

HOLY TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*To Be and To
Make Disciples
of Jesus Christ*

NEWSLETTER

*February 2023
Vol 31. Issue 2*

February

The message
about the cross
is foolishness
to those who
are perishing,
but to us who
are being saved
it is the
power of God.

1 Corinthians 1:18, NRSV

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The following is an excerpt from the sermon I preached on January 22nd, the day of our Annual Meeting. It happened to snow that day; thus, attendance was lower than normal. I thought it would be good to share some of what I shared with the congregation that day.

This past year, one of the unexpected gifts I received was a relationship with Pastor Thomas Carr and his wife Juanita. They came to Holy Trinity a little more than a year ago seeking space for their ministry. They came with a vision, they came with support, they came with a few people in hopes that over time they would be reaching more souls with the Light of Christ. One year later, does their ministry look like what they initially envisioned? Of course not! They have had their challenges; but because they continue to follow Jesus, God blessed them in ways they did not expect. And now, Pastor Carr, and I are walking together as I follow Jesus into giving some of my time to Prison Ministry, which is an area of ministry that I feel God has been nudging me into at different points over the last 23 years, but I was never able to name it and claim it until Pastor Carr laid the opportunity right in front of me with his vision. What's his vision? To support and mentor individuals released from prison as they reenter the community and reunite with their families with spiritual formation and life skills classes. Naturally, when it comes to implementation, this starts by building relationships while they are in prison and then maintaining those relationships when they are released from prison.


Understand that this Prison Ministry is in the very early stages of development. You will find information about our starting point in this newsletter under the heading *Prison Fellowship Academy*. Prison Ministry is an area wherein Pastor Carr's words, "different cultures, one Church" can work together to share the Light of Christ where there is darkness.

This is just one area where Pastor Carr's ministry and the people of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church can work together. There will be an opportunity for us to hear Pastor Carr's story and understand how God is calling and using him in shining the Light of Christ into places of darkness; as well as for you to discern whether you might be called to join us in this ministry in some way.

Naturally, there are other avenues and places where we as a congregation and as individuals are being called because we each have our many and varied gifts. The Holy Spirit will work on us until we are able to name it and claim it. And I pray that you will follow the Lord's nudging to share it and invite others to join you in shining the Light of Christ into the areas of our community and world where there is darkness.

Jesus is the Light for those who are living in darkness. As individuals who have received the Light, Jesus calls us to follow Him and to share the Light - caring for people so much, that we want them to have light in the darkness of their lives. Loving others so much, that we want the Light to shine in their lives, as well. Seeing the darkness of people's lives and bringing them light. Not our light, or the light of false hope; but the True Light, the Light that has come into the world - the Light of Christ, that enlightens, and enlivens, and warms, and guides. This is what it means to share the good news of Jesus.

Your Sister in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Kathy". The signature is written in black ink on a white rectangular background.

Pastor Kathy's study on the Book of Revelation will continue to meet through February 15 and 16th. However, there will be no class on February 1st or 2nd.

Highlights of Pastor's Report for Council

- ♦ Pastor Kathy is attending NALC's Pastoral Development Days followed by the Pastor's Conference January 27 through February 3 in San Antonio, TX.
 - ♦ There is a new magazine rack in the narthex that will display church policies and procedures, including the Funeral Planning Sheets, Funeral Guide, Wedding Guide, and Building Usage Policy. The quarterly devotionals will be found there as well.
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TRIVIA! TRIVIA! TRIVIA!

It really isn't WHO you know, but WHAT you know.

All those random, seemingly useless bits of knowledge that are floating around in your brain will finally have their day.

On February 12, starting at noon, Holy Trinity will host its first TRIVIA competition. Lunch will be provided. YOU bring your friends (HT members or not), and a couple of hours of fun and head-scratching will commence.

This will be a family-friendly event. You don't have to be a rocket scientist – in fact, better make sure you have some younger folk in your group!

Don't have a group of friends? Come anyway! We'll introduce you to some great folks.

What will you get out of it? A chance to beat that February cabin fever, laugh at yourselves, and maybe bring home bragging rights, and even learn some things you never knew you needed to know.



COMING SOON !

