Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church 200 E. Clements Bridge Road Runnemede, NJ 08078

Rev. Dr. G. Andrew Engelhart III Pastor

856-939-4411 <u>www.trinityrunnemede.org</u>

E-mail: Pastorandy62@Comcast.net
Office: Janet4411@Comcast.net
Sunday Services: 8:30 & 10:00 AM

March 2019 NEWSLETTER



Gracious speech is like clover honey-good taste to the soul, quick energy for the body.

Proverbs 16:24 MSG

PASTOR'S LETTER

As I write this letter I am encouraged that after a cold, snowy winter, spring is almost here. And as we approach spring, the season of Lent will we be upon us quickly. Since the Middle Ages, Lent has been a penitential season. That is, a season in which the faithful have focused upon their sinful nature.

Over the centuries various forms of service or self-denial have been adopted by Christians as a way of recognizing their sinful lives and showing some kind of external remorse. One of the more popular and more recent disciplines of Lent is that of giving up some kind of indulgence or vice. For example a person might give up alcohol or gambling during Lent. Someone who loves ice cream might forego ice cream during the season of Lent. Roman Catholic Christians are more likely to observe this practice. However, Protestants over the years have been known to observe the Lenten season with some form of self-denial as well. Seeing that Lent falls on the heels of so many broken New Year's Eve promises to live a better life, one can see why changing our behavior for a limited period of time might be a more successful venture for more people. We may find great joy in restoring our former behaviors at the conclusion of Lent. If we love and enjoy ice cream just think of how good that first dish of that cold, smooth, sweet treat will taste at the end of six weeks.

Many people meet this challenge and succeed easily while others struggle. I wonder how many things we could do without for forty days? We might be able to make two lists: 1. Those things that are easy to do without for forty days. 2. Those things that are difficult to do without for forty days. On which list would you place broccoli? On which list would you place coffee?

Many years ago my Doctor put me on a medication upon which I could no longer eat grapefruit. Grapefruit was one of those foods that I disliked as a child but began to like as an adult. Although I was not devastated by this circumstance, I knew that I would miss not having grapefruit in my diet. I have one of those special grapefruit knives, the curved one with the serrated edge that is perfect for cutting around the circumference of the grapefruit. I also have two grapefruit spoons, narrower than a regular spoon and with a serrated edge. For fifteen years I clung to these relics of my grapefruit eating past just in case the day would come that I could enjoy grapefruit again! Then, one day my Doctor decided to change one of my medications. As he was writing the new script he said, "Do you like grapefruit?" "Yes," I replied. "You can eat grapefruit with this medication," He said as he smiled. The eternal Lent of my grapefruit had come to an end! No longer a forbidden fruit! I could not wait to start the new medication and delight in eating that wonderful fruit again! When the day came I took a large, beautiful, pink grapefruit from the refrigerator. I dug deep through the utensil drawer in search of my special knife. I looked for the spoons. Then I carefully cut my grapefruit in half and using my special knife I cut my way around the circumference of each half, then I sliced between each segment of the half. Now I was ready eat. I savored every morsel of its flesh and every drop of its juice....and I ate both halves. Yes, all 72 calories in one sitting.

No matter what we give up for Lent, the joy of returning to those old vices or indulgences pales in comparison to the true joy of Easter. No matter what we give up for Lent, we will reunite with that past again on Easter morning. But the truth of Easter is that on the day of resurrection, when our Lord calls forth all the faithful from their graves, we will not be rejoicing by reuniting with our past, we will be rejoicing that our sinful pasts will stay dead as we are resurrected into the eternal joy of living in the light of God's glory.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Andy

SERMON PREVIEW

March 3-THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD Luke 9:29-43

"FROM ORDINARY TO EXTRAORDINARY"

March 6- ASH WEDNESDAY

Psalm 51

"YOU CAN RUN, BUT YOU CANNOT HIDE FROM YOURSELF (OR GOD!)"

March 10- THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT Psalm 91:1-2,9-16
"THE GOD WHO DELIVERS"

MARCH 17- THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Acts 16:9-15

"THE LIFE AND TIMES OF ST. PATRICK"

March 24- THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT Isaiah 55:1-9
"DID GOD SAY FREE?"

March 31- THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 "WHO YOU GONNA CALL?"

April 7- THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Isaiah 43:16-21

"WHEN GOD MAKES A WAY"

April 14- PALM SUNDAY/SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

Luke 19:28-40

"FORCING THE ISSUES"

April 18- MAUNDY THURSDAY Exodus 12:1-14

"SALVATION: SIGNED, SEALED, DELIVERED-IN BLOOD!"

April 19- GOOD FRIDAY

Mark 15:25-47

"FROM A DISTANCE"

April 21- THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

Luke 24:1-12

"WHY DO YOU SEEK THE DEAD AMONG THE LIVING?"

