



May 3, 2021
Volume 1, Issue 1

TRINITY

Lutheran Church

So we move forward in faith.

Brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus,

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” (Hebrews 11:1 NRSV)

We are often left with questions in our lives because of circumstances that befall us, or decisions we make (or have to make). Often, we are not sure what the right choice is, or what choice to make. Truth be told, it would be very nice at times to have the answers to those types of things before we move forward, or if we could somehow know what the results of our decisions would be before we make them. However, we know that is not the case, and in some cases that could lead us to making the wrong decisions or choices in the long run. So, we move forward...in faith.

Christ Jesus calls us close, and to cling to him at all times and in all places for our comfort, strength, and to strengthen our faith and one another.

The remainder of the 11th chapter of the Book of Hebrews gives us detail as to the people of Israel and how faith led them through their circumstances and relationships with God and one another (unknowingly as they too moved forward...but moving forward in hope, faith, and trust in God).

We each face those same types of “forks in the road” at times, and we hope in that faith to carry us through.



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8 years ago, I faced a decision of this very same manner.

Building up to May 2013 I had been attending seminary part time. Up to that point I had been in school for 9 years part time completing my bachelor's degree and heading to seminary. And at that time, if I were to continue moving forward part time, it would have taken me at least another 3-4 years to complete seminary...

However, there were two very important steps remaining in my journey, outside of my courses, that were starting to loom very large on the horizon.

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) in which I would have to serve as a Chaplain in a hospital-type setting (a requirement for Pastors by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)), and internship. Both these steps were of "full-time" nature.

Yet I still had my job, and my employment provided health insurance coverage for my family, as well as the main source of income.

I was at the crossroads; the fork in the road...I had come this far by faith, and I was being called to continue forward.

Forward I went, into the unknown. In faith, casting all upon Christ Jesus.

I resigned from my job. We enrolled in the marketplace for health insurance, as well as obtaining private health insurance, and we lived on some retirement income.

We made it through. I completed CPE, made it to and through internship, and here we are today.

It was indeed a scary time...and truth be told, looking back at it now, it seems a little scarier than having actually gone through it at the time.

But faith led the way. Trust in God. Even when we didn't know what that faith looked like, or what the outcome would be.

Should you find yourself at the crossroads now, or some time in the near, or distant future...Christ Jesus is there! The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit beside us still...

"Now faith **IS** the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

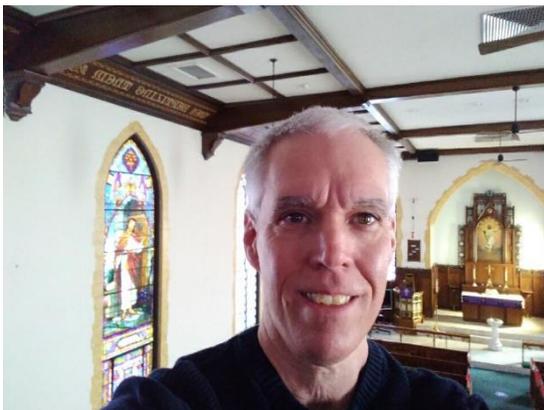
Christ Jesus is the light that shines in the darkness to illumine our path before us.

May Christ Jesus be with you, guide you, walk beside you, and keep you in each day and with each decision.

Peace be with you all!

Pastor Chris Rothharp

*Forward I went, into the unknown.
In faith, casting all upon Christ Jesus.*



A Prayer from Pastor Chris:

Most gracious and loving God, Your abundance cries out Your holiness and goodness in our lives. Help us to embrace You, and hold tight to Your promises, as You have embraced us from the Cross so long ago. In Your presence, help us to see the light of Your grace and mercy in our lives and circumstances, and help us to cling closely to those whom we love, as You called us to love others as You have first loved us. In Your most Holy and Precious name, we pray! **AMEN + Peace be with you all!**

Pastor Chris

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!



**April 4,
2021**

GUIDELINES



- 1. Masks must be worn when entering the building , during the service and exiting the building; hand sanitizer and masks are available.**
- 2. Services will be limited to current social distancing guidelines.**
- 3. Pews will be closed off and markers will be placed on acceptable seating areas. Ushers will help seat people to the available seats.**
- 4. Bulletins are available, but will not be collected at the end of the services.**
- 5. Pews and traffic areas will be sanitized after each service.**

We want everyone to feel safe coming back to church. Thank you and continued peace be with you all!

