



2026

A Personal Note

Parenting God's Way

"Honor thy Father and thy Mother, and your days on earth will be blessed". The Fourth Commandment is a special one, because it is the *only* commandment which has a promise attached to it. It is also the first commandment of the second table of the Law (the first three talk about our relationship with God, whereas the last 7 talk about our relationship with each other). This is not a coincidence. The first relationship that anyone is engaged in is with parents and siblings, so it is appropriate that God would put it first. God gave high priority to our relationship with our parents. When we respect and love our parents, we not only have an easier time respecting and loving God, and others in authority over us, but respecting and loving other people in general. Yet this commandment is not only meant for young children, but it has something to say to parents as well.

For instance, parents of children are children of parents. Yet some parents who expect near-perfect obedience, honor and respect from their children, do not express these same attitudes towards their own parents. What message is sent to young children who are always watching their parents and imitating their behavior? If we don't honour our parents, we can't expect our children to learn to honor us.

It is important that parents give their children *a reason* to honor them, just like God gave us a reason to honor Him. He was the perfect parent. He made no unreasonable demands, and kept all His promises. He disciplined His children when they were bad. He blessed them, showered them with gifts, love and affection when they were good. We have every reason to honor our Father God because despite our rebellious lives and attitudes, He is so quick to forgive us, to overlook our sins, and continually calls us His beloved children.

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Our heavenly Father is a model for our parenthood, and we see His character in Jesus Christ who is like a human 'photocopy' of the Father (Heb 1:3). When we look at the life and words of Jesus Christ, we know everything about the character and thought of our Father in heaven. Christ considered children to be precious, invaluable jewels, with a simple and unsophisticated faith which ought to be admired. He viewed children as gifts from God to us, and considers each of us His children, made so through the saving waters of Holy Baptism. He welcomed children and never pushed them away, teaching them by word and example the important truths of life, just like He does with us.

Mothers Day (and Fathers Day) is a chance to remember our parents. Yet it is also a time for parents to reflect upon their own parenting skills. Being an example of Christ is one of the greatest gifts a parent can give to kids. Of course we're not perfect, which is why forgiveness must be central to any relationship. Just look at Jesus who sacrificed Himself for us; the ultimate act of love to restore our "dishonored" relationship with our Father, which we, His children caused, exclusively from our end. Our Lord has set a pattern for us. Honoring our parents includes forgiveness, and forgiveness is the ultimate expression of love. We can always find a reason not to honor others, because we may believe that they do not deserve it. Yet forgiveness is not about deserving. It is about grace. When we look past the faults, mistakes and sins of others, we can't help but to honor them.

As children, with forgiveness, we can't help but to honor our parents. As parents with forgiveness we give our children a reason to honor us.

Pastor Ristau

Smiths Grove Site Outreach

Worship services continue each week at the Smiths Grove site (First Christian Church, 427 College Street). They take place each Saturday at 5:00PM. Prior to worship, Bible study is held at 4:00PM. Thanks to all of our Holy Trinity members who have attended and prayed and provided various means of support to this outreach ministry!

Please continue your prayers that this outreach would provide more open doors for the Gospel and that the Spirit will lead many to worship the risen Savior. With the opening of Buc-ee's at Smiths Grove recently (and the announcement of several hundred more homes going up in that neighborhood), there will be more people transitioning to this community. If you are living (or know someone who is living) in or around Smiths Grove, let us know so that we can contact them. Here is a church home where people know one another and love to serve the Lord Jesus!

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A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL MINISTRY

Kindness Kids

“Kindness Kids” is the name of our Christian Character Education program that we integrate each year with our students. We take selected character traits and teach Biblical principles and how to apply them to our every day lives. We also tie these to our yearly theme. This year we call this “Kindness Kids are JOYFUL”

Our theme this year is JOY based on Psalm

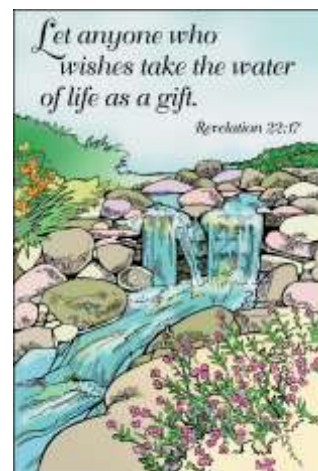
98:4. “Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!”

We take the letters of JOY and use them as an acronym to represent how we are supposed to live out our faith; by putting Jesus first, Others second, and Yourself (ourselves) last.

Each month we have a “family meeting” where all students are divided into multi-age family groups. After our morning assembly where we do our morning announcements, prayers, and pledges, we divide into our groups and go over the trait that is the focus for the month. Traits this year include: putting God first; getting along with others; using wholesome language; singing praises to God; learning about what is “mine”; forgiving; loving others, etc. These change from year to year and are selected by the staff at the beginning of each school year.

This is a part of what separates our school from others. We are free to teach about the Bible and our mission is centered on sharing the message of the Gospel with children and families. If you know of someone who values Christian education and wants their child in an environment where faith is integrated into the entire day, tell them about our school. God continues to use HTLS to impact children and their families for the sake of the Gospel.

