



TRINITY TRIANGLE

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, LATROBE, PA
GROWING IN FAITH • REACHING OUT IN LOVE • MAKING DISCIPLES

VOL LXXVI

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MONTH: FEBRUARY 2024

Pastor's Corner

Roses are red
Ashes are gray
Ash Wednesday falls
On Valentine's Day!

Not exactly the kind of Valentine folks are looking for... and a poem that is not likely to be published in a collection of poetry anytime soon! It can almost seem like cognitive dissonance to celebrate both Ash Wednesday and St. Valentine's Day. But at their heart, both of these days share a common theme: love.

On its surface, smudging the ashes burned from last year's palms does not seem like an act of love, but in practice it's an intentional return to our relationship with the God who first loves us. Ash Wednesday kicks off the season of Lent and sets the tone that all our actions should be intentional and saturated in love and service toward God, a return to the God who goes all the way to the cross for us.

In the hands of Hallmark and commercialism, Valentine's Day has become about indulgence and romantic love. But at its core, St. Valentine's Day is a day to commemorate the man who took great risks for love and, in fact, was eventually arrested and martyred for* marrying Roman soldiers and their brides.

As we enter the month of February where these two holidays collide, I consider it an invitation to hold the Christian call to sacrificial love. There are many opportunities to get involved this month and next at Trinity. From Morning Devotions with Holy Communion to our midweek evening services, as well as our Souper Bowl of Caring and the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, I hope you'll consider joining us!

How might we take a risk in serving others in this season of Lent? How might we step outside of our comfort zones to engage a new practice or invite someone to hear and tell the stories of our faith? Let us prepare for this season of serving and loving our God and our neighbors together.

In Christ's Peace,
Pastor Jess

ATTENTION: LECTORS, LITURGICAL DEACONS, ACOLYTES AND USHERS

Opportunity for service on Ash Wednesday and Holy Week and Vigil worship services. Sign up sheets for Lectors, Liturgical Deacons, and Acolytes are on the Sacristy Door. Sign up sheets for Ushers are located in the front narthex near the worship attendance record. Please sign up ASAP.

"SOUPER" BOWL SUNDAY

Souper Bowl of Caring is February 10 & 11. Look for Trinity youth with their soup kettles at the weekend services and help end hunger. Money collected will go to the Latrobe Food Pantry.



Social Chit Chat

Sorry for the misprint. There will be **NO** Social Chit Chat in February. We will see you in March.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER!



Our annual event, set for Tuesday, February 13th, 5:00-6:30pm, is fast approaching! Sign-up to help as we are in need of cooks, servers, drink crew, and clean-up crew. More importantly don't forget to sign up to attend the dinner so that we can properly prepare. The food is delicious and the fellowship is great! Both sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board across from the lounge. **Invite your whole family, friends, and neighbors!**

MEALS ON WHEELS

Our week to provide meals is **February 12-16**. If you are able to make sandwiches or cookies, please contact Jane Fritz or the church office at 724-537-4450. Monetary donations are most welcome, as well. Thank you!





ELCA World Hunger

Offerings collected each week go a long way to bring hope to many in need. Thank you!

ELCA World Hunger Offerings YTD: \$312.66

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard

(located in the front narthex or drop off in the office). In

January we will be collecting **Toothbrushes/Toothpaste** for the Greater Latrobe Food Pantry.



Baptisms

Maevyn Flack 12/3/2023

Izabella Rose Watkins 12/24/2023



Deaths

Barbara Herrod 12/2/2023

Dora Kelly 12/15/2023

George Pavlik Jr 12/25/2023

Harry Reiner 12/28/2023

Treasurer's Report for December 2023

Current Month

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$54,708.72	\$64,695.00	\$(9,986.28)
Additional Endowment	\$55,685.75	\$0.00	\$55,685.75
Total Income	\$110,394.47	\$64,695.00	\$45,699.47
Total Expenses	\$58,027.53	\$79,898.00	\$(21,870.47)
Cash Flow	\$52,366.94	\$(15,203.00)	\$67,569.94

Year to Date

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$563,058.38	\$514,160.00	\$48,898.38
Additional Endowment	\$55,363.37	\$0.00	\$55,363.37
Total Income	\$618,421.75	\$514,160.00	\$104,261.75
Total Expenses	\$618,421.75	\$665,640.00	\$(47,218.25)
Cash Flow	\$0.00	\$(151,480.00)	\$151,480.00

Pease Note:

- 1) Income includes \$11,155.00 per month taken from endowment interest. An additional \$55,363.37 was taken from endowments at the end of the year to fund the deficit.
- 2) Thanks to everyone for their continued financial support. Although there was a final deficit of \$55,363.37 it was \$98,6116.63 better than planned.
- 3) Average attendance 267.

2024 FLOWER AND BROADCAST CHARTS

The new charts are on the bulletin board in the front Narthex of the church. If you would like to honor or memorialize a special person or event by sponsoring altar flowers or the radio broadcast on a specific date, you may sign up there or contact the church office to inquire about available dates.

724-537-4450 or office@trinitylatrobe.com

The Outreach Committee is doing something special for the 69 residents of Loyalhanna Care Center this Valentine's Day. We are putting together gift bags for each resident to be distributed at their Valentine's Day party on February 14. We will also help provide some special treats for the party. To help defray the cost of this outreach activity we are asking for monetary donations. Special envelopes will be provided in the bulletin. Please place the offerings in the offering plate or drop off in the office. Thank you for helping us make Valentine's Day special for the residents of Loyalhanna Care Center.

Attn: Parents of College Student(s)

Christian Education is anticipating gifting our college students prior to Finals week. **Please call the office ASAP** with their name, school address, and a phone number of a parent and/or the student. We don't want to miss anyone!

