

# THE mini EPISTLE

March 2024



## Monthly Highlights:

**Lent 3- Sunday March 3-Communion Sunday-8:30/10:45**

12:00-Lunch and Bible Study

Wednesday March 6-5:30PM Soup & Salad, 6:30PM Lenten Service

Friday March 8-Cookies To College-10:00 AM

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**Lent 4- Sunday March 10-Praise Sunday-8:30/10:45**

Wednesday March 13-5:30PM Soup & Salad, 6:30PM Lenten Service

Saturday March 16-Men's Bible Study Breakfast

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**Lent 5- Sunday March 17-Communion Sunday-8:30/10:45**

10:45-EGG HUNT WORKSHOP-PIZZA

12:00-Lunch and Bible Study

Wednesday March 20-5:30PM Soup & Salad, 6:30PM Lenten Service

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**HOLY WEEK EVENTS NEXT PAGE**

# HOLY WEEK AT HOLY CROSS

**PALM SUNDAY-Sunday March 24-Praise Sunday-8:30/10:45**

**Wednesday March 27-PRESCHOOL FAMILY WORSHIP**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY MAR 28-HOLY COMM-6:30 PM**

**GOOD FRIDAY- MAR 29-12:00-LAST WORDS OF CHRIST**

**GOOD FRIDAY- MAR 29-7:00 PM-TENEBRÆ SERVICE**

**SATURDAY MARCH 30-10:00 AM-EASTER EGG HUNT**

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**EASTER SUNDAY-MARCH 31**

**THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD**

**6:30-SUNRISE SERVICE**

**EASTER BREAKFAST**

**MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup>, 7:15-8:30 AM**



Following the 6:30 AM Sunrise Service

Sponsored by Borderline Restaurant

**HOLY COMMUNION-8:30/10:45**

## Council Actions

Council Highlights from February 2024

- A motion was made and carried to move forward with reviewing a request from the Guardians of Israel to use our facilities on a long term basis.
- A motion was made and carried to restrict the use of the office computer and internet for office work only, not for personal use.
- If you are interested in serving on Altar Guild, please see Jan Stryker. We are in need of volunteers. Please pray about serving. Thank you.

— Lenten Midweek Services —
Wednesdays: Feb 21, 28; Mar 6, 13, 20
5:30 PM - Soup & Salad Supper
(Please sign up to provide soup or salad on the bulletin board across from the church office.)
6:30 PM - Lenten Service
featuring readings, drama, mystery witnesses and prayer

The Benevolence Committee would like to thank everyone for their continued prayers for the missions which Holy Cross support.

We ask you to take a few minutes now and then to review the Benevolence bulletin board. You will see interesting communication and photos from the various missions in the Lehigh Valley and beyond.

# MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

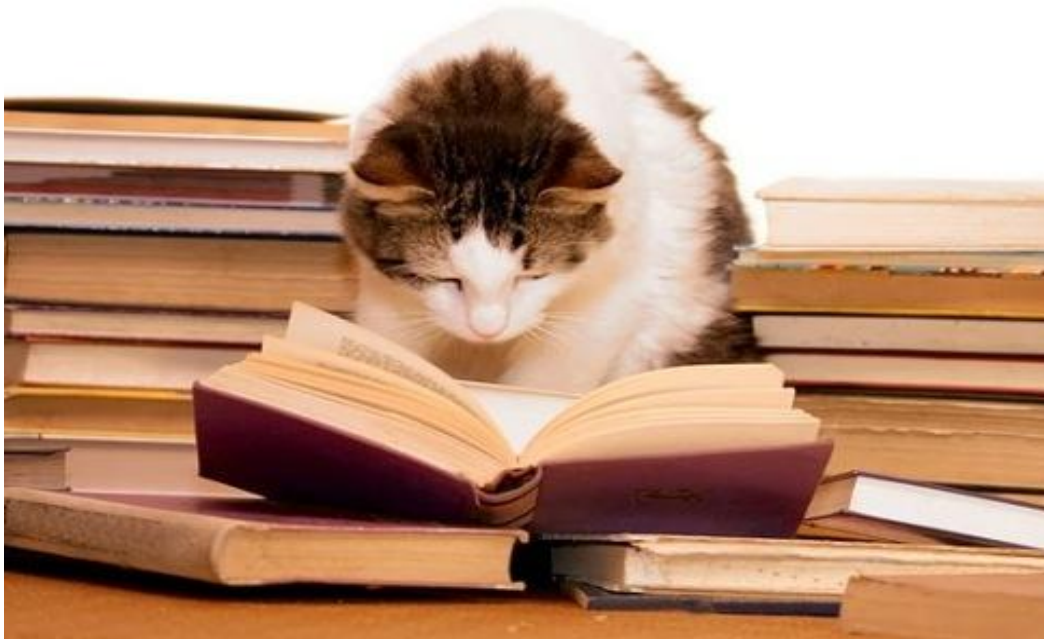
2 – Christopher Chmela / Randi Perrett  
 3 – Jim Steiner  
 5 – Karen Steiner / Karlyn Hottenstein  
 7 – Hunter Pillar  
 9 – Marilyn B. Harding  
 10 – Darlene Treisner  
 13 – Mary Fernandez  
 14 - Bella Zyskowski  
 17 – Pat Davis / Earl Zeiner  
 24 – Rodney Brown