*In JOYful Service,
Bill Hiskey, D.S.M.*





Thursday, May 7, 2026

The theme for 2026 is “Glorify God among the nations – seeking His in all generations.” The theme emphasizes uniting generations to seek God’s guidance and glory, particularly as the nation nears its 250th anniversary.

Key Verse: “Tell of His glory among the nations,
His wonderful deeds among all the peoples.”
1 Chronicles 16:24

NOTE: Check local Christian radio stations for local events.



COMMENCING A LIFETIME OF LEARNING

What would you tell a young man or woman about to graduate? One of the most common messages commencement speakers share is that graduates are indeed commencing. They are only just beginning to learn.

While they may rightly feel proud of finishing school, a few months in the working world often reveal how much they still do not know.

Christians who love God with their minds understand that truth frees us from ignorance and superstition. They also know that the joy of learning brings deep satisfaction and, in time, wisdom. That wisdom helps us evaluate what we have learned and use it well, so that knowledge becomes a tool for growth and faithful living.



GRADUATE RECOGNITION

If someone close to you is graduating from High School or College in May, please contact the Church Office.

We will recognize all of our graduates during the 9:00am service on Sunday, May 17. There will be a **Reception** after the service in the Fellowship Hall. If they graduated in December of 2025 we will recognize them at the same time.

Following is a list of our High School graduates:

Samantha Davenport
South Warren High School

Ezra Oates
Bowling Green High School

Ian Parsley
Bowling Green High School

Evelyn Ulm
Edmonson County High School

Keegan Unick
Greenwood High School

Ayden Witherspoon
Warren East High School

Zoe Witherspoon
Warren East High School

A.J. Zirbel
Homeschool



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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The Board of Directors, in an effort to improve communication in the church, has decided to put a copy of their monthly minutes in each newsletter. Below are the minutes from their meeting on April 21, 2026. A few paper copies of just the minutes will also be provided in the Narthex/Lobby.

Date/Time: Tuesday, April 21, 2026, 6:30pm

Opening Prayer: Rev. Ristau

Attendance: Board Members: Mary, Katie, Jackson, David J.; Absent: David H., Jim; non-board members in attendance: Rev. Ristau, Bill Hiskey, Nelson Feliciano, David King

Agenda:

Property Ministry (Al Seavey) Report summarized below – remaining information can be found in the property ministry section of the newsletter

- Sanctuary construction planned during school summer break including asbestos abatement (floor tile)
 - Services will be held in the Fellowship Hall beginning 5/17

Lutheran School Ministry (Bill Hiskey) No report

Youth Ministry (Sheryl Morris) No report

Security and Safety Team (Nelson Feliciano)

- Discussion of proposal for assisted listening system
- Quote coming for board approval

Finance Ministry (Neisha Feliciano)

- Mortgage payments on track to be completed in September or October
 - After discussion, motion to pay off mortgage in May – 1st Katie 2nd Mary – Approved
- Presented proposed budget for next year
 - After discussion, motion to approve budget – 1st Katie 2nd Mary – Approved
- Account Balances:
 - Special Projects Money Market: \$116,616
 - Operating Account: \$140,000
 - Building Loan
- Recommendations:
 - Pay off the building loan in May.

The remainder of the finance report can be found in the Finance ministry section of the newsletter.

Elders Ministry (Corey Zirbel) No report

Technology Ministry (Mike Bryant) No report

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MINISTRY TEAM UPDATES

Outreach Ministry (Carol White & Pam Schmaltz) Report can be found in the outreach ministry section of the newsletter

Servant (Assimilation) Ministry and Fellowship Ministry (Bonnie Borth & Jackie Blindauer)

- Fellowship: Our upcoming event is a sock hop on April 24 at 6:30pm. We have over 30 people signed up. There will be snacks from the 50s/60s with root beer floats and also popcorn. Free will donations will go towards the new round tables that were purchased. Remaining information is in the Fellowship ministry section of the newsletter.
- Servant Groups: We finished the Lent services strong and there was a lot of help for clean up which is greatly appreciated. One group did step up to do a funeral as well during Lent. Teamwork is amazing. Bonnie and Jackie will be reaching out to the team leaders to set up a get together to reevaluate and see how things are going. This will probably occur in July. Until then we won't have much unless a funeral or a special event needs us.

Parish Report (Rev. Ristau)

- Old Business:
 - 65th Anniversary Celebration moved to fall
- New Business:
 - Set date for congregation meeting to approve budget
 - Motion for June 7 meeting – 1st Rev. Ristau 2nd Davd J. – Approved
 - Facility use applications
 - Approved:
 - Greek club
 - Joshua Borne wedding for Saturday, April 18 from 1:000-2:30pm (very simple, small and no music, frills, etc.). Joshua Borne was transferred into membership here from a LCMS church in St. Louis, and his wife was received into membership here as a convert from Roman Catholic.
 - Action required: none

Motion to End: 8:30pm – 1st Katie – 2nd Mary – Approved

Closing Prayer: Lord's Prayer

Meeting Adjourned: 8:33pm

Next Meeting: May 19, 2026, Tuesday at 6:30pm



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On March 14, 2023 the Board designated/recognized the following Ministry Teams of HTLC.

