

Tidings

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Volume 45 Issue 4

We care as friends, we love as family, and we serve as Christ

May 2024

Special Points of Interest:

- Two students to be confirmed May 19
- Bible Baseball scheduled for June 2
- Semi-annual Congregation Meeting set for June 9
- Plans for Welcoming Committee
- New HVAC unit installed
- Yard Sale scheduled for June 8; Volunteers needed



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Message from Our Pastor

On Sunday, May 19, Marc Buzzell and Braden Dahlquist will affirm their faith with the "Affirmation of Baptism" service, more commonly called, confirmation. It is an exciting time in their lives and the life of our congregation. It is also a reminder to each of us that confirmation is not just a one and done event. We are called to live out our faith each and every day and on this day we are reminded of what we are called to do.

During the service, after we have all professed The Apostles' Creed together the confirmands will be asked this question, **"You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:**

- to live among God's faithful people,
- to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
- to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
- to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
- and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?"

It is a question we are all called to reflect on and be reminded of our work of living out our faith in the world.

The confirmands will respond, **"I do, and I ask God to help and guide me."**

Our work as the congregation continues as I will ask the congregation gathered **"People of God, do you promise to support Marc and Braden and pray for them in their life in Christ?"**

The congregation responds, **"We do, and we ask God to help and guide us."**

One of the reasons we gather in community to is to lift each other up in prayer, encouragement, faith and support one another. Join with us to celebrate on May 19 and remember affirming our faith is a life long journey not a one day event.

May God bless Marc and Braden on their lifelong journey of faith! May God bless all of us in our lifelong journey of faith.

God's Peace,

Pastor Kristin Hoyer



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church



Vacation Bible School

River of Life!

Staff Orientation Dates

(two options)

Monday, June 17 7:00-8:00 pm OR

Sunday, June 30 11:15am -12:15 pm

If you cannot make one of these dates, please contact Nancy Fox to arrange a time to meet! (nanc_fox@yahoo.com or 571-216-3587)

Save the Date:

Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, June 9, 2024

Reserve the date of June 9, 2024 immediately following the worship service for the Congregational Meeting.



Congregational Meeting

We'll cast our votes for new Council members and a new Nominating Committee while staying abreast of committee updates, ensuring we're well-informed about the happenings at HTLC.

This exciting event will occur after a short break to grab a snack at coffee hour.

We will need a quorum, so please mark your calendars and plan on attending. Thank you

Rita Sims, President

Holy Trinity Staff

Kristin Hoyer,
Pastor

Andrea Barron,
Office Administrator

Nancy Fox,
Director of Music
& Family Ministries

Terry Sisk,
Organist/Choir Director

Marcia Merry,
Organist Emerita

Debbie Harned, Interim
Preschool Director

Rita Sims,
Congregation President



July 8–12, 2024

9:00 am– Noon

Welcome Aboard! This year we are journeying down the river to learn about God’s gracious gift of water. From the waters of baptism to the waters that sustain gardens and farms, the water of LIFE!

Participants will learn about the importance of water and visit important “ports” along the way where they will hear Bible stories about water and hear about communities that are working to ensure safe water for all!

We can’t wait to welcome you “on board” for this week of fun, faith and learning!

(\$35/week for all campers & Junior Crew. \$45/ week after June 1)

The week includes the following opportunities:

WeeBS—Campers must turn three by September 1, 2024

VBS—Campers must turn 4 by September 30, 2024

Junior Crew—A special program for rising 6th Graders

Volunteers: Rising 7th Graders through Adult



Registration Link For Campers & Junior Crew: <https://forms.gle/6bhUEDi69oEPKneE7>

Registration Link for Volunteers: <https://forms.gle/AEVazLsKkMEtNCKL6>

From Our President

I'd like to express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your incredible generosity towards our financial needs. Thanks to your contributions, alongside the efforts of those who went above and beyond, we've managed to cover our mortgage, payroll, and other essential bills.



As I've reiterated numerous times, discussing financial matters isn't my preference, nor do I imagine it's yours. However, as your President, I believe it's crucial to keep everyone informed about our financial situation so that we can all have the same understanding.

To maintain our financial stability, we aim to secure \$40,000 monthly to cover expenses and maintain a buffer in our accounts to prevent overdraft situations. While we're actively exploring avenues to trim costs, it's a process that cannot be achieved overnight.

Currently, we don't reach the full \$40,000 mark every month and maintain any type of a buffer. To shed some light on our financial requirements, let me elaborate on a few of our significant expenses. Despite the season, our electric bill consistently surpasses \$3,000 per month in the winter, while our gas bill exceeds \$2,000 monthly. With the arrival of warmer weather, we anticipate a decrease in gas expenses, although our electric bill is already on the rise. Additionally, our mortgage stands at approximately \$10,000. Also, there's the continuous expenditure on payroll, which supports our exceptional and remarkable staff with whom we cannot do without.

