

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. William A. Schaefer, Pastor

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Who Will Roll the Stone Away?

In the 16th chapter of the Gospel of Mark, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Salome are heading to the tomb. As they walk, they wonder who will roll the stone away for them so that they may bring the fragrant spices and oils to be placed on and with Jesus. They were not given the opportunity to do this work earlier as the sun was setting heading into the Sabbath and they were not able to do this work on the Sabbath.

They ask a practical question that really needs an answer so that they can do this work that they have come to the tomb to do. It is a question that is important and relevant for us in our lives of faith as well.

When times are hard for us or when we feel like cannot see God in our lives for whatever reason, our hearts can feel like a tomb that is blocked by a stone that we cannot move. It can feel like Christ is distant from us and blocked from our view. It can lead us to feeling lost and maybe even alone. We seek connection to Christ, but we cannot get to him. We need to have the stone rolled away for us.

In this lesson, the stone is removed not by the women, but by God through the work of the angels who meet the women at the tomb. Christ has burst forth from the tomb and has risen. Christ has burst forth from the tomb and changed our lives. The stone is gone, he is not here.

For us, when the stone is blocking us from Jesus, we have the chance to lean on those around us to help us move the stones in our lives. They can show us the way. They can show us the love of God. They can help us to see Christ has been with us all along. The power of Christ's resurrection is found in the power of God to be present in the darkest part of our history and raise Christ so that death cannot win. The power of the resurrection is in the promise that is fulfilled that he will not abandon us. The power of the resurrection is found in the fact that God loves us so much that Christ can move the largest stones in our lives and show his love in our darkest times.

When it feels like your heart is blocked by the stones of life, remember that it is in Christ that we are freed of that burden. It is in Christ we find hope again. It is in Christ that we find life again. In the darkness of the tombs of our lives, Christ will show us through those in our lives how to move the stone and show us the power of his resurrection love in our lives.

May the joy of Easter fill your hearts so that they burst forth in the joy of the resurrection!!!!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bill

Finance
TREASURER'S REPORT – January 2024

CURRENT FUND

| | | |
|-------------------|----|-----------|
| Beginning Balance | \$ | 11,203.55 |
| Receipts | \$ | 14,483.34 |
| Disbursements | \$ | 16,354.96 |
| Ending Balance | \$ | 9,331.93 |

BENEVOLENCE

| | | |
|-------------------------|----|-----------|
| 2023 Pledge | \$ | 13,500.00 |
| 12 months Pledge | \$ | 13,500.00 |
| Received as of 12/31/23 | \$ | 14,148.07 |
| Difference Over/(Under) | \$ | 648.07 |
| YTD | | |
| Paid out as of 12/31/23 | | 14,184.07 |

BUILDING FUND

| | | |
|--------------------------|----|-----------|
| Beginning Balance | \$ | 19,870.14 |
| Receipts – Offering | \$ | 1,539.64 |
| Interest | \$ | .19 |
| Total Receipts Plus | \$ | 21,409.97 |
| Balance | \$ | ----- |
| Less Disbursements other | | |
| Insurance | \$ | 1,187.40 |
| Ending Balance | \$ | 20,222.57 |

February Worship Attendance

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------|-------------|
| | 10:30am | |
| Feb 4 th | 50 | |
| Feb 11 th | 53 | Ash Wed. 49 |
| Feb 18 th (8am) | 9 | |
| Feb 18 th | 47 | |
| Feb 25 th | 54 | |

Please bring a friend!

