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Trinity Lutheran Church 509 Center Street, Bryan, OH 419-636-3387



Worship Schedule Sundays 10:30am Sunday School 9:15am Saturdays 6:00pm



Wed. Feb 14, 2024 Valentines Day



February 19, 2024

Ash Wednesday February 14, 2024







First Day of Spring March 19, 2024



Pilgrimage Ponderings

"Wait" is my word for 2024. We do lots of waiting in life. We wait for the receptionist to call our name in the room outside the Doctor's office. We wait to check out at the grocery store. We wait for Good News and Difficult News. We wait for a package to be delivered and we wait beside the bed of loved ones as death draws near. Nevertheless, we are often not happy to wait. Often waiting is unproductive and frustrating, a waste of time and energy while we pause. I think that's why I was led to the word "Wait" for 2024. I need to get my Wait response and attitude in order.

To accompany my word of the year I have chosen a scripture passage to consider all of 2024..."but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." Isaiah 40:31. It's a text you see on a woven throw at the funeral home visitation or engraved on a plaque beneath a painting of a majestic eagle in flight.

It is a hopeful text. It indicates that there is fruit born of the waiting when the waiting is "for the Lord." But that text is more than just a lovely passage to adorn a creative expression of sympathy or strength. The people of Israel, who heard these prophetic words approximately 2600 years ago. They were spoken by a compassionate prophet who had witnessed the devastation of Jerusalem by the powerful Babylonians, including exile and conquer by military force. Eventually Babylon was captured by Cyrus, ruler of Persia, and the exiles were permitted to return to Jerusalem. The homes, businesses and touchstones for identity were all gone – desecrated or destroyed. It was a communal reality that the people would need to Wait. Upon what or whom were they to wait? The one who in covenantal promise was committed to them through thick and thin, through political persecution and military oppression and exile. Wait for what? To be renewed, to be restored in strength and in endurance.

That's the kind of Wait I pray this year brings for me...a renewal and restoration. I am intentionally practicing the synod's year of rest practices. To be restored in mind, body, heart and spirit through prayer, play, creative pursuits and time away from all the stuff that adds weight to living with joy is my goal.

May you know the gift of waiting for God's strength and the fruit of renewed endurance.

Peace be with you, always!

MargBetts Snith Gunn

Pastor Mary Beth Smith-Gunn



Worship Focus for February

February 3rd & 4th Fifth Weekend after Epiphany

In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (diakonia). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

February 10th & 11th Transfiguragion of Our Lord

The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's Beloved. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.

February 17th & 18th First Weekend in Lent

On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

February 24th & 25th SecondWeekend in Lent

The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

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> Trinity Lutheran Church 509 Center Street Bryan, OH 43506

Trinity Lutheran Church February & March 2024

Trinity Lutheran Church

Non Profit Organ. Postage Paid Permit #164 Bryan, OH 43506

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH - 2024 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

OFFICERS

President Tom Smith
Vice-President Jason Johnston
Secretary Pam Bishop
Treasurer Kim Semer

Financial Secretary Amanda Johnston



COUNCIL MEMBERS

Terms Expire End of 2024

Steve Krill	102 Willow Circle, Bryan	H 419-636-8421	skrill001@roadrunner.com
Tom Smith	508 N Liberty, West Unity	C 419-551-8039	tnsmith1979@gmail.com
Kim Reed	411 Schatzer Ct., Bryan	C 419-490-6121	richkimreed@roadrunner.com

Terms Expire End of 2025

Pam Bishop	316 John Street, Bryan	C 567-239-6443	pamster1960@gmail.com		
Mary Lou Schnitz	15227 Co. Rd. D-50, Bryan	H 419-636-7339			
Jackie Uran	15424 Co Rd F, Bryan	H 419-636-7182 C 419-799-9063	jackieku@roadrunner.com		

