



*Disciples of Jesus Christ called to bring God's light into the world: through worship, serving, learning and sharing the Good News!*

---

Lent is the purple season. Purple is understood to be a penitential color, thus reflecting the penitential nature of this season of preparation for Easter. From the ashes of Ash Wednesday through to Good Friday, believers were to be focused on the sacrificial nature of Jesus' ministry, and of course, his death. All of this in order to be ready for the amazing surprise and gift of Easter morning.

Historically many practices grew up around the season of Lent. Many of us are familiar with the Roman Catholic practice of fasting meat on Fridays, but in fact, for many years fasting meat on Fridays was a year round Christian practice. Lent was meant to be a time of sacrifice (by fasting and making generous offerings to the poor), confession and penance, renewal of one's prayer life (often assisted by additional worship opportunities) and study of scripture.

It is a time for re-centering, a time for greater attention to our faith lives. I have enjoyed immersing myself in extra worship opportunities and working hard to remain diligent in spiritual practice. I will confess, I have rarely successfully fasted from anything for the whole of Lent, but lately I have been giving intentional thought to special charitable giving during these five weeks.

This year, Bishop Macholz has spearheaded the 40-40-40 campaign for World Hunger. If you wish, you can sign on (go to [upstatenysynod.org](http://upstatenysynod.org)) to walk 40 miles in 40 days with the goal of making a \$40 donation to World Hunger. My daughters and I have decided to form a Wolling Team (since I am sure we won't manage for each of us to get in the required 40 miles!!!) and combine our offerings. What is exciting to me was the suggestion by team members that \$40 really was too little, and if we pooled our money we could also support local food pantries or other feeding programs. This is the spirit of Lent: a time where we give special attention to those in need and challenge ourselves to sacrificial giving.

I pray you are able to use these 40 days to recenter your faith life. Consider memorizing a prayer to be said each morning or each evening. (Luther had good morning and evening prayers which can be found on-line or in our hymnal). Consider a special offering to support work among an under-served population (Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services is one possibility; perhaps a local effort to support seniors). Consider taking a few moments each day for a devotional or some Bible reading (We are following the gospel of Mark this year so reading it from start to finish might be a project).

All of this is intended to help you reconnect with God, to renew your conversation with Jesus, to remind yourself of our baptismal promises and to challenge yourself to step out of your spiritual comfort zone.

May you find these 40 days to be a gift.

Pastor Wolling

### Church Council News

Your Church Council is having discussions about returning to some Face to Face Worship opportunities in April, as we all know how much we have missed those gatherings. Virtual worship services will continue for the month of March. Please feel free to reach out to any members of the Council if you have ideas, questions, or solutions to share. The March meeting of Council is anticipated to be on **Wednesday, March 10th at 6:15 via Zoom.**

Date	Worship Leader	Format
March 7	Pastor Edwina Landry	Zoom/Facebook
March 14	Dean Gail Wolling	Zoom/Facebook
March 21	Pastor Edwina Landry	Zoom/Facebook
March 28*	Dean Gail Wolling	Zoom/Facebook
April 4	Easter Sunday	

\*Palm Sunday

### Worship With Us From Anywhere!

Call on your landline phone, use your computer, receive a DVD, or receive a printed copy of the sermon!

Midweek Services are led by Dean Gail and shared each week at 7pm on Facebook, YouTube, and our website: [trinityherkimer.org](http://trinityherkimer.org). Each week's service will focus on a different Psalm:

- 3/3 Psalm 62.8 Trust in God at all times, O people;  
pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.
- 3/10 Psalm 31.24 Be strong and let your heart take courage all you who wait for the Lord.
- 3/17 Psalm 16.9 Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices; my body rests secure.
- 3/24 Psalm 20.4 May he grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans.

### Church Office Hours

Cassie will be in the office Monday-Wednesday 10am-1pm, and at other various times throughout the week. \*Reminder\* During these hours, the front doors will be unlocked so you may safely step inside and get your offering envelopes. If you would like your envelopes mailed or delivered, please contact Cassie at 315-866-6474 or [cbecker@trinityherkimer.org](mailto:cbecker@trinityherkimer.org) and she will be happy to assist you.

