

Pastor's Ponderings

Pastor David Eisenhuth

Did you ever play the game “On My Way to Jerusalem”? I used to play it with my youth groups in previous congregations. It’s a memory game. People sit in a circle and the leader asks the question: “What would you take on a journey to Jerusalem?” The person next to the leader answers the question by saying: “On my way to Jerusalem I would take [fill in the blank].” Usually the first thing mentioned was a Bible. The next person would have to answer the question but include what the previous person said and add her own thing. The next person would answer the question by including the first two responses and add his own answer. And so it goes on until the list is impossible to remember. The list might include that Bible, a water canteen, clean clothes, et cetera. Of course, someone would add a ribald supply such as a donkey-by-another-name and everyone would laugh when the word had to be repeated over and over.

March 6 is Ash Wednesday, and so we begin our journey to Jerusalem. We symbolically join Jesus and his followers—the 12 named disciples and the many others, including women, who accompanied them—as they make their way to the Holy City where they will observe the yearly celebration of Passover. This would be a time of remembrance, recalling how YAHWEH brought God’s people out of bondage in Egypt to the freedom of the Promised Land. The meal itself was the crowing event. Special foods, scriptural readings, instruction to young and old alike in the sacred tradition, and several glasses of wine (Manishevitz was probably around even then) made for a festive evening.

Of course, in the midst of this celebration, Jesus would be betrayed by Judas and turned over to the religious authorities who would judge him guilty for blasphemy. They in turn would hand him over to the Roman authorities with the recommendation that he be crucified. The plan God had for the redemption of the world would take Jesus to Calvary and then to the stone-cold tomb. The seeming triumph of death would be overcome by the joy of the following Sunday morning. A tragic trip becomes something else completely.



Lent is a 40-day journey. It does not include the Sundays during that time, because the Christian Sabbath is always a remembrance of the resurrection. That joy is somewhat subdued by the solemn nature of Lent, but not overcome by it. Count back 40 days from Easter and you come to a Wednesday. The color of the black vestments and altar paraments, as well as the imposition of ashes on the foreheads of worshippers, all remind us that the consequence of sin is death. The words spoken at the imposition of ashes recall the horrifying curse spoken to Adam and Eve after they fell from God’s grace: “Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.”

And so, as our journey begins, please answer the question: “What are you taking along on your journey to Jerusalem”? Please don’t say the other word for donkey. I heard it a thousand times! I would like to make a suggestion. How

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From Your Council President

Craig Fentress

With the weather over the past month, many meetings were cancelled or rescheduled. Even so, Church Council had a productive month. First and most exciting was the spaghetti dinner. We had around 150 people show up—some from our church family and many from outside of our church. I would like to thank all the people who helped, from advertising to cooking to serving. I believe this kind of ministry can only help those outside the church to realize we have a great church. We are in the process of planning a dinner for the May time period.

During the last Church Council meeting, a question came up about filling vacant Council positions. During the 2018 year, one of the Council members resigned. According to the bylaws of the church, in this situation, the Council has the authority to vote in a member to fulfill the position. At the December meeting, Lauren Rowe was voted in by the Council to fill the vacant position. Having someone familiar with the workings of the Council helps keep the balance of new versus old.

Council had a retreat on February 16. During this retreat, we discussed goals and will be finalizing them over the next month. Once the goals are finalized, they will be shared with the church. This will help focus us over the next year. It was also discussed that we will look into a text messaging system to keep the communication flowing. More information will be coming.

I look forward to the exciting things ahead over the next few months.



Wednesday, March 6, is Ash Wednesday. Services including the imposition of ashes will be held at noon in Memorial Hall and at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary.



Tuesday, March 5, is Shrove Tuesday this year. Family Life will continue the Trinity tradition of a Pancake Dinner at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$5 for children aged six to 12, and free for children under five years.

Come and enjoy pancakes, sausages, cinnamon apples, and a New Orleans-Style Mardi Gras Band!



"24 Hours that Changed the World"

The Lenten Season is fast approaching! Join Pastor David on Wednesdays during Lent for "24 Hours that Changed the World."

We will study the 24-hour period from Jesus's celebration of the Passover with the disciples to His burial. A light supper will be provided.