Terms Expire End of 2026

Shelly Dean	02480 Co. Rd. C12, Bryan	H 419-636-2583C 419-553-6844	adfarms52@gmail.com
Steve Fireovid	1408 Woodstream Ave, Bryan	H 419-636-9021 419-630-6546	sfireovid@trilogywa.com
Jim Hitchcock	06429 Co. Rd. A, Edgerton	C 419-769-2192	hitchlaw@earthlink.net
Jason Johnston	220 Blakeslee Ave, Bryan	H 419-636-6414	jjohnston@montpelier-k12.org
Buddy Rossow	1904 Middle Court, Bryan	C 517-927-2748	rossowge@gmail.com

COMMITTEEE LIAISON

Cemetery Jackie Uran

Member Care Outreach

Kim Reed & Mary Ann Taylor
Finance / Stewardship

Kim Seemer & Tom Smith

Foundation Lynnette Diaz, Rick Taylor & Steve Hess

Parish Education Julie Taylor
Property Steve Krill

Youth

Worship

Parish Board Jason Johnston, Jim Hitchcock & Tom Smith
Nominating Henry Burklo, Rob Goodlive & Paul Vargo

80 AND ABOVE BIRTHDAY CLUB

The month of February brings birthdays for five of our Trinity members...

On the 2nd Marilyn Feather, 830 Rivers

Edge Lane, Painesville, OH 44077 will

celebrate her 84th birthday. We have two new members joining the 80 and above club, Dean Schwarzbek, 14773 County Road A, will turn 80 on February 9th and Trudy Day, 1003 Stonehedge Drive, turns 80 on the 11th. Celebrating his 93rd on the 20th is Don Collins, 4452 Evansport Road, Defiance 43512 and Doris Peak, 06195 Co. Rd. 13, celebrates her 82nd birthday on the 22nd. God's blessing to the five of you.



Dear Loaves & Fishes, Thanks to all of you for the wonderful meals each month. It is kind of you to think of us and we appreciate it very much. It's comforting on that day to know there is a meal all ready for supper. Thanks so much from all of us recipients.



To our Dear Friends at Trinity Lutheran Church, Thank you for your very generous gift of \$1,000.00. We here at H.E.L.P. are thankful for your continued support for our ministry to the poor and working poor of Williams County! In 2023 HELP has assisted 125 families consisting of 193 adults and 127 children at a cost of over \$19,150.00. This is only possible because of supporters like you! Thank you also for your prayers. Gratefully, Jeffrey Lewis, H.E.L.P. Director



Dear Friend of Wernle, Thank you for your most recent gift of \$1,000.00 to support the Wernle girls and boys. Thank you for the warm welcome and for this wonderful gift plus an additional couple of envelopes with \$25. May the Lord bless you and keep you! Blessings, Chris Parker, Church Relations Officer, Wernle Youth & Family Treatment Center



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING FIGHTING HUNGER February 11, 2024

The Souper Bowl of Caring is the result of thousands of young people joining together to fight hunger and poverty in their local communities. We will again participate in this worthwhile program that since 1990 has raised millions of dollars for hunger programs around the United States. On February 11th, Souper Bowl Sunday, we ask that you drop \$1.00 (more if you wish) in the soup kettle at the back of the sanctuary. The money collected will go towards the purchase of at least one roaster (cost is \$59 each) for Redeemer Lutheran Church and their weekly meal program.



Sincere Christian sympathy and prayerful support to the following...

The Rick Gilmer Family with the passing of Carol Gilmer. Carol passed away on December 8th at the age of 77.

The Goshia Family with the passing of Arlene Goshia. Arlene passed away on December 23rd at the age of 93.

Polly Oxender with the death of her son, Stan Roan of Columbus who passed away on January 2nd at the age of 75 and her son, Steve Roan of Vero Beach, FL who passed away shortly after at the age of 73.

The Merle Griffis Family with his passing on January 6th. Merle was 93.

Joe & Jane Whisler with the passing of Joe's mother, Beverly Whisler on January 16th. She was 91 and from Fremont, Ohio.

The Diaz Family with the passing of Lynnette's sister, Barb Anderson on January 13th. She was 63 and from McGregor, Minnesota.