MINISTRY TEAMS 2025-2026

Holy Trinity Youth

Ignite	Ages 2 thru 5 th grade	Sheryl Morris
Ablaze	Ages 6 th thru 12 th grade	Sheryl Morris & Aaron Witherspoon

Lutheran School Elders

	Todd Otto/Bill Hiskey, D.S.M.
	Corey Zirbel
Choir	Beth Markel
Nursing Home	Irene Garrett – Glasgow
Altar Guild	Harlan & Judy Klankowski
Compassionate Care	Kimberly Parsley

Education

Men’s Bible study	Dick Stirn
Women’s Bible study	Marsha Holm
Confirmation	Pastor Ristau
Sunday Bible Class	Pastor Ristau

Fellowship

Jackie Blindauer & Nancy Melke

Finance

Open

Technology

Mike Bryant

Property

Al Seavey

Outreach Ministry

Holy Trinity	Carol White & Pam Schmaltz
Smiths Grove	Pastor Press
Mara Evangelical church	Nelson Feliciano

Servant Groups

Jackie Blindauer & Bonnie Borth

A PRAYER FOR OPEN HEARTS AND MINDS

O Lord, our heavenly Father, in you is the fullness of light and wisdom. We ask that you enlighten our minds through the work of your Holy Spirit. Clear away distraction and doubt, and help us turn our full attention to you.

Give us grace to receive your Word with reverence and humility. Shape our hearts so we may listen not only with our ears, but with willing spirits, ready to be taught and transformed. Remind us that true understanding does not come from our own insight or effort, but from your truth revealed to us in love.

As we hear and reflect on Scripture today, draw us closer to you. Strengthen our faith, deepen our trust and guide us in the way we should go. May your Word take root within us and bear fruit in our lives, bringing honor to your name.

We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, through whom all wisdom and grace are given. Amen.

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CHILDREN'S/YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

Ministry Team Leaders: Sheryl Morris and Aaron Witherspoon

Ignite Sunday School is a combined multi-age class for PreK through 5th grade that meets in the Ignite room (012) each Sunday at 9:30am (**Note:** Beginning Sunday, May 17, we will have one service in the Fellowship Hall. Ignite will start after this service, at 10:30am). We hope you can join us!

Ablaze is a place where students in grades 6th-8th can engage in deep conversations and grow in their relationship with God. Join us on Sundays at 9:30am (**Note:** Beginning Sunday, May 17, we will have one service in the Fellowship Hall. Ablaze will start after this service, at 10:30am) in EO-201 upstairs.

Students in 9th-12th grades are joining the Adult Bible study in the Sanctuary (beginning May 17, in the Fellowship Hall).

The last five minutes of each class, the children/youth will join the adult Bible study in the Sanctuary (beginning May 17, in the Fellowship Hall) for a closing together time. Parents may pick up their children in the Sanctuary at 10:15am (beginning May 17, at 11:00am in the Fellowship Hall).

EVENTS:

1. **SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY:** Save the date! Sunday, May 17 will be our senior recognition Sunday. This will be for seniors graduating from high school or college. This will be our first service in the gym during the remodeling so there will only be one service, at 9:00am. All seniors will be recognized at this service and there will be a small reception afterwards. If you are a senior graduating from high school or college this year, please contact the church office (phone: 270-843-9595 or email: church.admin@htlc-bg.org) to let us know. Thank you. Please see page 4 of this newsletter for a list of graduates.

2. **SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED:** Ignite and Junior High School teachers are needed for the 2026-2027 school year starting in August for the Ignite and Ablaze classes. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Sheryl Morris at 270-784-2781.



3. **VBS REGISTRATION:** VBS registration has begun for children ages 3 years old through youth who are going into the 5th grade. The dates are Monday, June 22- Thursday, June 25 from 8:30-11:45am. Please fill out/submit the flyer in the bulletin in the offering plate by Sunday, June 7. Friends are welcome! We look forward to teaching the youth how to have a closer relationship with Jesus while having fun!

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FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Ministry Team Leaders: Jackie Blindauer and Nancy Melke



HOLY TRINITY NIGHT AT THE HOT RODS BASEBALL GAME!

Spring has sprung and it's time for some fun! Get ready for **Baseball and Fireworks at the Bowling Green Ball Park** with the gang from Holy Trinity. You will have a reserved seat behind home plate at the **Hot Rods Ball Park**, (300 E 8th Ave/BG) on Friday, May 22 at 6:35pm. All for the **great price of \$10.00 per person**.

Please sign up in the Narthex beginning Sunday, May 3. Tickets will be distributed upon payment between services on Sunday, May 10 and Sunday, May 17.

Questions? Call Bart and Carol White, 270-781-4158.

Important: All bags (purses, backpacks, etc.) must be clear (see through) for inspection at the gate. Free parking is available at the nearby Parking Structure or the large BGMU parking lot across the street. Please avoid parking in area reserved lots as you will likely be towed.

Note: These tickets are group priced tickets and are not exchangeable for another date.

