



ST JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER

St. John Lutheran Church comes together to love God and one another, serve others and share God's word. We do these things by God's Grace that comes through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ



Sunday Morning Worship at 9AM
Sunday school at 10:15AM
Sunday Adult Bible Study at 6PM
Choir Practice on Mondays at 7PM (Sept-May)

St. John Lutheran, Ingomar · 2139 Enterprise Rd. · P.O. Box 32
West Alexandria, OH 45381
937-839-5321 · www.stjohningomar.org
stjohningomar@swohio.twcbc.com · find us on Facebook ·
Pastor Kevin Scheuller: 937-287-2742 or 937-331-8540, (revkev312@gmail.com)



“In like a lion, out like a lamb.” That’s what is often said of the month of March. At home, we have a beautiful little olive wood carving from Israel of a lion and a lamb side by side. To the left of that little statue, you’ll see a shamrock plant. Behind it, of course, is what’s left of our poinsettia. With the kind of milder winter we’ve experienced this year, and the church seasons that we’ve experienced together, I thought this arrangement was fitting this morning as I set up this photo. Who knows what the weather will bring, but as the psalmist says, “the steadfast love of the Lord endures forever.”

This March is a special March for me. March 12 marks my 20th anniversary in ordained ministry. Just 3 days later, on Sunday, March 15th, Pastor Bob Abrams from the Southern Ohio Synod will join us and preach at worship at both Saint John, Ingomar and Trinity,

Lewisburg as we celebrate my installation as your new pastor. When I answered God’s call to ordained ministry a little over 20 years ago upon entering seminary, I never would have dreamed then that I would be serving here in your midst now. As long and winding as my road in ministry has been, and through all the mountains and valleys, God’s love and mercy in Jesus Christ has been my constant source of peace and strength. In the beginning of my senior year in seminary, God gave me my favorite answer to prayer when I was blessed to meet my wife, Tina. I still marvel at how she stepped up to help when it came time for me to move from my parents’ home in the Edgewater neighborhood of Chicago, to the parsonage of Emanuel Lutheran Church in Brandon, Wisconsin. Four calls and seven congregations later, along with 3 other favorite answers to prayer in our daughters Hannah, Natalie and Libby, and I am still blessed to be an ordained minister of the church of Christ.

As we enter the season of Lent, we prepare to welcome spring and Easter, and new life. We are reminded to “return to the Lord, our God who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.” Joel 2:13 I’m reminded once again that Jesus says in Mark 1:15 “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent and believe in the good news.” In other words, **repentance is good news**. This point is driven home further when Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:2 “We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 21For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 6:1As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. 2For he says, ‘At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.’ See, **now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!**” For the faithful in Israel, Yom Kippur is the day of atonement each year. As Christians, we can rejoice to know that, in Christ, every day is a day of atonement. Every day is a day we can repent, confess our sins and know that, in Christ, we have the promise of forgiveness.

Thank you all so much for calling me to be the one who is blessed to proclaim this to both St. John and Trinity. May our Lord Jesus Christ through the power of his Spirit and in the providence of our heavenly Father bless us with many fruitful years together!

Your fellow servant of Christ,
Pastor Kevin Scheuller

HAPPY DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
Sunday, March 8th
Don't forget to set your clocks ahead
one hour!



FROM THE ELCA



John Weit accepts call as assistant to the bishop, executive for Worship

Deacon John Weit has accepted a call as assistant to the bishop, executive for worship of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Weit has served in the role in an interim capacity since July 2019.

"For Lutherans, worship stands at the center of our life of faith," said the Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, presiding bishop of the ELCA. "John brings to this role a deep commitment to how worship and liturgy help us grow in our faith. His gifts of music and leadership will ensure that the worship life of this church will continue to be grounded in our Lutheran roots while also providing relevance for

today's world."

