



THE WITNESS

Happy April!

“Come Celebrate With Us”

Inside This Issue:

Pastor's Column
Pages 1—2

Various Boards
Pages 3—4

Member Spotlights
Page 5

Church Mouse Journal
Pages 6—7

Men's Group Recap
Page 7

Announcements
Pages 8—9

Pics of the Month
Pages 10—12

Reminders
Pages 13

Worship Assignments
Page 14

Calendar Highlights
Page 15

Prayers/Contact
Information
Pages 16—17



SUNDAYS OF EASTER

April – 2023

“They said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.”

(From the story of the Resurrection of
Our Lord according to St. Mark 16:8)

“The Lord Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!”

Dear friends,

What more can we say? **The Lord Is Risen Indeed!** Yet, we almost didn't hear about it at all, did we? Thanks be to God that those who first heard and experienced the reality of the empty tomb did not let that amazement which led to their initial fear hold sway. Eventually that fear gave way to great faith and joy as they were gently yet firmly, confronted with the reality of the truth of Christ's resurrection for them back then, for us here and now. The reality of Christ's resurrection changed everything back then, changed everything since, changes everything here and now and forever more.

We have spent the last forty days in a helpful, productive “Holy Lament” exploring the depths of our most desperate need and God's always ready answer to it. In our daily devotions and prayer, we have meditated upon the words of the hymn “Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song”. What a comfort and a blessing this has been for us in this our time of need. Now we get to enjoy the rest of the story.

We will spend the next fifty days celebrating God's answer to our utmost need, indeed the great need of all God's creation everywhere – the resurrection of Jesus from the dead! The tomb is forever empty! Death did not win the day on that Friday we dare to call Good! The love of God for all God's children everywhere triumphs over all the death, despair, destruction and evil this world, the devil and our sinful and sin filled self can throw at us. The resurrection of Jesus changes everything, **Indeed!**

Changed are we in our outlook on life as we know it and the sharing of it. Changed are we in our perception of our death and dying and what it truly means for us in the light of the resurrection of Jesus among us and for us. It

changes the way we live even in the face of our earthly death and dying. It changes our interaction with others as we live as God's "third day" children of resurrection and new life. With great hope, joy, love and grace we live and move and have our being as we share the good and great news that the **"Lord Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!"**

A MOST BLESSED AND HAPPY 50 DAYS OF EASTER AND MORE TO US ALL!

See you in Church and the community!

Peace, Pastor Rich



News From Your Council

Nurture Board Notes

A BIG thank you to everyone who made the Easter breakfast a huge success!

Pam Burkey

Outreach Board

March was a busy and wonderful month for Outreach.

Donation of snacks were taken to Daphne High School on March, 4th. Received a lovely Thank You from the school's social worker, Laura Sasser.

We will continue to collect healthy snacks each month and donate to schools who express a need in Baldwin County.

We also collected items for Easter bags that we delivered to the senior residents at The Brennity in Daphne on March, 23. The residents were beyond grateful and thrilled for their bags and the social time we spent with them. It was a wonderful experience seeing how appreciative they all were.

April's outreach will be collecting items for a local Farmstead called You, Me and The Boys. The items needed are things to make Birthday cakes for anyone in need regardless of their situation. Please see flyer attached. I have reached out to them letting them know we would love to help collect these items for their cause. They were happy for us to help and even said they'd be glad to come and speak to the congregation.

YOU, ME AND THE BOYS FARMSTEAD
 ONE LOCAL COMMUNITY, IN OUR "GIVE-BACK" ERA.

BIRTHDAY IN A BAG CLUB



REGARDLESS OF SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS, EVERY CHILD DESERVES A CAKE ON THEIR BIRTHDAY. WE PROVIDE **EVERYTHING** YOU NEED TO BAKE A BIRTHDAY CAKE WITH YOUR CHILD, IN ONE BAG. NO QUESTIONS ASKED, NO ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION. JUST MESSAGE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AND WE'LL GET A BAG READY FOR YOU TO PICK UP.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP!

COLLECT ITEMS AND DROP COMPLETED BIRTHDAY BAGS AT THE FARM. (PLEASE DON'T INCLUDE EGGS, WE PROVIDE THOSE) THINK: CAKE MIX, ICING, VEGETABLE OIL, DISPOSABLE CAKE PANS, CANDLES, SPRINKLES, PLATES, NAPKINS

SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT OUR PROGRAM. REFER THOSE IN NEED.

WE HAPPILY SIGN OFF ON VOLUNTEER HOURS!

WE SINCERELY THANK YOU FOR HELPING BRING OUR VISION TO LIFE, AND FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF CHILDREN IN OUR COMMUNITY.