25 – Ashley Hercik  
 26 – Marie Eshbach  
 27 – Betty Tkacik  
 30 – Alexis Yeakel  
 31 – Joseph Reeser / Anthony Sciarra

## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Keaton & Lori Westwood – 3/12/11  
 Eric & Leah Quan - 3/15/03  
 Anthony & Michele Sciarra – 3/28

**NOTE:** If you have been missed on the above list, please contact the church office so we can update our list.



*Announcing the*

## **Read for lent Challenge**

**The season of LENT is** here!

As you seek a deeper intimacy with Christ during this time, won't you discipline yourself to read from the huge selection of life-changing books available in our church library. Check out the display available in the Gathering Place.

A LENTEN MEDITATION.  
FROM JAN STRYKER

They placed the thorns  
Upon His head.  
Then whipped Him, Beat Him 'till He bled

And then they nailed  
Him to the cross  
He died there, Oh, His life was lost.

They Took Him down  
With saddened gloom.  
And laid Him in a brand new tomb.

For three long days  
He laid alone  
Then angels came and rolled back the stone

When deep within  
His mother looked  
There was no body and she shook.

She turned to run  
And get the guard  
And there He stood alive but marred.

He rose again  
For our salvation  
He lives within us-His creation



The cookies are going to college  
again!

(It's mid-terms time!)

Please bring your home-baked  
cookies to the church kitchen by

Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>

**If you wish to help pack the cookies for mailing to our  
favorite college students and military personnel on the  
8<sup>th</sup>, please join us in the kitchen at 10:00 am.**

**We are still collecting names of students and soldiers. If you know of  
someone, please contact Ruthann. (Children, grandchildren, nieces,  
nephews, Godchildren, etc.)**



Calling all volunteers...

# Easter Egg Hunt Workshop

**Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> @ 10:45**  
**(Following Sunday School)**



## Everyone is welcome!

Egg-celent pizza for lunch.

Help us prepare for the big hunt!



Announcing

*Our annual community*

# *Easter Egg Hunt*

*Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>*

*10:00 am*

*Children ages 0 through 12*

*Will hunt for eggs and prizes.*

*Entertainment for the whole family.*

*Invite family and friends!*



## "MOSE's MUSINGS!!!!



<sup>23</sup> Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, <sup>24</sup> since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving." -- Colossians 3:23-24

If you have anything that you would like included in the Mini-Epistle, please get it to me by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. I enjoy getting submissions.

I found the following article, "*Doctors on the Crucifixion*," by Ed Rosado enlightening (<https://scienceforthechurch.org/2023/03/28/the-crucifixion-a-scientific-perspective>):

There were no medical records on Jesus' crucifixion, as it occurred nearly 2000 years ago. But given what is known about Jesus' crucifixion, medical experts believed that the process would have been a slow and painful death due to the physical trauma of being nailed to a wooden cross, the loss of blood and bodily fluids, and the difficulty of breathing in a hanging position. Some scholars believe that Jesus died from asphyxiation, while others suggest that he may have died from shock, heart failure, or a combination of factors.

