

# **Holy Trinity Lutheran Church**

## **Newsletter April 2019**

**104 West Main Street Stafford Springs Ct. 06076**



**Dear Sisters and Brothers,**

Holy Week is the biggest week of the Christian year. It's also the busiest. It starts on Palm Sunday as we remember Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. It continues on Maundy Thursday with the telling of how Jesus gave himself for our sake. On Good Friday the church remembers Jesus' death on the cross. And on Easter we rejoice at the Resurrection, and celebrate the proof that not even death can separate us from God's love.

It's a busy week. And in our hurried modern lives it seems hard to make it to all these extra services. We know the story after all... don't we? Every week we remember the Lord's death and resurrection. In fact every day of the Christian life is one defined by this whirlwind of a week that changed the world. And it is for just that reason that it is so important we live these days together and make a point to let Holy Week interrupt our schedules, and let the experience break into our lives.

Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday are highs. They are celebrations, each of a certain character. And for many of us Christians who are good at doing Sundays it is easy to go from shouting Hosanna! to shouting Alleluia!

On Sundays the story always has a happy ending. We hear hopeful sermons. We smile and shake hands. Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday are different. There is not resolution. The Church challenges us to sit in suspense... to pray with Jesus... to linger at the cross... and to wait in stillness. And this is a gift. It allows us to experience in worship not just what happened between Sundays 2000 years ago, but what happens between Sundays still. When many of us leave church on Sunday, we step into a different world. One where we aren't always greeted with resolution or promised hope within an hour's time. In our daily lives we wrestle with doubt and battle broken-heartedness. A pastor's weekdays are spent with those who wait, those who worry, and those who wonder. We each of us know what it's like to be scared, or feel betrayed, to love with a broken heart. And it's in the days between Palm Sunday and Easter that we meet a Jesus who knows what that is like. We encounter in him a God who knows what it is like. We are comforted to find God not just in the Hosannas and Alleluias, but to see God at dinner with his friends, see God washing the feet of his disciples, see God in anguish in the garden, and see God bearing the weight of the world on his bruised shoulders. Most of our lives are spent in these in-between times. And to fully understand Jesus, and to know he fully understands us we need to spend the week with him. We need to see him live as one of us, love as one of us, doubt as one of us, suffer as one of us, and finally die as one of us. To live these in-between times with Jesus is a new way of being human. Easter does not mean that our pains and sorrows in this life don't affect us. Easter means that they don't define who we are, and that they don't have the final word. When it feels like our lives or our world are falling apart, we know that it is not the end, because we know that life and resurrection is to follow. To be a Christian is to live so sure of the resurrection, so sure of Easter joy and of God's love that in our lonely Maundy Thursdays and our terrifying Good Fridays, we are not driven to despair. But spending this time with Christ, and trusting in him we share his mind, knowing that we will share his life. Christ has brought the assurance of Easter into our Good Fridays. Let us bring our Sunday faiths, into our weekday lives.

"Look to Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and has taken his place at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:2).

Peace and Joy,

Pastor Tom

## **Pastoral Care**

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
7 Green St. Stafford Springs, CT 06076-1334  
Office Phone-860-684-7571

Church – [htlc-church@att.net](mailto:htlc-church@att.net)

Website – [htlcstafford.org](http://htlcstafford.org)

Pastor Tom will be on sabbatical.

During this time, he will return messages left to his phone (860-806-2440) and email as quickly as possible.

**In the event of an immediate need or emergency,** you may contact Pastor Ryan or Pastor Kathleen Mills (Holy Trinity Trumbull) at (203) 903-8352, or the synod office at (860) 482-6100.

