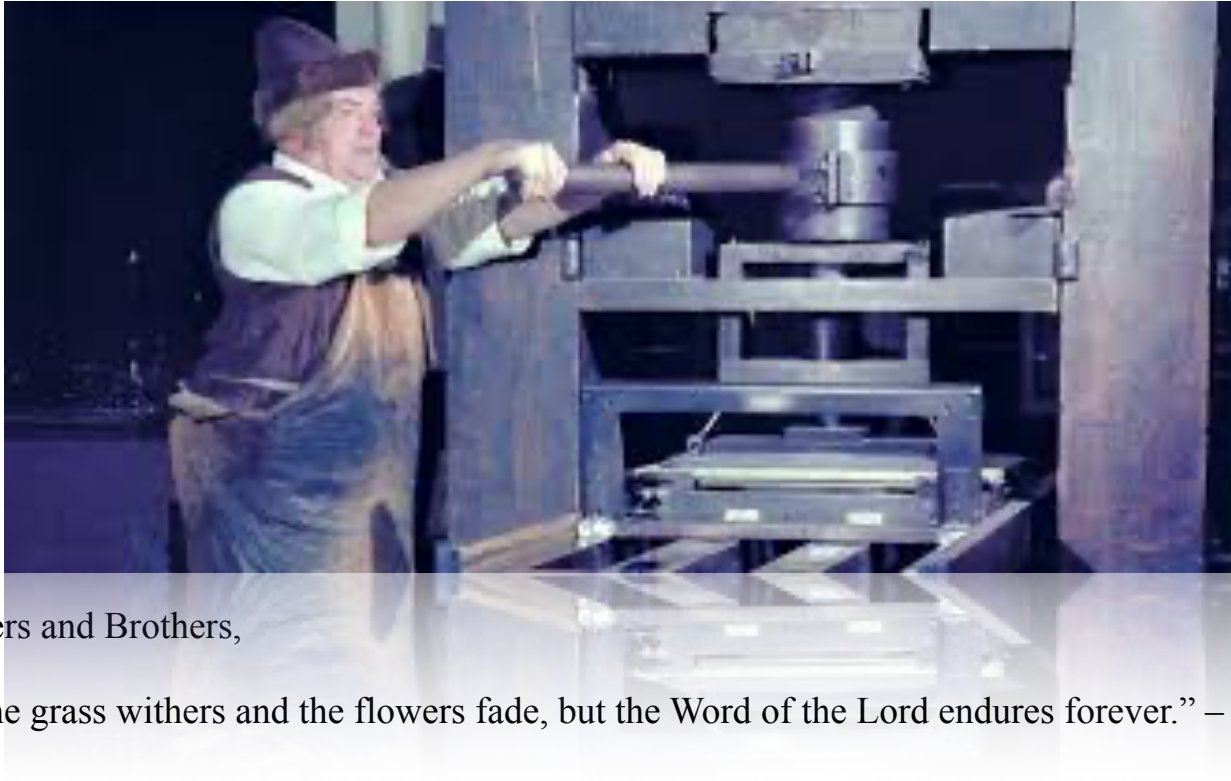


HTLC Newsletter

Holy Tender Loving Care February 2021



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

“The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the Word of the Lord endures forever.” – 1 Peter 1:24-25

Thus was the battle cry of the Reformation, “*Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum*” (The Word of the Lord endures forever). Those Reformers, Luther and others, lived in a time of unprecedented change. The invention of movable type and Guttenberg’s printing press was the social media of its day. News could spread faster than ever before. Their generation saw the discovery of the Americas and technological advances. Both good and bad—advances in science but also the introduction of firearms and the type of innovation in warfare that even made their mighty castles obsolete.

But besides these things they saw people being led away from the important, foundational things of life by the allure of novelty and the pursuit of self-glorification. The Gospel was perverted by those whose god was money and the church desecrated by those who confused earthly politics with taking up their cross and following Jesus. And then there was plague. An invisible enemy that spread because of people’s carelessness and indifference.

