

# HOLY TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



## SUNDAY SERVICE

10:00 AM

with Pastor John Mack

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>

## FIND THE CALENDAR OF EVENTS ONLINE

[WWW.HTLCREDBANK.ORG](http://WWW.HTLCREDBANK.ORG)  
(SCROLL DOWN ON THE FIRST PAGE)

[HTTPS://HTLCREDBANK.ORG/EVENTS](https://htlcredbank.org/events)

[HTTPS://HTLCREDBANK.ORG/NEWS](https://htlcredbank.org/news)

### We are a Community of Faith

The mission of Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is to follow Christ. We center our lives in the Word of God. Individually and collectively we are called to the work of the gospel.

## WORSHIP

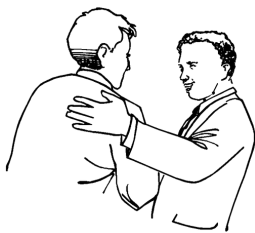
**May 3<sup>rd</sup> Fifth Sunday of Easter.** On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

**May 10<sup>th</sup> Sixth Sunday of Easter** In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

**May 17<sup>th</sup> Seventh Sunday of Easter.** On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.

**May 24<sup>th</sup> Day of Pentecost.** The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

**May 31<sup>st</sup> The Holy Trinity** After his resurrection, Jesus summons his remaining disciples and commissions them to baptize and teach all nations in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



## Interested in becoming an usher?

Would you like to be a substitute if needed? Or maybe you need to brush up on your skills? Dan Grillon will be leading an Usher Training/Refresher class Sunday, May 24, after worship service. Sign up below, all are welcome!

## DAY OF HOPE WALK

Holy Trinity Church has participated in this event for several years. We're excited to participate again this year in the annual Day of Hope Walk on Tuesday, May 12th! There will be a sign up in the red book.

### Event Details:

Location: Begins at Riverside  
Gardens Park, Red Bank  
& concludes at JBJ Soul Kitchen  
Check-in: 10:00AM  
Walk Begins: 11:00AM  
Refreshments: Available at  
JBJ Soul Kitchen after the walk

*"Many hands make light work."*

Blessings!

Pentecost is quickly approaching! It is the day when on which Christians celebrate the first coming of the Holy Spirit to the Church. But just who and what is this Spirit we read about in Acts 2 and throughout the Bible? Who is this Spirit that Martin Luther writes about in his explanation of the 3rd Article of the Apostles' Creed?

The word *spirit* comes from the Hebrew word "*ruach*" and a Latin word "*spiritus*" that both mean "breath," or "wind." The Greek word for *spirit* "*pneuma*" also means *breath* or *wind*. How appropriate! The Holy Spirit is the living breath or cooling wind in any language.

Breath cannot be seen. But breath is absolutely vital to life. If there is no breath, there is no life. That's really what the Bible tells us. When God breathed into a lump of dirt "the breath of life" and Adam became a person (Genesis 2:7), God's breath brought life.

While breath or wind cannot be seen, it can be felt. You can feel a breeze against your cheek. If someone is "breathing down your neck," you know they're very close to you. When the Holy Spirit breathes on you, you can feel the Spirit, too. You feel the Spirit's presence by having faith, joy, hope and trust. You feel the Spirit's presence when you sense peace.

It's not surprising that the early church described the Holy Spirit as the "breath of God." When the Spirit breathed on them, they became alive. That first great breathing took place in Acts 2:1-4. Why not take an opportunity to read it? As you read the words and look for ways the Spirit was felt by the people gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem.

I noticed two things in this reading from Acts 2. Did you? They felt a rush like a mighty wind. (Like the breath of God?) The disciples started acting differently. They began boldly proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ with no fear! That means that others experienced and "felt" the difference too!

You may all your Christian life learning new things about the Holy Spirit. Start now. Start with these facts: "The Spirit is breath. The Spirit is life. The Spirit breathes life into the Church and it's made alive."

