



trinity tidings

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April 2026

Church Office Hours:
Mondays thru Thursdays 9:00 - 12:00 PM
Closed on Fridays

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Visit us on the web at www.trinityleb.org

trinity tidings is the newsletter of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 723 Lehman Street, Lebanon, PA 17046

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I hope you are all doing well! It was certainly a cold winter! The weather was certainly a challenge this year. Our new Council is doing well and I hope we have a great year of ministry as we head into spring. We had the joy of celebrating three baptisms in March and I was able to join the bell choir again to play for Easter!

I am thankful to all who helped with the butterflies for Easter! They are a beautiful enhancement for worship as we celebrate the resurrection in the next few weeks. Butterflies are a great symbol of Jesus' transformation from human teacher to Risen Lord!

The Rev. Dr. Jeremy Rios has a wonderful article on the resurrection which I will include below. He is a pastor in British Columbia who is originally from the Chicago area. Even though many of us enjoy the symbolism of butterflies around Easter, he states that nothing can compare to the actual resurrection and love of Christ. Nothing compares to the actual death and resurrection which takes place in Christ and which God promises for us one day. Here is an excerpt from "Resurrection Butterflies" on his online website, <https://>



FROM THE PASTOR



jmichaelrios.wordpress.com/2014/04/17/resurrection-butterflies/:

"[D]espite its convenience and ubiquity the caterpillar's metamorphosis is wholly inadequate as an image of the resurrection because, quite frankly—and apart from the idea of disappearance and reemergence—it is *precisely nothing like the resurrection.*

Allow me to explain: there is both an innocent, and a more serious, reason why metamorphosis is an inadequate (if not dangerous) metaphor. The innocent

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Continued from page 1, From The Pastor

reason is that in being a simple illustration of disappearance and transformation the caterpillar-to-butterfly image sidesteps a fairly important point: the caterpillar doesn't die. It is still alive.

I suspect part of the appeal of the caterpillar-butterfly image is precisely that it sidesteps the issue of death. Death is uncomfortable. It means *dying*. The cessation of life. ...In time, and barring special circumstances, it will be reduced completely to dust. *That* is death... Death is funerals, graveyards, and dried bones.

If we miss the whole *death* part then the whole *resurrection* part loses most of its significance. Jesus of Nazareth did not fall asleep on the cross, get wrapped in a refreshing cloth, and then revive a few days later. He didn't enter into a kind of median state where his body was reduced to a genetic goo and then—according to the preprogrammed nature of his human-divine DNA—get reconstituted as a new, glorious human being. No, Jesus *died*. All that horrible stuff about death actually happened to Jesus...He had no pulse, no life. He was *dead dead dead*.

Only when we have allowed ourselves to remember the horror and finality of death will we be in a position to appreciate Christ's resurrection life. And remembering the finality of death is something we are highly reticent to do. We've been lying to ourselves about death for a long time. Our television and movie heroes regularly come back from the dead. In North America we have largely abandoned all our rituals for death—as if not mentioning it will make it go away. But death is horribly, immovably placed as an event in human life—the final event, our common terminus. And it is at that terminus that Jesus' resurrection shines so startlingly. Jesus *came back* from death. He's the only one in the history of humanity to perform

that feat *and not die again* (like Lazarus). And his return to life was not zombie-life, or Frankenstein-life, but life real and full and complete with the fullness of what it means to be human.

This brings me to the more serious reason why the caterpillar-metamorphosis is a terrible image for the resurrection. Christ did not *metamorphosize* in the tomb. He was not transformed into a new and different being. He was brought back to life *as a human being*, and this fact must not be overlooked.

When we, through faith in Christ and the power of his Spirit, attain our own resurrection we will not be transformed into different kinds of beings... And this, to be explicit, is the more serious danger of the metamorphosis metaphor: that it creates in us, however subtly, an idea of discontentedness with our humanity. As if what we are truly longing for is the day when we are butterflies, and not for the day when, like Christ, we will be fully human. Full humanity is the goal and purpose of our creation—it is the very thing for which we are each fearfully and wonderfully made.

Death is real, resurrection is real, and humanity matters. The caterpillar-to-butterfly is a magnificent transformation in creation, but it is an inadequate illustration for the great truth of the Christian faith. [It is important for us to take an] honest and sincere stock of the reality of death, so that [we] can appreciate the miracle of Christ's life all the more."

I hope you all have a wonderful spring! See you around church!

Resurrection Blessings to all,

Pastor Althea

Committee Chair Persons

Worship & Music: Paul Copenhaver

Finance: Horace Ehrgood

Christian Education:
Elizabeth Hershey

Property: Henry Wampler

Archives & Artifacts: Jim Dibert

Social Ministry: Jim Dibert

Social Activities: Stephanie Kaylor



Dr. David M. Engle

March 21, 2026

WORSHIP with us

April Worship Schedule

April 5, 12, 19, and 26

9:00 AM—Traditional Service

10:15 AM— Adult Christian
Education



Online Worship Service:

Our online worship will continue to be available. You can find the service by going to <https://www.trinityleb.org/links>. Here you will find links to the live-stream, the bulletin, and the replay of the service so that you can watch at any time you wish during the week.

Inclement Weather Policy: If Church is going to be cancelled due to weather, it will be posted on our website page: www.trinityleb.org. Don't forget to refresh your browser when viewing the website. You can also find information on our Facebook page: facebook.com/htclebanonpa. The decision will be made by 7 p.m. the Saturday prior to service.

Prayer Partners

If you would like your name added to the list for prayer, please call the church office, 717-273-8567 or email at stephanie@trinityleb.org.

