

The Trumpet

Trinity Lutheran Church

509 Center Street, Bryan, OH

419-636-3387

Pastor Mary Beth Smith-Gunn
pastortlcbryan@yahoo.com

Guided by
the Holy Spirit,
Trinity Shows & Tells
God's Love in Word & Deed
with ALL!

Pilgrimage Ponderings

This past month included a few very important conversations in our journey to potential partnership with St. Peter Lutheran Church, Edon and First Lutheran Church, Bryan. At those "Listening Post" meetings an opportunity was offered to hear about the process, get an idea of the details regarding staffing and responsibilities, and ask questions. I think it might be beneficial to apprise everyone reading this of that process, the details, and a few of the most asked questions.

First, this process began in June 2016 when it became apparent that due to upcoming retirements of area pastors and continuing decline among all of the congregations in the county, we were invited to participate in a series of meetings to determine how that situation might be resolved. This reality is compounded by the increasing shortage of pastors and the increasing cost of various compensation components as well as building upkeep costs escalating for aging properties. As we met community developed, trust was built, and we discovered that perhaps the first step of resolving our mutual issues was to work together in a creative way. That decision was reinforced by congregational votes in all 3 congregations to proceed with a partnership agreement.

Second, the partnership agreement has been under construction since July 2017. Trinity is represented by Steve Fireovid, Karen Gallagher and Tom Smith, in the committee planning the details of partnership. All of the congregations have 3 representatives in this process. Pastor Mary Beth and Deacon Jean Wise, plus a representative of the synod and the conference dean, Pastor Paul Reichert. Most recently the group has been working on a formal agreement for staffing and oversight which will be published in its entirety after approval by the committee. That agreement and those details will be the primary focus of a congregational vote - hopefully in May.

Third, some of the questions included concern over my time commitment. I have offered my full-time ministry gifts to be proportionately shared by the 3 congregations. The same is true of Deacon Wise, who's 12-15 hours (depending on the season and needs) will share her talents among the 3 congregations for a proportional share of time. That means that Trinity will have my ministry gifts for approximately 25 hours a week and Deacon Wise for about 6 hours a week - needless to say, that does not add up to full time ministry. It will be an adjustment. In exchange for that adjustment the laity will be asked to provide a variety of leadership tasks - we will recruit 4-10 people to serve as lay worship leaders, and a similar number of people to assist with various types of visitation. The partner congregations are undertaking this lay leadership

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Spring Worship Schedule

Sundays 10:30am

Sunday School 9:15-10:15am

Saturdays 6:00pm

April 1, 2018
Easter Day



Resurrection of Our Lord

7:30am Sunrise Service

9:00am Easter Breakfast

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:30am Worship w/ HC



Williams County ELCA Worship

April 29, 2018 10:00am at
First Lutheran Church, Bryan



Scholarship
Application
Deadline
April 30, 2018

National Day of Prayer
May 3, 2018

17th Annual TLMM
Hog Roast
May 6, 2018



recruitment as well. Another part of the exchange will be a shared funding for the ministry staff expenses - currently the proportion is a bit more than 50% from Trinity, a bit less than 20% from First, and a bit less than 30% from St. Peter. My call will remain with Trinity and the other congregations will contribute, on a monthly basis, to the costs for my salary, housing, insurance, and other compensation benefits. The adjustment for the congregation will be noticeable - I won't be in the office a portion of each day, Monday - Thursday as I am most weeks now. On the other hand, I will be available, as I have always been by way of a phone call. And all of the congregations, in the event of an emergency need, will be given my priority attention. Annual budgetary savings for Trinity will be approximately \$40,000 - perhaps a bit more, perhaps a bit less. Those savings reflect Trinity's portion of both my compensation and Deacon Wise's compensation. Each congregation will continue to be responsible for their property expenses, and other staff costs, plus outreach and committee costs.

Another question frequently asked has to do with worship times. At this point the Saturday weekly service will continue at 6 p.m. All of the congregations will be adjusting their Sunday morning time, with the recommendation that St. Peter at 8:30 a.m., Trinity at 10 a.m. and First at 11:15 a.m. Many weeks I will be driving between all 3 churches on Sunday morning and doing the Saturday evening Trinity service too. At least 1 time per month Deacon Wise will be leading the services at each of the churches, including the Saturday service. How that will work is still being determined, but will require some adjustments to the services. For example, I'm working diligently to lead a service that takes no more than 1 hour from start to finish, and some of the leadership will fall to equipped lay worship leaders - for example, the opening part of Trinity's Sunday service might be led by someone other than me because of travel between Edon and Bryan. The practice of lay worship leaders is part of many congregations, and it will enhance our understanding that the worship experience is shared among all of God's people and that our congregation is not divided into either pew sitters or chancel prancers, but both laity and clergy have a role in both places.