I'm more than willing to provide further insight into our financial situation for anyone interested in discussing it further.

Considering all that's been mentioned, I want to emphasize that each and every one of you plays a significant role here at HTLC. Your willingness to lend a hand whenever needed is truly commendable. Even our accounting firm is astounded by the remarkable nature of our congregation and the uniqueness of every member within it.

Before my term concludes in June, my wish is to enhance our financial stability and have the ability to place some focus on addressing our roofing needs. Thanks to your support, we've successfully installed a new and functional air conditioner.

Thank you all so very, very much and God Bless each and every person who enters our home here at HTLC.

Rita Sims, President

Bible Baseball

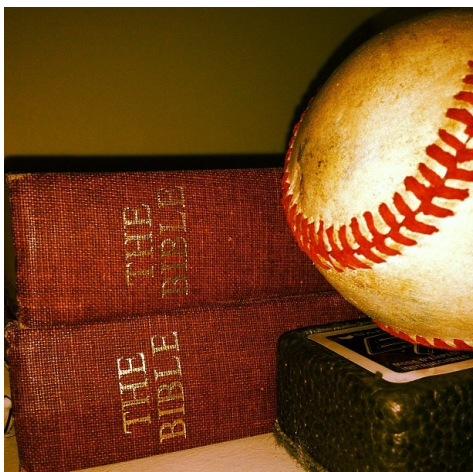
June 2

8:45 –9:45 am

Plan to join us for our annual Bible Baseball game. Our teams have been learning all year long and are ready to face off in this game of Bible learning. Of course no baseball game is complete without some hot dogs and popcorn!

Bring the entire family!!

The game will take place in the **Commons** field.



April 17, 2024 Council Meeting Highlights

Meeting held in the HTLC Gathering Area

Alison Waters

PASTOR'S REPORT

- More people joining as members.
- Easter worship attendance: All 3 services totaled 292 including 19 attendees at the sunrise service.
- On April 14, Preschool Sunday attendance totaled 125.
- Youth Sunday is on April 21.
- Stewardship Committee will be meeting with Jim LaDoux and a few other churches as a cohort and receive private coaching regarding stewardship.

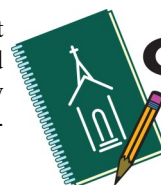
NEW BUSINESS

- June, 2025 will be HTLC's 60th Anniversary. Soon a committee will be formed to start preparations for the event.
- Amy & Pete Miller will be leaving the area at the end of May or early June after many years of membership and service.
- June Congregation Meeting – Andrea Barron (church office) will be gathering information and assembling the Annual Report for the meeting. Committee reports are due 3 weeks before the June 9th meeting. New council members will be voted in.

- Welcome Committee – Plans to organize a Meet and Greet for new church members. Watch for an announcement in Tidings for interested members to form this committee.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

- Financial Update – Weekly giving has improved. Our bills are paid and we have some in reserve.
- Property – Matt Shultz submitted a report. Our new AC has been installed.
- Social Ministry is collecting for Mobile Hope. Church Yard Sale is on June 8th. Items for the sale can be brought to the church starting 3 weeks before the sale.
- Stewardship – The responses from the congregation to the question "What does stewardship mean to you?" were very well received. The committee is continuing to plan for a stewardship campaign to conclude in October.



Council Notes

Executive Committee Meeting: May 68, 2024

Next Council Meeting: May 15, 2024

Welcome
We're so glad
**YOU'RE
HERE!**

Our church has been so blessed with many new visitors as well as new members. As the President I would like to welcome all of the new members and ask the congregation to introduce yourself to them.

We're eager to launch a fresh welcoming committee and are seeking not just your ideas, but also members to join this initiative.

It presents a wonderful chance to ensure everyone feels welcomed and to foster mutual acquaintance.

If you are interested, please contact Rita Sims at 703-622-4105 or see me at church.

Thank you,

Rita Sims, President



SANDWICH MAKING

MAY 19, 2024



Join us as we assemble meals for the Loudoun Homeless Services Center on Sunday May 19th. During Sunday School we will organize an assembly line to put together meals to include a sandwich, chips, cookies, fruit. We will need your help in donating lunch meat, bread, chips, fruit, etc. Contact Peggy and Daniele Everhart to sign up and show up.