If you no longer wish to be included in the prayer update list, please let the Church Office know to remove your name.

We ask our readers to include the following people in their prayers:

Barb Atwood, Terry Clearwater, Monique Derfler, Deb Dobson, Donna, George & Susie Eckert, Dan, The Family of David Engle, Dan Fox, Mike and Nancy Hentz, Patty Hess, Jennifer, Joe Kalbach, Jim & Judi Light, The May Family, Janice Peiffer, Rachel, Robert, Margaret Reese, Marie Smith, Bruce & Betty Troxell, Nancy Warner, and Mary Yeagley.



Our Vision...Our mission is to grow in faith and discipleship, share the Good News of Jesus through word and deed, love others as Christ loves us, and celebrate life in Christ through worship, sacraments and service.

Our Mission...We are a community of believers who come together in:

✠ **Worship** to be transformed by the presence of Jesus Christ in and through God's gift of Word and Sacrament.

✠ **Christian Education** to deepen our faith and strengthen us in faithful service, trusting in the creative activity of the Holy Spirit.

✠ **Friendship** to celebrate our unity in Christ and sustain and nurture each other as we journey with Him in our day-to-day lives.

✠ **Stewardship** to gratefully use the time, talents and possessions we have been given in furthering our mission in response to Jesus' call and the leading of the Holy Spirit.

✠ **Evangelism** to share the Jesus story so that others may come to know God's reconciling grace and the peace, joy and hope that his divine grace gives.

✠ **Social Ministry** to respond to the spiritual, mental and physical needs of our neighbors and advocate for the poor, hungry and vulnerable peoples of the world.

Church Council Members

Jessie Green (*President*)

Nancy Brightbill (*Vice President*)

Ed Kulakowski (*Secretary*)

Brad Bishop (*Church Treasurer*)

Jay Brown

Carl Deemer

Karen Fitting

Pam Gainer

Neal Galbraith

Heidi Gerver

Renee Hunter

Lynn Kern

Guy Lintner

Henry Wampler





Council Notes

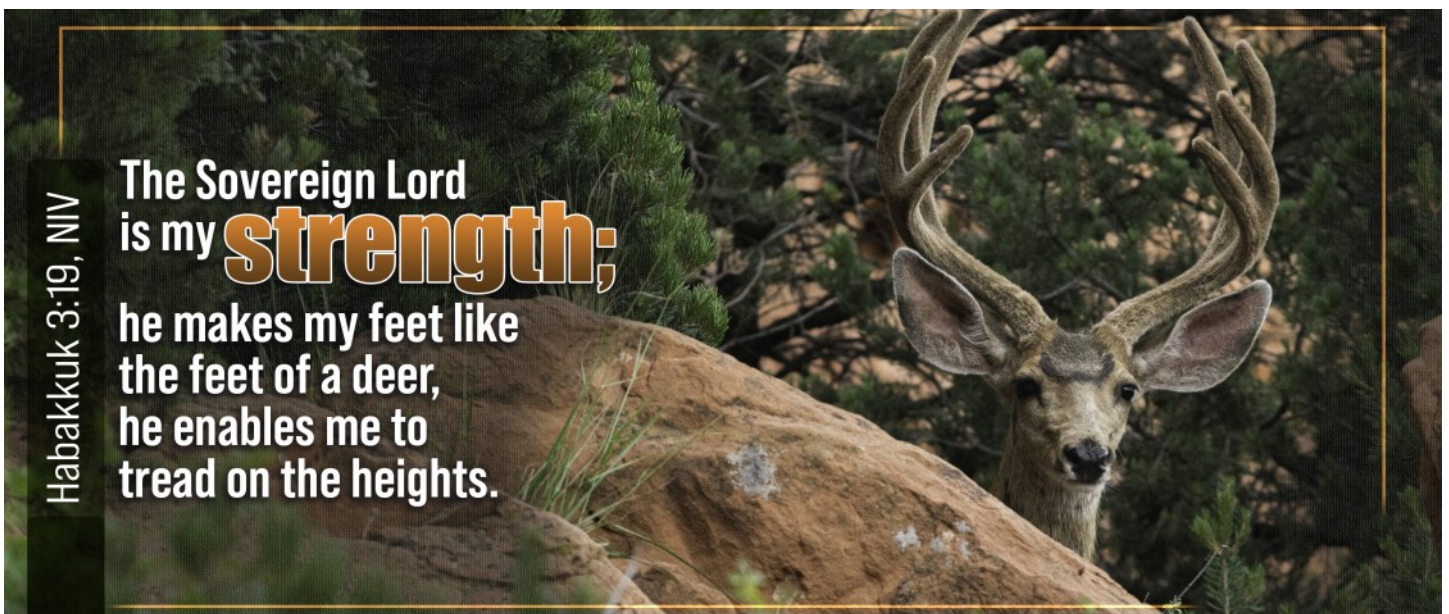
Highlights of Church Council Meeting March 19, 2026

- February income \$40,698.12; Expenses \$23,348.59. Actual as of income \$48,941.62 below budgeted of \$55,939.46; Expenses \$69,429.79 budgeted \$76,130.94.
- End of life workshop conducted by Pastor was well received. Packets available for anyone interested.
- Synod assembly June 5th and 6th sign-ups for 2 people by March 31st. Some council members interested and able to commit.
- Open organist position – Expanded search contacting many local colleges and universities for students / skilled organist and via social media. As of council meeting, no potential applicants have responded.
- Parking lot LED lights to be updated to light properly later in spring 2026. Scott Hower to lead.
- Next Council Meeting: Thursday, April 23 at 7 PM

Church Treasurer's Financial Summary - February 2026



	Month of February	Actual Year to Date	Budget Year to Date
Income	\$40,698.12	\$48,941.62	\$55,959.46
Expenses	\$23,348.59	\$69,429.79	\$76,130.94
Net Income	\$17,349.53	(-\$20,488.17)	(-\$20,171.48)



Habakkuk 3:19, NIV
The Sovereign Lord is my strength;
 he makes my feet like the feet of a deer,
 he enables me to tread on the heights.