The same is true of visitation responsibilities. For 10 years we have had a practice of a few people assisting with home communion visitation among the shut-ins and homebound. That will be increased with a cadre of volunteers equipped to care for each other in hospital or rehab facilities. Because I will be responsible for a portion of those visits among the members of St. Peter & First, I will appreciate the help from Trinity in picking up some of those visits.

One of the questions asked revolved around our outreach ministries and special events - will others help us with the Bed Brigade or the Men in Mission? What about Catechism education? Can we share in the planning of the Strawberry Festival if we try to resurrect it again? Yes, we will seek to build bridges and create connections in various ways, becoming the body of Christ in a visible way across our community. Catechism will be shared beginning in the fall of 2019 - the other congregations don't have any youth of catechism age for the start of the 2018 program year.

As I have said from the outset of these conversations. I really believe that God is up to something new and creative in calling the church to continue faithfully into a future of which only God knows the outcome. I sincerely feel that this is a creative response to some harsh realities facing the ELCA congregations in our geographical area. And, finally, I feel very strongly called to continue my vocation as a pastor, and prefer to do that in a full-time capacity. That full-time capacity is defined by the synod as not more than 50 hours per week - that may take some serious consideration of my time commitments and boundaries so that I don't compromise my personal well-being for the sake of making this new venture successful. But I am comforted by the promise that we are to plant the seed and trust God for the growth. I think we are planting a new type of seed in this partnership possibility, and I trust that God will grow us, by grace into the witness of God's goodness so desperately longed for by the community in which we are located.

And I long for your companionship through the ups and downs of the journey ahead. For truly, we can pray "O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

God's peace!

Pastor Mary Beth

Pastor Mary Beth



WORSHIP FOCUS FOR APRIL

April 1st Resurrection of Our Lord / Easter Day

This year may be the one in which John's resurrection account is likely to be chosen over Mark's, perhaps because Mark's gospel ends so abruptly, with astonishment and fear rather than joyful proclamation. Yet Mark may speak to our experience more directly than the other gospels. Corinthians and Acts fill out the story by telling of appearances of the risen Christ. Peter says we "ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead." And so do we, in a foretaste of the mountaintop feast where death will be no more.

April 7th & 8th Second Weekend of Easter

The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

April 14th & 15th Third Weekend of Easter

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Lord's day. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures: the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

April 21st & 22nd Fourth Weekend of Easter

The image of the Good Shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sister or brother in need.

April 28th & 29th Fifth Weekend of Easter

This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding that we read of in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

Return Service Requested

www.tlbryan.com
Phone: 419-636-3387

Trinity Lutheran Church
509 Center Street
Bryan, OH 43506

The Trumpet

Trinity Lutheran Church
April 2018



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

Who's New in Pink

Congratulations Spencer & Taylor Hastedt with the birth of Claire Kathryn Hastedt on February 23rd. Congratulations to Grandparents, Greg and Kathy Hastedt and Great-Grandma, Joan Colella.



National Day of Prayer



Bryan Area Ministerial Association invites community participation in the annual observance of the National Day of Prayer. We will gather at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 3, 2018 at Grace Community Church. Shared by both lay and clergy, this will be a powerful time of prayer for our nation and our civic leaders.



April is the time for birthday celebrations for the following Trinity people On the 2nd, Evelyn Fox, 115 Rolland Street, will be 94. On the 24th, Betty Griffis, 106 Taylor Drive, West Unity, 43570 turns 86 and on the 28th we celebrate with Joyce Chappuies, 112 Sycamore Lane, as she turns 81.. To all these folks we wish God's continued blessings on their journey of faith and life.

Trinity Lutheran Scholarship



We are fortunate as a congregation to have a scholarship fund that can be of assistance to our people who are pursuing additional education beyond high school. Started as a memorial to Joseph Yekisa, the fund is supported by gifts from members. Any confirmed member who is pursuing higher education is eligible to be considered. Applications are at the church office and the deadline for returning them is April 30th.

Scholarship applicants are advised that receipt of a Trinity Scholarship will be limited to no more than 3 times for any one applicant, and scholarships are awarded on the basis of funds available.