In his role as assistant to the bishop, executive for worship, Weit will oversee the work of the Worship team within the Office of the Presiding Bishop and provide leadership on the bishop's behalf in churchwide matters related to worship. This work includes developing and implementing strategies that support worship in synods, congregations and other local worship assemblies across the ELCA. He will oversee and participate in developing and reviewing worship resources intended for use throughout this church.

Since 2016 Weit has served as ELCA program director for music in the Office of the Presiding Bishop. Prior to joining the ELCA churchwide organization, he served as cantor at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Worcester, Mass., from 2009 to 2016 and at Christ Ascension Lutheran Church in Philadelphia, Pa., from 2008 to 2009.

Weit earned a Bachelor of Science in electronic media, concomitant in music, from Kutztown University of Pennsylvania in 2007. He earned a Master of Arts in religion with a concentration in liturgy and music from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia in 2009. The seminary became part of United Lutheran Seminary in 2017.

As part of his position with the ELCA, Weit works closely with the board of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians.

FROM THE SOUTHERN OHIO SYNOD

THE OHIO COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
Lunch & Learn Webinar Series
FEEDING THE MULTITUDE
The interactive webinar series will be held via Zoom the 3rd Thursday of each month, 12pm - 1pm
Grab lunch and deepen your knowledge on social justice issues. Subject matter experts will share innovative ideas and strategies to mobilize your congregation.

January 16th	Human Trafficking
February 20th	US Census
March 19th	Environmental Justice
April 16th	Health Equity
May 21st	Anti-Racism
June 18th	Addiction
July 16th	Criminal Justice
August 20th	Voting and Civic Engagement
September 17th	Anti-Racism
October 15th	Domestic Violence
November 19th	Financial Security
December 17th	Fostering a Sense of Belonging

Web Series is Free and Requires Registration:
Visit: www.ohiocouncilofchurches.nationbuilder.com/events/

Upcoming prayer and advocacy events via Zoom from the Ohio Council of Churches

The Ohio Council of Churches, of which the Southern Ohio Synod is a member, has two ongoing gatherings via Zoom for anyone wanting to pray for our leaders and/or learn more about how to be involved in a variety of advocacy efforts.

Policy Webinar Series

The Ohio Council of Churches is pleased to announce "Feeding the Multitude"- a lunch and learn webinar series. This interactive webinar series will be held via Zoom the **3rd Thursday of each month from Noon-1pm.**

The series aims to:

- Deepen your knowledge on social justice issues;
- Help you to stay current with state and national discussions on policy that impacts us all;
- Hear from subject matter experts who will share innovative ideas and solutions;
- Learn more about how to engage in advocacy work; and
- Receive concrete skills and strategies to mobilize your congregation.

To participate in this free webinar series, you must register. Please go to: ohiocouncilofchurches.nationbuilder.com/events.

Continued on next page

Praying for our Leaders

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. Luke 18:1 (NRSV)

Intercession is necessary for our leaders as they look to God for guidance. Please join the Ohio Council of Churches as we pray for elected officials, policy makers, and leaders in our state the **first Friday of every month at 8am**. You may register here:

<https://zoom.us/j/401879330?pwd=NnI4bU81eE1NUjIrWlVvUk-tNNTBxQT09>.

To learn more about the Ohio Council of Churches visit their website: <https://www.ohcouncilchs.org/>



Luke 18:1 Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart.

PLEASE JOIN THE
OHIO
COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
as we pray
for elected officials, policy makers and leaders in our state.