It you'd like to write Pastor Tom via snail mail,

his address during this time is:

Revd. Thomas S. Drobená  
Selwyn College, Cambridge University  
Grange Rd  
Cambridge CB3 9DQ  
United Kingdom

## **Members of the Council are:**

Rev. Thomas S. Drobená  
President – Andrew Fisher  
Vice-President – Walter Kovaciny  
Treasurer – Catherine Lichanec  
Secretary – Amelia Hinchliffe  
Melissa Fisher  
Leonard Lichanec  
Michael Marvonek  
Patricia Marvonek  
Financial Secretary – Leigh Maxa

## **Service Teams**

† Worship & Music Team: Leigh Maxa  
† Property Team: Andrew Fisher,  
Michael Marvonek, Adam Tremblay and  
Michael Welch  
† Learning & Youth Group Team:  
Rev. Thomas Drobená, Melissa Fisher, Cathy  
& Leonard Lichanec

## **Shut-in Members of HTLC**

Attn: Barbara Bulick  
The Ivy at Ellington  
123 West Road Apt 115  
Ellington. CT 06029-5730

Ms. Shirley Kaba  
7 High St.  
Stafford Springs, CT  
06076-1215

Attn: Ms. Barbara Kovaciny  
Evergreen Health Care Center  
205 Chestnut Hill Rd., Room  
Stafford Springs, CT 06076

Ms. Anna Mandak  
21 Old Monson Rd.  
Stafford Springs, CT  
06076-3343

Mrs. Tonia Marvonek  
Evergreen Health Care Center  
201 Chestnut Hill Rd., Rm. #  
2107  
Stafford Springs, CT  
06076-4005

## **April Birthdays**

04 – Jevon Baarck  
06 – James Bulick  
21 – Jessica Cooley  
22 – Ruth Kaiser (Boyles)  
28 – Sheila Welch

## **Anniversaries**

16 – Paul & Anna Mae Hockla  
22 – Steve & Tonia Marvonek  
Happy 63<sup>rd</sup> 27 –

Adam & Cassandra Tremblay

**The following was lifted from Face book**



Someone has written these beautiful words.  
Read and try to understand the deep meaning of it.  
They are like the ten commandments to follow in life all the time.

1. Prayer is not a “spare wheel” that you pull out when in trouble, but it is a “steering wheel” that directs the right path throughout.
2. So why are a car's windshield so large and the rear view mirror so small? Because our past is not as important as our future. So, look ahead and move on.
3. Friendship is like a book. It takes a few seconds to burn, but it takes years to write.
4. All things in life are temporary. If it's going well, enjoy it, that won't last long. If it's going badly, don't worry, that won't last long either.
5. Old friends are gold! New friends are diamonds! If you get a diamond, don't forget the gold! Because to hold a diamond, you always need a base of gold!
6. Often when we lose hope and think this is the end, God smiles from above and says, “Relax sweetheart, it's just a bend, not the end!”
7. When God solves your problems, you have faith in His abilities; when God doesn't solve your problems, He has faith in your abilities.
8. A blind person asked St. Anthony, “Can there be anything worse than losing eye sight?” He replied, “Yes, losing your vision.
9. When you pray for others, God listens to you and blesses them; sometimes, when

you are safe and happy, remember that someone has prayed for you.

10. Worrying does not take away tomorrow's troubles; it takes away today's peace.

### **The following is from The FUMC, Stafford Springs' newsletter**

On their “day of creation” at the US mint printing office a \$20 bill and a \$1 bill meet, they quickly became fast friends.

Their time to go “to work” came and they vowed as they set off on their own journey to meet up again in 6-years and “share their life experiences”. The 6-years pass quickly and the two bills arrive at the mint to be destroyed and seek each other out. They are overjoyed to find each other. The \$1 bill asked the \$20, “so tell me how your life was?” The \$20 bill gets very excited and states “I have had such a full life, traveled all over: Rome, Paris, London, New York, Las Vegas and last year even China. It was so exciting! And time went so fast.”

