

# ***HOLY TRINITY NEWS***

## ***MARCH 2026***

***Volume 61 – # 03***



## ***HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH***

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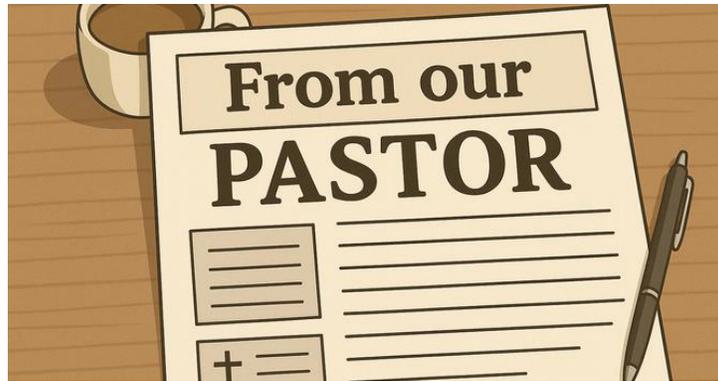
# MARCH 2026

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

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|  |                         |   |  |  |  |  |
|--|-------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| <b>1</b><br>Worship Service<br>9am                               | Office Hours<br>8am-1pm | Office Hours<br>8am-1pm<br>Thrift Shop<br>9am-12:30pm | Office Hours<br>8am-1pm<br>Lenten Service<br>St. John's<br>7pm |  |  |  |
| <b>8</b><br>Worship Service<br>9am<br>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS<br>BEGINS | Office Hours<br>8am-1pm | Office Hours<br>8am-1pm<br>Thrift Shop<br>9am-12:30pm | Office Hours<br>8am-1pm<br>Lenten Service<br>St. John's<br>7pm |  |  |  |
| <b>15</b><br>Worship Service<br>9am                              | Office Hours<br>8am-1pm | Office Hours<br>8am-1pm<br>Thrift Shop<br>9am-12:30pm | Office Hours<br>8am-1pm<br>Lenten Service<br>St. John's<br>7pm |  |  |  |
| <b>22</b><br>Worship Service<br>9am                              | Office Hours<br>8am-1pm | Office Hours<br>8am-1pm<br>Thrift Shop<br>9am-12:30pm | Office Hours<br>8am-1pm<br>Lenten Service<br>St. John's<br>7pm |  |  |  |
| <b>29</b><br>Worship Service<br>9am                              | Office Hours<br>8am-1pm | Office Hours<br>8am-1pm<br>Thrift Shop<br>9am-12:30pm |  |  |  |  |

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On April 5, we will once again celebrate the joy of the resurrection on Easter Sunday! Also important, however, are the three days that lead up to Easter Sunday.

Maundy Thursday, which will be celebrated on April 2 at 7pm at Holy Trinity, remembers the night of Jesus' betrayal. It is on Maundy Thursday that Jesus also shared a special Passover meal with His disciples, known to many as the "Last Supper." It is on this night that Jesus provides an example of service by washing their feet, where Judas' role is exposed, and where the Sacrament of Holy Communion is instituted.

Good Friday, which will be celebrated on April 3 at 7pm at St. John's, remembers the day of Jesus' crucifixion, death, and burial. The Church remembers Jesus' words on the cross, especially "It is finished!" In these words, Jesus declares the victory of sin and death by taking on our sin on the cross and giving to us His righteousness.

The Easter Vigil, which will be celebrated on April 4 at 6pm at St. John's, is the first celebration of Easter. Through various readings, the history of God's people is traced to show how the promises of God pass through the generations. The service moves from darkness to light dramatically as the resurrection of Jesus is pronounced, leading also as the Scriptures attest, to our joyful resurrection. For those who have never attended the Vigil, a note that the service is often approximately two hours long.

These services are my favorite throughout the year. I encourage all the faithful, as they are physically able, to make sure you attend to these important worship services. In these services are the core of our identity as Christians.

