

LENTEN/ EASTER 2016

Volume 17, Issue 1—February 5, 2016

FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART



The Christmas decorations have been put away; the tree has been put out in the trash or stored in the attic. Epiphany, the Season of Light is here...a quiet season in comparison. The sun comes up just a bit earlier, the days are just a bit longer...unseen, the sap begins to move, the crocuses are preparing to spring up...it may be subtle, but Epiphany is just as full of momentous occasions in Jesus' life as we experienced at Christmas!

It begins with the mysterious visitors from the East – the Magi come to visit the Holy Family, revealing his birth as one that has worldwide implications. Joseph is told in a dream to escape to Egypt, and for a time, the Holy Family become refugees from a ruthless dictator. Herod's Slaughter of the Innocents follows soon after, like a rude wake-up call to those of us in a post-Christmas catatonic state...or snuggled under the winter covers. We may have enjoyed the peaceful picture of shepherds and Magi adoring the Christ child...but the truth is that God chose to come into the world as a vulnerable infant, and the world was just as much a mess as the one we live in today.

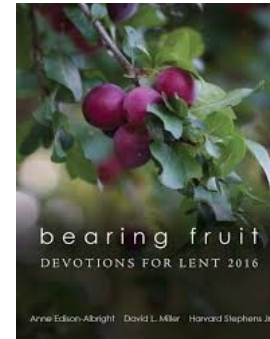
Ours is not the world of pleasant light-filled scenes by Thomas Kinkade but a world where hatred and intolerance fester from one generation to another; where Boko Haram steals young girls while they are walking to get water to make them prostitutes for their best warriors; where tortured people can take guns into an elementary school, a movie theater or a shopping mall and kill dozens of unsuspecting people....a world where accidents happen, cancer is diagnosed and we get up one morning to find that a loved one is suddenly gone.

Epiphany reminds us again and again, that God's light shines in our darkness (and boy, do we have a lot of darkness.) But this light is different - the darkness cannot overcome it. Jesus is baptized alongside sinners of every kind. He encounters his own temptations and the isolation in the desert. Standing in his hometown synagogue, he announces his mission with a reading from Isaiah and folks he grew up with, promptly try to kill him. He travels the countryside announcing Good News to the poor, healing the sick and challenging the religious authorities and demonic powers at the same time. He announces release to those captive to sin, and captive to the judgment of others. He brings light.

Epiphany shines a light on Jesus' mission and reveals God's intentions for the world as never before: Hope, Healing, Release, and Love...and it culminates with Transfiguration Sunday. It is revealed to us that Moses and Elijah are in on God's intention as well! Then, like a roller coaster ride, we descend into the valley of death in Jesus' life: his journey to Jerusalem and Mt. Calvary. We call it Lent.



The Jesus that comes to meet us every Sunday in Scripture, Water, Bread, and Wine invites you to dig your roots deeper in the Word and soak up God's saving grace. Join us as we delve deeper into the heart of God as we explore familiar Scriptures with new ways of seeing them. We will be assisted by a few guests bringing new perspectives on the beloved stories of our faith. Dig deeper, grow stronger, and bear the fruit of living new lives in Christ. Experience the fruits of Faith, Forgiveness, Healing, Hope, Joy, and Love. This fruit is not intended for us alone... so share the invitation!



Note: Our Lenten devotional booklets, "Bearing Fruit" will be distributed at worship. Be sure to get your copy in person, as this will reduce the mailing cost of their distribution. Make a commitment to attend worship as often as you are able – our community is strengthened as we worship and serve together.

Faithfully yours, Pr. Linda

HOW TO CONTACT US

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
918 Tayman Avenue
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Email: trinluth918@verizon.net

Check out our Website: www.trinitysomeset.org



www.facebook.com/TrinitySomerset

BISHOP'S LENTEN GREETING



“Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.” The pastor speaks these words to us as they place the ashes on our head with the sign of the cross on Ash Wednesday. Lent begins with a stark reminder that we are mortal and of the frailty and the fleeting nature of our lives.

It is good that we do this. All too often in this world we try to deny our own mortality. People accumulate money and things thinking that happiness will be found in stuff. We do that forgetting that we cannot take any of it with us. In the end all the things in this life, possessions, money, power, and our very selves are dust and to dust we shall all return.

I hope this realization brings us to wonder what does matter. If all the stuff and people of this world are passing away – what really matters? Jesus Christ shows us what really matters.

Jesus is Lord and God of all. He is the one who brought all life and light into being. When Jesus came into this world, he took nothing for himself. This is the Living God; yet when he became flesh and lived among us, he demanded none of the things the world usually considers of value.

Instead, Jesus came into this world and gave himself away for the sake of all of us. Jesus deserves all glory, laud, and honor. Instead of taking what the world had to offer, he poured himself out for the sake of this world. Jesus is our example. Jesus shows us what our lives should be about. We can't take money, or power, or stuff with us. However, we can make our lives a blessing to others. We can use this God-given existence to reach out in the love of Christ to those who are hurting, in need, or hungry. Lent then, is an invitation to

follow more deeply this Jesus. We stand this season in the shadow of the cross and remember how much Jesus gave to save us from sin, death, and destruction. We learn that even though we are going to die, that because of what Jesus has done we have been given the doorway to life through him.