Monthly Bible Quotes

If you need wisdom – if you want to know what God wants you to do – ask him, and he will gladly tell you. He will not resent your asking – But when you ask him, be sure that you really expect him to answer, for a doubtful mind is as unsettled as a wave of the sea, that is driven and tossed about. ~ James 1:5-6

Show me the path where I should walk, O Lord, point out the right road for me to follow. Lead me by your truth and teach me, for you are the God who saves me. All day long I put my hope in you. ~Psalm 25:4-5

STEWARDSHIP

Zack Davis, Betsy Naggy – Ministry Chairs

Our “Journey on to Heaven”

For the past few generations, Martin Luther, who was a pastor, theologian, author, hymnwriter, and professor, has been and continues to be one of the most referenced or quoted spiritual leaders of all time. Luther was a prolific writer, so he has a wealth of articles, books, and essays to quote. The following amazing paragraph from Luther does not reference the word stewardship or steward, but it conveys foundational truths of Christian stewardship.

Therefore, we must use all these things upon earth in no other way than as a guest who travels through the land and comes to a hotel where he must lodge overnight. He takes only food and lodging from the host, and he says not that the property of the host belongs to him. Just so should we also treat our temporal possessions, as if they were not ours, and enjoy only so much of them as we need to nourish the body and then help our neighbors with the balance. Thus, the life of the Christian is only a lodging for the night, since we have here no continuing city, but must journey on to heaven, where the Father is.

Martin Luther aptly points out that, while on earth, we are God’s guests. God is the creator, sustainer, and owner of all things. Both the food we eat and the homes we live in are provided by God. God makes it possible for us to plant food to eat, because He provides the seeds, ground, sunlight, and rain. He gives us the intelligence, strength, and energy to harvest the crops that He makes possible for us to plant. The meat we eat comes from the animals that live in the fields which God has provided along with the food He makes possible for them to eat. God also provides the materials for our homes. Our lives are in God’s hands. As His stewards, we receive His blessings with thanksgiving.

Luther’s perspective on temporal possessions is totally opposite of what our society promotes. Our society tells us that we create and have control over all we have. Our happiness and security are dependent upon having things. Our status is determined by what we have so we work long and hard to have big homes, new

cars, and large investment accounts. In contrast, Luther reminds us that things, both necessities and luxuries, are God gifts on loan to us. Luther encourages us to be satisfied with enough to provide for our needs and to use the rest to support our neighbors and God's kingdom.

Luther reminds us that "the life of the Christian is only a lodging for the night." Likewise, the Apostle Paul tells us that "*our citizenship is in heaven*" (Philippians 3:20), so we "*press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus*" (Philippians 3:14). Our earthly journey is merely temporary until we rest in our permanent home with Jesus. By God's grace, Luther knew that this life is a "journey on to heaven." We do as well.

PROPERTY

Lee Semasko, Mark Lucas, Kevin Spangler, George Walter – Ministry Chair

Getting bids for parsonage first level flooring and replacement of the roof on the Fellowship Hall.

OUTREACH

Janie Hayden, Amy Schultz – Ministry Chair

- Continuing to collect toiletry items, socks, and t-shirts for the veterans.
- **Food Bank Donations** – There is still a bin for collections for the Food Pantry. Trinity in Latrobe does not want non-perishable food items any more. They do not have the storage space. We will still collect non-food items that food stamps do not cover.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Pam Yuhaniak & Pat Maatta– Ministry Chair

We will continue to post the 10:30 am worship service on Facebook at www.facebook.com/poplatrobe and as a link on our website www.princeofpeaceatlatrobe.com
We will have an 8am service on the third Sunday of each month in the chancel until Memorial Weekend, when the early service returns for the summer every week.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

| | <u>Communion Assistant</u> | <u>Lay Reader</u> | <u>Counters</u> |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| March 3 rd | Pat Maatta | Denise Hegemann | Ed Sparber & Janie Hayden |
| March 10 th | | Denise Hegemann | Betsy Naggy & Kathy Bangor |
| March 17 th | | Kellie Douglas | Margy Williams & Bob Woller |
| March 24 th – Palm | Kellie Douglas | Kellie Douglas | Ed Sparber & Pat Maatta |
| March 28 th – Thurs. | Angie Schaefer | Denise Hegemann | |
| March 29 th – Good Fri. | ----- | Pat Maatta/Jen Schaefer | |
| March 31 st - sunrise | Pam Yuhaniak | Pam Yuhaniak | |
| March 31 st 10:30 | Denise Hegemann | Sherry Stahl | Vickie Onusko & Ann Frye |

Altar Care: Pam Yuhaniak

Usher: Lee Semasko

Yom Hashoah Service – Holocaust Remembrance – May 5th at POP at 3pm.



