

THE WITNESS

Happy March! "Come Celebrate With Us"

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SUNDAYS IN LENT

SUNDAY OF THE PASSION – Palm Sunday

MAUNDY THURSDAY

GOOD FRIDAY

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD – Easter Day

March - 2024

"The days are surely coming, says the LORD..."

Jeremiah 31:31

(From the First Lesson appointed for Lent V)

"THE GREAT AND HOLY WEEK"

2024

SUNDAY OF THE PASSION - Palm Sunday

Procession with Palms – Passion of our Lord according to St. Mark – Holy Communion

Sunday, March 24th, 2024 – 10:00 am

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Service of Holy Communion with the Washing of Feet and Stripping of the Altar

Thursday, March 28th, 2024 - 7:00 pm

Good Friday Liturgy

Passion of our Lord according to St. John Seven Last Words – Adoration of the Cross **Friday, March 29**th, **2024 – 7:00 pm**



The Resurrection of our Lord – Easter Day

Festival Service of Holy Communion

Sunday, March 31st, 2024 – 10:00 am

The Easter Sunday Service will be preceded by breakfast at 8:30 am. The annual Easter Egg Hunt will follow the service.

All are welcome – Invite your friends and neighbors!



Dear friends,

The days are surely coming, indeed! The days when we have the opportunity once more to lift up and yes, even celebrate the first "Great and Holy Week". It begins with the Sunday of the Passion – Palm Sunday when we raise our palms and celebrate the entry of Jesus into the Holy City of Jerusalem. The mood changes quickly as we participate in the reading of the passion account according to St. Mark.

On **Maundy Thursday** we celebrate the institution of the holy meal we continue to partake of even now – the blessed Sacrament of the Altar – the Lord's Supper. We imitate the depths to which Jesus goes to serve us and meet our needs in the washing of feet as well.

On **Good Friday** we worship using the Liturgy of the Cross. We participate in the reading of the passion account according to St. John and hear the Seven Last Words of Jesus as he dies on the cross for our salvation and forgiveness. We behold the mystery of this great sacrifice in the Adoration of the Cross. How can it be that this instrument of suffering, torture, execution and death becomes for us a sign of triumph and victory over our sin, our death, and our dying? What a great mystery, indeed. It's one we can't live without.

The goal of our Lenten Journey and the Great and Holy Week is celebrated at the Empty Tomb on the day of the **Resurrection of Our Lord – Easter Day!** With great joy we celebrate all the Great and Holy things accomplished for us and our salvation during this most sacred time of the year. We have so much to be thankful for. We take up the opportunities given to us to share this good news of God's great love and grace poured out upon us. The Lord Is Risen, Indeed!

Consider this your personal invitation from God and from God's Son, Jesus, to return to the Lord our God and join in the great blessings received in these special days. We look forward to gathering together to be strengthened in the journey of faith that we are privileged to share. May God's blessings and peace be with us all. See you in church and community!

Peace, Pastor Rich



News From Your Council Nurture Board Notes

March 2024

The Supper Club groups have shuffled members and begun a new round of fellowship. This is a great way to spend quality time with your friends at Holy Trinity. The members involved report having a very good time.

Check out the council biographies in this and upcoming newsletters. We want everyone to know their leaders.

Planning for the annual Holy Trinity Easter Egg Hunt is underway. It will be a part of the Easter Sunday activities. We will begin the morning with an Easter Breakfast at 8AM. The service with communion celebrating the resurrection of Jesus will be at 10AM. The Easter Egg Hunt will follow the service. With so much happening, Easter is a wonderful time to invite friends and family to worship at Holy Trinity.

We are looking for ideas for small groups. A bible study, a book club, a knitting group. Whatever interests you. Fellowship presents itself in many ways. Contact a council member with your idea.

The council is working on fulfilling some of the suggestions provided during the listening sessions. We will be asking for your help. Stay tuned for more information.

If you have any ideas to improve the way we care for our members at Holy Trinity. Let me know. As always thank you to everyone who participates in Nurture activities, you make Holy Trinity special.

"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." Galatians 6:10

Pam Burkey

Dutreach Board

Holy Trinity is a caring community that reaches out in many different ways to share Christ's love and compassion to all people.

The purpose of Outreach is to seek opportunities to share our time, talents and resources with those in need in our community. We have chosen based on feedback from the listening sessions that we will continue to collect snacks for students at our local schools. These snacks may include any individually wrapped item that are easily distributed to the student. There is a table in the Narthex setup for donations along with a list of suggested items. We believe that by doing everything

we can to support our local schools, we can make a positive impact on the students in our community. This project will be ongoing throughout the year.

