

# Saint Luke's

## United Church of Christ of Trappe

### March 2016 Newsletter



Rev. Dr. Kris Peterson – Interim Pastor

[petersonka@verizon.net](mailto:petersonka@verizon.net)

Office – 610-489-4933

Office email - [administrator@stlukestrappe.org](mailto:administrator@stlukestrappe.org)

[www.stlukestrappe.org](http://www.stlukestrappe.org)

#### Worship Schedule

Blended Service 9:30 AM

3rd Sunday of Mo. Healing Service 9:30 AM

Sunday school 3rd Sunday of the month.

#### *From the Interim Pastor*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last spring, during the Easter season, I enjoyed the beauty and fragrance of several hyacinths. After they had bloomed and then gradually wilted, I continued to water them in the hope of a second bloom. Nothing happened. After a while I gave up and put the plants in my enclosed porch. Almost a year has passed and the other day something in the neglected flower pots caught my eye.

What was that yellowish white thing in the dirt? Could it be? Yes, it was a tender shoot pushing through the earth saying, “I died and was buried, but now, here I am emerging from the earth alive and new.” It took time, but the transformation happened. Other buds have now pushed through. As I reflected on these tiny reminders of new life, I was awed at the miracle and determination of life over death. We hear about such surprise and transformation when Jesus tells us, “Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat. But if it dies, it produces much fruit.” (John 12:24)

As followers of Jesus we understand the story of the seed. Those periods of death, darkness, loss, doubt and pain that we all experience times of “incubation” from which faith can deepen and new life can emerge. God has planted the seed of faith in our hearts in the waters of baptism. Our hearts are places of incubation . . . for renewal, discovery, transformation and birth. Our Lenten disciplines enable us to clarify the direction of our lives, to deepen our relationship with God, to deal with the dark places within and to embrace the challenges of daily dying and rising.

During this “season of incubation” may we continue to nurture the stirrings of hope, possibilities and new life within and around us.

Blessings on the Journey . . .

Pastor Kris

### **March Scripture Readings**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>2nd Lesson</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
March 6	Joshua 5:9-12	Psalm 32	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
March 13	Isaiah 43:16-21	Psalm 126	Philippians 3:4b-14	John 12:1-8
March 20	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Luke 19:28-40
March 27	Acts 10:34-43	Psalm 118:1-2	1 Corinthians 15:19-26	John 20:1-18
April 3	Acts 5:27-32	Psalm 118:14-29	Revelations 1:4-8	John 20:19-31

## **CHURCH LIFE HAPPENINGS**

Profits from our Easter Candy sales will be donated to the Mitzvah Circle for their use in helping people in crisis. They provide clothing and food for those in need. Our donation will be very helpful to their cause.

Our second "Let's Get Organized - Phase II" Was held on Saturday, February 20th at 9:00 with coffee and donuts which got us started. We decided to "tackle" the kitchen where there were many "treasures" that were "dumped", but also many were put out for the members to "pick through" and take home to be their new "treasures". Many hands were helpful and we were done before Noon. Thank you to all who participated. There will be more to come, stay tuned for the next "room".

Maundy Thursday Meal on Thursday, March 24th at 6:00pm for bread, soup and grapes.  
Maundy Thursday Service will be at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary for the stripping of the altar.

"Everybody's" Birthday Party during the coffee hour on Sunday, April 17th. This will be a Breakfast Brunch. Yes, your birthday will be included so come and join us.

We are going to have another "Women's Tea on Saturday, May ?? At ???". We will be inviting other churches in the area to join us this year; will we see white gloves, hats and spring dress on our ladies?  
We are searching for entertainment, if you know of any please let any Church Life member know.

Our Annual trip to the Reading Phighting Phillies will be on Sunday, August 7th so mark your calendars.

Our Rally Day Annual Picnic will be held on Sunday, September 11th at the Upper Providence park on Black Rock Road. Service at 10:00am, Picnic to follow. Remember to bring your place settings and your eating utensils and drinking cups. If you like ambiance bring a table cloth for your table.