We who are dust without Christ are called to turn from those things that call us away from him, and to follow the one who is the way and the truth and our eternal life.

May God bless you in this season, and may you know the presence of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

In His Most Holy Name,

†Bishop Michael Rhyne

ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE

ANNUAL ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE is scheduled for **Sunday, February 28** at 2:00 p.m. in the Christ Our Saviour Orthodox Cathedral of Johnstown. You are invited to attend; clergy are invited to vest and process. A reception will follow the worship service. This is a joint service sponsored by the Allegheny Synod of the ELCA, the Altoona/Johnstown Diocese of the Roman Catholic Church, and the Carpatho/Russian Orthodox Diocese of America.

Regular participation comes also from our Presbyterian, Methodist, Brethren, and Episcopal brothers and sisters in Christ.



MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

BAPTISMS:

January 10, 2016 Alexa Aldrete Robles

ALEXA ALDRETE ROBLES was received into Trinity's family by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on January 10. She is the daughter of Fernando Aldrete Cisneros and Maria Dolores Robles Lopez.



WEDDINGS:

December 31, 2015 Jenna Marie Newman
James Philip Law
(Married at Trinity Lutheran Church;
Somerset, Pennsylvania by Rev. Glenn Foster)

MEMBERS REMOVED BY DEATH:

January 1, 2016 George E. Baumgardner
January 12, 2016 Thomas John Anderson

VICAR JEN'S ORDINATION

FESTIVAL EUCHARIST AND ORDINATION AT TRINITY FOR VICAR JENNIFER SOLTIS: Saturday, February 13 at 1:00 p.m. Anyone wanting to help with ushering, greeting, baking cookies, or helping with the reception should contact Trinity's Office at 445-5446 as soon as possible.



VIEW FROM THE LOFT

The Long Night Is Over

I'm very excited and pleased to share with you a new piece of music that I completed during the, "blizzard of 2016." This new music is entitled, "The Long Night Is Over." The piece is written to be used on Easter Sunday. The piece was inspired by the idea of waiting for a time of struggle to finally come to an end. This concept of "The Long Night" can be applied to the wait from Good Friday to Easter morning, from Ash Wednesday to Easter morning, or in my case even the more mundane waiting we experience such as waiting for the snow to finally stop piling up. This wait can even be seen as waiting for the day that Jesus returns to earth. The principle theme of the piece is how difficult it is for us to be of the world, but to still maintain hope for the end of suffering. Easter reminds us that the promise is real. There is no other day more exemplary of the triumph of God's love.

The song was also inspired and written in memory of my late uncle Robert Carroll. He never lived in Somerset so would not have been known to many. My uncle "Robbie" as we called him, never had an easy life and struggled with mental illness and depression all his life. Even so he was so very encouraging to me in my pursuit of music. I remember him introducing me to guitar (which he played) and various genres of music I had not yet heard. When he came to visit our house he would always ask how my piano lessons were going and would want to hear me play him something. In the eyes of the world, he would have been considered a drain on society as many people in his standing are, but in the eyes of me, a young child, he was someone I could talk to and someone who understood the power of music. The verses of my piece were written out of this inspiration, the idea of how the

world wants us to see things compared to how they really are. When one really stops and thinks about how erroneous many of the worlds conceptions are... I find it even more amazing how God had the incalculable love and relentless hope in his creation to send his own Son to live and die for us....but Easter is not about death! It is about Life. The end of the 40 days, the end of what we are waiting for. So many times I need to remind myself that I need not let the eyes of the world move my own eyes to tears and despair. The fight is already won. The long night is over:

“The Long Night Is Over”

Music and Lyrics by Nicholas Carroll (copyright 2016)

In Memory of Robert Carroll

When I look through the eyes of the world I only see,
The pain and the shame and Christ's death on Calvary,
But the love of the Lord tells me to raise my head,
See the perfect love of His sacrifice instead.

Now I can see that the sun will rise!
Everyday despite the long night.
Teach me to see with the love of the Lord,
Instead of the eyes of the world.

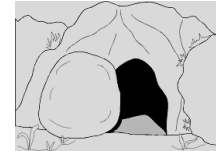


The open tomb stands empty,
The empty cross stands for victory.

When I look through the eyes of the world I only see,
The things that I lack and I wish that I could be,
But the love of the Lord will take me as I am,
See the perfect love of His grace for me instead.

If I begin to forgive myself,
I can begin to forgive my neighbor.
Teach me to see with the love of the Lord,
Instead of the eyes of the world.

The open tomb stands empty,
The empty cross stands for victory.



When she looked through the eyes of the world she only saw,
The gardener tending flowers that was all...
But the love of the Lord, spoke calmly, simply said,
“Mary.”

Creation sings the long night is over!
Alleluia! The long night is over!

Nicholas Carroll, Director of Music

HEALING SERVICES

OUR COMMUNION AND ANOINTING SERVICES will be held a little differently in the next two months **instead of** the 4:00 Chapel Service on the first Sunday.



Sunday, February 7, we will have anointing at the 10:00 a.m. service in Trinity's Nave in place of the 4:00 p.m. Chapel Service.