Perhaps our “unprecedented times” aren’t that different from theirs. When my grandfather was a teenager, they used a horse to plow their field. He worked on the first railroad to pass through his village. And well before he died, 12 people had set foot on the moon. Each generation sees amazing and earth-shaking things happen, but even those things fleet. Empires rise and fall, grass withers, flowers fade, but Saint Peter tells us the Word of the Lord endures forever.

Throughout Scripture God’s people, you and I, are warned and encouraged not to get caught up in the times. To pursue those things that matter most, the things that are from God. We are not made to spend our lives tilting at windmills or championing things that do not glorify God or serve our neighbor.

When each generation prides itself on being smarter or more advanced than the last, Scripture tells us, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding” (Proverbs 3:5). When each generation prides itself on what it has earned and know how to only value things in terms of money, Jesus tells us, “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven” (Matthew 6:19). When each generation prides itself on its political acumen and people divide and define themselves along national and party lines, Scripture says, “Do not put your trust in princes, in mortal men, who cannot save. When their spirit departs, they return to the ground; on that very day their plans come to nothing” (Psalm 146:3).

Does that mean Christians cannot pursue these things? Should we not be inquisitive or enterprising or political? Of course we can. But we remember that these things do not save. They are fleeting and are meant to be used in service of God and for the work of loving our neighbor. And so we ask ourselves the tough questions: Do I cling too tightly to my politics, and too loosely to the Gospel? Do I put too much faith in myself and my accomplishments to appreciate what God has done for me? Am I too preoccupied with what is “fair” to do what is loving and gracious? Do I keep the main thing the main thing, or do I get caught up in the hype?

As the people of God, as the family of God we gather to remind each other what really matters. We gather to be reassured that we are forgiven of the wrongs we have done, and we gather to rehear the promise that our value is more than our achievements, more than our opinions, more than the sum of the things that the world measures. We are worth the time and the love and the very life of God’s own Son. And we live as people so sure of that, that we need not chase after things that fade and rust and drive people apart. We are freed to live for those things that endure forever.

Peace and Joy,

Pastor Tom

Tour Of Faith Michael Welch A Lenten Journey

Click the thumb nail below to watch video



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 tsd33@cam.ac.uk

Members of the Council are:

Rev. Thomas S. Drobeno
President – Andrew Fisher
Vice-President – Walter Kovaciny
Treasurer – Sheila Welch
Secretary – Amelia Hinchliffe
Melissa Fisher
Leonard Lichanec
Michael Marvonek
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: Andrew Fisher,
Michael Marvonek, Adam Tremblay and
Michael Welch
† Learning & Youth Group Team:
Rev. Thomas Drobeno, Melissa Fisher, 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. Shirley Kaba
7 High St.
Stafford Springs, CT 06076-1215

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

Evergreen Health Care Center
c/o Mrs. Tonia Marvonek
201 Chestnut Hill Rd., Rm. # 2107
Stafford Springs, CT 06076-4005

Thanks

To Pastor Tom for all his help after our Mom's passing and to church members who came to her visitation and/or sent me kind words & cards of sympathy. My family and I want to express how grateful we are to have the expressions of condolences shown to us. The family of "Rosemary Livingston". Dianne Pallo & family

Altar flowers and Sanctuary Lamp

The 2021 Flower / Sanctuary Lamp chart is in the narthex. Please sign up for the Sundays you want to place flower on the Altar or light the Sanctuary Lamp.

The cost of the flower depends on what you want to have. Please talk to Patricia Marvonek, phone number (860) 872-2621 about your wishes or any questions you may have. Patricia will buy the flowers and you'll reimburse Patricia.

The payment for the Sanctuary Lamp is still \$5.00 and is paid to church.

Annual Reports

There are copies of the Annual Report available in the narthex for those members that couldn't attend the annual meeting.