Simple Suppers

We will continue our practice of simple suppers preceding the Wednesday evening services during lent. They will begin at 6pm. Sign-up sheets to provide sandwiches are on the bulletin board in the gathering space. Service will start at 7pm in the sanctuary.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



Wednesday – March 27th – 6:00pm Simple supper and 7:00pm Service of Hope and Healing

Maundy Thursday – March 28th – 7:00pm Holy Communion and The Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday – March 29th – 7:30pm Service of Tenebrae

The Resurrection of Our Lord – EASTER Sunday – March 31st

Sunrise – 7:00am – Prince of Peace

Festival Easter Service – 9:00am, Trinity, Derry

Festival Easter Service – 10:30am, Prince of Peace

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Amy Schultz – Ministry Chair

Confirmation classes will start on January 28th and will meet twice per month.

Bible Study is going well on Wednesdays at 1pm, please join us.

EVANGELISM - FELLOWSHIP

Carol Fannie, Ann Frye & Vickie Onusko – Ministry Chairs

The TNT meeting for February at the Rainbow Inn in Youngstown was well attended and a great time.

March 7th we meet at Applebee's; sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the gathering space.



Congratulations to these Honor Roll Members for the second quarter.

Greater Latrobe; High – Emma Kate Zavatsky and Angeline Schaefer

Derry Area; Distinguished Honors – Piper Ray and Molly Ray.

How would you like to help with the following **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY?**

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren is a group run by Mark and Kathy Ferlin, with the help of several others from Trinity Lutheran Church, Latrobe and St. Cecelia, Whitney. This group supports families in situations just like the title states: Grandparents who are now raising their Grandchildren.

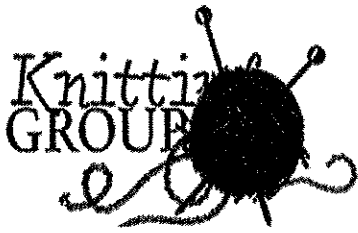
They host the families once a month alternating between the two churches. Dinner is shared. There is an activity for the children, and there is an educational/ support time for the Grandparents at each meeting.

I would like to sponsor a meal for this group with the help of our Prince of Peace congregation. Will you help me? Please sign the sheet in the narthex if you are interested in helping by donating for the price of the meal. Any amount donated is appreciated. There is another sign-up sheet for assisting with serving the meal as well. Date to be determined. Donations may be given to Christine Weller to cover the cost of the meal. We will be serving fifty people plus volunteers.

We will be serving the meal in March. The date will be announced as soon as it is confirmed. This is an evening event. *Thank you for your consideration, Christine*

THANK YOU – Carloyne Sparber and Becky Plainisek

For agreeing to be in charge of the Funeral dinner committee. Please give them your full support. Thank you Kellie Douglas for handling this for so many years, and probably still helping out! Thank you Ladies for taking on this important function for our church family.



Cathie Schall has graciously offered to take over the leadership of the prayer shawl knitting group. **THANK YOU!**

**** If you are interested in joining please give her a call 724-309-6011. If anyone would like a prayer shawl or knows of someone who would like one please let one of the members of the knitting group know! ****

Prayer Chain – If you would like to be a part of the Prayer Chain, there are three easy options for you to choose from to be a part of this important group. For text messages: text @popprayer to 81010. For email: go to rmd.at@popprayer and sign up for messages there. For phone calls: call Ginger Warren at 724-593-7524 .