## **TRANSITION UPDATE**

The Search committee has completed The Congregational Profile which is now being edited. The Profile will then be sent to Rev. Sharon Morris, Associate Conference Minister for further comment. The Church Council will be approving the Profile at the March Church Council Meeting. It will then be posted on the UCC Website for candidates to view. Interviews will be conducted after Easter.

## **FACILITIES AND USE COORDINATOR**

We are looking for someone who would be able to be in charge of setting up and tearing down of Moyer Hall for events. If interested please see Sam Kurtz III.

March 1	James Ridge, Jr.
March 6	Jasmine Aydin
March 7	Joan Keyser
March 8	Jen Thorpe
March 9	Dottie Snader
	Jim Narrigan



March 10	Susan Walsh
March 19	William Thorpe
March 20	Keagan Davidson
March 29	Ted Quinty

## **HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES**

**Palm/Passion Sunday**  
**March 20, 2016**



### **9:30 am Blended Healing Service**

We begin our service with the blessing of the palms followed by singing "All Glory Laud and Honor." We wave our palms and joyfully shout "Hosanna." Our joy is shattered as we make an abrupt turn to the events of our Lord's crucifixion. This year we will participate in a congregational reading of our Lord's Passion.

**Maundy Thursday**  
**March 24, 2016**



### **6:00 pm Simple meal of soup, bread and grapes**

### **7:30 pm Service of Holy Communion in the Sanctuary**

At the heart of the Maundy Thursday liturgy is Jesus' commandment to "love one another." Jesus' love is demonstrated both in his example of servitude as he washes the feet of his disciples and in his gift of himself in Holy Communion. The altar will be stripped to symbolize our Lord's sacrifice.

**Good Friday**  
**March 25, 2016**



### **7:30 pm Tenebrae Service**

"Tenebrae" is a Latin word meaning "shadows" or "darkness." The dramatic feature of this service is the gradual extinction of all the lights in the church except for the Christ Candle. This candle is removed from view during the service, symbolizing the apparent victory of darkness and death, but its restoration with the words, "on the third day he rose again" foreshadows the victory of the Resurrection.

**Easter Sunday**  
**March 27, 2016**



### **6:30 am Sunrise Service**

We will gather in the cemetery to begin our Easter celebration. Light refreshments and coffee will follow in Moyer Hall.

### **9:30 am Blended Service with Holy Communion**

We gather on this Easter Sunday to shout "He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!!" We receive His body and blood in Holy Communion and are then sent into the world to proclaim with our words and deeds new life in Christ.

## COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES

Sponsored by  
Collegeville-Trappe Ministerium  
2016

THEME: "Restored in Christ"  
Wednesday Nights in Lent  
7:30 PM

The Season of Lent is a time for us to face together the brokenness of our lives and our world. We are invited to turn that brokenness over to Christ so that we can be restored by him through the cross. Each service in this Series focuses on a certain event in The Lenten Story and the broken element from that story. Coming to an understanding of how each of these broken elements leads to restoration in Christ is key to understanding what it means to live as new creations in Christ. The dates, themes, host church and preacher are as follows:

Date:	Theme:	Host Church:	Preacher:
Mar. 2	"Broken Promises"	Trinity Reformed, UCC	Pr. Eva Johnson
Mar. 9	"Broken Trust"	Evansburg United Methodist	Msgr. Michael McCulken
Mar. 16	"Broken Vessel"	St. James' Episcopal	Pr. Kris Peterson

## UNWRAPPING GOD'S GIFT OF JOY

### Women's Retreat

A heart full of God is a happy heart which radiates an infectious joy...Pope Francis

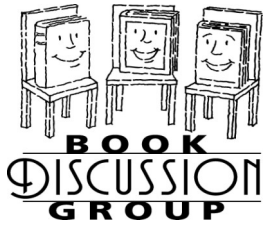
Jesus gives us a clue as to what kind of life He wants for us in John 10:10: "I have come so that you may have life and have it in abundance." If abundant life means anything at all, it means a life of joy. We are God's people characterized by an overflowing, amazing, abundant joy...a joy that knows no limits...a joy based on our identity in God...a joy that flows from a deep source which is not dependant on life's circumstances. This retreat will explore the difference between happiness and joy. God's gift of joy is discovered in the midst of our everyday lives.