2020

First Fridays!
@8am

January 3rd
February 7th
March 6th
April 3rd
May 1st
June 5th
July 3rd
August 7th
September 4th
October 2nd
November 6th
December 4th

If you're interested in being a guest intercessor, please email Pastor Brandi Slaughter at bslaughter@ohcouncilchs.org
[Prayer Via Zoom]

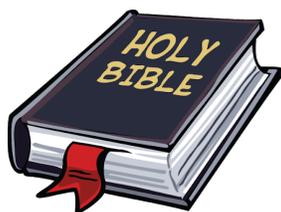
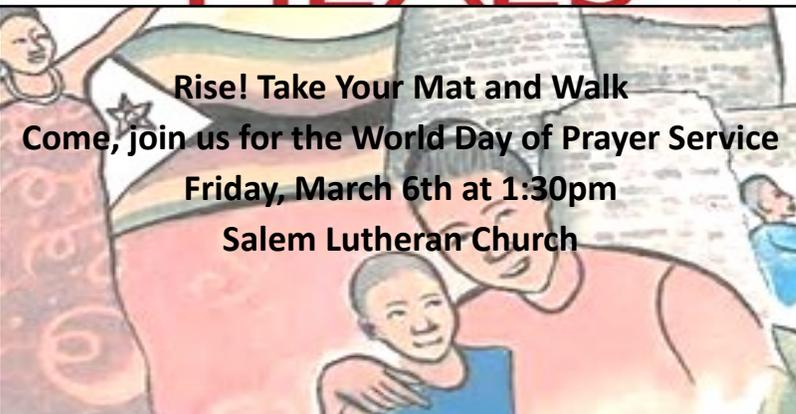
Ohio Council of Churches

Visit ohcouncilofchurches.nationbuilder.com/events/ for registration or more information

WACOCA NEWS

West Alexandria Church of the Brethren
First Wednesday of the Month
March 4, 2020, 5-6:30pm

WEDNESDAY
Night
FREE MEALS
EVERYONE WELCOME



Salem is still collecting new or clean used Bibles to accompany their quilts for the Blanket and Bible ministry for national disaster relief.

NEWS FROM AREA CHURCHES



US-Ward: A community based, eating disorder support group meeting to give hope, reveal truth and provide encouragement to women and young ladies who have experienced the struggles of an eating disorder. Encouragement and support will come through the sharing of personal stories including struggles and triumphs, and through learning truths.

Where: [First Baptist Church, 1308 N. Maple St. Eaton, OH](#)
Meetings will be held in the fellowship hall.

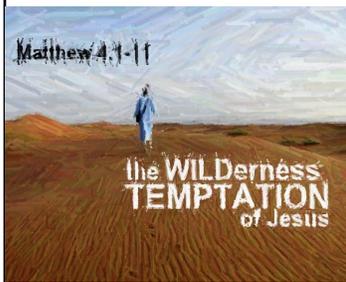
When: First Tuesday of each month starting January 2020

For more information, please, call or text Leslie @ [513.519.6341](tel:513.519.6341)

Contact First Baptist Church

Email: info@fbceaton.com Call: 937.456.3919

SUNDAY WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS FOR SUNDAYS IN MARCH

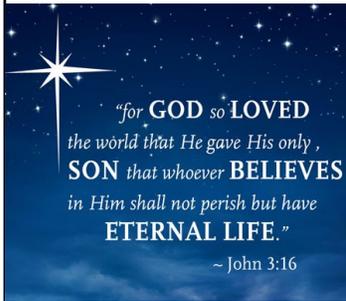


March 1: First Sunday of Lent

Holy Communion

The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness for forty days

Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

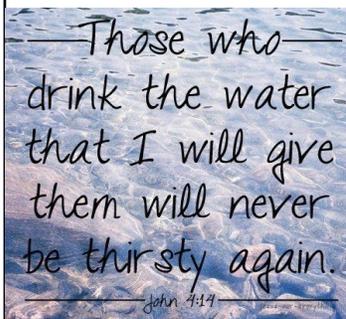


March 8: Second Sunday of Lent

Holy Communion

The mission of Christ: to save the world

During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. In today's gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.

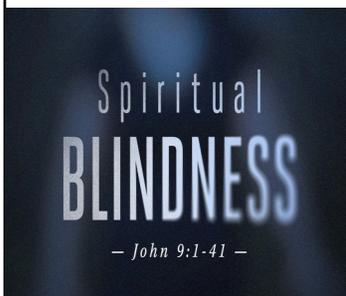


March 15: Third Sunday of Lent

Holy Communion/Installation of Pastor Kevin

Baptismal image: the woman at the well

In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.



