

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

March, 2024 Newsletter



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

Pastoral Care

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
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 Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

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

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 wedding anniversaries during March. If this information is incorrect, please let Pastor Tom and Walter Kovaciny know. Thanks.

March *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church* 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 The Third Sunday in Lent 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Social Hour	4	5	6 5:30 – 7 p.m. Safe Net Distribution	7 Perpetua & Felicity, Martyrs	8	9 8:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Safe Net Distribution
10 The Fourth Sunday in Lent 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Council meeting	11	12 Gregory, Bishop Soup Supper 6:30 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.	13	14	15	16
17 The Fifth Sunday in Lent 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Social Hour Saint Patrick's Take-Out Dinner 5-6 p.m.	18 Patrick, Bishop	19 Joseph, Guardian of the Lord Soup Supper 6:30 p.m. Vespers 7:00 p.m.	20	21	22	23 8:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Safe Net Distribution
24 Palm Sunday 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	25 Fig Monday	26 Holy Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Vespers	27 Holy Wednesday	28 Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m. Holy Communion	29 Good Friday 7:00 p.m. Worship	30 Holy Saturday 7:00 p.m. Holy Communion
31 Easter Sunday 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion						

March Service Schedule

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

<u>Tellers</u>	<u>Worship Assistant</u>	<u>Reader</u>
March 3 – Third Sunday in Lent – Purple		
Amelia Hinchliffe Walter Kovaciny	Leigh Maxa	The Lichanec Family
Readings: Exodus 20: 1-17 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25 John 2: 13-22	Hymns:	#803 Opening #338 Hymn of Day #793 Communion #705 Closing
March 10 – Fourth Sunday in Lent – Purple		
Jennifer Welch Michael Welch	Sheila Welch	The Hinchliffe Family
Readings: Numbers 21: 4-9 Psalm 107: 1-3, 17-22 Ephesians 2: 1-10 John 3: 14-21	Hymns:	#660 Opening #779 Hymn of Day #336 Communion #848 Closing
March 17 – Fifth Sunday in Lent – Purple		
Cathy Lichanec Lenny Lichanec	Leigh Maxa	The Lichanec Family
Readings: Jeremiah 31: 31-34 Psalm 51: 1-12 Hebrews 5: 5-10 John 12: 20-33	Hymns:	#759 Opening #666 Hymn of Day #340 Communion #339 Closing
March 24 – Palm Sunday – Purple		
Walter Kovaciny Volunteer	Sheila Welch	The Welch Family
Readings: Mark 11: 1-11 Isaiah 50: 4-8 Psalm 31: 9-16 Philippians 2: 5-11 Mark 15: 1-47	Hymns:	#344 Opening #335 Hymn of Day #336 Communion #339 Communion #353 Closing
March 28 – Maundy Thursday		
Readings: Exodus 12: 1-4; 11-14 Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26 John 13: 1-17, 31b-35	Leigh Maxa	Hymns: #357 Opening #359 Hymn of Day #462 Communion
March 29 – Good Friday		
Readings: Isaiah 52: 13-53:12 Psalm 22 Hebrews 10: 16-25 John 18: 1 - 19:42	Leigh Maxa	Hymns: #637 Open #355 Hymn of Day
March 30 – Easter Vigil – Easter White		
	Sheila Welch	Hymns: #367 Gospel Acclamation #362 Communion #382 Closing
March 31 – Easter Sunday – Easter White		
Readings: Acts 10: 34-43 Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11 Mark 16: 1-8	Leigh Maxa	The Lichanec Family Hymns: #365 Open #369 Hymn of Day #362 Communion #373 Communion #382 Closing

MARCH
17

ST PATRICK'S DAY



**CORNERED BEEF
AND CABBAGE**

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
104 W MAIN ST, STAFFORD SPRINGS CT
Sunday, March 17
Curbside Pick Up 5pm to 6pm
**Celebrate St Patricks Day with a
traditional corned beef and cabbage dinner
with potatoes and carrots and
a fresh baked treat for dessert!**

DINNERS
\$15 INDIVIDUAL MEAL
\$55 FAMILY MEAL
(4PPL)

**Orders must be placed
by Thursday,
March 14th at 5pm**
**By texting or calling
860-806-2440**

Easter Lily Order Form
Please place orders by March 24, 2024 (Palm Sunday)

NAME: _____

I would like:

_____ flower(s) in memory of (someone who has died): _____

(AND/OR)

_____ flower(s) in thanksgiving for (someone who is alive): _____

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 104 West Main St. Stafford Springs, CT 06076
Website address www.holytrinitystafford.org Slovak Zion Synod –
ELCA Address Correction Requested