On **Sunday, March 6**, the service will be at Siemon's Lake-view Manor at 2:00 p.m. If you have family or friends residing in the nursing homes, please join them for the service. Everyone is invited and welcome!

LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesday, February 10 (Ash Wednesday) - Lent Begins

7:00 a.m. Ash Wednesday Service in the Chapel

11:00 a.m. English/Spanish Service for Ash Wednesday in the Chapel

7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service in the Nave

We are marked with the Cross of Christ forever at our baptism, but the cross with which we are marked this day reminds us of our frail humanity and our need for God's saving grace.



Sundays in Lent (February 14 through March 13)

7:30 a.m. Chapel Communion Service

8:45 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages

10:00 a.m. Communion Worship Service in Nave

Midweek Lenten Worship Services Wednesdays (February 17 through March 16)

5:30 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper in Adult III

7:00 p.m. Evening Service in the Chapel with "Bearing Fruit" as the theme.



SAM MIDWEEK SERVICES

SOMERSET AREA MINISTRIES MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES followed by a luncheon will be conducted at the First United Methodist Church on Patriot Street in Somerset at 12:05 p.m. on Ash Wednesday and all Wednesdays in Lent:

February 10 Rev. Arnold McFarland
Calvary United Methodist Church
(Ash Wednesday)

February 17 Rev. Linda McElroy Thomas
Trinity Lutheran Church
(Trinity Provides Lunch - See Form ➔)

February 24 Rev. Sam Draper, First Christian Church

March 2 Rev. Rick Helsel
Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church

March 9 Rev. Barry Ritenour
Bethany United Methodist Church

March 16 Rev. Jeffrey Popson
First United Methodist Church

March 25 Good Friday Service - Rev. Lenny Anderson
(No Lunch This Day)



VOLUNTEERS/FOOD NEEDED

TRINITY IS PROVIDING LUNCH following the SAM Lenten Community Service on **Wednesday, February 17** at 12:05 p.m. If you are able to make a 9x13 Jell-O salad with fruit or a 9x13 pan of frosted brownies, or purchase 12 count packs of hamburger buns, please call Trinity's Office (445-5446) or use the form below. Also please indicate where you will deliver the food—to Trinity's Kitchen or to the First United Methodist Church basement on Patriot Street. *Please volunteer to help with the meal as well!*

Community Lenten Service Luncheon

First United Methodist Church

Wednesday, February 17—Food and Help Form

Name _____

Phone _____

I will help by making:

_____ Jell-O salad with fruit (9" x 13" size)

_____ Pan of frosted brownies (9" x 13" size)

_____ Pack(s) of 12 count hamburger buns

I will volunteer to:

_____ Set up, serve, and/or clean up the meal (circle)

**Volunteers
Needed!**

2016 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

† **James Baker**, Treasurer
409 Briar Patch Road
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814-442-7666 (C)
(Term expires 12/31/17)
jkimbaker@yahoo.com

† **John M. Cascio**
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† **Karen Frantz**
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† **Linda Himes**, Corresponding Sec.
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† **Carlton Jacobson**, Vice President
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† **Roger Bailey** (One-Year Term)
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Somerset, PA 15501
445-5089 (H)
(Term expires 12/31/16)

† **Rev. Linda McElroy Thomas**—1030 Grandview Avenue; Somerset
289-3140 (C) 445-5446 (W) lindamac22@hotmail.com

† **Dale Kriner**
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† **Karen Long-Walat**
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† **Michael Mitchell**
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(Term expires 12/31/18)
mikejml183@gmail.com

† **Susan Weimer**
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(Term expires 12/31/16)
grammysue49@yahoo.com

† **Chad Mosholder** (One-Year Term)
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chad@mosholderinsurance.com
(Term expires 12/31/16)

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 2015-JANUARY 2016

- ❖ Appointed Roger Bailey to Council for a one-year term.
- ❖ Chris Lloyd wants to have a training class for the microphones and soundboard.
- ❖ The following officers were elected:
 - Chris Lloyd - President
 - Carlton Jacobson - Vice President
 - Jim Baker - Treasurer
 - Linda Himes - Corresponding Secretary
- ❖ Larry Mazer has agreed to serve a three-year term on the Endowment Fund. Dale Kriner will serve as the Council representative for one year. Robert Thomas will serve as the Congregational representative for the Endowment Fund for one year.
- ❖ Appointed Chad Mosholder to Council for a one-year term.
- ❖ The special gifts in lieu of lilies will be given to the Sequanota Capital Campaign.
- ❖ Council Retreat – Saturday, February 6 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Luther's Lounge.
- ❖ Ordination and Reception for Vicar Jennifer Soltis – Saturday, February 13 at 1:00 at Trinity.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES will be held in Trinity's Chapel each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. beginning **February 17** and continuing through March 16 with the theme, "Bearing Fruit."

A Soup and Bread supper precedes each service in Adult III across from Trinity's Office at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome to come and share the communal food and fellowship before worship.



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER to make a crockpot of soup for the Wednesday evening Lenten meals, please call Trinity's Office (445-5446). We still need volunteers for these Lenten Wednesdays: February 24, March 2, March 9, and March 16.