As we approach Pentecost Sunday, you may want to think about ways the Spirit comes to us. The Holy Spirit comes to us through the Word. The Holy Spirit comes to us through Baptism. The Holy Spirit comes to us in the Lord's Supper. We don't know of any other specific way. But we do know the Holy Spirit comes through those precious "breaths."

Happy Pentecost!

Pastor Mack

(Excerpt from Martin Luther's Small Catechism: The Apostles' Creed)

### **The Third Article: *On Being Made Holy***

*I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.*

*What is this? or What does this mean?*

I believe that by my own understanding or strength I cannot believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him, but instead the Holy Spirit has called me through the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, made me holy and kept me in the true faith, just as he calls, gathers, enlightens, and makes holy the whole Christian church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one common, true faith. Daily in this Christian church the Holy Spirit abundantly forgives all sins—mine and those of all believers. On the last day the Holy Spirit will raise me and all the dead and will give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true.

# Worship Volunteers

	<b>Asst. Minister</b>	<b>Usher</b>	<b>Sacristan</b>	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Counters</b>
May 3	Keith Bennett	Kathy Caputo	Sherry Lee	Bill Spreen	Socha/Cheek
May 10	Keith Bennett	Dan Grillon	Helga Britton	Cynthia Kazmac	Carleo/Spreen
May 17	Chris Foard	Jill Socha	Nancy Poole	Molly Foard	Foss/Foard
May 24	Charlie Rugg	Andy Wehr/Dan Grillon	Pat Pienkos	Rosemary Lane	Bradford/Coleman
May 31	Linda Coleman	Keith Bennett	Joanne Giordano	Emily Kaster	Socha/Bohner

<https://htlcredbank.org/pages/volunteer-schedule>



Scam Email Warning– We want to make everyone aware of scam emails that appear to come from Pastor Mack and ask for gift cards or Bitcoin. Please know these messages are fraudulent. Pastor Mack and the church will never request payments in this way. Please do not respond to emails or texts asking for gift cards or Bitcoin. These are scams. We will never request payment in gift cards or cryptocurrency. Any donation to the church should be made through our established avenues. Vanco or the collection plate.



Dorcas Circle  
 Date: May 7, 2026 12:00 PM  
 Program Leader: Loris Ebner  
 Program: Who is Peter?  
 Host: Kari Oswald  
 All are Welcome!

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of Red Bank

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Mar 12, 2026 via teleconference

Enhancing Internal and External Communication

Enhancing and Expanding Outreach Ministries

Discovering, Understanding, Celebrating and Empowering the Talents of the Congregation

Fostering a Creative, Innovative Youth and Family Ministry

**Council Present:**

Pastor Mack

Cynthia Kazmac

Roger Foss

Lauren Bennett

Andy Bohner - absent

Adam Cheek

Linda Coleman - absent

Joanne Giordano

Tammy Grillon

Naomi McKenna - absent

Paul Volk

Rosemary Lane

Chris Foard (Officer of Council, non Voting member)

**Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:**

Motion to Approve: Roger Foss

Second: Joanne Giordano

All in Favor: 9

Opposed: 0

**President's Report: Cynthia Kazmac**

Assigned Devotions for the remainder of the 2026 Council Meetings. Recommend people come to the Lenten Devotions on Tuesdays. The book is very good, the food is good, and it is a fun evening.

**Pastor's Report: Pastor John Mack**

Blessings,

I hope everyone had an opportunity to enjoy the lovely "spring-like" weather we have been experiencing over the past several days. It's hard to imagine this time last month the Navesink River in Red Bank froze over enough to have ice boaters, ice skaters, nature lovers, and adventurers traveling over its surface. Just a reminder, it's still wintertime but spring will be here soon!

