kutztown. For more information, contact: Charlene Fisher ([charf1sh@verizon.net](mailto:charf1sh@verizon.net), 610-223-9822) or Erin Webb ([emwebb05@aol.com](mailto:emwebb05@aol.com), 610-894-9949)

## **Interested in Joining Trinity...**

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a member of our congregation, please contact Pr. Ritter. No date has been set for the reception of new members until an individual(s) indicate a desire to join Trinity.

## **Memorial Funds Received...**

In Memory of Kenneth Dietrich –

By Fern Kerchner

By Steven, Jane, Katarina, and Hannah Darmofal

## **How You Can Help...**

### **Attic Outlet**

As you clean out your closets for the Spring, remember the Attic Outlet. We are looking for clean clothing. The sale is April 14 and 15 and April 21 and 22. Set-up dates are April 10 through 14. Items can be brought to the church during office hours or call 610-683-7975.



## Eagle Scout Fundraiser

Will DeVall will be having an Eagle Scout fundraiser of a hoagie and ham sandwich sale on March 25<sup>th</sup>. The hoagies will have three types of meat, and the ham sandwiches will have a quarter pound of ham on a 5-inch roll. The cost is \$6 each and orders are due by March 15<sup>th</sup>. Pick-up will be at Trinity in the all-purpose room from 10 to 11 a.m. There is an order form on the bulletin board, or call 610-683-7975.

## Student Food Pantry at KU

Thank you to everyone who has contributed time, groceries, and cash donations to this ministry. If you would like to contribute food items, please see the list below...

<b>Peanut Butter</b>	<b>Juice</b>
<b>Miscellaneous Snacks</b>	<b>Crackers</b>
<b>Knorr Side Dish Packets</b>	<b>Cereal</b>
<b>Instant Potato Packets</b>	<b>Breakfast Bars</b>
<b>Toiletries</b>	<b>Mac 'n Cheese</b>
<b>Soup</b>	<b>Tuna</b>
<b>Canned Fruits &amp; Veggies</b>	<b>Pasta</b>

There is a box outside of the Parlor for the items you are donating. If you have any questions about this program, please contact the church office.

## Thank You For Your Gracious Gifts...

On Sunday, February 12, we collected 2 special offerings. In response to the devastating earthquake and aftershocks that impacted a large area of Turkey and northern Syria, we raised \$582.63. At its meeting the following Tuesday, the Congregation Council voted to add to that total from the mission reserve fund an additional \$417.37 bringing the total contribution for the relief of those impacted by the earthquakes to \$1,000.00.

Also that morning, as part of the Souper Bowl of Caring, another \$189 was given in support of Café Esperanza, a feeding ministry in the city of Reading. Again the Congregation Council voted to add to that total from the mission reserve fund an additional \$61 bringing Trinity's total contribution to Café Esperanza to \$250.

Thank you to all who contributed to these two causes. Your generosity is making a difference.

## Valentine Shut-In Care Packages...

Trinity's Mission Committee delivered 33 Valentine packages to our shut-ins and senior members. Many, many thanks to all those who contributed items included in these packages. The recipients loved them and many were grateful for the remembrance. -*Rita Robertson*

Sherwood Hugo – Willowbrook  
Ruth Miller – Lutheran Home at Topton  
Pauline Graff – Saucony Cross  
Nancy Klock – Keystone Villa  
Kathy Wise – Home  
Russell Smith – Lutheran Home at Topton  
Gayle Von Bergen – Home  
Warren Koch - Heritage at Green Hills  
Spencer Siefert – Home  
Charles and Bettie Kelchner – Home  
Ray Foreback – Arden Court  
Judi Furst – Wilson Manor  
Ruby Stump – Home  
Jean Wagner – Home  
Jean Hugo – Home  
Luther and Darlene Moyer – Home  
Faye Dundore – Home  
Shirley Wisser – Home  
Doris Sell – Home  
Ruth Evans – Home  
LeRoy and Alice Kutz – Home  
Deb Kenney – Home  
Paul Lilienthal – The Highlands  
Alice Rahn – Home  
Nancy Konemann – Home  
Ruth Fegley – Home  
Karl and Lucille Bubbenmoyer – Home  
Arlan Seaman – Home  
Joe and Diane Piscitelli – Home

## Church Directories...

A new church directory of members is available, either as a paper copy or as an electronic copy. Please let the church office know if you would like one, [office@trinitykutztown.com](mailto:office@trinitykutztown.com) or 610-683-3450.

