

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION**

1700 MAKEFIELD ROAD - YARDLEY, PA 19067



# Monthly News & Updates

## Pastor's Note



For the month of February, I share with you a reflection that appeared in a January ELCA Worship News email. It is written by Deacon Jennifer Baker-Trinity who is on staff at the ELCA.

*"Greetings in the name of Christ,*

*Sometimes the irony of our calendars helps us reconsider how our different ways of keeping time intersect. You've likely noticed that in 2018, Ash Wednesday falls on February 14. I've already seen some Facebook chatter about what a downer this is. How can we feast on chocolate hearts and go out to Valentine's Day dinner while also being reminded that we are dust and to dust we shall return? Yet is not that cross a symbol of love, a sign of our baptism as beloved children of God? Can we use the opportunity to talk about the new hearts created in us, hearts turned toward telling the truth of the limits of human love and relationships?*

*Then, as the season of Lent comes to a close, we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord on April Fool's Day (April 1). Though not a public holiday laden with the commercial and cultural weight of Valentine's Day, it's still a bit ironic that Jesus surprises us on this day associated with foolishness. What we think is foolishness is indeed the greatest wisdom of all: Christ's life springing from death; Christ's undying love abounding for the whole creation.*

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## Worship Schedule

Sunday, February 4th  
10:00 AM Service of Holy Communion  
11:00 AM Winter Congregational Meeting – Sanctuary

*We are likely filling up our calendars for this calendar year. As we do so, let us remember that God's time is not our time, that the gift of the liturgical year is to root us in kairos, biblical time, rather than chronos, or clock time. In "A Three-Year Banquet," Gail Ramshaw reminds us that "as Christians, we hold to the counter-cultural idea that our years, like our lives, revolve around the mystery of Christ and find joy in the Spirit their most profound significance. Each week begins in the joy of the resurrection. Each year is renewed by Christ at Easter." (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2004)."*

In Christ,

*Pastor Kristina*

Pastor Kristina Ahlman

[pastorkva@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkva@gmail.com)

## Installation of Pastor Kristina

Plan to join us on Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm for the Installation of Reverend Kristina V. Ahlman. Reverend P. Sorcek, Dean, Lower Bucks, will preside and Reverend H. Wieber, Dean, SW Brooklyn, will be preaching. Clergy and Deacons are invited to process. A reception honoring Pastor Kristina will follow. Please RSVP by calling (215) 493-2018. [CLICK HERE](#) to view the formal invitation. We hope to see you at this special celebration.



## Synod Bishop Election



### Who Will the New Bishop Be?

The Discernment Team for the 2018 Bishop's election invites you to a time of Bible study, prayer, and conversation about the leadership our synod needs in the future. Join us as we prayerfully discern future directions for our synod and its leadership. To allow participation from a wide range of people, lay and clergy, these conversations will be held simultaneously at locations across our synod. We will be attending the session at God's Love, Newtown on Saturday, February 10th from 10:00-11:30 am. Please speak to Liz Young or Pastor Kristina to indicate your attendance and interest in carpooling from LCR.

### Sunday, February 11th

10:00 AM Contemporary Service with Holy Communion  
4:00 PM Blended Contemporary / Traditional Service – Installation of Pastor Kristina Ahlman  
5:00 PM Installation Reception – Fellowship Hall

### Wednesday, February 14th

7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Worship Service & Imposition of Ashes

### Sunday, February 18th

8:00 AM Service of Holy Communion  
9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service  
9:30 AM – 10:30 AM FAITH ALIVE! Children of All Ages – Starting in Church & Ending in Fellowship Hall Classrooms  
11:00 AM Service of Holy Communion

### Wednesday, February 21st

7:00 PM Lenten Wednesday Night Worship – Fellowship Hall

### Sunday, February 25th

8:00 AM Service of Holy Communion  
9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service  
9:30 AM – 10:30 AM FAITH ALIVE! Children of All Ages – Starting in Church & Ending in Fellowship Hall Classrooms  
11:00 AM Service of Holy Communion

### Wednesday, February 28th

7:00 PM Lenten Wednesday Night Worship – Fellowship Hall

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to view LCR's February Event Calendar.

## LCR Prayer Chain

If you have any special concerns you would like lifted up through prayer by LCR's

## Merciful Monday Update

Merciful Monday is scheduled every Monday from 7:00–8:30pm in the library at LCR. These are Support and Care Sessions. Be sure to join us next week as we discuss the topic of "Caregiving" – and we encourage you to invite a friend. Future topics include the following:



- February 19th – "Stress"
- February 26th – "Pain & Illness"
- March 5th – "Workplace Challenges"
- March 12th – "Addiction"
- March 19th – "Sorrow"  
*(Getting through life losses)*

Please come and share your stories and listen to others in a safe environment. If you can't stay for the entire session, please join us anyway. If your schedule means you have to arrive after 7:00pm, it's not a problem.