When: Wednesdays, March 13, 20, 27, and April 3, 10, and 17.

Where: Memorial Hall.

Time: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Please join us for any or all parts of the evening. Dinner: 5:30 to 6:15 p.m.; Study: 6:15 to 6:45 p.m., Eucharist: 6:45 to 7:30 p.m.

Lenten Jazz Vespers

Come and celebrate Lenten Evening Jazz Vespers at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 28, in the Sactuary at Trinity.

Listen and join in singing ancient chant music and jazz standards.

A wine and cheese reception will follow the service in Memorial Hall.



Making a Joyful Noise

This is a list of musical events featuring members of Trinity.

HAGERSTOWN CHORAL ARTS

Trinity members Kelly Anthony, Rick Anthony, Addie Bloomfield, Therese Ramey, Pastor Greg Shook
Saturday, May 4—4 p.m., “Gladsome Light” concert
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hagerstown, MD
Monday, May 27—11 a.m., Memorial Day Service
Antietam National Cemetery, Sharpsburg, MD

PROPHETS OF THE ABSTRACT TRUTH

Trinity member Carl Disque
Friday, March 8—7 p.m., Warehouse Tap Room
1130 Conrad Court, Hagerstown, MD 21740
Friday, March 22—7 p.m., B Street 104
104 East Baltimore Street, Greencastle, PA 17225
Saturday, April 6—7 p.m., The Flying Camel Literary
Cafe & Piano Bar
28 South Potomac Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740
Saturday, April 13—2:30 p.m., Homewood @ Crumland
Farms, 7404 Willow Road, Frederick, MD 21702
Sunday, April 14—2 p.m., Antietam Creek Vineyards
4835 Branch Avenue, Sharpsburg, MD 21782
Friday, April 26—7 p.m., B Street 104
104 East Baltimore Street, Greencastle, PA 17225

STAFF INFECTION

Trinity member Andy Wallace
Sunday, March 17, Saint Patrick’s Day—8 p.m. to 12 a.m.
The Suite 710 Restaurant & Lounge
19330 Leitersburg Pike, Hagerstown, MD 21742
Friday, March 29—8 to 11 p.m., B Street 104
104 East Baltimore Street, Greencastle, PA 17225
Sunday, May 31—6:30 to 9:30 p.m., Boonsboro Carnival
Firework Night! Boonsboro Carnival
Shaffer Park, Boonsboro, MD 21713

Westminster Choir College Schola Cantorum in Concert

Fran Shay

Barbara Ingram School for the Arts (BISFA) Chamber Choir and Trinity Lutheran Church are pleased to host one of Westminster Choir College’s premier choirs, the Schola Cantorum, for a concert on at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 18, at Trinity. The Westminster Choir College (WCC) is a residential conservatory of music located in Princeton, New Jersey. Its voice faculty is the largest in the world.

Schola Cantorum, under the direction of Dr. James Jordan, will share a delightful evening of music in the beautiful sanctuary of Trinity Lutheran Church. BISFA and Trinity have agreed to provide one night’s accommodation for each of the 61 WCC sophomore students after the concert.

If you have an extra room in your house, please consider helping as a volunteer host. Each host is asked to provide one night’s accommodation for two (or more) WCC students after the concert and breakfast for the students the next morning. The volunteer hosts will pick up their students at Trinity following the 7:30 p.m. concert, and return the students on Tuesday morning, to meet their bus to continue their tour. Exact times are to be determined.

If you have room for two or more college sophomores to sleep one night in your home comfortably, and have breakfast the next morning, please email BISFA’s home stay coordinator, Fran Shay, at fmstore85@gmail.com. Thank you!

Prayers: Conversations with God

Deacon Inge Dudda, OSSD

Dear Trinity Friends,

When a sudden, traumatic event happens to one of us or to the Christian community, it is comforting to know that other Christians pray for us by lifting our name or family or community to God. At Trinity we now have a way to unite us in prayer when sad experiences happen, as we already had this year by losing Pastor Chris and Lisa Norgard.