TRINITY'S COMMITTEES are being formed for 2016. Every member is invited to join a committee and/or attend a meeting during the year. Share your talents with us in all of our various ministries! To volunteer, please call Trinity's Office at (445-5446).



DRIVERS for transporting our homebound members to Sunday 10:00 worship are needed for the following months: February, May, August, September, and December. If you are willing to serve in this capacity, please call John Minnich at 445-7660 for additional details.

MARYS AND MARTHAS



THE MARYS AND MARTHAS study group will meet on Mondays during Lent on **February 15** and **March 7** in the Parlor at 7:00 p.m. The group uses the current issue of the ELCA women's magazine, Gather. Extra copies are available in the Chapel Kiosk and the Narthex Information Center. Please come!

MEN'S GROUP

TRINITY'S MEN'S GROUP meets **every Tuesday** at McDonald's near the Turnpike entrance at 9:00 a.m. We welcome any men that would like to join us for this coffee fellowship.

TURN CLOCKS AHEAD

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME begins on Sunday, March 13. Don't forget to turn your clocks **ahead** one hour on Saturday night.



CAN CHALLENGE



THE ALLEGHENY SYNOD 40,000 CAN CHALLENGE continues. Your donations of food, paper products, soaps, and toiletries to the Can Challenge benefits our Food Pantry. Items may be placed in the Narthex and Chapel boxes provided. We have

21,321 items collected!

ORDINATION

The Allegheny Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Cordially invites you to

**A Service of Holy Communion with
the Rite of Ordination to
the Ministry of Word and Sacrament
for**

Ms. Jennifer Mary Soltis

Saturday, February 13, 2016

1:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church

918 Tayman Avenue, Somerset

A reception will follow.

All are welcome.

Clergy are invited to vest and process.

The color for the day is red.

Jennifer has been called to serve the Trinity Parish
(Zion - Petersburg and St. Matthew - Marklesburg)

2016 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



Palm/Passion Sunday (March 20)
Palm Procession and Eucharist
ONE MORNING SERVICE at 10:00 a.m.
(Begins in the Fellowship Hall
for Blessing of the Palms)

Monday through Wednesday (March 21-23)
Early morning Eucharist in the Chapel 7:00 a.m.
Monday through Wednesday



Maundy Thursday (March 24)
7:00 p.m. in the Nave
With the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Good Friday (March 25)
7:00 p.m. in the Nave



Vigil of Easter - (Saturday, March 26)
7:00 p.m. in the Nave
We will celebrate Baptism and the
Sacrament of Holy Communion

Easter Sunday (March 27)
7:30 and 10:00 a.m. in the Nave—Return of Alleluias!
The Festival of the Resurrection of Our Lord continues.
Come celebrate the Joy of our Lord's **RESURRECTION**
and our inheritance, **ETERNAL LIFE!**



BRIDGES OF HOPE

(Hispanic ESL Student Outreach)

*"The foreigner residing among you must be treated
as your native-born...*

*love him as you love yourself; for you were
once strangers in the land of Egypt..." Leviticus 19*

The winter is a more low key time for this outreach to the Hispanic Migrant worker population in our area, but just like the sap running in the trees...things are happening below the surface!

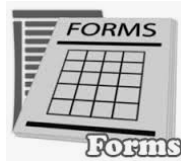
First, we are providing an **English/Spanish Ash Wednesday Service on February 10 at 11:00 a.m.** (Note: This is a change from earlier announcements.) Both languages will be spoken, so if this is the only Ash Wednesday service that our English speakers can make, please come! It will have a distinctively Hispanic flavor with music, readings, and message in Spanish and English.

Second, we are making our relationship with the Migrant ESL program more "formal" as a Public/Private partnership. Our program will be "monitored" this month by a supervisor who is interested in finding out what we are doing here in Somerset! I hope all our Bridges of Hope supporters who can will come out for a weekday event for the monitoring personnel.



ESL POTLUCK LUNCH

FEBRUARY 25th (Thursday) we will have a Program and Meal for all our students from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Our theme will be FORMS! (YEA!) Our ESL Students have to fill out lots of forms, and this class will help them understand the questions that are often asked. Our English speakers are invited to join them to learn those same questions and answers in Spanish. Plus, enjoy our Potluck meal together! Part of the time together will be set aside for a discussion with the Monitor as well. As usual, we will need folks to provide transportation to and from the farms, and we hope that everyone can contribute to the “planned” Potluck.



A future class will include food preparation for traditional meals! We will cook together in the church kitchen, then eat together afterwards! Join us and discover what God is doing here, as we welcome “the foreigners” in our land, who work as a vital part of our local economy!

CHILD CARE NEWS

Hello Everyone,

I hope you all are doing well! Here at the Child Care we are already gathering information about the two fundraisers we will be doing in 2016, graduation, and summer plans! The Child Care has 13 staff, 57 children enrolled, and on average 30 children daily. We appreciate your support!

Take Care,
Krystal Shaffer

THRIVENT MEMBERS

Attention Thrivent members (Thrivent Product Holders):

Just a reminder that the Choice Dollars you may have available from Thrivent from 2015, must be directed by you by March 31, 2016 or else they will be directed by Thrivent to a “default” charity. YOU can decide what charity they will go to by calling Thrivent at 1-800-847-4836 or by logging into the Thrivent website at www.thrivent.com.