EVENTS TO FOLLOW:

June: Bowling (date and time TBD)

Saturday, July 18: Summer fun at the home of Peter & Cindy Brandt (731 Martinsville Ford Rd/BG)



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FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM

Committee Leader: Open

March Giving to the General Fund:

Date	Amount
3/1	\$33,030
3/8	\$10,671
3/15	\$ 9,886
3/22	<u>\$14,750</u>
3/29	<u>\$10,944</u>
Total	\$79,281

\$491,844 given for the first nine months of this Fiscal year. That is an average of \$12,611 per week.

The Fiscal Year Budget is **\$730,580**. This requires giving that averages \$14,050 per week.

Lenten Offerings:

The total offering for Missions during Lent was \$9,815.15.

Due to the generous giving at our Lenten services, we are able to send \$2,354.00 to each of the missionaries that Holy Trinity has been supporting. Thank you for those gifts used to bring Christ to more people nationwide through:

Dr. Kristen Schmaltz (Mission work in Guinea)

David & Joyce Erber (Mission work in the US)

Shauen & Krista Trump (Mission work in Kenya)

Bob & Kristi Roegner (Mission work in Israel)

These money gifts are very important for their work but they need our prayers too. Please include them as you go about your daily prayers.

David King
HTLC Financial Secretary

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LUTHERAN SCHOOL MINISTRY

Team Leader: Todd Otto



LIMITED Enrollment for the 2026-2027 School Year is available. Contact the School Office at 270-843-1001 if you are interested in enrolling a child(ren) or want to give information to a friend.

REMEMBER: For families that are members of HTLC – we will continue to offer the 25% discount in tuition for students (Grades K-6) enrolled full time.

CHAPEL OFFERINGS in May will go towards the Make a Wish Foundation.



Graduation Ceremony for our 6th Grade students is on Thursday, May 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Please pray for them as they take the next steps in their education.

Come and share in this time to remember and celebrate their years at HTLS and to pray for them. A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall.



Our Graduates are:

(*) Indicates an HTLC member

**Adalynn Brumfield
Olivia Van Tha Hniang
Emmabeth Markel(*)
Khup Piang**

**Noah Chi
Elijah Johnson
August Merkle(*)
Alex Rodriguez**

**Sydney Davenport(*)
Eli Khai
SiThie Nge
Thang Tung**

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LUTHERAN SCHOOL MINISTRY**EVENTS ON OUR CALENDAR:**

- **3rd – 4th Grade Testing Week** is Monday, May 4 – Friday, May 8
- **Staff Appreciation Lunch** is Wednesday, May 6
- **5th – 6th Grade Testing Week** is Monday, May 11 – Friday, May 15
- **Kindergarten Circus** is Thursday, May 14 at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall
- **Preschool (4-year old) Graduation** is on Friday, May 15 at 1:00pm in the Sanctuary.
- **HTLS Field Days**
 - Preschool students on Monday, May 18
 - K-6 students on Tuesday, May 19
- **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL** is Wednesday, May 20



HTLS SUMMER CAMP: Our summer camp will be held Monday, June 8 – Friday, July 24 from 8:00am – 4:00pm each day. We will be closed Friday, July 3 for Independence Day. Contact Camp Director, Felicia Brumfield, at htlssummercamp@gmail.com with questions. Aides and Floaters for camp are still needed.

**PTO UPDATES:**

QUEST FOR CHRIST: Was a huge success! **Our grand total profit is \$10,000.**

We are proud to donate 10% of all donations to **Light in the Storm**. If you want to learn more about the organization, you can follow them on Facebook or visit www.lightinthestorm.org.

Plans for these funds will be put towards our new playground.

We cannot thank everyone enough for their support and generosity, not only in Quest for Christ, but throughout the entire year!

Scholarship Fund: Through the generosity of the Petrusch family and in honor of Ed's parents, Edward and Viola Petrusch, a scholarship endowment fund was established in 2000 for future students needing financial assistance to attend HTLS. Anyone is eligible to contribute to this fund through a gift to the church or school designated to the Petrusch Scholarship Fund. Please consider this fund when making memorial gifts and/or donations to the School's ministry. This fund is managed by Thrivent Financial. If you have questions, please contact the School Director.



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OUTREACH MINISTRY

Team Leaders: Carol White and Pam Schmaltz

Internal Outreach

The Outreach Team has individually sent cards to church members/family for illness, bereavement, congratulatory occasions, and visitors. We have organized this with individual team members in charge of various areas.

Written contact:

Illness/hospitalization – Helen Wicklander and Ellen Birdwell

Bereavement – Pam Schmaltz

Visitation to Church members – Carole Clark, Karen Buege, and Ellen Birdwell

External Outreach

Letters have been sent to church visitors over the last four years by Carol White. These letters are “on behalf of the HTLC congregation and the Outreach Team.” Our pastors also send a letter of welcome to visitors.

Church Visitor Contact – Carol White will continue this outreach.

Request for Funds

David King has submitted our budget request. This would cover the cost of cards, stamps, stationery, and envelopes for all eight team members. In the past, this has been at the expense of team members.

Pamphlet Display

Pastor Ristau suggested having this display of helpful pamphlets in the Narthex. David King ordered these.

Committee Members

Pam Schmaltz and Carol White, Co-Chairs, Karen Buege, Carole Clark, Nancy Melke, Helen Wicklander, and Ellen Birdwell.

