

# TIDINGS

Mid-week Lenten Service at Holy Trinity – 3/4

Mid-week Lenten Service at Zion - 3/11

“Bring-a-Friend” Sunday - 3/15

Mid-week Lenten Service at St. Luke - 3/18

Tidings deadline - 3/22

Mid-week Lenten Service at Holy Trinity - 3/25

Conference on Congregational Ministries- 3/28

Mid-week Lenten Service at Zion - 4/1

Holy Week: Palm Sunday - 4/5; Maundy Thursday - 4/9

Good Friday - 4/10

EASTER - 4/12

HOLY TRINITY EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Burlington, N.J.

“Let the church in the center of town be at the  
center of your faith”

March, 2009

## **Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church**

1308 Mt. Holly Road  
Burlington, N.J. 08016  
609-387-1202  
www.holytrinityelc.org

### **Pastor**

Rev. Harald Peeders, S.T.M.  
609-747-0181 (PastorPeedershtlc@verizon.net)

### **Organist**

Miss Shirley Worthington  
609-291-9083

### **Choir Director**

Rick Krause

### **Secretary/Church Office**

Barbara Faulkner  
609-387-1202 (Barbarahtlc@verizon.net)

### **Congregational Council**

Debbie Mayo - President  
Wayne Goerlich - Vice President  
Bill Tootell - Secretary  
Glenn Savary - Treasurer

Cheryl DeRita  
Bobbi Goerlich  
Bill Hines  
Jack Jacob  
Mike Jacob  
JJ Mazza

Mary Beth McSweeny  
Laura Poethke  
Izzy Rivera  
Russ Simpkins  
Chris Storz

### **Confession of Faith**

This congregation confesses the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior; and the Gospel as the power of God for the salvation of all who believe.

# PASTOR'S REPORT

## SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT LENT

### **Lent: A Journey**

Lent is a journey, and that means taking risks. Experienced travelers have tips to share for making the trip go as smoothly as possible, but most people who have been on a journey know that things can go wrong. Buses break down. Planes are delayed. Storms interfere. Luggage gets lost. All these variables mean releasing some of the control we have over our lives. We are at the mercy of pilots, wind and weather, other workers. However, in spite of - or maybe because of - all the ways a journey can throw us off balance, travelers have the opportunity to see, taste, hear, smell, feel, experience, even be something new.

### **Personal and Communal**

Lent is often experienced as a season of reflection, looking inward, soul-searching. It's a season for looking intently toward Jesus, the author of our faith, and longing to know him better. It's a season of community, because in many congregations people are coming together twice as often as normal and may come for extra time - to share a simple supper, a bowl of soup, to help with a cleaning or service project, to get to know one another's stories more deeply than they've known them before. This community - building aspect of Lent can be so powerful that people are a little sad when Lent is done, because the commitment to come together for a season has been so powerful. This is a season where in simplicity there is great strength.

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## Trust, Truth, Transparency

A continual theme of trust moves through the lectionary during this season. Isaiah reassures people, “The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.” In stories from Genesis, Exodus, and Numbers, we encounter God’s covenant with creation - learning once again the greatness of God and God’s vision for how people ought to live together. Finally, Jeremiah points toward a time when the covenant will be manifest - when everyone will know God, and God’s promise will be written on their hearts.

New Testament readings throughout the season reinforce these themes and take them a step further. Recalling the story of Abraham and Sarah, who were promised to bear a child though their bodies were too old, the apostle Paul teaches us that there is reason for hope and faith in spite of the evidence, and that there can be reconciliation not only between God and humanity, but among all people in our diverse human community. “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God - not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.”

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<p>The Lord took him outside and said, “Look at the sky and try to count the stars; you will have as many descendants as that.” Abram put his trust in the Lord, and because of this the Lord was pleased with him and accepted him.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Genesis 15: 5,6</p>
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A third theme woven through the lectionary during Lent is truth - who God is, who we are - and truthful expression of a wide array of complex emotions such as anger, jealousy, loyalty, deep grief, and love. A transparency in these texts encourages us to communicate and live in open and honest ways. Being honest with ourselves and others is important in every aspect of life, including the way we practice spiritual disciplines, the way we live each day, and the way we die.

