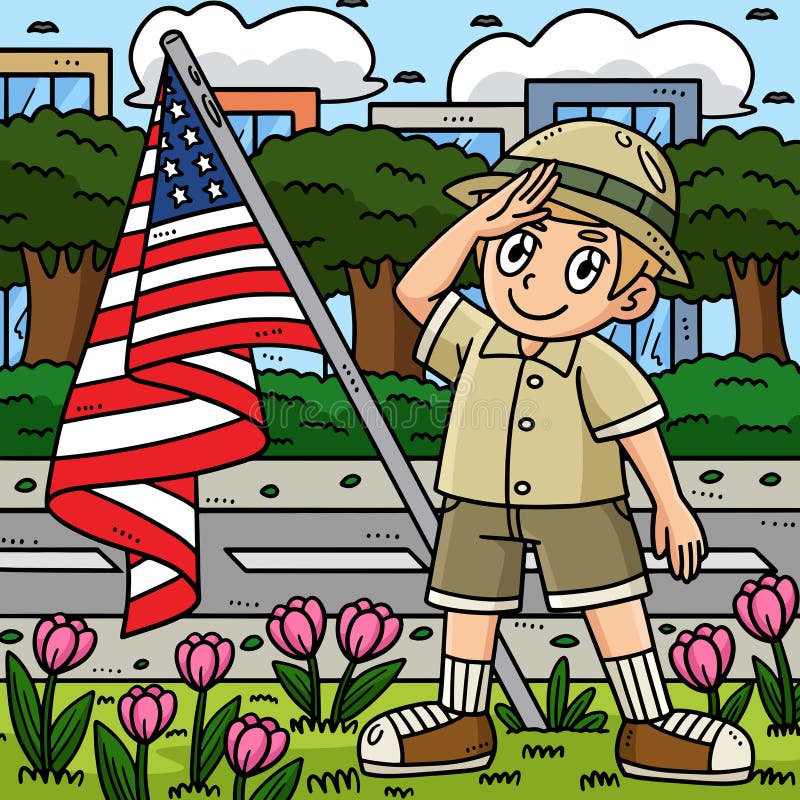
HOLY TRINITY NEWS **MAY 2024 VOLUME 59 NO. 05**



**HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 610-826-2524**

**502 LAFAYETTE AVENUE, PALMERTON, PA 18071**

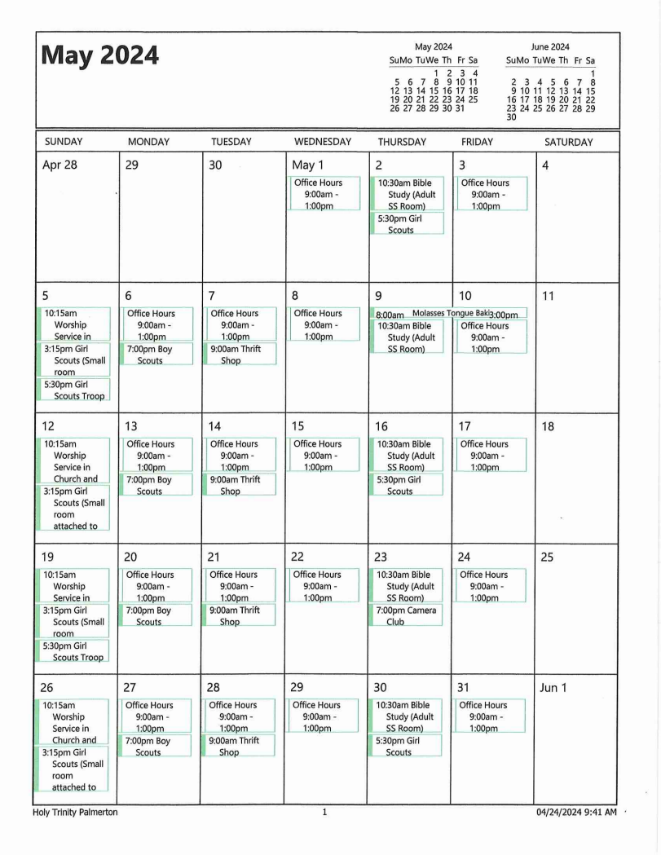
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REV. MICHAEL FROST 570-620-8189

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**From the Pastor’s Desk – May 2024**