You, Me and the Boys Farmstead Family

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to everyone in our congregation for their support and generosity in helping make these Outreach opportunities possible. We really do have something special at Holy Trinity and I am honored to be a part of it.

“Generous persons will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed” PROVERBS 11:25

Knowing that you’ve been able to help someone is its own reward. But as this verse notes, being generous and openhearted means God will also see to it that you are rewarded.

Tiffany Bogle

Worship & Music Board

Worship & Music Board met on March 7th.

The Easter Banner issue has been resolved. Many thanks to Emily for working gently and diligently to remove the stains on the banner. Emily was able to get all the stains out and brighten the banner. Also thanks to Barbie who pressed it. It looks great and ready to hang for Easter Sunday.

Building on that success Emily removed the severe water stains from the Christmas Banner and Barbie pressed it. Thank you, Emily and Barbie!

Next, we will work on creating a banner for All Saints Day. We currently do not have one for this feast day. Audrey Smolik has agreed to work on making a pattern from a design selected unani-

mously by the Worship and Music Board.

In case you are wondering why the Feather Flags aren't outside on Sundays, we are waiting for the flag holder to be reinstalled. It was removed when the new sign was installed. Once it is ready we will start scheduling a person every Sunday to place the Feather Flags near the parking lot entrance at least one hour before service and retrieve them after service.

Pastor Rich along with the Worship Board has scheduled the next Healing Service for 7:00 pm on Wednesday, April 24th. Those who attended the first healing service last fall found it to be a deeply moving experience and an opportunity to pray for all different types of healing, whether personal or communal.

Craig has introduced various enhancements to our music before, during, and after worship. We continue to discuss various ways to add enhancements to our Worship Service.

Thank you to Steve for funding the CCLI license. Steve determined that after purchasing the CCLI license we still needed a streaming license. Pastor Rich generously took care of that and now we are fully licensed for music and streaming on Facebook.

Judi Luken

Stewardship Update

EMBRACE ❖ ENHANCE ❖ EXPAND

A bit of a roller coaster to report this month: The addition of the fourth week in February caused a dip in the reported average for that month – but not to worry... March donations rose and fell, but settled on a nice, increased average of \$4,028 for the month. That makes our annual average to date **\$3,770/week!!**

March crashed through the \$4,000/week threshold placing our goal of \$4,590 weekly in sight! Increased giving results in greater opportunities to expand our missions. The Stewardship Committee is working closely with Nurture and Outreach to implement many of your suggestions so, listen to HTLC's announcements for new ways to participate and/or serve. As always, THANK YOU for your continued generosity!

“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.”



Meet Your Council Members

This month we will get to know Toni Fassbender. Toni is our Council Secretary.

Tell us about yourself and your family.

Fred and I have been married for almost 42 years. We have 2 kids (Kristi and Brett) and 2 grandchildren (Abbie and Jacob). Abbie will soon be 4 and Jacob will be starting college in the fall (same parents). We moved from New Orleans to Daphne 30 years ago. We moved back to New Orleans for about a year and a half only to return to Daphne and our life here at Holy Trinity. Fred is retired now for 11 years and I am in the process of trying to fully retire. I am the Administrative Director for Esfahani Automotive Group which has Eastern Shore Toyota, Eastern Shore Hyundai, Genesis of Eastern Shore, Certified Used Cars and Headquarter Nissan of Columbus, GA.

Describe what you were looking for when you first came to Holy Trinity.

We got to Holy Trinity by Pastor Funk knocking on our door. We were not looking for a church. I am Catholic from birth and was attending Christ the King. Fred had quit coming with me and I was trying to encourage him to come. Fred is a cradle Lutheran. Every Sunday I would ask him to come to church and he always said no thanks. Then when Pastor Funk came to the door, I wasn't home so Fred answered the door. He later told me about this nice pastor who came and invited him to the new church community they had started and was meeting in a little yellow house on Co. Road 13. That Sunday I asked Fred if he would go and he said no. I told him I was going to go check it out. He said if you go this week I'll go with you next week. Well, the rest is history, we've been coming here ever since. We are charter members.

Describe how you found what you were looking for. What did the people of the church do to help meet that need for you?

At that time, the congregation was extremely small. It was a very friendly and welcoming group who immediately made us feel welcome. But most of all, Pastor Funk made you feel a part of everything that was being done. With so few of us, everyone was involved in everything. I was a 50 year Catholic at that point, but the transition to Lutheran was easy because of the service being so much like the mass. I had theological conversations about Lutheran vs Catholic with Pastor Funk which helped me transition over. I quickly was involved with every aspect of the church. I had never been in such a small congregation where you knew everyone. I quickly became the Church Council Secretary and was the Church Council President the year we built the church.

