

# Trinity Tidings for April 2023

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Pastor Julie Osterhout, Deacon Carol Koch, Musician-Carla Seidel, Sexton-Roy Kline



**Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!** The strife is over, the battle is won! Christ is risen, Alleluia! It is a familiar refrain that never gets old. In celebrating The Resurrection of Our Lord, we emerge from the shadows of Lent as though from a deep restorative sleep of repentant prayer and

quiet listening to the whispers of the Holy Spirit. We leap up out of the grave and yell in victory—"Christ is alive! The tomb is empty!" So, what are you gonna do now? That's easy! Go, and tell someone!

Like the woman at the well who was so excited about meeting Jesus she left her water jug on the ground and ran off to tell anyone she could find that she had seen the Messiah, we too are called to go running in joy and excitement to tell someone we have met Christ. And we have!

Don't ever doubt for a second that you haven't met Jesus in every person you meet, in every bit of God's creation that surrounds you, in the music you hear and in the song you sing each and every day, and of course in the bread and wine!

This year, your proclamation might be as simple as picking up your cell phone on Easter morning to send to a friend or loved one a text or picture of where you are, what you are doing, and why you are doing it.

In fact, let's do exactly that! On Easter morning, April 9<sup>th</sup>, take a selfie—you know, like those Easter morning family pictures we all use to take in the "olden" days—only this time take it in the nave or in front of the church building. Post it on Facebook, text it, or email it right away to a friend or family member. Say something like this: "We are at Trinity Lutheran Church Wernersville, PA celebrating the risen Christ right now!"

Let's do it! Let's be bearers of the Good News into a world that is yearning for good news. Let someone know how Christ lives in you transforming how you live in this world, how you think about others—how you treat others. Let someone know the risen Christ is alive and moving in this world and you are part of that movement. Let someone know the joy of being in community with people who treasure the gift of fellowship and each other. Let someone know they are not alone in this world—you walk with them, and Christ walks with us ALL.

Your attention and words of grace may just be what someone needs to today.

So, get those pictures out there!! Say hello from Trinity Lutheran Church Wernersville on this celebration of The Resurrection of Our Lord.

Blessings,  
Pastor Julie

## Holy Week Worship Schedule

**Palm Sunday of the Passion:** April 2, Holy Communion at 11 a.m.

(No Wednesday night Soup, Study, and Sacrament)

**Maundy Thursday:** April 6, Holy Communion/First Communion at 7:30 p.m.

**Good Friday Tenebrae:** April 7, at 7:30 p.m.

**Easter Vigil:** April 8, at 5 PM beginning outside, inside with dramas and Holy Communion.

**Resurrection of Our Lord:** April 9, Holy Communion at 11 a.m.

## *Upcoming Events*



### **Mother's Day--May 14<sup>th</sup>**

We are going to have everyone-children of all ages and mothers-sing Love is a Special Thing. Since this will also be Music Sunday, our Senior Choir, Joybells and Carolbells, and Children's colored bells will be making a Joyful Noise to the Lord that day.

There will be gifts for the mothers as well.

*And then the following Day*

## *Mother and Children Banquet*

Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup>

6:15 PM

All the women of the church plus children, male or female are invited to our annual banquet.

Chef Tedd Hickernell is preparing the meal. I feel sure we can expect the men will be providing some good homemade desserts as well.

Entertainment following provided by the Conrad Weiser High School Jazz Band.

If you just want to hear the band, come to the narthex around 7:30. Many of their parents do this so you will not be alone. This is wonderful 30 to 45 minute concert.

**Sign up sheet will be in the narthex on 4/16.**



Strawberry Festival Games - If you are interested in donating gently used or new stuffed animals as game prizes, please contact Stefanie Steffey @ 484-721-1161 or Barbara Debiec @ 484-599-1057.

Raffles - If you are willing to contribute a raffle basket or a handcrafted item, please contact Barbara Debiec @ 484-599-1057.

### **Strawberry Festival New Addition!**

We will be adding Trinity's Attic to this year's Strawberry Festival. We will have tables to display the congregation's treasures that they are looking to depart with and give to someone else. We are looking for clean, sellable items that will be sold at the Strawberry Festival with ALL proceeds going to our church's

community response fund which is used for the needs of our community. We will be collecting items starting after Easter Sunday. Items can be dropped off at the church and put in Pastor's office. Unsold items will NOT be returned unless you pick them up by 7:30 PM the evening of the festival. Unsold items will be donated at the discretion of the church. Craft items will also be accepted. Regarding handmade craft items, you are welcome to price them yourself if you desire. All other items will be priced by Trinity's Attic sub-committee.