***“Say YES to God”***

***What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace***

***may increase? 2By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it?***

***3Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized***

***into his death? 4Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.***

***5For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly***

***be united with him in a resurrection like his. 6We know that our old self was***

***crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no***

***longer be enslaved to sin. 7For whoever has died is freed from sin. 8But if we***

***died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. 9We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. 10The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. 11So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.* (Romans 6:1-11 NRSV-U)**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The calendar has turned from April to May but it’s still Easter, our celebration of the glorious resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ continues. We’ve got two Sundays of Easter in May, the 50 Days of Easter culminating, then, in the Festival of Pentecost on Sunday, May 19th. We are told that Jesus appeared to his disciples for a period of forty days before his ascension to the right hand of God the Father. This year, Ascension Day falls on Thursday, May 9th. The last thing the risen Jesus told his disciples before his ascension was that they should wait in Jerusalem until they had been ***“clothed with power from on high.”*** He promised that they would, ***“be baptized with the Holy Spirit”*** through whom they would receive power to be his witnesses ***“in Jerusalem, in Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”***

Our celebration of the day of Pentecost recalls that day when God fulfilled his promise and poured out his Holy Spirit on those who believed in Jesus. In the fulness and inspiration of God’s Spirit, the disciples bore witness to the life and ministry, the death and resurrection of Jesus. In Acts 2, Peter preaches a sermon which leads to the baptism of 3,000 people. ***“Cut to the heart,”*** by Peter’s words, they asked what they should do. Peter replied, ***“Repent and be baptized . . . in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”***

So, to this day, we obey the command of our Risen Lord, ***“making disciples . . . by baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you”*** *(Matthew 28:19-20).*

It is our tradition to celebrate Confirmation on The Day of Pentecost, which we will do at St. Matthew’s for two of our young people who have completed their two years of Catechetical Instruction. While we don’t have young people being confirmed at Holy Trinity, we will be receiving new members into our life and ministry on this day. Both Confirmation and the Reception of New Members use the order for Affirmation of Holy Baptism.

Having been baptized as very young children (our usual practice), our Confirmands declare their commitment to Christ and the Church by affirming (saying yes) to the promises that were made for them by their parents and godparents when they were too young to understand what was going on. In Confirmation we say to God and to the church that we will continue in the relationship God established with us in baptism and in the life and ministry of the church, which is the Body of Christ.

We also use Affirmation of Baptism in the Reception of New Members, believing it to be an opportunity for these new sisters and brothers to declare their faith and commitment to Christ and this new church family in which they have found a home. Though we don’t have enough children and young people at Holy Trinity to have a Sunday School or Confirmation Classes, God continues to bless us by bringing new folks into our gathering, people who have found a welcome and have stepped up and become involved in worship and in other activities.

It all goes back to Baptism, to God’s gracious act of claiming us his own and naming us his beloved children in Jesus Christ. By water and the Word, God pours out on us his Holy Spirit and both equips and empowers us for life, for witness and service. Over 500 years ago, Martin Luther, in his Small Catechism, explains the importance of Holy Baptism in our ongoing lives.

The question is asked: ***What is the significance of such a baptism with water?*** Luther answers: ***It signifies that the old person in us with all sins and evil desires is to be drowned and die through daily sorrow for sin and through repentance, and on the other hand that daily a new person is to come forth and rise up to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.”***

Whether for Confirmands, or for new members, or for each one of us – you and me – we never grow beyond the importance of what God has done for us in baptism. We are still that helpless child needing to be given new life, which God graciously does for us each and every day. Born again in baptism, our life in Christ is continually fed and nourished by God’s grace through Word and Sacrament. Each day, reminded of all that God has done and continues to do for us, we rise and say a joyous “YES!” to the love and grace of God by which we live.

Blessings to you and Peace in the Risen Jesus

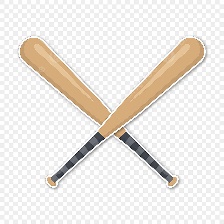
Pastor Mike



**HOLY TRINITY ACTION**

**MINISTRY**

**Thrift Shop: Tues. 9am-12:30pm**



**IRON PIGS BASEBALL GAME**

It is faith night on Friday, June 7th at the Iron Pigs game. Sign up in the Narthex or call the office by May 20th. Tickets are $12, which includes a $2 credit for food.

**ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 09, 2024**

**KNOEBEL’S AMUSEMENT PARK**

There will be sign-up sheets in the Narthex for the picnic, carpooling, and food. Please join us for a day of fun food and fellowship.

**MOLASSES TONGUE COOKIES**

We will be baking molasses tongue cookies on Friday, May 10th.  The price will be $6.00 a half dozen and $12.00 a dozen.  Cookies can be picked up at the church from 10:00 - 2:00 on Saturday, May 11th.  Please call or email the church office, 610-826-2524, to place your

order by May 7th.  Thank you.