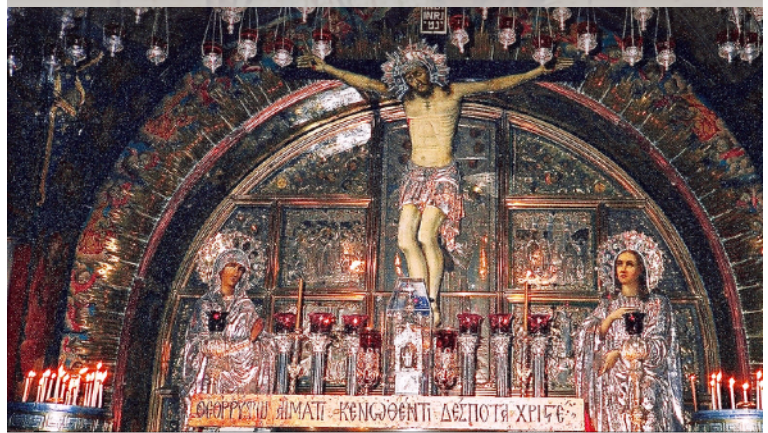
Then the \$20 turns to his friend the \$1 and asks “How were your life experiences?” The \$1 looks down and says “nowhere near as exciting as yours, in fact quite boring... Church, Church, Church.”

I'm hoping this makes you smile, remember the church in your prayers and perhaps make some of those \$20 lives more boring with a trip to HTLC. 😊

### **Thanks to**

...everyone that attended the Annual Congregational meeting; Sunday, March 10, 2019. We were able to receive some reports and pass the budget for 2019. There are a few copies of the annual report for 2018 available in the narthex if you couldn't attend the meeting.





## April – May Service Schedule

These readings are from Series C and can be found in the front of the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal.

### Tellers

### Ushers

### Worship Assistants Reader

#### **April 7, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. – The Fifth Sunday in Lent - Purple**

Isaiah 43: 16 – 21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3: 4b – 14; John 12: 1 – 8

Amelia Hinchliffe

Walter Kovaciny

Leigh Maxa

Daniel Lichanec

Michael Marvonek

Pat Marvonek

#### **April 14, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. – Sunday of the Passion – Palm Sunday – Purple**

Isaiah 50; 4 – 9a; Psalm 31: 9 – 16; Philippians 2: 5 – 11; Luke 22: 14 to 23: 56

Sheila Welch

Walter Kovaciny

Sheila Welch

Daniel Lichanec

Michael Welch

#### **April 18, 2019 – 7:30 p.m. – Maundy Thursday –**

Exodus 12: 1-4 [5-10] 11-14; Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26; John 13: 1-17, 31b-35

Walter Kovaciny

Walter Kovaciny

Sheila Welch

Jennifer Welch

Sheila Welch

#### **April 19, 2019 – 7:30 p.m. Good Friday – No Paraments**

Isaiah 52: 13 to 53: 12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16 – 25; 5:7 – 9 John 18:1 to 19:42

Walter Kovaciny

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Sheila Welch

Sheila Welch

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#### **April 20, 2019 – 7:30 p.m. – The Great Vigil of Easter – Easter White**

For the 1<sup>st</sup> Lesson and Psalm, reference the reading below: Romans 6:3-11; John 20:1-18

Genesis 1: 1 to 2: 4 Cathy Lichanec

Genesis 7: 1-5, 11-18, 8:6-18; 9:8-13 Cathy Lichanec

Exodus 14: 10 – 31 Leonard Lichanec

Isaiah 55: 1 – 11: Leonard Lichanec

Ezekiel 37: 1 – 14 Jennifer Welch

Daniel 3: 1 – 21 Daniel Lichanec

#### **April 21, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. – The Resurrection of Our Lord – Easter Day – Easter White**

