

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

175 S. Third Street Lehighton, PA 18235-2029

MARCH 2024









THE CHURCH STAFF

KATHY LONG, SALM (Synodically Appointed Lay Minister)

ALEX HAGGERTY, Minister of Music

BEVERLY MILLS, Office Secretary

telc1872@ptd.net

kay429@ptd.net

PETER BALOGACH, JR., Full-time Sexton

DAWN MULCAHY, Financial Secretary moms3xtaxi@msn.com

KAY BECKER, Church Treasurer

LINDA WILLIAMS, Council President

JANE HOWELLS, Preschool Director/Teacher

VICKY BALLIET, Preschool Aide

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



OFFICE TELEPHONE NO..... 610-377-4303

OFFICE EMAIL ADDRESS telc1872@ptd.net

OFFICE FAX NO. 610-377-0706

JACK AND JILL PRESCHOOL 610-377-6562

Website: jackandjilllehighton.org

Email: jackandjillpreschool@yahoo.com

TRINITY'S WEBSITE www.tlclehighton.com

OUR CHURCH CODE is **343**

Please give the church code when you are admitted to any of the following facilities or have someone contact the church office so someone can visit you:

- **Lehigh Valley Hospital**
- Sacred Heart Hospital
- St. Luke's Hospital

DIAL-A-DEVOTION ... Call (610) 377-1612 24 hours a day for an inspirational message. Dial-a-Devotion is ministry LIFE (Lehighton Interfaith Fellowship).

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS February 1, 2024

Actions/discussion that took place:

- Approved the monthly financial reports of the treasurer and the financial secretary. January bills paid were \$22,491.17; income was \$6,841; pass-through was \$2,760.30; and deficit was \$12,889.87. \$10,000 was transferred from the Moyer account to pay bills. The balance in the Escrow account is \$12,267.61. The balance in the Memorial account is \$24,859.81, which included \$3,615 from four memorials. The natural gas budget is over budget, and the weekly envelope category is behind. The money with the ELCA Mission Investment Fund has been re-invested for a three-year term at a fixed rate of 4.91%. The Finance Committee suggested starting next year the financial statements only be sent to those members requesting them, as well as the statements being available via email. The 2023 audit will occur in early March.
- Committee reports were received from Christian Education, Worship and Music, Jack and Jill, Special Gifts, Social Ministry, Property, and Finance.
- Property submitted their five-year plan, including carpet cleaning and floor replacement in the kitchen, and varnishing the outside timber supports. Christian Education noted a Valentine's Day party and plans to memorialize Pastor Moore regarding the Sunday School program. Jack and Jill noted that Feb. 1 starts their year of advertising the next year school term and registration, and a request was received for a partial scholarship.
- Iron Pigs Faith Night at Coca-Cola Park will be Friday, June
 7. Tickets cost \$12 with a \$2 ballpark credit. Lehigh Valley
 Phantoms Ice Hockey Faith Night will be Sunday, Mar. 3, at
 3:05 p.m. at the PPL Center.
- Approved membership for John Dalton and Darren Yurkunas by affirmation of faith.

- Approved moving worship times for Christmas Eve to 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- Approved Tim Klotz to fill one of the vacant three-year positions on Congregation Council.
- Noted that the first meeting of the Youth Group yielded high hopes for the future. The next meeting will be Feb. 26 from 12 to 1 with lunch provided. They will be hosting coffee fellowship on March 17.

Respectfully submitted, Lee Becker, Council Secretary



MOVIE NIGHT

Saturday, March 16th 7pm - Luther Hall

"NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM" starring Ben Stiller

Popcorn, snacks, and drinks will be available for purchase to benefit projects of the Youth Group

Church Finance & Attendance Report

January Monthly Offering	\$6,841.00
January Monthly Expenses	\$19,730.87
Attendance:	
January 6, 2024	
(service cancelled due to weather)	0
January 7, 2024	
(service cancelled due to weather)	0
January 14, 2024	61
January 21, 2024	71
January 28, 2024	90



COFFEE FELLOWSHIP ...

Coffee Fellowship is held following the 9:30am worship service.

Congregational Fellowship is held on the *last Sunday* of the month. Please bring an item to share if you are able.

If you are interested in hosting a Sunday, please contact Bev in the church office.



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday - March 24, 2024

9:30am Worship with the Sacrament of Holy

Communion

10:30am Coffee Fellowship

10:45am Sunday School Palm Sunday Parade

and Egg Hunt

10:45am Confirmation Class

Thursday, March 28, 2024

7:00pm Worship with the Sacrament of Holy

Communion (Students receive their 1st Holy Communion) and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday – March 29, 2024

7:00p.m. Tenebrae Service -

The Seven Last Words of Jesus

Easter Sunday - March 31, 2024

9:30am Worship with the Sacrament of Holy

Communion

Coffee fellowship, Sunday School,

Confirmation or Youth Group will not be held.