LCCM Food Bank Item

The items requested in April is **condiments**.

Items can be brought to the church at any time and placed in the red shopping cart labeled “LCCM Food Bank” located in THE GIVING PLACE (Arnold St. side annex of Luther’s Place).

Please continue your generosity by continuing to donate to the Food Bank. Your donations are greatly needed and appreciated.

Donation Items

The items requested in April are **soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, canned vegetables, soup, individual packs of crackers, and water bottles.**



Monetary donations are also needed. To give, simply mark your donation with a note “Share & Care.”

Items can be brought to the church at any time and placed in the bin labeled “SHARE & CARE” located in THE GIVING PLACE (Arnold St. side annex of Luther’s Place).

April 22, 2026: Allegheny Woodrats On The Road To Recovery In Pa. by Katelyn Otterbein



Allegheny woodrats are a native species found only in rocky habitats along the Appalachian Mountains. Unfortunately, the species has experienced significant population declines in the past two decades and is listed as a state-threatened species in Pennsylvania and a regional species of greatest conservation need. To recover the species and avoid federal listing, Pa. Game Commission staff and partners have been working diligently to address the three primary drivers of Allegheny woodrat declines: decreased food availability, disease, and habitat fragmentation. This talk will discuss the Allegheny woodrat recovery program in Pennsylvania.

Program starts at 7 p.m. in Luther’s Place.

CAN YOU HELP?

Aluminum Can Collection

The church continues to collect aluminum cans for recycling. Please bring the aluminum cans (**rinsed & flattened**) to the church weekdays during church office hours, or bring them along to church, Sunday School, or any other church function. A container for them is located in THE GIVING PLACE (Arnold St. side annex of Luther’s Place).

Medical Equipment & Supplies

We have a small lending “library” of equipment and new medical supplies that are available for use by members of Holy Trinity.



Some of the items include: wheelchairs, shower chairs, medical bed, pads for beds, adult diapers, and more. These items are available at no cost to you. If you have a need or would like to donate an item, please contact the Church Office at 717-273-8567.



**The Lutheran Camping Corporation
of Central Pennsylvania**
Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, & The Wittel Farm

Upcoming Events:

April 19: Earth Day Celebration at Camp Kirchenwald

April 25: Earth Day at The Wittel Farm

April 25: A Night for Nawakwa

April 26: Spring Dinner Church at The Wittel Farm

For more information, please visit:
www.lutherancamping.org

Exemplars of the Faith: A Medieval Activist Catherine of Siena (1347-1380)

Catherine lived during the “Middle Ages,” a time when the everyday life of every person in Western Europe was saturated with religious talk and activity. It was also a society where a person’s social rank determined how they experienced their life from birth to the grave. Low ranking young women were at the bottom of this system. Catherine was born to a father, who, with his sons, was a cloth dyer, in the district of Siena, Italy. She was the 24th child of 25 siblings. Born a person of relatively low rank, her faith defied that categorization.

When Catherine was seven she already decided not to marry and to live a simple life in devotion to God. After her parents attempted to persuade her otherwise, they consented to allow her, at age sixteen, to become a “mantellate,” an association of devote single women, mostly widows, affiliated with the Dominican Order of friars. These women did not live in a convent, but each lived in a solitary location within Siena.

Her devotional life manifested itself as experiencing visions and as bodily sensations. In one of her devotional episodes, she described as having a vision of Christ speaking to her:

“I command you to love Me with the same love with which I love you. This, in deed, you cannot do, because I love you without being loved. All the love which you have for Me is not of grace because you are obliged to do so. I love you in grace, and not because I owe you My love. Therefore, I have placed you in the midst of your fellows, that you may do for them that which you cannot do for me, that is to say, that you may love your neighbor of free grace, without expecting any return from him, and what you do to him I count as done to Me.”

In a world where—despite its religiosity—no society-wide structures existed for those who suffered from hunger, sickness, and destitution, Catherine devoted her life to caring for those in Siena who were neglected, gaining the reputation as “santa donna” (“holy woman”). And, at a time when a person’s virtues were esteemed, she taught that “there is no perfect virtue—none that bears fruit—unless it is exercised by means of our neighbor.” She soon had a following of both men and women.

In 1374, she traveled to the Republic of Florence where the General Chapter of Dominican authorities



was being held. It is not clear what happened while she was there, but afterwards, she, with companions, traveled in northern and central Italy, appealing for repentance “through the love of God,” the reform of the clergy, and dictated letters encouraging peacemaking between Italy’s independent principalities and republics

Catherine also engaged in a personal campaign to revitalize the spirituality of the institutional Church. In 1305, Pope Clement V, a Frenchman, had moved the papal court to Avignon, France, where it came under the political influence of the kings of France. In 1376, Catherine traveled to Avignon on a peace mission on behalf of Florence, Italy in a dispute it had with the papacy. While there, she realized the lack of spiritual guidance by the papal court. After an audience with Pope Gregory XI, she wrote—she learned to write in 1377—to him reminding him of the spiritual responsibilities of his office and urged him to break free from political influences and return the papal court to Rome. Gregory did return to Rome in January, 1378. Later that year he sent Catherine to Florence to conclude Rome’s peace negotiation with that republic; peace was achieved in July, 1379. But before Gregory could consolidate the papal court’s position in Rome

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Lebanon Lutheran Mission Team Mission Trip 2026 – Lutheran 'Camping Corporation

Camp Kirchenwald from June 22-26, 2026.

