

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Share the Gospel. Overcome Barriers. Connect One to Many.



158 Vreeland Ave., Nutley, 07110 / (973) 667-0256
htlcnutley.org / email: office.htlcnutley@verizon.net

Pastor Nancy Truscott

Cell: (856) 745-0080 / email: ntruscott@comcast.net

Evelyn Oberndorf, Supply Musician

Council Members:

Steve Oberndorf, President / Jeremy Boyer, Vice President / Ken Geiselman, Secretary
Sally Bayhi / Marcia Hayes / Michael Palamara / Greg Sekula / Terry Graney (Treasurer)

Newsletter/ Lent & Easter 2022

Gladness and Rejoicing in Lent?

Every week, beginning with Ash Wednesday, we will be dismissed with the following:

“Go forth into the world **to serve God with gladness**;
be of good courage;
hold fast to that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;
help the afflicted; honor all people;
love and serve God, **rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit**.
Thanks be to God.”

So, yes! The practice of Lent does lead to gladness and rejoicing. To be closer to God, **not to feel closer** to God, but **to be closer** to God – leads to gladness and rejoicing. You can actually **be closer** to God by dedicating time and space to God. Simply and literally say, “Dear God, I dedicate this time to you.” You can dedicate reading a Bible verse/passage; a few minutes of sitting still, quietly believing God or Jesus or a saint is sitting right beside you; praying familiar prayers like The Lord’s Prayer; dedicating a kind act in the name of Jesus our Savior and God our Creator.

I love the season of Lent the most because it is the time of year when I make myself the most available to God. I do this through prayer, stillness, and reading the Bible.

All of this brings me gladness and rejoicing!

This Lent, I am going to provide a challenge each week for all of us to “serve God with gladness... love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.” It will be announced during Sunday worship and made known through the congregational emails.

Gladness and rejoicing in Lent? **YES!** In the words of Psalm 100:1-3...

¹ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.

² Worship the LORD with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.

³ Know that the LORD is God.

It is he that made us, and we are his;^[a]
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Joy and Peace in Christ, *Pastor Nancy*

WORSHIP LIFE

In Person Worship

On January 9, 2022, through January 30, we once again went back to Zoom-only worship, due to the spike in COVID-19 cases. We resumed in-person worship with COVID-19 guidelines in place on February 6th. As a reminder, for those that cannot attend worship in person, we continue to offer the Zoom/Phone-In option; the information is located on our website at www.htlcnutley.org:

Join Zoom Meeting Video Conferencing:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82552194898>

Phone Call for Voice Only: 1-929-205-6099
Meeting ID is: 825 5219 4898

Worship Assistants Needed



Would you like to help in worship? We are in need of Assisting Ministers & Lectors for in-person worship. You

will be scheduled to serve approximately once or twice a month (less if we have enough people scheduled for each position).

Please see Pastor Nancy, a council member, or contact Tina in the office if you are interested. *If you are also interested in assisting with our Zoom (remote) worship, please let us know.*

Thank you.

LEARNING OUR FAITH

Adult Bible Study (virtual)



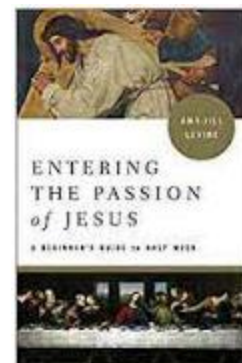
We will continue our ELCA-based Bible study series and finish our last 2 chapters on **Wednesday,**

March 9 and Wednesday, March 16, 10:30am.

As we did for the other chapters, the information will be emailed to you, with Pastor Nancy also showing the curriculum online.

Lenten Book Study (virtual) with Franklin Reformed Church

Join us virtually, via Zoom, with our friends from Franklin Reformed Church Thursday evenings at 7pm –for our Lenten Book Study. We will be reading *Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginners Guide to Holy Week*, by Amy Jill Levine. The study will run from March 10 thru April 7th.



The following information is from Franklin Reformed Church:

Jesus risked his reputation when he entered Jerusalem in a victory parade. He risked his life when he dared to teach in the Temple. His followers risked everything when they left behind their homes or anointed him with costly perfume. We take risks as we read and re-read these stories, finding new meanings and new challenges.

In Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week, author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the Passion story. She shows us how the text raises ethical and spiritual questions for the reader, and how we all face risk in our Christian experience.