**The following items are NOT acceptable:**

Clothing

VHS Movies

Stuffed Animals

Baby Items

Toys (games and puzzles are acceptable).

Any questions, please see Pastor Julie or Dawn Hickernell

**Please remember in your prayers:**

**Members who are sick or recently hospitalized:** Kathy Baver, Eleanor Brossman, Sharon Gring, Daniel Harman, Roy Kline, Shadow Loring, Matthew Schwartz, and Marilyn Weatherholtz.

**Members who are homebound or in care facilities:** Joan Kava, Diane Klinger, Carolyn Kurtz, Betty Reber, Pat Sickles, and Kay Weatherholtz.

**The Military:** Rena Butcavage, Natalie Ketner, Justin Klinger and John Kurtz.

**Family and Friends:** Barry Chapman, Arline G, Delores Hickernell, Jessey Homan, Shirley Kerchner, Tom Koerner, Danny Kuhn, and Wendy Wolfe.

**Special Ministries:** Our missionary in Tanzania-Stephen Friberg and his Family.

**Please let us know when our prayers are answered so we can keep our prayer list current.**

**Prayer Chain**

If someone you know-- or you yourself-- are in need of prayer, allow us to add your prayer request to our daily prayers. Prayers will always remain confidential. Prayer requests may be as detailed or as anonymous as you prefer. Ex. "Pray for my Aunt Nellie who has cancer," or "Pray for healing for a friend." To activate the prayer chain, please call Mary Young at 610-678-4470. If there is no answer, please leave a message or call at a later time if you are not comfortable leaving a message. Your prayer request is important and we do not want to miss it.



**Just a reminder, if you have any Thrivent insurance or annuity products, then you may have Choice Dollars to distribute. Formerly they advised you when this occurred but they no longer do this.** You have to go online and check. If you direct your choice dollars to Trinity, it goes to support our preschool. **If you do not direct your dollars, it is like throwing money away.** Please check your account monthly, or at least quarterly.

You are also eligible for **activity grants**. We have been funding our VBS through activity grants the last 3 years. We also funded our Advent Fun Shop and Lenten Fair Luncheon through these grants. Each account holder is eligible for 2-\$250.00 grants a year. They can be used to fund things like Strawberry Festival, Community Dinner, Generosity Sunday Dinner, etc. Please see Carol Koch or Pastor Julie for more information. **Again, not using available money is like throwing it away.**

**How are We Doing?**  
**Trinity's Financial Summary for February**

Average Weekly Giving in February, 2023: **\$3,292.45**

Total income to date in 2023: **\$27,869.80**

Total expenses to date in 2023: **\$32,782.33**

Total income in February: **\$13,169.00**

Total expenses in February: **\$16,482.41**

Synod Mission Support to date for 2023—**\$1019.00**, 14% of \$19,290.00.

West Berks Mission Support for 2023—**\$50.00**, 17% of \$600.00.

Thank you. It is your giving that enables Trinity to continue in outreach, evangelism, and learning opportunities; support staff; provide worship; and engage in any number of missional programs. These are difficult times for everyone—including our church family—as the cost of living, even basic necessities, is rising. So if you are able—please consider how you might give in the weeks ahead.

Thank you for participating in the mission of Jesus Christ through your gifts to Trinity. How gifts may be received: **\*Online giving via Trinity's website: [www.trinitywernersville.org](http://www.trinitywernersville.org)**



Or scan the QR-code with your phone camera to connect to Trinity's Donate page. There you can securely make a one-time gift or set up recurring donations.

\*Regular mail: 130 S. Walnut St., Wernersville 19565

\*Vanco Mobile App. using debit or credit.

\*To make changes to automatic withdrawal use invite code hpfk34.

On display in the Narthex are two picture boards that show "People Throughout the Years at Trinity". Many thanks to Helen Hummel, Charlotte Moyer, and Anne Marie Rinehimer who made these picture boards.

Student Loan Grants are available this year from the Endowment Fund. 1/2 the amount awarded is a grant and 1/2 the amount is a loan. Applications are available from Pam Moyer @ 610-670-5896 or the church office. Once an application is completed please turn it in to Pam Moyer's mail slot or the church office.

Applications must be received by June 1st. Thank you.