Help is always needed to these three holy days. If you would like to know how you can assist, please see me.

May God guide us throughout this Lenten season and bring us at last to the joy of Easter.

Blessings,  
Pastor Ken

# HOLY TRINITY ACTION MINISTRY



*THE BLESSINGS  
THRIFT SHOP:*  
Tuesday 9am-12:30pm

*\*DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS MARCH 8\**

# CELEBRATE!

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

March 17 Jim Meldrum & Vicky Holland 8 years

### BIRTHDAY WISHES!

|          |                    |
|----------|--------------------|
| March 02 | Carol Heffelfinger |
| March 08 | Marlene Greenwood  |
| March 09 | Ronald Keblish     |
| March 11 | James Engle        |
| March 19 | Robin Suarez       |
| March 25 | Joseph Solt II     |

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS MONDAY – WEDNESDAY 8AM-1PM

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

*Jon Kistler  
Steve Berger  
Rich Hyer  
Jim Miller  
Krissy Keblish  
Ron Keblish  
Gerry Dorshimer  
Scott Heinrich  
Eric Reif  
Gordon Walls  
Deb Hansut  
Don Delich*

*President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Asst. Treasurer*



## FINANCIAL PERSONNEL

|                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Larry Arner</i>    | <i>Treasurer</i>      |
| <i>Jessica Hansen</i> | <i>Financial Sec.</i> |



## COUNCIL MEETING

**MARCH 15 6:00 pm**



## FINANCE & ATTENDANCE

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| <b>Jan.- Monthly Envelope Offering:</b> | \$3,195  |
| <b>Jan.- Additional Income:</b>         | \$13,783 |
| <b>Jan.- Monthly Expenses:</b>          | \$8,889  |
| <b>Attendance:</b>                      |          |
| <b>January 04, 2026</b>                 | 39       |
| <b>January 11, 2026</b>                 | 39       |
| <b>January 18, No Service, Snow</b>     | 0        |
| <b>January 25, No Service, Snow</b>     | 0        |
|   |          |
|   |          |

### ARK BANKS

*Don't forget to pick up your Lenten Ark Banks for the Heifer Project. Fill them with your loose change during Lent and return them on Easter Sunday.*



## HOLY TRINITY YARD SALE

- Date: Saturday, April 18. 8am-1pm. Rain or Shine.
- Where: Holy Trinity Parish Hall
- Kitchen will be open for Brunch
- Tables to sell your Treasures are \$20 each!
- Call or email the church office to reserve your table!

## SUNDAY WORSHIP – 9:00 AM

### MARCH 01, 2026

**Assisting Minister:** Rich Hyer  
**Ushers:** Kelly & Scott Heinrich  
**Altar Guild:** The Keblish Family  
**Flowers:** Carol Heffelfinger  
**Times News / Website:** Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

### MARCH 08, 2026

**Assisting Minister:** Krissy Keblish  
**Ushers:** Terry Holland, Ron Keblish & Taylor Keblish  
**Altar Guild:** The Keblish Family  
**Flowers:** The Keblish Family – Ron's Birthday  
**Bulletins Needed**  
**Times News / Website:** Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

### MARCH 15, 2026

**Assisting Minister:** Deb Hansut  
**Ushers:** Loren LaRose & Carol Heffelfinger  
**Altar Guild:** The Keblish Family  
**Flowers:** Carol Borger – IMO Father  
**Bulletins:** Carol Borger  
**Times News / Website:** Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

### MARCH 22, 2026

**Assisting Minister:** Larry Arner  
**Ushers:** Rich & Jeanette Hyer  
**Altar Guild:** The Keblish Family  
**Flowers & Bulletins Needed:**  
**Times News / Website:** Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