Prayer is an essential part of who we are as a people of God. Below is a list of people from our congregation to keep in your daily prayers. If you know of others who should be added to these lists, please contact the church office with the names. If you or someone you know from the congregation is in the hospital or is at home and sick and needs a visit from Pastor Bill, please call the office so that he can schedule a visit. The Pastor is only told by the hospital when a person is a patient if they ask for the church to be notified.

From our congregation: Audrey Spangler, Debbie Lindsey, Esther Toth, Ginger Warren, Jack Bangor, James Schultz, Jane Six, Kevin Spangler, Janet Mills,

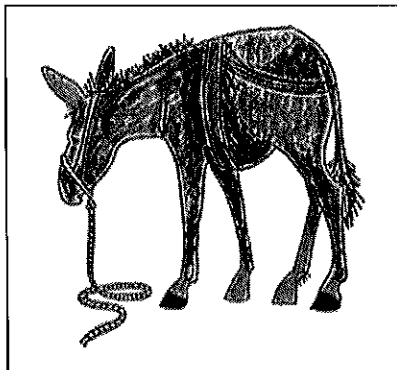
Linette Bridge, and Verna Frontz.

Our Shut-in members: Dorothy Myers (Ridgeview Residential Care), Ken Lloyd (Loyalhanna Suites), Kay Shaw (at home), Raymond Fry (Loyalhanna Suites)

Others in need of our prayers: Barb Shean, Barb Planinsek, Bill Bangor, Donna, Danny Piper, Jodi Fill, Judy Long, Judy James, Larry, Laurie Semasko, Leona Lewis, Santino Bellich, Stan, Tony Bigos, and Scott Thompson.

Those in the Military: Michael Clevenger, Matt Mickinak, and Jacob Hay

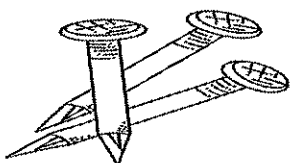
Be The Donkey



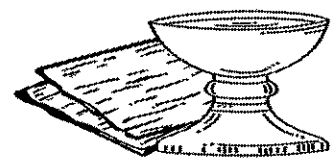
Corrie ten Boom, a devout Christian who helped shelter hundreds of Jewish people from Nazis during World War II, was asked how she stayed humble despite her fame.

“When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday on the back of a donkey, and everyone was waving palm branches and throwing garments onto the road and singing praises, do you think that for one moment it ever entered the head of that donkey that any of that was for him?” she replied. “If I can be the donkey on which Jesus Christ rides in his glory, I give him all the praise and all the honor.”

Jesus told his followers they’d need to carry (or “take up”) their cross. But how well do you carry your Savior? How do you bring him into a world that desperately needs the good news of the gospel?



Happy Easter





| | |
|----|--------------------------------|
| 2 | Kellie Douglas |
| 3 | Jenny Bowser |
| 5 | Connor Rose Vickie Onusko |
| 8 | Carolyn Hay |
| 9 | Evan Sanders |
| 10 | Janice Migyanka |
| 11 | Sherry Stahl Debbie Lindsey |
| 15 | Carol Kayser |
| 16 | Andrew Kunkle Roy Nelson |
| 20 | Elaine Woller |
| 21 | Barb Volpe |
| 22 | Nicole Zavatsky |
| 26 | Kathy Bangor |
| 27 | Nick Waltz |
| 31 | Rachel Douglas |

Baptisms

| | |
|----|----------------|
| 4 | Craig Sulzer |
| 22 | Kellie Douglas |

By faith

'Tis by the faith of joys to come
We walk through deserts dark as night,
Till we arrive at heaven our home.
Faith is our guide, and faith our light. ...

Cheerful we tread the desert through,
While faith inspires a heavenly ray,
Though lions roar and tempests blow
And rocks and dangers fill the way.