March 22: Fourth Sunday of Lent

Holy Communion

Baptismal image: the man born blind

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.



March 29: Fifth Sunday of Lent

Holy Communion

Baptismal image: the raising of Lazarus

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 unfailing promise in our baptism.

LENTEN MIDWEEK SCHEDULE



Wednesday
Lenten Services

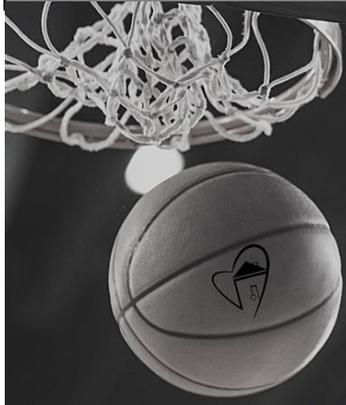
St. John will be hosting midweek services on March 4th, 18th, and April 1st. Trinity will host the midweek services on March 11th and March 25th. All services will begin at 7:30pm and follow the Holden Evening Prayer format.

Pastoral
Installation

Pastor Bob Abrams, with the synod, has scheduled Sunday, March 15th to install Pastor Kevin at both St. John Ingomar and Trinity, Lewisburg. He will be the preacher

that morning. A single reception for Pastor Kevin will be held at Trinity following their service.

NEWS FROM ORGANIZATIONS WHOSE MISSIONS WE SUPPORT



H.I.T. Foundation
Home Is The Foundation

HOOPS
4 H.I.T.

3 ON 3 FUNDRAISING
TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY MARCH 21 @ 10 A.M.
EATON HIGH SCHOOL GYM | 600 HILLCREST DRIVE

AGES 16+
LIMITED TO THE FIRST 16 TEAMS
3 PLAYERS PER TEAM
FEE: \$100 PER TEAM

Register online: bit.ly/Hoops4HIT
All proceeds benefit Home Is the Foundation Programs
Questions? Call 937-472-0500 or email lindsay@hitfoundation.org



Free Community Meal
Tuesday, March 31, 2020
4:30pm – 7:00pm

All are WELCOME!

H.I.T. Foundation
Home Is The Foundation

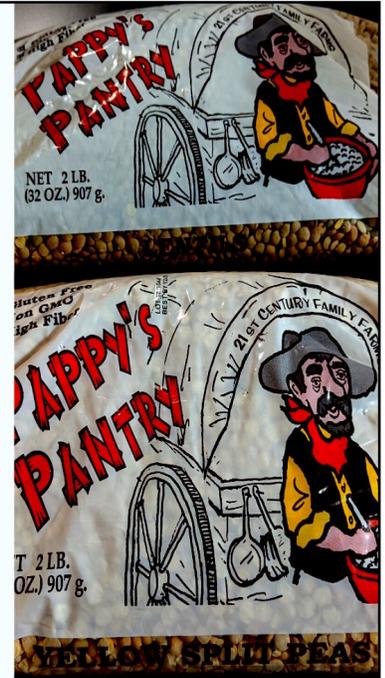
UP FOR GRABS!

Thanks to a special donation from Camden United Methodist Church, we have several boxes of yellow split peas and lentils to give away!

WHAT CAN I DO WITH THESE?

You can make something for the Homeless Shelter or fulfill another need in town. There are several recipes online if you would like to try some for yourself!

STOP IN DURING BUSINESS HOURS
M-F 8:30 - NOON & 1 - 4:30 P.M.



Oasis House
Annual Tea

April 4, 2020 | 11:00- 1:00
Tipp City United Methodist Church
8 West Main Street
Tipp City, OH 45371



Tribe Time! Join us for our annual Tea Fundraiser!

The FREE event includes: a formal tea luncheon, a hat contest, handmade items (for sale) created by the survivors we serve, silent auction and entertainment.

