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PARADISE LUTHERAN CHURCH
3241 CHURCH ROAD
THOMASVILLE, PA 17364
Address Service Requested

Clocks ahead on March 10!!

March 2018

March 2018

The "Holtzschwamm Hotline"

PARADISE LUTHERAN CHURCH

(717) 259-9547

www.paradiselutheran.weebly.com

Wednesday Holy Communion 7:00 p.m.
Sunday Worship, Holy Communion at
8:00 and 10:15 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.

Who's Who at Paradise?
Staff, contact info., council members

Church office: (717) 259-9547 (phone and fax)
Website: *www.paradiselutheran.weebly.com*
Interim Pastor: Reverend Douglas E. Johnson
(cell) (515) 321-4582; *pastor.paradiselutheran@gmail.com*
Minister of Music: Allison Trump
(home) 717-630-8824; *paradiseorganist@yahoo.com*
Secretary: Julie Maher; *secretary.paradiselutheran@gmail.com*
Bookkeeper: Kris Gabel; *finance.paradiselutheran@gmail.com*
Treasurer: Donna Shaffer
Sexton: Vicki Boone
Council President: Ray Grudi (717-887-7592)
Council Members, Liaison Committees

Vice President/Endowment: Marty Rexroth
Secretary: Jamie Markle
Property: Bill Sterner
Stewardship: Verla Gosnell
Social Ministry: Dean Bentzel
Evangelism: Barbie Becker
Worship and Music: Chris Davis
Christian Education: Elaine Thomas
Social Activities: Linda Eisenhart
Youth: Greg Harrell
Finance: Ike Hileman

NOTE: Deb Fulton resigned her position on Council in order to spend time caring for her brother, who has some health concerns. Council voted to offer the open position to Linda Eisenhart, who was the fifth person on the ballot at the last election. Linda accepted the offer and will finish Deb's term.

Clocks ahead on Saturday, March 10!!

THANK YOU!

Thank you TO:

Joe Zurat for miscellaneous plumbing work here and there; *Dave Zech, Doug Gabel, Dave Cassel, Joe Zurat, Roy Shaffer, Bill Rankin, and Ralph Nace* for helping with the wood-splitting and delivery project — and thanks *FROM* the *Sprenkle and Peter families* to these hard workers!

Sandy Detwiler, Shirley Trimmer, and Cindy Zurat for clearing out the parlor closets;

All those *worship participants* who fulfill their scheduled duties on Sundays, and to those who fill in when necessary — we so appreciate your helping at worship!

Neal Riley for "rockin'" "This is the Feast" for Transfiguration Sunday; and *Erin Sterner* for accompanying the Kyrie at the 10:15 service

Thank you FROM:

Eugene Spahr for the many cards and phone calls he received as he was recuperating from an elbow injury; he had no idea he was so well loved!

Lutheran Camping Corporation for our donations to the "Seeding the Future" Capital Campaign;

PEOPLE AT PARADISE

March Anniversaries
If we miss yours or make an error, please call the office!

3/8	Ralph and Fran Nace 49 years
3/8	Jack and Dana Shoemaker, 32 years
3/23	Ron and Arlene Gruver, 44 years
3/23	Albert and Sue Schandler, 44 years
3/27	Wade and Judy Resh, 36 years
3/28	Bob and Janet Coble, 53 years
3/29	Jeff and Mary Ebersole, 15 years

Shut-in birthday girl for March:
3/3/15 **Mary Shaberly**, **103** this year!
The Brethren Home,
Room 3507
2990 Carlisle Pike,
New Oxford, 17350

Think ahead to early April:
4/3 **Audrey Hafner**
SpiriTrust Village at Sprenkle Drive, 1802 Folkemer Circle, #113, York, 17404

(Social Activities, continued)

Friends of Paradise
(our group for senior and not-on-your-life senior citizens; they meet the second Tuesday of most months, 10 a.m.)

From Linda Eisenhart...

As March brings us out of hibernation, we will restart our meetings with a very interesting program presented by my cousins, Bennett and Tamara Leas. They are very adventurous and love traveling abroad. Hiking and backpacking are not in short supply when they are involved. On March 13, they will entertain us with a slide show and talk on their Camino de Santiago walk. This is sure to be a wonderful program. Invite your friends and neighbors.

Since we did not meet in January and February, it is only fair to have a deeeeelicious meal of pork and sauerkraut along with all the trimmings and a New Year's toast. There will surely be some sort of RED dessert involved, since we missed spending Valentine's day together.

Don't forget—we head to Hoss's on White Street for our April 10 Anniversary meeting. Be sure to sign up ahead of time at our March meeting or call Linda at 717-497-0422 to let her know you are coming. We need a pretty good count so the restaurant will have the appropriate number of chefs and hostesses available for us. We will have trivia, games, and door prizes along with the usual bevy of "Bill" jokes and fantastic fellowship, of course.

