

HTLC

March, 2025 Newsletter

Holy Tender Loving Care



[Click on the photo to see the video “ Christ’s Foot Steps To The Cross”](#)

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Lent is a time of discipline. Our society tends to think of discipline as a dirty word—something akin to punishment. Children don’t want to be disciplined and as adults we often think we’re above it. But a discipline is actually a time of learning. “Discipline” comes from the same root as the word “disciple.” And if we have an aversion to the word discipline, it tells us something about how we often treat instruction and learning when it creates discomfort in us.

The disciplines we focus on are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Each of these is something that teaches us anew who we are as Christians and how much we need God. Each of these is a tool that trains us for our spiritual combat and increases in us godly virtue. But each of these is hard. Too often people focus on Lent being a time of giving things up and depriving ourselves as if this a way for us to repent. Rather, being people who are already sorry for our sins, these disciplines teach us how often in this life we rely on the wrong things, and help us to break that habits that harm us.

Prayer is our tool against the devil and against our ego. Prayer teaches us not to rely on ourselves but to ask God for what we need, and teaches us to give thanks for we have, thinking of every blessing as a loving kindness shown to us. The Bible encourages us to take all things to God in prayer and trust in his goodness. Fasting teaches us not to rely on the flesh. In a world where every day is Fat Tuesday, fasting is a powerful practice. On the other hand, for those who eat too little, dieting or self-deprivation is the addiction that needs to be fought. Fasting is not about starving yourself. It is about relearning moderation, and not being slaves to our appetite. It is about being thoughtful about what we eat and showing moderation. Not only food and drink, but any other substance that we use to try and make our bodies happy at the expense of our health. Jesus reminds us that “life is more than food, and the body more than clothes.” Almsgiving, acts of charity, teaches us to not rely on money for our security, but to trust God and not hoard wealth. Almsgiving reminds us that all of our blessings are to be used to help others, and the poor in treasure whom we help remind us of our own poverty of spirit.

Asking and thanking God for everything, breaking addictions, and giving away what the world covets most is hard work. They are disciplines- they sound harsh, but they are wonderful gifts for us. We are a people who are freed from our old bad habits and given a new life. During Lent, as we look forward to Easter, we are challenged and support one another in this training. We practice those things that are good for us, and know we are strengthened by the very life of Christ Jesus who has overcome every temptation and given us the power to live a new life with him.

Peace and joy,

Pastor Tom



The Church Of The Holy Sepulcher

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

7 Green St. Stafford Springs, CT 06076-1334

Office Phone-860-684-7571

Church – htlc-church@att.net

Website – htlcstafford.org

Pastor Tom (860-806-2440)

Email 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

(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 Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Mrs. Anne Mandak

116 Crystal Lake Rd.

Stafford Springs, CT 06076-3343

Mrs. Olga Panciera

10 Franklin Woods Dr.

Somers, CT 06071

Mrs. Pauline Valery

24 Holburn Ave.

Cranston, RI 02910

Electronic Giving

For those who are not able to attend in person regularly, we have an online giving page that can be used for recurring giving or for one-time Donations. The cost of the service is 2.75% for using a credit card and only 1% for direct debit. You will have the option to add the fee to your donation.

We would much prefer to see you in person.

We have social hour after church on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. Join us for fellowship.

To donate copy this link <https://secure.myvanco.com/YJ24> The website is very easy to navigate.

March Birthdays

01 – Amelia Hinchliffe

06 – Michael Welch

11 – James Schraffenberger

Anniversaries

We aren't aware of any Anniversaries in March. If that is in error, Please let Pastor Tom and Walter Kovaciny know. Thanks.

Holy Week

We remember the events leading to Jesus's crucifixion and celebrate His resurrection.

Palm Sunday, April 13

*Celebration of Jesus's entering into Jerusalem with Palms, The Passion Reading, Holy Communion 10 a.m. *

Maundy Thursday, April 17

The Last Supper and Washing of the Feet, Holy Communion 7 p.m.

Good Friday, April 18

Remembrance of the Crucifixion, Worship 7 p.m.

The Great Vigil of Easter, Saturday, April 19

Celebration of the Resurrection and the end of Lent

Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter Sunday, April 20

Holy Communion 10 a.m.