### Trinity's Safe Use of Space Policy

Trinity's Council met recently to review and update our Covid Safety Procedures for the church building. **If a person has any symptom of illness, that individual should not enter the church building.** The latest CDC information indicates that the virus can remain airborne for many hours. Therefore, wearing a **face covering** is **MANDATORY IN ALL PARTS OF THE BUILDING**, even if you are ALONE! **NO EXCEPTIONS!** Please use the hand sanitizer and sign in on the form at the bottom of the stairs. Don't touch your face. If you are with other people, maintain social distance. Since we don't clean the building after each person exits, compliance with safe practices is important.

### Stay connected with us weekly

Do you receive our weekly announcements in your email? Contact Cassie at 315-866-6474 or [cbecker@trinityherkimer.org](mailto:cbecker@trinityherkimer.org) to sign up!

### Serving and Sharing

The Super Bowl is Over but the "SOUPer Bowl" Is Not  
For the past several years, Trinity has participated in an annual event called the "SOUPer Bowl". It's not too late this year! Contributions go to our local food pantry; you can contribute cans of soup or send a financial donation to the church office. We will collect for our TLC SOUPer Bowl until March 15 and report our results then. Let's win this game!

### **Food Pantry Collection Focus**

While donations of any food are always welcome, let's concentrate on SOUP for the next few weeks,, in support of the TLC SOUPer Bowl collection. We will be counting soup cans donated until March 15!

As we look toward spring and Earth day we are looking to plan another highway clean up. Want to become more involved? Contact JoAnn Blaise, Cathy Mayton-Collins, or any member of the Serving and Sharing Team.

### **Faith Formation/Learning BOOK GROUP**

Book Group is Returning in March! The TLC Book Group will meet on Friday, March 19th at Harriet Neff's new apartment!. If you can join us, please call Harriet so we will know how many to plan for. Reach her at 315-868-9977 or 315-219-5355. Be ready to share your latest reads and opinions, as we get back on track for the spring.

### **Worship, Music, and Prayer**

#### **BLESSINGS of PRAYER:**

"For there is one GOD; there is also one mediator between GOD and humankind, CHRIST JESUS, Himself human, who gave Himself a ransom for all."

( 1 Peter 2:5,6a)

#### **Prayer Notes:**

Through prayer we are brought into direct fellowship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who is our mediator to God the Father. (John 14:6)

\*The power of prayer\* It just doesn't change circumstances, it changes Us!!!!

"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden and I will give you rest."

(Matthew 11:28)

Jesus calls us to Himself:

\*He invites ALL of us to come to Him.

\*He makes us a promise of blessings if we accept His invitation. Bring it to the Lord in prayer and God will do the rest. There are many opportunities for prayer, actually 24/7!

\*Communication with our God is a privilege our Lord has given his children.

\*We can choose to pray with others (silently or out-loud) or by ourselves. How we pray is our choice!

\*That we pray is essential to our Christian faith of growth and personal relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Please pray for our Christian family at Trinity, that God's will be done as we go forward, united together in His Name.

In His Service,  
Prayer Ministry

If you have concerns for the prayer chain or other personal/family matters, please call Phillis Becker at 315-866-2379.

## Volunteer Schedule

As needed, the following have volunteered as counters:

February 28th and March 7th - Phillis Becker and Judy Sadlon

March 14th and March 21st - Rich Becker and John Sadlon

March 28th and April 4th - Cathy Mayton-Collins and JoAnn Blaise

If you are interested in volunteering for April/May counting, please contact Cassie at [cbecker@trinityherkimer.org](mailto:cbecker@trinityherkimer.org) or 315-866-6474. Thank you! Your help is greatly appreciated.