Isaiah 65: 17 – 25; Psalm 118: 1 – 2, 14 – 24; Acts 10: 34 – 43; John 20: 1 – 15

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Daniel Lichanec

Sheila Welch

Daniel Lichanec

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Leonard Lichanec

#### **April 28, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. – The Second Sunday of Easter – Easter White**

Acts 5: 27 – 32; Psalm 150; Revelation 1: 4 – 8; John 20: 19 – 31

Melissa Fisher

Walter Kovaciny

Leigh Maxa

Daniel Lichanec

Walter Kovaciny

#### **May 5, 2019 – 10:00 a.m. – The Third Sunday of Easter – Easter White**

Acts 9: 1 – 6 [7 – 20]; Psalm 30; Revelation 5: 11 – 14; John 21: 1 – 19

Amelia Hinchliffe

Walter Kovaciny

Leigh Maxa

Daniel Lichanec

Michael Marvonek Pat Marvonek

# April *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church* 2019

| Sunday                                                                                                     | Monday                                                                                     | Tuesday                           | Wednesday                      | Thursday                                                          | Friday                                                   | Saturday                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                            | 1<br>Soup Supper<br>& Bible<br>Study<br><br>6:30 p.m.                                      | 2<br><i>Pastor's<br/>Day off</i>  | 3                              | 4                                                                 | 5                                                        | 6                                                                                                         |
| <b>7 The Fifth Sunday<br/>in Lent</b><br><br>10:00 a.m. Holy<br>Communion<br><br>11:20 a.m. Social<br>Hour | 8                                                                                          | 9<br><i>Pastor's<br/>Day off</i>  | 10                             | 11                                                                | 12                                                       | 13<br>9 a.m. to<br>12:45 p.m.<br>Safe Net<br>Distribution                                                 |
| <b>14 Palm Sunday</b><br>10:00 a.m. Holy<br>Communion<br><br>11:15 a.m. Palm<br>Sunday Brunch              | 15<br>Deadline for<br>submitting<br>articles /<br>information<br>for the May<br>newsletter | 16<br><i>Pastor's<br/>Day off</i> | 17<br><b>Spy<br/>Wednesday</b> | 18<br><b>Maundy<br/>Thursday</b><br><br><b>7:30 p.m.</b>          | 19<br><b>Good<br/>Friday</b><br><br><b>7:30<br/>p.m.</b> | 20<br><b>Morning<br/>Prayer<br/>10 a.m.</b><br><br><b>The Great<br/>Vigil of<br/>Easter<br/>7:30 p.m.</b> |
| <b>21 The Resurrection<br/>of Our Lord<br/>Easter Sunday</b><br><br>10:00 a.m. Holy<br>Communion           | 22                                                                                         | 23<br><i>Pastor's<br/>Day off</i> | 24                             | 25<br><br><b>Mark,<br/>Evangelist</b><br><br>7:30 p.m.<br>Vespers | 26                                                       | 27<br>9 a.m. to<br>12:45 p.m.<br>Safe Net<br>Distribution                                                 |
| <b>28 The Second<br/>Sunday of Easter</b><br>10:00 a.m. Holy<br>Communion                                  | <b>29</b>                                                                                  | 30<br><i>Pastor's<br/>Day off</i> |                                |                                                                   |                                                          |                                                                                                           |





# *Palm Sunday Brunch*

*Sunday, April 14, 2019*

*After Church*

*11:15 to 1:00 pm*

*Fresh Fruit*

*Baked Omelettes and Quiches*

*Home Fries*

*Corned Beef Hash*

*Ham*

*Tarragon Roasted Turkey*

*Carrot Ginger Soup*

*Spring Garden Salad*

*Assorted Pastries and Desserts*

*\$5 Suggested Donation*



**\*\*\* Coming Events \*\*\***

**April**

- 1 – Soup Supper & Bible Study – 6:30 p.m.
- 13 & 27 – Safe Net Distribution – 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
- 14 – Palm Sunday Brunch – 11:15 a.m.
- 18 – Maundy Thursday – 7:30 p.m.
- 19 – Good Friday – 7:30 p.m.
- 20 – Morning Prayer – 10:00 a.m.
- 20 – The Great Vigil of Easter – 7:30 p.m.
- 21 – The Resurrection of Our Lord – 10:00 a.m.
- 25 – Mark, Evangelist, Vespers – 7:30 p.m.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
104 West Main St.  
Stafford Springs, CT 06076

Web site address  
[www.holytrinitystafford.org](http://www.holytrinitystafford.org)  
Slovak Zion Synod – ELCA  
Address Correction Requested