Seating goes fast so please pre-register on eventbrite.

In order to reserve an entire table, you must have a party of nine people. If you have any questions please call (937)-898-7811.

Oasis House offers hope and support to women survivors of trauma, violence, sexual exploitation, and substance abuse. We do this by promoting healing, restoration, empowerment through Christ's unconditional love, teaching practical life skills, and mentoring through a transformational process.



Birthright of Eaton

It is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth and the right of every child to be born

On Sunday, February 9, the Birthright family lost one of our own. Kathy Overbey was very suddenly taken from us, and our thoughts and prayers are with her husband Jim and the family as they navigate this very difficult time in their lives.

Kathy came to Birthright in 2009. She volunteered because "God is calling me to do this."

Kathy was quick to help, kind, gracious and gentle. On more than one occasion she filled in for extended times until a more permanent volunteer could be found. She was affirming and encouraging to all. She will be greatly missed.

UPCOMING EVENTS



March 28 at Trinity
Lewisburg
9:00 AM
**MEN'S PRAYER
BREAKFAST**

Fellowship around the Lord's Word!

OPPORTUNITIES TO LOVE SERVE AND SHARE



FOOD BANK-MONTH OF MARCH

Items needed are ramen noodles,
pork & beans, shampoo and
toothpaste.

THANK YOU

Thank you so very
much for all of your
prayers, cards and
thoughts for my foot
surgery and recent
medical issues.

There are not
enough words to say
how much it means to me. I love you all!!



God Bless,
Janette



100 years of women's right to vote



50 years of Lutheran women ordination

WOMEN CALLED TO SERVE

*Celebrating Anniversaries of
50 Years of Lutheran Ordination of Women
100 Years of American Women's Right To Vote
Dayton Conference*

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church

SPRING GATHERING

*April 4, 2020 at
St. Paul Lutheran Church Dog Leg
7700 Dog Leg Rd, Dayton, OH 45414
11:00 am -3:30 pm with Registration beginning at 10:30 am*

Lunch: \$5.00 (suggested)

Speakers: Representative from League of Women Voters:

Dianne Herman

Ordination of Women: Pastor Joyce Gerwin-Grimm

BULLETIN BOARD

EASTER FLOWERS

Order your Easter flowers today! Your choice of Lilies (\$8.00) or Spring Mums (\$7.50). Deadline to order is April 15th. Sign-up sheet is available in the back of the sanctuary.



OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Kevin is at St. John on Mondays and Tuesdays and at Trinity on Wednesdays and Thursdays with Friday begin his day off. Erin is in the office Mon.-Wed. and Friday from 8am-1pm.

NEWSLETTER/DEADLINE

Submissions for the April newsletter due by Thursday, March 26th.



BULLETIN DEADLINE

Items to be included in Sunday bulletin should be received no later than Friday mornings.



CHURCH REPORTS



Council Meeting: November 13, 2019

Presented: February 12, 2020

Present: Mandy Arnett, Al Souleyrette, Nancy Wright, Steve Dafler and Mut Buettner

Absent: Stephanie Cotterman and Paula Schiml (both on speaker phone)

Others Present: Erin Utsinger, Secretary

and Mark McKinley

Al called the meeting to order.

Minutes: Nancy motioned to accept the minutes, Paula seconded, m/c.

Treasurer's Report: The July and August financial reports were reviewed; the Jan.-July 2019 offering figure on July report along with the Jan.-August 2019 offering figure were incorrect. The figures were revised. Steve motioned to accept the amended reports, Paula seconded, m/c.

WORK REPORTS:

Sleep Mat: October report reviewed.

WELCA: September and October reports reviewed.

Call Committee: No minutes

Worship & Music: October report reviewed.

Outreach & Ideas: No report

Safety & Security: No report

Nancy motioned to accept reports, seconded by Steve, m/c.

