

Volume 6, Issue 5 April 2022

The Trinity Times



April 14 (7:00 in person & on zoom) – Holy Thursday service with communion (communion cups are available for pick-up at the church on Tuesday, April 12 or Wednesday, April 13 between 9:00 and 12:00 noon.)

April 15 (12 Noon at Kochenderfers) - *Meditations and Scriptures* will be read by members of the Lebanon UMC *Links'* Churches.

April 17 (9:15 in person & on zoom) – Easter Worship Service (*NO SUNDAY SCHOOL*)

A note from our treasurer:

Thank you for your continued support of Trinity and to keep our presence visible and active in the city of Lebanon (in addition to being able to pay staff and bills), we ask that you place your envelopes and contributions in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary every Sunday or send them to...

Trinity United Methodist Church, 757 Willow Street, Lebanon, PA 17046.



Easter Lilies/Flowers

We will be decorating the church with Easter lilies on Easter. A remembrance list will be included in the Easter worship Bulletin. To order a lily (\$7.00) and include loved ones on the list of remembrances, fill out an envelope in the narthex or call the Church

Office (717-273-1970) before April 3rd.

Altar Flowers

Our Floral Ministry helps beautify the sanctuary throughout the year with flowers and plants. This ministry is headed by Donna Mease who arranges for the orders and delivery of altar flowers contributed by members of our church family and others wishing to place flowers in the sanctuary. To place flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one on the altar, or to indicate a specific date, contact Donna Mease at 717-865-2413.





<u>Date</u> <u>Liturgist</u>

April 3 - Barb Querry

April 10 - Dea Kishpaugh

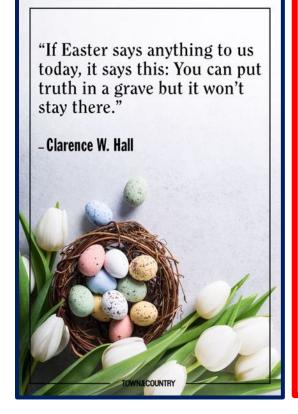
April 17 - Betsy Allwein

April 24 - Dave Wallett

If you are unable to serve as lay reader, please call... 717-838-2812

April Missions

As in years past we are celebrating **April** Birthdays of those the Health Cornwall Manor Center. Unfortunately, the conditions still current restrict in-person birthday parties in the Health Center: but will we be giving each of the 14 residents who celebrate a birthday **April** in Birthday Present! Your monetary donations to support this April Mission are most appreciated.



A big thank-you to all who wished me birthday greetings by card or in person.

With love, Caroline Jacobs

Thank you for all the birthday cards and birthday wishes from our family and friends at Trinity.

Barb & Dave Wallett

Thanks to my Trinity Family for all the lovely birthday cards. I got to read and enjoy them upon my return from Florida.

Carol Hollich

Thank you for the many cards and well wishes I received for my birthday. Jim Allwein

The third Sunday of April will mark the 15th anniversary of my employment as organist at Trinity. Time goes quickly when you're enjoying your job. I am very grateful to be involved with the music programs at Trinity. I love sharing my vocation of music with the people of Trinity. Many blessings to all,

Caroline Jacobs

LL ARE WELCOME



UPCOMING -- DATES & TIMES

April 3 (9:15) - Communion

April 3 (1:00) - Ad Board Meeting on Zoom

April 7 - (1:30) Choir Rehearsal

April 10 (9:15) – Palm Sunday

April 12 (12:30) - Ladies' (and men's) luncheon at Hoss's in Annville

April 12 (2:00) - Sorting clothes for the sale

April 14 - (1:30) Choir Rehearsal

April 14 (7:00) - Holy Thursday service with communion

April 15 (12:00 noon) - Good Friday service at Kochenderfer's UMC

April 17 (9:15) – Easter Worship Service

April 19 (10:00 to 2:00) - Clothes-to-Go sale



for Reflection, Comfort, and Response... compiled by Gloria Clark & George Hollich

From Trinity United Methodist Church:

Join us at 9:15 every Sunday for in person or Zoom Church Worship Services and Sunday School and Thursdays at 10:30 for Bible Study. Get your links through E-mail, snail mail, or on our Facebook Page. For more information contact Gloria or George.

Our Facebook Page offers many resources, music and announcements Reach out by phone, snail mail or email to your fellow church members, or Pastor Lynn (717-514-0302). We are here to help each other.