From Monday June 22-Friday June 26, 2026, we invite YOU to help us do work at Camp Kirchenwald. We will be doing some kind of construction work, clean up, repairs, painting, etc. Lunches will be provided by camp. Therefore, there is no cost for the trip and no need for any fundraisers.

We are a Mission TEAM. There is a place for everyone. We welcome all skill levels and all levels of experience. All of us together complete the service circle. The only requirements are a willingness to learn, giving your best, and looking forward to a rewarding time of enjoyment and goodwill.

Please consider joining our team. You must be at least 14 years old by June 22nd to participate. Adults ages 18 and older must have clearances filed in their church office by May 31. The commitment form for each volunteer is due by April 19. See Heather Buffington or the welcome tables for commitment forms.

If you need more information or have questions about the trip, please contact Heather Buffington or Denise McDaniels.

Martin Luther affirmed “...all human work is a calling from God, if done in faith and for the service of a neighbor.”

Continued from page 6, Exemplars of the Faith

he died, which plunged the institutional Church into a 39 year struggle between rival Italian and French popes.

Catherine died after having a massive stroke in Rome in 1380 at the age of 33. She was canonized in 1461 and given the title of Doctor of the Church in 1999 for

her treatise *Dialogue of Divine Providence* and the letters she dictated and wrote during her lifetime. Catherine of Siena and Theresa of Avila are the only women who have received that level of recognition by the Roman Church.

The Roman, Episcopal and Lutheran Churches commemorate Catherine's life on April 29.



Pastor Althea will be taking time off from **April 6 – 7, 9-11, 13 –14, and 16-20**. Please contact her via her cell phone with any urgent matters or pastoral emergencies. *(Do not leave messages on the office phone for Pastor if urgent.)*

Refreshing, Renewing, Reforming Waters

Water seems to want to flow. We speak of a water cycle that is constantly in motion: rain, cascades, rivers, seeps, waves, tides, clouds. Our bodies are mostly water and can only survive by being part of the watershed: drinking, pulsing, excreting, bathing, exhaling, birthing. A map tracing water's path would reveal that it touches and flows through every living creature in earth's history, connecting all of us.

Water not only flows but flows down: it rains from the sky and pours downhill. Because water does this naturally and dependably, and in doing so gives life to everything under the heavens, water has helped us to know God. God's mercy comes down like "rain on the righteous and unrighteous" (Matthew 5:45). We pray that God will "pour out the Spirit" on the baptized. God's call for justice is that it will "roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream" (Amos 5:24). We confess both that Jesus was born of Mary and that, like rain, "he came down from heaven."

Floods are natural reformers. They rearrange landscapes and disrupt boundaries that may have been considered more-or-less settled. Floods can also bring life by depositing and irrigating topsoil. Floods can also bring death by stripping away entire landscapes and destroying safe habitats.

Luther placed this transformational power of the flood near the heart of his baptismal theology. When he composed a prayer over the water for baptism, he broke with tradition to make the image of Noah's flood central to the prayer.

In the Genesis narrative, Noah's flood covers *everything*. The biblical text repeats emphatically: *Every* living creature outside of the ark was drowned. Even the highest mountains were deeply covered.

After the waters recede, the new covenant extends to the whole earth for every generation: "I am establishing my covenant with ...every animal of the earth...never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." (Genesis 9:9-11). By describing it in terms of the biblical flood, Luther portrays baptism as engulfing *everything*, leaving nothing the same.

Luther labels the flood as a "flood of wrath," a flood that renews the world by first destroying it. He wrote that baptism is even more powerful than the flood of Noah, because "while that flood was a flood of wrath, [baptism] is a flood of grace," and it *continues* to flood



our world to this day from the font.

We are familiar with the floods of wrath. Jesus was put to death in a flood of wrath unleashed by the rulers and the crowds. But in Christ's dying and rising, God has poured out a flood of *grace* that extends to enemies and all those far away. At baptism, Luther inspires us to imagine grace extending above the highest mountains, into the depths of the sea and embracing the earth for all generations.

It may surprise us to learn that Luther's prayer at baptism speaks of "holy water" being "set apart." Many people think of holy water as the bowl of water that has been blessed by a baptismal prayer. But according to Luther's prayer, all water is holy. The prayer says that in Christ's baptism God has "sanctified and set apart the Jordon and *all* water for a saving flood." Here, instead of discarding the concept of holy water, Luther radically expands it. In his vision, holy water has become a flood.

He wrote: "Christ by the touch of his most innocent flesh has hallowed all waters, yes even all creation, through baptism."

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**Continued from page 8, Refreshing, Renewing,
Reforming Waters**

Together with that great parade of earth's other species, we humans continue to experience floods of both wrath and grace, as sea levels rise, rains pour and glaciers melt.

The flood of baptism places Christians in solidarity with all those creatures who suffer in every flood of wrath. When the waters of baptism wash over someone, they are washed into God's great work in which everything, dying and rising, is being renewed by God's grace.