Beginning on March 10th and continuing each Thursday evening through April 7th you are invited to gather for our Lenten Book Study. This year we will be reading and discussing the book Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginners Guide to Holy Week by Amy Jill Levine, Abington Press, 2018. Offered this year via ZOOM, our weekly gatherings will begin at

7pm and end no later than 8:30 pm. Discussions will be led by Rev. Nancy Truscott, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and Rev. Jill Fenske, Franklin Reformed Church. While sponsored by these congregations, we welcome “visitors” from other congregations or faith traditions.

If you are interested in joining us, please email frcnutley@optimum.net with the subject line “Lenten Book Study”. You will receive a confirmation email and updated information.

The book is available on Amazon and Barnes and Noble in both paperback and e-reader editions. If the cost of the book is prohibitive for you, please contact Pastor Jill at Franklin Reformed Church for assistance at (973) 667-7022 or frcnutley@juno.com.

LENT



Lent is a 40 day season beginning on Ash Wednesday extending to Holy Week that leads us to the cross of Jesus’ crucifixion. It is the time when we hear Jesus’ words, “if any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.” In the early church, lent was the final intense period of baptismal preparation before baptism at Easter.

Ash Wednesday – March 2nd

We begin by remembering that we are dust, and to dust we shall return.

Evening Worship with Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion, 7:30pm.

HOLY WEEK

Sunday of the Passion and Palm Sunday – April 10th

Community Blessing of the Palms Several Nutley congregations will process with palms

from their churches to the front lawn of **Town Hall (corner of Chestnut Street and Vincent Place) on Palm Sunday, at 9:15 a.m.** for a service of blessing of the palms. The palm branch for Christians is a reminder of Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem when the crowds waved palm branches of victory.

Palm Sunday Festival Worship at Holy Trinity

Join us at Holy Trinity, at 9:30am for Palm Sunday Worship and Holy Communion. We will



wave “eco-palms” from Lutheran World Relief which ensure a fair price is given to harvesters & protect the environment. We will hear the story of Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem as well as the story of Jesus’ passion and death as recounted in the Gospel of Luke.

April 14th, Maundy Thursday

Please join us with our friends at Franklin Reformed Church, for Maundy Thursday worship, 7:30pm. The traditional Maundy Thursday dinner has yet to be decided. Franklin Reformed Church is located at 45 Hillside Crescent, Nutley.

Good Friday – April 15th Community Cross Walk

The Nutley Clergy Fellowship invites the community to join them for a Cross Walk on **Good Friday, April 15th at 12 noon starting in front of Nutley High School.** Prayers for peace, healing, safety, compassion, and justice will be offered in front of locations like Nutley Family Service Bureau, and Nutley Police and Fire Departments. Participants of all ages can join for all or part of the walk and are invited to bring a cross of any size to carry as a Christian witness.



Good Friday Worship at Holy Trinity

This solemn service of prayer and reflection centers around the account of the state sanctioned murder of Jesus by crucifixion. As we gather and hear the story that we know so well, we are confronted once again with the amazing lengths to which God does go for love of us, God's created people. There are no depths – not even death – to which God will not travel to care for us. There is hope and good news even in this night of intense sorrow and emptiness. Please join us for **Good Friday worship at 7:30pm.**

Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter,



April 17th

9:30am Festival Worship with Communion

Come and hear the good news of the new life we have been given in Christ's death and resurrection! Sin has no power over us, the grave cannot hold us, in baptism we have been freely given forgiveness of sins and new life with Christ as brothers and sisters and siblings in the family of God! Alleluia!

CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS

Congregational Annual Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting was held on February 6th after worship. We went over ministry reports of what was done in 2021 and to consider what we might do in 2022. The meeting included approval of the 2022 spending plan. We also elected new church members and Synod Assembly Voting Members.

Council: Steve Oberndorf (President), Jeremy Boyer (Vice President), Ken Geiselman (Secretary), Sally Bayhi, Marcia Hayes, Michael Palamara, Greg Sekula, Terry Graney (Treasurer).

Installation of Pastor Nancy Truscott

Please join us in worship on Sunday, May 22nd, 10:30am, when we will install Pastor Nancy Truscott as the pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church! There will be a reception following. Please stay tuned for more details.