17th Annual TLMM Hog Roast

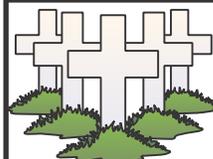


is scheduled for Sunday, May 6th. Serving will begin at 11:30am and will continue until 1:00pm or when all the food is gone. A free will donation for each meal will be taken and "carryouts" will be available at the west kitchen door. The proceeds from this event will go to support the TLMM activities.

Weddings

Taylor Baird and John Fields who were married here at Trinity Lutheran Church on Saturday, March 10, 2018

Congratulations!



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

The family of Mary Babinger with her passing on February 24th. Mary was 88.

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

Midweek Manna

April Menu **Wednesday 5:30-6:30pm**

- April 4 fiesta casserole, veggie, fruit & dessert
- April 11 ham/scalloped potatoes, veggie, fruit & dessert
- April 18 sandwiches, veggie, fruit & dessert
- April 25 cooks choice

Confirmation



Confirmation Sunday will be on May 6, 2018 - we will welcome into full participation of the life and ministry of Trinity, two of our young people: Ashtyn Frederick and Keagan Nichols.

HOLY WEEK / EASTER



Maundy Thursday, March 29 - Dinner for the congregation hosted by the Church Council at 5:30 p.m. Worship at 7 p.m. will include Holy Communion served at table as we remember Jesus sharing the Last Supper with his disciples.



Good Friday, March 30 - Bryan Area Ministerial Association Community Worship will be at Noon hosted by New Life Temple Pentecostal Church, 14451 County Road C.

Trinity will host a Tenebrae Service at 7 p.m. offering participants an opportunity to hear the Passion of Christ according to John, and offer their petitions upon the life-giving cross.



Saturday, March 31 - Easter Vigil will begin in the Narthex at Trinity where we will light the paschal candle recognizing Jesus' victory, hear the story of salvation, sing familiar hymns. Then we gather in the sanctuary to remember our baptism, and celebrate Holy Communion. The celebration of Easter officially begins with this worship service - join the festivities at 6 p.m.

Sunday, April 1 - Easter Sunrise Worship will be at 7:30 a.m. including familiar hymns of resurrection joy and Holy Communion. 9:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast. Festival Worship with Holy Communion will be at 10:30 a.m. including a choir anthem and children's message. Pastor Mary Beth's message will be "Now What?"

Saturday, April 7 & Sunday, April 8 are Youth Weekend Worship Services

in which our congregation's high school youth will proclaim the faith through skits, testimony, song and prayer. They will also be sponsoring a Take & Bake Pizza Sale. Pizzas will cost \$10.00 and be available in various topping combinations, including Pepperoni, Pepperoni & Mushroom, Sausage, Sausage & Mushroom, Mushroom, Green Pepper & Onion, Sausage, Pepperoni, Mushroom, Onion & Green Pepper, and Plain Cheese - a total of 35 Pizzas will be available on a first come, first serve basis. If you want to put in a specific order, please contact the church office.

Take 5 for Faith

5 Minutes - 5 Steps - Everyday!

1. Think about and share your Ups & Downs of the day.
2. Read the suggested Bible Passage.
3. Reflect on its meaning for you and our world.
4. Pray for Family, Friends, the Church & World.
5. Bless your self & others.

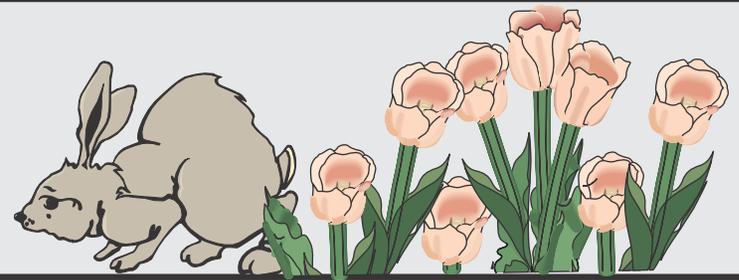
Apr 1 - John 20:1-18
 Apr 2 - Genesis 1:1-19
 Apr 3 - Genesis 1:20-2:4a
 Apr 4 - Song of Solomon 3:1-11
 Apr 5 - Acts 2:42-47
 Apr 6 - Acts 4:23-31
 Apr 7 - John 12:44-50
 Apr 8 -
 Apr 9 - 1 John 2:3-11
 Apr 10 - 1 John 2:12-17
 Apr 11 - Mark 12:18-27
 Apr 12 - 1 John 2:26-28