According to the New Testament, Roman soldiers flogged Jesus before his crucifixion. Flogging involved a whip with multiple strands, each with pieces of bone or metal at the end, that was used to repeatedly strike the victim's back, causing deep lacerations and severe pain. This practice was intended to weaken the victim and make them more vulnerable to the crucifixion that followed.

After the flogging, soldiers forced Jesus to carry his own cross to the place of execution. Once there, he was nailed to the cross, with spikes driven through his hands and feet. The weight of his body pulling down on his arms and shoulders would have made it difficult for him to breathe, causing suffocation. This slow and agonizing death could take several hours or even days.

According to some historical accounts, soldiers gave Jesus vinegar mixed with gall, a bitter herb that was used as a painkiller, but which may have also acted as a mild poison, further contributing to his suffering.

It is important to note that while science can provide some insights into the physical aspects of Jesus' crucifixion, the event remains a significant religious and cultural symbol for many people around the world.

**In regard to the above... "Greater love hath no man than, to lay down His life for His friends"!!!**

IN HIS SERVICE.....Jonathan Mosebach----P.S. Share Christ's Love, while having a Holy and Blessed Lent

# MARCH 2024 SERVANTS OF THE LORD (p1)

		3/3 LENT 3	3/10 LENT 4	3/17 LENT 5	3/24 PALM SUN
<b>Communion Servers</b>	8:30 10:45	Patty Stein Marianne Sands		Mike Zyskowski Marianne Sands	
<b>Communion Visitors</b>		Pastor David Sharon Branigan			
<b>Greeters</b>	8:30 10:45	Adam Barlow Irene Graham	Sarah Barlow Sharon Branigan	Sally Stein Irene Graham	Skylre Hahn Sharon Branigan
<b>Lectors</b>	8:30 10:45	Ruthann Kistler Marianne Sands	Jim Femister Lyn Stryker	Pat Gilbert Marianne Sands	Don Frankenfield Lyn Stryker
<b>Liturgist</b>	8:30 10:45	Patty Stein Marianne Sands	Seth Miller Lyn Stryker	Mike Zyskowski Marianne Sands	Pat Gilbert Lyn Stryker
<b>Live Stream</b>	8:30	Jan Stryker	Mike Zyskowski	Jan Stryker	Mike Zyskowski
<b>Prayer Care</b>		Sharon Branigan	Ruthann Kistler	Pat Gilbert	Darlene Treisner
<b>Song Leader</b>	8:30 10:45	Bella Zyskowski	Nancy Cook	Bella Zyskowski	Pastor David
<b>Sound</b>	8:30 10:45	Chris Chmela Ken Yoxheimer	Chris Chmela Ken Yoxheimer	Chris Chmela Ken Yoxheimer	Chris Chmela Ken Yoxheimer
<b>Usher</b>	8:30 10:45	Jan Stryker Irene Graham		Jan Stryker Irene Graham	
<b>Misc.</b>	8:30 10:45				<b>Crucifer:</b> <b><i>Volunteer needed</i></b> <b><i>Volunteer needed</i></b>

**Altar Guild:** Alyce and Patty Stein

**Children's Church:** Ruthann Kistler (when needed)

**Counters:** Karen Brown, Jan Stryker

**PhoneTree:** Jonathan Mosebach

**Prayer of the Church:** Mike Zyskowski

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# MARCH 2024 SERVANTS OF THE LORD (p2)

		3/28 MAUNDY THURSDAY	3/29 GOOD FRIDAY 12 N	3/29 GOOD FRIDAY 7 PM	3/31 EASTER SUNDAY
<b>Communion Servers</b>	8:30				Patty Stein, <i><b>Volunteers needed</b></i>
	10:45				Marianne Sands
<b>Greeter</b>	8:30	Sally Stein	Sally Stein	Sally Stein	Adam Barlow
	10:45				Irene Graham
<b>Lectors</b>	8:30	Jan Stryker			Lauri Barlow
	10:45	Pat Gilbert Sharon Branigan	Darlene Treisner Jan Stryker	Lyn Stryker Jan Stryker	Marianne Sands
<b>Liturgist</b>	8:30				Patty Stein
	10:45				Marianne Sands
<b>Live Stream</b>	8:30				Jan Stryker
<b>Prayer Care</b>					Jan Stryker
<b>Song Leader</b>	8:30				Nancy Cook
	10:45				
<b>Sound</b>	8:30		Rich Stein	Lyn Stryker	Chris Chmela
	10:45				Jim Steiner
<b>Usher</b>	8:30				Jan Stryker
	10:45				Irene Graham
<b>Misc.</b>		<b>Hand-Washers:</b> Pastor David Ruthann Kistler		<b>Altar:</b> Jan Stryker Marianne Sands	<b>Crucifer:</b> <i><b>Volunteer needed</b></i> <i><b>Volunteer needed</b></i>

