

# *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church*

## *February 2023 Newsletter*



### **Dear Sisters and Brothers**

This year, February is bookended by two of the most interesting feasts in the Church year. February 2, the Presentation of our Lord, remembers Mary and Joseph bringing the 40-day-old child Jesus to the Temple to be dedicated, and the prophets Simeon and Anna recognizing the tiny child as the Chosen One of God. On February 19 falls the last Sunday before Lent, when the Transfiguration of the Lord is remembering the disciples being given a vision of Moses and Elijah standing with Jesus discussing his road to the Cross, and the voice of God the Father declaring him to be his Son.

These stories from the life of our Lord, like much of Epiphany, are ripe with the symbolism of light. Simeon calls the child Jesus “a light to enlighten the nations” and at his transfiguration, the disciples can only describe the vision as a dazzling light surrounding the Lord.

But beyond the imagery of light shining into our world, these events are little apocalypses. Apocalypse is often misunderstood as meaning “destruction” or “catastrophe,” but really an apocalypse simply means “revelation.” It is an unveiling, so that what lies behind what our senses perceive can be seen and understood.

When Jesus was born, God took on flesh, “veiling” his glory so that he might live among us, heal us, become our friend, become our servant, and having shown us the fullness of life, die for us and rise for us so that we might have life without end.

Throughout this ministry Jesus' goodness and his glory is repeatedly made visible. The veil is lifted so that behind the Perfect Man we might see the True God. And again and again, Jesus is recognized for who he really is by those who are open to his word. Those who are willing to recognize God's work in their lives see him in action, and see him in Jesus. Not because they had some special insight or quality, but because they were willing like the holy women, or because they were curious like the first disciples, or because they were searching like Simeon and Anna.

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light," Isaiah wrote. We too are invited to be among those who are enlightened by God and who see clearly who God is and what God is doing. All we need to do is not hide from him- not keep to the shadows. Instead, we're called to pay attention to the miracles of the world God has given us, the wonder of creation, the love of friend and neighbour, and the promise of Christ to be with us even to the end of time. When we slow our rushed lives, and quiet our busy minds, we find God showing us the richness of life, and enlivening us in the communion that he provides to his people.

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 (860-806-2440)  
Email [t.s.drobena@gmail.com](mailto:t.s.drobena@gmail.com)  
Rev. Dr. Thomas Drobena

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

Rev. Thomas S. Drobena  
President – Walter Kovaciny  
Vice-President – Michael Marvonek  
Treasurer – Sheila Welch  
Secretary – Amelia Hinchliffe  
Leonard Lichanec  
Patricia Marvonek  
Laurel Rose

(Non-Council position)

Financial Secretary – Leigh Maxa

## **Service Teams**

† Worship & Music Team: Leigh Maxa  
† Hospitality Committee: Amelia Hinchliffe and Jennifer Welch  
† Property Team: Michael Marvonek, Adam Tremblay and Michael Welch  
† Learning & Youth Group Team:  
Rev. Thomas Drobena, Cathy & Leonard Lichanec

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

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

Attn: Ms. Shirley Kaba  
Douglas Manor  
103 North Rd.  
Windham, CT 06280

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

Attn: Vera Marko Room #219  
The Buckland Court  
432 Buckland Rd.  
South Windsor, CT 06074  
Mr. George Pallanck  
8 Park St.  
Stafford Springs, CT 06076  
Mrs. Olga Panciera  
10 Franklin Woods Dr.  
Somers, CT 06071  
Mrs. Pauline Valery  
24 Holburn Ave.  
Cranston, RI 02910

## **Flower / Sanctuary Candle chart for 2023**

The chart is posted in the Narthex next to the coat rack. Please sign up for those Sundays you want to place flowers on the Altar or light the Sanctuary Candle. The occasion you wish to observe can be in honor or memory of a loved one. A special occasion can also be celebrated.

## **February Birthdays**

08 – William ‘Bill’ Sevcik  
13 – Joan Fittz  
13 – Donald Hoffman  
20 – Kathy Hinchliffe  
24 – Patricia Marvonek

## **Anniversaries**

I’m not aware of any anniversaries.

## **Signup Sheet for Holy Week**

The signup sheet is attached to the white board in the narthex. While this is a month early, I decided this will give the members willing to help as Lay Assistants or reader’s time to make decisions. The services are Maundy Thursday on April 6<sup>th</sup>, Good Friday on Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup> and The Great Vigil of Easter on April 8<sup>th</sup>. The starting time is 7:00 p.m. for all the services. Thanks in advance for everyone’s assistance.