Thank you for being willing to pray for others by signing up for the email and telephone prayer chains. As of 22 February 2019, there are 38 participants for email and 17 for telephone. You will receive information about how the chains will function in the next few days. Please call or email me at (301)790-4995; cell, (240)310-7273; icdudda@aol.com, if you would like to be on a prayer chain.

Additional opportunities to bring the requests of others to God are praying the Prayer Concerns in the weekly bulletin and the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) *Prayer Ventures* booklet, available in the narthex and outside Fellowship Hall. For your own prayer requests, please use the yellow *Amazing Prayer* cards in the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall, and put them in the offering plate or give them to Pastor David or me.

It is an honor to serve the faithful Christian disciples at Trinity. May God bless you all as we enter the Lenten season.



Social Ministry Lenten Project

Carol Brashears

Our Lenten Project this year will be to collect personal hygiene products for our Food Pantry and Clothing Bank clients. This was a huge success last year. Your generosity with so many useful items was well received and appreciated by our guest.

We will collect soap, tubes of toothpaste and toothbrushes, shampoo, deodorant, disposable razors, chapstick, combs and brushes, feminine hygiene products, and hand cream and lotion.

Look for the boxes to place these items in Fellowship Hall and the Narthex. These are the most requested items, the things we take for granted. Please bring in a variety for all ages. Let's fill up the boxes this Lent.

Celebrating 150 Years of Great Food!

Judy Melby-Robinson

Each month we're highlighting a recipe from the Trinity cookbooks, in hopes you may like to try one of our member's dishes in memory or in honor of them. This month's recipe is from Janet Dayhoff, a long-time member of Trinity, the late wife of Don Dayhoff. Don and Janet have contributed so much to the history of Trinity. I'll bet Don remembers Janet making him this ham loaf!

TAHITIAN HAM LOAF

1 lb. ground smoked ham	1 T. snipped parsley
1 lb. ground fresh pork	Dash of pepper
2/3c. coarse cracker crumbs	8 slices pineapple
½ c. onion, chopped	1 c. brown sugar
½ c. milk	¼ c. pineapple syrup
1 egg, slightly beaten	2 T. vinegar , 1 tsp.
prepared mustard	

Thoroughly combine first eight ingredients. Shape into nine patties, no wider than the pineapple slices. In a shallow, 9x13-inch baking dish, line up row of alternating ham patties and pineapple slices, start and end with a patty. Bake at 325 degrees for 30 minutes. Combine remaining ingredients for a glaze. Pour the glaze over the roll and continue baking 1 hour longer, basting every 20 minutes. Serve with hot rice. Makes eight servings.

A Determined Heart

June Habeck-Holler



Two baby boys.
Poverty income level.
Substandard housing.
Low educational level.
Uninvolved, abusive mate.

Around 1999, a young woman with this situation came into our Food Pantry from her tenement-level house two blocks from our church. Although illiterate and easily confused, “Jane” explained her situation to our staff and asked for and took home food for her family.

Monthly visits turned into years coming to the one place she knew she would receive help. Along with food and clothing, she needed school supplies for her growing boys, or requested a xerox copy of her boys’ school pictures. One time Jane told Jeff Reed and Ralph Conrad that her stove was broken, which her slumlord refused to fix. The two men went to her house and witnessed the condition of her home; while her husband slept on the one bed, her growing children were using a mattress on the floor, and Jane slept in a lawn chair. In the months that followed, Jane received used furniture, along with a television and video equipment from the TLC Outreach program.

When Jane’s sons were in high school, TLC provided funds to pay for driver’s education so the boys could get their license. Despite this support, her sons often wanted to quit school, but Jane prevailed and they successfully graduated. Over time, Jane also received help with getting a hearing aid and prescription medication.

Sometimes Jane’s reports to our staff were heartbreaking. There were times, she told us, when she took home the food for the family, and her husband would eat most of it, leaving little for her or her teenaged sons.

She also needed help in interpreting and navigating today’s world. Once she came to TLC upset that her sons had received mail about registering for the military draft, thinking that this meant they were going to be drafted into the military. Another time, when both her sons had turned 21 and her rent was raised, the TLC team explained to her that it was legal that the rent increased, as there were now four adults living in her house.