Pastor Chris

**STATEMENT OF
CONGREGATIONAL MISSION
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Trinity Lutheran Church is a worshipping, learning, witnessing, and serving community of baptized Christians. It is a welcoming place where the Word is proclaimed and the Sacraments are celebrated according to the Gospel. As a community of believers, we challenge each other to respond to the call of our Lord to love and minister to persons at home and throughout the world. We encourage each other to share our time, our talents, and gifts to further The mission of our Lord Jesus Christ. In these ways, we bear witness to the love we have first received from God through Jesus Christ.

Adopted by the Congregation

January 25, 1998

TLC EMAIL ADDRESSES:

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RADIO MINISTRY

We invite you to listen on Sunday mornings at 11:00 am on Pottsville AM/FM radio stations: **WPPA 1360 AM OR 105.9 FM** to listen to our radio ministry.

You can also sponsor the radio ministry by calling the church office. (570) 622-9910

\$25 for half sponsorship or \$50 for full sponsorship.

"We are modifying the current format of our Radio Ministry ("The Connecting Link") in hopes that it will help enhance everyone's listening and worshipping experience and enjoyment. Our new format will more closely reflect the worship services that are currently available on Trinity's website. We thank everyone for tuning in and listening to our Radio Ministry services all these years. It has been, and continues to be our privilege to bring them to you."



DIGITAL MINISTRY

You can now sponsor the digital ministry for \$30, anyone interested can call the church office (570) 622-9910.





Baptisms:

Belle Luv Buehner
Saturday, April 17, 2021

Levi Rowan Doyle
Sunday, April 18, 2021

Aubri Mae Fanelli
Sunday, May 2, 2021

Emmitt Michael-Elliott Gordon
Sunday, June 6, 2021

Mallory Karen O'Reilly
Saturday, July 24, 2021

Memorials:

Boiler Fund: In memory of our mother, *Margaret Reed on Mother's Day* by daughter, Peggy and son, Jerry and their families.

Rismiller Carillon Fund: In loving memory of our Mothers-*Mrs. Lucy Gerhard, also her birthday May 7th and Mrs. Gertrude Berger* by Carl and Nancy Berger.

Rismiller Carillon Fund: In loving memory of *Besh Rismiller* by Doris and Gary Rismiller.

Memorial Fund: In loving memory of our mother, *Mary Seitzinger* by Eric and Brenda (Jenkins) Seitzinger.

Memorial Fund: In loving memory of our mothers on *Mother's Day, Roberta Sumoski and Dorothy Hancock* by Glenn and Doreen Hancock.

Notice:

When making out checks for offering and memorials, they must be separate checks made out to Trinity Lutheran Church. Any questions, call the church office. (570) 622-9910

Wedding:

Megan Jacqueline Hoffman
Wed
Dylan Miles Kuebler
May 15, 2021
at Trinity

Funerals:

Barbara Gentile
Funeral: 4/17/2021

John Gerstenfeld
Funeral: 4/24/2021

James Long
Funeral: 5/3/2021

Richard Zeller
Funeral: 5/4/2021

CONFIRMATION NEWS

Many thanks to the young men and women who participated in our worship services the weekend of April 24 - 25. They did an outstanding job planning and leading services! In case you missed it, you can still view it by clicking the worship link on our website. Again, many thanks to the following:

Donnie Moyer	Owen Gretsky	Breanna Thomas	Chelsia Thomas
Michael Clancey	Matt Angelo	Tyler Sibbett	Owen Rossachacj
Liam Rossachacj	Dylan Hinkle	Cammie Potts	Brody Kline
Eric Buchinski	Jamison Walsh	Nick Sukeena	Maxum Direnzo
James Villella	Emily Roth	Brayden Roth	Olivia Schultz
Ryan Grube	Leah Walasavage	Olivia Whitaker	

Many thanks also, to Christian Honicker for sharing his musical talent with us. He did a great job playing the music for service.

Our Confirmation students are now studying the Lord's Prayer and our classes are beginning to wind down. Just a reminder to parents...if your child is unable to attend with their class, they are welcome to attend another session as we teach each session twice. Classes meet following Sunday morning service in the lower-level social room. Our remaining schedule is as follows:

Sunday, May 2 - Lord's Prayer, Part 1:

this class for those who just received First Communion and for our First Year Confirmation students in addition to any second-year student who may have missed last week's class.