"Rest eternal, grant them, O Lord: and let light perpetual shine upon them"



Share a snack and a sip...or participate in Koinonia Korner! Each Sunday, following worship, the congregation is invited to enjoy Koinonia with each other - Koinonia is the Greek word for fellowship. We gather in Weiblen Hall where volunteers have shared their gifts of goodies and beverages and conversation. All are welcome & there is a sign-up sheet at the back of the sanctuary where you may sign-up to bring goodies.

February 2024



Saturday	00:9	10 6:00pm Worship w/ HC	17 6:00pm Worship w/ HC		6:00pm Worship w/ HC	
Friday	Marilyn Feather (84	Happy Birthday 9 Dean Schwarzbek (80)	16	23		
Thursday	1	8 Loaves & Fishes	15	22		67
Wednesday				7:00pm at both # Trinity and St. Peter's Happy Birthday 21	Lenten service Trinity at noon St. Peter's at 6:30pm	28 Lenten service St. Peter's at noon Trinity at 6:30pm
Tuesday		9	13 12:30pm Mission Quilters	vs Defiance vs Defiance Happy Birthday 20		<i>1</i> 7
Monday		D		0:30pm Finance 7:00pm Council		26
Sunday		4 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/ HC	Happy Birthday 11 Trudy Day (80)	New Member Reception 18 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/ HC		25 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/ HC

December Attendance & C	fferings	
Date	Attendance	Offering
Budgeted Need \$3,70	7.00	
12/2/2023 Sat Worship	21	
12/3/2023 Sun Worship	59	\$3,628.00
12/9/2023 Sat Worship	20	
12/10/2023 Sun Worship	53	\$2,576.00
12/16/2023 Sat Worship	20	
12/17/2023 Sun Worship	54	\$1,561.00
12/24/2023 Sun Morning	32	
12/24/2023 Sun candlelight	80	\$3,780.00
12/31/2023 Sun Worship	41	\$4,639.00
Avg Attendance Dec 2023	67	
building use - kitchen	240.00	
roof fund	400.00	
Joint Parish - First	1668.01	
1st Lutheran Food Pantry	200.00	
Warm Hearts Warm Homes	100.00	
Thanksgiving	35.00	
Christmas	555.00	
Poinsettias	216.00	
office copies	30.00	
Prayer Shawl	60.62	
Memorials	2000.00	
Cemetery	500.00	
camping	80.10	

January Attendance & C	Offerings	
Date	Attendance	Offering
Budgeted Need \$3,7	07.00	
1/6/2024 Sat Worship	25	
1/7/2024 Sun Worship	66	\$4,367.00
1/13/2024 Sat Worship	cancelled	
1/14/2024 Sun Worship	49	\$1,757.00
1/20/2024 Sat Worship	cancelled	
1/21/2024 Sun Worship	56	\$11,545.00
1/27/2024 Sat Worship	29	
1/28/2024 Sun Worship	58	n/a
Avg Attendance Jan 2024	71	
building use - kitchen	240.00	
roof fund	50.00	
Joint Parish - First	1751.85	
Joint Parish - St. Peters	3876.18	
Midweek Manna	275.00	
Foundation	90.47	
initial offering	78.00	
office copies	25.00	
memorials	1110.00	

	February	Assignme	ents
DATE	PROJECTION		SOUND
	WOR	SHIP ASSIS	TANT
February	Rhonda	Tom	
4	Fackler	Johnston	Smith
February	Joe	Keith	Rick
11	Whisler	Day	Taylor
February	Rob	Steve	Jim
18	Goodlive	Fireovid	Hitchcock
February	Buddy	Kim	Joe
25	Rossow	Reed	Whisler

February Baptism Birthdays

7	Barbara Gorrell	21	Spencer Hastedt
7	Donna Johnson	21	Noah Diaz
7	Ron Kerr	21	Alex Diaz
11	Eli Kelley-Love	23	Elizabeth Diaz
14	Jacqueline Kelley	26	Dave Schumm
14	Madison Klinepeter	29	Marilyn Feather



February Scripture Verse

"So then, a Sabbath rest still remains for the people of God." Hebrews 4:9



Feb / Mar Prayer Quote "Sometimes, all it takes is just one prayer to change everything." Anonymous



Feb / Mar Ebenezer

Amazing Grace - World's greatest love song!

