

Pastoral Reflections - Turning Around

On the first day of March, we begin a new season of the Church Year – Lent. Each of these church seasons have their own particular themes and focuses:

- Advent time of preparation
- Christmas birth of the Christ-child
- Epiphany revelation to the nations
- Easter Resurrection!
- Pentecost time of the Church/discipleship

The word/themes that comes to mind for Lent are that of repentance and forgiveness. Most often, we limit "forgiveness" to just saying that we are sorry for doing or saying something. There may be even times when we just say that we are sorry but don't necessarily name what we are sorry for.

The Greek word for repentance is *metanoia* which literally means to *turn around*.

In this season of Lent, we are invited to do more than just say that we are sorry, but to turn our lives around, to turn back to God. Seeking forgiveness and repentance is the longing to draw closer to God and God's purposes for our lives. We want to live our lives to the fullness that God offers us. So, we first need to turn around – turn away from our self-interests and back to the interests of God.

Sounds "simple" but the real work of *metanoia* is important to explore in all its giftedness.

Recently, we read "The Book of Forgiving" by Desmond Tutu and his daughter, Mhpo Tutu. Through his work with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission after the end of formalized apartheid in South Africa, he (and others) worked with all people to bring healing and restoration to the nation. In reflecting on this work, he saw four main "steps" to the process of forgiveness (these are not clean steps but they overlap and intertwine with each other).

First of all, people need to "tell the story". We need to be able to tell our side of a situation, what we experienced – whether we are the one seeking to forgive or be forgiven. In doing so, it comes out in the open and is not brushed aside but faced head-one. Connected to this is "naming our feelings". We need to express what we felt when this situation occurred. In acknowledging our feelings, we acknowledge a part of ourselves.

It is from here that forgiveness begins to be possible – at least as an internal experience (may not always be possible for it to be expressed directly to those involved). And once the burdens of hurt, guilt, shame and the like are lifted, then either reconciliation or release of the relationship may occur.

This is a <u>very</u> simplified outline of this process. I do commend once again for people to read this book (it also has exercises at the end of each chapter which invite you to make this book relevant to your own life).

Metanoia is important to our lives as people. It is both our acknowledgement of our separation from God as well as our desire to live the lives that God has given us. It is the seeking of God's purposes for us and for our relationships with one another. It is the ways in which we want to see and be seen as beloved children of God.

So, we join together this Lent to *metanoia* our faith so that we may live faithfully as God's Church.

LENT



Ash Wednesday Services

+ Noon

+ 7:00 PM, Ecumenical

Both services will include the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion.

The evening service (7 PM) will be an Ecumenical Worship Service as we have invited a few of our sisters and brothers in Christ from local congregations to join us as we begin this journey into Lent.

Lent begins on March 1st

As we enter into this time of reflection and change, you are invited to see the ways in which we are gifted by God's grace and how we are called to share this economy of grace. We will be using a Lenten study from ELCA World Hunger called **40 Days of Giving.** As a part of this study, we will use:

- + Daily Devotional: There will be copies of a daily calendar with prayers, reflections and stories available for you to use at home. Or you may sign up on-line to receive them daily in your email. Sign up at: link: http://elca.org/40days
- + Lenten study: On Wednesday nights (7pm), we will gather to reflect on the connections between faith, worship and justice. The first night of this study will be March 8th.
- World Hunger gifts: in living out these 40 days of giving, we have set a goal of \$500 to give to the ELCA World Hunger ministry. If you would like to join the *Spirit of Trinity team* to help raise this money during the season of Lent. To sign up, go to:

http://elca.convio.net/site/TR/Events/ General?pg=team&fr_id=1190&team_id=2090

This Little Piggy ...

We begin **40 Days of Giving** during the Season of Lent. Everyone is invited to participate as we raise funds for ELCA World



Hunger programs. Pick up one of these pigs to collect donations for this project (see the article about Lent in this newsletter for additional information).

When this little piggy grows up, she will give birth to as many as 16 piglets each year. Pigs help fertilize fields, provide food to eat and can be sold at market for much-needed income. What a BIG difference a pig can make! It only takes \$30 to "purchase" a pig through the ELCA Good Goods program Explore the website site to learn more about the

many projects that the ELCA helps support. <u>http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-</u> <u>Development/ELCA-World-Hunger</u>)





Mindful Giving

While people use less cash on a regular basis, it can still be

surprising how "quickly" a \$20 bill disappears. Even just spending a couple of dollars at a time can empty your wallet.