## **Flower Sponsors...**

The following dates are available for flower sponsors:

March 19 and 26	July 30
April 9 and 23	August 20 and 27
May 21 and 28	September 3, 17 and 24
June 4 and 18	October 8 and 22
December 24 and 31	

We also need monthly flower chairpersons to call people who sponsored flowers to remind them and see how they want the sponsorship listed in the bulletin and then deliver the flowers after the service. Chairpersons are needed for the months of April, June, July, September, October, and November.

To sponsor flowers or volunteer to be flower chairperson for a month, please call Darlene Dietrich at 610-683-7975, sign up on the flower chart on the bulletin board, or call the church office at 610-683-3450.

## **Thank You Notes...**

Rita and Trinity Mission Committee,  
Many thanks for the lovely treat bags. They put a smile on my face and I will enjoy all the goodies.  
Thank you,  
Ruth Evans

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Dear Folks at Trinity,  
What a pleasant surprise Bud and I received when Rita Robertson visited our home bearing bags of goodies and beautiful flowers. Valentine's Day is always a special day of love and friendship and ours was made even more special by your thoughtfulness. Thank you so much for your kindness.  
Sincerely,  
Bud and Bettie Kelchner

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Many blessings and sincerest gratitude to Rita Robertson and her band of angels. Thank you for thinking of this "Shut-In" with your well wishes, fellowship and special

Valentine Goodie Bag! It is a hard pill to swallow being limited in your abilities, but the kindness of others certainly touches your heart. THANK YOU.

God's Blessings,  
Gayle Von Bergen

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Rita and Trinity Mission Committee,  
We want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your thoughtfulness and treating LeRoy and I to Valentine treats! I think it's wonderful of you all to think of so many of our Trinity family. It was so nice of you Rita to come visit us as well.

Thank you all so very much!  
Alice and LeRoy Kutz

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To the Missions Committee of Trinity Lutheran,  
A knock on the door reveals a lovely lady who has taken the time and effort to deliver a special treat bag this Valentine's Day. So much happiness is provided with these decorated bags filled with goodies. Thank you for remembering us and the joy you bring. To God Be the Glory!  
Love and blessings to you all!!!  
Judi Furst

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Dear Friends,  
Thank you for thinking of the children who receive services from CONCERN Professional Services for Children, Youth, and Families. In 2022, hundreds of children have benefited from donations such as yours, and we are excited to continue helping children with the support from individuals and community partners. Your donation of 20 gifts kept Santa, hope, and the reason for the season alive for these children. Your generosity helps make that possible! Thank you for helping CONCERN fulfill our mission to *bring hope, offer opportunity, and inspire change*.  
Kelly Crum  
Greater Berks Region Director

Thank you to Rita Robertson and her committee for the yummy, yummy Valentine bag that I received. How thoughtful to be remembered. There aren't many perks to growing older, but this was one of them.

Love,  
Nancy Konemann

## **Community Events...**

### **Better With Age**

The Kutztown Community Library's March program for adults 55+ will be a discussion of estate planning. Better With Age is held the third Friday of each month at 10 a.m. at the library, located at 70 Bieber Alley, Kutztown.

### **Kutztown Folk Music Society**

On March 10<sup>th</sup>, Keith Brintzenhoff will present something completely different: Folk songs from around the world, including Africa, Appalachia, Australia, Confederacy, Canada, England, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, New England, Norway, Scotland, and more, plus a little humor. Performances are held at St. Paul's UCC, 47 S. Whiteoak Street, Kutztown. Please park and enter at the rear of the church at the alley. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and performance begins at 7:30 p.m. There is a \$9 donation, children 12 and under free.