February 11, 2024 RESULTS

Thank you to all who participated. Your donations have been designated to the Trinity Pantry. Here are the results:

 Kansas City Chiefs
 \$ 40.00

 San Francisco 49ers
 \$ 31.00

 I Don't Care
 \$ 209.35

 Total
 \$ 280.35

SPECIAL DATES TO REMEMBER

- World Day of Prayer, March 1, 2024
- Daylight saving time begins, March 10, 2024
- First day of spring, March 19, 2024
- Holy Week, March 24-31, 2024
- Palm/Passion Sunday, March 24, 2024
- Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2024
- Good Friday, March 29, 2024
- Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024



NURSING, REHABILITATION and ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS

The Summit at Blue Mountain Health Systems:

Madeline Dietz

Mrs. Bush's Personal Care Home

Jean Niehoff

Forest Hills Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center

Jean Rice

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

There are no homebound members celebrating a birthday this month!



CANDY DONATIONS ...

The Sunday School staff will be collecting bags of individually wrapped candy for **an OUTDOOR EGG HUNT** following our Palm Sunday Parade on the church lawn on 3/24/24. All candy should be small enough to fit inside a plastic egg. Donations may be dropped in the marked basket located next to "Dominick the Donkey" in front of the bulletin board in the Narthex or the church office. **The deadline for candy donations is Sunday, March 17**^{tht}. **Thank you in advance for your donations, love and support of Trinity's Sunday School Program!**





HOW IS THE DATE OF EASTER DETERMINED?

As the season of Easter begins every year, folks ask the question above, and here is the short answer! Easter is <u>always</u> the 1st Sunday after the 1st full moon after the Spring Equinox.

The dating of Easter is based on *the lunar calendar* that the Hebrew people utilized to identify Passover. The long answer is *REALLY* long and covers thousands of years of history and some rather involved astronomical calculations. The good news is that some kind astronomers calculated all of these dates for us already!

So, just in case you want to know when Easter arrives in the years ahead, check the list below for Easter day dates through the year 2027.

Easter Day

2025 - April 20th

2026 – April 5th

2027- March 28th

BAPTISM & NEW MEMBER REQUESTS

If you are interested in scheduling a baptism or becoming a member of Trinity, please call the church office at 610-377-4303.





BE THE DONKEY



Corrie ten Boom, a devout Christian who helped shelter hundreds of Jewish people from Nazis during World War II, was asked how she stayed humble despite her fame.

"When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday on the back of a donkey, and everyone was waving palm branches and throwing garments onto the road and singing praises, do you think that for one moment it ever entered the head of that donkey that any of that was for him?" she replied. "If I can be the donkey on which Jesus Christ rides in his glory, I give him all the praise and all the honor."

Jesus told his followers they'd need to carry (or "take up") their cross. But how well do you carry your Savior? How do you bring him into a world that desperately needs the good news of the gospel?



March 9th Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Middle East.



Youth Group is held on the last Sunday of the month
Noon-1pm in the Youth Room
(no meeting in March due to Easter holiday)
All youth in grade 7-12 are invited!
Lunch is provided.

For more information, please contact us! 610-377-4303 or telc1872@ptd.net

SAVE THE DATE!

Pancake Brunch Fundraiser

April 14th

11:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. in Luther Hall



DO YOU SHOP AT GIANT?

Just a reminder that we still have gift cards available as an ongoing



fundraiser for our youth group at no additional cost to you.

They receive five percent of each card sold. They may be purchased in increments of \$25, \$50 or \$100. Please call or stop in at the church office hours to purchase.

Thank you for your continuing support of our youth group!

calendar

calendar



March 2024 Sunday School Newsletter

There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday, March 31st.

Sunday School egg hunt: Our annual egg hunt will be held on the church lawn on March 24, following our Palm Sunday parade around the block. Please send a basket or bag for your child to use during the egg hunt.

March's classroom lessons from the "Whirl with Jesus" curriculum include:

March 3: The Ten Commandments; Exodus 20:1-17

March 10: Moses and the Bronze Serpent; Numbers 21:4-9

March 17: Jesus Predicts His Death; John 12:20-33

March 24: Mark's Holy Week; Mark 11:1-11;

Mark 14:1-15:47 (Palm Sunday parade and egg hunt; lesson will be sent home)

March 31: Jesus is Risen; John 20:1-18 (No Sunday School; lesson will be sent home)

Have a blessed March from Trinity's Sunday School Staff!