### MARCH 29, 2026 - *PALM SUNDAY*

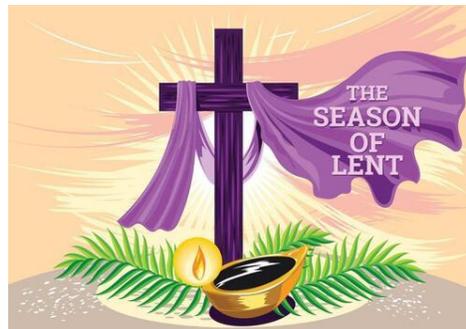
**Assisting Minister:** Lynn Perone  
**Ushers:** Gordon & Mary Walls  
**Altar Guild:** The Keblish Family  
**Flowers & Bulletins Needed**  
**Times News / Website:** Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

#### **CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPE CHANGES**

**Council has made a few changes to the envelopes.**

**The changes will take effect soon.**

- **Fuel / AC envelopes will be eliminated, but a line will be added to the weekly envelopes for this type of donation.**
- **Future Lenten envelopes will be consolidated.**
- **Envelope mailings will be sent semi-annually beginning in July, as opposed to quarterly.**



## LENTEN & BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE

All Wednesdays in March will be at St. John's – 7:00pm.

- 6:00 PM – Soup & Sandwich
- 7:00 PM – Worship
- Bible Study will meet during Soup & Sandwich on special topics. This year's Mid-Week Lenten series is "The Gospel in Exodus".
- April 2, Maundy Thursday Service will be at Holy Trinity – 7 PM.
- April 3, Good Friday Service will be at St. John's – 7 PM.

### HOME VISITS

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

### A THANK YOU NOTE

*I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and phone calls at the passing of my daughter, Becky Dice.*

*She fought a tough fight until her dying breath. I appreciate all the thoughts of comfort.*

*-Lynn Perone-*





## Feeding Body and Soul at Hope's Table

*Written by: April Mulvey, Synod Authorized Outreach Ministry (SAOM) leader at Hope's Table*

Hope's Table: 601 N Front St Reading, PA 19601

Every Tuesday the doors open around 4:30 in the afternoon. During those chilly winter months, our guests are greeted by Sara, who pours each a cup of hot chocolate. Anita is back in the kitchen, where the aromas of the night's dinner are wafting through the hallway. Scott is preparing his music and Judy is either mingling with our guests or helping Anita. As I am preparing the table for worship, I am talking with everyone and listening to the chatter in the room. Before dinner is served, I go around the room asking everyone for prayer requests and the guests fill me in on the happenings of the week. Welcome to Hope's Table.

My journey to serving at Hope's Table is slightly unconventional. I did not grow up in the church. In fact, the first time I attended a church service (outside weddings and funerals) I was sixteen years old because I grew up in a dysfunctional family system. My first exposure was when my grandmother took me to her church. I grew up in a home that did not show the love and compassion of the Gospel of Christ, and I carried that into my adult years. I ended up in a 12-Step recovery program, but I was still missing "something."



That "something" was the God piece in my life and it was not until I got involved in a church and with people who loved me unconditionally, and told me God loved me even more unconditionally, did my life drastically change to the path that put me where I am today being the SAOM leader at Hope's Table. My background in life allows me to relate to the guests that walk into the doors of Hope's Table in ways that are truly personal and empathetic, and I can connect with them and their needs in times of pastoral care because I know some of the struggles they endure. I relate to the brokenness, the loneliness, the desperation, because I was once there too, but the power and love of God have done miraculous things! It put me back together.

That is part of my hope for Hope's Table. We are not *just* a food ministry. We not only feed the body, we nourish the soul as well. We come together, even if it for only one hour a week, and break bread together, and although we are not defined as a "congregation" by the ELCA, we are a community of the *ekklesia*. Church, since the pandemic, may need to be redefined and ministries like Hope's Table help pave the way for that re-definement.



If someone is curious about how to get involved with Hope's Table, my best advice would be to come and check us out! Show up! Come and see us in action on Tuesday. Come and sit with our guests and get to know them. Come and volunteer to serve dinner and then we can get you scheduled for service work. Come and see just how blessed we are to be in their presence.