March Service Schedule

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

Tellers

Worship Assistant

Reader

March 2 – Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday – White

Amelia Hinchliffe
Walter Kovaciny

Leigh Maxa

The Lichanec Family

Readings: Exodus 34: 29-35
Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3: 12 - 4:2
Luke 9: 28-36

Hymns: #315 Opening
#838 Hymn of Day
#779 Communion
#658 Closing

March 5 – Ash Wednesday – Purple

Leigh Maxa

Volunteer

Readings: Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17
Psalm 51: 1-17
2 Corinthians 5: 20b – 6:10
Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

Hymns: #601
#328

March 9 – First Sunday in Lent – Purple

Jennifer Welch
Michael Welch

Sheila Welch

The Hinchliffe Family

Readings: Deuteronomy 26: 1-11
Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-16
Romans 10: 8b-13
Luke 4: 1-13

Hymns: #238 Opening
#504 Hymn of Day
#768 Communion
#624 Closing

March 16 – Second Sunday in Lent – Purple

Cathy Lichanec
Lenny Lichanec

Leigh Maxa

The Lichanec Family

Readings: Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18
Psalm 27
Philippians 3: 17 – 4:1
Luke 13: 31-35

Hymns: #468 Opening
#335 Hymn of Day
#613 Communion
#324 Closing

March 23 – Third Sunday in Lent – Purple

Walter Kovaciny
Volunteer

Sheila Welch

The Welch Family

Readings: Isaiah 55: 1-9
Psalm 63: 1-8
1 Corinthians 10: 1-13
Luke 13: 1-9

Hymns: #618 Opening
#332 Hymn of Day
#542 Communion
#705 Closing

March 30 – Fourth Sunday in Lent – Purple

Walter Kovaciny
Volunteer

Leigh Maxa

The Lichanec Family

Readings: Joshua 5: 9-12
Psalm 32
2 Corinthians 5: 16-21
Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32

Hymns: #666 Opening
#779 Hymn of Day
#592 Communion
#807 Closing

March *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church* 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Transfiguration of Our Lord 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Social Hour	3	4 Pastor's day off	5 5:30 – 7 p.m. Safe Net Distribution 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Holy Communion	6	7	8 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Safe Net Distribution
9 The First Sunday in Lent 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Council meeting	10 Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Martyr	11 Pastor's day off	12 6 p.m. Soup Supper 7 p.m. Evening Prayer	13	14	15
16 The Second Sunday in Lent 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Social Hour Saint Patrick Day Dinner Pickup 5p.m.	17 Patrick, Bishop Deadline for articles for the April newsletter	18 Pastor's day off	19 Joseph, Guardian of the Lord 7 p.m. Bible Study	20	21	22 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Safe Net Distribution
23 The Third Sunday in Lent 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	24	25 Mark, Evangelist	26 6 p.m. Soup Supper 7 p.m. Evening Prayer	27	28	29
30 The Fourth Sunday in Lent 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	31					



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Stafford Springs

Saint Patrick's Dinner

Sunday, March 16, 2025

Curb Side Pick-up 5 to 6 pm

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

Corned Beef and Cabbage

with Potatoes, Carrots, Irish Soda Bread

Chocolate Mint Cake

Pre-Order by Calling or Texting : 860-806-2440

All orders need to be placed by Friday , March 14 at 5 pm

Individual \$15

Family Dinner for Four \$55

Please inform of any food allergies when placing your order

Up-Coming Events and Special Worship Services

Ash Wednesday, March 5

Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes 7pm

St Patrick Corned Beef and Cabbage

Sunday, March 16

Holy Week:

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Jesus's crucifixion and celebrate His resurrection.

Palm Sunday, April 13

Celebration of Jesus's entering into Jerusalem with Palms,

The Passion Reading, Holy Communion, 10am

Maundy Thursday, April 17

The Last Super and Washing of the Feet,

Holy Communion 7 pm

Good Friday, April 18

Remembrance of the Crucifixion, Worship 7 pm

The Great Vigil of Easter, Saturday, April 19

Celebration of the Resurrection and the end of Lent,

Holy Communion 7 pm

Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter Sunday, April 20

Holy Communion 10 am

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

104 West Main St.

Stafford Springs, CT 06076

www.holytrinitystafford.Slovak Zion Synod –

ELCA Address Correction Requested