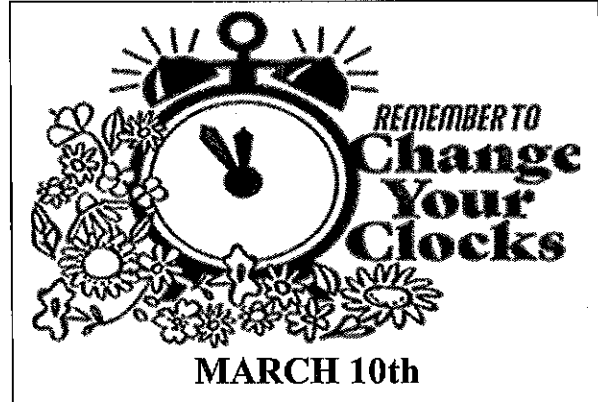
So Abraham, by divine command,
Left his own house to walk with God;
His faith beheld the promised land,
And fired his zeal along the road.



| | |
|----|--------------------------------|
| 15 | Rheinhold & Heather Schmitt |
|----|--------------------------------|

PLEASE NOTE:

If you do not see **your** Birthday or Anniversary listed, please let us know in the church office. We apologize if you were missed and we will make the necessary corrections so that it does not happen again



Our feeble prayers, our Father's response

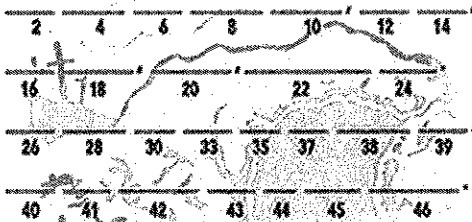
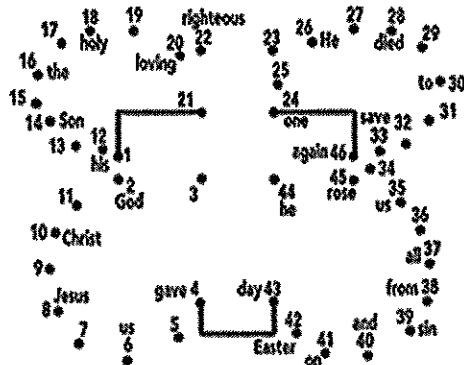
In *He Still Moves Stones*, Max Lucado recalls the story of Derek Redmond, a 1992 Olympic competitor in the 400-meter race. Halfway through Redmond's semifinal run, a torn hamstring sent him tumbling to the ground. His dad, Jim, immediately ran onto the track. He met up with Derek, who, though crying, had managed to stand and was hopping forward.

"You don't have to do this," Jim said. But Derek insisted. "Well, then, we're going to finish this together," said Jim, who supported his son as he hobbled to the finish line. The crowd cheered and wept as Derek, with Dad's assistance, finished the race.

Lucado writes: "What made the father do it? ... Was it the strength of his child? No, it was the pain of his child. ... God does the same. Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the One who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference."

Puzzle!

Connect the dots to find two symbols of Easter. Then write the words in the correct blanks to complete an Easter poem.



5. 2000年10月1日起，凡在我国境内销售货物的单位和个人，均应按销售额的一定比例缴纳增值税。

PUZZLE



A LASTING LESSON

Before dying on the cross, Jesus teaches the disciples an important lesson.

Directions: Use the clues to unscramble the letters in each grape cluster. Then write the circled letters in order below to complete John 15:5, NKV.



Abstract

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Acknowledgments

People shared this to Joss:

Journal Watch

Figure 1

Abstract

Jesus drove the money changers from here

Abstract

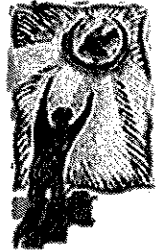
"If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit, and my Father will glorify in you, for you have remained in my love. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such a branch cannot bear fruit. If you do not remain in me, you will be cast out and you will perish, and you will steal from me and you cannot do anything." John 15:1-4

At the end of the day, the first group of students was asked to write a paragraph about their day.

