THE PIPER

FEBRUARY 21, 2021



Trinity Lutheran Church

2221 North Oak Lane State College, PA 16803 814-238-2024 www.trinitystatecollege.org

Soups that will be available for pick up on Wednesday, Feb. 24th

from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Land of Enchantment Posole (GF/DF)
Creamy Chicken Rice Soup (GF)
Easy Hamburger Soup (GF/DF)



SMALL GROUP STUDY OF THE PSALMS DURING LENT

Join us for an "Introduction to the Psalms" presented by Vicar Ted. We will be exploring the Psalms: What are the Psalms? Different types of Psalms? How can we use the Psalms in our daily prayer life?

There will be two sessions every Tuesday during Lent.

Times will be 10am and 6pm.

Both sessions are the same each week, so you only need to attend one of them. Get ready to learn about what Martin Luther described as the mini Bible.

Zoom for 10 am or 6 pm and will start Feb 23rd and end March 23rd.

TRINITY EVENTS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

YouTube Worship Service w/Bulletin
Recorded & Emailed
10:00 am Zoom Coffee Hour
11:00 am Deeper Water Zoom
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22
7:00 pm Zoom Bible Study
TUESDAY, MARCH 23

10:00 am Psalm Zoom Small Group 6:00 pm Psalm Zoom Small Group WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

11:30 am - 1:00 pm Soup Pickup
Holden Evening Prayer
Recorded & Emailed
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25
10:00 am Zoom Bible Study
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

YouTube Worship Service w/Bulletin Recorded & Emailed 10:00 am Zoom Coffee Hour 11:00 am Deeper Water Zoom

PRAYER LIST

TLC DISCIPLES

Jerry Wion, Carol Bernlohr, Dee Kiel, Linda Leslie

TLC FRIENDS

Sandy Conard, Mike, Jayne, Alan, Steve, Jeff

READINGS

Genesis 9:8-17 Psalm 25:1-10 1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:9-15 I am out of the office from Thursday, February 18th to Monday, March 1st. If you need to get in touch with me or need something put in the newsletter, I will have my computer.

Please email me at: tlcoffice2@comcast.net

If you need to speak to me, you can call or text me on my cell phone at (814) 404-5923.

Please be aware that I am in Florida helping my parents and may not have my phone readily available.

Please leave a message and I will get back to you.

Thank you, **Beth**





MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Robert Phillips	1
Alyce Mehring	4
Marcia Oselinsky	4
Robert Coyle	6
Karen Hammel	6
Jeffrey Gonet	7
K.C. Kim	7
Peter Weyandt	9
Gerry Delmonico	13
Henry Linden	17
Teena Peachey	21
Esther Lauchle	22
Mark Merritt	22
Bonnie Knapp	26
Richard Coulter	27
Tara Merritt	27
Bennett Taverno	27
Susan Glad	28
Doug Perkins	28
Darin Fedorko	31

Deeper Waters Recipe Book

The Deeper Waters Youth put together a small recipe book with their favorite recipes. The booklet was mailed to the youth, but there are extra copies for anyone who would like one.

There are a nice variety of main dishes and desserts.

They are available on Soup Wednesdays for pick up.

> The booklets will be available on the benches outside the front doors of the church, along with the most up-to-date devotionals for everyone.

Pickup a copy of this recipe book. We have some wonderful youth cooks.

DEEPER WATERS RECIPE **BOOK**



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

<u>Staff</u>

Pastor Ronald C. Miller, Jr. tlcrevron@gmail.com

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COUNCIL

JULY 2019 - JUNE 2022

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From the Pastor's Desk

February 21, 2021

Dear Beloved of Christ,

Just as we bid a fond farewell to the year 2020, we welcomed 2021 with open arms, hopeful hearts, and joyful anticipate of a better year! Well, how's the year going for you so far? We have had record cold temperatures of late, COVID-19 vaccine distribution has been spotty at best with some getting it with ease and others searching and searching for an appointment, and if that were not enough, we have all the hubbub on Capitol Hill with finger pointing, counteraccusations, and all sorts of double-talk. And that barely scratches the surface! What a world we have created!

And yet, when one thinks about it, are things any different today than they were over the centuries, even in Jesus' day? As we read the Bible, Jesus came to a world as broken, corrupt and violent as the world is today. The Magi come to find the newborn King only to "return home by another way," for fear that Herod would find the Child and kill him. (see Mt 2:12) More to the point is Luke's nativity account, which the writer puts squarely in the mix of the political dynamics of the day: "In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David." (Lk 2:1-3) Finally, throughout Jesus' 3-year ministry he was constantly afoul of the political and religious powers brokers of the day.