If you missed paying your dues for 2018 when we met in December, just bring $5.00 along in March and we will get you recorded in the books.

Until then, stay warm!!

Linda

MEMORIALS

In memory of Bob Mansberger,
Given by
Angie and Nathan Cheek
Ed and Pat Keister

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Mark your directory:
Jared Eisenhart
321 West Main Street
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

INTERIM PASTOR'S PAGE

Dear Friends in Christ,

As you read this newsletter, we are halfway through our Lenten journey. I pray that it has been a meaningful time for you as you have engaged in a variety of spiritual disciplines. I also pray that you have not focused on giving something up – like chocolate or something else of dubious value ☺.

Instead, I hope you have focused on GIVING something, perhaps giving a bit of your time each day to prayer, or scripture reading, or doing a good deed for a neighbor. These are the spiritual disciplines that nourish us.

Now as we approach Holy Week, I encourage you to participate fully in the worship experiences offered that week. Just as I encouraged you to be present for worship on Ash Wednesday (and, by the way, we had the largest crowd on Ash Wednesday that we've had in years!), I now encourage you to be at worship on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday as well as on Easter Sunday. In fact, the church has historically understood these three worship experiences to be *one continuous worship service.* That's why we don't have a Benediction at the conclusion of Maundy Thursday. We aren't ending the service. We're just taking a recess until Good Friday. And as we conclude Good Friday, we are just taking another recess until we return on Easter morning for the glorious celebration of our Lord's Resurrection. Those who participate in all three portions of the worship service—Thursday, Friday, and Sunday— will receive the greatest spiritual benefit. Those who show up only on Sunday have missed the first two acts of God's divine drama of human salvation.

Let's continue to have a very meaningful Lenten experience. And let's not miss any of the worship experiences that so richly augment our journey. Blessings to you all. And I hope to see you all during Holy Week – on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday!

Your Brother in Christ,
† *Pastor Doug*

AROUND THE CHURCH

The Paradise Book Club will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 1, to discuss "Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker" by Jennifer Chiaverini. Kris has offered to do the story-related refreshments. April's pick is "Into Thin Air" by Jon Krakauer, and Verla will provide the snacks for the meeting on April 5. Have a book suggestion? Leave a message in the church office. Didn't read the book but just want to come for some social time? Join us! There's always room for you!

The Breakfast Club will meet at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 6, at the Lyndon Diner, Route 30, York.

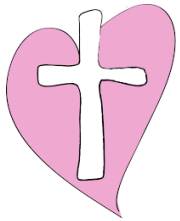
The Women's Tea, set for March 17, 4 p.m., If you reserved seats and find that someone cannot make it, please let Julie Maher know ASAP. Call her at church, (717) 259-9547, (even the day of the Tea; we'll be here at noon) or at home at (717) 259-0804.

Food prep/set-up/decorating will start at 6 p.m. on Friday night, *March 16*. We so appreciate those talented people who transform the Fellowship Room with place settings, decorations, etc., AND those who work in the kitchen prepping for the big day on Saturday. Many thanks!

Laundry Love is the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. at The Sudz in the Kennie's plaza in Spring Grove. Join the group there on Tuesday, March 20.

(Social Ministry, continued)

Help support the many activities and events for the SpiriTrust Lutheran residents! Starting March 11, orders will be taken for the red and salmon colored geraniums for Mother's Day. Envelopes will be available in the narthex. To order, please take an envelope, fill in the requested information, enclose cash or a check made payable to Paradise Lutheran, seal, and place in the offering plate or Julie's basket. Last year, we ordered 130 geraniums to brighten up your gardens. Let's do it again this year!!



Give an Easter dinner — Pick a Pack, Provide a Meal! Pick a Pack from the Ham Hock in the narthex, shop for the nonperishable food items, and return to the church by March 18. Pick up a pig cutout, purchase a ham, attach the cutout to the ham, and place it in the kitchen cooler by March 25. Hams that weigh 6 pounds or less are preferred for the Easter Meals. Many thanks for serving Jesus by feeding others!

Harvest of Hope Pantry needs for the year:

Mar.: beef stew, boxed potatoes
Apr.: Easter dinner items
May: dry pasta, canned soups
June: canned tomatoes, cereal
July: canned pasta, canned fruit
Aug.: spaghetti and sauce
Sept.: rice, canned veggies
Oct.: Thanksgiving dinners
Nov.: macaroni & cheese, tuna
Dec.: peanut butter and jelly

Place your donations in the box outside the church office. Thanks so much!

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Mark your calendar!