In conjunction with our Merciful Monday Support Sessions, please visit our Support and Care table by the mailboxes. You can read material about sessions we have focused on. Please feel free to take any information from this table that interests you. If you can't make a Merciful Monday session, but would like to talk, please call Barbara Merritt at (215) 519–7499 or you may contact her via email at [woodwardba@yahoo.com](mailto:woodwardba@yahoo.com).

## Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner

The Youth Group will be hosting a congregation wide Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner and Mardi Gras Celebration on Tuesday, February 13th. Pancakes and sausages will be served from 6:00–8:00 pm in Fellowship Hall as well as some Mardi Gras festivities. Please sign up on the ramp bulletin board so that we know how many to prepare for. All are welcome!!!



## Ash Wednesday Service

February 14th may be Valentine's Day, but this year it also marks the beginning of Lent. Celebrate the love of Jesus with us as we begin this period of reflection and penitence leading up to Easter Sunday. We encourage you to join us for worship at our Ash Wednesday service and Imposition of Ashes beginning at 7:00pm in the sanctuary.

Prayer Chain, please contact Alan Chinnici via email at [achinnici@erols.com](mailto:achinnici@erols.com).

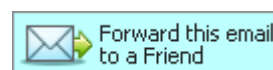
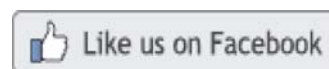


## Tissue Box Collection

LCR youth members Angi Miller and Megan Paton are collecting EMPTY tissue boxes for their Odyssey of the Mind team at Makefield Elementary School. A collection box has been placed in the narthex. Your support is appreciated – your trash is our treasure!

## Newsletter Submissions

Please email all articles to the Church office at [office@lcr-yardley.org](mailto:office@lcr-yardley.org) for review. Once approved, they will then be forwarded to our editor, Jenni Panaia for publication.





## Lenten Soup Suppers

Please join us at LCR for Soup Supper on Wednesday evenings during Lent. We will begin at 6:00pm with our traditional soup supper, with a short worship service to follow at 7:00pm. Worship will include music and testimony on our Lenten theme of "Modern Martyrs". Supper and worship will take place in Fellowship Hall beginning on Wednesday, February 21st and continuing weekly through March 21st. All are welcome. Look for the sign-up sheet to bring either soup, salad or bread. Please contact the church office at (215) 493-2018 for further information.



## Shared Meal News



LCR's January Shared Meal with those experiencing homelessness and/or food insecurity was a great success! Thank you to all who contributed as we shared dinner with over 65 guests! It takes a village to put this meal together. Thank you to those who set up tables, added the tablecloths, cooked the food, made the coffee, filled the plates and shared conversation with our guests. Many thanks also to those who donated, sorted, and distributed the clothing which we have available at each meal.

February's Shared Meal will take place on Sunday, February 18th. Set up begins at 2:30 pm and the meal is served at 4:00 pm. Our menu will include: Chicken (make your favorite recipe), Tater Tots (we have lots in the freezer!), Hot veggies, Garden Salad, Breads/Muffins of all types (banana, cranberry, etc.), and of course DESSERT! A sign up sheet is located on the ramp bulletin board leading to fellowship hall. Please join us for dinner whether or not you can share a dish – the food for the soul (hospitality) is as important as the food for the tummy! There is a place for you at this meal – please join us.

## Sleeping Bags Needed

Do you have a sleeping bag in your attic or closet that you won't ever use again? If so, please drop it off in the small room off of Fellowship Hall where we gather clothing. Our Shared Meal guests are always thankful for sleeping bags and we have a particular need at this time! If you have questions about this ministry, please contact Diane Casey at



## DWSN February Event



Please join our Disciples with Special Needs for an evening of Pictionary and bingo on Friday, February 23rd from 7:00–8:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Refreshments will be provided – the cost is \$5.00. If you plan to attend, please RSVP by calling (215) 493–2018 or via email at [lcrdwsn@verizon.net](mailto:lcrdwsn@verizon.net).

## 5th Sunday Appeal

### WHAT IS THIS ???

Have you ever wondered why these are in our offering envelope box and asked yourself, "What do I do with this?"?



These blue trimmed envelopes (previously all blue in color) are for 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Appeal , which is an over and above offering separate from our weekly offering to church, that goes to a designated organization or cause that is chosen by your Missions Team.

This year you will find four of them, with the first coming in April. We've chosen Lutheran Disaster Response to help with their continued efforts for the people of Puerto Rico, Texas, Florida and Louisiana who are continuing still to recover from the devastating hurricanes that hit their communities so many months ago.

If you feel moved to donate to any or all of the 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays this year, we ask that you use your blue trimmed envelope for the given month. Don't worry, though, if you have forgotten the blue trimmed envelope. You may write on your regular offering envelope or the ones provided in the pew. If you do this, please remember to designate the amount and write in 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Appeal.

## Good News from Thrivent Financial



Thrivent Financial is excited to share that Lutheran Church of the Resurrection received \$501 in charitable outreach funding in 2017!



Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is a financial services membership organization, helping nearly 3 million members achieve their financial goals and give back to their communities. As a not-for-profit organization, Thrivent Financial creates programs and activities that benefit Lutheran congregations, schools, charitable organizations and individuals in need.