Each month we will focus on a separate outreach project to help make a bigger impact on our local community. In March we will focus on making, filling and delivering 45 Easter bags to be distributed to an area assisted living facility. Easter can bring back fond memories of the past, and the special people whom they shared the day. Even adults enjoy treats, surprises and special goodies from time to time - particularly on days that hold fond memories, such as Easter. If you would like to help with this particular project please let me know. I will be posting what is needed for this project over the next few weeks.

I look forward to organizing these monthly outreach projects and partnering with you all.

"It is more Blessed to give than to receive "Acts 20:35

In Christ,

Tiffany Bogle

Stewardship Update

EMBRACE ❖ ENHANCE ❖ EXPAND

GREAT NEWS! Our average weekly giving amount of \$3,348 has INCREASED to \$3,635! Congratulations – This may seem like a small amount but remember, this is only 7 weeks of data. With your support, we'll continue to keep nudging that mustache upward!

Together, and with God's help, we can achieve our goal of an average of \$4,590 weekly. This will allow us to support our ministries, including new and exciting outreach and nurture projects. Many of these are results from your feedback so, stay tuned and THANK YOU for all you are doing to support HTLC!

"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." (I Peter 4:10)



The Stewardship Team

Meet Your Council Members

This month we feature **Tiffany Bogle**.

Tiffany Bogle – Outreach

Tell us about yourself and your family.

My husband Daryl and I have lived in the Daphne area for 17 years. We have one son together, Nicolas. Nicolas is a Freshman at St. Michael Catholic High School in Fairhope. Daryl is a retired State Trooper and is currently on his second career in law-enforcement as a Mobile County deputy. I have worked at and managed Zoghby Uniforms in Daphne for 11 years.

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

A Church Family and acceptance. While I've heard wonderful sermons, listened to great choirs, been entertained in other churches none of that made me feel closer to God. I think that actions speak louder than words. I prioritized how people within the Church treat one another, and how involved they are in serving the community. It is important to me that I feel accepted, without having to put on a front or pretend to be a paragon of Holiness. I wanted to attend a Church where there is love.

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

Holy Trinity is a very loving and accepting Church. They make everyone feel like family. They are passionate about helping others. Whether that is within their own Church or others in the community. There is a lot of love at Holy Trinity.

Now that you have found what you described above, how is life different?

Holy Trinity's has definitely become an extension of our small family. I consider everyone in our congregation part of Daryl, Nicolas and my family. Holy Trinity has shown us love and acceptance and that has made us a stronger family unit.





The Church Mouse Journal



Hi! It's Harold, the church mouse!

Normally February is a rather quiet time, a time to collect our thoughts and sit in front of the fire warming up...not around Holy Trinity! Man, this place was hopping all February long! We started out with ANOTHER baptism for Baby Roxy!! Then...like that wasn't enough, on Roxy's special day, her great uncle Willie was also celebrating his birthday! That family was truly blessed on that day with so much to celebrate!

Actually, maybe it was me that was blessed because as you know there were plenty of snacks afterwards. From cookies, to cupcakes, to vegetables to cheese and more cheese... I felt like I was in Heaven!

On February 11th, there was a Mardi Gras Brunch after church. There was gumbo, chili, casseroles, sausage balls, fruit, cheese, salads, vegetables, king cakes, strawberry dessert, chocolate dessert, cookies... I could hardly wait for that to be over so the clean up could begin! I sampled a little bit of everything, but my favorite spot was probably under the dessert table. Life was good that afternoon as I napped and had "sweet" dreams!

The same day the folks at this church generously donated over \$500.00 for a thing called Souper Bowl Sunday with donations going to Prodisee Pantry. I will admit I was a bit confused because there was a football game that day also called the Super Bowl! Not sure how that ended because there was so much talk about how swift it was! (Maybe that means it was over quickly?)

Later that week on Wednesday night, people joyfully came back to church - it appeared to be a regular service, but everyone left with a cross on their forehead put there by the Pastor. He did a neat job too, people looked pretty good.

The usual events are going on around here...the men have a breakfast and share the good news (plus their crumbs are shared with me!) The council meets and that cute little guy Thomas comes too. He is really sweet - I love to see him. He has not noticed me yet because I try to stay behind the curtains when the meetings are happening. The Stewardship people keep meeting and they have some good ideas about church projects.

Oh! Guess What?! Sunday School has started again and I have loved hearing the Bible stories and hearing about prayers. You may want to check that out!

Holy Trinity is getting ready for Easter and Wednesday nights are getting very popular here. Folks are meeting, eating (my favorite part) and having a lesson before a church service. Someone bought egg salad sandwiches and they are one of my favorites - lucky me! A piece happened to fall onto the floor and I was able to gobble it up before it was seen. You might want to try one of those if they are on the menu again...and I would mind one bit if it was dropped!

I heard that the oldest member of the church, Mr. Eckenstaler passed away. I did not have the chance to meet him, and I wish I had. Everyone says he was a wonderful, kind and special man. I will make sure to keep his family in my bedtime prayers and I hope you will too.