Have a 2024 Graduate?

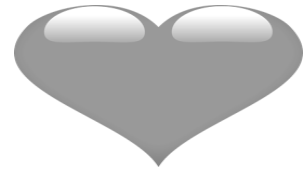
Please call the office with name of student and school of 2024 graduating high school and college students. Christian Education is planning a special gift for each and we want to make sure that no one is missed!

Recipes

Is anyone interested in sharing a favorite recipe with our Trinity family? If so, please email me at barbmiller@trinitylatrobe.com and I'll post one every month as they come to me. I can't wait to see some of your favorite recipes.



Happy Valentine's February 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 1:00 Purls of Prayer 4:00 Club FRED 6:00 BPW 6:00-8:00 Young Marines 7:30 AA Mtg	2 12:00 AA Mtg	3 5:30 Spoken Communion
4 8:15 Holy Communion 9:30 SCS 10:45 Holy Communion	5 	6 9:30 Prayer Group 10:00 Bible Basics 10:00 Shepherd Shop 11:00 Pericope 6:00 Executive 7:00 Handbells	7 9:00 WELCA Quilters 12:00 AA Mtg 5:30 TLC House NO Line Dancing 7:15 Choir	8 1:00 Purls of Prayer 4:00 Club FRED 6:00-8:00 Young Marines 7:30 AA Mtg	9 12:00 AA Mtg	10 5:30 Spoken Communion
11 8:15 Holy Communion 9:30 SCS 10:30 CE/CYFM 10:45 Holy Communion 12:15 Drive Thru Communion	12 8:00 Meals on Wheels (all week) No Social Chit Chat	13 9:30 Prayer Group 10:00 Bible Basics 10:00 Shepherd Shop 11:00 Pericope 5:00 Shrove Tuesday Dinner 6:00 Finance 7:00 Handbells	14 Council/ Triangle Deadline Ash Wednesday 8:00 Holy Communion & Ashes 9:00 WELCA Quilters 11:00 NCR 12:00 Drive Thru Holy Communion & Ashes 12:00 AA Mtg 5:30 Outreach 7:00 Holy Communion & Ashes 7:15 Choir	15 8:00 Lenten Devotions 1:00 Purls of Prayer 4:00 Club FRED 6:00-8:00 Young Marines 7:30 AA Mtg	16 12:00 AA Mtg 1:30 Esther Circle	17 5:30 Spoken Communion
18 8:15 Holy Communion 9:30 SCS 10:45 Holy Communion	19 2:00 Loyalhanna Church Service	20 8:00 Lenten Devotions 9:30 Prayer Group 10:00 Bible Basics 10:00 Shepherd Shop 11:00 Pericope 6:30 Council 7:00 Handbells	21 8:00 Lenten Devotions 8:30 Special Gifts 9:00 WELCA Quilters 12:00 AA Mtg 6:30 Lenten Vespers 6:30 Line Dancing 7:15 Choir	22 8:00 Lenten Devotions 1:00 Purls of Prayer 4:00 Club FRED 6:00-8:00 Young Marines 7:30 AA Mtg	23 Mail Triangle 12:00 AA Mtg	24 5:30 Spoken Communion
25 8:15 Holy Communion 9:30 SCS 10:45 Holy Communion 12:00 Young Family Lent Event 12:15 Drive Thru Communion	26 	27 8:00 Lenten Devotions 9:30 Prayer Group 10:00 Bible Basics 10:00 Shepherd Shop 11:00 Pericope 7:00 Handbells	28 8:00 Lenten Devotions 9:00 WELCA Quilters 12:00 AA Mtg 2:00 Grief Group 6:30 Lenten Vespers 6:30 Line Dancing 7:15 Choir	29 8:00 Lenten Devotions 1:00 Purls of Prayer 4:00 Club FRED 6:00-8:00 Young Marines 7:30 AA Mtg		

**TRINITY EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
331 Weldon Street
Latrobe, PA 15650
Phone: (724) 537-4450
Email: office@trinitylatrobe.com
www.trinitylatrobe.com

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YOUTH EVENT DEADLINES APPROACHING

YOUTH QUAKE - YOUTH GRADES 7-12 The event taking place in Pittsburgh scheduled for February 9th - 12th. It is NOT TOO LATE to sign up, but the deadline is Feb 4th. Sign up on the Bulletin Board across from the Office.

YOUTH GATHERING - YOUTH GRADES 8-12 -The FINAL DEADLINE to sign up is **February 12th, 2024**. The Gathering is set for July 16-20, 2024 and takes place in New Orleans, Louisiana. See Pastor Jess for info.

Still Seeking Adult Sunday School Office Help

Do you have **1 hour on Sunday** morning during the Sunday School hour (9:30-10:30) to take attendance and count offering in the **Sunday School Office? 2-3 adults are needed** and training is available beginning January 2024.

Attendance Chart



COMMUNION CLASS **SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 12-3:00PM**

This year, we'll gather for a Communion Class for children in grades K-6 who are ready to receive communion and those who already are communing. This class is intended to be "first communion" instruction for children who have not yet communed. It is also meant to help engage all children in learning more about this sacred meal and what it means for our lives. Sign up on the bulletin board across from the Lounge.

MORNING DEVOTIONS WITH **HOLY COMMUNION**

Join us on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 8am during Lent to hear about the encounters of women who interact with Jesus in our holy scriptures. We begin our journey on Thursday, February 15th. **If school is on a delay or cancelled, our service will be cancelled.**

ASH WEDNESDAY, **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH**

8:00am—Service of Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes
(*Livestreamed*)
12:00noon—Drive-Thru Communion with Imposition of Ashes
7:00pm—Service of Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes