

MAY

NEWSLETTER

A Letter from the Pastor

Grace and peace to you,

The month of May has traditionally served as a bridge time in the church year. Many of our programs come to an end as we follow the rhythm of the school calendar, and this year is no different. As we close out some programs, we also look ahead with anticipation to new opportunities in the months to come.

As we turn to May, here are a few things to highlight:

- On May 3rd, our 150th Anniversary Celebration continues as we give thanks for the ministry of the Holy Trinity Scholarship Program.
- On May 6th, we return to First Wednesdays with a potluck meal, fellowship, and simple worship.
- There is a Congregational Meeting on May 17th following worship to vote on new council members and receive the Annual Report.
- We are postponing the Crab Cake Dinner due to scheduling difficulties and the rising cost of crab meat. We hope to revisit this event in the future.

On May 7th, my seminary class of 2001 celebrates our 25th reunion. Chelsea and I are planning to attend the dinner and look forward to catching up with classmates who are able to join us. It is hard to believe 25 years have passed.

As I write this, rain is finally falling — a good, steady rain of the kind we need to ease the drought conditions we've been experiencing. As we give thanks for the joy and promise of the Easter season, the rebirth of creation around us serves as a reminder of God working in and among us. May we see God in all things made new.

Peace and hope,
Pastor Jonathan

Upcoming Events

May 2nd
Fellowship Hall Reserved

May 3rd
Second Sunday Reception

May 6th
First Wednesday Meal and
Worship

May 7th – 8th
Pastor Jonathan @ 25th
Seminary Reunion

May 17th
Congregation Meeting
Council Meeting

Bible Study
May 5th
May 12th
May 19th
May 26th



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

405 West Main St.
Wytheville, VA 24382

Sunday, May 17th
Following Worship

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHT

- ✚ **Anniversary Committee:** Continuing to celebrate the 150th Anniversary. Next day is May 3rd.
- ✚ **Property Committee:** 3 Ring Cameras were bought, to be installed soon. Elevator doors discussed.
- ✚ **Diaper Distribution:** Served 105 kids. It was a warm day, and they only had 4 pick-ups left over.
- ✚ **Luther's Lunch Bag:** Noisy Offering and BBQ raised \$1,659.01. They are planning a Minnick Teacher Appreciation.
- ✚ **Congregation Meeting:** Scheduled for May 17th following worship.
- ✚ **Next Council Meeting:** May 17th following Congregation Meeting



General Fund Contributions and Attendance

March 1 st	\$3,207	53
March 8 th	\$4,085	61
March 15 th	\$4,865	69
March 22 nd	\$1,865	60
March 29 th	\$8,205	65
Total:	\$22,227	308

Financial Report

March 2026
Income Received - \$22,216
Expenditures - \$20,227

2026 Year Total
Income Received - \$50,676
Expenditures - \$63,271

Worship Assistants:

May 3rd

Acolyte – James Crockett
Crucifer – Victoria Crockett
Lay Reader – Al Aymer
Comm. Asst. – Naomi King

May 10th

Acolyte – Luke Hamman
Crucifer – Micah Hamman
Lay Reader – Margaret Ferrell
Comm. Asst. – Dan Ferrell

May 17th

Acolyte – Owen Jackson
Crucifer – Jax Jackson
Lay Reader – Helen Keck
Comm. Asst. – Karen Miller

May 24th

Acolyte – Micah Hamman
Crucifer – Luke Hamman
Lay Reader – Barbara Atkinson
Comm. Asst. – Harvey Atkinson

May 31st

Acolyte – Owen Jackson
Crucifer – Jaz Jackson
Lay Reader – Debbie Clark
Comm. Asst. – Dale Clark

Second Sunday Reception

May 3rd Following Worship

Janet Johnson, Chair
Norma Armbrister
Ann Laing
Kathy Rowe
Regena Umberger

May Altar Guild

Martha Ballard
Naomi King
Ann Laing

May Ushers

Barry and Jane Festa

KIDS SUMMER Camp

DEADLINE JUNE 1
CAMP REGULAR PRICE IS \$400, WE HAVE A GRANT TO OFFER CAMP FREE!
SPACE IS LIMITED

JUNE 28 - JULY 3

FINANCIALLY BURDENED FAMILIES

Registration **FREE** most counties

Activities

- ✓ Kayaking
- ✓ Nature Hikes/Journaling
- ✓ Nighttime Owl Prowl
- ✓ Crafts - Old Time
- ✓ Critterman

Hungry Mother Lutheran Retreat Center
772 E. Hungry Mother Dr.
Marion, VA 24354

Registration Link
hungrymother.org

More Information 276-783-6521 hmlrc@hungrymother.org

DID YOU KNOW...

That Holy Trinity has a constitution that determines how we operate the church. There are certain parts of constitution that we must follow the model constitution of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The other part have recommended provisions that can be included, omitted, or altered at the discretion of the individual congregation. The current model constitution was adopted at the August 2025 Churchwide Assembly. Holy Trinity's constitution is currently being revised by a task group and will be available for congregational review and vote at the fall semi-annual meeting.