April 28- THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

John 20:19-31

"LOOKING THROUGH THE RESURRECTION"

As most of you know, the number of children in the Junior Choir has diminished over the past months. But I am sure that all of you are amazed at the enthusiasm and real JOY exhibited by those who come to sing.

One of the reasons we have a Junior Choir is to help the children to learn the words to many of the tenants of our faith- in song! Hopefully in the years ahead many will have the words "come back to them" when they are in situations which may be a bit "sticky". As we all know the Lord sees us every minute and is concerned about us: children or adults! He loves us and cares about us!

As human beings we may become fearful from time to time. So...that is why the Junior Choir sang "I Will Not Fear" in February. The chorus goes like this: "I will not fear, no way. He's with me night and day. I will be strong and brave. I'll never be afraid. So hear me loud and clear. What do! have? Not fear. Because the Lord is near. I will not fear!" (Perhaps you know someone-large or small who could benefit from hearing those words.—If you would like the music, I'll be glad to share a copy with you.)

Now on St. Patrick's Day, no less, we will be singing "Give a Little". —Be sure to mark your calendars for March 17 and come to the 10:00 Service to hear the children. This is another message for each of us.

As we look forward to Ash Wednesday, Holy Week and Easter Sunday we pray that the Lord will have His arms around us during this time of a more serious tone of worship. Let all of us use this time to reflect upon what God has done for us in giving His Son who walked this earth and knows what situations we may face from day to day. God loves each and every one of us just as He loved His own Son.

A blessed Lenten season, Mrs. Schmidt



The Prayer Shawl monthly meeting was held on Friday February 1, 2019. In attendance were Barbara Anconetani, Ann Carter, Val Colasuonno, Eleanor Epley and Mary Raws. Also in attendance were Janet and Pastor Andy who led the opening blessing. The meeting officially started at 10:10 a.m. There was a brief discussion on the various types of yarn to use for cancer patients and the very young. AC Moore had made several recommendations and Eleanor is trying this new yarn and will report at our next meeting.

We received the following: 4 Lap blankets

Cathedral Kitchen: 3 scarves, and 8 hats

Osborn Family Med.Ctr. 3 Baby hats, Purple Crying Caps 2 Baby caps

Distribution: A lap blanket was given to Ms. Dale Wiltbank and Steve Lipski. Our parishioner Lee Mikulski requested a white baby blanket which she received.

Corresponding Secretary: Barbara Anconetani read the following:

A note from Carol and Tom from the UR Important 2 Us Ministry thanking us for our recent donations. Carol also included a thank you from one of the recipients for "all the love put into the items."

A card from Debbie Troffo expressing her appreciation for the kindness and prayers that come with the Prayer Shawl.

A note from Debbie Harrow thanking us for the Prayer Shawl she received and our thoughtfulness.

Baptismal Historian: Mary Raws reported there one baptism in January. Aubree Lynn Burgo was baptized on January 27th. Congratulations.

Come join us at the next meeting scheduled for Friday, March 1, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. The weather has been "frightful" so stop by and pick up some needles and yarn to make something warm and comfortable for someone to enjoy. Our closing reading was from Proverbs 15:15 and we adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Val Colasuonno Vice President Prayer Shawl Ministry "May God Hold You in the Palm of His Hand" Greetings in Christ,

As we march in to spring we have so far endured a very mild winter with a few light snowfalls and short lived deep freezes. A harsh winter is hard on our property and can cause significant damage. We are almost there (spring) and very soon will be starting the Lenten Season leading up to Easter as we repent and renew our spirit in the Lord.

The property committee along with Pastor Andy did a review of the property concerns and projects.

Below are some of the projects we would like to accomplish:

- Complete the fire inspection defects
- Paint restrooms in the new addition.
- Install 2nd handrail going down to the basement.
- Clean and seal the basement floors.
- · Paint the secretary's office.
- Re-carpet the sanctuary and sitting area, along with new flooring at the glass door entrance.
- Clean storage areas and furnace room.
- Install new lighting in furnace room.
- · Replace furnace room sliding door.
- Repair air conditioner condensation lines by glass door entrance.
- Renovate storage area under basement stairs.
- Paint wrought iron railings at the entrances.

Our list is extensive and there are many more important projects that should be addressed. Some of those on the list have already begun.

The committee would like to focus on the sanctuary. It's starting to show its age. We would like to start an upgrade agenda starting with carpeting.

In November 2018 council approved the memorial lights tree funds to be put towards this project. We have obtained estimates from several contractors on the total cost. The council and committee will keep you informed on the progress of this endeavor.

We have two brand new electric water heaters installed by "Great Plumbers" late January. Our existing water heater was 19 years old and the old one was installed in 1986 by Wally and Russ. It was a Mr. Good buy's heater. Typically a water heater has a life span of 10 to 12 years. We have been blessed not to have had a serious water leak.