Springs have long been signs of the goodness that mysteriously wells up in our world to sustain and refresh us. Springs flow freely without any human effort, but they can be polluted or forgotten. Lutherans have tended to view the work of reformation as less like repairing a malfunctioning water treatment system and more like rediscovering a life-giving spring. The Reformation called attention to the places where God has promised a gushing spring of abundant life.

Sometimes, however, the work of rediscovery involves rehabilitation. The old springhouse that used to stand on many American farms required the relatively frequent task of clearing out the weeds and junk so the water could again flow clear and accessible. The farmer didn't make the water. But the farmer needed to clear out the spring. The church is called to join the reforming work of dismantling systems and structures that pollute and impede access to the flowing springs of God's mercy.

Lutherans have clearly identified grace, vocation, and word and sacrament as life-giving springs that flow to us from God. Today we may need at least equal vigor and clarity in confessing that the earth itself is a spring of grace. It constantly overflows with goodness from its source in God.

Luther draws out the concept of the ongoing and overflowing act of creation in his expansion of the first article of the creed in his Large Catechism: At every moment, God the creator "constantly sustains" and "makes all creation help provide the benefits and necessities of life—sun, moon, and stars in the heavens; day and night; air, fire, water, the earth and all it yields and brings forth; birds, fish, animals, grain, and all sorts of produce."

I heard an elementary-school-age Lutheran struggle to remember the name for what is typically called "The Big Bang." He furrowed his brow and asked, "What do

you call it... 'The Great Overflowing'?"

That may be a good scientific image for the origin of our universe, and it certainly is an apt Lutheran image for the ongoing divine act of creation, overflowing continually, sustaining all things. This affirmation, sometimes known as *creatio continua*, predates Lutheranism, but it is given emphatic and ethical emphasis in the Reformation.

Luther continues in the Large Catechism: "For if we believe it (that the cosmos continually overflows with God's gifts) with our whole heart, we would also act accordingly, and not to swagger about and boast and brag as if we had life, riches, power, honor, and such things ourselves. This is the way the wretched, perverse world acts, drowned in its blindness, misusing all blessings and gifts of God solely for its own pride, greed, pleasure, and enjoyment..."

Luther is critiquing arrogant consumerism here because it hoards claims to have earned what God gives freely through the flourishing creation: "All this [God] does out of pure love and goodness, without our merit."

What would allow us to drink more frequently, directly, and mindfully from the spring of creation? In worship we ground every gathering in thanksgiving for the gift of creation, perhaps in a gathering hymn, and certainly in our prayers of thanksgiving at font and table.

We join with other human communities, especially with indigenous communities, that seek to preserve and rehabilitate the goodness of the earth from which we drink directly: dark skies filled with stars; flourishing natural preserves for beauty, recreation, and health; enough quiet for the voices of fellow creatures to sing and be heard; clean air and water; rich land for gardens and fresh local produce; buildings that feature natural light and landscape rather than hide them; strictures and systems that work in harmony with the earth rather than working against it.

These three forms of flowing water—stream, flood, and spring—meet us on at least three levels. They are metaphors from our textual traditions. They flow through our liturgical rites. And, they are, before anything else, life-giving bodies of water on earth. Through water, a fellow creature with us, we encounter a living witness to God, our common creator.

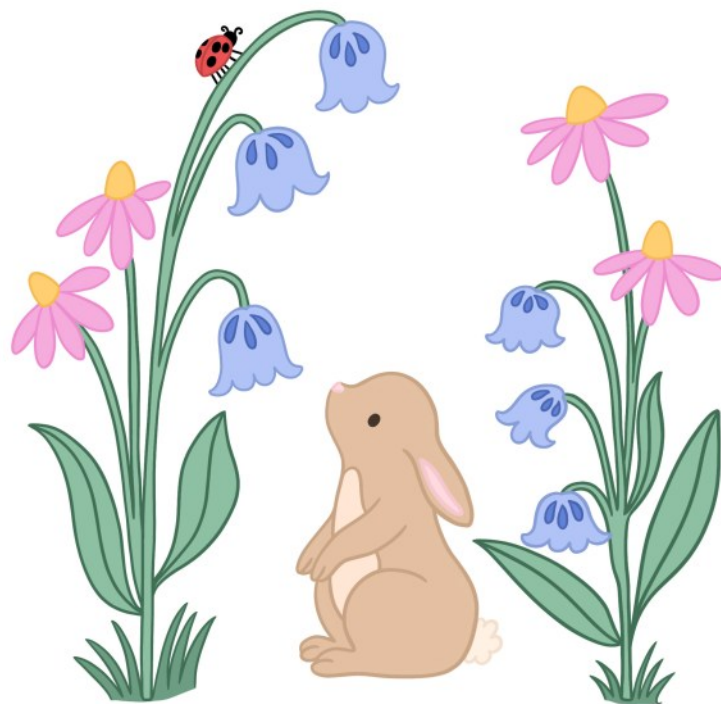
- Benjamin M. Stewart, "Stream, flood and spring,"
Living Lutheran, April 2016, pp. 14-19.

Spring is in the Air

Spring is in the air, and March 22 was World Water Day, April 22 is Earth Day and April 24 is Arbor Day. It is an appropriate time for Christians to focus on Creation Ministries. April's newsletter will feature the meditation Refreshing, Renewing, Reforming Waters by Benjamin M. Stewart. In addition, during April you will have two opportunities to explore Lebanon County's natural environment.