Apr 13 - Luke 22:24-30
 Apr 15 -
 Apr 16 - 1 John 3: 10-16
 Apr 17 - 2 John 1-6

Apr 18 - Mark 16:9-18
 Apr 19 - Acts 3:17-26
 Apr 20 - Acts 3:17-26
 Apr 21 - Acts 4:1-4
 Apr 22 -

Apr 23 - 1 Peter 5:1-5
 Apr 24 - Revelation 7:13-17
 Apr 25 - Mark 14:26-31
 Apr 26 - Acts 8:1b-8
 Apr 27 - Acts 8:9-25
 Apr 28 - Mark 4:30-32
 Apr 29 -
 Apr 30 - Galatians 5:16-26
 May 1 - James 3:17-18
 May 2 - John 14:18-31
 May 3 - Acts 10:1-34
 May 4 - Acts 10:34-43
 May 5 - Mark 10:42-45

April 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7:30am Sunrise Service 1 9:00am Easter Breakfast NO SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30am Worship w/ HC Easter Day Resurrection of Our Lord 	 Happy Birthday 2 Evelyn Fox (94) 6:30pm Prayer Shawl Meeting	3 7:00pm Strawberry Festival Meeting	4 5:30-6:30pm Midwk Manna 6:30pm Catechism 7:00pm Sr. Choir Practice	5 	6 Pastor's Day Off	7 6:00pm Worship w/ HC
8 8:30am Chime Practice 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/ HC	9 7:00pm Council	10 12:30-4:00pm Mission Quilters 7:00pm Lay Worship Leaders Meeting	11 5:30-6:30pm Midwk Manna 6:30pm Catechism 7:30pm Sr. Choir Practice 8:30pm Bell Practice	12 	13 Pastor's Day Off	14 8:00am TLMM Meeting followed by Road Clean-up 6:00pm Worship w/ HC
15 8:30am Chime Practice 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/ HC	16 	17 	18 5:30-6:30pm Midwk Manna 6:30pm Catechism 7:00pm Sr. Choir Practice 8:00pm Bell Choir Practice	19 	20 Pastor's Day Off	21 6:00pm Worship w/ HC (supper club)
22 8:30am Chime Practice 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/ HC	23 7:00pm Worship Meeting	 Happy Birthday 24 Betty Griffis (86) Deadline for May Trumpet	25 5:30-6:30pm Midwk Manna 6:30pm Catechism 7:00pm Sr. Choir Practice 8:00pm Bell Choir Practice	26 	27 Pastor's Day Off	 Happy Birthday 28 Joyce Chappuies (81) 6:00pm Worship w/ HC
29 10:00am Williams County ELCA Worship Service at First Lutheran Church Bryan.	30 Deadline for  EDUCATION Scholarship Applications					



Grafted in Grace - Combined Worship Service will be hosted by First Lutheran, Bryan at 10 a.m. on Sunday, April 29, 2018. This combined worship service will be the first of many opportunities to gather as friends from the Williams County ELCA Parish to share in praise and prayer, song and spoken word. Deacon Jean Wise, Pastor Mary Beth, and Pastor Roger Marlow will share in the leadership. We will also share in Fellowship after worship, creating further connections with each other.

Seeking Assistance for Partnership Changes - when our partnership with First and St. Peter's Lutheran Churches begins we will undergo some changes. So, please consider the following opportunities to get involved in the congregation's ministry in a new way. We need Lay Worship Assistants and Lay Visitation Volunteers. An information meeting for the Lay Worship Assistants will be held on Tuesday, April 10 at 7 p.m. in the Lighthouse Room. Lay Visitation Volunteers are encouraged to speak with Pastor because information and a bit of training will be offered to a larger group of members of both St. Peter's and First Lutheran churches. Thank you for stepping up so we can confidently step forward.



Strawberry Festival Now a Congregational Event for the Community - since the disbanding of Trinity W.E.L.C.A. the decision to continue to the Strawberry Festival was resurrected by a group of concerned members. Here are the details and how you can help. The date is June 13, 2018. We will be seeking folks to assist in a variety of ways daily from Monday, June 11 - Wednesday, June 13. Some of the tasks will take place during the day, but many will take place in the evening. There is a sign-up sheet on the kiosk in the narthex where you can indicate your interest in the spot which works best for your abilities, interests and schedule. The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 3, in the Lighthouse Room. All are welcome - men, women, youth, families - this is an event of our congregation for our community.