What do you appreciate most about the ministry of Holy Trinity?

I appreciate the people. Through the years people have come and gone for various reasons but those who have remained are very welcoming and inviting to those who find us. It's not fake, it's genuine. We have a close-knit group who are willing to open their arms and hearts to everyone. We are always looking for ways to serve the community, even though we are a small group.





The Church Mouse Journal



Hi! It's Harold, your church mouse - bringing you the latest sightings from the back corner!!!

It has been a busy month of March. The Lenten simple soup and sandwich meals were a huge hit! I still think the egg salad was my favorite sandwich and one week there was the most yummy vegetable soup! I may NEVER leave this place because I am fed so well!!! Of course I learned a lot from the discussions on lamentations afterwards as well - they were quite enjoyable.

March 17th there was a great St. Patrick's Day celebration after the church service. Not a whole lot of pinching because most everyone was wearing green!! The gathering place was filled with soups, CHEESES and sweets. I appreciate the church members who make sure there is always something tasty after each service!

Some interesting things happened during the services in March. For two Sundays I kept hearing about the streaming not working very well. I am not sure what that was all about, but it sounded like the people who watch the service from home missed it those days. Last Sunday it seemed to be working because people were smiling in the camera room. Then to add to the excitement, the power was out in parts of the church! For me...that was kinda nice because I could easily go from corner to corner and not worry about being seen. A guy named Tony kept working on it - he would not give up and just before people had communion the lights came on! It was almost like God said, "Hey Folks, you need to see this holy meal!"

Of course there was the council meeting, the stewardship meeting, the men's breakfast group, a yoga group (how do they DO that?), a group putting together bags to take to a place called The Brenntity, and I keep hearing about the wonderful plans for Holy Week. This is an exciting time for the Holy Trinity family and I feel so lucky to be able to watch it all happen (and grab a bite or two when no one is looking!) I hope everyone can come to the services because the Pastor has put a lot of time and love into planning Easter Sunday services. (I know because I snuck into the office and there is Easter information, Easter prayers, along with a whole bunch of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday information everywhere!)

Speaking of Easter...this will truly be a fabulous day!!! I of course have my own reasons for looking forward to Easter at Holy Trinity in addition to celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus: I know there will be a BREAKFAST before the service and an Easter Egg Hunt after the service! I know there will be some delicious food and lots of sweet treats:)

Celebrating Easter at Holy Trinity is just special! There is not a church mouse around who is as blessed as I am to be a part of this church!!!

That is the news for now! I enjoy seeing what is going on at Holy Trinity! Don't worry...I am being quiet as a mouse!

Until next month...

OH! If you want to send info about happy stuff in the church, your family, school, work, please email me: churchmouseharold@gmail.com





Men's Group Outreach Recap

The Holy Trinity Men's Breakfast group is committed to making an impact in the community and beyond through various outreach activities using our monthly donations. In the four years since resuming the Men's Breakfast we have joyfully donated \$3,700 to support the following:

- Christmas gifts to a needy family
- Crafting supplies for a special-needs Teacher's classroom
- Gift card for a family who lost their home in a fire
- Inspiritus for Ukranian relief aid
- ELCA Southeastern Synod Disaster Response
- Compass to Life scholarships
- Family Promise
- Prodisce Pantry
- Holy Trinity

Dave Kummer

Christ is Risen!
Alleluia!
He is Risen Indeed!



March's Prodisce Pantry Crew

Announcements

If you would like to see all of the events on our church calendar click [here](#). Please contact our church office if you experience difficulties. Note that our calendar is visible to the public too.

Address Changes

Tom & Ann Young

410 S. 10th Street, Apt. 304
Emmaus, PA 18049

Their phone number and email address remains the same.

Phone - 610-258-1321

Email - atyoung1943@gmail.com

Ginny & Bruce Peterson

6400 York Avenue S #105
Edina, MN 55435

Their email address remains the same:

ginnylouis@gmail.com

Women ^{of the} ELCA 

Sojourners Circle

Sojourners Circle will meet on Tuesday, **April 9th** at **9:30 am**. Please join us. to work on quilts.

Tommie Morgan

Phoebe Circle

Sojourners Circle will meet on **Tuesday, April 9th** at **6:00 pm**. All women are invited. If you would like to attend, please RSVP Linda Veren: 256-468-3885 or tigerjagmom@gmail.com.