## February – March Service Schedule

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

<u>Tellers</u>	<u>Worship Assistants</u>	<u>Reader</u>
<b>February 5, 2023 – 10:00 a.m. – The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany – Green</b>		
Isaiah 58: 1-9a [9b-12]; Psalm 112: 1-9 [10]; 1 Corinthians 2: 1-12 [13-16]; Matthew 5: 13-20		
Amelia Hinchliffe Walter Kovaciny	Leigh Maxa	Daniel Lichanec
Hymns – <b>Entrance: 669, Hymn of the Day: 719 Communion: 754 Closing: 551</b>		
<b>February 12, 2023 – 10:00 a.m. – The Sixth Sunday of Epiphany after Our Lord – Green</b>		
Deuteronomy 30: 15 – 20; Psalm 119: 1 – 8; 1 Corinthians 3: 1 – 9; Matthew 5: 21 – 37		
Jennifer Welch Michael Welch	Sheila Welch	Daniel Lichanec
Hymns – <b>Entrance: 532, Hymn of the Day: 715 Communion: 315 Closing: 553</b>		
<b>February 19, 2023 – 10:00 a.m. – Transfiguration of Our Lord – White</b>		
Exodus 24: 12 – 18; Psalm 2; 2 Peter 1: 16 – 21; Matthew 17: 1 – 9		
Walter Kovaciny Leonard Lichanec	Leigh Maxa	Daniel Lichanec
Hymns – <b>Entrance: 315, Hymn of the Day: 838 Communion: 856 Closing: 834</b>		
<b>February 22, 2023 – 7:30 p.m. – Ash Wednesday – Purple</b>		
Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b to 6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21		
~~~~~	Leigh Maxa	A volunteer
<b>Hymn of the Day: 601</b>		
<b>February 26, 2023 – 10:00 a.m. – The First Sunday in Lent – Purple</b>		
Genesis 2: 15 – 17; 3: 1 – 7; Psalm 32; Romans 5: 12 – 19; Matthew 4: 1 – 11		
Walter Kovaciny Laurel Rose	Sheila Welch	Daniel Lichanec
Hymns – <b>Entrance: 319, Hymn of the Day: 624 Communion: 325 Closing: 618</b>		
<b>March 5, 2023 – 10:00 a.m. – The Second Sunday in Lent – Purple</b>		
Genesis 12: 1 – 4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4: 1 – 5, 13 – 17; John 3: 1 – 17		
Amelia Hinchliffe Walter Kovaciny	Leigh Maxa	Daniel Lichanec
Hymns – <b>Entrance: 660, Hymn of the Day: 759 Communion: 471 Closing: 796</b>		

# February *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church* 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 5:30 – 7 p.m. Safe Net Distribution	2 <b>Presentation of the Lord in the Temple</b>	3	4
<b>5 The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Social Hour	<b>6 The Martyrs of Japan</b>	7 Pastor's day off	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	11 8:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Safe Net Distribution
<b>12 The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Council meeting  <b>Valentine's Day Dinner</b> 5 – 6 p.m. Pick-up	<b>13</b>	14 <b>Cyril, Monk, &amp; Methodius, Bishop</b>  <b>Valentine, Martyr</b>  <b>Bible Study 7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>15</b> Pastor's day off	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18 Martin Luther, Reformer</b>
<b>19 The Transfiguration of Our Lord</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Social Hour	<b>20</b>	21 Pastor's day off	<b>22 Ash Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Holy Communion &amp; Ashes</b>	<b>23 Polycarp, Bishop</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 8:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Safe Net Distribution
<b>26 The First Sunday in Lent</b> 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	<b>27</b>	28 <b>Bible Study 7:00 p.m.</b>				

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, STAFFORD SPRINGS



# *Valentine's Dinner*

**Sunday, February 12, 2023**

**Curb Side Pick-up 5 to 6 pm**

*(104 W Main St, Stafford Springs, Green St Entrance)*

*Roasted Pork Loin with a Cherry Balsamic Glaze*

*Rosemary Potatoes - Green Beans*

*Red Velvet Chocolate Cake*

Pre-Order by Calling or Texting

860-806-2440 or 860-458-9397

All orders need to be placed by Friday , Feb 10th at 5 pm

**Individual \$15**

**Dinner for Two \$25**

**Family Dinner for Four \$50**

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 104 West Main St. Stafford Springs, CT 06076  
Website address [www.holytrinitystafford.org](http://www.holytrinitystafford.org) Slovak Zion Synod –

ELCA Address Correction Requested