Annual Conference to Convene online May 20-21

The 2022 Eastern PA Annual Conference will meet May 20-21 via Zoom for voting members, while sessions are video livestreamed for other viewers on the conference Facebook page. The session begins on Friday, May 20, at 8:30 AM with the Episcopal Address by Bishop John Schol, presiding over his first EPA Conference session.

The Holy Conferencing, reports and presentations, Service of Commissioning and Ordination, and Memorial Service to remember deceased clergy and clergy spouses will all take place and be livestreamed from the UM Church of West Chester over two days.

The registration cost for participants is \$80; but clergy retirees may attend at no cost if they are not serving a church under appointment. Viewing the livestream video is free, and video recordings will be viewable on the conference YouTube page following the session

A majority of respondents to a survey by the Sessions Commission indicated a preference for an online rather than onsite conference. This will be the third consecutive time that the Annual Conference is held online, due to the still-prevalent COVID pandemic.

The conference's theme is "Now," drawn from Romans 13:11b: "Now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now, our salvation is nearer than when we first believed."

RESOURCES cont.

From UM News:

Since the postponement of General Conference to 2024, much of the news has been about church disaffiliations and denominational divisions. No question the rhetorical punches are flying on social media and in newsletters. However, many United Methodists see no reason to throw in the towel on the church they love.

More than 275 General Conference delegates and other church leaders released an open letter March 18 that shares their hopes for the denomination's future and their commitment to stay United Methodist. "Ministry is happening now!" said the Letter to the Connection upon the Postponement of General Conference. "With each of you, we will do the work of Christ that will lead our church into Easter resurrection."

Most of the signers come from across the United States. Other United Methodists are invited to sign. The Rev. Eric Swanson, a delegate from the Illinois Great Rivers Conference, said he and the letter's other writers wanted to present a positive vision while acknowledging there is still work to do. "We care deeply about the future of The United Methodist Church," said Swanson, lead pastor of Grace United Methodist Church in Pekin, Illinois. "We care that it continues to grow and is prospering, and that it's strengthening effective witness in ministry." In the letter, signers commit to healing the wounds caused by division. (For more information go to:

https://www.epaumc.org/news/delegates-urge-hope-for-denominations-future/)

Websites with Church ideas from the United Methodist Church Discipleship Ministries:

- https://www.ministrymatters.com/pandemic/165/christian-worship-and-devotion-during-social-distancing-a-resource-for-united-methodists
- https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/resources-for-responding-to-covid-19-outbreak

The Upper Room Prayer Wall:

• Join others in prayer on The Upper Room Prayer Wall: http://prayer-center.upperroom.org/prayer-wall/?path=cvblog

From the Upper Room:

- The Upper Room Academy for Spiritual Formation
- Resources for Spiritual Wellness in Anxious Times: https://www.upperroom.org/covid-19

New Every Morning:

- Sign up for New Every Morning: https://upperroombooks.com/neweverymorning-subscribe/?path=cvblog. This is a free daily email from Upper Room Books, now featuring encouraging video messages from family and friends of The Upper Room sharing how they are creating daily life with God during these times of uncertainty and isolation.
- Listen to The Academy Podcast: https://academy.upperroom.org/podcasts



13 - Carol Masemore

24 - Debbie Kern

25 - Mirah Layton



Adult Sunday School - April



Continuing the theme of the Spring Quarter, *GOD FREES AND REDEEMS*, we focus on a series of lessons entitled "*Liberating Gospels*". Last month we considered how the power of memory and stories from the past affect our understanding of the concept of freedom. In April we discuss how our beliefs are reflected in our actions. Christian freedom requires a right belief and faithful action. When either is lacking, freedom is defined by made-up rules or self-indulgent expressions. Our lessons in April begin with Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and then the Passover feast with his disciples to show how the world had certain expectations of freedom. However, as Jesus followed his Father's direction, he brought a new kind of freedom, one established in his resurrection. The weekly titles are...

| April 3 | Triumphal Entry of the King | Matthew 21:1–11 |
|----------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| April 10 | Passover with the King | Matthew 26:17–30 |
| April 17 | Resurrection of the King | Matthew 28:1–10 |
| April 24 | Freedom in the King | John 8:31–38 |

Imagine a husband taking his wife out to a nice restaurant for their anniversary. Over candle light he expresses his love for his wife by quoting a list of her physical features as if reading the information from her driver's license. 1) You are 5' 4" tall. 2)Your weight is 120 pounds. 3) You were born in January. 4) You have brown hair and brown eyes, and 5) you live on East Maple Street. Now imagine the same situation with the husband saying, "Nothing ever made sense until you came into my life. Thinking of you keeps me awake. Dreaming of you keeps me asleep and being with you keeps me alive." While the romantically challenged husband in the first situation communicated information that was accurate, he failed to communicate the depth, the magnitude, and beauty of his love for his wife. Love is more than a list of factual information.