Also, each Thrivent member has the ability to access funds from Thrivent to help support something you are passionate about in your church or community. These projects are called Thrivent Action Team projects and if approved come with a \$250 grant to help you and some other volunteers help a worthwhile non profit in the community or to do something for our church. PLEASE get in touch with Becky Minnich for more details about Action Team projects or questions about directing your Choice Dollars at 445-7660.

Trinity has received \$1,308 in 2015 from the Thrivent Choice Dollars program, and we are grateful!

SPRING ACADEMY

2016 GETTYSBURG SPRING ACADEMY is scheduled Monday through Saturday, April 18-23 at Gettysburg Seminary. The theme is: *Science and Christian Life, Conflict/Cooperation/Integration*. Program details are available in Trinity’s Office; register online at www.Ltsg.edu/spring Academy; or by calling (717) 338-3000, Ext. 2198. A few of the topics being offered are:

God the Creator and the City
Oh So Human, Yet So Divinely Complex
God, Evolution, Intelligent Design and Dover
Chance, Necessity, Love
Science for Christian Life

WACKY BOWLING

CAMP SEQUANOTA IS HAVING A “WACKY BOWLING CHALLENGE” at Terrace Lanes in Somerset on **Saturday, March 5** from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. The cost per player is \$15.00 and includes two games and shoe rental, plus bring a few extra dollars for a raffle for Sequanota gear. Bring your



friends and family for this day of fun to support Camp Sequanota. You don't have to be good at bowling—this is wacky, “creative” bowling that is fun and funny for all ages and abilities. Prizes

awarded for strikes, highest score, and the congregation with the most participants. If you would like to join

Trinity's Wacky Bowling Team, sign up on the clipboard in the Narthex or Chapel or call Trinity's Office (445-5446). Everyone on the bowling team is asked to get additional “sponsors” and additional financial gifts—the event is a fund raiser for Camp Sequanota. Sign up today!



KIDS LETTERS TO GOD

Dear God,
Are you really invisible or is that just a trick? - Lucy

Dear God,
Did you mean for a giraffe to look like that or was it an accident? - Norma

Dear God,
Instead of letting people die and having to make new ones why don't you just keep the ones you got now? - Jane

Source: Pinterest, posted by Pixdaus

TRINITY'S LENTEN LAY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY: BIBLICAL AMNESIA

Saturday, February 27 (Snow/Ice Date: March 5)
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Somerset

Registration	9:30 - 10:00 a.m.
Session 1	10:00 - 11:30 a.m. (with a break)
Lunch	11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.
Session 2	1:00 - 2:30 p.m. (with a break)

Biblical Amnesia is a book written by Pastor Scott Gustafson, a teacher and writer. In it, he examines the Biblical accounts from the Exodus to the Crucifixion, looking at the struggle between two world views: The Dominator System and the Partnership Way. The Dominator System and its agents are powerful, rich, and even religious. The alliances of these people crucified Jesus. When we read scripture we are heavily influenced by this system in which we live and move, each day - a system that depends upon ranking, separating, and creating hierarchies. Therefore, we tend to think that God favors this system! But upon closer examination, we see that there are alternatives to this system, and God provides a different model. Jesus taught us how to look at the world as an interrelated web and to live in it through the Partnership Way.

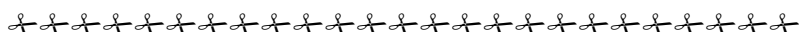
Scott Gustafson is a retired pastor in the ELCA. He served several churches in Virginia and Maryland and taught theology at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. He is the author of several books including: Biblical Amnesia, Behind Good and Evil, and most recently At the Altar of Wall Street.

Join us in discovering a new way to see/hear/read the Exodus and Holy Week texts through the Partnership Model which recognizes our mutual interdependence and “diversity” as a gift - given to sustain and support life.

A freewill offering will be received to help defray costs for the program and lunch.

Please make your reservations by placing the form below in the offering plate or call Trinity’s Office at 445-5446.

The deadline for reservations is Monday, February 22



NAME _____

PHONE _____

**Please check below all that apply to you for
Saturday, February 27:**

_____ I will attend Session 1 from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

_____ I will attend lunch provided by Trinity from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

_____ I will attend Session 2 from 1:00-2:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.



MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Attention Married Couples: So you’ve done maintenance for your car—how about your marriage? Make 2016 the year you decide to attend a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend to learn how to make your marriage a more intimate, loving, Christian union.



Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends run from 8:00 p.m. Friday to 4:00 p.m. Sunday enriching marriages of couples of all ages for 40 years! In addition to the \$100 per couple registration fee, you will be given an opportunity near the end of the weekend to make a confidential contribution of whatever amount you wish toward the continuation of the program. Two nights lodging, 5 meals for each of you, and all supplies are included:

April 8-10, 2016 in Lancaster, PA, at the all newly-renovated Heritage Hotel Lancaster, home of the unique tree-house-inspired restaurant, “Loxley’s”

April 22-24, 2016 at the Penn State Conference Center Hotel, State College, PA, Happy Valley’s premier conference center located on a quiet hillside with views of Nittany Mountain

September 16-18, 2016 at Spruce Lake Retreat Center, Canadensis, PA, a new, hotel-style facility on Spruce Lake in the heart of the Pocono Mountains – an hour north of Allentown

October 21-23, 2016 at Olmsted Retreat Center, Ludlow, PA, a stunning, hotel-style retreat center adjacent to the Olmsted Mansion situated on a hillside in the Allegheny National Forest, an hour north of DuBois

Registrations are limited so sign up at: www.GodLovesMarriage.org and pay the registration fee using your credit card, or mail in a check. For questions, contact Pennsylvania Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred and Julie Schamber at (724) 325-3166 or email: fjschamber@comcast.net.