Our next work day will be Saturday, March 9th at 8 a.m. Won't you consider joining us for a little work and a lot of good fellowship? We have many small things to be done that require little or no skill that add up to finished projects getting done.

See you then! Yours in Christ,

Rich Greiner Co-Chairman Trinity Property Committee

SOCIAL CONCERNS

On February 17th, we enjoyed our annual, late Christmas dinner. We all enjoyed good food and fellowship!



The Lenten season will start soon. We will be having our Soup, Bread, and Dessert Wednesday suppers. Please join us for delicious soups and fellowship on March 13th, March 20th, March 27th, April 3rd and April 10th.

Our next Pantry Day will be Thursday, March 28th. Share Sunday will be Sunday, March 10th. We are in need of the following items: paper towels, soap, jelly, pancake mix and syrup.





Our Clothing closet continues to provide much needed clothing to our pantry families. The closet is also open to all members of the congregation as well. If you plan to drop off any of your donations, please remember to keep the <u>bags light</u>. Please remember we can only take clothes that are clean and in good condition. They can be dropped off in the containers on the porch at 17th Knight Avenue anytime. Please **Do Not** drop off non-clothes items such as toys, household items etc.

We will be getting ready to fill Easter Baskets for our pantry families. Look for our Pantry Pig to arrive to remind everyone to bring in their donations of Easter Hams and canned goods. All hams and canned good are due back on Palm Sunday, April 14th.

New members are always welcome. We meet on the second Sunday of the month following the 10:00 service. Please come out and join us. Remember God loves a cheerful giver. Those who not only give of their wealth, but of their time, their talents and their possessions. With God ALL things are possible.

Dates to remember:

March 10th Share Sunday

March 12th Clothing Closet

March 28th Pantry and Clothing Closet

March 31st Pantry Pig arrives!

April 13th Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

Luke 3:11 And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise."

Caring and Sharing Diane Kochon



<u>LENTEN SUPPER</u> JOIN US EACH WEDNESDAY at 6:00 PM

Delicious homemade Soup, Bread, Beverage and Dessert will be ready for youno need to sign up- just come!

Mid-Week Lenten Program JOIN US EACH WEDNESDAY AT 7:30 PM

Our Mid-Week Lenten Programs are co-sponsored by Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church and Gardner Funeral Home



March 13th - Jim Hughes. Join us as Jim brings the scriptures to life through dramatic speech and song

March 20th- Movie Night. The Protestant Reformation: Join us and the History Channel as we explore the Reformation and it's impact upon our modern world. Approximately 100 minutes.

March 27th- TBA

April 3rd- Movie Night. *I Can Only Imagine:* The inspiring and unknown true story behind MercyMe's beloved, chart topping song that brings ultimate hope to so many is a gripping reminder of the power of true forgiveness. Approximately 110 minutes.



April 10th - *The Trinity Praise Band*: Don't miss the special music and solo performances. Find out why the Praise Band has become a Trinity Lenten favorite!

Kids Page



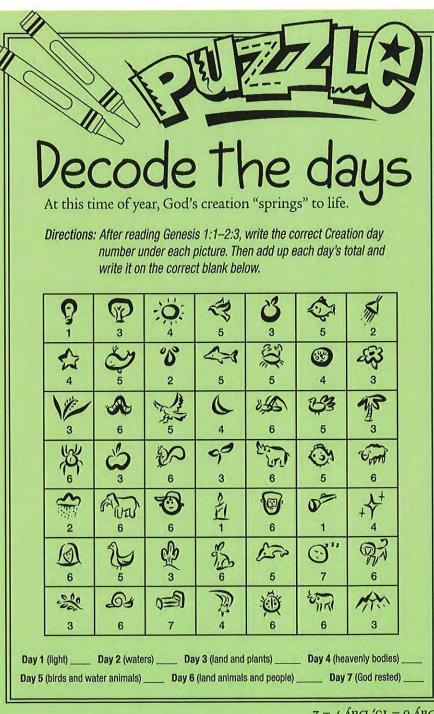
Play this game to remember when God made each of his masterpieces.



- Rulers
- Pencils
- · Markers or crayons
- Dice
- Bibles (open to Genesis 1:1-2:3 for reference)

What you do:

- 1. To make game boards, draw a grid with four rows and seven columns, totaling 28 squares.
- 2. Across the top row, write DAY 1 in the first square and continue through DAY 7.
- 3. Take turns rolling one die, or all players can roll at once. For the number rolled, draw something God created on that day (in the correct column).
- 4. When you fill an entire row, draw a smiley face in the DAY 7 square. The first player with two smileys wins.