Think about it – what are those small purchases that you make each week? A coffee or soft drink? A quick fast food meal? A magazine?

A part of stewardship is mindfulness. It is being mindful not about the money in our pockets but rather the source of that gift. God gives us the abilities and opportunities to work and provide for ourselves and our families. The income we receive is because of this blessing. How we use what has been entrusted to us can reflect this blessing.

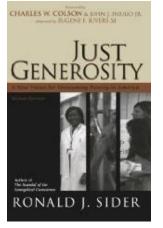
Living mind-fully of God's role in these blessings can change our perspective and priorities in how we steward what we are given.

Think again of that "disappearing" twenty dollar bill. If funds were tight in our lives, every penny of that bill would be accounted for and used to its fullest. How do we view it if we think of it as a gift from God that has been entrusted to us?

This reminds me of a story I saw on Facebook. It talked about people who would come to a coffee shop to get a cup of coffee and then order a cup of "suspended" coffee. This cup was then used for those who were homeless who came in for a cup. This anonymous generosity reveals how we might steward our blessings by sharing them with others.

"So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are set above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above..." (Colossians 3:1-2a)

Pastor Jen



Speakeasy

Sunday, April 2nd

Our next Speakeasy book discussion will be on "Just Generosity: A New Vision for Overcoming Poverty in America" by Ronald Sider. This book invites us to look beyond donations to ways what

will enable real change. We will be discussing this book on **Sunday**, **April 2nd at 2 PM**.

Copies will be available to borrow from the church library.

Our Church is Having a Reformation 500 Bookstore!

The 500th anniversary of the Reformation is fast approaching! Do you want to learn more about Martin Luther, his writings, and their impact on Christianity? Do you want to reflect on the ongoing impact of the Reformation today? Stop by our Reformation 500 Bookstore to shop for engaging books on the Reformation for readers of all ages and interests! Save up to 50% plus receive free shipping on all Bookstore titles.

Stop by the table in the Narthex during Lent to get fascinating books on the Reformation for you and your family.

Our Bookstore is sponsored by Augsburg Fortress, the publishing ministry of the ELCA. The books will include bestselling biographies like *Luther the Reformer* as well as an atlas of the European Reformations, a graphic novel for young readers, and primary sources from The Annotated Luther series. Below are some of our upcoming ministries and their dates. These are opportunities to use the gifts God has given you to serve others. Please note that these dates are tentative and subject to change. Any questions can be directed to Joanne Icken (jicken@yahoo.com)

Date	Activity
March	Lutheran World Relief Tied Fleece Blankets
April	Easter bags for Putnam CAP
May	Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits
June	Cookie Tins for Seafarer's International House
August	School supplies for Putnam CAP
September	God's Work. Our Hands
October	Midnight Run – October 1st
November	Thanksgiving baskets for Putnam CAP
December	Christmas satchels for Seafarer's International House

Putnam CAP

Thank you for your continued generosity in filling the shopping cart each month with food and home items for Putnam CAP. Their clients are very grateful for the extra help we give them with your donations.

Knitters and Crocheters!

Thank you for your continued knitting and crocheting. Please look for tubs of yarn located in the Narthex and take a bundle, along with the directions to create scarves and hats. Your completed items can be placed back in the tubs with the yarn. I collect them from time to time.

Joanne Icken

Interested in joining Trinity?

If you would like to find out more information about what it means to be a member of Trinity's church family, please let Pastor Jen now. <u>revjedyer1@yahoo.com;</u> 845-279-5181.