## **Loving Life and Losing It**

In Lenten readings from both Mark and John, we hear Jesus express an important truth about life and the ability to face death. In the gospel for the second week of Lent, Jesus says, “For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.” Jesus describes his body as a temple that will be destroyed and raised up, then as the serpent in the wilderness that is “raised up” to bring eternal life. Finally, in the fifth week of Lent, Jesus says, “Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.” In these words, Jesus confronts the deeply human will to live, and the deeply human fear of death. Because Jesus allows himself to be killed and is raised from the dead, death itself no longer needs to be feared. Because of this gift, it’s our choice to go on in life, realistic about what we face, but also fearless. (Sundays & Seasons, pgs. 104 & 105)

### Mid-Week Lenten Schedule

Soup Supper @ 6PM \* \* \* Service @ 7PM

March 4 & 25 @ Holy Trinity March

March 11 & April 1 @ Zion Riverside

March 18 @ St. Luke Willingboro

## PASTORAL ACTS

### BAPTISMS

2/1 Akira Isabella Byanille

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.” (Matthew 18:19)

### FUNERALS

2/7 Evelyn Park

“I am the Resurrection and the Life” (John 11:25)

### WEDDINGS

2/21 Daniel Wickizer & Stephanie Anderson

“The Greatest Gift is Love” (I Corinthians 13)

### MEMORIALS

A Memorial gift has been given to the Glory of God by Dr. Carl Weber in loving memory of Marion Weber.

*“This precious gift [music] has been given to man alone that he must thereby remind himself that God has created man for the express purpose of praising and extolling God.”*

*Martin Luther*



## FROM THE BENCH

Time and again I hear that the music on Sunday mornings is boring, slow, or not familiar; or “Why don’t we sing the old songs?” The music is part of the worship service, not to entertain or make us remember the “good ole days.” The first consideration for selecting a hymn, an anthem, or any other service music is the lectionary for that worship service.

Since the music is an intrinsic part of the service, it must pertain to the readings for the day, either by praising God, sending up a prayer, asking forgiveness or hearing the scripture in song. The *kyrie* is our plea for God to “...Have Mercy”. The offering gives thanks for God’s great generosity. No need to explain “The hymn of praise”. At certain times of the year you will notice that we do not sing the hymn of praise out of respect for the nature of the season. We change the gospel acclamation from *alleluias* to a more solemn selection during Lent.

In the same way we change the setting of the service to enhance the mood dictated by the season of the church year. This does not mean that we can’t sing a familiar hymn or do something we have done before. It doesn’t mean that we can’t learn something new, either. All the old familiar hymns were once new hymns! If we do not open up our hearts and minds, we become stagnant. Music is an art form and a gift from God. It helps us to open our hearts to God’s word and grow in His love.

Because we are an assembly of many ages, experiences and faith backgrounds, we realize that what we like is not necessarily what the person next to us likes. The Worship & Music Committee is open to creative, positive suggestions. We are always open to making our worship experiences more meaningful to all.

Shirley

## PARISH NOTES

Dear Rev. Peeders,

On behalf of Lutheran Social Ministries of N.J. and those we serve, thank you for your gift of \$20 to Lutheran Social Ministries of N.J. through the N.J. Synod, ELCA. Your gift helps Lutheran Social Ministries of N.J. continue to provide hospitality, healing and hope for those in need. Together, we provide that helping hand up towards self sufficiency and independence. We thank you for your partnership in our mission, an expression of a hand reached out in love. May your gift of compassion and concern bless you and your family, as you have blessed the lives of others in the family of God.

With a grateful heart,

Susan Arnold, V.P. Fund Development & Marketing

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Dear Sunday School Members,

What a wonderful annual tradition to provide such a nice brunch for our senior members. The fruit, soup, and cookies are always so delicious and the jokes so funny!

I look forward to this every year and appreciate all the work and preparation that is done for us. I'm sure I speak for all that attended – It was great!

Many thanks, Louise Sena

### *CONFERENCE ON CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRIES*

The 20th Annual Conference on Congregational Ministries will be on Saturday, March 28 at Steinert High School in Hamilton Square, N.J. It is a day that Lutherans from all over the state gather to share and learn from each other. Speak to Pastor Peeders or Debbie Mayo if you would like more information about the conference.