February Altar Guild

Jackie Uran 419-636-7182 Rhonda Fackler 419-799-9738

Wise Words

How do you make decisions? I have been deeply discerning several things these past few months. One morning I clearly know my next step. Then the following day I toggle back into a different direction. Ever feel like that? At a crossroad, not sure which way to go, and vacillating in deciding?

"To discern means more than to understand or to make a decision, Discern comes from the Latin discernere: dis mean apart and cernere mean to separate. Thus from all the options before us, we

"separate apart" those that seem uniquely suited to us. We do that when making a decision as well, but discernment at least in Christian spirituality, implies that we take God's will for us into account rather than simply our own desires." Debra Farrington

The process of discerning holds many lessons and I smile when I think God wants me to wrestle with these decisions to shape me, to guide me, and to remind me to rely on God, not my own ego.

What have I learned?

- 1. I need times of quiet and stillness to think through all aspects of the decision. It helps me to actually write out in my journal what I am deciding taking the time to find the words to articulate accurately what lies ahead. Knowing my deepest, more authentic desires and needs gives me direction and sometimes the outside world is so noisy, it is hard to hear my own voice.
- 2. I have learned it helps to notice and name the emotions I experience while making a decision. Fear likes to be in control and the ego always wants to be protective. Both have their roles, but I don't want my life direction determined from a place of fear or selfish ego. Am I being pushed by fear or being led by love?
- 3. Once I get "me" out of the way, God can show me the Way. Even a few minutes of pausing creates the space to hear God. I listen. I pay attention. I imagine the what if's. What is the most life-giving? Which direction brings the most peace and joy? What decision will bring me closer to God?
- 4. Discernment is more about the process than the final decision. My deepest prayer each morning, written by Thomas Merton, has these lines, "But I believe the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all I am doing. I hope I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it."

The answer is still evolving for me, but I know I am not alone. God is with me, beside me, and within me as I pray about decisions. Merton's next line in his prayer reminds me to be faithful and trust God in discernment. He writes, "I will trust you always though I may seem to be lost...".

Trust is the most delicious fruit grown in discernment.





REMINDER: Trinity's Weather Cancellation/Closure Policy is that if Williams County or the City of Bryan are on a <u>Level 1 Travel Advisory</u>, programing at the church will continue as planned with the exception of the Saturday evening worship service. Those who are expected to attend committee meetings, catechism classes, rehearsals, etc. should do so at their discretion. Saturday evening worship, for the sake of the general congregation which usually attends, will be cancelled under a <u>Level 1 Travel Advisory</u>. <u>Level 2 Travel Advisory</u> acknowledges road

conditions that could be hazardous to all travelers, so at a Level 2, ALL ACTIVITIES AT THE CHURCH are CANCELLED INCLUDING SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL. <u>Level 3 Travel Advisory</u> allows only emergency personnel to be on the roads, therefore, the church will be closed.

To see or hear about closures, watch any of the major Toledo television stations, (Channel 11, 13 and 24,) Fort Wayne's Channel 15, or listen to WBCL, WBNO, WLZZ radio stations. Pastor Mary Beth tries to get that information posted and broadcast as soon as a decision is made regarding weather related church cancellations or closure.



TRINITY CEMETERY SEXTON WANTED

Duties - oversight of the church cemetery, including contracting for the mowing and maintenance;

recording of deeds and burials in cooperation with the church office, communicating the need for repair to council and cemetery committee, meeting prospective parties at the cemetery to show available lots, sales of available lots, measurement of ground for tombstone placement (reimbursed at \$25 per occurrence), measurement and staking for burial of cremains (reimbursed at \$25 per occurrence), opening (if necessary) the ground for burial of cremains (reimbursed at \$75 per occurrence.) Interested parties should speak to Pastor Mary Beth or Rhonda Fackler in the church office. Opening is immediate.

Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits

Lent Outreach Project continues from Ash Wednesday through Easter. We are gathering the following, new, items: metal fingernail clippers, individually wrapped toothbrushes, bar soap,



bath towels, and hair combs. Please place your donations in the laundry basket in the narthex. A packing day will be planned this spring. Thank you for your support of our global neighbors in need!!



BAPTISM

January 14, 2024
Lilah Blake Gansmiller
daughter of
Mason & Paige Gansmiller

WELCOME TO THE KINGDOM!

80 AND ABOVE BIRTHDAY CLUB



March brings birthdays for eight special people at Trinity. Joan Colella, 110 Country Club Road, begins the month as she joins the group of octogenarians turning 80 on March 1st. Jean Goodlive, 177 Lakeside Circle, turns 81 on the 2nd

and Mary Ann Taylor, 15619 Scott Road, Ney, 43549 turns 81 on the 4th. We continue with Doug Johnson, 1107 Fairlawn Drive, turning 82 on the 5th and Tom Baird, 708 Noble Drive, will be 83 on the 10th. On March 14th Henry Burklo, 100 Sycamore Lane, will be 82 and on the 22nd Ken Moog 02334 Bend Road, Ney 43549 will be 84. We end out the month with Doris Geren, 01690 St. Rt. 576, who will be 88 on the 25th. We wish you all God's blessings.



Please remember our shut-ins with prayers, notes, cards, etc. They really enjoy hearing from you.

Wayva Harris 716 W High Street Bryan, OH 43506

Betty Griffis Hillside Country Living 09876 Co. Rd. 16, #401 Bryan, OH 43506 Altha Dooley Hillside Country Living 09876 Co. Rd. 16, #715B Bryan, OH 43506

Doris Geren 01690 St. Rt. 576 Bryan, OH 43506



Marion Rickenberg Hillside Country Living 09876 Co. Rd. 16, #807A Bryan, OH 43506

Jean Wetmore 924 Cherry Street Bryan, OH 43506 Jim Helbig Hillside - The Village 09876 Co. Rd. 16 #607B Bryan, OH 43506

Anna Wilson 204 E Holden Street Bryan, OH 43506

Lucy Koch 03601 St. Rt. 576 Bryan, OH 43506

Worship Focus for March

March 2nd & 3rd Third Weekend in Lent

The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God's liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world.

March 9th & 10th Fourth Weekend in Lent

The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.

March 16th & 17th Fifth Weekend in Lent

God promises Jeremiah that a "new covenant" will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God's heart through Christ and draws God's love and truth into our hearts. We join together in worship, sharing in word, song, and meal, and leave strengthened to share God's love with all the world.

March 23rd & 24th Passion / Palm Weekend

This week, the center of the church's year, is one of striking contrasts: Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory, only to be left alone to die on the cross, abandoned by even his closest friends. Mark's gospel presents Jesus in his complete human vulnerability: agitated, grieved, scared, forsaken. Though we lament Christ's suffering and all human suffering, we also expect God's salvation: in the wine and bread, Jesus promises that his death will mark a new covenant with all people. We enter this holy week thirsty for the completion of God's astonishing work.

March 30th & 31st Easter Weekend

Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In word and feast, we celebrate God's unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!

March Assignments								
DATE	PROJECTION WOR	SHIP ASSIST	SOUND ANT					
March	Jeff		Henry					
3	Gunn		Burklo					
March	Rhonda	Lisa	Paul					
10	Fackler	Whitman	Vargo					
March	Joe	Jason	Tom					
17	Whisler	Johnston	Smith					
March	Rob	Keith	Rick					
24	Goodlive	Day	Taylor					
March	Buddy	Steve	Jim					
31	Rossow	Fireovid	Hitchcock					