MOTORBIKES UPDATE



Greetings from KELC in Nairobi,
I hope you all had a blessed and peaceful Christmas season.

I would like to send you an update on the motorbikes that have been purchased with your generous gift to KELC. Currently, we have purchased six motorbikes. There were six requests from pastors, so those have all been fulfilled. There is some money remaining, so we plan to purchase a few more motorbikes when we receive more requests from our pastors.

The first six motorbikes have been distributed to pastors in Olkeriai, Ingurumani, Salama, Mukaa, Naserian, and Makindu. The picture shows the pastor from Olkeriai, Rev. Lucas Tapwai, with his new motorbike.

We are all so grateful for your partnership and your assistance in this program.

In Christ,
Elizabeth Hendrickson
KELC Communications Coordinator

TRINITY'S CANCELLATION POLICY

CANCELED

If for any reason, primarily due to weather, our worship services or events may be canceled or the times changed, you will have a number of ways to find out:

1. The answering machine at the church will have a message about the change as soon as possible after the decision is made.
2. Our Facebook page and Website will carry cancellations and changes, as soon as possible www.Facebook.com/trinitysomeset and Website: www.trinitysomeset.org
3. If the State, County, or Borough issues an advisory asking citizens to stay off the roads, our church events will be canceled or postponed.
4. In the event of foul weather, worship services and events may be consolidated – for instance, the 7:30 a.m. service may be canceled, and all members are invited to attend the 10:00 service, presuming that roadways and our parking areas can be cleared by that time.

ACOLYTES/LECTORS NEEDED

TRINITY NEEDS more acolytes and lectors of all ages to serve on Sunday at 10:00 worship. If you are interested, please call Angie Miller (814) 483-4881 and volunteer.



DAILY AMERICAN 10K

ANNUAL 5K/10K DAILY AMERICAN RUN/RACE AND/OR FITNESS CHALLENGE: The Daily American Fitness Challenge began JANUARY 31 and runs for 12 weeks through April 23. Registration forms and forms to keep track of weight and exercise are available in the Narthex, Chapel, and Trinity's Office. **Sally Miller** is Trinity's Team Coordinator. This year, the money raised goes to the **Somerset County Food Pantries** and **Somerset County Drug-Free Communities**. We need team members for the race also, which is **Saturday, June 11**, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Somerset High School Track. Please see or call Sally Miller if you are interested in the challenge and race by calling her at home at (814) 395-5593.



2016 SEQUANOTA EVENTS

Saturday/Sunday, April 2-3 Men on a Mission

Big projects need your help. Cost is FREE!

Join the Camp for 2 days of work and an overnight of fun.

Friday-Sunday, April 22-24 Women's Retreat

Conversations based on the book, Stitches by Anne Lamott. Facilitated by Rev. Susan Winger.

\$130-Weekend (Double Occupancy)

\$90-One overnight (Double Occupancy)

\$30-Saturday Only

\$50-No lodging

Friday, April 29 Spring Benefit Dinner

Cost: A \$50 donation is suggested.

4:45 p.m. Tours and Appetizers

6:00 p.m. Dinner

2016 MONTANA TRIP



A Trip to Build Relationships A Ministry Visit to Our ELCA Partner Synod

Who: Youth 16 years through adult

What: This trip is about building relationships with our partners in ministry in the Montana synod. Activities will include a combination of work projects, visiting with congregations and synod staff in Great Falls, and service opportunities with Native American people on a reservation. There will also be time set aside for sightseeing.

When: Tentative dates of **Friday, July 15 – Saturday, July 23** (with potential to have individuals or youth groups extend time if they so choose).

Where: Montana Synod Office and congregations in Great Falls, Montana

Rocky Boy Indian Reservation

Surrounding areas for sight-seeing (Glacier National Park, Missouri River, Rocky Mountain Front)

Cost: Current estimate of \$1,200-1,500 per person. This cost would cover airfare, vehicle rental in Montana, and lodging for the week. Meals are not included in this cost. Cost may be lower depending on current rates of airline tickets and whether we stay in hotels or have other arrangements.

Interested? Contact the Allegheny Synod Office (814) 942-1042 by **Tuesday, March 15, 2016** and indicate the number of people and ages interested in participating.

GEOTHERMAL UPDATE

Update on the Geothermal Project:

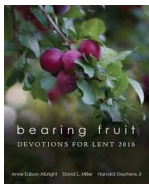
Four Loan Withdrawals	\$158,000
Authorized Transfers from Various Savings	70,861
Gifts Received through January 31, 2016	<u>181,901</u>

(These are both one-time special gifts and payments towards pledges)

Total Cash in Hand	410,762
Payments made (July, 2015 to February 1, 2016)	<u>(403,184)</u>
Balance—Cash on Hand	\$7,578

[We have begun paying on our \$158,000 Loan. Monthly payments are \$867.00 per month.]

