

January 15, 22, & 29 2023

The Weekly Tidings

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

www.htelc.com

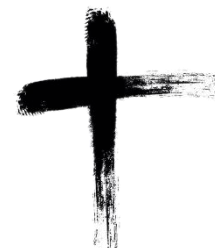
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Come Together, Grow in Faith, Serve the LORD

Ash Wednesday

Plan now for the start of Lent. Worship services will be offered at 12:00 noon and at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. The worship will include the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion.



Operation Blessing

Since Covid I have not requested specific food or household items for you to bring to Church to donate to OB. Of course, the need is still great and if you can bring anything in that you think a family might need. Often condiments are needed and in the winter canned fruit and soups and beans. So I will request those items for the remainder of the month and then in February I will request different items that the OB pantry needs. I know we are all experiencing added costs so if you cannot donate, that is fine. But, if you can, that is great. Please put the items in the green buckets under the mail boxes. We are requesting condiments, canned fruits, soups and beans for January. Thank you. ((Of course, any item is appreciated.) Lois Laurence



Calumet Women's Retreat

Mark your calendars for the return of the Women's Retreat. The dates this year are March 10-12 and the cost is \$172 for the conference center and five meals. There will be a planning meeting on Sunday February 5 after the worship service that all are welcome to. We'll have information on how to sign up in February as we will continue to monitor the respiratory illness level as we go forward. Questions? Contact Leslie Carson at carsonsl@maine.rr.com



President's Article

Beginning before Christmas, the church council has devoted many hours to studying our finances - looking backward to see whether our projections from last year were accurate, and looking forward to prepare the budget for 2023. Perhaps some of you were doing the same sort of work to prepare your personal or family budget. It's likely we all encountered some similar challenges. It costs more to provide electricity to our buildings, it costs more to heat our structures, and the cost of almost everything is significantly more than it was a year ago. The additional challenge to projecting our church budget is that we don't know when we will be entering into a relationship with a permanent pastor. The good news is that we ended 2022 in a strong financial position.



This Sunday, January 22, we will be holding a session immediately after worship to discuss financial projections for next year. We need everyone's input in order to develop the financial plan that best reflects our ministries. If you attend worship in person on Sunday, please get a cup of coffee and something to eat and join us in the sanctuary prepared to share your thoughts.

Property Team

Although I dutifully got my recommended vaccine shots and boosters, I suppose it was inevitable that I would have to do battle with the COVID-19 virus sooner or later. I tested positive in December. It was a mild case, but I was unable to work with Thursday Group for a couple of weeks. Some other of our regulars also were hit with the virus, so our numbers were impacted. Still, the team was able to get the seasonal decorations up on schedule and to get them down and stored as well. How about a shout out to the "Who Does What, When" document which we regularly follow to keep the right things happening at the right time.



Council has agreed to proceed with the work to replace two failed LED light fixtures for illumination of the steeple. As I mentioned in Tidings last month, these light fixtures have been out of service for a long time, possibly as a result of the lightning strike and power surge we experienced in 2020. It is also possible that these LED units were knocked out by a separate lightning event. It is difficult to establish when the lights failed. I have been aware of this for quite some time, but I have to say no-one has mentioned the problem to me. Our electrician/contractor told us that the power supplies/controls for these units clearly showed indications of overheating consistent with a power surge of some sort. The units are out of warranty at this point. We will evaluate whether or not any portion of the repair cost of \$800 is covered by insurance.

Indonesian Cooking Night in May

We are planning some opportunities for fellowship between the Holy Trinity 9:30 community and the Imanuel Indonesian 2:00 congregation during 2023. Our first event... do you like cooking? If so, please come to cooking class after 9:30 Worship on May 7 (tentative date)! Open to all ages and cooking skills. We will learn to cook Indonesian nasi goreng (fried rice) and lumpia (springrolls) from our fellow parishoners. We will all help with the chopping, rolling, frying and then sit down to enjoy the lunch we have cooked. Details are under discussion, more information coming soon.



Thank you for the Christmas Gift

On behalf of the staff, we want to say thank you for your generosity shown to us last week through the cards and gift we received. It is great to know and feel we are appreciated in our jobs. It is an honor and our pleasure to work with you here at Holy Trinity. Thank You – *Pastor Luther, Mark D, Jon K, Jon B, & Ken G.*



Table of Plenty

Thank you to Holy Trinity for the \$250 donation that was made in support of the Table of Plenty in Berwick, Maine. We take 6th students from Marshwood Middle School there to help prepare meals and in December we did a collection of personal care products to support their ministry. HTELC's donation will provide additional support as they are seeing an increased need for their services during the cold winter months and these challenging economic times. Scott Carson

Yearly Financial Statements

Yearly Financial Statements were mailed out recently. If you have not received yours in the mail by now, please speak to Dan Scammon or the church office.

Prayer Concerns

Health Issues: Franklyn Vosburg, Jerry Schock, Pastor Linn Opderbecke, Alice Peterson, George Parseghian, Sarah Meier, Bob & Judy Hollister, Don Gindlesperger, Steve Bush, Joyce Rivoire, Richard Anderson, Yvonne Topping, Dave Smith, Larry Sanders, Hazel Larson, Leo Larson, Linda Swiatocha, Jean Klein, Joe Lugalla, Geri Seig, Rani Marcus. **Homebound:** Carol Saufley, Edith Rowan, Barbara Werdelin, Ron Evers, Dave & Joyce Rivoire, Anita Lindstrom. **Military:** Josh Bretz, Matthew Hanrahan, Brendan Podszus, Jacob Schankis, Jessica Chabot.

Friends: Katy and Sherry (Shirley Jackson's daughter and sister), Linda Smith and Bill Hutchins (Jill Larson's friends), Geri Sieg (former member of Holy Trinity), Casey Lavoie (Stephanie Goupil's friend), Monica Amundson (Julie Moore's friend), Danielle Elwanger & family (Bobbie Febbo's granddaughter) Linda Aten (Rich Wilcox's sister), Lynn Geraci (Jill & Jerry Schock's friend), Robert Gjellstad (Jerry Schock's cousin)

Prayers will be listed for 6 weeks unless told otherwise. If you would like a prayer concern listed in the bulletin, please fill out a Prayer Request at the Usher's table or contact the Church Office at office@htelc.com.

Monthly Attendance & Offering

Sunday, January 1:	35 (<i>In-Person</i>) + no online = 35	
Sunday, January 8:	94 (<i>In-Person</i>) + 25 (<i>Online</i>) = 119	Offering: \$6,866.45
Sunday, January 15:	83 (<i>In-Person</i>) + 23 (<i>Online</i>) = 106	Offering: \$7,264.85
Sunday, January 22:	91 (<i>In-Person</i>) + 41 (<i>Online</i>) = 132	Offering: \$3,146.92

Offering for January 1 was counted with the January 8 offering.

Calendar at-a-glance

Wed. February 22:	Ash Wednesday (<i>worship at 12:00 PM & 7:00 PM</i>)
Sun. April 2:	Palm Sunday
Thurs. April 6:	Maundy Thursday (<i>worship times TBD</i>)
Fri. April 7:	Good Friday (<i>worship times TBD</i>)
Sun. April 9:	Easter Sunday

Sunday Worship, Sundays at 9:30 AM

Confirmation Class, Sundays after Worship.

Wednesday Bible Study, Wednesdays at 9:30 AM

Property Team, Thursdays at 8:00 AM until noon.