STEWARDSHIP & GIVING

St. Paul speaks of two motivations for giving our selves, our time and our possessions to God's work. In 2nd Corinthians 8:9, Paul speaks about the model and example of Jesus and asks us to give as Jesus did. In 2nd Corinthians 9:8, Paul reminds us that God promises to abundantly supply all that is needed for us to continue to give. The model of Jesus and the promise of God to provide for us encourage and empower us to be generous.

Our generosity is so much more than paying the bills to keep the lights on and the doors open here at Holy Trinity. **Stewardship is an act of love.** Our generosity honors God, the source of all generosity. Our generosity makes God's purposes in the world known and realized. We are called to be disciples. By and with God's power, our generosity provides the spreading of the Gospel and the sharing of God's love - God's love in action - to serve the needs of our siblings in Christ here at Holy Trinity, in our community and around the world. But equally important - our generosity draws us closer to God. Generous deeds shape our lives and our understanding. Through generosity we begin to know more deeply the graciousness of God. **Generosity does not change God's behavior toward us, but it changes our behavior toward God.**

And that is why it is so important to make a pledge, to share the gifts we have been given to further God's work here on earth. It is our joyful response to what we have first been given. We thank everyone who has already made a pledge and to all those who give so generously. If you have not yet had a chance to do so, it is not too late - it is NEVER too late to make a pledge. And now is the perfect time - as we are about to embark on the lenten journey leading to the cross - the ultimate sacrifice - and the ultimate gift - of eternal life.

~Karen Lewis



The Bishop's Challenge

Bishop Bartholomew welcomes the congregations of our Synod to go the extra mile in their giving. This year our Bishop's Challenge is the Jehu Jones Mission. Our HTLC Council is recommending this as one of our opportunities

for designated giving. Simply mark on your offering that it is for The Bishop's Challenge. You can read more information at www.njsynod.org. Here is a summary:

The Jehu Jones Story:

The Rev. Jehu Jones was ordained in 1832 as the first Black Lutheran Pastor in the US. He purchased two plots in Philadelphia—at \$375 each—for a building for his growing black congregation. Jones lost the mortgage after his Synod refused to rescue the project. Even after calling him to ministry and commending him for his service, the Synod refused to support him. Will you help your congregation to buy back a plot for Pastor Jones' church, at \$375 a plot?

In the Bishop's Challenge Plan, we as a synod are being challenged to...

—help raise \$50,000 to support the lives of emerging leaders of African descent in our church today;

—help to create a better future for all by being a part of Christ's Beloved Community.

For a donation of \$375 or more, each congregation will receive a quilt square, which represents a congregation's commitment to growing in awareness and moving toward action in Christian love. Congregations will send in their quilt squares to be combined in a large quilt and presented to the Bishop at the 2022 Synod Assembly. The quilt will then hang in the Synod office. All funds raised will support educational opportunities for emerging leaders of African descent, including (but not limited to) internships, camp, and international travel and will be administered through the NJ Synod. Once again, for more information go to our Synod website: www.njsynod.org.

Advent & Christmas. Thank You!

Thanks to those of you that helped with Advent & Christmas Worship. Those who helped decorate/undecorate the church for Christmas, and to anyone who helped in any way during the Advent, Christmas and Epiphany Seasons. We could not do it without you!

Through your generosity, you also gave:

\$230.00 towards Holy Trinity Funds

\$225.00 in *Shoptite* Gift Cards to help our local neighbors in need

\$350.00 towards ELCA Good Gifts

27 Poinsettias to help beautify the Sanctuary

Thanks to **Nancy Duhm** who again donated the 2 wreaths that hung on our front doors during Christmas!

2022 Offering Envelopes

Thank you to all who gave to the ministry of the church in 2021. Your gifts have enabled this congregation to worship every week, host faith-provoking discussions and studies, provide pastoral care in the community, form faith in all ages, and create faith-filled relationships among people of different ages and backgrounds.

If you haven't received envelopes in the past and would like to start using them, please call the church office or see Elfrieda Fenton.



SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Serving at the Vincent Care Kitchen



The Kitchen provides nutritious meals to roughly 75 families. Located at Vincent United Methodist Church, 100 Vincent Place, Nutley. Everyone is welcome to come to the Community Care Kitchen including families and seniors. If you would like more information or would like to help or contribute, contact the Vincent Church Office for more information at (973) 667-5440.