FINANCE & PROPERTY

Year to Date Budget Report Thru 1/31/2017

GENERAL CHECKING	AC	COUNT
Category		Actual
INCOME		
Contributions	1	2,907.47
Other Income	\$	1,262
Total Income		\$14,169
EXPENSES		
Benevolence		\$500
Pastoral		\$8,906
Education	\$	-
Evangelism	\$	-
Worship & Music		\$1,406
Administration		\$4,377
Property		\$3,216
Total Expenses		18,406
NET INCOME	(\$4,237)
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALA	NCE	s
(Incudes \$25,000 in prior year lo	oans)	
January 1, 2016 Balance	\$	17,180
Current Balance	\$	13,313

MORTGAGE FUND

Contributions	Payments	Variance	
\$4,515.00	\$3,566.00	\$945.00	

COMMENTS

MORTGAGE FUND

- Contributions are \$945 ahead of payments.
- Mortgage Fund balance is \$5,918
- MONTHLY INCOME
- Janaury income was \$4,237 less than expenses. YEAR-TO-DATE
- Expenses were \$4,237 more than income.C13

Property News

Gods blessings on you and yours!

February 21, 2017 at 6:30 pm in the GMR is set aside for our next Property Committee meeting. If you are interested in joining us, please give me a call.

This summer and Fall we will be doing more renovation to the outside and inside of our Church Home. We will be discussing this at our next property committee meeting. As I have stated before we have been approved by the NY Synod to do some additional repairs inside and outside as well as air conditioning in Shepherds Hall. Things are continuing to look great thanks to many of our members volunteering their time and energy and donations. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks to all of you for your help in turning off lights, closing doors and keeping our closets neat. This saves us lots of money and keeping the closets neat makes it easier to find things.

Again, I would like to thank Pat Wills for all she does in recruiting organizations to rent our building. The income she brings in is fantastic. We have more groups every month looking to use our facility and that is a wonderful.

Gods Blessings on all our members and their families. Have a safe rest of your winter and thank you all for your continued support to Trinity Lutheran Church!

Ken Mongold, Property Chairman

All women of Trinity Church are invited to join WELCA.

During the winter months we will be meeting at 10:00 AM as follows:

- March 2 Bible Study lead by Debbie Lyon
- March 23 Lent study led by Pastor Jen followed by lunch at 12:30 at Southeast Grill in Brewster
- March 30 Lent study led by Pastor Jen
- April 6 Lent study led by Pastor Jen
- > April 20 Meeting get ready for Sunday sale 12:30 PM lunch at Mama Rosa's
- > April 30 Mother's Day sale in the Narthex between services
- May 4 Bible study and craft or project
- May 7 Mother's Day sale between services
- May 11 Craft or LWR project
- May 18 Craft or LWR project 12:30 PM lunch out
- June 1 Bible Study followed by craft or project
- June 8 Craft or project
- June 15 Craft or project 12:30 PM lunch out

Irene Germain

SCS News

As we approach Spring and the Lenten season our children have been busy.

In February they made Valentines for the Troops and participated in our annual Mardi Gras Sunday. The fourth graders will begin their formal Communion instruction on March 5th continuing through April 9th, culminating with them joining in at the Lord's table on Maundy Thursday April 13th.

In April we will again have our Lent Event with our Resurrection Egg Hunt. Stay tuned for more details and please let us know if you'd like to help in any way.

Jeanette Baldanza SCS Superintendent



Happy Birthday

ANGELA CUOMO	3/1
LINDA NOAH	3/1
DANIEL DONOVAN SR	3/2
DANIEL KENNY III	3/2
HOLLY LAROCCHIA	3/2
MARY TORLISH	3/2
GRACE VAN VLACK	3/2
CHRISTINE MEX	3/3
WINTER STATHIS	3/3
ROSEMARY GEBHARDT	3/4
MARIAH PORTA	3/5
MICHAEL SCORRANO JR	3/5
ALI DEVINE	3/6
DEBRA LYON	3/6
VIOLET COYLE	3/8
LAUREN MC NAMARA	3/10
KAREN YATES	3/10
EMMA LITCHFIELD	3/11
KATELYN STUFANO	3/12
JOSEPH BALDANZA JR	3/13
LYNN BYRNES	3/13
DEAN SACCOMANNO	3/13
AUDREY STONE	3/13
LUCAS BERTONE	3/14
KRISTYN LAROCCHIA	3/15
RYAN BELMONT JR	3/16
EDWARD JOHNSON	3/16
SIGRID ALLEN	3/17
VICTORIA SCIARRA	3/18
HANNAH SIMON	3/18
MEGAN KNOLKER	3/19
CAROL ANN LUTZ	3/19
MORGAN ANDREN	3/20
LAWRENCE HENRY	3/20
MARC RUSSELL	3/20
PHILIP DEROBERTS	3/21
WALTER JAKLITSCH	3/21
STEVE SKILLICORN	3/23
LIAM TORLISH	3/24
SUSAN BROWN	3/25
HEATHER COYLE	3/26
RALPH RUDOLPH	3/26
LISA SCHULDT	3/27
LORRAINE WALZER	
LORRAINE WALZER	3/27
LIAM CONROY	3/27 3/28
	-