On **Saturday, April 18**, *everyone is invited* to come along with the **50+ Gathering** on a lighthearted virtual boat trip down our Lebanon County watershed from its Snitz Creek head water to the Quittapahilla Creek and Swatara River into the Susquehanna River on to its mouth flowing into the Atlantic Ocean, conducted by *tour guide James M. Logan*. Jim will tell us many fascinating details and stories you may have not known before or always wanted to know about the sights you will see. **The "trip" begins at 3:00 pm. in Luther's Place. A light luncheon and more will follow in the Social Room.** Please sign up for the trip at the rear door Welcome Table so our luncheon planners will have enough goodies for everyone. Thanks!

In cooperation with the Quittapahilla Audubon Society, come along on an **Observation of Spring Wildflowers**



walk at Furnace Hills on **Saturday, April 25**. Contact trip leaders for details. Please preregister by 8PM the day before with either leader, James M. Logan (717-273-8438) or James C. Logan (717-865-5522).

*"Just living is not enough,"
said the butterfly,
"one must have
sunrise, freedom,
and a little flower."*

- Hans Christian Anderson



Archives Donations?

If you would like to donate something to the Church Archives & Artifacts, please provide the following information: who is donating the item, date of donation, and a description of donation. If you are donating photographs, please identify the individuals in the picture. Thank you!



Would you like to give back to Holy Trinity? We have several volunteer opportunities. Volunteers are needed to help with the Share & Care ministry. Hours and time commitment is up to you! Help is needed putting clothing and food out for our neighbors. Additionally, help is needed in hanging and sorting clothing and preparing utensils for the food box.

If you would like more information, please contact the Church Office. THANK YOU!



GET YOUR GEAR TODAY!



front



back



[STORES.CRSAPPAREL.COM/HTLC](https://stores.crsapparel.com/htlc)

Scan the code with your phone's camera!



Organist Needed



PASS THE WORD! WE ARE HIRING!

OPEN POSITION: CHURCH ORGANIST

Part time, salary commensurate with experience

Summary: The Church Organist serves as the principal musician of the congregation and works collaboratively with the Pastor, Minister of Music/Choir Director, Bell Choir Director, and Church Administrator to provide music that enhances and supports worship. Responsibilities include providing organ and/or piano music for worship services, and accompanying choirs. Music is performed on a **Wicks pipe organ (3 manuals, 67 stops)** and an **upright piano**, both of which are regularly maintained.

APPLICANTS, PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE CHURCH DIRECTLY.

For more information or to apply, contact: Rev. Althea Seidel at holytrinitypastor723@gmail.com

MEMBERS: PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A SEPARATE EMAIL ADDRESS CREATED ONLY FOR APPLICANTS. Pastor Althea's contact information remains the same for all other purposes.



On behalf of Holy Trinity Lutheran Women of ELCA I would like to thank you for your participation in our cleaning and household products drive for the Agape Shelter. Ten cardboard boxes full of donated supplies were delivered to Cynthia Smith, Director of Agape, on March 13th. As a congregation we donated 1 cheese grater, 1 package of Dr. Brown's anti-colic options baby bottles, 8 bottles of dishwashing liquid, 4 Dawn power wash, 1 package of Brillo, 5 kitchen towels, 5 dishwashing cloths, 1 microfiber cleaning cloth, 12 scrub sponges, 13 Lysol disinfecting wipes, 5 Lysol disinfecting sprays, 3 Pinesol cleaners, 3 containers of Comet, 2 bottles of spray cleanser, 3 large containers of laundry detergent, 42 rolls of toilet tissue, 23 rolls of paper towels, 440 paper plates, 508 kitchen garbage bags and 246 large trash bags. Cynthia was very grateful for all the donations and very appreciative for Holy Trinity's continued support of the Agape Shelter's mission. As a WELCA representative I thank you for your generosity and support of this endeavor. Every act of kindness makes the world a brighter place. Thank you.

- Karen Weaver, WELCA Projects Chair



Karen Weaver, Cynthia Smith, Agape Director, and Susan Blouch, Lebanon Rescue Mission Executive Director.



Lebanon Bicycle Recycle 53 Chestnut St. & 242 S. 7th St.

Lebanon Bicycle Recycle is an initiative of the Lebanon Valley Bicycle Coalition. In the summer of 2022, I was approached by Laurie Crawford concerning the possibility of looking into a program where we could serve the needs of the Lebanon community. This would involve getting bicycles into the hands of families whom under normal circumstances could not afford to purchase them. After a lengthy discussion, we realized that this is a need for our community and we felt reasonably comfortable that we could get this accomplished. The Reach program had grant money to get us started and LVBC provided an excellent platform to work through. Cooperation with the "Reach" program from Penn State College of Medicine, where Laurie was a project manager, and the Lebanon Valley Bicycle Coalition (LVBC), a non-profit 501c3 organization which promotes bicycle safety and learning opportunities, was the perfect match.

To help get the word out, we would get an entry in the Lebanon Holiday Parade that happens every November. We started this project in early September and had to hustle to procure a trailer and get a wrap put on with our name and logos. This happened just in time for the parade. The parade exposure along with a social media campaign provided us with so many bike donations that we were just blown away.

The most fortunate piece of the puzzle was the help from a few of the LVBC members. Their experience with bike repair allows us to train volunteers. The volunteers, once trained, become bike mechanics.

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Continued from page 13, Lebanon Bicycle Recycle

Every year LBR holds a training in February. It is a 4 week session. In 2026, we are proud to have over 12 volunteer mechanics.

So, why do a bicycle recycle?

- Reuse and repurpose old bikes
- Encourage exercise
- Provide transportation
- Reduce pollution and traffic
- Get the youth involved in bikes
- Teach safety & rules

How to help?