That is the news for now! I am still staying out of sight from the two guys in the office - so far so good. They do leave some tasty snacks in the kitchen. 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 Monthly Recap

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Men's Breakfast - February 3, 2024

The following attended this month's breakfast: Pastor Rich, Jerry Driskell, Bruce Peterson, Jeff Ramsland, Andy Veren, Kevin Burkey, and Dave Kummer. The offering for the day was \$115, for a total of \$610.

Discussion centered around ongoing Mardis Gras activities and parades and customs in the local area (like beads in the trees). We also reminisced about raising kids and weddings (with special thoughts from Pastor).

Andy Veren led the devotions using the book, "God Never Gives Up on You," by Max Lucado. Based on the life and story of Jacob, the book uses his history to demonstrate God's grace and how we as broken vessels are saved. This theme prompted much discussion.

After the devotion, Dave provided information on the purchase of new birthday signs with the new logo and better holders. The group approved the purchase and will pay for the new signs.

The leader of Compass to Life, Deon Gatson, joined the group, briefly, to let us know when the next graduation will be held, March 6th, and invited as many as possible to attend. We also took group pictures that will be used in the Compasses' newsletter.

The next breakfast will be on March 2nd and Jeff will lead devotions.

Dave Kummer





Announcements

If you would like to see all of the events on our church calendar click <u>here</u>. Please contact our church office if you experience difficulties. Note that our calendar is visible to the public too.



Sojourners Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 12th at 9:30 am. Please join us. Please join us to work on quilts.

Tommie Morgan

Phoebe Circle

Sojourners Circle will meet on Thursday, March 21st at 6:30 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



Children's Sunday School



Our winter session of Children's Sunday School will wrap up on Sunday, March 3rd at 9:15 am. Sunday School is for all children ages 4 thru 5th grade. The children have been learning about prayer. The final topic for today will be **The Lord's Prayer**. Thanks to **Barbie Ramsland** and the others who helped lead this important ministry.

Daylight Savings Time Starts Saturday Night!

Practice the "Spring Forward" drill on Saturday evening, March 9th ... Everybody loses an hour of sleep!



← Holy Trinity

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, heakthy snacks, please place them on the table just outside our church office. Sometime during the month of March they will be distributed to our local schools in need. Thank you.



Easter Bags for Elderly

Outreach for March will also be collecting items for **Easter bags** that will be packed and distributed to the residents at **The Brennity in Daphne**. We are looking to collect **45 large print puzzle books and 45 lip balms** (chapstick type). If you'd like to help we will be collecting these items up until **Friday, March 22nd**. We will also be **accepting monetary donations** to help supply the bags and other items that will fill the bags. If you'd like to help with purchasing the goodies, put the bags together and/or distribute them to The Brennity please contact Tiffany Bogle (251-622-7273 or <u>tiff.bogle@att.net</u>.) We would like to have them complete and **handed out by Saturday, March 23rd.**

Tiffany Bogle



Easter Sunday Activities:

- 1. We will begin the morning with an **Easter Breakfast** at 8AM.
- 2. The **service with communion** celebrating the resurrection of Jesus will be at 10AM.
- 3. The **Easter Egg Hunt** will follow the service.

😘 Holy Trinity 🧽

Calendar for Lent "A HOLY LAMENT"

A Worship Series for Lent – 2024

Wednesday, March 6th – "Laments from the Depths"

(Scripture – Psalm 88)

Wednesday, March 13th - "Individual Lament"

(Scripture – Psalm 13)

Wednesday, March 20th - "Communal Lament"

(Scripture – Psalm 44:1-10, 13, 17-26)

These opportunities for meditation during our Lenten Journey this year will begin at **7:00 pm** in the Sanctuary. They will be **preceded** by our Soup, Sandwich and Study beginning at **5:30 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Plan now to be a part of this meaningful journey to the Cross and Empty Tomb of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Overview

This series explores various kinds of lament found in scripture. Each week we will consider what it means to sit with our grief rather than try to push it aside. We will discover that many faithful believers have wrestled with grief, sorrow, and questions for God about why the innocent suffer. This series understands lament as one of the more faithful things we can do. When we approach God with honesty and humility, and we admit that some things are too big for our hearts to bear, we will find there not a disapproving God but one who weeps with us. We will find a God who can take our grief and disappointment and transform them into holy joy and renewed hope. We will learn, ultimately, that Jesus' death on the cross—the place to which the season of Lent leads us—is the reason we never mourn as those without hope. — *Sundays and Seasons*



Pics of the Month



Willie Burmeister was the first to get a new, redesigned birthday sign! Happy 92nd!



Fred Fassbender received his birthday sign!