Although a true prisoner of her environment, Jane’s love and determination accomplished what she set out to do in raising her sons to adulthood, in circumstances that most of us can not even imagine. She saw to it that her kids got the chance to have choices in their lives.

Regardless of her relentless circumstances, Jane’s heart is full of gratitude and smiles. She buys small trinkets at yard sales as gifts for others. And every Christmas, she gathers up some of the donated Christmas cards and gives one each, with a sincere written thank you, to the Food Pantry staff, the Clothing Bank staff, and to Jeff and Ralph.

Jane’s patient and friendly face is known by all of us now. Somewhere from the inception of our outreach programs, our work changed from charity to being honored to team with those who are struggling against mighty odds to survive and raise their families. It’s what God’s love in his children looks like.

WHAT’S HAPPENING

The TLC Clothing Bank has been successfully moved to its new location, further down the hall on the floor above Fellowship Hall. Located now in the large area room at the end of the south hall, it now provides a sizable display area for “shopping,” areas for storing supplies, seasonal clothing, sorting tables, bulletin boards, and a new monitoring system. As the need for more clothing has been increasing, this new set up enables us to better meet that need.

Donated items can be taken to the new space or left in the hall off the foyer on Randolph Avenue, where we had been collecting them.

Come visit the new and improved Clothing Bank!

WHAT YOU CAN DO

The Clothing Bank needs mens’ undershirts and t-shirts, men’s boxer shorts (not briefs), all sizes of bed sheets, towels and washcloths, women’s’ underpants sizes 11-12, blankets, and gloves.

The Food Pantry needs can openers for the homeless (Dollar Store sells ones that don’t break easily), wrapped saltine crackers, jelly or jam, and boxed mixes for cakes or cookies.

PONDER THIS

“The worst feeling is going to bed, thinking about whether your kid is going to have a meal the next day. My daughter, she came home crying one day. Said she ate in the girls’ bathroom because other kids were making fun of her lunch—a bread and mustard sandwich. One day her teacher sent a note home about school pantries. And now we can get things— like apples, broccoli, different meats. And I feel better, knowing she has something healthier to eat and that she maybe won’t get teased about something she can’t even control. I’m thankful for anyone who helps make this good feeling and food possible.—Angela W from *Maryland Food Bank Magazine*, Fall 2018, page18.

What's Going on at TLC Other than Church?

Cynthia Holden

If you happen to be in our building on a Wednesday morning, you may hear the sound of laughter coming from Fellowship Hall or see people maneuvering the steps, hallways, and sidewalks with a coach and a cane designed for the blind. Every Wednesday a group from Blind Industries & Services of Maryland meet to assist others with visual impairment. Our group at Trinity is led by Cindy Holden. This is a very busy, very active group that certainly enjoys their time at Trinity as they learn life skills needed to achieve independence. Please read her letter to the congregation that outlines more detail about their program. They are very thankful to us for providing access to our space and support for their program.



Letter from Blind Industries & Services of Maryland

Cynthia Holden

We are grateful to Trinity Lutheran Church for providing a space for our *free* one-day-per-week program geared towards helping adult individuals to regain their independence after vision loss. We offer a no-cost instruction in Braille, technology, independent living, cooking, adjustment to vision loss, and cane travel. Our participants enjoy making new friends, peer interaction, off-site training excursions, community activities, crafting, and more!

Our mission is to encourage blind and low-vision people of all ages through innovative training programs that lay the foundation to achieving the life and career they desire. We positively change people's attitudes about blindness.

For more information contact:

Cynthia Holden or Robert Morgan at (240)803-2091, or cholden@bism.org, or www.bism.org.

Pastor's Ponderings

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about a penitent heart? Lent gives us time to realize how far short of God's hopes for us we have fallen. After honestly pondering on that for forty days you should be ready to be uplifted by Easter Sunday. That's the penitent part. The other part is your heart.

Tradition has it that your heart is the very center of your life, expressing the emotional pantheon of human feelings: love, hate, joy, hope, despair, to name a few. While we know the brain really has that function, we still talk about giving our heart to someone we love. Likewise, we can easily break the heart of someone we should care about by simple words. If you take your heart on this journey, it means all of your being is on that road to Jerusalem.