CHRISTIAN SYMBOL

CEDAR TREE — A species of evergreen used to decorate for Christmas, the tall cedar tree symbolizes Christ's majesty year-round. Cedars of Lebanon, which have grown to 130 feet, were known to Old Testament people. "The trees of the LORD are well watered, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted" (Psalm 104:16, NIV). David's palace and both Solomon's palace and temple were built of cedar wood. The word cedar is found 75 times in the Bible. Due to its evergreen nature and longevity, this tree is associated with eternal life and thus sometimes used in cemetery landscaping.

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**PROPERTY MINISTRY**

Team Leader: Al Seavey

Upcoming Preventative Maintenance

- Trane will be on site to do PM for the HVAC system in the EO building.

Current Projects

- The Sanctuary furnace is intermittently shutting down due to overheating. Bowling Green Refrigeration installed a by-pass duct which will divert some of the air flow and should resolve the problem. Problem not resolved, BG looking into other options.
- Insulation that covers the large exterior ducts leading into and out of the air handler on the roof which services the EO building has multiple large holes and deterioration. The insulation needs replacement. Received quote from West KY Insulation \$10,250. This could be done after the renovation – late July.
- Stewart Richey has evaluated the window in the gym which has water damage and exterior brick damage. Waiting for the quote to replace the window and re-grouting the exterior brick.
- New landscaping bushings have been placed on the East side of the Sanctuary. Need to dig and set into the ground.
- Doing minor electrical wiring re-routing to hide wires in the Sanctuary and Narthex. Other small tasks will also be done to get an early start on the Renovation.
- Pye Barker has ordered equipment to enable Elizabeth to open the exterior office entrance door with a transmitter from her desk. This will operate the same as the school's.

Completed Projects

- All AC filters in EO building classrooms and offices were cleaned during Spring break.
- Orkin completed bi-monthly spraying for insects.
- Double doors leading into the EO building do not close immediately when the fire alarm is activated. Pye Barker found circuit board had burned components and replaced the board; issued has been resolved.
- Lawn mowing has started back up for the season.
- Completed first pass at the 2026-27 budget for Board to review.

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE



MITE BOX SUNDAY: May 31. The quarterly LWML Mite Box Sunday for your door offerings is May 31.

These benefit the special LWML mission projects, such as: Sharing Faith and Food with Single Mothers and Pastoral Wellness: Pastor Family Week.

Your generosity and support are much appreciated. Thank you.



DONATIONS NEEDED: THE LWML Mid-South District 29th Biennial Convention is being held June 2026 in Springdale, Arkansas and they are requesting donations for Compassion Ministries.

Compassion Ministries works to provide a safe haven for young mothers aged 11 to 21 who are pregnant or parenting. With two locations in Northwest Arkansas, we offer secure housing and tailored support to meet their unique needs.

- **Compassion House** in Elm Springs serves teen mothers ages 11-17.
- **Renee’s House** in Springdale supports young women ages 18 to 21.

At both locations, we provide intensive case management, working closely with each resident to create individualized growth plans and set meaningful, achievable goals.

We are committed to helping each young mother in our program thrive. Through intensive case management, we work side-by-side to develop personalized growth plans tailored to their unique needs. Each mother is also supported by a dedicated labor coach and caring mentors to guide her journey.

Upon entering the program, every young mother receives a comprehensive completion guide outlining the classes and resources available to her. These include life skills training in key areas such as financial literacy, workforce development, parenting and relationships, healthy living, and more. Our holistic approach ensures they are equipped with the tools and confidence to build a brighter future for themselves and their children.

More information may be found at <https://www.compassionministriesnwa.com>.

Items being collected:

- Gift cards – Harps & Walmart (for food and gas) – mark amounts on cards
- Diapers size 4 or 5
- Wipes
- Diaper cream
- Baby shampoo



ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ

BIBLICAL GREEK STUDY GROUP

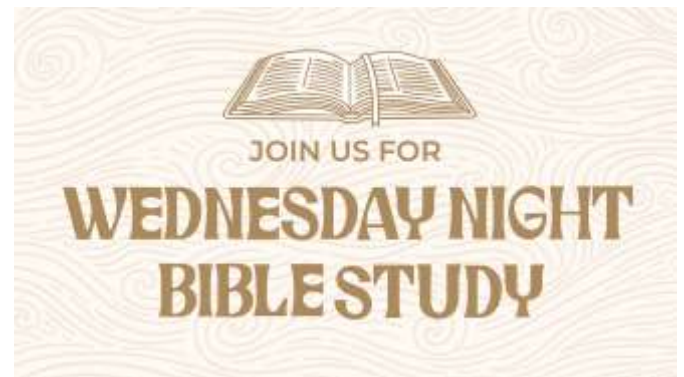
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church invites you to join their upcoming Biblical Greek Adult Study Group welcoming you and our local community. Following the lecture series of Dr. Bill Mounce, author of the best-selling textbook: *Basics of Biblical Greek Grammar* (Zondervan, 2019), this course is the most popular introductory Greek grammar course, used in universities and seminaries around the world. The series contains 37 lectures (the equivalent of a full two semester course) and will begin with a two week preliminary instruction period. Students will use the accompanying workbook, provided for a fee of \$25.00. The class will be held Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00-7:30pm from May 19 – October 29 in EO-110. There will be no classes on July 2 and July 7. Please email: learnkoinegreektoday@gmail.com to register.