Along with spring coming, we at Holy Trinity are steadily moving toward recalling the passion of Our Lord during Holy Week and preparing to celebrate the resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday. Please take note of the upcoming worship opportunities during Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

Thank you to everyone who assisted with planning the Trivia Night event. It was a wonderful evening of food, fun, and fellowship. Also, thank you to all those who assisted with the worship, set up, and clean up at the LaParre and Schottle Memorial services. Your time spent, physical energy, and emotional support shown to the families was greatly appreciated.

May the peace of Christ be with you!

Peace, Pr. Mack

### **Upcoming Church and Community Events**

3/14 Memorial Service for Joan and Jeff Schottle

3/29 Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday and Easter Egg Hunt

4/2 Maundy Thursday Service 5pm

4/3 Greater Red Bank Ministers Good Friday Service at Shrewsbury Assembly of God Church at Noon

4/3 Good Friday Service 7:00pm

4/4 Easter Vigil and Church Decoration 5pm

4/5 Easter Brunch 9:00am

4/5 Resurrection of Our Lord/Easter Sunday Service 10am

### **Meetings and Gatherings Attended**

2/18 Ash Wednesday Services (Noon, 4pm and 7pm)

2/28 Trivia Night at HTLC

3/9 Memorial Service for Elsie LaParre

3/10 Internment Ceremony for Elsie LaParre

2/24-3/24 Lenten Study with St. Thomas and Trinity Episcopal

Confirmation Class

Weekly Pericope Study

Pastoral Calls: 20

Reception of New Members: 2

Memorial Service: 1

### **Financial Secretary Report: presented by Chris Foard**

#### **Treasurer's Report: Chris Foard**

A check in the amount of \$30,000 was received for the Challenge. An announcement will be made before service on Sunday. February was a good month from a financial perspective. Finance Committee agreed to repay ~ \$9,000 to Endowment and to pay~ \$2,000 to NJ Synod.

Motion to Approve Financial reports: Roger Foss

Second: Lauren Bennett

All in favor: 9

Opposed: 0

#### **Evangelism Report: Naomi McKenna**

Nothing to report for this meeting.

#### **Christian Education Report: Lauren Bennett**

The Egg Hunt will be organized by the Confirmands with them stuffing eggs during class then hiding the eggs during worship on Palm Sunday (March 29). Additionally, they will help Social Outreach to stuff Easter baskets with all of the donations that have come in.

Sunday School dates for the spring are as follows:

March-15 and 29\* \*Easter Egg Hunt!, April- 12 and 26, May- 2 17 and 31, June- 7 and 14

Sunday School classes have had some fantastic volunteer teachers and the signups continue to go well. Linda Coleman is the celebrity teacher this upcoming Sunday!

Crossroads Daycamp forms have been updated for the new year and, after final review with Emily Kaster, will be emailed to our Daycamp distribution list (including 1 new family!). T-shirt orders will be placed once a

general estimate of attendees can be determined. Flyers and signage will be posted in physical locations, blasted via social media and spread via our members.

Fundraising efforts are underway to help reduce the cost per child of daycamp to a price point the community seems more comfortable with for church camps (\$50). Money raised will also fund any scholarships given out. The tip jar on Pancake Sunday raised \$57.25. Peter has organized an Easter flower fundraiser. A car wash fundraiser tentatively scheduled for May is in the works. Acolyte training will be held March 15, 2026.

### **Social Outreach Ministry Report: Tammy Grillon**

Easter Food Drive, Food collection for Easter food bags for Lutheran Social Ministries of NJ is ongoing, and the goal is to fill at least 35 bags. We have postcards at the church entrances for people to take so they have the list of items needed. As of the count done on Sunday, many items are still needed. Quilting Update, The quilters continue to meet on Wednesday mornings and evening quilters meet once a month (3/18). Everyone is welcome and no experience is needed.

**Trivia Night**, Trivia Night was a great success with over \$650 raised and I hear a great time was had by all!

**WELCA**, WELCA is having a meeting on Sunday, 3/15 during coffee hour to discuss the distribution of donations raised by Trivia Night. We will also be discussing the Cross Roads Tee Sign donation which may be a collaborative effort with Social Ministry and Evangelism.