Roast beef dinner! We'll do another roast beef dinner on Friday, March 9, from 4 to 7 p.m. **or until we sell out**. *Kitchen help and desserts are needed.* Food prep will be done on Wednesday, March 7, and Thursday, March 9 starting at 9 a.m.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School update:

The Confirmation Class would like to put together "Chemo Survival Kits" to give to patients at Cherry Tree Cancer Center in Hanover. They are asking for donations of the following items: Chapstick, hand lotion, small packs of tissues, hard candy, mints, ginger tea, travel-size hand sanitizer, funny/ inspirational books, magazines, word puzzle books, water bottles, fuzzy socks, scarves, hats. We appreciate any support you can give us with this service project. Please put any donations in the **green bin in the narthex** or give to Heidi Wolf by March 18.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Habitat for Humanity work group light supper and program will be held in the Fellowship room on Thursday, March 15, from 5:45 to about 7:30 p.m.. This includes the work group, a Habitat staff person, a Habitat homeowner, and the host group. The meal is usually for around 15-20 people and includes a time for fun and fellowship. Anyone from the congregation is welcome to come meet our guests, learn what goes on when an out of state group comes into the area to help with Habitat, and to share a meal with them. Linda Eisenhart needs some volunteers to help prep a very simple meal, serve, and clean up. Please let her know if you are able to help out. She will let you know times and needs when you call her at (717) 497-0422. **Not a "regular" kitchen helper? Now's your chance to help on a smaller scale! Do NOT be shy!!** Also, if anyone from the congregation wishes to join us for the meal, please let Linda know by March 10, so she can do the grocery shopping.

(Around the Church, continued)

Free Tax Preparation Available: SpiriTrust Lutheran Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program offers free tax help to households who made **$54K or less in 2017**. This program also provides free online self-assisted tax preparation for households who made $62K or less last year. **Call (717) 854-2244 OR 888-629-4095 Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to make an appointment or to ask questions.**

East Berlin Community Singers: Mark your calendars for May 20 at 4 p.m. for the East Berlin Community Singers' concert at Paradise. Rehearsals will be held on Sunday evenings from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, East Berlin, starting on Sunday, March 11.

The *March* website is sponsored by **Janet Mansberger** in honor of her grandchildren. Thank you! The following months of 2018 are available to sponsor at $20 per month: *May and September.* Way to fill up those months, Paradise!

The deadline for the next *Hotline:* March 15 for the **April** issue. Please put your info. in the basket outside the office or e-mail Julie at *paradise.lutheran@verizon.net.* Thanks.

TREASURER'S INFORMATION

How was January? Check these numbers…

	January's needs for God's mission	Your gifts in January	Difference
Current	$15,138.09	$16,040.64	+$902.55
Benevolence	$1,167.00	$1,119.00	—$48.00
Action 2000	$2,274.00	$2,044.68	—$229.32
	Our needs, to date	Total gifts, to date	Difference
Current	$15,138.09	$16,040.64	+$902.55

Interest paid 2017: $7,354.03
Principal paid 2017: $42,460.97
Building debt principal owed: $150,611.16
January Special Offering for the Endowment Fund: $312.00

Special Offering Envelope —

March's Special Envelope will go to **ELCA Disaster Response.**
Thank you for your generosity.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

What's happening at worship in March?

From Minister of Music, Allison Trump:

Heads-Up for Parents of Children in Miss Sandy's/Miss Arlene's Sunday School Class: The Children will be singing "Take Up Your Cross" as the Prelude at the 10:15 service on March 11.

Brass instrumentalists are needed for Palm Sunday, March 25, for the 10:15 worship **AND** for Easter Sunday, April 1, for BOTH the 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. services. Rehearsals will be held Sundays, March 18 and 25, immediately after the 10:15 worship service. Please see Allison for music.

SPECIAL MUSIC!!! On Sunday, March 18, at the 10:15 service, we will be treated to the music of the Fickes Family — Deb (Ralph and Fran Nace's daughter) and her family— Jim, Grant, and Vanessa. Plan to attend this Sunday, and tell your family and friends. You won't want to miss this Sunday!!!

EXTRA VOICES ARE NEEDED for the Easter Choir on Sunday, April 1, at the 10:15 service. We will be singing the anthems "Thine is the Glory," "Christ Arose," and Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus." Practices will be held Sundays, March 4, 11, 18, 25, and April 1, at 9:40 a.m. in the choir room. If you are interested, please see Allison for music or just come to practice!

♫ ♫ ♫ **Choir Rehearsal Schedules** ♫ ♫ ♫
At a Glance

Sanctuary Choir: Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m., March 7, 14, 21 and 28; AND with the…
Easter Choir: 9:40 a.m. Sundays, March 4, 11, 18, and 25
Grace Notes: Sundays, **9:30 a.m.**, March 4, 11, 18, and 25
Praise Team: Sundays, 9:00 a.m., March 4, 11, 18, and 25
Tone Chimes: Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., March 7
Cherub/Children/Youth Choir: every Sunday, during Sunday School
Brass Ensemble: Sundays, March 18 and 25, after the late worship service
NOTE: ALL CHOIR REHEARSALS on SUNDAY, MARCH 18, will be held in the Choir Room