"The more things change, the more they stay the same," may be truer and more accurate than we might suppose or appreciate. And yet, here we are, in this world as it is.

Of course, that's the amazing truth: it has been into this world, not another, that Jesus came and comes. I suspect if we were in Jesus' place, we would have objected as God the Father explained his plan for the salvation of humankind. "You want me to do WHAT?! WHERE?! HOW?! No, I don't think so. Have you seen what a mess that world is?" To the contrary, as Paul puts it so well, Jesus Christ,

who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,

⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,

so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. This truly is Amazing Grace that God now freely extends to us all. As I have often noted in wedding sermons, God's love shown in Jesus not only makes life worthwhile, but it makes life itself possible. Even those who don't believe in this God are sustained by this love just the same.

And so, despite the weather, despite deadly viruses, even despite political quagmires, we are people of hope that is based on God's amazing grace and the love poured out in Jesus, who continues to come to us, provide for us, protect us and preserve us. We see him in chance encounters when shopping, in the faces of those we love who also love us, in the lives of those most dear. We also see him in the faces of people risking their health and wellbeing to do their jobs which provide vital services to the rest of us. Yes, even in annoying Zoom meetings, we encounter the living Christ in our midst!

As we continue to deal with the myriad of challenges facing us as a congregation, community, even a nation, God has given us each other to encourage and nurture. This thought has crossed my mind on more than one occasion, and I know it sounds selfish, but if I had to endure this world as it is, I feel greatly blessed to be doing so with my family, my friends, my colleagues and you, beloved people of Trinity, State College. It truly is a great time to be the Church and I look forward to what God has in store for us for the remainder of 2021.

Blessings to you and those most dear to you, as well as all those in need of our prayers.

Your servant in Christ,

Paster Ron

Pastor Ron





Lenten Message from Bishop Michael

When we gather for Ash Wednesday we hear the words, "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return." These words remind us of the fragility and fleeting nature of our lives. We start the season of Lent being reminded that this life will end. If it were not for the love and grace of God in Jesus Christ, we would return to dust and oblivion.

This Ash Wednesday, after almost a year under the shadow of COVID-19, it may be easier for us to remember the fragility of our lives. We have seen our 'normal' turned upside down. We have learned to wear masks, worship practices have altered, for many of us our working situations have changed. As of this writing we have lost 471,000 people to this virus. That number will have increased by the time you read this. This is a time none of us expected or could have anticipated.

I have wondered if this experience of COVID hasn't changed things as much as it has revealed to us the truth of our reality. So much that we value and consider important are much more fragile and unstable than we imagine. All things are passing away.

The Good News, in this season of Lent, is that though we are dust, our Lord God breathes life into dust like us. These lives will end, but death does not have the last word over us. We belong to Jesus Christ. We were claimed by Jesus in the waters of baptism and the Holy Spirit united us to his life, death and resurrection. Because of that, because of Jesus, though we die we will live in him. Though all we know will pass away, our Lord Jesus will be forever and will bring us into his eternal life. That is Good News.

So, we look to the cross. On that cross we see the love of God in Jesus Christ. A love so strong that Jesus would not leave us to our own sin. God became flesh and lived among us. Jesus Christ walked with us, taught us, and sacrificed his body and blood to save us from eternal death. Jesus loved us so much he stopped at nothing to save us, even though that meant death on a cross. Jesus gave all, because you matter so very much to him.

In this season of Lent while we still walk under the shadow of COVID-19, we remember that our Lord Jesus is with us. Christ has already given all to save us. He is not going to abandon us now. God almighty, Jesus Christ our Lord, and the power of the Holy Spirit are at work leading and guiding us through this pandemic. This will pass. COVID, unrest, instability, and uncertainty are not as powerful as the God who brings us and all things into being. That God in Jesus Christ loves you more than you can ever know.

Look to the cross this Lenten season. See the Lord who gave himself to save you. See the Lord who shows us the great love of God. That Jesus is the one who promises to be with us until the end of the age. He is the one who no matter what comes at us nothing can separate us from him and from his love.

May you have a blessed Lent,

Bishop Michael Rhyne Ash Wednesday, 2021