Sunday, May 9 - Lord's Prayer, Part 2:

This class is for our second-year students and for those who are scheduled for class on May 16, but are unable to attend.

Sunday, May 16 - Lord's Prayer, Part 2

This class for those who just received First Communion and for our First Year Confirmation students in addition to any second-year student who may have missed last week's class.

Sunday, May 16 - Affirmation of Baptism Prep

This class is for our third-year students who will be confirmed on June 6, 2021. A gentle reminder that the Confirmand Forms are also due on the 16th.

Sunday, May 30 - Affirmation of Baptism Prep

This class is for our third-year students. At this class we will practice for the service.

Affirmation of Baptism service will be held on June 6, at 1 pm. We have five students who will say "I do" to taking their Baptismal vows on for themselves. We ask that you keep the following young people in your prayers as they take this next step in the faith journey:

Owen Gretsky
Ryan Grube
Emily Roth
Nicholas Sukeena
Leah Walasavage

Service will be streamed and can be accessed by clicking the worship link on our website. For anyone wishing to attend in person (outside of the family members of those being confirmed) is asked to call the church office to make a reservation. Due to the nature of the service, seating will be assigned.

Learning Committee will meet at 7 pm on Monday, May 17. We'll gather in the lower level social room off the church parking lot. The Learning Committee is responsible for Christian Education and supporting ministries surrounding youth - Youth events, Bear Creek Camp, VBS, etc. Anyone interested in becoming involved in our committee is invited and encouraged to attend. If you have any questions about how you can help with any of these ministries, please call the church office. Someone from our committee will reach out to you.

Trinity's Tech Club is open to any youth (and adult) interested in helping with our worship streaming ministry. We are currently seeking additional help with this ministry. Any high school youth or adult interested in this ministry is asked to call the church office or reach out to Bob Thomas. Any youth (not yet confirmed) wishing to join our Tech Club is asked to see Mrs. Wood. Our plan is to pair youth up with an adult, and place them on the schedule for observation/training. Once all are trained, they will work with Bob Thomas to work out a future schedule. Our current schedule is as follows: *

May 2 - Observation/training - Donnie and Donald Moyer

Streaming - Reagan Trezise and Bob Thomas or Brian Manning

May 9 - Observation/training - Brody Kline, Shannon Kline; Riley Moran, Jess Moran

May 16 - Observation/Training - Matthew & Jean Angelo

May 23 - Owen Rossachacj, Michael Clancy, Andy Clancey

**We ask all to arrive at the church by 9 am, as much of the work that needs to be done occurs before service.*

Many thanks to our youth and adults who are assisting in helping to bring God's Word to our world!!

Vacation Bible School is currently in the planning stages. Any youth (grade 7 and above) and adults wishing to help plan this ministry is asked to call the church office or attend the Learning Committee meeting on May 17 at 7 pm. (See article elsewhere.) We are looking for ways to offer this ministry in a new and exciting way - so we need your ideas/thought and help!



Our Daily Bread

May 3, 2021

Give to the one who asks you. (Matthew 5:42)

JESUS' UNPOPULAR IDEAS

For fifteen years, Mike Burden held hate-filled meetings in the memorabilia shop he ran in his small town. But in 2012 when his wife began to question his involvement, his heart softened. He realized how wrong his racist views were and didn't want to be that person any longer. The militant group retaliated by kicking his family out of the apartment they'd been renting from one of the members.

Where did he turn for help? Surprisingly, he went to a local black pastor with whom he'd clashed. The pastor and his church provided housing and groceries for Mike's family for some time. When asked why he agreed to help, Pastor Kennedy explained, "Jesus Christ did some very unpopular things. When it's time to help, you do what God wants you to do." Later Mike spoke at Kennedy's church and apologized to the black community for his part in spreading hatred.

Jesus taught some unpopular ideas in the Sermon on the Mount: "*Give to the one who asks you. . . Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you*" (Matthew 5:42, 44).

That's the upside-down way of thinking God calls us to follow. Though it looks like weakness, it's actually acting out of God's strength.

The One who teaches us is the One who gives the power to live out this upside-down life in whatever way He asks of us.

How are you living out Jesus' words of giving to those who ask and loving your enemies? What would you like to change?