March Scripture Verse

"but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." Isaiah 40:31

March Altar Guild

Tom & Kathy Foster 419-630-Rhonda Fackler 419-799-9738

March Baptism Birthdays

1 Ava Moore
12 Mike Bever
12 Julie Taylor
19 Jamie Sanders
19 Diana Stiverson
20 Rodney Missler

12 Paige Gansmiller 20 Mary Beth Smith-E

12 Jeff Whitman 22 Beth Snyder

12 Jacob Whitman 23 Kirsten Unger

12 Jacob Williman 23 Kirsten Onger

13 Bradley Plummer 23 Hannah Wieland

13 Pamela Plummer 23 Eli Umbaugh

13 Lester Plummer 25 DeWayne Essex

15 James Schlosser25 Bob Snyder

16 Trudy Day 27 Jax Gearig

17 Sarah Hartman 28 Altha Dooley

17 Kim Reed 31 Joseph Schubert

18 Howard Vreeland

WELCOME TO TRINITY

These new members will be formally received on February 11, 2024 and a luncheon will be held in their honor following worship. We welcome you into the body of Christ at Trinity Lutheran Church, Bryan, Ohio and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

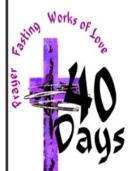
Michael Ferrebee, transferred from Cross of Glory Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, New Jersey; Cheryl Chapman & Tim Foster, transferred from First Lutheran Church, Bryan, Ohio; Greta Crilley, transferred from First Lutheran Church, Bryan, Ohio; Nancy Kuehne, transferred from First Lutheran Church, Bryan, Ohio; Ed & Judy Lyons, transferred from First Lutheran Church, Bryan, Ohio; Ken & Kathy Moog, transferred from First Lutheran Church, Bryan, Ohio; Susie Orcholski & Dick Reed, transferred from First Lutheran Church, Bryan, Ohio; Gary & Suzanne Powell, transferred from First Lutheran Church, Bryan, Ohio Dave & Jan Schumm, transferred from First Lutheran Church, Bryan, Ohio; Jean Wetmore, transferred from First Lutheran Church, Bryan, Ohio; Jeff Wetmore, transferred from First Lutheran Church, Bryan, Ohio



2024 is the Northwestern Ohio Synod "Year of Rest" and you are invited to develop or renew practices of Rest. Each month we will have available a calendar of daily practices and weekly scripture passages guiding us in the practice of Rest. Rest is essential and intended by God for life, joy and well-being. Jesus rested. Time after time scripture reminds us of our need to rest. Sometimes our rest is playful, sometimes prayerful, sometimes productive. Always it should be restorative.

- 1 10 4	Mental	Sensory	Emotional	Social	Creative	Spiritual	Physical
February *24	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
"Do not be anxious about onything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving lef your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God. which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7					Try a new hobby or project today	Spend some time in nature	3 Go for a walk
"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest" Matthew 11:28	Spend 1 hour unplugged (no technology)	Close your eyes, breathe deeply for 1 minute	Respond honestly when someone asks "How are you?"	Observe or interact with an animal/pet	Take a picture that reminds you of the verse	Write an affirmation based on the verse	Spend 5 minutes stretching
"The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord" Isaiah 11:2	Observe the people around you and pray for them	12 Light a candle or sit with your favorite smell today	Write about a time when you felt at rest	Have a conversation with a friend	Spend 30 minutes away from a project or problem	Sign up to volunteer with an organization you value	17 Take a short nap
"For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore, the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it" Exodus 20:11	18 Spend some time in nature	Spend some time in silence	20 Write down a moment you tried something new	Give someone a compliment	Find local art in your community	23 Write a prayer based on the verse	Spend 5 minutes being still
"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls" Matthew 11:29	25 Stay off social media today	26 Enjoy a favorite food	Listen to your favorite song	28 Write down names of people who bring you peace	29 Find God in nature		