3/1

Happy Anniversary March 8th Kimberly & Peter Gerardi MEMORIALS RECEIVED

Celebrations

For MURIEL RAPP

- + Lauren G. Pearson & C. Brown Pearson, III
- + Walter & Carol Straub
- + Cheryl & Jeffrey Kellogg
- + Pat Wills
- + Erika Butler
- + Carol Brooks
- + Ursula Merolla
- + Kathie & Larry Ruhs
- + Cathy & Skip Todd
- + Barbara Sullivan
- + WELCA
- + Brewster-Carmel Garden Club

Thank Unou

Thank you ...

To Val Ben's Heritage Market for supporting our efforts to feed the poor at BESP.

Barbara Sullivan

First Friday Potluck – March Madness

Friday March 3rd, 6:00 PM, Fellowship Hall

Join us for the monthly pot-luck get together. Who do you think will make the Final Four? Sign up in the Narthex or look for an email to RSVP on-line.

https://www.mealtrain.com/potlucks/woye67

Blood Drive Tuesday, March 7th, 2-8 PM, Shepherd's Hall

Donors must be between 16 years old (with parental permission) and 75 years old. Bring an ID (license, blood donor card, etc.) and after your donation stay for a refreshment of homemade baked goods, juice and coffee or tea. Please come to donate and save lives. One donation can be split and given to three people. Contact Carol Fendt with any questions.

MORAVIAN LOVE FEAST Saturday, March 25, 5:00 PM

The Love Feast is a service of song and prayer that follows the practice of the early church in which believers met to worship and share a fellowship meal to show their bond as Christ's family. Buns and coffee are part of the service! Special music will be provided by the Trinity Brass and Trinity Choirs. Invite your friends to come with you to enjoy this special worship opportunity.



Chair Yoga at Trinity! Tuesdays, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

NEW!! Chair yoga is at Trinity! Want to try yoga but getting up and down off the floor is a struggle or just not possible? Chair yoga still offers amazing benefits: improves strength and flexibility, promotes stability, reduces stress and improves mental clarity, and it's fun!! This class is appropriate for everyone, including seniors and those with mobility challenges. Join us every Tuesday morning in Shepherds Hall from 11:30-12:30. First class is free!! After first class, cost is \$5 per class. Contact Cyndi Bertone at 845-279-8240 for more info.



OUR PRAYERS

We pray for those who are ...

IN THE HOSPITAL, ILL, RECUPERATING FROM SURGERY, OR UNDERGOING MEDICAL TREATMENT: Ava, Brigitte, Lee, Tony Baggetta, Tamara Bagen, Lisa Bagnati, Joan Baum, Kitty, Barbara Jean Bennet, Bennett, Joe Bettcher, Nicole Bettcher, Cherish Bliefernich, Michael Boyd, William Brown, Betty Buckmaster, Ronnie Byrnes, Chuck, Colleen, Corrie, Erin Conroy, Helen Conte, Sharon Cooper, Linda Cowen, Ben Dalecki, Joanne D; Karen Delduco, Kathren Devine, Dilynn, Wayne Farber, Tony Ferrajina, Robin Fieldstat, Kristin Foley, Christine Gallegher, George Gilleo, Barbara Goos, Eleanor Greene, Eric Halbekath Sr, Thomas Ingate, JoAnn Johnston, Jennifer Johnson, Dorothy Kafalas, Bob Koenig, Matthew Kromar, Jean Lamberston, Krystal Langke, Judy Lutz, Chaleb Mc Caughey, Raymond Maglio, Gail Maisel, Michael, Kelly Maxwell, Hedy McCloskey, Ziggy Mignanelli, Michael Montana, Karen Myerwold, John Noone, Pr. Paul Nordeen, Bob Obuck, Pr Garry Patrylo Jr, Chuck Pease; Ed Ranieri, Nicholas Rogan, Larry Ruhs, Marilyn Schoeller, George Schwarz, Sharon, James Sorge, Phyllis Sorge, Joe Stark, Meyer Steinhardt, Curt Stiles, Carol Straub, Walter Straub, Meranda Sue, Robin Talmadge, Michelle Tessier, Teddi Tom, Mary Torlish, Greg V., Henry Von Bargen, Marie Von Bargen, Katherine Waldvogel, Alex Wallace, Mary Ann Wilk, Jessica Wilkson