## Stewardship

Thanks to everyone who has continued to mail offerings to church (443 Henry Street, Herkimer, NY 13350) or continue to use Simply Giving. The mission of the church continues throughout the pandemic. If you wish to receive more information about giving directly to Trinity through the Thrivent Simply Giving Program, please contact Wendy DeLuca at [wdeluca@trinityherkimer.org](mailto:wdeluca@trinityherkimer.org).

## Our Church Family

**God's children in need of prayer and support:** Steve, Eleanor, John, Millie, Ali, Rose, Nancy, Esther, Peter, Judy, Ed, Mike, Bill, Loren Jr., Kate, Joan, Ann, Jan, Rich, Jennifer, Alex, Ernie, Gary, Irene, Felix, all those touched by the COVID-19 virus and all those on Trinity's prayer chain.

A special note: Pr. Norma Malfatti who has filled our pulpit many times moved to Minnesota Feb. 13th to begin a new call as the Director of Evangelical Mission for the Minneapolis Area Synod. Many of you know that her mother has lived with her for many years. On Tuesday, Feb 23 Betty Malfatti was stricken at home and entered into God's arms on Thursday, Feb. 25th. What a difficult and chaotic time in Pr. Norma's life! I ask for your prayers for both Betty and Norma, both faithful servants of God.

Pr. Wolling

If you have concerns for the prayer chain or other personal/family matters, please call Phillis Becker at 315-866-2379 or text her at 315-601-2279.

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Kiya Snyder	Macy Knoblauch	Amanda MacDougald
Patrick Roche	Ty Rigo	Abe Stublely
Beth Ann Crouch	Cole DeLuca	Kevin Kirk
John D. Sadlon	Edie Herrmann	Connie Engert
Steve Kucerak, Jr.	Samantha Prosser	Stephen Manning
Taryn Rackmyer	Amelia Whitney	John Keiser
Ann Maher	Judy Burke	Elaine Fleming
Dustin Sanders	Maegan Manning	Avery Hinckley
Catrina Griewahn	Ella Wilcox	Jennifer Burger
Laurie Heiland-Crouch	Jodie Farrington	Jared Levi
Stanley Swienton	Jodi Rivers	Hunter Shaut
Lisa Woods	Debra Devereese	Melissa McClouskey
Paul Vanderwerken	Nicole Benedict	Randy Snow
Marcy Miller	Ashley Hinckley	

## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Cindy & Mark Knoblauch

Carol & Peter Bunn

You can send news for the upcoming issue to [Tidings@trinityherkimer.org](mailto:Tidings@trinityherkimer.org). Justina, Cassie and Ann will all receive that email. We appreciate feedback and ideas to improve our newsletter too!

### Council Contact Information

President: Ann Maher	315-891-3952	amaher@trinityherkimer.org
Vice President: Phillis Becker	315-866-2379	pbecker@trinityherkimer.org
Sec.: Cathy Mayton-Collins	315-867-8426	cmayton-collins@trinityherkimer.org
Treasurer:: Kylene Jordan	315-404-3945	kjordan@trinityherkimer.org
Amy Manning	315-868-9224	amanning@trinityherkimer.org
Bona Starring	315-868-8393	bstarring@trinityherkimer.org
Gary Manning	315-717-4830	gmanning@trinityherkimer.org
Paul Kucerek	315-868-8805	pkucerek@trinityherkimer.org

### Worship With Us From Anywhere!

Call on your landline phone, use your computer, receive a DVD, or receive a printed copy of the sermon!

### A New Lenten Practice to Try

A Labyrinth can be used as a method of centering in prayer. Lent is an introspective time in the Church calendar that lends itself to this type of prayer practice. The Labyrinth can be traced with your fingers on paper, walked or done virtually (the Labyrinth Society).

Be expectant and open when entering. Avoid self directing the outcome. As you “walk” the path try to discard the barriers that separate you from God. Envision God in the center. Rest in God when you arrive in the center. Listen and talk to God. When you leave, consider what you are bringing out with you – a change in attitude, peace, a new idea, an answer?



Original drawing by Jeff Saward, final graphic by Vicki Keiser. Drawing can be found at <https://labyrinthociety.org/download-a-labyrinth>