Thank you

Thank you Arlene Goshia for the wonderful mimi frig you donated to the church. It has already been very handy to have and I'm sure many folks will find it quite useful. Thank you Cort for delivering it.

Thank You for feeding our congregation and community well during the Lenten Season -
To the youth of Trinity for Lasagna & Pizza
To the Prayer Shawl & Mission Quilters for wonderful vegetable soup & ham sandwiches
To Trinity Lutheran Men in Mission for wonderful Pancakes & Sausage
To the Relay for Life Committee for tasty Roast Beef Sundaes & Hot Fudge Sundaes
To the Bed Brigade for Chili & Hot Dogs
To Church Council for their Sandwiches & Salads

...fed in body through your generous gifts of food, so that we may be the Body of Christ in the world. God bless these ministries as their various outreaches of compassion and care continue to build a better community.

Thank you to everyone for all the wonderful birthday greetings I received on my 82nd birthday. I enjoyed them all very much. Doris Geren

APRIL ASSIGNMENTS

DATE	ACOLYTE	PROJECTION	SOUND	USHERS
April 7:30a	Rachel & Trinity	Rhonda Fackler	Tom Smith	Team 3, Floyd Taylor
1st 10:30a	Molly Hess	Joe Whisler	Rick Taylor	Team 4, Rob Goodlive
April 8th	Ashtyn Frederick	Paul Vargo	Joe Whisler	Team 5 Tom Smith
April 15th	Eyon Frederick	Buddy Rossow	Paul Vargo	Team 1 Doug Johnson
April 22	Ashtyn Frederick	Mike Bever	Jim Helbig	Team 2 Henry Burklo
April 29	Hutson Wheeler	Rob Goodlive	Henry Burklo	Team 3 Floyd Taylor

Altar Guild
Barb Arnos
Tammy Darrow

April Scripture Verse
"How good and pleasant it is
when kindred live together
in unity." Psalm 133:1

April Baptism Birthdays

1 Myrna Tuttle	3 Jacki Kuehne	9 Susan Fisher	21 Barbara Arnos
1 Cheri Salsbury	3 Carlene Myers	10 Tanner Vollmer	21 Jami Robbins
1 Kathy Scheckelhoff	3 Sue Staup	11 Amiyah Langham	23 Michele Fireovid
1 Roger Wieland	4 Linda Essex	11 Scott Stiverson	23 Jeff Gunn
2 Samuel Rossow	4 Mary Ann Taylor	12 Kristin Peet	25 Beth Moore
2 Lucy Rice	5 James Helbig	12 Alex Staup	26 Marlene Eagle
2 Cheri Vollmer	5 Judy Lewis	12 Christopher Staup	26 Georgia Peters
2 Emily Keifer	6 Marcia Vargo	13 Floyd Taylor	26 Barton Schwarzzbek
2 Barbara Schubert	7 Alayna Langham	15 Joshua Salsbury	28 Dennis Harman
2 Dean Schwarzzbek	8 Tamara Grube	15 Eric Klinepeter	28 Keagan Nichols
3 Wendy Andrews	8 Emily Isackson	18 Joshua Webb	28 Brooklyn Nichols
3 Logan Deel	9 Joan Colella	18 Marlene Reed	28 Emma Nichols
3 Joanna Deel	9 Keith Day	19 Doris Geren	28 Gaige Phillips
3 Brad Deel	9 Wayne Goodlive	20 Karen Hopkins	29 Griffin Diaz

March Attendance & Offerings

Date	Attendance	Offering
Budgeted Need \$4,823.25		
3/3 Saturday Worship	31	
3/4 Sunday Worship	87	\$7,653.30
3/7 Wed - Lent	36	
3/10 Saturday Worship	33	
3/11 Sunday Worship	87	\$3,875.75
3/14 Wed - Lent	41	
3/17 Saturday Worship	33	
3/18 Sunday Worship	86	\$2,767.00
3/21 Wed - Lent	33	
2/24 Saturday Worship	34	n/a
2/25 Sunday Worship	104	
<i>Avg Attendance Mar 2018</i>	124	
<u>Other Income for March</u>		
Media	10.00	
Pay for Ed Clinker Music	50.00	
parking lot fund	10.00	
Boiler	4650.00	
building use	100.00	
reimburse cc	35.00	
memorial	50.00	
wedding bulletins	25.00	
easter flowers	168.00	