WRESTLING WITH LONG-TERM HEALTH ISSUES:

Bette Adams, Morgan Andren, Stephen Arden, Judy B, Gloria Bretone, Jennifer Rebecca Butvinik, Janet Canor, Tony Cardella, Olivia Casale, John Cianciullo, Dorothy Cordell, Deena Cox, Nancy Cuomo, Coppy Cuomo, Tom Curran, Glen DiSanto, Al Eberhardt, Donna Ficara, Jim Fiore, Margaret Fowler, Amanda George, Catherine Henneforth, Sue Kaufman, Raymond Kiernan, Janet Kniffin, Carl & Mary Kropp, Ryan Lee, Allen McCaslin, Reneé McElroy, Thaine Manske, George Miller, Tanya Murgai, Katie Ray, Betty Rodda, Rosaleen, Riley Rushia, Otto Schmid, Linda Siebold, Sindy, Sally Sheets, Zack Small, Audrey Stone, Dylan Stolper, Kenneth Strawn, Kathy Sullivan, Josephine Talley, Kaeli Tretera, Gina Venezia, Glenn Wagner, Walt, Cecilia Winters, Stephanie, Donna, Richard Yessian

FACING LIFE'S CHALLENGES: Kim Andren, the Banuelos/Cable/Lyon family, Wanda & Cliff, Della Arndt, the Bueti family, Eleanor Byrnes, Catherine, Lillian Eberhardt, Fahy family, Jeannie Graham, Terry Gregori, Joanne Halbekath & family, Larry Hampson, Frank Hastie, Logan Keane, Nicola Kenny, Matt, Bill & Debbie Logan, Anita Luhrs, Mary Jane McMahon, Ryan, Mariela Ramirez & family, Alexander Maxwell, Charles Maxwell Wieller, Sue Rodriguez, Twila Skeels, Alex Smith, Barbara Sparkes, Katelyn Stufano, Kristen Sullivan, Michael Talarico, Morgan Watt, Jennifer West, Dave, Lisa, Jaimie Zeola

RESTRICTED TO HOME/NURSING HOME: Marge Christie, Gerrit Franssen, Lawrence Henry, Rita Karlsson, Marian Langlois, Horatio Massatti, Virginia Mead, Marge Popham, Muriel Rapp, Sylvia Rieg, Elizabeth Waugh, Scott Werner

SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES: Michael Caitney, Carlos Class, Dylan Cumpston, Adam Elliott, Phillip Gerhardt, Ron Hansen Jr., Dylan Kinsella, Pr Anthony Stephens, Alyssa Torlish, Adam Vieux, Jessica Woodall, all those in the service of our country, especially in Iraq and Afghanistan, and their chaplains

Attending seminary: Dawn Morello

Partnership Ministries: The Northwest Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania; the Brewster Soup Kitchen (Brewster 1st Baptist Church) and Brewster Food Pantry (St. Andrew's Episcopal), Brewster Ecumenical Service Partnership (BESP); local small business owners in challenging economic times

Servants of the Church: Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, and the Churchwide staff; Bishop Robert Rimbo of the Metropolitan New York Synod and staff; Pastor Jennifer Boyd, Deacons Charles Germain, Jr. and Dorothy Kafalas; Minister of Music Franklyn Commisso; Council members; Sunday School teachers, and worship leaders

To make changes to the Prayer List, email: trinlutheranoffice@ yahoo.com

ELCA STORY

The gift of giving back

UNITED STATES ELCA.org/hunger



More than 14 years ago, First Lutheran Church in Bryan, Ohio, made a commitment to serve its neighborhood, a diverse community of lower-middleincome working families. Gifts to ELCA World Hunger helped support and grow the church's Food and Fellowship program in 2003.