St Luke's Hot Meals (keep reading this newsletter for specific dates)

**Ash Wednesday Service - Wednesday,
February 22 @ 12pm**

Lenten Services continue on Wednesdays at 12pm March 1-29, followed by Soup & Bread lunch. Look for sign-up sheets & head count forms.

**March of Prayer Service @ Holy Trinity on
Wednesday, March 8 @ 6pm**

**Daylight Savings Begins "Spring Forward 1
Hour" on Saturday, March 11**

Palm Sunday Worship, April 2 @ 10am

Maundy Thursday, April 6 @ 7pm

Good Friday, April 7 @ 7pm

Easter Sunday Worship, April 9 @ 10am

FEBRUARY

Birthdays

11th—Bonnie Elias
Karen Russell
12th—Sue Hendrickson
14th—Phyllis Elbert
18th—Shelley Barber
23rd—Carol Fry
24th—George Frank
Emily Shasky



*Happy 95th Birthday
to George Frank on
February 24th.
You may send him a
card at:*

*George Frank
The Forum Apt 143
144 N Wall St
Columbus OH 43215*

FEBRUARY SPECIAL OFFERING

Endowment Fund

Please Make Checks Payable to HTLC

**Contributions may be mailed, dropped in
the church mail slot, or in offering plate
on Sunday mornings.**

Monies received in the Special Offering envelope labeled for February will support the Holy Trinity Endowment Fund. The purpose of the Holy Trinity Endowment Fund is to enhance the work of the church by reaching out to those within our own congregation and beyond its doors, through monetary assistance, to further the work of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; or to those outside the Body of Believers, if such a gift can effectively witness to God's message of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

**Please continue to use the envelopes provided in the Narthex for
your weekly giving until our 2023 Giving Envelopes arrive.**

Thank you for your understanding!



**Feeding the
Community**

FOOD COLLECTION

**Food collection continues every Sunday.
Donated food will be taken
to the designated agency
after the Third Sunday of each month.**

Midweek Lenten Series: In View of God's Mercy

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God.

Romans 12:1

Lent is a season when we take a look at our lives in view of God's mercy toward us in the sacrifice of his Son for us on the cross. We, in turn, are called by God, especially during this time of repentance and reflection, to be living sacrifices for him, displaying our devotion to him in word and deed. Jesus helps us to see the richness of God's mercy in his life, death and resurrection. The services in this worship series for Lent focus our eyes of faith on the meaning behind God's mercy made manifest in Christ.

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 22nd. Midweek Lenten services, including Ash Wednesday service, will be held at noon on Wednesdays. Following the noon service, a lunch of soup and bread will be served in the Fellowship Hall. Sign-up sheets for head counts, and for donations of soup and bread will be available in the entry.

Meals at St. Luke's Point of Grace

Mark your calendars with the following dates that Holy Trinity will be serving the Saturday evening meals at St. Luke's Point of Grace:

February 25

May 27

August 26

November 25

Sign-up sheets for serving and donating cookies/bars for our February 25th meal will be available in the narthex soon.

I WAIT FOR THE
LORD,
MY
SOUL WAITS,
AND IN
HIS WORD
I HOPE.

PSALM 130:5

SUN	MON	TUE	WED
5	6	7	
9am Parish Ed Mtg		6pm Property Mtg	10am Pastors St
10am Worship Svc		6pm HT Bells	
11:15am Adult & Youth Education			
1pm Confirmation	6:30pm Scouts	6pm Ballroom	
		6:30pm Scouts	
12	13	14	
10am Worship Svc			10am Pastors St
11:15am Adult & Youth Education		6pm HT Bells	
Trivia Fellowship & Lunch		6:30pm Council Mtg	2pm Finance
		7-10p Valentine Dance	
19	20	21	
10am Worship Svc	OFFICE CLOSED Presidents' Day		ASH WEDNESD 12PM SERVI
11:15am Adult & Youth Education			Soup & Bread L
		6pm HT Bells	
		6pm Ballroom	6:30pm Scouts
26	27	28	
10am Worship Svc			
11:15am Adult & Youth Education			

WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4
	1:30pm Books, Coffee & Dessert Club		
	6pm Ballroom Lessons		
	7pm Appleseed Squares		
8	9	10	11
Pastors Study	11:30am W&M Meeting		
	1:30pm Pastors Study		7-10p Squares in
	3pm Constitution Comm		Fellowship Hall
	6pm Ballroom		
	7pm Appleseed Squares		
15	16	17	18
Pastors Study	1:30pm Pastors Study		
Service	6pm Ballroom		
	7pm Appleseed Squares		
22 WEDNESDAY SERVICE	23	24	25
	12:30pm HT Singers		
Prayer and Lunch			St Luke's Hot Meals
Prayer			
February 2023			

IN CHRIST'S

	SUNDAY FEBRUARY 5	SUNDAY FEBRUARY 12	
Head Usher	JIM FLEMING		
Greeters	CHUCK & SHIRLEY ROBINSON		
Lectors	NANCY COLLIER	BONNIE ELIAS	
Cantors	BARNEY MUSSELMAN	KATHY GLESSNER	
Ushers	LORI & KARL THEM		
Altar Guild	DICK & NANCY COLLIER		
Communion Altar Asst.	DON & ROBERTA KARGER		
Offering Counters	LINDA FLEMING & JONATHAN SCHEIDT		
Snow Removal	DON KARGER	DAVE ERWIN	



'S SERVICE

**SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 19**

**SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 26**

JIM FLEMING

CHUCK & SHIRLEY ROBINSON

JEAN ERWIN

LINDA FLEMING

DICK COLLIER

BONNIE ELIAS

AND JERRY & JOYCE DUFF

DICK & NANCY COLLIER

DON & ROBERTA KARGER

LINDA FLEMING & JONATHAN SCHEIDT

KARL THEM

JON BUTZ



Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2023

Attendance: Members who attended the 10:00 service and stayed for the meeting. (41 members)

Call to Order: Carol Bertholf called the Congregational meeting to order at 11:00 am on Jan. 22, 2023 in the church sanctuary. A quorum was established. Pastor Kathy opened the meeting with prayer. Carol thanked the members of the congregation for staying for the meeting and for the lunch that will follow the meeting.

Carol reviewed parts of the "Annual Report for 2022" booklet that had been given to members as they reentered the sanctuary. Of special note is the need for a replacement for the leader of the **Altar Guild**. This is a very important role that needs filled.

Carol reviewed the Membership Statistics Report. Efforts will be made this year to clearly differentiate active vs. inactive members and baptized or confirmed members. Carol also reported that Bonnie Elias stepped up to lead the Staff Support Committee. The Council voted to accept her as chairman of the committee and appointed her to that role at the January 10, 2023, Church Council meeting.

Jonathan Butz presented information on the Endowment Committee's recommendations of the distribution of 2022 funds. First, he corrected the amount to go to Love Our Hero's from \$1200 to \$2000. The remainder of the information on page 12 of the report is correct. The Council approved the corrected amounts at the Dec. 13, 2022 meeting. **Carol moved approval of Council's motion to accept the distribution of the Endowment funds as adjusted at the Dec. 13, 2022 Council meeting. Jean Erwin seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote.**

Don Karger presented updated information from the Finance Committee. The "Statement of Operations Summary as of December 31, 2022" had been given to members as they reentered the sanctuary. The

Committee has been working on improving the accuracy of information being put into the system. They revised the counter's sheet to help with this. They have worked with Banks and Associates to improve communication and clarity.

Pastor Kathy announced that there is a new magazine rack in the narthex that has copies of important information such as **The Word in Season** and **Portals of Prayer** magazines, "Funeral & Memorial Service Guide" and "Funeral/Memorial Service Plan for

____(name)____", and informational booklets. When review and revision of the church's Constitution and Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions are complete, copies of these will be placed in the rack, as well.

Recording of sermons on Sundays has begun. With Jonathan Scheidt's help these will be available on the church's web page. More information about this will be forthcoming. Also, M & M recordings will be coming back this week as more about our mission and ministry is explored.

A Stewardship Committee is forming. They and Council members will read the book **Abundance: Creating a Culture of Generosity** to help develop a plan for the year.

Also, Pastor Kathy anticipates being elected Dean of the NALC North Central Ohio Mission District in May. She will update the congregation after the election.

Adjournment: There being no other business, **Marilyn Zuber moved and Nancy Collier seconded that the meeting be adjourned.** Carol adjourned the meeting at 11:40 am.

