

Trinity Tidings for April 2026

Trinity Lutheran Church 130 S. Walnut St., Wernersville, PA, 19565, 610.678.1782,
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Pastor Julie Osterhout ♦ Musician-Carla Seidel ♦ Sexton-Roy Kline

Resurrection Life

Art by Mike Heath



It's been a hard year. We've had a lot of loss, and I'm feeling it. Maybe you are, too. I recently met one of our church family members in Redner's (I do a lot of pastoral visits at Redner's with both customers and cashiers . . .). After a nice chat, they said something to me about still having to process the loss of all our beloved members who are now gone, Kerri, Carol, Ron, John Stine. I'm not surprised. Church family is . . . well . . . family. And it is important to acknowledge—as a family—those losses and the grief we experience both individually and collectively. It is okay to say their names, acknowledge our grief,

tell their stories, and recall memories of time spent with our friends that evoke laughter as well as tears.

For though we grieve and our hearts are hurting, there is joy in knowing life always comes out of death. Always. It is the whole point of who we are as followers of Jesus. We know there is resurrection life. Though we stand at the cross on Friday in sorrow and tears, Sunday morning always comes pointing the way to the empty tomb of glory and light. Christ stands beside the stone that has been rolled away. He is the resurrection, the life, and the way.

This resurrection life was promised to us in the waters of baptism. It is a promise renewed in us every time we come to the table with open hands waiting for a piece of Jesus to be given to us in a bite of bread and a sip of juice. It is in this meal that life abounds and death is defeated.

The painting above by Mike Heath, is a marvelous rendering of Jesus running from the tomb, bindings broken and scattered to the wind. It reminds us that life as a new creation isn't stagnant or sedentary but rather vibrant and electric. New life bursts forth from the tomb and runs into the light. This is what it means to be born again—to be freed in Christ. To live.

It is a promise given to those whom we miss most. Kerri, Carol, Ron, and John are now a part of the Great Cloud of Witnesses, the Church Triumphant. They are living the truth of what it

means to join in at the great high feast and eat bread and sip juice face to face with the King of the Universe. They are the first-hand witnesses to that which we can only dream and hope.

So, rejoice! Rejoice in the knowledge that though our hearts mourn and we feel the pinch of sorrow, we can still move forward in hope. We are renewed in resurrection life blooming forth like the lilies of Easter morning.

May we daily see signs of God's good and bountiful creation all around us—signs that hope abounds. Signs of resurrection life. Alleluia! He is risen! He has risen indeed! Alleluia!

Blessings,
Pastor Julie

Kids of the Kingdom
Sundays During Service



Kids of the Kingdom

Beginning Sunday, February 1st, a new Sunday School for children ages preschool through 4th grade will be offered. Kids of the Kingdom will meet after the Sunday morning Children's Message. We will meet twice a month in the library. Our time will be filled with Bible stories and activities. On Sundays when we don't meet, children will receive an activity bag to enjoy during worship. Following are dates for Kids of the Kingdom:

April 5, 19	July 5, 19
May 3, 17	August 2, 16
June 7, 21	Fall Schedule TBD

It's Student Loan/Grant time for Trinity Lutheran Endowment Fund. Applications are available from Stephanie Kurtz (snkurtz38@gmail.com). They can be emailed to you or you can obtain a paper form. Your application needs to be returned to Stephanie by June 7th in order to be considered for this year. An example of how the Loan/Grant works is if you receive a check of \$3,000 for year one of college, you will need to repay \$1,500 one year after you graduate or stop going to college. Any other questions, please contact Stephanie Kurtz.

Beginning April 12, all children and youth who are curious about the organ are invited to join Carla at the organ for the Postlude each week. Please come to the organ during the announcements. Come join and learn about this amazing instrument we use for worship.

Carla Seidel
Music Director



Lenten Schedule for 2026

April 2, Maundy Thursday

7:30 PM - Worship/Holy Communion

April 3, Good Friday

7:30 PM - Tenebrae Service

April 4, The Easter Vigil

5:00 PM - Easter Vigil begins outside

April 5, The Resurrection of Our Lord

10:30 AM - Fellowship

11:00 AM - Worship/Holy Communion

Church Council Highlights from March

1. Carol Koch left \$385,000 to the church from her Thrivent account.
2. There will be 3 Baptisms Emma Holmes, Andrew Moatz and Rowen Mae Stroup. Stephany Holmes will transfer membership into Trinity Lutheran Church, Wernersville.
3. Personnel will meet to talk about staffing needs and compensation.
4. Lenten Fair will be postponed until next year.