Women from St. Luke's are invited to this Spring retreat at St. John's Lutheran Church in Phoenixville. The date for this retreat is **Saturday, April 23rd**. Registration and coffee will begin at 9:00am with the retreat starting at **9:30am and ending at 3:00pm**. **Cost is \$12.00**. Checks made out to **St. John's WELCA** can be mailed to St. John's at the following address:

**St. John's Lutheran Church  
355 St. John's Circle  
Phoenixville, PA 19460**

Please **RSVP by April 8**. Any questions contact Linda Landis at 610-399-9544  
Each participant is asked to bring an object which symbolizes JOY in her life.

**Pastor Kris is facilitating this retreat.**



### **WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB**

Please come and join us on **Wednesday, March 23, 2016 at 6:00pm** to discuss the book "Baking Cakes in Kigali" by Gaile Parkin. You must purchase your own copy of the book or get it at a Library. We will then pick a new book to read for our next meeting on April 13 at 6:00

**Thank God for...** is a column for you to contribute outstanding achievements by our members in and out of the church or any other moment you want to Thank God for.... Please consider letting us know about your Thank God moment.



The wonderful women of St. Luke's for always coming to the front when food is needed for an event. Always good and plenty.

### **IT'S EASTER BUNNY TIME**

#### A Happy, Hoppy Recipe

##### Ingredients:

- Children
- 1 Bunny
- 1 or 2 Craft Projects
- 1 or 2 Games
- 1 or 2 Books
- 1 Snack
- 1 Egg Hunt

##### Directions:

Come to St. Luke's UCC at 10:00 on Saturday, March 19, for a morning of fun and excitement. All children ages 0 through Grade 5 are invited to listen to a story, make a craft, play "Pin the Tail on the Bunny", make and eat a snack, and hunt for Easter Eggs. Children should bring their own baskets for their eggs. Older youth and adults are needed to help with set-up at 9:00am, from 10:00 to 11:45am to help lead groups through or help with the activities, and/or afterwards to help with clean-up. Please avoid providing candy with nuts or peanut butter. Please speak with Nancy Leneweaver if you are able to help. There is also a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

On February 21st the Sunday school class led by Sue Kelly made Valentines for St. Luke's homebound members. On March 20th Nancy Leneweaver will lead the class in learning about the events of Holy Week and God's amazing love.



# March Sunday Leader Schedule



**Church Access Volunteers** - Volunteers are needed to open and close the church on Sundays. Please see **Janet Kimmich** to schedule and review tasks.

## **9:30 Blended Service**

	<b><u>Lay Reader</u></b>	<b><u>Children's Time</u></b>	<b><u>Nursery</u></b>
March 6	Corie Bowers	Becci Richardson	Brenda Koehler
March 13	Sue Linkenhoker	Sue Kelly	Carrie Krentz
March 20	Scott Koehler	Nancy Leneweaver	Leah Keyser
March 27	Bev Spaid	Pastor Kris	Sue Kelly
April 3	Brenda Koehler	Scott Koehler	Nancy Leneweaver

## **Sunday Leader Scheduling Note**

If you are unable to serve on your assigned day, **please find a replacement** by switching dates with someone on the schedule and contact the church office as soon as possible so we may make note of the change. **If you are unable to find a replacement, please contact the church office and we will be happy to do so.**

**Articles for the Sunday bulletin are due in the church office by Wednesday. Newsletter deadline for April Newsletter is March 21st and mailing is March 25th.**

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## **PRAYER LIST**

**People in need of prayers:** Anne Santa, Dave Carl, George White, Joan Moyer, John K., Linda and Doug Miller, George White, Michele Basare, Midge Litchert, Sue and Roy Linkenhoker, Sr., Theresa.