**MAY ANNIVERSARIES**

May 10 Michael & Sharon Bowman 44 years

May 17 Ronald & Kristine Keblish 27 years

May 24 Douglas & Lori Ruch 10 years

May 28 Barbara & Joseph Herman 18 years

**BIRTHDAY WISHES!**

Single BlueBalloon PNG Clipart Image | Fun balloons, Birthday clips,  BalloonsAddie Ring May 02

Ray Talamantes May 04

Diane Williams May 04

Kristine Keblish May 05

Pink Single Balloon Vector Images (over ...Sharon Bonser May 09

Nadine Schmidt May 09

Brynn Merkel May 13

Marian Roberts May 15

Lisa Engle May 16

Nicole Pryce May 17

Seth Mertz May 18

Joe Solt May 19

Morris Bloomfield May 20

Kara Matsco May 23

Marlene Bollinger May 24

Jennifer Engle May 24

Lorene LaRose May 25

Evan Tayntor May 26

Carol Borger May 28

Kay Elyse Gerhart May 28

Frederick Young III May 28

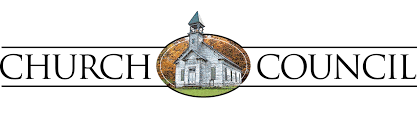
Garrett Kunkle May 31

Connie Reinhart May 31

*[NOTE: If we have omitted your birthday or anniversary, please let us know.]*

**FINANCE & ATTENDANCE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Mar. Monthly Envelope Offering:** | $ 10,737 |
| **Mar. St. Matthews Pastoral Service** | $ 3,300 |
| **Mar. Additional Income** | $ 1,283 |
| **Mar. Monthly Expenses:** | $ 12,232 |
| **Attendance:** |  |
| **March 3, 2024** | 40 |
| **March 10, 2024** | 47 |
| **March 17, 2024** | 34 |
| **March 24, 2024** | 46 |
| **March 29, Good Friday** | 38 |
| **March 31, Easter Sunday** | 61 |



**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

May 19 6:30 p.m. Council Meeting

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**Terry Holland President**

**Jon Kistler Vice-President**

**Karen Talamantes Secretary**

**Larry Arner Treasurer**

**Jim Miller Asst. Treas.**

**Steve Berger**

**Gerry Dorshimer**

**Scott Heinrich**

**Krissy Keblish**

**Ron Keblish**

**Eric Reif**

**Ray Talamantes**

**FINANCIAL PERSONNEL**

**Larry Arner Treasurer**

**Carol Heffelfinger Financial Sec.**



**New Members!**

Holy Trinity will be receiving news members on

The Day of Pentecost, May 19. Please contact the Pastor if anyone is interested in joining.



**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**Pastor Mike will have children’s**

**sermons on the second Sunday of each month.**

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Worship Services 10:15 AM**

**May 5, 2024 COMMUNION**

**Assisting Minister:** Rich Hyer

**Ushers:** Kelly & Scott Heinrich

**Altar Guild:** Rich & Jeanette Hyer

**Flowers:** In Honor of Krissy Keblish’s Birthday

**Bulletins:** Eleanor Scheirer

**Times News / Website:** Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

**May 12, 2024 COMMUNION**

**Assisting Minister:** Lynn Perone

**Ushers:** Ron Keblish w/Taylor & Terry Holland

**Altar Guild:** Rich & Jeanette Hyer

**Flowers:** Eleanor Scheirer, IHO Wedding Anniv.

**Bulletins:** Eleanor Scheirer

**Times News / Website:** Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

**May 19, 2024 COMMUNION**

**The Day of Pentecost**

**Assisting Minister:** Krissy Keblish

**Ushers:** Loren LaRose & Carol Heffelfinger

**Altar Guild:** Rich & Jeanette Hyer

**Flowers:** In Honor of Krissy & Ron Keblish’s Anniv.

**Bulletins:** Eleanor Scheirer

**Times News / Website:** Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

**May 26, 2024 COMMUNION**

**Assisting Minister:** Debbie Hansut

**Ushers:** Rich & Jeanette Hyer

**Altar Guild:** Rich & Jeanette Hyer

**Flowers:** Barb & Joe Herman (Anniversary 5/28)

**Bulletins:** Eleanor Scheirer

**Times News / Website:** Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

**Bible Study**

Mondays 1:30 PM - 3 PM at St. Matthew’s

Thursdays 10:30 AM - Noon at Holy Trinity

**HOME VISITS**

Home visits and shut-in visits are being planned for May. If anyone would like to receive communion from Pastor Mike, please call the office @ 610-826-2524.



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