“The [Biblical] languages are the sheath in which the sword of the Spirit is contained; they are the casket in which we carry this jewel; they are the vessel in which we hold this wine; they are the larder in which this food is stored; and as the Gospel itself says, they are the baskets in which we bear these loaves and fishes and fragments.” – Martin Luther (An excerpt from “To the councilmen of all cities in Germany that they establish and maintain Christian schools” 1524)

UPCOMING MOVIE: Hillsdale College is sponsoring a film called *Revolutionary America*, which will be shown in theaters only on Sunday May 31 – Tuesday, June 2. Locally the Regal Great Escape theater (323 Great Escape Ct/BG) will show it two times on Sunday and one time each on Monday and Tuesday. This film celebrates the 250th anniversary of the founding of our country as it reviews events from the first quiet moments inside Independence hall to the opening shots at Lexington. Seats are limited and are available through Fandango.



MEN'S RETREAT: We invite all men to participate in the Men's Retreat on Friday, October 2 – Sunday, October 4 at Camp Arcadia in Arcadia, Michigan (www.camp_arcadia.com). We will have an opportunity to hear, meet, and talk with Rabbi Chad Foster, who is also a LCMS Pastor, as the speaker at this event. Please contact Bill Parsons if you have questions at 231-944-6150 or wap@tradewindow.com.



FAITH NIGHT

We have a variety of activities planned each Wednesday evening.

6:00-7:10pm

Jr. Confirmation – Taught by Pastor Ristau. Study in Lutheran doctrine for 5th, 6th, and 7th grade students (CR)

6:30pm

Adult Bible Study with Pastor Toopes (EO-110)
Theme: A study of the Book of Psalms

7:00-8:15pm

Fuel & Friends – Food, Drinks, and Fellowship for older Youth (FH); led by Nicholas and Bethany Boeneke

REMODELING COMING SOON: The tiles of the Sanctuary and Narthex area need to be replaced due to asbestos glue underneath. The church is taking the opportunity to repaint the Sanctuary and replace the tiles. The Sanctuary will then be out of use for most of the summer. Beginning Sunday, May 17, we will be having one service in the Fellowship Hall for approximately ten weeks. Having lots of people in the gym will allow for better sound quality, as well as foster a special opportunity for those who attend different services to worship together and get to know one another better. The joint service time will be 9:00am, followed by fellowship of coffee and donuts at 10:15-10:30am. A light Bible study or special presentation will follow from 10:30-11:00am. Sunday School for the children will also begin at 10:30 after a time of fellowship.

Thank you for your understanding and flexibility. We hope that you will continue to worship with us regularly and faithfully in spite of this development, and if you have questions about the sound quality or other logistical concerns, please speak with the leadership of the congregation and we will do our best to accommodate those needs.



BIG MOVE DAY

Saturday, May 16 starting at 8:00am will be our big move day. This is the day we will move everything from the Sanctuary and Narthex into storage during the renovations. If you can volunteer to help, it would be much appreciated. Please contact Al Seavey at 270-991-1188 or fill out the form that's in your bulletin with your name and phone number.



SUNDAY, MAY 10

AN UNUSUAL ANSWER TO A MOTHER'S PRAYER

Linda Jo Peters of Terre Haute, Indiana, felt her "worry button" get pushed when her daughter, Esther, called from college with an unexpected plan. Esther explained she wanted to go camping alone in a park in southern Illinois. She needed quiet time to think and asked her mother for Bible verses to read as she prayed about her future.

Linda knew Esther felt strongly about going, even if it made her uneasy. After the call ended, Linda dropped to her knees and began what she later called "a dialogue with God." She closed her prayer with a simple surrender: "I guess you want me on my knees that weekend."

And that is exactly where she stayed.

The morning after Esther's first night at camp, she called home. She was safe, she said, and no one had come near her tent. All night long, however, a skunk had wandered nearby, circling the campsite.

Later, Linda reflected on the moment with quiet confidence. "There was no way anyone with evil intent would have approached Esther's tent," she wrote, "while the power of prayer, in the form of a black-and-white critter, was circling it."



MONDAY, MAY 25

The Offices will be **CLOSED** on Monday, May 25 for **Memorial Day**.

If you have a pastoral need please contact Pastor Ristau at (651) 788-6940 or press@csp.edu.



We encourage ALL staff members to attend the HTLS Chapel Services during the school year. We will close the School Entrance door each Wednesday from 8:20 a.m. to 9:10 a.m.

Church members are always welcome to attend the chapel services and worship with the students, staff, and families of HTLS. Please enter through the School entrance as no other doors will be unlocked by 8:20 a.m. We are essentially “locked down” during chapel but you are welcome to wait in the school lobby for the staff to return.

The Chapel Service is also live-streamed on the HTLS Facebook Page – so you can “join” us even if you can’t come to the building.

Please know that this will mean that no one will be answering the phones either, but you may leave a message and your call will be returned when the staff returns to the offices.