May Celebrations

Anniversaries:

Cindy and Art Hedrick 4th
Janet and Ted Johnson 8th
Elizabeth and Casey Ballard 20th
Kara and Jacob Ridenhour 20th

Baptisms:

Jessica Poole 6th
Thomas Fowler 9th
Lindsay Alderman 10th
Amy Butler 11th
Janice Umberger 12th
Amy Aussiker 16th
Amy Wagner 18th
Beth Cochran 21st
Kelley King Haga 22nd
Bryan Cochran 26th
Joan Dunn 26th
Nancy Jackson 29th
Robert Suthers 31st

Birthdays:

Robert Casey Ballard 6th
Eleanor Brown 7th
Elizabeth Ballard 8th
David Sharitz 8th
C.M. Walters 9th
Janice Shriver 10th
Robin Fowlkes 16th
Robert Ballard 21st
Steven Ridenhour 21st
Jonathan Hamman 22nd
Virginia Shartz 22nd
Corey Miller 23rd
Lydia Schottelkorb 28th

DID YOU KNOW...

That Holy Trinity has by-laws that determine the specific duties of the officers of church council, specifics of a congregational meeting. The congregation may want to add items as long as it doesn't conflict with the constitution. Both the proposed constitution and the by-laws are sent to the Virginia Synod once they are approved by church council prior to being brought for a vote by the congregation.



Thank you so much for supporting Luther's Lunch Bags. During the month of March, Luther's Lunch Bags held two fundraisers – a noisy coin offering and a Pork BBQ.

The noisy coin offering was held on the first four Sundays in March. A special Thank You to Victoria, James and Ella Crockett, Jax and Owen Jackson, and Luke and Micah Hamman for their help collecting the coins (and paper money, too).

The Pork BBQ was held on Sunday, March 29 after service. Thank You to Ted and Janet Johnson, Penny Matthews, Nancy Jackson, Chelsea Hamman, Jane Festa, Kay White, Anita Aymer and Janice Shriver for their help with the BBQ, sides and desserts.

Both of our fundraisers were incredibly successful, raising \$1,659.01. Because of your generosity, about 260 Luther's Lunch Bags will be filled enough for 8 students for the 2025-2026 school year.

POWER
I N T H E
SPIRIT

Power in the Spirit is an inspirational conference for people of all ages who wish to explore God's call to service through joyous worship, Bible studies, keynote addresses, workshops, games, and fellowship. In addition, congregational leaders—teachers, music directors, choir members, council and committee members, family life consultants, deacons, pastors, and others—will find Power in the spirit nurturing and challenging as they consider their mission and ministry.

Power in the Spirit will be on the Roanoke College from July 16 – 18th!!

Register at vasynod.org/power-in-the-spirit

Sundays of Easter, The Holy Trinity, and Day of Pentecost

Sunday, May 3rd – Fifth Sunday of Easter

Introduction: As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

Readings:

First Reading – Acts 7:55-60
Psalm – Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
Second Reading – 1 Peter 2:2-10
Gospel – John 14:1-14

Hymns:

#389 – “Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing”
#758 – “You Are the Way”
#604 – “O Christ, Our Hope”

Sunday, May 10th – Sixth Sunday of Easter

Introduction: Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

Readings:

First Reading – Acts 17:22-31
Psalm – Psalm 66:8-20
Second Reading – 1 Peter 3:13-22
Gospel – John 14:15-21

Hymns:

#369 – “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today...”
#397 – “Loving Spirit”
#668 – “O Zion Haste”

Sunday May 17th – Seventh Sunday of Easter

Introduction: In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unailing promise in our baptism.

Readings:

First Reading – Acts 1:6-14
Psalm – Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
Second Reading – 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
Gospel – John 17:1-11

Hymns:

#449 – “We Know that Christ Is Raised”
#392 – “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”
#376 – “Thine Is the Glory”

Sunday, May 24th – Day of Pentecost

Introduction: Pentecost derives its name from the Jewish festival celebrating the harvest and the giving of the law on Mount Sinai fifty days after Passover. Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the Holy Spirit as God's presence within and among us. In Acts the Spirit arrives in rushing wind and flame, bringing God's presence to all people. Paul reminds us that though we each have different capacities, we are unified in the Spirit that equips us with these gifts. Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on his disciples, empowering them to forgive sin. We celebrate that we too are given the breath of the Holy Spirit and sent out to proclaim God's redeeming love to all the world.

Readings:

First Reading – Acts 2:1-21

Psalm – Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

Gospel – John 20:19-23

Hymns:

#627 – "O Day Full of Grace"

#399 – "O Holy Spirit, Root of Life"

#400 – "God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind"

Sunday, May 31st – The Holy Trinity

Introduction: Though the word *trinity* is not found in the scriptures, today's second reading includes the apostolic greeting that begins the liturgy: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. In the gospel Jesus sends his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. More than a doctrine, the Trinity expresses the heart of our faith: we have experienced the God of creation made known in Jesus Christ and with us always through the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity in word and sacrament, as we profess the creed, and as we are sent into the world to bear witness to our faith.

Readings:

First Reading – Genesis 1:1 – 2:4a

Psalm – Psalm 8

Second Reading – 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Gospel – Matthew 28:16-20

Hymns:

#673 – "God, Whose Almighty Word"

#412 – "Come, Join the Dance of Trinity"

#413 – "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God..."