### **Worship and Music Report: Linda Coleman**

Holy Week/Easter signups are in the Red Book. Deanna mailed out beautiful postcards regarding services. Easter lily signups are in the bulletin.

A couple people have expressed interest in becoming ushers, we are planning an usher training/refresher for the end of the month. There will be an acolyte training session after church this Sunday to prepare for Easter.

Thank you Elaine Bradford and Molly Foard for the work you have done and continue to do to sort and file choir music.

### **Property Report: Joanne Giordano**

February weather was daunting but the "Little Engine That Could" pulled through the blizzard with minor impact. The gutter on the parking lot side of the building was found to be emptying over the top of the gutter. I spoke to Bill and it was agreed we would have a gutter company look into unclogging the gutters on a regular basis. As the new roof was installed a year ago, it is imperative that gutters be maintained regularly to keep the integrity of the roof healthy. I have several companies looking at the church and parsonage roofs and will get

Estimates. Estimates were received and the decision was made to no longer use the current company for gutter cleaning and use a company that will clean the gutters of three buildings twice per year at a reduced rate from the current company. The landscape vendor will also be changed with the vendor performing the fertilizing to be retained. A memorial marker is needed for the Memorial Garden. A current quote will be provided.

### **Stewardship Report: Paul Volk**

Twenty-six (26) pledge cards have been received with the pledged amount total of approximately \$120,000. As was done prior to Christmas, cards with the Holy Week schedule will be sent to members of the congregation whom may have disconnected from HTLC.

### **Vice President's Report: Roger Foss**

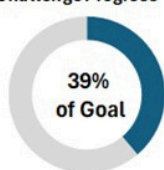


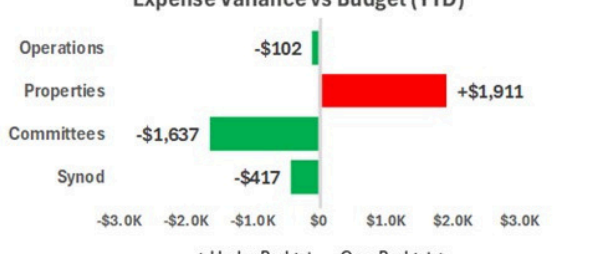
Reminder that the sidewalk will need to be repaired now that the weather is improving. The tree near the garage that is leaning over into the neighbors property needs to be removed. The Financial Committee will be meeting after Sunday service to provide information about Planned Giving to any interested congregants.

### **General Discussion**

Pastor ended the meeting with a prayer Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm Respectfully submitted, Rosemary Lane