## Save the Date 2024

**April 12-Game Night**

**April 14-Chili/Chowder Cookoff**

**April 21-Tea Party-(LITTLE GIRLS)**

**April 28-Shoebox Sunday**

**May 9-Preschool Graduation**

**May 12-Mother's Day**

**May 22-VBS Kickoff**

# MARCH 2024

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THUR.	FRI.	SAT.
					1	2
					10AM Bulletins	8AM—3PM Colonial Quilters Sewing Day (FH)  7:30PM AA (TR)
3 <b>LENT 3</b>	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:30AM Communion 9:45AM Sunday School 10:45AM Communion 12N Lunch & Bible Study  6:30PM Bridge of Hope	7PM Dart Baseball vs Bethany UCC (FH)	9AM Preschool  6:30PM Colonial Quilters (FH) 7PM Property	9AM Preschool  <b>5:30PM Soup &amp; Salad</b> <b>6:30PM Lenten Service</b> 7:30PM Worship & Music 7:30PM AA (TR)	9AM Preschool  12N AA (TR)	10AM Bulletins 10AM Cookies to College	9AM-3PM Material Girls (ASSR)  7:30PM AA (TR)  Daylight Savings Begins
10 <b>LENT 4</b>	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:30AM Praise Service 9:45AM Sunday School 10:45AM Praise Service  6:30PM Bridge of Hope	7PM Dart Baseball @ Trinity UCC	9AM Preschool	9AM Preschool 10AM Bible Study  <b>5:30PM Soup &amp; Salad</b> <b>6:30PM Lenten Service</b> 7:30PM Christian Ed 7:30PM AA (TR)	9AM Preschool  12N AA (TR)	10AM Bulletins   mini-Epistle deadline	8AM Men's Breakfast  7:30PM AA (TR)
17 <b>LENT 5</b>	18	19	20	21	22	23
<b>ST. PATRICK'S DAY</b> 8:30AM Communion 9:45AM Sunday School 10:45AM-Egg Hunt Workshop 10:45AM Communion 12N Lunch & Bible Study  6:30PM Bridge of Hope	7PM Dart Baseball vs Fritz Wesleyan (FH)	9AM Preschool  6:30PM STAFF MEETING 6:30PM Preschool Meeting	9AM Preschool 11AM Benevolence  <b>5:30PM Soup &amp; Salad</b> <b>6:30PM Lenten Service</b> 7:30PM Church Council 7:30PM AA (TR)	9AM Preschool  12N AA (TR)	10AM Bulletins	Colonial Quilters  7:30PM AA (TR)
24 <b>PALM SUNDAY</b>	25	26	27	28	29	30
8:30AM Praise Service 9:45AM Sunday School 10:45AM Praise Service  6:30PM Bridge of Hope	NO DARTS DUE TO HOLY WEEK	9AM Preschool	9AM Preschool 9:30AM Bible Study 11AM Preschool Family Worship  4:30PM Outreach / Publicity 7:30PM AA (TR)	<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b> 9AM Preschool- OFF EASTER HOLIDAY 12N AA (TR)  6:30 Holy Communion	<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> 10AM Bulletins 12N Last Words of Christ 7PM Tenebrae	8AM Egg Hunt Breakfast/ Prep 10AM Community Easter Egg Hunt  7:30PM AA (TR)
31 <b>EASTER</b>						
6:30AM Sunrise Service 7:15AM Easter Breakfast 8:30AM Communion 9:45AM Sunday School 10:45AM Communion	THE mini EPISTLE					