

March 14 & 21, 2020

# The Weekly Tidings

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Come Together, Grow in Faith, Serve the LORD

## Holy Week & Easter Sunday Worship

### **Palm Sunday, March 28**

**8:30am** – In-person worship in our sanctuary. We will begin outside with our palms outside and parade into the sanctuary. Live-stream available on [htelc.com](http://htelc.com)\*\*\*

**9:30am** – Zoom worship

### **Maundy Thursday, April 1**

**6:30pm** – In-person worship in our sanctuary. Live-stream on [htelc.com](http://htelc.com)\*\*\*

### **Good Friday, April 2**

**Mon-Fri During Holy Week** – Good Friday Experience -

Come to the sanctuary and walk through the coloring posters of the Stations of the Cross and read the accompanying scripture.

**6:30pm** – In-person worship in our sanctuary. Live-stream on [htelc.com](http://htelc.com)\*\*\*

### **Easter Sunday, April 4**

Sunrise Service at **6:30 AM** (at Hilton Park in Dover)

Indoor Worship at **8:30 AM** (live stream on [htelc.com](http://htelc.com))\*\*\*

Zoom Service at **9:30 AM**.

Outdoor Service at Holy Trinity at **11:00 AM**. (weather permitted)

\*\*\*If you wish to attend an in-person Sanctuary Worship service, you must sign up first with the Church Office. We are limiting attendance to 40 people only.



## Holy Week

## President's Article

Two weeks ago, I attended a Zoom meeting for Church Council presidents in the New England Synod with Bishop Hazelwood. The Synod Council has begun to hold discussions about the future of ministries in our Synod. Mr. Bill Parchen (St. Matthew, Avon, CT) and Pr. Erica Kennedy (Trinity, Chelmsford, MA) are moving forward in supporting churches to connect and learn from one another. It was decided to begin with a Zoom meeting with the Council Presidents. The purpose of this evening was to have a “conversation around the future of the church,” to connect with one another, learn some best practices, and share resources. As you can imagine, I considered this a meeting not to be missed. Approximately 100 council presidents attended.

Bishop Hazelwood spoke about the importance of Councils making decisions based on the unique characteristics of each church. He mentioned the value of providing opportunities to engage, make connections, and serve our church members and community in safe ways. A significant amount of time was spent in small breakout rooms. We discussed our experiences over the last year as well as our struggles, successes, and concerns as we shift to warmer weather, vaccinations, celebration of life services, youth programming, and community outreach ministries. Many council presidents spoke about both successes and failures in how their churches are able to access the Internet, use technology, and find individuals with the skills necessary to support churches' increased online presence.

A significant number of service offerings were discussed ranging from shared recorded services between churches to in-person services that began at the end of last year. The methods that members stayed connected within congregations seemed to be more challenging based on the small variety of opportunities mentioned. I explained our different service formats, music, ongoing ministries, and faith formation initiatives available to parishioners for use in their homes. When I speak to people outside of Holy Trinity, I share my gratitude for the creativity, capabilities, and commitment of Pastor, Mark D,



musicians/singers, ministry leaders, and the numerous congregational members who have supported ideas and initiatives that continue to sustain us as a Church and strengthen our community.

Lent is an opportunity to weed out habits or distractions, allowing time and space for reflection, service, everyday prayer, meditation, journaling, movement, etc. I initially yearn for my usual activities, but soon I find this shift brings a renewed reminder of balance and intention. What I then find challenging is maintaining this practice or commitment for longer than the days of Lent.

### **Companioning News**

Those of us who've had the pleasure of getting to know Claudine are enjoying her immensely. Here's what's happened so far. Her work authorization card arrived early this month, and she's applying for jobs. In May she'll complete a final college course for a degree in Paralegal Studies, the field in which she worked in Cameroon. She's joined an ESL class at the Dover Adult Learning Center. Her English is already quite good, but she feels she needs more fluency for a paralegal job.

One of the Holy Trinity volunteers is helping her in writing two resumes, one for work as a CNA (which is what she did in Massachusetts when she first arrived in the US), and a second to eventually apply for a paralegal position. Volunteers from Portsmouth's Temple Israel are researching how to transfer her Massachusetts CNA license to New Hampshire and are getting her connected to medical care and health insurance. Claudine lives in a "safe home" with a family in Dover. Safe homes are provided by volunteers at no cost until the person being companioned qualifies for work and has an income. During January, February, and March members at Temple Israel contributed \$200.00 a month to help with Claudine's food costs. Holy Trinity would like to do the same for April, May, and June. If you'd like to contribute, give whatever amount through an extra offering, making sure we know it's for Claudine.



## Stewardship

The meaning of stewardship according to my dictionary is to manage the domestic affairs of the owner of the estate. A related word, husband, is to manage prudently and economically. God has given us stewardship of the world He created. He expects our husbandry of His and our world to make it a safe and lasting place for us and our children and their children. We can do that by preserving (husbanding) our environment. We live in a throwaway society, where all our goods and possessions have a relatively short period of usefulness in our lives. Stewardship requires us to use and manage all resources, both goods and other possessions, in a prudent way that will preserve our world for the generations to come. Husbandry dictates that policies and usages require minimal or no damage to this wonderful Earth that is our home. Perhaps, we could begin thinking in a global way about what we could do to become active in our stewardship of God's good Earth.



## Columbarium

As one of the many lawyers in Holy Trinity said to me, "I haven't yet reserved a niche in the Columbarium. It's a little like wills, they're easy to put off." He's right, of course, but it's much better to be prepared sooner, rather than when you actually needed to have it. Holy Trinity installed our Columbarium as a meaningful way to honor and respect the remains of those who have passed on. What better place than in the church to place these remains. It is there where we are baptized, confirmed, married, and give our lives to Christ. It is there where we raise our children, watch them grow, and where we ourselves grow older. What better witness than to have our remains placed in this sacred place called Holy Trinity? We haven't been too good at reminding both new and old members of our Columbarium. If you haven't visited the Chapel, lately, and seen the Columbarium, you will be surprised at the richness of colors, the quiet dignity, and the restful sense there. It is a fitting place to honor our loved ones.

If you are interested in reserving a place, please see Pastor Tim or David Arrington.