- Volunteer to be a bike mechanic
- Monetary donation
- Bicycle donation

Our yearly bike give away is now over 400 bikes per year. As part of our safety protocol, helmets accompany all bike give aways. Locks are also provided for a small fee. This is all done by the grace of wonderful volunteers which have been a true God send to this purpose.

Ron Birch
Co-Founder
Lebanon Bicycle Recycle

*Do you volunteer for a non-profit?
We would love to feature your
story! Please contact the
Church Office.*



All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast Buffet



**Saturday, April 11, 2026
7:00-10:00 AM**

BREAKFAST INCLUDES: EGGS, HOME FRIES, CREAMED CHIPPED BEEF, FRENCH TOAST, BACON, SAUSAGE, HAM, COFFEE, TEA, JUICES, VARIOUS PASTRIES AND FRUIT.

ADMISSION BY DONATION

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE
TO: NORTH LANCASTER
CONFERENCE DEAN'S FUND**

*PROCEEDS BENEFIT LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD LUTHERAN
DISASTER RESPONSE MINISTRY IN 2026*

SWAMP LUTHERAN CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL

**275 SWAMP CHURCH ROAD,
REINHOLDS**

PHONE 717-336-2849



GOD'S WORK...OUR HANDS.

APRIL

Birthdays

2 - Avery Gatto (*celebrating his 16th birthday*)
 476 Olde Meadow Lane
 Lebanon, PA 17042

Nancy Miller
 1069 Horseshoe Circle
 Lebanon, PA 17042

3 - Stephanie Kaylor
 307 Lehman Street
 Lebanon, PA 17046

10 - Sherry Koons
 203 Hummel Street
 Hummelstown, PA 17036

11 - Henry Wampler
 25 Stoneleigh Drive
 Lebanon, PA 17042

12 - Carole Auman
 720 Kimmerlings Road
 Lebanon, PA 17046

LaRue Galbraith
 6 Oak Lane
 Manheim, PA 17545

13 - Trisha Springborn
 1811 Martin Drive
 Lebanon, PA 17046

15 - Bradley Bishop
 3 Penny Lane
 Lebanon, PA 17042

18 - Barbara Baeckert
 421 Weidman Street
 Lebanon, PA 17046

21 - Nancy Albright
 3 Timothy Avenue
 Lebanon, PA 17042

28 - Elmer "Moe" Gockley
 1300 East Kercher Avenue, Lot 68
 Myerstown, PA 17067

April Felty Wunderlich
 916 Poplar Lane
 Lebanon, PA 17042

29 - London Seiders
 102 East High Street
 Annville, PA 17003



Please consider sending a card or giving them a phone call to celebrate their special day.



KIDS PAGE



The butterfly reminds us of new life and the Resurrection. After three days, Jesus rose from the dead and brings us the hope of new beginnings. This simple craft helps children celebrate that joyful truth.

What you need:

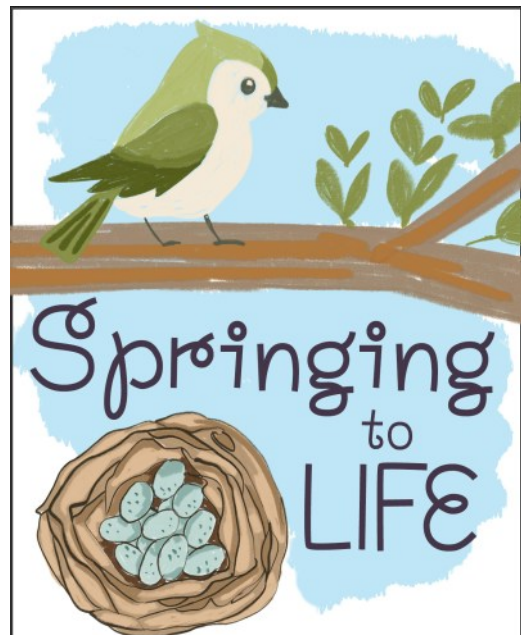
- Light-colored construction paper
- Card stock
- Glue
- Paint
- Paintbrush
- Paper towel or baby wipe



What you do:

- Cut out a butterfly body from the construction paper.
- Glue the butterfly body onto the card stock.
- Use a paintbrush to coat the palm of one hand with paint.
- Press your painted hand beside the butterfly body to create a wing.
- Repeat with your other hand to make the second wing.
- Clean your hands with a paper towel or baby wipe.
- Optional: Add Luke 24:5-6 (NIV) around the butterfly or on its body:

"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!"



New life defines the season of spring. Make this Easter craft that symbolizes rebirth.

What you need:

- Brown paper lunch bag
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Glue stick
- Jellybeans



What you do:

1. From the bag's bottom, cut two 2-inch circles. Set aside.
2. From the sides, cut two 10-inch circles.
3. Draw a thin spiral on each large circle and cut along the lines. Crinkle spirals gently.
4. Starting at the center, wrap one spiral into a nest. Glue every few inches to hold it.
5. Glue one small circle to the bottom of the nest.
6. Repeat with the other spiral. Fill nests with jellybeans and give to a friend!