Gifts went toward expanding the food pantry, and the congregation began a Sunday supper series, offering nutritious meals enjoyed and prepared by neighborhood residents. The dinners are followed by a program, topics ranging from health and nutrition to growing a community garden. Inspired by one of the speakers, the congregation started its own garden, which has been a blessing for the food pantry and a great educational tool for the community.

The congregation's commitment to their neighborhood has meant change. "Part of the process has been educating our

Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support innovative solutions that fight hunger and poverty in nearly 60 countries around the world, including the United States.

Will you help with your gift today?

YES! I would like to support ELCA World Hunger (WHG0038)

I have enclosed my gift of \$100 I have enclosed my gift of \$250

_ Other \$_____

60	AA
55	蹘

traditional members that not everybody coming to church today is going to look like them or act like them, and that's OK," Emily Ebaugh, a member since 1984, says. "This ministry has been transformational to our church."

Today, the once tiny food pantry offers neighbors a selection of fresh fruits and vegetables, fresh and frozen meat, canned goods and toiletries. Allowing residents to make their own food selection empowers them, Ebaugh said, and helps ensure that food is used and not wasted.

Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger help our church love and serve our neighbors. Much of the work made possible in the United States supports new or expanding community efforts to address hunger.

Thank you for helping our church be a place our sisters and brothers can turn to in their time of need.

WHS17

Mail Make your check payable to "ELCA World Hunger." Place your gift in your congregation's offering plate or mail it to:

> ELCA P.O. Box 1809 Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Online ELCA.org/hunger/donate

Phone 800-638-3522

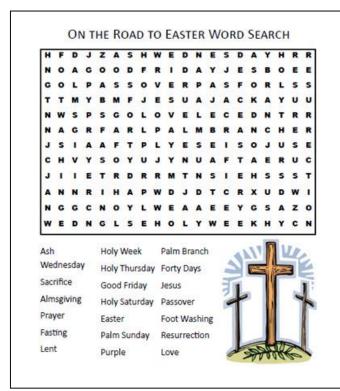
ELCA World Hunger

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America God's work. Our hands.

WORD PLAY

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G	0	L	P	A	s	s	0	v	E	R	P	A	s	F	0	R	L	s	s
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Pra	rayer						Easter						F	oot	W	ash	ing		
Fas	ting	3				Palm Sunday				Resurrection									
Len	t					â	Pur	ple											
Hol	y W	lee	k			- 3	Palr	mВ	ran	ch									

В	Ι	N	G	0
hope	Good Friday	Mary Magdalene	pierced	Son of God
risen	resurrection	salvation	crucifixion	Jesus
love	disciples	Free Space!	King	cross
crown of thorns	peace	Judas kiss	Christ	redemption
Savior	Messiah	holy	Mary	sacrifice



B	Ι	N	G	0
holy	Good Friday	Jesus	hope	King
Mary Magdalene	pierced	Judas kiss	Messiah	risen
disciples	crown of thorns	Free Space!	crucifixion	peace
Son of God	redemption	cross	resurrection	Savior
love	salvation	faith	Mary	Christ

WORSHIP SCHEDULE March 2017

March 1 Ash Wednesday

12:00 PM Service, Holy Communion 7:00 PM Ecumenical Service w/ Holy Communion

March 5

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS 10:45 AM Holy Communion

March 12

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS 10:45 AM Holy Communion

March 19

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS 10:45 AM Holy Communion

March 26

8:30 AM Holy Communion & SCS 10:45 AM Holy Communion

Trinity Lutheran Church Mission

Statement: As a people of God, we desire to experience the presence of God in our lives that we might be the presence of God in the lives of others.

Location

2103 Route 6 Brewster, NY 10509 Phone: 845-279-5181

Website: trinitybrewsterny.org

Pastor Jen's email revjedyer1@yahoo.com

Office trinlutheranoffice @yahoo.com

Inside the March Trinitarian

- 1. Pastoral Reflections *Turning Arounod*
- 2. Lent Begins Ash Wednesday; 40 Days of Giving
- 3. Stewardship; Speakeasy; Reformation Bookstore
- 4. Social Ministry
- 5. Finances & Property
- 6. WELCA, SCS
- 7. Celebrations
- 8. Happenings First Friday; Blood Drive; Moravian Feast
- 9. Our Prayers
- *10.* ELCA Story *The Gift of Giving Back*
- 11. Word Play