Hope's Table has taught me so many lessons about myself and about the world over this past year. I have learned more about the structure of the synod and church this year and how all those smaller cogs in the wheel have to be put into position and work in unison, or the grander machine does not work. It is not just about one single church or ministry; there is a grander picture at play—like a drop in a bucket of water that sends ripples over the surface. There is much, much more to leadership than the worship at Hope's Table. The decisions we make do not just affect us. They affect the synod, and the ELCA, as a whole.

Having support from the synod has left an immense positive effect on me throughout this whole journey. In those moments when I may doubt myself, or not believe in myself, the synod staff have all uplifted me and given me support. The synod has also supported the mission of Hope's Table as vital to the community, proving once again, that God's people are seen and their needs are heard; that they are not ignored except on a Sunday morning. This continues to demonstrate that my service is properly placed.

I am excited to serve as Hope's Table's SAOM leader and the possibilities and doors that will open for us. I am also excited to be attending the Fresh Expressions National Gathering 2026 at the end of February with other colleagues from NEPA Synod in Ocala, Florida. It is proving to be an inspiring year. I have big dreams for Hope's Table! And why should I? I serve an even bigger God who has done amazing things.



Three Gatherings Across the Synod - Each event runs 8:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m. with three speakers focused on its theme.

# Learning Ministry Days



Register at [godslove.org/LMD26](https://godslove.org/LMD26)

-  **Mar 7, 26** - "How Do We Lift Every Voice: Exploring Worship, Music and Family Ministries" (Atonement Lutheran, Wyomissing)
-  **Apr 25, 26** - "How Can We Walk Together: Mental Health and Spiritual Wholeness" (Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Emmaus)
-  **Sept 19, 26** - "Who Do We Trust: Truth, Scams and AI" (Zion United Lutheran, Brodheadsville)



## “FIVE LITTLE INDIAN BROTHERS”

Once there were five little brothers living in Farmer Lane's barn. There were a great many other children there, too, but these little brothers played by themselves, and chased each other across the wide floor of the barn until they reached a corner where there was a large crack, and then they could look out into the world. The first thing they saw was Farmer Lane breaking up the rich brown earth with his plough, for Spring had come, and told him it was time to do his planting, while the little brothers were watching him, and wishing they could find a way to roll out into the bright sunshine and help him, something happened. What do you suppose it was?

A great brown hand came up behind them and in a moment they found themselves in a wooden measure with many more of their friends. "What is the matter?" said one little brother. "I don't know," said another. "Maybe we are going to travel," said a third; while the two smallest cuddled very closely together, and whispered, "We won't be afraid; God will take care of us."

The measure was taken, out into the field, where Farmer Lane was still at work, and soon, into the furrows made by the plow, the little brothers were dropped one by one. They lay very still at first. It was so strange and dark in their new home. By and by they found a friend, an earthworm, who told them wonderful stories, how God would take care of them, and some day would give them a new life. Then the little brothers were glad and hoped it would be soon. Thus the days went by. The warm spring showers moistened the earth, and the sun shone so brightly that the brothers danced for joy way down in their dark home. What do you suppose happened when they danced? Why, their old coats split open, and some little hands came out. They were helpful hands, too, and went to work at once. Some of them went down into the earth to find food and water for the whole plants, and the others reached upward to the air and sunshine, and spread out beautiful, long green leaves. Each day the plants grew taller and taller, and new buds came that blossomed into flowery tassels that waved over the tops of the plants. These tassels were full of a golden dust called pollen, and as the wind blew it to and fro, some of the tiny grains found little green cradles along the sides of the plants, and crept into them. There they stayed, growing strong and round, until one midsummer day the plants were full of ripe, sweet ears of corn.

When were the five little brothers, do you ask? Why, they were five little kernels of Indian corn that Farmer Lane planted one spring morning, and each beautiful stalk of corn was the new life the earthworm told them about. God had taken care of them, and takes care of His little children, too.

Field, E.R. (1894) *Buttercup Gold and Other Stories* Bangor: C. H. Glass