Linda's home address is

123 Petz Ave

Fairhope, AL 36523

Linda Veren

Snacks 4 Students

Our outreach project for the month is replenishing snacks for students among Baldwin County Schools. Numerous school's pantries are totally depleted. If you would like to donate individually wrapped, single serving, healthy snacks, please place them on the table just outside our church office. Sometime during the month of April they will be distributed to our local schools in need. Thank you.

Tiffany Bogle



Sojourners Circle March, 2024

Pics of the Month



Cyndi Howell got her birthday sign!



Heather Stinnett had a birthday too!



Children's sermon 3/3/24



God is Love Children's Sermon



St. Patrick's Day Children's sermon



The next generation of Mozarts



Palm Sunday buddies



Sunday School: 3/3/24

Pics of the Month (cont'd)



Palm Sunday twins!



Jeff Ramsland on his birthday



Thanks to **Barbie Ramsland** for scrubbing our fellowship hall chairs!



Easter bags delivered to the senior residents at The Brennyty.



Midweek Lenten Worship - A Holy Lament 2024



Palm Sunday Passion of Our Lord

Kiwanis Best of the Bay: 2024



Reminders

HOLY TRINITY GOES LIVE! Our Sunday morning Service of Holy Communion is now being live-streamed and recorded each week at 10:00a on our [Holy Trinity Facebook Page](#). If you are not able to be present in person, you are invited to join us on the internet. We also continue to provide a copy of the sermon text and the bulletin with music links via email. Many thanks to those who have volunteered to operate the camera on Sunday mornings. **Volunteers are always needed.** If interested in helping out in this way, please contact **Linda Veren**.

Donating Altar Flowers: Please keep in mind that your normal offering contributions do not pay for altar flowers. If you would like to donate a particular Sunday's flowers, the cost is \$35.00. Simply use the sign-up sheet on the corkboard located in the narthex, and as the Sunday approaches place your donation in the offering plate. Make checks payable to Holy Trinity, noting "*Altar Flowers*" on the check. Please note there are no flowers at the altar during Lent.

Current vs. Building Fund Reminder: Specify how you want your offering split between the Current Fund and the Building Fund. If you do not specify on your envelope, it will by default go to the Current Fund. Anonymous cash (without an envelope specification) will all go towards the Current Fund. Checks without an envelope or notation on the check will by default go 100% towards the Current Fund. If you wonder about the percentage split that best services both funds, try directing 65% towards the Current Fund and 35% towards the Building Fund. Ongoing mission activities and Synod/ELCA funding is sourced from the Current Fund.



Worship Leadership Assignments for April

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church - Worship Leader Assignments				
	April 7, 2024	April 14, 2024	April 21, 2024	April 28, 2024
Assisting	Jeff Ramsland	Dave Kummer	Toni Fassbender	Linda Veren
Acolyte	Diane MacShane	Emily Cormier	Nic Bogle	Dave Kummer
Lector	Dave Kummer	Pam Burkey	Joan Micelli	Andy Veren
Cantor	Debi Horlebein	Debi Horlebein	Phyllis Buccholz	Randi Patterson
Children's Sermon	Pam Burkey	Cyndi Howell	Linda Veren	Pam Burkey
Altar	Linda Gregg	Joan Micelli	Emily Cormier	Judy Lucken
Greeter/s	Jerry Driskell	Phyllis Buchholz	Lorraine Mueller	Phyllis Buchholz
Usher	Fred Fassbender	David Howell	Fred Fassbender	Nic B. & Sam T.
Teller	Fred Fassbender	David Howell	Fred Fassbender	Dave Howell
Teller	Phyllis Buchholz	Jerry Driskell	Diane MacShane	Jerry Driskell
Camera Operator	Eric Veren	Diane MacShane	Andy Veren	Andy Veren
Hospitality	TBD	MacShane's	Dot Peterson	TBD
Altar Flowers	Shriders 32nd Anniversary	Ronda DelFavero Son Brandon's Bday	Dot Peterson In recognition of Hellen Sharp's contributions	TBD

If you are unable to do this assigned worship leadership responsibility, please trade with a person with your same responsibility assigned to another date

A heart-felt ***Thank You*** to all who are helping to lead our worship services each week. The list above reflects just how many are involved with our worship services this month. Their dedication and many contributions make our worship meaningful to everyone each and every week. When you get a chance, express your thanks to them.

If you have a prayer request for the e-prayer group, you have a few options on relaying this information to the congregation.

Option 1: Write it on the yellow attendance sheet in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate.

Option 2: Send and email with your request to

holytrinityprayers@googlegroups.com.

Option 3: Email, text, or call Erika Oldham: erikaramsland@gmail.com or (256) 404-2975.

Like Us on Facebook!! Search for [Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Daphne, AL](#).