Thrivent Choice is a member-advised charitable grant program of Thrivent Financial and its local branches in which members of Thrivent Financial who meet program eligibility requirements help Thrivent Financial effectively allocate program funds among eligible organizations. Thrivent Financial members directing Choice Dollars to LCR are Karen Berner, Mary Hammer, and Leonard Kramer.

All 2017 Choice Dollars have been made available for members to direct and will expire on March 31st, 2018. Be reminded that members must call Thrivent each year to designate your Choice Dollars to LCR. Learn more about Thrivent Choice by visiting [Thrivent.com](http://Thrivent.com).

### Sonshiners' February Update

Our Traditional "White Elephant" New Year's Yankee Gift Swap and Pot Luck Lunch was held on January 11th. Although only ten people were in attendance, we had a delicious lunch and a great time swapping our crazy gifts. It's amazing what "White Elephants" people come up with! Some in the group were very pleased with their gifts and others not so much. It was all great fun, but we will probably have quite a few of the gifts donated to LCR's Yard Sale in July!



Due to bad weather, our January Worship Service at Pickering Manor Nursing Home was cancelled. The next service is scheduled for Wednesday, February 21st, at 10:30 am. Please join us if you can. We are always happy to welcome additional volunteers. Pickering is located at 228 North Lincoln Avenue in Newtown.

Our next event will be held on Thursday, February 8th, at 12 noon. Since February is "Heart Month", we invite you to join us for a program on "Managing Our Heart Health." Our speaker will be Jill Kwansy, Nutritionist for McCaffrey's Food Markets, who will talk to us about healthy eating and provide some heart healthy recipes. We will have our usual Pot Luck Lunch but, if possible, please make your own dish a "healthy one" for sharing. Donna DiCesare is coordinating this event so please let her know if you are coming by signing up on the bulletin board at church or contacting her at (215) 321-4346 or [johndicesarejr2@gmail.com](mailto:johndicesarejr2@gmail.com).

### Computer Donations

If you are getting a new computer and wondering what to do with your old one....we have the answer! A retired gentleman with extensive IT experience, who attends Woodside Church, wipes clean used computers and supplies them to individuals in need. He has generously given laptop computers to two friends of the Interfaith Food Alliance. Computers have become essential to children and adults who attend school as much of their work needs to be



submitted online and vital research must be conducted online. Libraries are an excellent resource and while they have computers available for use, it is often difficult to obtain access due to limited time availability, schedules etc. Rather than send your old computer to a recycling center, please consider donating it to help out a local neighbor in need! Contact Diane Casey [dcasey16@comcast.net](mailto:dcasey16@comcast.net) if you have a computer you wish to donate. This is an ongoing need so please keep this in mind for the future when you upgrade your computer! Printers in good working condition are also accepted.

## Interfaith Food Alliance News

As you are aware, the Interfaith Food Alliance operates the Family Backpack Center – a food center for children of the Morrisville School District, and their families, who have been identified as experiencing food insecurity. Please continue your donations to the Family Backpack Center in the month of February! While all donations are appreciated, our highlighted donation items for this month are pudding and jello (instant or snack packs). The snack packs are great for the children to take to school. Donations can be left in the bins located outside of LCR's Administrative Office. Monetary donations can be made by clicking the link below. These donations are used for the purchase of fresh meats, dairy products, and a variety of other foods for the families at the Family Backpack Center. Your generosity is a true blessing to those in need!



<https://squareup.com/store/interfaithfoodalliance>

## A Mother's Mutterings

*by Christie Paton*

### Christie Gets Real...

I am not on Facebook. However, I hear enough about what's on there to confirm my decision to stay off it...errr, know a bit about it. People complain that posts on Facebook are peachy keen...everyone's perfect family is taking the perfect vacation...even the weather is perfect. Not really real.



Ok. So, you want Christie to be real? Christie will be real. Last Thursday, I was cranky. I was tired and I had a headache all evening. I was annoyed at some ridiculous little thing, I'm sure, so ridiculous that I can't even remember what it was. It was bedtime for the kids, or rather, past bedtime as usual. Daniel and Megan were upstairs running around and bickering (still). I had had it. I stormed upstairs and gave those two a piece of my mind. I sent Megan to bed without even tucking her in (and I ALWAYS tuck her in.) I {gasp} took away Daniel's phone, which the

"experts" say never to do. (Admittedly it was only for 8 minutes or so before he went to bed, when he would have relinquished it anyway, but still...) I did not even say good night to him either. Boy was I in a mood. All those perfect people on facebook clearly never had an evening like that, where their kids were driving them up a wall.

Ok, I'm done complaining. After a good night's sleep, I was in a better mood on Friday. So that's good.

So, now here's a side story about something that happened this weekend. Jim said, "Megan, listen to this song...isn't it good?" Megan listened for a moment, then replied, "Daddy, that song is SOOOOOOOO 2012." Jim nearly fell over and couldn't stop repeating it the rest of the day. How does she do it?!