February – March Service Schedule

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

Tellers	Worship Assistant	Reader
February 7, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. – The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany – Green		
Isaiah 40: 21 – 31; Psalm 147: 1 – 1, 20c; 1 Corinthians 9: 16 – 23; Mark 1: 29 – 39		
Hymns – Entrance: 673, Hymn of the Day: 843, Communion: 860, Closing: 858		
Amelia Hinchliffe	Leigh Maxa	Daniel Lichanec
Pat Marvonek		

February 14, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. – The Transfiguration of Our Lord - White		
2 Kings 2: 1 – 12; Psalm 50: 1 – 6; 2 Corinthians 4: 3 – 6; Mark 9: 2 – 9		
Hymns – Entrance: 315, Hymn of the Day: 838, Communion: 471, Closing: 318		
Michael Welch	Sheila Welch	Daniel Lichanec

February 17, 2021 – 7:30 p.m. – Ash Wednesday – Purple
Joel 2: 1 – 2, 12 – 17; Psalm 51: 1 – 17; 2 Corinthians 5: 20b to 6: 10; Matthew 6: 1 – 6, 16 – 21
Hymns: **Hymn of the Day:** 601, **Closing** 328

February 21, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. – The First Sunday in Lent – Purple		
Genesis 9: 8 – 17; Psalm 25: 1 – 10; 1 Peter 3: 18 – 22; Mark 1: 9 – 15		
Hymns – Entrance: 238, Hymn of the Day: 517, Communion: 613, Closing: 545		
Walter Kovaciny	Leigh Maxa	Daniel Lichanec
Leonard Lichanec		

February 28, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. – The Second Sunday in Lent - Purple		
Genesis 17: 1 – 7, 15 – 16; Psalm 22: 23 – 31; Romans 4: 13 – 25; Mark 8: 31 – 38		
Hymns – Entrance: 323, Hymn of the Day: 325, Communion: 468, Closing: 324		
Amelia Hinchliffe	Sheila Welch	Daniel Lichanec
Walter Kovaciny		

March 7, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. – The Third Sunday in Lent – Purple		
Exodus 20: 1 – 17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1: 18 – 25; John 2: 13 – 22		
Hymns – Entrance: 803, Hymn of Day: 338, Communion: 793, Closing: 705		
Pat Marvonek	Leigh Maxa	Daniel Lichanec
Amelia Hinchliffe		

While we're maintaining Social Distancing, the Ushers wouldn't be scheduled.

February *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church* 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Presentation of our Lord	3	4	5 The Martyrs of Japan	6
7 The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	8	9 <i>Pastor's Day off</i> Deadline for submitting Articles for the March newsletter	10	11	12	13 9 to 12:30 a.m. Safe Net Distribution Aquilla & Priscilla, Apostles
14 Transfiguration of Our Lord 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Council meeting Valentine's Day Dinner Pick Up: 5-6pm	15 Cyril, Monk, & Methodius, Bishop, Missionaries	16 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	17 Ash Wednesday 7:30 p.m. Holy Communion & Ashes	18 Martin Luther, Reformer	19	20
21 The First Sunday in Lent 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	22	23 Polycarp, Martyr	24	25	26	27 9 to 12:30 a.m. Safe Net Distribution
28 The Second Sunday in Lent 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion						

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

104 Main Street, Stafford Springs CT 06076

Valentine's Day Dinner To Go

*Sunday, February 14, 2021
Curb Side Pick-Up 5 to 6 pm*

*Roasted Pork Loin
with a Cherry Balsamic Glaze
Rosemary Red Potatoes and Green Beans
Red Velvet Chocolate Layer Cake*

**Pre-Order by calling or texting
860-806-2440**

*All orders need to be placed by Thursday, February 11 at 5pm
For Contactless Pick Up
please mail or drop payment with your order at the church
(mail slot is on the Converse Street entrance).
Food will be placed in your trunk when you arrive.*

**\$10 for Individual Dinner
\$20 for a Small Family Meal (feeds 2-3 people)
\$40 for a Large Family Meal (feeds 4 to 6 people)**

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 104 West Main St. Stafford Springs, CT 06076

Website address www.holytrinitystafford.org Slovak Zion Synod –

ELCA Address Correction Requested