APRIL AT HOLY TRINITY

Lunch Bunch

We will meet on Tuesday,
April 16th @ Noon



TIMBERCREEK
GOLF CLUB

9650 TimberCreek BLVD
Daphne, AL



<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth Date</u>
Nathan Manicke	04/04
Andy Veren	04/04
Jan Pierce	04/05
Tommie Ethington	04/09
Hal Zimmermann	04/15
Bruce Peterson	04/18
Oliver Mitchell	04/19
Nic Bogle	04/21
Eileen Becker	04/23
Roxy McCrory	04/27

Men's Breakfast

8 AM Saturday, Apr 6th

Gathering Place

Fellowship Hall



We will volunteer at **Prodissee Pantry** on
Wednesday, April 17th @ 5:30pm followed
by dinner and fellowship.



Mike & Jenny Shrider
04/04/1992 32 yrs

Bob A. & Jean Patterson
04/03/2004 20 yrs



Prayers for our People

We continue to pray for the following:

Ministries in the Church

Those who are serving in leadership roles at Holy Trinity, including Congregation Council

Triumphant Cross Lutheran Church – Dothan, AL and Rev. Stephen Alsleben

Those who are seeking Christian Community may find Holy Trinity to be a welcoming place

Those who are new to Holy Trinity that they may find opportunities to grow in faith.

Those worshipping for the first time at Holy Trinity

Those Who Serve & their Families

Those serving in military, firefighters & law enforcement, including Marc Alverson, Daryl Bogle, Colter Burkey, Adam and Cathryn Cormier, Steve Duke, Shawn Ethington, Brent Massey, Jordan Miller, Christopher Mueller, Titus Nissen, Rich Peacock and Dylan Winslow.

Those Who Are Ill/Injured/Hurting/Hospitalized, Recuperating: Tammy Cain, Milissa Collins, David Durant, Jay Fassbender, Brittany Dyché Harvey, Elsie Lamb, Susan Mueller, Dot Peterson, Sheila Ross, David Scott, Charles Sharp and Joey Simon.

ELCA LEADERS: SE Synod Bishop Kevin Strickland, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Pastor Rich Mueller

PURPOSE STATEMENT

God's purpose for Holy Trinity is to grow faith that moves us beyond ourselves.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

1. Faithfully living with Christ at the center.
2. Prayerfully listening with open hearts and minds.
3. Selflessly welcoming all without preconceptions.
4. Courageously bearing our neighbor's burdens
5. Relating to one another with respect and honesty
6. Boldly sharing our blessings with others.

STAFF

Pastor Rich Mueller

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(church email) htlcdaphne8271@gmail.com

Craig Bruce, Interim Congregation Musician
251-422-1471

CONGREGATION OFFICERS/APPOINTED LEADERS

Cyndi Howell, President

cynhla@yahoo.com 251-625-3508

Mike Shrider, Vice-President

shridermike@gmail.com (260) 571-6164

Randi Patterson, Treasurer

randipat@bellsouth.net 251-510-9860

Jenny Shrider, Financial Secretary

jennyshrider@yahoo.com 260-571-6165

Toni Fassbender, Council Secretary

toni@seamautogroup.com (251) 533-1922

BOARD LEADERS

Administration: Andy Veren

adveren@gmail.com (256) 468-3886

Discipleship: Cathy Jones

flojonesy@gmail.com (850) 368-5974

Nurture: Pam Burkey

pamelahance@yahoo.com 308-641-4280

Outreach: Tiffany Bogle

tiff.bogle@att.net (251) 622-7273

Property: Tony Stinnett

tstinnett916@gmail.com (251) 298-3147

Worship: Judi Luken

(630) 209-1336 judiluken@gmail.com

OTHER CONTACTS

E-Prayer Chain

E-mail prayer concerns to
htlcdaphne8271@gmail.com 251-621-2968

Women of the ELCA: Tommie Morgan

tommie456@gmail.com 251-591-1019

Return Address:
 Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
 8271 Whispering Pines Road
 Daphne, AL 36526



An ELCA Congregation Serving the Eastern Shore

Phone: 251-621-2968
 E-mail: holytrinitydaphne@gmail.com
 Conveniently located 1/4 mile east of the Daphne YMCA

Please visit our Holy Trinity Lutheran Church website at:

www.holytrinitydaphne.org.

Any comments or suggestions, please email the church office at htlcdaphne8271@gmail.com.

The deadline for articles and information for the May issue of
THE WITNESS
 is **Monday, April 22nd**
 If you wish to discontinue receiving this newsletter, please contact us at
 (251) 621-2968.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
 8271 Whispering Pines Road
 Daphne, AL 36526

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