REMEMBER TO PRAY:

- For our members who are going to college whether here in town or in another town/state
- For the students attending WKU that will attend HTLC while here in Bowling Green



NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

The newsletter is being distributed via e-mail and the narthex. It is also on the website. If we have an e-mail address for you we are sending it there. (We did not e-mail to a work address unless given prior permission.)

If we don't have an e-mail, a printed copy will be available in the narthex. If you would like to receive newsletters by e-mail please contact the church office at 270-843-9595.

Printed copies of previous month's newsletters are also available in the bottom row of the narthex boxes.

A real friend is one who walks in, when the rest of the world walks out.

—Walter Winchell



Our church is growing and we are developing more and more programs. This means that the building is being used more frequently as well.

In order to make using the building as easy as possible for everyone, it is **IMPERATIVE** that you contact the Church Office as soon as you plan to use any part of the facility to make sure the date and/or room is available, etc. There are also several policies that are in place for the use of the building that you would need to be aware of when hosting an activity at Holy Trinity.

All of the activities at Holy Trinity will benefit from everyone working together for the best use of the facility.



If you would like the latest update please contact the church office at 270-843-9595 or e-mail Elizabeth at church.admin@htlc-bg.org. The directory can be e-mailed to you or printed out and placed in your narthex mailslot.



Holy Trinity has a **FAX MACHINE** for all those last minute – must get it to us items. The number is **270-843-7466**.



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church & School are on the Internet.

Our websites are continually updated. The addresses are:

Web Site Addresses

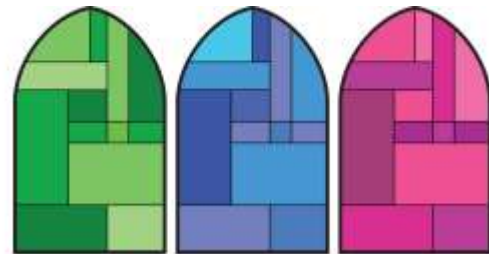
Church

www.htlc-bgky.com

School

www.HTLSBG.com

There are links on these sites to e-mail Pastor Press and Bill Hiskey.



Welcome to Worship!

LIVESTREAM BEGINS SOON

The church services are being “**live streamed**” now. If you are homebound or away from town you can “join worship” from your computer via our Facebook page.

Our e-mail addresses are as follows:

Church e-mail address

church.admin@htlc-bg.org

School e-mail address

school.admin@htlc-bg.org

NOTE: Addresses **are** case sensitive and there are **no spaces** in the addresses.



Grace Lutheran Church in Clarksville, TN (2041 Madison St/Clarksville, TN) is hosting their Concert Series at their church. The concerts are free, but love offerings are taken. **NOTE:** that due to changing conditions, concerts may change; call for the most current information. If you have questions or need more information please call (931) 647-6750 or go to <https://www.glctn.org/>.

**“Road to 250” Bonus Concert –
Cumberland Winds**

Sunday, June 28

4:00 p.m.

Pray for our nation, honor veterans and celebrate 250 years of wonderful American music. Tap your feet and sing along. *Veterans and active duty military may RSVP for the lunch honoring armed forces and their families.*



Please be in prayer for these members/family members of Holy Trinity that are in the military. Their addresses are listed below so that you can send them a letter whenever you want to.

Caleb Goad, son of Dana Johnson, is in the Navy Military Police. Caleb is now deployed in Greece and is using Dana's address at this time for all mail.

Goad, Caleb A.
c/o Dana Johnson
527 Henson Road
Bowling Green, KY 42104

Jackson Heinze, son of John Heinze, is serving in the Air Force and is deploying to Africa March – October 2024. All correspondence to John's address at this time.

AB Heinze, Jackson, E.
c/o John Heinze
2170 Greenhill Street
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Jonathan Heinze, son of John Heinze, is serving in the Air Force.

Sgt. Jonathan Heinze

Jordan Heinze, son of John Heinze, is also serving in the Air Force.

Airman Jordan Heinze
17464 E. Keystone Circle S Unit #B
Aurora, CO 80017

Alex Joseph Madison, grandson of Mike & Pam Case, is now a Corpsman in the Navy. He is stationed in San Antonio, TX.



OUR MEMBERS IN LONG-TERM NURSING CARE... Joan Thomason



WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS...

Joshua Borne joined by Transfer from St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church LC-MS in Decatur, IN.

Katie Borne joined by Profession of Faith

Harold, Elise, Simon, Marcus, Luke, and Matthias Ristau joined by transfer from Mount Hope Lutheran Church in Casper, WY.

Marcus Schadwill joined by Profession of Faith.

We rejoice in your decision to join our fellowship and look forward to serving the Lord with you.



OUR MEMBERS THAT ARE HOMEBOUND...

Greg Bergmann, Charles James, Irma Lamm, and Del Wolff



UNITED IN HOLY MATRIMONY THIS WEEK WERE...

Katie Keco and Joshua Borne

The ceremony was held here at Holy Trinity on Saturday, April 18.

We pray that the Lord will bless their marriage and that He will always be in the center of their life together.