### HTLC Treasurer's Report

As of March 31, 2026

THIS MONTH'S PERFORMANCE																																																																																																																						
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Payroll	\$32,198	\$32,433	-\$235 ▲	99%																																																																																																																		
Ministry	\$5,800	\$6,200	-\$400 ▲	94%																																																																																																																		
Office Admin.	\$4,007	\$3,475	\$532 ▼	115%																																																																																																																		
<b>TOTAL OPERATIONS</b>	<b>\$42,006</b>	<b>\$42,108</b>	<b>-\$102 ▲</b>	<b>100%</b>																																																																																																																		
<b>PROPERTIES</b>																																																																																																																						
Church B&G	\$6,432	\$5,836	\$596 ▼	110%																																																																																																																		
Parish House B&G	\$3,356	\$1,604	\$1,752 ▼	209%																																																																																																																		
Parsonage B&G	\$3,247	\$3,402	-\$155 ▲	95%																																																																																																																		
Mortgage & Insurance	\$5,734	\$6,017	-\$283 ▲	95%																																																																																																																		
<b>TOTAL PROPERTIES</b>	<b>\$18,769</b>	<b>\$16,858</b>	<b>\$1,911 ▼</b>	<b>111%</b>																																																																																																																		
<b>COMMITTEES</b>																																																																																																																						
Worship & Music	\$561	\$1,250	-\$689 ▲	45%																																																																																																																		
Christian Education	\$0	\$313	-\$313 ▲	0%																																																																																																																		
Social Ministry	\$270	\$325	-\$55 ▲	83%																																																																																																																		
Quilting	\$194	\$250	-\$56 ▲	78%																																																																																																																		
Stewardship	\$0	\$150	-\$150 ▲	0%																																																																																																																		
Evangelism	\$0	\$300	-\$300 ▲	0%																																																																																																																		
Youth and Family	\$0	\$75	-\$75 ▲	0%																																																																																																																		
<b>TOTAL COMMITTEES</b>	<b>\$1,026</b>	<b>\$2,663</b>	<b>-\$1,637 ▲</b>	<b>39%</b>																																																																																																																		
<b>NJ SYNOD</b>	<b>\$833</b>	<b>\$1,250</b>	<b>-\$417 ▲</b>	<b>67%</b>																																																																																																																		
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$62,633</b>	<b>\$62,879</b>	<b>-\$245 ▲</b>	<b>100%</b>																																																																																																																		
<b>Total YTD Expense Budget: \$62,879</b>																																																																																																																						
Expense Variance vs Budget (YTD)  <p>← Under Budget Over Budget →</p>																																																																																																																						
YTD EXPENSE BY CATEGORY																																																																																																																						
Category	Actual	Budget	Variance																																																																																																																			
Operations	\$42,006	\$42,108	-\$102 ▲																																																																																																																			
Properties	\$18,769	\$16,858	\$1,911 ▼																																																																																																																			
Committees	\$1,026	\$2,663	-\$1,637 ▲																																																																																																																			
Synod	\$833	\$1,250	-\$417 ▲																																																																																																																			

“Many hands make light work.”

## **HTLC Treasurer's Report — March 2026**

March was a solid and encouraging month financially for our congregation. Total giving reached \$26,389. While this represents a decrease from February's unusually strong total, it is slightly ahead of last year and reflects an excellent pattern of ongoing support. Of this amount, \$24,041 supports our Operating Budget, with an additional \$2,347 directed to designated ministries. Our 2026 Challenge continues to show strong progress. Through the end of March, we have raised \$94,738 toward our annual goal of \$244,000 — 39% of the goal, while 25% of the year has passed. This means we remain ahead of pace, a very positive sign of continued generosity from the congregation. In March, \$4,423 was contributed specifically to the Challenge, helping sustain this forward momentum. Our next monthly target is \$20,333 as we continue working toward the full-year goal.

Expenses remain well controlled overall. For the month, expenses were slightly above budget by \$1,091, largely driven by property-related costs. Year-to-date, however, total expenses are still slightly under budget by \$245. Operations spending is essentially on plan, while committees and ministry areas continue to run below budget. Property expenses remain the primary area of variance, reflecting necessary building and maintenance work, but these are being balanced by underspending in other areas.

As a result, our year-to-date net position remains strong, with a surplus of \$32,105 compared to a planned deficit. This is wonderful news for us all!

You can continue to participate in the 2026 Challenge by scanning the QR code in the report to make a one-time or recurring gift. Challenge envelopes are also available in the pews for convenient giving. We encourage everyone to maintain their regular giving and consider additional contributions as they are able, helping to sustain the strong start we have seen so far this year.

We continually give thanks for the faithfulness and generosity that continue to support the mission and ministry of HTLC. Every contribution plays a meaningful role in enabling worship, outreach, and care within our community. As we move into the coming months, continued participation in the Challenge will help ensure that we not only meet our financial goals, but also strengthen and expand our shared ministry.