Care Kitchen Coordinator Sought

An exciting opportunity to make a significant contribution to the lives of Nutley area residents is available as the volunteer **Program Coordinator** for the **Community Care Kitchen**. The Care Kitchen provides nutritious meals and social gatherings for members of the Nutley community, particularly those on fixed incomes and experiencing food insecurity during these challenging times. The Program Coordinator works on a part-time, volunteer basis to organize activities among the partnering churches, the Community Food Bank,

volunteers, and occasionally other Nutley resources such as township departments, the Nutley Family Service Bureau, and Summit Medical Group. This position is ideal for someone who loves to connect with people, has great organizational skills, and wants to help the Nutley community. The time needed is a few hours per week, and one-half Saturday per month. For more information, please contact Vincent United Methodist Church at 973-667-5440 or vincentumc@verizon.net

Nutley Family Service Bureau Pantry

Any Nutley resident who is experiencing food insecurity is eligible for NFSB Pantry enrollment. For more info:

www.Nutleyfamily.org

To register, call or show up in person at:

The Nutley Family Service Bureau Pantry
169 Chestnut Street, Nutley, NJ 07110 (cont'd)
Phone: 973-667-1884 Ext. 2

Open Monday-Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Pantry Distributions: Bi-Weekly

Wednesdays, 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Thursdays, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

To donate pantry items, please bring them to the Pantry at the above address.



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

National Day of Prayer, May 5th

Thursday, May 5th is the National Day of Prayer. People of all faiths are invited that day to spend some special time in prayer for our world, our country, and our leaders. The Nutley Clergy Fellowship will hold a short **Prayer Service at 12 noon in front of Nutley Town Hall.** All are invited. Whether it is at town hall, at home, at work or anywhere, all are invited to lift prayers to God for our community, our country, and our world.

KEEP IN PRAYER

Kincaid Family, Tomino Family, Natasha, Sally Bayhi, Thanksgiving for Bill's release from the hospital, Barb & Curt Togstad, Joe & Peter, Jay Mascola, Wendy, Family & Friends of Emilee Bennett, Shaw Family, Family of Nick Bancro, Family of Jeanette McCullough, Tom, Anthony Skora, Duke Family, Janet, Steve Palamara, People of the Ukraine, Family of John Tenor, Santangelo Family, Family & Friends of the DiPaoli Family.

To add someone to the list, please fill out the form in the entryway, notify Pastor Nancy or contact the office. People are kept on the list for 3 months.

Daylight Savings

Remember to set your clock ahead one hour for daylight savings time on **Sunday, March 13th**.



There are hard copies of this newsletter available; pick one up during worship or please contact the office if you'd like one.

Easter Flowers (please order by Sunday, March 20, 2022)

Your flowers will beautify the sanctuary on Easter morning & may be taken home after Easter worship.

No. of Lilies: _____ x \$10.50 each = \$ _____
 No. of Tulips: _____ x \$10.50 each = \$ _____
 No. of Daffodils: _____ x \$10.50 each = \$ _____
 No. of Pompoms: (for Easter cross) _____ x \$4.50 each = \$ _____
TOTAL FLOWER AMOUNT \$ _____



Name: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

ELCA Good Gifts (please order by Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022)

ELCA Good Gifts works to break the cycle of hunger and poverty globally.

Just \$10 purchases a peep of 10 chicks: Chicks lay eggs for nutritious meals. Extra eggs can also become a small business.

\$30 vaccinations for a child: Immunizing a child is one of the best ways to make sure that they stay healthy — and that their family avoids the medical costs associated with treating these illnesses.

\$50 seed & gardening tools: Seeds and gardening tools Help a new gardener grow! New tools and equipment — along with seeds and comprehensive agricultural training — can help a family start their own small garden, improve their daily nutrition and increase their earning power.

\$ Where Needed: Donate any monetary amount towards helping our neighbors in need.

Peep of chicks: _____ x \$10.00 each = \$ _____
 Vaccination for child: _____ x \$30.00 each = \$ _____
 Seed & gardening tools: _____ x \$50.00 each= \$ _____
 Where Needed: Fill in your donation amount \$ _____
TOTAL GIFTS AMOUNT \$ _____



Name: _____

EXTENDED TOTAL FOR FLOWERS & GOOD GIFTS: \$ _____
 (For Counters to fill in)

PAID: \$ _____ via check# _____ or cash _____