### **Young At Heart Seniors**

Young at Heart Seniors meets every third Wednesday of the month at St. Paul's UCC, 47 South Whiteoak Street, Kutztown. For more information, call Barbara at 610-683-3393 or via email at [office@stpaulskutztown.org](mailto:office@stpaulskutztown.org)

### **Friend, Inc. 2023 Benefit Auction**

Come join Friend, Inc. Community Services on Saturday, April 29, 2023 at 5pm for their 33rd annual BENEFIT AUCTION at Beltzner Hall in the Kutztown Fairgrounds. Bid on awesome art, jewelry, household

items, gift certificates for local businesses, and more. ALL monies raised stay right here in Berks which allows Friend, Inc. to continue to provide food and social support programs to those in need. Tickets and virtual bidding options can be found on Friend, Inc.'s website.

### **Pasta! Pasta!**

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church will be holding a Pasta Dinner on Saturday, March 11, from 4:00 to 7:30 p.m. The cost for adults is \$12 and youth ages 3-12 is \$6. The meal includes bread, pepper cabbage, beverage and dessert. The dinner will be served cafeteria style. Inclement weather date is March 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **World Day of Prayer**

St. Paul's UCC will be hosting a brunch for World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 3, at 11:00 a.m. at their church at 47 S. Whiteoak Street, Kutztown. Call 610-683-3393 for more information.

In 2022, congregations of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod contributed a total of \$1,832,213.00 to undesignated Mission Support. Of this total amount, \$971,072.89 stayed in the Synod and \$861,140.11 was sent on to the ELCA to support various ministries.

This means that 53 cents of every dollar of Mission Support from your congregation supports our commitments below for mission and ministry right here in the Synod.

Thank you for your 2022 Mission Support Commitment.

**In 2022, thanks to our members' giving  
Trinity remitted \$23,245 in support  
of the work of the Synod and the ELCA.**



March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	1 6:00pm Midweek Lenten Meal - Trinity 7:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Midweek Lenten Service - Trinity	2 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	3	4
5 8:00am Adult Sunday School 9:00am Handbell Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Worship: Holy Communion (In-person & Zoom) 10:45am Confirmation Class 10:45am First Communion Instruction 10:45am Good News Club 3:00pm Rejoicing Spirits Worship Service at St. Paul's UCC 4:30pm Primary Youth Group at St. John's 6:00pm Secondary Youth Group at St. John's	6 Office Closed	7 10:00am Lenten Book Study at St. Paul's UCC 7:00pm Worship Life Committee Meeting	8 6:00pm Midweek Lenten Meal - St. Paul's UCC 7:00pm Midweek Lenten Service - St. Paul's UCC	9 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	10 7:00pm Youth Group Lock-In at Trinity	11 9:30am Youth Group Lock-In Ends
12 8:00am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship: Holy Communion (In-person & Zoom) 10:45am Confirmation Class 10:45am First Communion Instruction 10:45am Good News Club 4:30pm Primary Youth Group at Trinity	13 Office Closed	14 10:00am Lenten Book Study at St. Paul's UCC 7:00pm Council Meeting	15 6:00pm Midweek Lenten Meal - Trinity 7:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Midweek Lenten Service - Trinity 8:00pm Choir Rehearsal	16 10:00am Bible Study	17	18 8:30am Hymn Selection Committee
19 8:00am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship: Holy Communion (In-person & Zoom) 10:45am Confirmation Class 10:45am First Communion Instruction 10:45am Good News Club	20 Office Closed 7:00pm Strategic Plan Steering Committee	21 10:00am Lenten Book Study at St. Paul's UCC 1:30pm Eucharistic Ministry Meeting	22 6:00pm Midweek Lenten Meal - St. Paul's UCC 7:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Midweek Lenten Service - St. Paul's UCC	23 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Strategic Plan Steering Committee (if needed)	24 Confirmation Retreat at Bear Creek	25 Confirmation Retreat at Bear Creek Eagle Scout Hoagie Fundraiser
26 8:00am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship: Holy Communion (In-person & Zoom) 10:45am Good News Club 10:45am Phase II Congregational Meeting 4:30pm Kutztown Kitchen Community Meal	27 Office Closed	28 10:00am Lenten Book Study at St. Paul's UCC	29 6:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm Midweek Lenten Meal - Trinity 7:00pm Midweek Lenten Service - Trinity	30 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	31	1