ANNOUNCEMENTS



2016 LENTEN DEVOTIONALS “Bearing Fruit” are available in the Narthex, Chapel, and Trinity’s Office. Please take one for your family’s Lenten devotions.

2016 CAMP SEQUANOTA SUMMER CAMP brochures are in Trinity’s Office. Register by **Friday, April 1** for the lowest, printed registration fee.



THE NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE is Wednesday, March 30.

BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Angela Miller | 20 Stephanie Barnett |
| 2 Sharon Barnett | Beth Mayer |
| P. Michael Jacobson | Emily Miller |
| Sadie Snyder | Jacob Miller |
| 5 Emma Fanale | 21 Pauline Baker |
| Heather Fanale | 22 Susan Centi |
| 6 Brett Christner | Mark Menser |
| Cole Christner | 23 Robert Thomas |
| William G. McNelly | 25 Robert Jasper |
| Lauren Miller | Lana Miller |
| Patricia Widmann | Kelley Thompson |
| 7 Timothy Bence | 26 Garry Pryce |
| Greta Carroll | 27 Ann Persun |
| Lois Countryman | 28 Rebecca Kennick |
| Brian Gary | 30 Gordon Centi |
| Reese Sanner | Rebecca Minnich |
| 8 Alexendra Swanson | |
| 9 E. Charles Kaufman | |
| 11 Travis Anderson | |
| J. Franklin Kyle, Sr. | |
| 14 Ann Voytish | |
| Larry Mazer | |
| 15 John Barndt | |
| Lillian Mostoller | |
| Norma Perks | |
| 17 Nathan Rininger | |
| Ashley Rosman | |
| Gregory Widmann | |
| 19 Robert Carouse | |
| Linda Siemon | |
| Barbara Swanson | |



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Vincent Morocco | 14 Alaina Thompson |
| Anne Panagiotides | 16 Natalie Anderson |
| Kelsey Weimer | Beth Fetterolf |
| 2 Reese Demchak | 17 Eric Wheeler |
| Wayne Walker | 19 LeeAnn Rininger |
| 3 Brian Anderson | D. Jean Sandusky |
| Dawn Felix | 20 Sydnay Bowersox |
| 4 Misty Demchak | 21 Geraldine Walker |
| Haddie Lepley | 22 Terri Snyder |
| Judith Klink | 23 Ralph Friedhofer |
| Virginia Lloyd | Shirley Wilson |
| Randell Urban | 24 Luke Ream |
| Virginia Hoover | 25 Beverly Benford |
| 5 Samuel Sanner | Cristine Sanner |
| Daniel Woy III | Kenneth Saylor |
| 6 Bonnie Brown | 26 Ellsworth Flyte |
| Amanda Bower | 27 Seth Shaffer |
| James Knepper, Sr. | 28 George Kaufman |
| Chad Schrock | 29 Marilyn Carouse |
| 7 Laura Critchfield | Gayle Morocco |
| Mona Herrell | Dorothy Stahl |
| Melanie Miller | 30 Troy Miller |
| 8 Colin Gary | Sandra Griffith |
| Robert Troy | |
| 9 Makayla Marek | |
| 10 Laura Menser | |
| Barry Younkin | |
| 11 Robert Boose II | |
| Allison Davies | |
| 12 Jayden Horning | |
| Marci Miller | |
| 13 Lisa Brady | |



Order Form for Easter Lilies 2016



In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Presented by _____

Cost of each plant is \$10.00

They will grace our Chancel at Easter.

_____ Number of Plants at \$10.00 each \$_____

Please return your order and money to:

Trinity Lutheran Church

918 Tayman Avenue

Somerset, PA 15501

Checks should be made payable to:

Trinity Lutheran Church

Deadline for orders is: **Monday, March 21**

Remember Our Shut-Ins:

Give to Homebound

() yes () no

I Will Pick Up My Plant

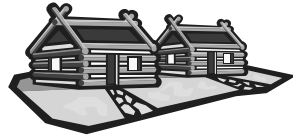
() yes () no



2016 SPECIAL EASTER GIFTS

*This year, in addition to or in lieu of Lilies,
our special gifts will go to:*

____ *Sequanota Capital Campaign*



Amount \$ ____ Envelope # ____

Please make checks payable to:

Trinity Lutheran Church

918 Tayman Avenue
Somerset, PA 15501

Deadline: Monday, March 21

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Presented by _____

CONGRATULATIONS!