**God, help me to love others as You love me.
Show me how to do that today.**



Grace Bible Church of Hawk Mountain
12 Molino Road, Orwigsburg, PA 17961

Phone: 570-386-5893

E-Mail: admin@gbchm.onmicrosoft.com

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/Gods-Helping-Hands-101337231721079>

**Shop 10-3 Every Wednesday & First Saturdays
Clothing for Men/Women/Children
Toys/Household FREE to all
DONATIONS welcome**

We are a ministry of *Grace Bible Church of Hawk Mountain* and have been helping to provide clothing including shoes/sneakers/slippers for all ages, toys, bedding, seasonal decorations, minimal household goods, and referrals to other resources for 20 years. Whether you are in need of items for yourself, your family, or a friend, or just want to be thrifty and save money, we welcome you. *Everything is FREE!* No selling of items received from us.



We accept donations of gently used clothing, shoes, & household items.

All donated items should be clean and in good condition.

"If you wouldn't give it to a friend, please do not give it to us."

Please place items in the dropbox of the shed any time.

SHOPPING DAYS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Every Wednesday, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

First Saturdays, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Please bring your own shopping bags.

Location: 12 Molino Road, Orwigsburg

Questions? Call 570-386-5893

COUPONS - By the door is a box of coupons separated by categories. Please help yourself to any you can use.

Donate your unused coupons at the check-in desk.

Please remember to check the expiration dates before donating or using.



GRACE BIBLE CHURCH OF HAWK MOUNTAIN
12 MOLINO ROAD, ORWIGSBURG, PA 17961
PHONE: 570-386-5893



FUTURE EVENT:

Saturday, June 5

10 am to 3 pm

(rain date June 19)

COMMUNITY FAIR

(EVERYTHING FREE!)

which will include a free car wash
provided by our Youth,
hot dogs, chips, and drinks,
and much more

Martin Luther Word Search

The life of Martin Luther

T Y N A M R E G X X Z W A D I

B C W A R T B U R G X Y G D K

W C I N D U L G E N C E S L L

O H T L U E V E S X H T X F H

N K T U O W T U J E I T A Y C

I D E T X H E A K A S L M T R

O E N H A R T L L N H E E N I

L M B E E E S A B S O Z H A Y

E O E R P Y T Z C I N M P T F

B N R A O W Z L V N B A Y S O

E S G N P A H R O M A E R E O

R E H T U L N I T R A M E T G

T M P R I E S T B F L Y O O P

E Q M N O I T A M R O F E R P

G O K W P R O S S E F O R P T

BIBLE

DEMONS

EXILE

GERMANY

INDULGENCES

LAWYER

LUTHERAN

MARTINLUTHER

MONK

POPE

PRIEST

PROFESSOR

PROTESTANT

REBEL

REFORMATION

ROMANCATHOLIC

THESES

TRANSLATE

WARTBURG

WITTENBERG

New To Medicare—or have questions?



*The APPRISE program will be offering
New-To-Medicare sessions ... Join us!*

Beginning Medicare can be very stressful, especially when you are getting information from many sources. Often, you receive so many mailings and phone calls that you may not be sure what you should pay attention to and what you should discard.

Our primary goal with the Medicare 101 sessions is to ease the stress for people with Medicare.

During the sessions, trained counselors will discuss such topics as the difference between Medigap and Medicare Advantage Plans, how to choose a Part D plan and how & when to notify Social Security about beginning Medicare.

These sessions will be helpful even if people have Medicare, but do not understand how it works or what parts of it they can change.

Times: 6 - 7:30 p.m.

April 28	Meadowbrook Center – Schuylkill Haven
May 26	Calvary Chapel Evangelical Free Church – Valley View
June 16	Help Net Ministries – Ashland
June 30	Pottsville Senior Center
August 25	Tremont Senior Center
September 29	Shenandoah Senior Center

Because space is limited, people are asked to register by calling (570) 624-3026 or emailing Dana Oravitz at OravitzD@diakon.org.



Diakon Community Services manages APPRISE in Schuylkill County under a contract with the Schuylkill County Office of Senior Services with funding from the state Department of Aging.





online

www.trinitypottsville.com

We are constantly adding content, videos and services to Trinity's website, Facebook page and YouTube channel.

Please continue to **mail** in your **offering** envelopes to the church or set up an online giving account on our website. You can choose to donate one time or set up recurring giving for weekly, biweekly or monthly options.

It's your choice! Get details on the GIVE page at: **www.trinitypottsville.com** or download the Give Plus APP on your smartphone.