

PARADISE LUTHERAN CHURCH
3241 CHURCH ROAD
—THOMASVILLE, PA 17364
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HANOVER, PA 17331

Clocks ahead on March 9!



March 2019

March 2019
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: Michele Becker
 Christian Education: Larry Rinehart
 Social Activities: Randy Myers
 Youth: Greg Harrell
 Finance: Tom Hoover



**Clocks
ahead on
Saturday,
March 9!!**

Kevin Grim and crew for clearing the parking lots following a snowfall;

Other volunteers who clear the sidewalks and steps, etc., of snow to ensure our safety;

Greg Harrell for manhandling the doors to ensure proper closing!

Allison Trump for arranging songs for the Tone Chimes to play! Well done!

Thank you FROM:

Nancy Sprengle for the cards, prayers, and concern following her hospitalizations and beyond;

Lutheran World Relief for our contributions of blankets from Blanket Sunday;

The Confirmation Class to all who donated items for the personal care packages. We were able to pack 50+ personal care packages for the homeless and needy, and we then delivered them to the Hanover Council of Churches, and the Changing Lives Shelter. They were overwhelmed and extremely grateful, as are we. What a great and giving congregation we have!!!

Hanover Area Council of Churches for the above donations to the homeless;

PEOPLE AT PARADISE

March

Anniversaries

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

- 3/8 Ralph and Fran Nace, 50 years
- 3/8 Jack and Dana Shoemaker, 33 years
- 3/23 Ron and Arlene Gruver, 45 years
- 3/23 Albert and Sue Schandler, 45 years
- 3/27 Wade and Judy Resh, 37 years
- 3/28 Bob and Janet Coble, 54 years
- 3/29 Jeff and Mary Ebersole, 16 years



Shut-in birthday girl for March:

3/3/15 **Mary Shaberly**, 104 this year!
 The Brethren Home, Room 3405A, 2990 Carlisle Pike, New Oxford, 17350



SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Mark your calendar!
Roast beef dinner! We'll do another roast beef dinner on Friday, March 29, from 4 to 7 p.m. **or until we sell out.**

Kitchen help (especially clean-up help) and desserts are needed. Food prep will be done on Tuesday, March 26, Wednesday, March 27, Thursday, March 28, starting at 9 a.m.; Friday, March 29, noon.

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...

In March, we come out of hibernation for our annual pork and sauerkraut meal, along with some goodies for Valentine's Day and St. Patrick's Day, too!! Don't forget—we head to Hoss's on White Street for our April 9



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.

Until then, stay warm!!

Linda



MEMORIALS

In memory of Raymond Stambaugh

Given by
 Chris and Travis Sherman

THANK YOU!

Thank you TO:

Elliott Maher for setting up the office's new phone system;

Bill Rankin for refurbishing the Christmas Eve candle holders ... you drilled **how many** holes?!

INTERIM PASTOR'S PAGE

"app" called "Pray as You Go" that you can

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

On March 6, we will gather for Ash Wednesday worship at 7 p.m. As we come forward to receive an ashen cross on our foreheads, we will be reminded that we are dust, and to dust we shall return. This penitential act starts us on the journey of Lent.

But what is Lent? And what should we be doing in the weeks between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday? The word "Lent" originally meant "spring." Lent is the 40 days, excluding Sundays, between Ash Wednesday and Easter. It is a time to reflect on Baptism and its basis in the death and resurrection of Jesus. So Lent is to be a time of reflection, rebirth, and renewal in preparation for the celebration of Easter.

What can you do to make Lent a meaningful time for you as you begin your Lenten journey? Here are some suggestions that have proven helpful to many people over the years.
 † **Create a discipline of daily prayer and meditation.** I find it helpful to use a guided time of prayer each day. There is an

download onto your smart phone for free. It provides a guided devotion for each day that lasts about 12 minutes. Or, if smart phones are not your thing, you can pick up a daily devotional guide at the church. "Light for Today" and "Word in Season" are available in limited numbers in the narthex at the rear of the church.

† **Create a discipline of sacrificial giving.** In addition to your regular offering, plan to give a dollar or two a day to help your neighbors in need. One way to do this is to pick up a copy of the information about ELCA World Hunger from the narthex, along with a special offering

envelope. Set aside your desired amount each day, placing it in a special place in your home. Then at the end of the Lenten season, place your total offering in the ELCA World Hunger envelope, and put it in the offering plate on Easter Sunday.
 † **Create a discipline of service to your neighbors.** Schedule a time to give volunteer service – even if you have never done so before – at the Harvest of Hope Food Pantry, or come to the Laundromat in the Kennie's



Plaza in Spring Grove on the third Tuesday of the month and help with our Laundry Love project.

And, last but not least, don't forget to † **attend worship each week during this season (especially Holy Week)** where you will be fed by God's Word and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Experience these disciplines, and I can assure you that you will have a blessed Lenten season and be prepared for a joyous Easter celebration!

Yours in Christ Jesus,
† *Pastor Doug*

AROUND THE CHURCH

From the Call Committee — What has the Call Committee been working on, and what will happen when we find a potential candidate to recommend to the congregation as our next pastor? Read on...

As you probably recall, we completed our Ministry Site Profile last year. It was reviewed and accepted by the Synod. In late November, the committee received Ministry Profiles of interested candidates to review. We interviewed these

candidates and went to see and hear them preach.