In the Narnia Tales, CS Lewis transports us to a battleground between the forces of a cruel White Witch and the majestic lion, Aslan. As the story unfolds it appears that Aslan has been outmaneuvered by his enemy through the use of dark magic by the White Witch who says: "...for every treachery I have a right to a kill...His life is forfeit to me. His blood is my property." Aslan accepts her logic, but becomes quieter and sadder. In order to satisfy justice, he must offer a sacrifice. It becomes painfully apparent to the reader that Aslan will offer himself.

As the plot continues and the sacrificial killing of the magnificent lion is described in gory detail, there is a sense of real tragedy until an even deeper magic is revealed and Aslan returns to life. The resurrected lion returns to life to complete his task of emancipation, first thawing the stone statues of the faithful, then leading them to victory and setting the children to rule in his stead.

Aslan is Christlike in demonstrating his love by laying down his life for his friends. There are echoes of the uncomfortable Old Testament idea that sacrifice is required with blood. Like Christ, Aslan returns to life having somehow atoned for the sins of Edmund. This story often enjoyed by children, provides greater insight into the processes of atonement, but doesn't offer a rational explanation as to how it takes place. It shows how good can overcome evil in the unexpected way of using love rather than force. Jesus triumphed over the bondage



of death and sin and as a result his Father frees all who follow him. So, join us in April as we discuss the power of the *Liberating Gospels*.

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| 1. The crowd that went before Jesus shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of" 2. Crowds called Jesus a "teacher" from Nazareth. T/F | Matthew 21:9 Matthew 21:11 |
|--|--------------------------------|
| April 10 1. During the meal, Jesus said one of the Twelve would him. 2. Before going to the Mount of Olives, Jesus and the disciples sang a hymn. T/F. | Matthew 26:21 Matthew 26:30 |
| April 17 1. Who rolled away the stone that sealed Jesus' tomb? (a disciple, an angel, a guard?) 2. The women at the empty tomb experienced fear and | Matthew 28:2 Matthew 28:8 |
| <u>April 24</u> | |
| 1. Jesus taught that knowing (truth, justice, peace?) would set people free. | John 8:32 |
| 2. Jesus' audience claimed they had never been in bondage to anyone. T/F | John 8:33 |



Triumphal Entry of the King Sunday School Handout - April 3, 2022

(A discussion of this theme will follow the 9:15 Worship Service.)

Study Texts: Matthew 20:25-28; 21:1-11

KEY VERSE: "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"

—Matthew 21:5

Columbo

In most mysteries the reader or viewer tries to figure out "who done it" along with the detective in the story. The best stories always have a surprising ending. But the 1970s show *Columbo* turned this formula on its head. The viewer saw the murder and knew the perpetrator from the very beginning, so the tension came from the uncertainty of whether the case could be solved. Inspector Columbo, the detective played by Peter Falk, appears to be bumbling and dull-witted. However, he is actually quite a good



sleuth. Each episode followed how the inspector cracked the case. At the end, Columbo revealed proof of the perpetrator's identity. The proof of Jesus' identity is clear to us because we have all the evidence of history at our disposal. To his disciples and the crowds, however, the mystery was intact: Who was Jesus? What was he going to do in Jerusalem? The triumphal entry was one twist in the plot on his way to the cross.

PLANNING THE JOURNEY

After months of quarantine, my wife and I were delighted to attend a family wedding 2,000 miles from home. And planning was part of the fun! Do we drive or fly? We decided to drive. Do we use our camping trailer or stay in motels? We decided on "hoteling." That settled the "Which car?" question, since my wife's car pulls the trailer and my car gets better gas mileage. Reservations were made, routes were decided, and the car was given a thorough safety check. With all that done, all that was left was to pack: travel clothes, wedding clothes, and masks. Perhaps Jesus had been envisioning this short journey from Bethphage to Jerusalem for a while. When the day of the triumphal entry arrived, his plans were complete and in keeping with the Father's will.