**Flower and Bulletin Sponsorship**

**The cost of sponsoring the flowers is \$40.00. The cost of sponsoring the bulletins is \$15.00.** If you are sponsoring the flowers or bulletins, please note that there are blank envelopes in the narthex below the sign up lists. Please put your check (payable to Trinity) or cash in the envelope (be sure your name is on the envelope) and place in the offering plate. **We need Bulletin Sponsors for 4/6, 4/7, 4/8, 4/16, 4/23 & 4/30. Please sign up on the appropriate chart in the narthex.**

**Altar Flower Sponsors for April:** 4/2-Cindy Hassler-Schappell in memory of Heath's 37<sup>th</sup> birthday, 4/9-Barbara Debiec in honor of her son's, James Debiec, birthday, 4/16-Carol Koch in memory of her husband Bob's birthday, 4/23-Betty Schaeffer in honor of her daughter's, Harmony Wentzel, birthday, 4/30-Bob & Kathy Bashore in honor of their 39<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

**Bulletin Sponsors for April:** 4/6-available, 4/7-available, 4/8-available, 4/9-Barbara Debiec with joy in the Resurrection of our Lord, 4/16-available, 4/23-availabe, 4/30-available

**Helpers for April**

**Altar Guild:** Anne Marie Rinehimer.

**Snacks:** 4/2-Kurtzes, 4/9-Bashores, 4/16-Young/Evans, 4/23-Hassler-Schappell. 4/30-Kay Stout

**Acolytes:** 4/2-Owen Wentzel, 4/9-Barbara Debiec, 4/16-Quentin Light, 4/23-Bob Bashore, 4/30-Kay Stout

**Lay Readers:** 4/2-Betty Lou Franzen, 4/9-Beth Byler, 4/16-Anne Marie Rinehimer, 4/23-Kay Stout, 4/30-Kathy Lawry

**Communion Assistants:** 4/2-Carol Koch, Kevin Kurtz, Cindy Hassler-Schappell & Kay Stout, 4/9 & 4/16-Bob Bashore, 4/23-no communion, 4/30-Kevin Kurtz

**Ushers:** 4/2-Lawrys, 4/9-Bashores, 4/16-Kurtzes, 4/23-Givens, 4/30-Shoumliskys.

**Sound System:** 4/2-Stephanie Kurtz, 4/6 & 4/7-Scott Franzen, 4/8- Wendell Byler, 4/9-Stephanie Kurtz, 4/16-Wendell Byler, 4/23-Scott Franzen, 4/30- Stephanie Kurtz.

**Counters:** 4/2-Rapley/Pirl-Roth, 4/7 (Good Friday) Hummel/Jarsocrak, 4/9 (Easter)-Debiec Rinehimer, 4/16-Franzens, 4/23-Rapley/Pirl-Roth, 4/30- Hummel/Jarsocrak.

**Bulletin Assemblers:** 4/5-Barb Debiec & Kathy Lawry, 4/12-Mary Jane Evans, 4/19-Tony Ludovici, 4/26-June Rapley, 5/3-Connie Fritz.

**Children's Sunday School Teachers:** 4/2 & 4/9-no Sunday School (Children's bulletin and activity pages available in narthex), 4/16-Betty Lou Franzen, 4/23-Beth Byler, 4/30-Helen Hummel

**Newsletter Assembly:** Kathy Lawry

**Council Devotions and Snacks:** Harmony Wentzel

#### **Church Council Members**

Glen Given, President 484-955-1780  
Jerry Jarsocrak, Vice President 610-670-0954  
Beth Byler 610-781-2161  
Betty Lou Franzen 610-781-8132  
Tacy Grippon 484-878-9345  
Dawn Hickernell 717-507-3549  
Helen Hummel 610-678-1377  
Cindy Hassler-Schappell 610-451-6131  
Harmony Wentzel 610-390-9986

## **Happy Birthday** *Birthday Milestones in April*

Carolyn Kurtz will be 94 in April. Happy Birthday Carolyn.

#### **Church Council Highlights for March**

- Our Strawberry Festival will be on June 10.
- The confirmation retreat at Bear Creek was March 24-26. 4 people attended including 2 youth, pastor, and adult chaperone.
- Our handbells have been refurbished and are back to us.
- Monthly income is not covering our current monthly expenses. We continue to think of creative ways to continue ministry.
- We hosted the ministerium for Lenten worship and meal at noon on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Next meeting is Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 PM