Answers: Day 1=3, Day 2=3, Day 3=10, Day 4=6, Day 5=10, Day 6=15, Day 7=2

Sunday School News - March 2019

"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "G0 and do likewise." (Luke 10: 36-37)

Jesus answered the question: Who is my neighbor? A neighbor is a person who is in need, whose need I can see, and whose need I can meet. The real question is "What is my duty?" The parable of the Good Samaritan should make us want to be a neighbor just like him. Another question arises "What is love?" Love is compassion that feels, care that involves, and commitment that endures. Love originates in the giver who takes the first step and goes to extraordinary measures. Jesus taught the 2 greatest commandments are to love God and love one's neighbor. "If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?" (1 John 3:17). Martin Luther observed, "Faith alone justifies, your faith is never alone. It is never without love; if love is lacking, neither is there faith, but mirror hypocrisy." Jesus' challenges: "go and do likewise". Loving my neighbor is visible evidence of an overflowing love for God in our lives. Everything in Jesus' life revealed an unlimited love of neighbor, which was consistent with his perfect love of His Father.

Our spring semester starts on Sunday, March 4th. New lessons have been purchased; we are all ready to go. Lent will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 6th. In preparation Lenten Faith Guide booklets are on order. Social Concerns will again have 'Breakfast with the Easter Bunny" and an egg hunt on April 13th, the Saturday before Palm Sunday, at 9:00 AM. Come, join in the fun. In the coming months we are making plans for our annual plant sale during the weekend of May 4th, & 5th the weekend before Mother's Day from 8:00 AM until noon. Proceeds will benefit "Trinity's Scholarship Program" as a memorial to Carol Rowen. Bob Zenter will again provide the plants. We will have an assortment of perennials, flowering shrubs and some trees. We will need several volunteers to help with the sale.

Please support UR Important 2 US to help feed the homeless. Our next donation Sunday will be March 17^{th} . We need peanut butter and jelly, bottles of water, packaged snacks and warm socks. Come join us the Saturday before at 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall to make PB&J sandwiches. We have a nice group of people who have fun and fellowship. In January we purchased more blankets for the homeless. This brought the total to 216. Mission Teens, our other outreach, helps the desperate by ministering the Gospel of Jesus Christ to those willing to seek God as the answer to their problems. Please remember to help them by make a donation. Make checks payable to "Trinity Lutheran Sunday School".

Please remember to have your child bring an offering every Sunday to help cover the cost of curriculum materials. Wear your Rally Day T-shirts every third Sunday of the month as a reminder that we were "Created with a Purpose!" Yes, we are still looking for volunteers to teach. We need one additional person to help our Offering Collectors. If you are interested in helping please contact me.

In the Name of Jesus may this New Year Bring Great Joy and Blessings to All.

Carl Nagel

Cell: 215-852-3217 Home: 856-784-2360 <u>dadx3d@comcast.net</u>



- 1 Ryder Ludwick
- 1 Amanda Mayer
- 1 Bob Redles
- 1 Jacob Engelhart
- 1- Wayne Rand
- 2 Wayne Egolf
- 3- Maverick Devecchio
- 5 Harry J. Rivell
- 5 Karen Cundiff
- 5 Justin Frockowiak
- 5- Mindy Martinez
- 6 Christian J. Kochon
- 6 Marcos Cepero
- 9 Christine E. Lindstrom
- 11 Ashley Jones
- 12 Madison Raws
- 14 Sherry Ann Schmidt
- 15- Brian Rozzelle, Jr.
- 18- Karly Raebiger
- 19 Emma Hill
- 20 Eliza Hill
- 20 Richard Veneziani
- 20- Kurt Ruch
- 22- Anna Sharp
- 23 Butch Lloyd
- 24 Andy Devecchio, Jr.
- 24 Denise Bennett
- 24- Robert Brashear
- 25 Joyce Jones
- 25 Nicole Quinton
- 25 Payman Razavi
- 26 Jeffrey Hui
- 26 James Read
- 26 Kirsten Hurff
- 27- Franklin Schmidt
- 28 Paul Crew
- 28 Brian Rumbol
- 30 Arlene Greenidge



Cover photo: "Lucky Day"

Christiana, DE

by Janet Lipski



- 5 Bob & Mary Lou Brashear
- 8 Harold & Adele Virtue, Jr.
- 10 Gerry & Paula Williamson
- 11 Frank & Karen Theisen
- 16 Al & Terri Krout
- 16 Russ & Jennifer Heath
- 27 Michael & Lorraine Phillips



Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of those listed.

On January 30, 2019 MARY L. WILSON (87) Of Bellmawr, NJ

On February 14, 2019 ANNA LOUISE FRISCH (93) Of Voorhees, NJ

On February 23, 2019 BARBARA BOWEN (52) Of Trenton, NJ



On January 27, 2019

AUBREE LYNN BURGO

Daughter of Andrew Burgo & Lisa Karwoski
Of Sicklerville, NJ
Born: July 2, 2018