Unfortunately, we have not yet found the person who will lead our congregation. **We anticipate receiving information about other potential candidates very soon.**

When we find who we feel could be our next leader at Paradise, we will present that person's information to the Church Council. Council will have a special meeting with the Call Committee and the candidate. If the Church Council approves the candidate and compensation package, then the Council will recommend that person to the congregation at a special congregational meeting. The candidate and his/her compensation package will be presented to the congregation. Following worship, the congregation will vote on whether or not to accept the candidate.

The Call Committee is praying for guidance and working cautiously through this discernment to find the right candidate. Thank you for your prayers and patience as we journey through this Call process.

Paradise Call Committee:

David, Roxann, Elaine, Ralph, Justice, Ben, Heidi

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Harvest of Hope Food Pantry: You donated **265 pounds** of food for the Pantry during January!!



“Souper” Bowl Sunday proceeds: we

were able to send about \$400 to the Harvest of Hope Food Pantry from the soup sale in February! Well done! Way to eat that soup, Paradise! And speaking of soup, if you could return your quart jar (and any others you might want to get rid of), we'd appreciate it! Put them on the serving counter in the fellowship room. Thanks.

Lenten season opportunities: in the narthex is a basket of greeting cards — take some this Lent to remember others by sharing your thoughts and love. Who needs one? The friendly cashier at your regular store. A patient teacher. A dedicated worker at a fast-food restaurant.



Anyone who might need a lift.
Anyone who might benefit from a kind word and a smile.
Anyone!!

Lenten calendars: pick up a 40-day Lenten Calendar and study guide to the four spiritual practices of Lent. Discover what **repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving, and works of love** mean for you in your journey to the cross.



Don't forget to pick up a piggy money box for

your donations to ELCA World Hunger. Coloring books are available, too! Bless you for caring for others.

Harvest of Hope Pantry needs for the year:

- Mar.: beef stew, boxed potatoes
- Apr.: Easter dinner items
- May: dry pasta, canned fruit
- 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!

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

What's happening at worship in March?

Ash Wednesday worship
March 6 at 7 p.m.



*From Minister of Music,
 Allison Trump:*

SPECIAL MUSIC!!! On Sunday, March 10, 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!!!



Brass instrumentalists are needed for Palm Sunday, April 14, for the 10:15 worship AND Easter Sunday, April 21, for BOTH the 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. services. Rehearsals will be held Sundays, April 7 and 14, immediately after the 10:15 worship service. *Please see Allison for music.*

♫ ♪ ♫ Choir Rehearsal Schedules ♪ ♫ ♫

At a Glance

Sanctuary Choir: Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m., March 13, 20, 27; AND with the...

Easter Choir: 9:40 a.m. Sundays, March 24 and 31;

Grace Notes: Sundays, 9:30 a.m., March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Praise Team: Sundays, immediately after the 8 a.m. worship service: March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31;

Tone Chimes: Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., March 13;

Cherub/Children/Youth Choir: every Sunday, during Sunday School

(Around the Church, continued)

Women's Retreat meeting will be held on Sunday, March 3, at 9:15 a.m. Room? TBA.



The Breakfast Club

will meet at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 5, at Menges' Diner in Abbottstown.



The Paradise Book Club

will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 7, to discuss "The Woman in the Window" by A. J. Finn. Verla has offered to do the story-related



refreshments, and we're meeting at Julie Maher's home, 78 North Ridge Road, Thomasville. For April 4's meeting, join the bunch at Donna LeVault's home (corner Beaver Creek and Canal Roads) to discuss

"Before We Were Yours" by Lisa Wingate.

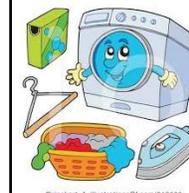
Didn't read the book but just want to come for some social time? Join us! There's always room for you!

The Women's Tea is set for March 16 at 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 15. **Want to help set up? Let Julie know!** 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 19.



(Around the Church, continued)

The *March* website is sponsored by **Janet Mansberger** in honor of her family and all that they do for her. Thank you! The following months of 2018 are available to sponsor at \$20 per month: *September and October*. Way to fill up those months, Paradise!

East Berlin Community Singers: Mark your calendars for May 19 at 4 p.m. for the

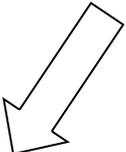


East Berlin Community Singers' concert at Paradise. Rehearsals

will be held on Sunday evenings from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, East Berlin, starting on Sunday, March 10.

Walk
in the
light
of the
LORD

see John 5:19-21

VBS alert — 

Due to the transition that we will [hopefully!] be experiencing this summer, staff and Council decided that it would be best if we forego hosting a Vacation Bible School program for the summer of 2019.

Disappointing though it may be for many, it makes sense to take a year off rather than have a change in leadership partway through the preparations. Thanks for understanding.

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 secretary.paradiselutheran@gmail.com. Thanks.

TREASURER'S INFORMATION

How was January? Check these numbers...

	January's needs for God's mission	Your gifts in January	Difference
Current	\$19,066.00	\$13,291.97	—\$5,774.03
Benevolence	\$1,167.00	\$1,164.00	—\$3.00
Action 2000	\$2,274.00	\$1,081.55	—\$472.45
	Our needs, to date	Total gifts, to date	Difference
Current	\$14,918.97	\$13,291.97	—\$1,627.00

Interest paid 2018: \$5,670.34

Principal paid 2018: \$29,575.66

Building debt principal owed: \$121,035.50

January Special Offering for the Endowment Fund: \$210.00



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