Correspondence: None

Pastor's Report: None

OLD BUSINESS

1. Update in Call Process: Al and Stephanie met with Trinity Council members, including their Treasurer, to go over financials, salary, and benefits based upon information from Synod. Salary was negotiated, but benefits package from Portico is non-negotiable (unable to negotiate certain benefits within a package). Vince at Trinity is checking into the cost of fixing the issues with the parsonage so eventually, pastor Kevin and his family could sell their house and move into the Lewisburg community.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Possible date for Meet & Greet:** November 24th

Paula motioned to adjourn meeting, Mut seconded, meeting adjourned.

Lord's Prayer

Next Council Meeting – April 8, 2020 at 7pm

2020 Church Council

Council President – Steve Dafler

Vice-President – Al Souleyrette

Treasurer – Stephanie Cotterman

Minutes – Erin Utsinger

Members:

Mandy Arnett, Mut Buettner, Steve Dafler, Stephanie Cotterman, Melissa Collins, Al Souleyrette, & Nancy Wright



Women
of the
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
IN AMERICA

No meeting in February due to weather.

Next Meeting–March 12, 2020 at 7pm

2020 WELCA Officers

President – Judy Erbaugh

Vice – President – Earla Donaldson

Secretary – Jan Spittler

Treasurer – Becky Stockslager

2020 DATES TO REMEMBER

WELCA Meetings – 2nd Thurs. of month @7pm

Women's Council LLS – 3rd Tues. of month

Rotary – Mondays in Jan., Feb., Sept., & Oct.

Retired Teachers Lunch – April, June, Sept. & November

A complete schedule is located on our website.

Ushers: Dale C., Mark M., Steve S., & Buzz W.

CA: Earla D. AG: Earla D.

MARCH 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 LENT 1 Holy Communion M: Mandy Arnett A: Lucas & Olivia Erbaugh LR: Judy Erbaugh G: Jenny D. & Carolyn S. Stephen Ministry 6-8pm	2 Choir 7pm	3 Worship & Music 7pm	4 Neighbor Night at Trinity 5-6:30pm Community Meal at W.A. Church of the Brethren 5-6:30pm Midweek Service HERE 7:30pm M-Carol LR-Earla	5	6 World Day of Prayer 1:30pm Salem Lutheran Church	7
8 LENT 2 Holy Communion M: Carol McKinley A: Ellie Arnett LR: Stephanie Cotterman G: Buzz & Nancy Wright	9 Choir 7pm	10	11 Neighbor Night at Trinity 5-6:30pm Midweek Service at Trinity Lewisburg 7:30pm	12 WELCA 7pm	13	14
15 LENT 3 Installation of Pastor Kevin Holy Communion M: Jenny Dawson A: Ellie Arnett LR: Lorey Collins G: Deane L. & Paula S. <i>Reception at Trinity following their service.</i>	16 Choir 7pm	17	18 Neighbor Night at Trinity 5-6:30pm Midweek Service HERE 7:30pm M-Carol LR-Darlene	19	20	21 Sleep Mat 9-11am
22 LENT 4 Holy Communion M: Carol McKinley A: Lucas & Olivia Erbaugh LR: Mark McKinley G: Judy I. & Betty P.	23 Choir 7pm	24	25 Neighbor Night at Trinity 5-6:30pm Midweek Service at Trinity Lewisburg 7:30pm	26 Newsletter Deadline	27	28 Men's Prayer Breakfast at Trinity 9am Eby Baby Shower 10am
29 LENT 5 Holy Communion M: Carol McKinley A: Lucas & Olivia Erbaugh LR: Earla Donaldson G: Jim & Cindy Robsion	30 Choir 7pm	31 Free Community Meal at the Bistro 4:30-7pm	APR. 1 Neighbor Night at Trinity 5-6:30pm Midweek Service HERE 7:30pm	APR. 2	APR. 3	APR. 4 Dayton Conference WELCA Spring Gathering 10:30am-3:30pm St. Paul Lutheran on Dog Leg. Rd.