**People with on-going conditions and prayer needs:** Arbutus Curvey, Barbara and Mark Nieweg, Betty Murphy, Bill Loftus, Debbie Parker, Eli and Ella Vivian, Elsa and Victor Thomas, Fred Litchert, Greg Kimmich, Jack Murphy, Judy Claycomb, Keyser and Leneweaver Families, Mike Richardson, Mitzie Oxenham, Nancy Lewis, Rod Bowers, Sam Edwards, Tim Heiser and Tricia White Heiser, Tom Hairston.



# MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 10:45 Brt Spt - MH  5:30 Drama Kids <b>7:00 Cemetery</b> <b>7:00 Church &amp; Ministry</b>	<b>2</b> 10:45 Brt Spt MH 7:00 Orchestra <b>7:00 Endowment</b>  <b>7:30 Lenten Serv. Trinity UCC</b>	<b>3</b> 12:30 Games  <b>7:00 Choir</b>  7:30 Gamblers <div>Diane Vacation</div>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> <b>9:30 Lenten Awakenings</b>
<b>6</b> <b>9:30 Blended Service</b>	<b>7</b> 9:00 AARP Taxes  7:00 Boy Scouts <b>7:00 Church Life</b>	<b>8</b> <b>9:30 Bible Study</b> 11:30 Brt Spt - MH 5:30 Drama Kids  <b>7:30 Council</b>	<b>9</b> 9:00 MOPS 11:30 Brt Spt - MH 7:00 Orchestra <b>7:30 Lenten Service</b> <b>Evansburg Meth. Msgr. McCulken</b>	<b>10</b> 9:00 Women's Breakfast  <b>7:00 Choir</b> 7:00 Toastmasters 7:30 Gamblers	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  2:00 Boy Scout Honor Court
		Diane Vacation				
<b>13</b> <b>9:30 Blended service</b>  	<b>14</b> 9:00 AARP Taxes  7:00 Boy Scouts  <b>7:30 Property</b>	<b>15</b> 11:30 Brt Spt - MH 5:30 Drama Kids  <b>6:30 Worship and Music</b>	<b>16</b> 11:30 Brt Spt - MH 7:00 Orchestra 7:00 Green bar 7:00 College Woods <b>7:30 Lenten Serv. St. James Episcopal</b> <b>Pr. Kris Peterson</b>	<b>17</b> <b>7:00 Choir</b> 7:30 Gamblers  	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>10:00 Easter Egg Hunt</b>  
		Diane Vacation				
<b>20 PALM SUNDAY HEALING SERVICE</b> <b>9:30 Blended Service</b> <b>Pick Up Easter Candy</b>  4:00 Girl Scouts #7080 <div>Diane Vacation</div>	<b>21</b> 9:00 AARP Taxes  7:00 Boy Scouts  <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	<b>22</b> 9:15 MOPS Sterng. <b>9:30 Bible Study</b>  11:30 Brt Spt - MH  <b>4:30 Missions</b> 5:30 Drama Kids	<b>23</b> 9:00 Men's Breakfast  11:30 Brt Spt - MH  <b>6:00 Book Club</b> 7:00 Orchestra	<b>24 MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>  <b>6:00 Bread, Soup &amp; Grapes</b> <b>7:30 Service w/ Holy Communion</b> 7:30 Gamblers	<b>25</b>  <b>7:30 Tenebrae Service</b>  <b>NEWSLETTER MAILING</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27 EASTER SUNDAY</b> <b>6:30 Sunrise Service</b> <b>9:30 Blended Service</b>  	<b>28</b> 9:00 AARP Taxes  7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>29</b> 11:30 Brt Spt - MH  5:30 Drama Kids	<b>30</b> 11:30 Brt Spt - MH	<b>31</b>  <b>7:00 Choir</b> 7:00 Toastmasters 7:30 Gamblers		

**ST. LUKE'S U.C.C. OF TRAPPE  
200 WEST MAIN STREET  
COLLEGEVILLE PA 19426-2007**

## **March Newsletter**

**Dated Material-  
Deliver Promptly**



### **St. Luke's Mission Statement**

**Centered in God,  
guided by His Word,  
we share Christ's love with all.**