## PRAYER LIST

Members and friends ill, hospitalized, or convalescing for whom prayers were offered on Sunday mornings:

Thanks for prayers answered

Shirley Sapp, Carol Bijak, Joe Ricci, Gale Keohane, Allison Marshall, Janet Kerr, Nichol, Sarah, Eric & Marie Jaggars, Patricia Nelson, Gay Peeders, Ronnie Hanquist, Walter Goodlin, Ilda Kerr, Tony Gallagher, Sallie Hogeland, Phyllis Pollio, Michael, Jeff, Jack & Carol Kane, Charles Gentile, Esther Peeders, Jim Halstead, Jack & Betty Jacob, Joan & Ray Schnabel (T), Gene Staer, Diane Stahl, Janet Brusco, Edith Veach, Bill Marshall, Jenny, Grace & Don Ryan, Mr. Williams, Mr. Eaton, Tracey Dewindt, Violet Dewindt, Mary & Wayne Chiodo, Dolly McCabe & Family, Trish Eaves, Our Church, Our Military, Herb & Ingrid Gutjahr, Jennine Lund, B.J. Lund, Brian Lund, Eric Winter, Josie Montgomery, Kelly Tunney, Ralph Notaro, Rusty Notaro, Schofling Family.

Edythe Ricci, Doris Cliver, Allison Marshall, Gail Keohane, Estelle Rife, Marilyn Peeders, Ethel Matz, Eleanor Thompson, Jim Halstead, Emma Kiesel, Virginia Hunt, Clark Perry Sr., Dorothy Tuttle (+), Marie Santore, Kathy Joyal, Bertha & John, Bill Farr, Ed Bush, Paul Faherty, thanks for prayers answered, Earlena Kriscoe, Amanda Myers, Shirley Carter, Linda Wolverton, Ruth Shull, Jim Muldowney, Mary Ann Alfred, Jonathan Ricci, Sherry Ferguson, Fran DeNucci, Arlene Homa, Evelyn Downing, Eileen Banka, Gina Tipton, Tim Jones, Family of Officer John Powlawski (+), Trenton firefighter Riviera, Gail Lingo, Oren Carrol.

Tom Waltz, Nicole Stahl, Lisa Sickler, Vivian Hill, Bob Powell, Frank Daly, Harold Fawcett, Tony Gallagher, Pat Orosz, Cindy Harris, Annette Galante, Art Dulla (M), Barbara, Jack Nawn, Edith, Marguerite Johnson, Sally Nelson, Janis Gruber, Family of Joy DiStephano (+), Ralph Stevenson, Ruth Guse.

Military (M) Deceased (+) Travel (T)

## March Calendar Highlights

### Worship

- 1** 9AM & 11AM Communion Services
- 8** 9AM & 11AM Services
- 15** 9AM & 11AM Services – Bring a Friend Sunday
- 22** 9AM & 11AM Communion Services
- 29** 9AM & 11AM Communion Services; Food Collection

### Meetings

- 2** Social Ministry @ 1:00PM
- 2** Evangelism @ 6:59PM
- 3** Worship & Music @ 7:30PM
- 9** Christian Education @ 8:00PM
- 12** Property @ 7:15
- 16** Finance @ 6:45PM
- 16** Church Council @ 7:30PM
- 17** NCD Health Team @ 7:30PM

### Fellowship

- 6** Lunch Bunch at the Dolphin Diner @ 12 Noon
- 7** Stamp-A-Stack 9AM-2PM

### Adult Study

- 4** “Hannah” @ 10:30AM
- 10** “Lydia” @ 7:00PM
- 28** Conference on

### Sunday School

- 1, 8, 15, 22** @ 9AM
- 29** @ 9AM Family Worship

Congregational Ministries 8AM –3:30PM @ Steinert HS

### Communication

- 22** Tidings Deadline

### Confirmation Classes

- 2, 16** 7<sup>th</sup> Grade ONLY @ 6:45
- 9, 23, 30** 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grades @ 6:45

### Music Ministry

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29** Cherubs @ 6:30PM
- 5, 12, 19, 26** Adult Choir @ 7PM

### Outreach

- 29** Monthly Food Collection
- 28** Angel Food Ministries

### Lenten Schedule

- 4** At Holy Trinity 6PM/7PM
- 11** At Zion Riverside 6PM/7PM
- 18** At St. Luke/ Willingboro 6/7
- 25** At Holy Trinity 6PM/7PM

## Mini Directory

Bell Choir - Cheryl Chiarello

Christian Education - Laura Poethke

Church Historian – Lois Hepler

Cluster – Bobbi Goerlich

Endowment – Elwood Tryon

Evangelism – Debbie Mayo

Finance – Steve Anderson

Financial Secretary - Izzy Rivera

Hospitality - Gunda Simpkins & Leslie Manning

Lunch Bunch - Sheila Powell

Memorial Fund - Louise Sena

NCD - Pastor Harald Peeders

Property - Chris Storz

Social Ministry - Joan Schnabel

Tidings - Laura Poethke

Website – Nancy Davenport

Women's Ministry - Debbie Mayo

Worship & Music - Walt Mayo

Youth - Bonnie Mazza