**TRINITY MEMBERS HAVING SIGNIFICANT
BIRTHDAYS (80 YEARS AND OLDER)**

William G. McNelly—March 6

E. Charles Kaufman—March 9

Pauline Baker—March 21

Virginia Hoover—April 4

James Knepper, Sr.—April 6

D. Jean Sandusky—April 19

Geraldine Walker—April 21

Ralph Friedhofer—April 23

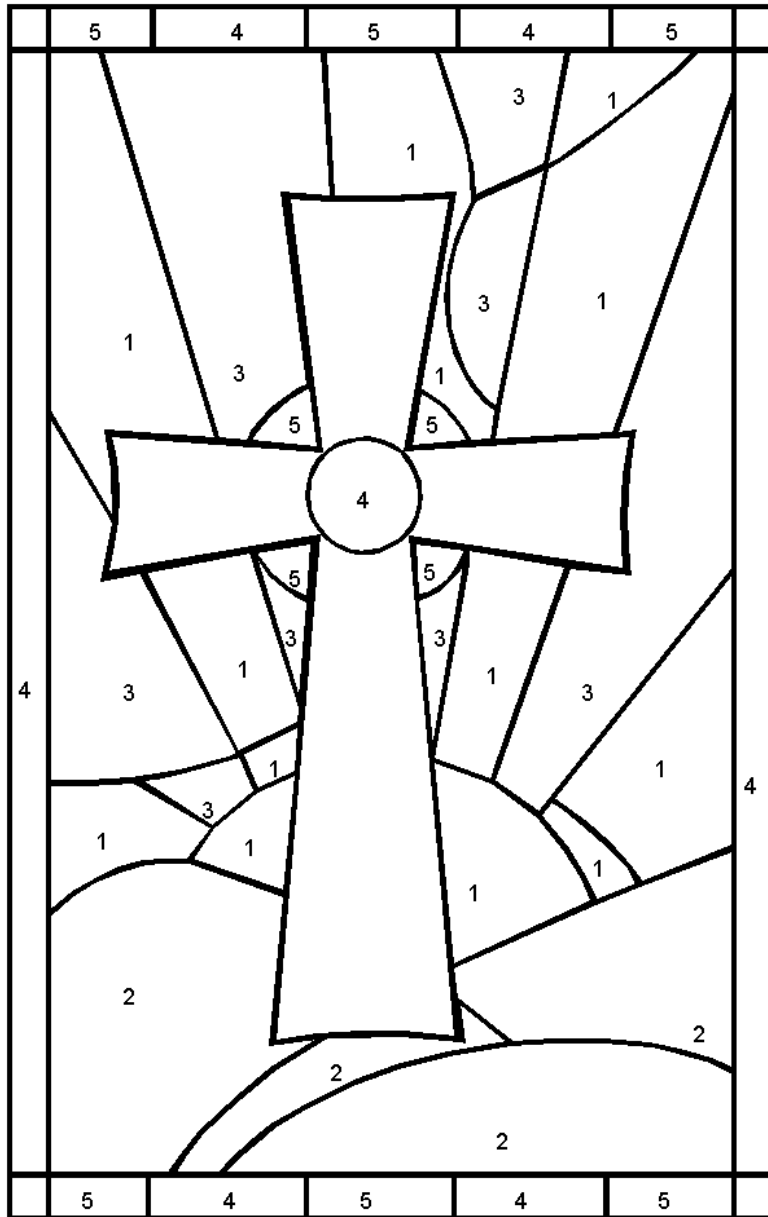
Shirley Wilson—April 23

Beverly Benford—April 25

Kenneth Saylor—April 25

Dorothy Stahl—April 29

COLORING PAGE



1-yellow 2-green 3-blue 4-purple 5-red

THANK YOU'S

SINCERE THANKS to all who helped me with this year's Food Pantry Toy Drive on Wednesday, December 9 by donating toys or money to shop, setting up rooms, helping families select gifts, wrapping gifts the day of the drive, and resetting the rooms. We served 349 children representing 120 families! Our volunteers included: *Lisa Azzarella; Connie Bowers; Peggy Egolf; Doug Fanale; Janet and Mitch Fetterolf; Jeanne Flyte; Aimee, Sarah, and Matthew Jacobs; Joslyn Kaufman; Frank Kyle; Megan Law; Emily Lloyd; Pastor Linda McElroy Thomas; Karen Pessolano; Pastor Eric Raygor; Iona Rice; Vicar Jennifer Soltis; Deb Stewart; Kathy Triebe; Don Voytish; Shirley Wilson; Rosalie Younkin; and two Elders from California.*



Ann Voytish

Dear Trinity,

Thank you so much for the homemade vegetable soup we received from Becky Minnich of the Care and Share Committee. We have received such a warm welcome and are so happy to rejoin the Trinity family. Thanks again.



John and Sandy Harvey

Thanks to all who sent me cards for my 90th birthday. The cards helped to make the day very enjoyable.

Arnold Benford

THANK YOU'S

We are so thankful for our church family during the recent loss of Tom. The presence of so many church members at the funeral home, cards, and all the kind words.



Also we thank the helpers at the meal in the Fellowship Hall of George, Deb, Barb, Janet, Dick, and Inez.

God bless each and everyone of you.

Betty, Travis, Beth, Natalie, Nick, and Jenn

KIDS LETTERS TO GOD

Dear God,
I went to this wedding and they kissed right in church. Is that OK? - Neil

Dear God,
In bible times did they really talk that fancy? - Jennifer

Dear God,
I am Amearican What are you? - Robert

Dear God,
Thank you for the baby brother but what I prayed for was a puppy. - Joyce

Dear God,
Please put a nother holiday between Christmas and Easter.
There Is nothing good in there now. - Ginny

Source: Pinterest, posted by Pixdaus