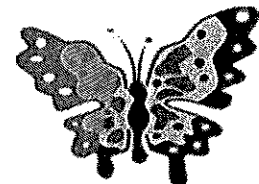
Bible Quiz

The "Christ hymn" in Philippians 2 proclaims that after Jesus humbled himself even to the point of death, God exalted him, and that eventually all will worship him. What two body parts are named as part of that worship?

- A. lower; tongue
B. hands; feet
C. arms; lips
D. heart; mouth



PROCEEDINGS



BUTTERFLY — The butterfly symbolizes resurrection, Easter and the new life we have in Christ Jesus. As a caterpillar disappears into a chrysalis, so Jesus' lifeless body was hidden in a tomb. The emergence of the butterfly, rising into the sky in its beautiful new body, reminds us of Christ's resurrection — and ours.

EXPECTATIONS

Try this chilly new
take on a healthy snack.

What you need:

- 30 grapes, washed and dried
- ½ cup vanilla yogurt
- 4 graham crackers, crushed
- Toothpicks
- Parchment paper

What you do:

1. On a baking sheet lined with parchment paper, arrange grapes in a single layer. Freeze for two hours.
 2. Insert a toothpick into each grape.
 3. Dip each grape into the yogurt, coating half of it.
 4. Roll each dipped grape in the crushed crackers. Place back on the parchment.
 5. Freeze for 2 more hours.
- Enjoy!

March 2024

| March 2024 | | | | | | | April 2024 | | | | | | |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |
| 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Feb 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | Mar 1 | 2 |
| 10:30am Sunday Worship | | 12:30pm Memorial Committee meeting 7:00pm Miracles at Work | 1:00pm Bible Study 6:00pm Simple Supper 7:00pm Mid-week 7:30pm Choir practice | 6:00pm Thursday Nights Together (TND) | George Herbert, hymnwriter 7:00pm A New Beginning | 11:00am Sue Tschupp Memorial Service |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10:30am Sunday Worship | | | | | 7:00pm A New Beginning | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| Hartnet Tulbman, Sojourner 10:30am Sunday Worship | | Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome 10:00am Prayer Shawl 7:00pm Miracles at Work | 1:00pm Bible Study 6:00pm Simple Supper 7:00pm Mid-week 7:30pm choir practice | 6:30pm Girl Scouts | 7:00pm A New Beginning | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| Patrick, bishop, missionary to Ireland 8:00am Early Worship 10:30am Sunday | | 8:30am Food Bank Distribution 7:00pm Miracles at Work 7:00pm Vision Team | 1:00pm Bible Study 6:00pm Simple Supper 7:00pm Mid-week 7:30pm choir practice | Thomas Cranmer, Bishop of Canterbury 7:00pm Congregation Council | Jonathan Edwards, teacher, missionary to 7:00pm A New Beginning | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| PALM SUNDAY 10:30am Sunday Worship | Annunciation of Our Lord | 7:00pm Miracles at Work | 1:00pm Bible Study 6:00pm Simple Supper 7:00pm Service of Hope 7:30pm choir practice | MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:00pm Holy Comm & Stripping the Altar | GOOD FRIDAY 7:00pm A New Beginning 7:30pm Service of | |
| 31 | Apr 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| EASTER SUNDAY 7:00am Sunrise Service 10:30am Festival Easter Service | | | | | | |

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www.princeofpeacelatrobe.com

Find us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/poplatrobe

Our Mission Statement

Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church is a loving family, forgiven by Jesus Christ, who through prayer and the work of the Holy Spirit are called to be actively living, learning, and growing in the Word of God and are being sent out to share the Gospel with our neighbors through our words and deeds.

We are a member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and its Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod.

We serve the Greater Latrobe community as part of the Greater Latrobe Ministerial Association.