Please remember in your prayers:

Members who are sick or recently hospitalized: Cindy Hassler-Schappell

Members who are homebound or in care facilities: Sharon Gring, Joan Kava, Diane Klinger, Bob Kohler, Carolyn Kurtz, Janice Lamm, Betty Reber, Ruth Rush, Pat Sickles, Bonnie & Margie Stine.

The Military: John Kurtz.

Family and Friends: Justin Audet, Eleanor Brossman's daughter Kim, Arline G., Delores Hickernell, Karen Kline, Bronwyn Morgan, Eileen Rhoad, Karen and Linda.

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

Please let us know when to remove people from the prayer list.

PRAYER CHAIN

For confidential prayers for yourself or other
Call Mary Young at 610-678-4470 to activate the prayer chain.

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**



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.

Flower and Bulletin Sponsorship

The cost of sponsoring the flowers is \$45.00. The cost of sponsoring the bulletins is \$15.00. If you choose, *you* may decide how you want to sponsor flowers. There are any number of ways to do that: cut your own when appropriate, provide potted plants or flowers like mums, poinsettias, lilies, etc. . . . You are free to design your own arrangements. As always you may take your arrangements home with you after worship. You may also request we use our own artificial flowers and donate the \$45 to the general fund. Or please feel free to purchase them the traditional way: simply sign up, put \$45 in an envelope, and place it in the offering plate. **Most importantly, you must indicate on the flower sign up if you are going to provide flowers yourself so Barbara knows not to order them from Royer's.**

We need an Altar Flower sponsor for 4/19 and bulletin sponsors for 4/19 and 4/26. Please sign up in the book in the narthex.

Altar Flower Sponsors for April: 4/5-Bob & Cindy Hassler-Schappell in memory of Heath's birthday, 4/12-Barbara Debiec in honor of Jim Debiec's 35th birthday, 4/19-Available, 4/26-Betty & Ray Schaeffer in honor of Harmony Wentzel's birthday.

Bulletin Sponsors for April: 4/5-Bob & Cindy Hassler-Schappell in memory of Heath's birthday, 4/12-Barbara Debiec in honor of Jim Debiec's 35th birthday, 4/19-Available, 4/26-Available

Helpers for April

Altar Guild: Anne Marie Rinehimer & Cheyenne Loring

Communion Bread: 4/5-Beth Byler, 4/12-Cindy Hassler-Schappell, 4/19-Cindy Hassler-Schappell, 4/26-Cindy Hassler-Schappell

Communion Assistant: 4/2-Bob Bashore, 4/5-Kathy Lawry, 4/12-Kay Stout, 4/19-TBD, 4/26-Dawn Hickernell

Acolytes: 4/2-Cheyenne Loring, 4/5-Sam Shoumlisky, 4/12-Cheyenne Loring, 4/19-Quentin Light, 4/26-TBD

Lay Readers: 4/2-Beth Byler, 4/5-Bob Bashore, 4/12-Kathy Lawry, 4/19-Kelly Light, 4/26-Betty Lou Franzen

Ushers: 4/5-Lawry, 4/12-Bashore, 4/19- Kurtz, 4/26-Given

Sound System: 4/2-Owen Wentzel(7:30 PM), 4/3-Scott Franzen(7:30 PM), 4/4-Wendell Byler(5:00 PM), 4/5-Stephanie Kurtz, 4/12-Wendell Byler, 4/19-Owen Wentzel, 4/26-Scott Franzen

Counters: 4/2, 4/3-Franzen, 4/5-Rapley/Pirl-Roth, 4/12-Debiec/Rinehimer, 4/19-Hummel/Jarsocrak, 4/26-Hassler-Schappell

Snacks: 4/5-Kathy Bashore, 4/12-Alison Given, 4/19-Barbara Debiec, 4/26-Betty Lou Franzen

Bulletin Assemblers: 4/5-Debiec/Pirl-Roth, 4/12-Betty Schaeffer, 4/19-Sharen Black, 4/26-Kathy Bashore

Newsletter Assembly: Barbara Debiec

Church Council Members

Bob Bashore/Stewardship, President 484-336-3638
Cindy Hassler-Schappell/Endowment, Vice President 610-451-6131
Sharen Black/Fellowship 610-678-1713
Beth Byler/Future Ministries 610-781-2161
Betty Lou Franzen/Finance/Strawberry Festival 610-781-8132
Ron Giangiacomo/Property 610-670-1869
Kevin Kurtz/Long Range Planning 610-413-5240
Stefanie Steffey/Mutual Ministries 484-721-1161
Julie Sutliff/Worship & Music/Personnel 610-780-0802