We are ready for spring! We will talk about the change of the seasons. Will March come in like a lion and out like a lamb? Hopefully we will have mostly lamb days! We will learn about the strength of the wind and see how as spring arrives; the earth warms up.

We will talk about how lucky or blessed we are around St. Patrick's Day. The Bible doesn't talk specifically about being lucky, but it does talk about being blessed. All we need comes from God. We can feel lucky, but we are truly blessed by God. Philippians 4:19 states, "And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Easter is early this year. We look forward to an Easter egg hunt, making bunnies and learning the Easter story. "He is not here; He has risen, just as he said." (Matthew 28:6)

Registration continues for the 2024 - 2025 preschool term, and children can be enrolled to learn and play at Jack and Jill. Beginning in February families started registering their preschool age child to attend one of the classes that will start in September. If you are a family, or know of a family with a young child, please let them know about Jack and Jill Preschool.

Families can contact the preschool to schedule a time to stop by and get a registration form, have one mailed to them or fill out the registration form online. Please, call the preschool at 610-377-6562, email: jackandjillpreschool@yahoo.com or get information about registration and more information about Jack and Jill on our website: www.JackandJillLehighton.org.

On March 5, from 4:30 until 6pm. Come visit the preschool see what we are all about, meet the teachers, pick up a registration form, an ask any questions you may have, we will be happy to answer them for you.

Upcoming Fundraisers:

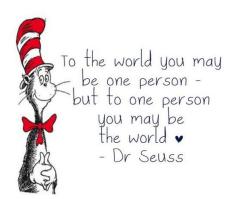
PJ Whelihan's dine and donate, Cindy's Deli, Hanging and Potted flowers for Mother's Day.

Ink Jet cartridge recycling – we are fundraising by recycling ink cartridges. Containers will be placed in the church office, Narthex, or they can be dropped off at Jack and Jill Preschool and placed in the blue tote on the side porch.

Donation: If you'd like to make a general donation to the school, you can write a check to Jack and Jill Preschool and include "General Donation" in the memo line.

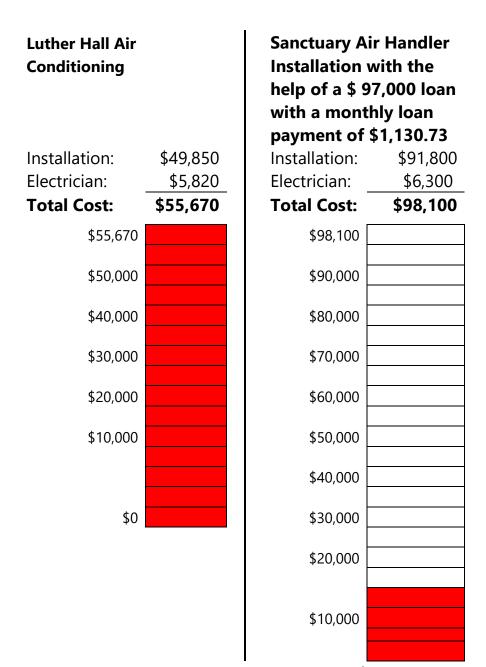
Amazon Wishlist: We have created a wish list on Amazon with many great items that the school could use for the classroom. All items will directly benefit the education of our students. Use the link below to purchase items.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1WCQ1TZFKLA54?ref_ =wl_share



Thank you for supporting Jack and Jill Preschool!

Jane Howells, Director of Jack and Jill Preschool



Total Amount Received as of 2/04/24: \$ 17,931.

If you are able to help, please use the envelope enclosed weekly with your bulletin or mail your donation to the church. Any amount is appreciated!

TRINITY THRIFT STORE

175 S. Third Street; Lehighton PA 18235 610-377-4303 ext. 21

Days and hours are as follows:

Wednesday - 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Thursday & Saturday - 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

DROP OFFS are accepted when the store is open. There is a **limit of 5 bags or boxes.** Please bring your items to Door #2 and carry them inside. **Do not drop off on the stairs when the store is not open.** The store does not accept furniture, books, tvs or computers. Thanks for your cooperation.

BULLETIN & CHANCEL FLOWER SPONSORSHIPS

BULLETINS - **\$10.00 each -** Three needed per week.

March 3 – Julia Kelm (all three sponsorships)

March 10 – Three sponsorships available

March 17 – Nancy Keiser

Two sponsorships available

March 24 – Sharon Young and Family (all three sponsorships)

March 31 – Krieger Memorial Fund (all three sponsorships)

CHANCEL FLOWERS – Florist of your choice!