### Quilters Need Help

If anyone is traveling near Mechanicsville, Pa , and can add a few extra minutes to your trip, the warehouse for shipping quilts, school kits, etc is located directly off one of the exits.

We accumulate many quilts throughout the year and we would appreciate sending some quilts with you to deliver. Any questions, please call Sherry Lee or Elaine Theophall.

**Sunday School Spring 2026**  
 January 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>  
 February 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 March 1<sup>st</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>\*  
 \*Easter Egg Hunt  
 April 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>  
 May 3<sup>rd</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>  
 June 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Red Bank, NJ

### Quilting

Weekly quilting

Wednesdays 9:30AM

The Wednesday quilters will be meeting all summer except August 13th.

Everyone is welcome!

### Holy Trinity Blanket Sunday

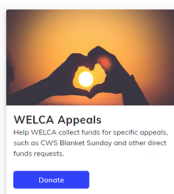
Mother's Day May 10,2026

In the midst of crisis, faith guides a loving response. That's how the CWS Blanket program started.

Please place your donation payable to "Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church" in the CWS envelope provided in the bulletin and return it to church. If you are doing eGiving, please select "WELCA Appeal" for the purpose of your gift. Thank you.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- BOB POOLE      MAY 1
- JOHN RAGO      MAY 8
- KRISTEN DENOIA-CONNOLLY MAY 16
- JEFF PIENKOS    MAY 16
- PHYLLIS BECKETT MAY 18
- ELAINE BRADFORD MAY 19
- JOHN CARLEO    MAY 21
- SUZY KIM        MAY 27
- JOHN YETKA     MAY 28





Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
150 River Rd.  
Red Bank, NJ 07701

April 6, 2026

Dear members of Holy Trinity,

Thank you so much for the generous Easter bags of food and gift cards. The families and seniors across the Lutheran Social Ministries of NJ (LSMNJ) programs are so thankful. You truly bring the hope and promise of the Easter season to the lives of the people we serve. This year with so many generous gifts we provided Easter dinner bags to all the families living in LSMNJ affordable housing and all the seniors who requested assistance.



Residents of affordable housing in Jersey City enjoyed the food bags. The housing manager had an Easter party and egg hunt.

Thank you,  
Beth Gebhart  
Director Community Relations & Volunteers  
[bgebhart@lsmnj.org](mailto:bgebhart@lsmnj.org)  
609-760-6073



Your need is our mission.  
3 Manhattan Drive, Burlington, NJ 08016  
P 609-386-7171 | F 609-386-7191  
[www.lsmnj.org](http://www.lsmnj.org)

## WELCA Thrift Sale - Fall 2026

Are you busy doing Spring cleaning or just sorting belongings?

Remember the annual WELCA thrift sale is coming this fall and we love donations of new or gently used items! We accept kitchen items, toys, decorations, linens, books, CDs, jewelry, DVDs, outdoor items, clothing, etc.

We are also always looking for volunteers to help with garage sale sorting, pricing, set-up, sale days, and clean up. If you have any questions or want to get involved, please reach out to Molly Foard at [foard@aol.com](mailto:foard@aol.com).

### Endowment Fund Appeal for Father's Day, June 21

"The righteous who walks in his integrity—blessed are his children after him!"

Proverbs 20:7

As it is an Endowment tradition, the Endowment Fund will continue to do its Father's Appeal to help support our congregation's ministry.

The Endowment committee is continuing our efforts to support many of our ministries at Holy Trinity. But we need your help. This Father's Day, Endowment plans to support the scholarship fund for the August Camp Crossroads Summer Camp.

Also, we will be doing our traditional Father's Day brunch.

If you would like to donate to this Appeal, in honor and in memory of your father and forefathers, we appreciate it. And we sincerely thank you for your continuing support. Every donation, no matter its size, is greatly appreciated, and every donation will make a difference in doing God's work.

Giving envelopes for the Father's Day Appeal are in church pews and with the ushers.

Mark Csernica  
Endowment Ministry Chair