Cheering for ... Him?

P. T. Barnum (1810–1891) of Barnum & Bailey Circus fame was a master showman who entertained Americans for many decades in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. His hometown of Bridgeport, Connecticut, has held an annual Barnum festival and parade for the last 75 years to honor their native son. My friend Len was a banker in the Bridgeport area before he retired. While I was in Bridgeport one year, the grand marshal—Len—invited me to ride with him on the grand marshal's float. No one in the crowd knew me, but they cheered anyway. I was riding with the grand marshal, so I basked in their acclaim as if I deserved it. Many joined Jesus' "parade" to Jerusalem. And when the crowd cheered, I suspect that, like the crowd in Bridgeport, many were caught up in the spirit of the celebration. But Jesus deserved their praise, even though many didn't know who he really was. Hearing the story of Jesus always leaves us with a question: Who is he? Just a good teacher, basing his lessons on God's laws? No more than a prophet, given insight from the Lord? Or is he the Son of God, the promised Messiah, sent to save the world from sin and death? Based on our answer, we also have a decision to make: Will we follow?

Thoughts to Consider

- 1. Does your knowledge of the Old Testament bolster your faith? Why or why not?
- 2. How do you practice humility?
- 3. How do you seek or recognize God's guidance for your own life's journey?

Trinity United Methodist Church

757 Willow Street, Lebanon, Pa. 17046

Where "Faith, Hope and Love abide to encourage all to respond to the call of Christ."

5th SUNDAY IN LENT – April 3, 2022

(The service begins at 9:15 with the fellowship area opening at 9:00.)

To be a part of worship on the computer go to https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85455746714 or join by phone by dialing 1-646-876-9923 and entering 854 5574 6714 when prompted.)

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude Throned Upon the Awful Tree – Arfon

Call to Worship

L: Lent is a coming home from weary years—

P: Home to calm our fears and dry our tears.

L: Lent is a coming home to remember our name—

P: Home to a warm embrace and a hopeful place.

L: Lent is coming home to God's own heart—

P: Home to a renewal of joy and a song of love.

Hymn #298 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

- When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died, My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.
- 2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my God! All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.
- 3. See from His head, His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down! Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?
- 4. Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Pastor Lynn Hackman

Hymn #383 This Is A Day of New Beginnings (verses 1,2,3,5)

- This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember, and move on, time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone.
- 2. For by the life and death of Jesus, God's mighty Spirit, now as then, can make for us a world of difference as faith and hope are born again.
- 3. Then let us, with the Spirit's daring, step from the past, and leave behind our disappointment, guilt and grieving, seeking new paths, and sure to find.
- 5. In faith we'll gather round the table to taste and share what love can do. This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new.



Pastor Lynn Hackman

Organist: Caroline Jacobs

Doxology

Celebration of Gifts

Pastor Lynn Hackman

(Your offerings can be placed in the offering plate in the rear of the sanctuary or sent to Trinity UMC, 757 Willow Street, Lebanon, PA 17046)

Old Testament Isaiah 43: 16-21

New Testament Philippians 3:4b-14

Moving On Sermon

Pastor Lynn Hackman

Liturgist: Barb Querry

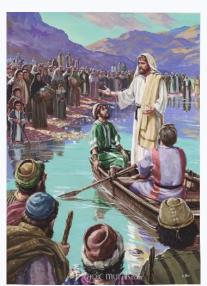
Communion



Hymn #444

O Young and Fearless Prophet

- 1. O young and fearless Prophet of ancient Galilee, thy life is still a summons to serve humanity; to make our thoughts and actions less prone to please the crowd, to stand with humble courage for truth with hearts uncowed.
- 2. We marvel at the purpose that held thee to thy course while ever on the hilltop before thee loomed the cross; thy steadfast face set forward where love and duty shone, while we betray so quickly and leave thee there alone.
- 5. O young and fearless Prophet, we need thy presence here, amid our pride and glory to see thy face appear; once more to hear thy challenge above our noisy day, again to lead us forward along God's holy way.



Benediction

Postlude **Agincourt Hymn – Callahan** *Organist: Caroline Jacobs* (Sunday School begins about 10 minutes following the conclusion of the Worship Service.)

Triumphal Entry of the King Matthew 21: 1-11