Flowers celebrating the Chinese New Year 2024





Birthday Cake for **Mike Cormier** and **Willie Burmeister**

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Roxy McCory's Baptism









February 4th, 2024

February's Lunch Bunch

Café Acadiana

Humble Hellen













Fundraiser: Egg My Yard

Cub Scouts Pack 321 (which meets at our church) is having their annual fundraiser. They fill plastic Easter eggs with toys, trinkets, rings, squishies, stampers, stickers and a variety of candies. Then whenever someone wants Easter eggs in March they will scatter the eggs in yards, and as they call it, "Egg your yard". It might save them time and money to just have our scouts do this for your family. Possibly, some of our parishioners would support this worthy cause. They usually scatter a few hundred eggs at churches. This would be \$130. Here's a link where you can sign up.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044BA8A929A2F49-47976474-eggmyyard









Fundraiser: Taste of the Town



Volume 25 Issue 03

Worship Leadership Assignments for March

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church - Worship Leader Assignments						
	March 3, 2024	March 10, 2024	March 17, 2024	March 24, 2024	March 31, 2024	
Assisting	Toni Fassbender	Cyndi Howell	Jeff Ramsland	Linda Veren	David Kummer	
Acolyte	Cyndi Howell	Emily Cormier	David Kummer	Diane MacShane	Nic Bogle	
Lector	David Kummer	Sandy Vontroba	Ginny Peterson	Joan Micelli	Sandy Vontroba	
Cantor	Phyllis Buccholz	Debi Horlebein	Randi Patterson	Debi Horlebein	Randi Patterson	
Children's Sermon	Pam Burkey	Linda Veren	Cyndi Howell	Sandy Vontroba	Linda Veren	
Altar	Judi Luken	Linda Gregg	Judi Luken	Emily Cormier	Joan Micelli	
Greeter	Jerry Driskell	Phyllis Buccholz	Lorraine Studt	Phyllis Buccholz	Jerry Driskell	
Usher	Fred Fassbender	Dave Howell	Dave Howell	Fred Fassbender	Kevin Burkey	
Teller	Fred Fassbender	Dave Howell	Dave Howell	Fred Fassbender	Kevin Burkey	
Teller	Jerry Driskell	Jeff Ramsland	Phyllis Buccholz	Diane MacShane	Jerry Driskell	
Camera Operator	Eric Veren	Andy Veren	Sam Oldham	Andy Veren	Eric Veren	
Hospitality	TBD	Younkins	TBD	TBD	Easter Breakfast	
Altar Flowers	Lent	Lent	Lent	Lent	Easter Lillies Bruce & Ginny Peterson	

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 <u>Thank You</u> 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: <u>erikaramsland@gmail.com</u> or (256) 404-2975.

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MARCH AT HOLY TRINITY

Lunch Bunch

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We will meet on Tuesday, March 19th @ Noon



10810 Hwy 31, Spanish Fort, AL 36527





Due to our Lenten schedule, we will be volunteering at **Prodisee Pantry on March 27th.** We will resume our normal schedule **in April** after Easter.



<u>Name</u>	Birth Date
Jenny Shrider	03/02
Christina Montez	03/03
Audrey Veren	03/15
Cyndi Howell	03/19
Heather Stinnett	03/19
Jeff Smolik	03/20
Sam Oldham	03/25
Richard Micelli	03/26
Jeff Ramsland	03/26
Dave Kummer	03/31



Derek & Donna Thorsrud 03/22/1993 31 yrs Joan & Richard Micelli 03/14/2006 18 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

New Hope Lutheran Church - Sallis MS

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.

<u>Those Who Are III/Injured/Hurting/Hospitalized, Recuperating:</u> Tammy Cain, Milissa Collins, David Durant, Jay Fassbender, Brittany Dyche Harvey, Elsie Lamb, Dot Peterson, Sheila Ross, David Scott and Charles Sharp.

<u>ELCA LEADERS</u>: 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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Steve Horlebein, THE WITNESS Editor; 251-621-2968 (church email) htlcdaphne8271@gmail.com

Craig Bruce, Interim Congregation Musician 251-422-1471

CONGREGATION OFFICERS/APPOINTED LEADERS

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cynhla@yahoo.com 251-625-3508

Mike Shrider, Vice-President shridermike@gmail.com (260) 571-6164

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randipat@bellsouth.net 251-510-9860

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Toni Fassbender, Council Secretary toni@seamautogroup.com (251) 533-1922

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adveren@gmail.com (256) 468-3886

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flojonesy@gmail.com (850) 368-5974

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pamelahance@yahoo.com 308-641-4280

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

Property: Tony Stinnett

tstinnett916@gmail.com (251) 298-3147

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(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

tommiem456@gmail.com 251-591-1019

♣ Holy Trinity ♣

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 <a href="https://https:

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 8271 Whispering Pines Road Daphne, AL 36526 The deadline for articles and information for the March issue of

THE WITNESS

is Monday, March 25th

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