Worship

Lectionary Readings

Thursday, April 2

Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1 - 4 [5 - 10] 11 - 14

Psalm 116:1 - 2, 12 - 19

1 Corinthians 11:23 - 26

John 13:1 - 17, 31b - 35

Friday, April 3

Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13—53:12

Psalm 22

Hebrews 10:16 - 25

John 18:1—19:42

Sunday, April 5

Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day

Acts 10:34 - 43

Psalm 118:1 - 2, 14 - 24

Colossians 3:1 - 4

Matthew 28:1 - 10

Sunday, April 12

2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 22 - 32

Psalm 16

1 Peter 1:3 - 9

John 20:19 - 31

Sunday, April 19

3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36 - 41

Psalm 116: 1 - 4, 12 - 19

1 Peter 1:17 - 23

Luke 24:13 - 35

Sunday, April 26

4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42 - 47

Psalm 23

1 Peter 2:19 - 25

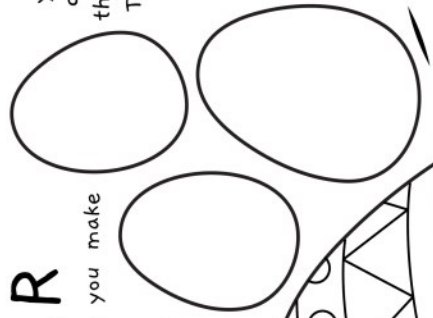
John 10:1 - 10



EASTER

How many different words can you make using these letters?

Make your own design on these eggs. Then color them!



DID YOU KNOW?

Eggs are a sign of new life, just like our new life in Christ!

IS LORD!

JESUS

HAPPY EASTER!

You can have new life too! Use the alphabet code and your Bible to solve the puzzle and find out how.

"IF YOU C _____ WITH YOUR
3 15 14 6 5 19 19

MOUTH THAT _____ IS LORD AND BELIEVE IN
10 5 19 21 19

YOUR _____ THAT GOD RAISED HIM FROM THE
8 5 1 18 20

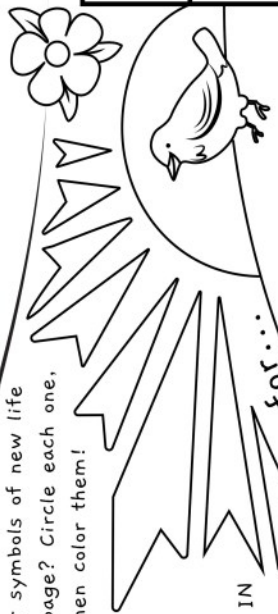
DEAD, YOU WILL BE _____."
19 1 22 5 4

ROMANS 10:9, ESV

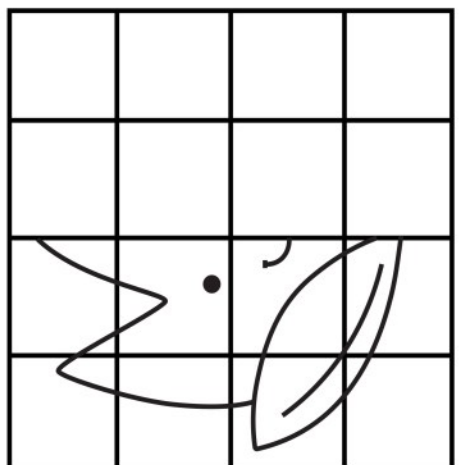
HE IS RISEN!

Matthew 28:6

Can you find 9 other symbols of new life on this page? Circle each one, then color them!




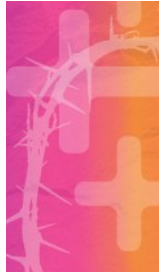











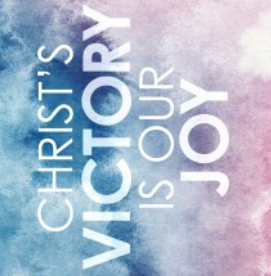

Use the grid to draw the other side!



April 2026



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

EVERY SUNDAY:	May 2026	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	S M T W T F S					
9:00AM Service of Holy Communion	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Look Ahead May 2026 10 Mother's Day 25 Memorial Day 31 The Holy Trinity Sunday	 1 9:30A ARCHIVES & ARTIFACTS MEETING 7P MAUNDY THURSDAY	2 9:30A ARCHIVES & ARTIFACTS MEETING 7P MAUNDY THURSDAY	3  12P & 7P GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES	4
5  9:00AM Service of Holy Communion	6 6P PRAISE RINGERS 7P PSALM RINGERS 7P PROPERTY COMMITTEE	7  7P SENIOR CHOIR	8 QUILTING AT ST. LUKE'S 9:30A ARCHIVES & ARTIFACTS MEETING 6:30P SOCIAL MINISTRY	9  4P PRIVATE EVENT	10 11	11
12 13 6P PRAISE RINGERS	13  6P PRAISE RINGERS	14  7P SENIOR CHOIR	15 5:30P MENT A MOTHER 6P WELCA	16  9:30A ARCHIVES & ARTIFACTS COMMITTEE	17 18  3P 50+ CELEBRATION	25
19  4P HARMONIA MUSIC ASSOCIATION	20  6P PRAISE RINGERS 7P PSALM RINGERS	21  NOON MEAL AT LCCM 6:30P FINANCE COMMITTEE 7P SENIOR CHOIR	22 9:30A ARCHIVES & ARTIFACTS 7P QUITTAPAHILLA AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING	23 6:30P EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING CHURCH COUNCIL	24	25
26 27 6P PRAISE RINGERS 7P PSALM RINGERS	28  7P SENIOR CHOIR	29 30 9:30A ARCHIVES & ARTIFACTS COMMITTEE 6P MISSION TRIP LEADERS' MEETING	30 9:30A ARCHIVES & ARTIFACTS COMMITTEE 6P MISSION TRIP LEADERS' MEETING	31  CHRIST'S VICTORY IS OUR JOY	32  DAY CARE MONDAY - FRIDAY 5A - 6P	33