Pastor Kathy concluded with prayer before most in attendance moved to the social hall for the luncheon.

Respectfully Submitted
by Nancy Collier, Council Secretary

Getting To Know You... Bonnie Elias

Fun fact people may not know about you?

I attended the 13th International Luther League Convention "United in the Word" held at Cornell University (Ithaca NY) with a busload of youth from the Mansfield area Lutheran churches August 19-24, 1958.

The next place on your travel bucket list?

Louisiana or Texas and Ireland and Scotland on my bucket list.

If you had to eat one meal a day for the rest of your life?

Lunch. If a specific food, it would be my mom's meatloaf.

The last book you read? What book would you recommend?

The Answer Is... by Alex Trebec; recommended—*The Prayer Box* by L. Wingate. Also, the book I wrote: "In Search" (writing a book was on my life bucket list!)

One item you can't live without?

Nothing—person may be tested to live without many.

Three noteworthy people you would invite for dinner?

Apostle Paul, Anne Frank, David Copperfield (the magician)

Favorite Hymns?

On Eagle's Wings and My Faith Looks Up to Thee.

Your First Job?

Telemarketer selling magazines over the phone

Thank you to ALL of you who helped with the Fellowship Luncheon following the Annual Congregational Meeting!

Special thanks to Jerry & Barb Fraifogl for the new coffee pot and assortment of cards for Holy Carers.

It was a great success!

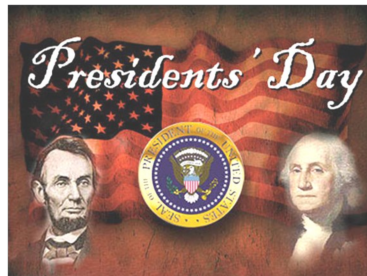
Thank you, Mary & Roger Steude

February is a short month but it is certainly
full of fun!

2nd Groundhog Day

14th Valentines Day

20th President's Day (Offices Closed)



WITH *Gratitude*



*Dear Holy Trinity Lutheran Church,
Thank you for the Christmas greetings
and for funding my January 2023
Sunday morning breakfasts (at
McDonald's) as I head to services.*

*Grace and peace, always,
Pastor Dan*

*From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you
for the gift cards, treats, and other expressions
of Christmas joy and appreciation. We enjoy
being part of your ministry.*

*Joy & Peace,
Debbie, Mike, Steve, Pastor Kathy &
Barclay* 

Prison Fellowship Academy

The Prison Fellowship Academy is a long-term program. With curriculum, training, and oversight provided by Prison Fellowship, volunteers work in a team to facilitate life-changing classes. Prisoner participants voluntarily apply for admission to the program. Targeted curriculum, compassionate coaches, and restorative community are used to replace participants' criminal thinking and behaviors with renewed purpose and biblically based life principles. Graduates complete the yearlong program as change agents and good citizens inside and outside of prison. Academic studies have proven that the program works – helping people become productive and positive contributors to their communities. Less than 10% of Prison Fellowship Academy graduates return to prison.

Prison Fellowship is looking for individuals who have the time and experience to help incarcerated men and women find restoration. There are 1.7 million prisoners in the U.S. today. Prison Fellowship Academy was created to help bring hope and renewal into their lives.

Currently Richland County Correctional has about 35 men participating in this Academy, and Mansfield Correctional has about 22 men participating. Prison Fellowship Academy occurs at Mansfield Correctional weekly on Tuesday and Wednesday, 1:30-3:30pm. At Richland County class is held weekly on Tuesday and Thursday, 6:00-8:00pm. The minimum requirement of each volunteer is to serve two times per month because the program is all about building relationships. The Academy is seeking to recruit about 8 volunteers right now.

Please talk to Pastor Kathy if you are interested in learning more about Prison Fellowship Academy and/or possibly volunteering at either Correctional center.

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
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MANSFIELD, OHIO 44907



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Mansfield, Ohio 44907
Phone: 419-756-7547
www.holytrinitymansfield.org

BUSINESS HOURS:
*9:30am-12:30pm Mon-Fri

VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is to be a Christ-centered Bible-based Church, equipping disciples with Scripture to share the good news of God's reconciling love with conviction, courage and compassion while