When the liturgy for Lent was proposed for what became the *Lutheran Book of Worship*, it offered a way by which this 40-day journey could take shape. Ash Wednesday begins with a lengthy confession. Normally a confession has an absolution attached to it. The one for Ash Wednesday does not. It is withheld until the liturgy for Holy Thursday, the official end of Lent, which also has an extended confession, but this time it includes a powerful absolution. For the Sundays in Lent I like to begin the service with the Decalogue, a recitation of the Ten Commandments. The journey, long as it may be, is complete. Our penitent hearts are laid at the feet of Jesus who takes them up, carries them to the cross, buries them in the darkness of the tomb, and ultimately fills them with joy on Easter Day.

On our way to Jerusalem . . .

SUNDAY SERMONS DURING LENT

For our Sunday sermons during Lent, we are going to do something novel. We are going to "overhear" conversations that people are having about the events unfolding around them during the last part of Jesus's ministry. Not that you would ever do it, but isn't it interesting to listen in on other's conversations? When you are sitting in the gate area waiting to board a plane, you might hear the person in back of you talking about where he or she is going. The same thing is true in a restaurant or the supermarket. Well, imagine the people who were part of the passion story of our Lord? What would they say about this rabbi whose fame precedes him? Our characters include some simple, unnamed observers, malicious gossipers, religious leaders, and familiar people like Mary Magdalene and Peter. You won't see the characters, but you can listen in on their conversation and learn about Jesus.

“Thank You!”

Dear Trinity,

I loved my church remembering me this Christmas. My card and poinsettia filled my home with joy. Thank you for remembering and for loving me.

—Hazel Eichelberger

Dear Trinity Family,

Thank you for the beautiful flowers I received for my birthday! Thanks to Sue Fiedler for fixing them for me. It is always nice to be remembered and your thoughtfulness is appreciated.

Blessings,
Barbara Smith

I would like to thank everyone for praying for me while I was ill and for those who worked to make everything neat and clean in my absence.

—Ricky L. Stoner



The Literacy Council Needs Volunteer Tutors

Brenda Vanover

The Literacy Council needs volunteer tutors to teach Adult Basic Literacy and/or English as a Second Language.

The two-day Tutor Training Workshop is held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 11, and Saturday, May 18, at Benevola United Methodist Church, 19925 Benevola Church Road, Boonsboro.

To register or for additional information, see Brenda Vanover in Room 106 at Trinity any Tuesday or Thursday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., or call (301)739-4208, or email office@literacycouncilofwashingtoncounty.com, or register at our website, www.literacyofwcmd.org.

Your new student can't wait to hear from you!
You can make a difference in your student's life!



- 3 Dottie Rhodes**
Sam Young
- 6 Howell Hammond**
Logan Hammond
- 7 Judy Conrad
Abby Rankin
- 8 Barbara Seltzer
- 9 Janice Keefer**
- 10 Heidi Bitner
- 12 Pamela Bradford
Nathaniel Repp
Deborah Rochefort
- 15 Michelle Nearchos
- 16 Kelly Rohrer
- 17 Christen Fairley
S. Dorsey Martin, Jr.**
- 19 Elaine Byers**
- 20 Carole Gibney
- 21 Kenneth Purdham**
- 22 Erin Tolson
- 23 Dylan Rowe
- 24 Suzanne Bell
Annika Rochefort
- 25 Mary Anne Day
Anne Thayer
- 26 Kelly Turner
- 27 Carl Disque
Sandra Wiebel
- 28 Sharon Hoppes
Jack Pryor

** over 75



- 25 Sam & Marilyn Young*
- 27 S. Dorsey & Betty Martin*

*40 years or more

Trinity Lutheran Church
15 Randolph Avenue
Hagerstown, Maryland 21740

Phone: (301)733-2878 www.tlchag.org

Sunday Worship at 8:45 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages at 9:55 a.m.
Church Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday

MAKING DISCIPLES FOR CHRIST

Food Pantry and Clothing Bank: (301)733-5651
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 11 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Washington County Literacy Council: (301)739-4208
Tuesday and Thursday: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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