Please see how you can help by talking with Peggy or Daniele to see what they are in need of. The LHSC is a program to prevent, support and help end homelessness within Loudoun County



CHILDREN FROM THE FIRST GRADE ON UP ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE

WE WILL BE USING THE "SIGN UP GENIUS" TO ASK FOR YOUR HELP IN GATHERING SUPPLIES



Teacher Appreciation

Every year during the first full week of May, students in our schools pause to say "THANK YOU" to their teachers. Let's not forget our Sunday School teachers! We are blessed with a dedicated and wonderful teaching staff! Thanks for ALL you do!

Petra Buzzell

Gretchen Fish

Debbie Harned

Kristin Hoyer

Ian Loschiavo



Adrian Mattina

Jana Murgia

Shadi Willeke

Cheryl Williams

Thank You!

New HVAC Unit

On Tuesday March 26 our HVAC contractor removed and replaced our non-working 2006 vintage Roof Top Unit (RTU) package. A crane was needed to lift the unit into its final position and remove the old unit. All work was completed in one day and this is our new unit. For situational awareness, we have three remaining units that are also 18 years old that we need to continue to save for.

Matthew Shultz





**KEEP
GROWING**

Back on March 10, we asked everyone to write down the first few words that come to mind when someone says the word “stewardship”. We appreciate the thoughtful responses! We went through the responses and discovered that the most commonly used words in the responses were: “Giving”, “time”, “care”, “caring”, “support”, “others”, and “church”. We believe that this shows that our congregation truly believes in our saying that at Holy Trinity: We Care as Friends, We Love as Family, and We Serve as Christ.

A sample of our favorite responses to “What does ‘stewardship’ mean to you?”:

- Providing for church programs and activities
- Giving response to God’s love
- Giving back to your church or community
- Caretaking
- Responsibility
- Keeping our faith in Jesus Christ and loving one another
- And our favorite: Taking care of something together

According to Merriam-Webster’s definition, “stewardship” means “the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one’s care.” Let’s build on this definition and our understanding of it to guide our stewardship at Holy Trinity.

Your Stewardship committee has been working on developing a view of “stewardship” that goes beyond simply financial giving, and we appreciate the input from the congregation. We are happy to see so many responses showing that “giving” is more than financial, and that it also requires being good stewards of what we are given. One of the first stories in the Bible of stewardship is the story we all know of Noah heeding God’s call to become the steward of the animals, to survive the coming flood. Stewardship requires us to both listen to God’s call and to act with care and responsibility.

Thank you to everyone for your responses and input!

Stewardship Committee

Tammy Brende

Bruce Buzzell

Alison Waters

Chuck Whitacre

Pastor Kristin Hoyer

STEWARDSHIP

Preschool is Finishing the Year

We are winding down to our final weeks of school. It has been a successful, happy year. We are in the midst of hatching chicks and butterflies and it was wonderful to sing our favorite chapel songs at worship (pictures below). Thank you to the church staff and everyone at HTLC for supporting the sweet preschool.

Debbie Harned



The Classics to National Botanical Gardens



After taking a hiatus in April the Classics will resume on May 10th with a visit to the National Botanical Gardens in Chantilly! We will plan to be there around 10:00AM and gather for lunch at Foster's Grille in South Riding after we tour!

The tickets are \$25 per person and must be purchased online before May 9th.

If there are any questions please call or email Kim Mill at leesburgkim@yahoo.com or 703-501-4651.

Please RSVP by May 5th!!

March Preschool Art Show Fundraiser



We raised \$533 to use for classroom and playground resources.

Yard Sale - Saturday, June 8



Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee seeks interested volunteers to share their time and talent on the HTLC Church Council. If you are interested in participating or want to learn more, please contact Kristin Shultz at kristin.shultz@comcast.net for more information.

Mark your Calendars:

Sunday, June 9, 2024, following worship
Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting



<i>Jan-March Financials 2024</i>		
	Actual	Budget
March General Fund	\$31,657.50	\$30,266.67
Totals	\$83,823.58	\$90,800.01

Rita Sims

New Orleans Youth Fundraising Update!

Thank you for the generous gifts given to our ELCA Youth Gathering Fund to New Orleans through the Buy A Mile fundraiser and the Beignet fundraiser! We are getting closer! As of April 21 we have raised \$3300. We have \$3000 more to raise! Thank you!

God's Peace

Pastor Kristin Hoyer

Worship Volunteers - May 2024

	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26
Acolyte / Crucifer	Hope & Joy Mattina	Layne Dooley	Chloe and James Landas	TBD
Asst Min / Prayers	Tammy Brende	Laurie Dieffenbach	Tammy Brende	Karla McGovern
Lector	TBD	Tammy Brende	Sam Waters	Lynnette Mergler
Ushers	Adrian, Dan & Grace Mattina	TBD TBD	Fritz Scholz Barrett Everhart	TBD TBD
Coffee Host	Mattina Family	Keigher Family	TBD	Laurie Dieffenbach
Altar Care	Deb Wenk Debbie Harned	Sharon Wiilliam Effie DeGroot	Peggy Everhart Karen Blodgett	Judy Willeke Tammy Brende
Tellers	Laurie Dieffenbach Kristina Landas	Laurie Dieffenbach TBD	TBD TBD	Karla McGovern Gretchen Luebbe
Lawn	Scott / VanEpps / Willeke		Buzzell / Johanneck / Smiley	

Please find a substitute if you are not able to serve on an assigned day. Thank you.