March 3 - The Buss Estate

March 10 - Linda Williams

March 17 - Sponsorship Available

March 24 - Sponsorship Available

March 31 - Sponsorship Available

If you would like to sponsor any of the open dates, please call 610-377-4303, send an email to the church office at telc1872@ptd.net. or sign up in the narthex.



WORLD HUNGER DONATIONS ...

Total donations received for the month of January was \$86.00. Please help us reach our goal of \$4,000 this year.

If you are able, please make a monthly donation. An envelope is provided in your offering packet for your convenience. Any amount is appreciated!

Thank you for helping to feed our hungry brothers and sisters!

TRINITY PANTRY

The Trinity Pantry is open every Tuesday from 10-3 and on the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 5:30-7:00 for Lehighton School District residents with a drive thru setting. If you do not have a car, walk ups will also be served. Families may come monthly and meet income guidelines. FMI call 610-377-4303.



Food and monetary donations are appreciated. Please make sure items are not outdated or open. Cash or checks made payable to the Trinity Pantry.



PANTRY ITEM for March: TUNA

Please place your donation in the basket by the church entrance or bring it to the church office. The basket is prominently displayed as a visual reminder of the importance of your gift!

A total of 61 boxes of pasta were collected for the month of January!

Thanks to all for your continued support in helping to feed the hungry in the Lehighton School District community through this ministry of Shepherd House, Inc!



If you wish to put yourself, a friend or loved one on the church or private prayer list, please call the church office at 610-377-4303.

It is important that you provide an update every 30 days or the name will be removed. No exceptions.

Please note: You must get permission from the person placed on the list due to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

HEAD OF PRAYER AGENTS

We are seeking someone to coordinate the prayer agent ministry

What does the Head of Prayer Agents do?

A prayer request is received by phone to the church office, or the person may fill out a form that is available in the narthex or the literature rack outside the church office.

The request is then called through the telephone prayer chain and is placed on either the private or printed list for 30 days unless an update is received. The person making the request must have permission to have the name on the printed list in the bulletin due to HIPPA.

Every baptized member is prayed for on a daily basis by a prayer agent. Each agent receives a list of names at a gathering that is held once a year or at the discretion of the head of the prayer agents to distribute the lists.

For any additional information or questions, please contact the church office.

Please pray and consider this important position of Trinity!



KNIT. CROCHET. PRAY.

We have handmade prayer shawls and lap robes available. If you have a friend or relative who is ill and is in need of comfort or healing, please feel free to take one from the buffet in the narthex or call the church office to arrange a time to pick one up. Prayer shawl ministry blesses both the people who receive the shawls in their times of tribulation or celebration and the knitters and crocheters who create them.



DISCOUNTED TICKET SIGN-UP

- Head counts and money due by April 29th.
- Turn money or checks made to TELC into the church office
- Tickets can be used anytime in the 2024 season. (Valid thru January 1, 2025)

PRICES:

- All-age Admission (ages 3+) \$43.10 save \$44.70 Reg Price \$87.80
- Parking \$25.00 <u>save \$5</u>
- Meal Ticket (includes 1 entree, 1 side & 1 beverage) \$19.06

Sign up on the Youth Bulletin Board or call the church office.



Recycle your household bags & wrap into Trex's Earth-friendly composite decking and railing!



Plastics must be clean, dry and free of food and organic residue



trex.com/recycling 1-800-Buy-Trex

Collection bins are located in the Narthex and Luther Hall entrance

2024 EASTER TRIBUTES

DEADLINE - March 20th

\$10.00 each

(no extension of deadline)

CHECK ONE:

money must accompany order!

The following list is available for your consideration as tributes in honor **or** in memory of Loved Ones.

Please fill out **ONE SHEET PER TRIBUTE**! If paying by check, please make it payable to TELC

Additional forms can be obtained in the narthex, church office, on the church website: www.tlclehighon.com or send a request to telc1872@ptd.net.

LI	LY PLANT
_	I will pick up my plant. (we encourage all tribute sponsors to take their plant home after the 9:30 a.m. service on Easter Sunday March 31 st .)
_	I do not want my plant.
P	ANTRY DONATION
w	ORLD HUNGER DONATION
To Hone	or
In Mem	ory of
Your Na	ame
Your Ph	none number

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 175 S. THIRD STREET

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

LEHIGHTON PA 18235-2029

Worship Schedule: 1st Saturday at 4 p.m.

Sunday at 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School at 10:45 a.m.

Sunday School at 10:45 a.m. website: www.tlclehighton.com

Mission Statement:
"Living the excitement found in Christ through service and love."

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE

PAIDLEHIGHTON PA
PERMIT #55