	Saturday	Happy Birthday 2 Jean Goodlive (81)	6:00pm Worship w/ HC	6	6:00pm Worship w/ HC	16	6:00 mm Worship w/ HC		23	6:00pm Worship w/ HC	30	Easter Vigil 6:00pm Worship w/ HC
	Friday	Happy Birthday 1		8		15			Happy Birthday 22 Ken Moog (84)		29	7:00pm Good Friday Tenebrae at St. Peter's
	Thursday			7	Loaves & Fishes	Happy Birthday 14 Henry Burklo (82)			21		28 Maundy Thursday Services noon at St. Peter's and	7:00pm at both Trinity and St. Peter's
4	Wednesday			6 Lenten service	Trinity at noon St. Peter's at 6:30pm	13	Lenten service St. Peter's at noon Trinity at 6:30pm		20	Lenten service Trinity at noon St. Peter's at 6:30pm	27	
202	Tuesday			Happy Birthday 5 Doug Johnson (82)	7:00pm Dartball home vs Napoleon	12	12:30pm Mission Quilters		19	Deadline fo	56	
arch	Monday			4 Happy Birthday	Mary Ann Taylor (81)	11		6:30pm Finance 7:00pm Council	18		Happy Birthday 25 Doris Geren (88)	
	Sunday			9:15am Sunday School	10:30am Worship w/ HC °	Happy Birthday10 Tom Baird (83)	00	Daylight Savings Time Begins	17 9:15am Sunday School	10:30am Worship w/ HC	Palm Sunday 24 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/ HC	Easter Sunday 31 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/ HC



Lent 2024 "You Shall Love the Lord, Your God"

In Mark 12, a scribe comes to ask Jesus, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answers, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength'" (Mark 12:28-30). Jesus responds to the scribe's question with words from the Shema, the passage from Deuteronomy 6 that is recited daily by many of the Jewish faith. These words form a covenant between God and God's people and show us a way to respond to this God who so extravagantly loves us through the cross. This theme will shape our Midweek Lenten experience in the Parish. Each Wednesday there will be a Noon Worship at Table and a 6:30 p.m. Worship at Table with Soup & Bread provided. Sign-up for accurate planning. A freewill offering will be received weekly to defray expenses of the meal.

Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024 – Service of Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes will be held at Noon at Trinity and at 7 p.m. at both St. Peter's and Trinity.

Wednesday, February 21, 2024 - Hear, O Israel

The encounter between Jesus and the scribe still resonates today. How would we have responded to the scribe's question? Does the covenant with God truly form the bedrock of our own lives?

Trinity at Noon

St. Peter's at 6:30 p.m.

Soup: Chili

Wednesday, February 28, 2024 - You Shall Love the Lord Your God with All Your Heart

True obedience and understanding come from the heart. How can we respond to God's love from the depths of our hearts?

St. Peter's at Noon

Trinity at 6:30 p.m.

Soup: Chicken Noodle

Wednesday, March 6, 2024 - You Shall Love the Lord Your God with All Your Soul

Our souls thirst for the living God. When trouble comes and faith wavers, in whom do we place our hope?

Trinity at Noon

St. Peter's at 6:30 p.m.

Soup: Loaded Potato

Wednesday, March 13, 2024 - You Shall Love the Lord Your God with All Your Mind

Solomon prayed to God for an understanding mind, able to discern good from evil. How can we use our minds to walk in faithfulness to Christ?

St. Peter's at Noon

Trinity at 6:30 p.m.

Soup: Beef Vegetable

Wednesday, March 20, 2024 - You Shall Love the Lord Your God with All Your Strength

Christ took upon himself the weakness of the cross to triumph in strength over the grave. Truly, God is our strength and our salvation.

Trinity at Noon

St. Peter's at 6:30 p.m.

Soup: Ham & Bean

Holy Week

Palm/Passion Sunday, March 24, 2024 - Holy Communion Worship with Procession of Palms and Dramatic Reading of the Passion of Our Lord according to St. Mark will be celebrated at 9 a.m. at St. Peter's and 10:30 a.m. at Trinity.

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2024 - Service of Holy Communion and Anointing of Hands for Service will be at Noon at St. Peter's and at 7 p.m. at both St. Peter's and Trinity.

Good Friday, March 29, 2024 - Tenebrae Service of Song, Scripture & Shadow will be at St. Peter's at 7 p.m.

Holy Saturday, March 30, 2024 - Easter Vigil with Remembrance of Baptism and Holy Communion will be at Trinity at 6 p.m.

Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024 - Festival of the Resurrection Service of Holy Communion will be at St. Peter's at 9 a.m. and Trinity at 10:30 a.m.