Happy May Birthday to . . .

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Phyllis Kain | 12 Ron Root | 23 Mike Auten |
| 2 Julianna Bailey | 15 Dana Dunn | Zander Kapsiak |
| 3 Blake Whitacre | Nancy Fox | 24 Gretchen Luebbe |
| 5 Dan Williams | Louise Jebesen | 25 Layne Dooley |
| 7 Oakley Blair III | Cailin Shanahan | Amy Fox |
| Emily Lord | 18 Zain Green | Laila Willeke |
| 9 Juliette Richards | Hannah Scott | 26 Sandy Johnson |
| Nancy Williams | 20 Michael | 27 Delilah DeMark |
| 10 Dan Mattina | Marcheschi | Joy Mattina |
| 11 Ron Shepherd | 21 Marla DeCriscio | 28 Logan Miller |
| | Larry Lenig | |



- 29 Charlotte Bohnenblust
- Laurie Dieffenbach
- 30 Roger Bailey

May Baptism Anniversaries

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 John Dunn | 10 Jamesy Burke | Owen Bollinger |
| Beverly Roberts | 11 Joey Burke | 16 Mary Lu Belote |
| 3 Colleen McGrew | Mackenzie Kapsiak | 19 Michael Burke |
| 5 Elizabeth Just | Nate Waters | 20 Debbie Herbert |
| 7 Joseph Marcheschi | 12 Ross Krytusa | 23 Max Nau |
| Analyn Murgia | 13 Jordan Shanahan | 26 Tucker Benton |
| Brandon Truiett | 14 Marla DeCriscio | 28 Hunter Bohnenblust |
| 8 Mallory Little | 15 Pat Bailey | Wesley McGrew |
| | Reed Bollinger | Lauren Kerr |



Celebrating An Anniversary This Month

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 5/01/1971 Barrett & Peggy Everhart | 5/16/1998 Matthew & Kristin Shultz |
| 5/02/1987 John & Trudy Kearney | 5/16/1970 Larry & Judy Willeke |
| 5/03/1998 Jeffrey & Kirsten Nau | 5/18/2003 Matthew & Shadi Willeke |
| 5/06/2000 Kyle & Kathleen Struckmann | 5/19/1984 Rita & Jamie Sims |
| 5/09/2015 Cody & Emily Stepp | 5/20/2000 Russ & Becky Seymour |
| 5/14/1978 Roger & Pat Bailey | 5/21/1988 Jim & Mary Covell |
| | 5/26/1990 Tim & Susan Davis |
| | 5/26/2001 Geoff & Lori DeMark |
| | 5/30/1992 Kevin & Lisa Stewart |



**HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
(ELCA)**

**605 West Market Street
Leesburg, VA 20176-2506**

**Sunday School: 8:45 AM
Sunday Worship: 10:00 AM
Coffee Hour: Following worship**

Open Office Hours:

**Tuesday - Friday 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM
Emailing or calling ahead is recommended to
make sure someone is available to help you.**

Phone: (703) 777-4912

Email: office@HolyTrinityLeesburg.org



www.HolyTrinityLeesburg.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Volume 45 Issue 4

Women ^{of the} ELCA

The April meeting of the Women of the ELCA was held on Tuesday, April 9, with ten members and Pastor Kristin in attendance. The monthly bag lunches for the homeless shelter were made and packed for delivery following the meeting. Pat Bailey led the group in the final sections of our Aging Faithfully book study - the Epilogue and Appendices - and in an open discussion of the merits of the book by Alice Fryling. There was many suggestions for a new book for study beginning in the Fall.

The final "buy a chick" tally was 102 purchased between the congregation and preschool. A check will be sent for the amount of \$1020 to the ELCA Good Gifts program.

The final "buy a chick" tally was 102 purchased between the congregation and preschool. A check will be sent for the amount of \$1020 to the ELCA Good Gifts program.

The May 14 meeting will begin at 11 AM with bag lunches to make and a short meeting to be held. Final decisions on a June meeting and Fall '24 projects will be determined. Following the meeting we will head out to our much delayed Christmas lunch! Time and place to be forthcoming.

All are welcome to join us on May 14!

Pat Bailey, President



Sunday, May 12, 2024