# MARCH

## Birthdays

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Dennis Angelisanti	2 Michele Zimmerman	3	4 Nancy Konemann Patrick Miller
5 Louise DeVall	6 Kyle Garland	7	8 Tynya Herbert Hannah Solivan Jack Solivan Colleen Lichtenwalner Samantha Hottenstein	9 Rebecca Stump	10 Scott Sanders Sarah Woodland	11 Rhea Ziegler
12 Emily Fuessle	13 Donald Ziegler	14 Steve Finke Tom Kulp	15 Sydney Sanders Jill Raziano	16 Brandon Keglovits	17	18 Jennifer Rohrbach James Schlegel Brody Graff
19 Katrina Billig Steven Bond Edward Keglovits III	20 Andrew Kelchner Jacob Kelchner Alexander Kern Jean Wagner	21 Logan Lichtenwalner	22	23 Robert Gottlund	24	25 Faye Dundore Sarah Bubbenmoyer
26	27 Debbie Ziegler	28	29 Ruth Evans Michael Reffie IV	30 Susan Ritter	31 Sandi Fisher Greg Esser Alexa Scheidt	



NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

# SYNOD NEWS



## Love for the Least

The Global Missions Team at the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Emmaus, PA, led an advent appeal this past holiday season to support the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at Arusha Lutheran Medical Center in Tanzania, which was established by ELCA medical missionary Dr. Mark Jacobson, and also had the opportunity to lead the church's worship services on their annual Global Missions Sunday, held this year on January 22, 2023, to share about this ministry with those in attendance.

When a baby is born prematurely in Tanzania, it is considered as good as dead. Premature babies there are often referred to as 'stillbirths.' This was not acceptable to the staff of Arusha Lutheran Medical Center. Fifteen years ago they began to offer neonatal intensive care, and pediatrician Dr. Steve Swanson joined the program in 2011. Initially they were only able to save 4% of the babies. Today they serve almost 400 babies annually, and the survival rate in 2022 was 92%.

The care at the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center NICU is the best in Tanzania, and in most of East Africa. No baby is turned away because of inability to pay or insurance status. The five doctors and 26 nurses who staff the NICU do not just care for the tiny infants, but for the parents as well. A hospital bed and meals are provided to every mother with a baby in the NICU and both parents are encouraged and coached on how to interact with their babies.

Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit raised \$3,785 from their Love for the Least appeal to be directed to the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center NICU in Tanzania, and 175 preemie knit or crochet hats were lovingly crafted for the NICU infants, which they hope to send to Tanzania. These hats can save lives by helping to keep the babies warm.

**Charlotte Gross, Co-Coordinator**





JUNE 1-3 2023 AT  
KALAHARI RESORT

## ATTENTION ALL CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS

Now is the time to figure out who will be your voting members at the synod assembly! Don't worry, it will be well worth their time and yours! Let's have a record turnout, as we gather together (in person) as a synod for the first time since the Great Disruption of 2020. If you have any questions contact the synod office, and together we'll figure it out together!

**BEING PUBLICLY INCLUSIVE OF ALL SEXUAL ORIENTATIONS IS AN IMPORTANT STEP YOUR CONGREGATION CAN TAKE TO BE THE COMMUNITY CHRIST CALLS YOU TO BE!**



Become a Reconciling in Christ congregation! Reach out to Stacey Burke in the synod office ([stacey@nepsynod.org](mailto:stacey@nepsynod.org)) for more information.

### HONORARIUM UPDATE

How much should we pay a supply minister? That question is frequently asked by congregations in transition or when the regular minister is away.

Discussion by the Committee of Deans produced the following:

*\*that beginning 03/01/2023, minimum honorarium amounts for supply ministers be set as follows:*

One worship service	no less than \$175
Two worship services	no less than \$225
Three worship services	no less than \$250

*an additional \$50 for multiple point charges*

*an additional \$50 for leading an adult forum or Sunday School class*

*an additional \$75 if one of the services is on a day other than Sunday; (Saturday evenings, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, etc.)*

Starting  
March

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