WE EXPRESS OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES to the family of **Steve Adams** in the death of his father, Ed Adams. Ed was a member of Holy Trinity since 2013 and frequently attended the Tuesday morning men's Bible study. He died on Tuesday, April 21, at 88 years of age. Funeral services will be held in Bowling Green, KY.

We commend Steve and his family to the comfort and compassion of our Loving and Living Lord Jesus Christ.



GREETERS FOR MAY

(First person/couple – 8:00 service
 Second person/couple – 10:30 service)
 (Starting May 17, there will only be the 9:00 service)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
3	MARLY & DEB HIATT ROBERT, BRITTANY, & ASHLEY HENSON
10	CRAIG & JODI PRAXL KEVIN & PAM SCHMALTZ
17	RICHARD & NANCY MELKE GENEVA BENTLEY (all at 9:00)
24	PETER & CINDY BRANDT CONNIE PRESS (all at 9:00)
31	BRUCE & BONNIE BORTH



READERS FOR MAY

(First person - 8:00 service
 Second person - 10:30 service)
 (Starting May 17, Pastor Ristau will be doing all the readings)

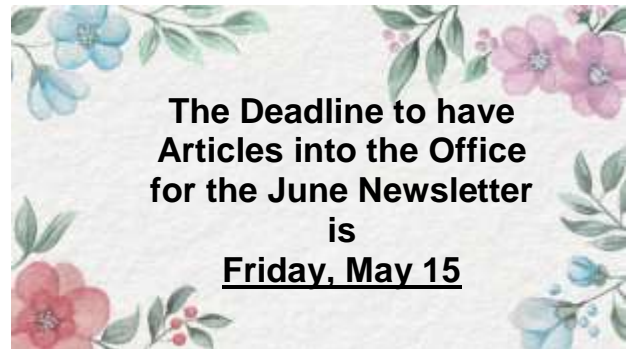
<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
3	CINDY BRANDT DAVID JURGENS
10	BART WHITE PAM SCHMALTZ



ACOLYTES FOR MAY

(First person - 8:00 service
 Second person - 10:30 service)
 (Starting May 17, there will only be the 9:00 service)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
3	HUNTLEY MOORE VERA FRITZ
10	MASON ROSBOTTOM ELLIE HISKEY
17	QUINN OTTO
24	SYDNEY DAVENPORT
31	STELLA JONES





ALTAR GUILD

ALTAR GUILD FOR MAY

8:00 A.M. PATTI STUCKWISCH

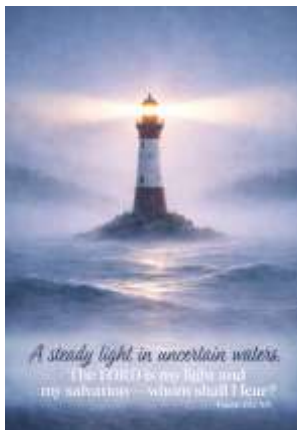
10:30 A.M. GENEVA BENTLEY
DIANE THORPE



COMMUNION SERVERS FOR MAY

8:00 A.M. MARLY HIATT

10:30 A.M. DAVE NELSON



A steady light in uncertain waters.
The rock is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear?
—Psalm 124:1-2



AUDIO-VISUAL

team

AUDIO/VISUAL FOR MAY
(First person - 8:00 service
Second person - 10:30 service)
(There will be no PowerPoint beginning May 17)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
3	MICHAEL MOORE A.J. ZIRBEL
10	MICHAEL HARTWEIN AYDEN WITHERSPOON



He giveth power to the faint;
and to them that have no might
he increaseth strength.

Isaiah 40:29, KJV



2	David C. King	17	Elizabeth A. Lindsey
	Brittany A. Henson	18	Kaden McKinney
	Colin Fritz	19	Kenneth W. Johnson
3	Richard C. Stirn		Robert D. Henson
	William A. Parsons, Jr.	20	Michael E. Calvin
	Andrew W. Toopes		Cole B. Rubican
6	Kay Murphy	21	Cynthia L. Brandt
8	Myrna Neff		Martha King
	Nelson Feliciano	22	L. Dionne Milam
	Calum L. Whitaker	23	Dawson L. Owens
10	Johnie P. Trent	25	Jennifer Burns
12	Steven W. Zielke		Andrew J. Vratana
	Samantha L. Ulm	27	Violet K. Fritz
13	Eleanor C. Hiskey	28	Samantha M. Davenport
	Donald L. Merkle	29	Joyce M. Schilke
	Jacqueline M. White		Kathy L. Hamilton
14	Joseph M. Ertl	30	Addalynn P. Graham
15	Walter Dobring	31	Marsha L. Holm
	William R. Hiskey (D.S.M.)		



1	Brian & Nina Vratana (27 th)	23	Marly & Debra Hiatt (34 th)
6	Will & Angie Luck (9 th)		Jeff & April Owens (34 th)
10	Joshua & Kirstie Whitaker (9 th)	27	Aaron & Ginger Witherspoon (26 th)
12	Ronald & Lori Alvarez (17 th)	28	Nicholas Garber & Elizabeth
14	David & Susan Hoffman (49 th)		Tapscott (3 rd)
	Jim & Elaine Towe (49 th)	31	Brad & Elena Frock (18 th)
19	Rande & Kay Murphy (53 rd)		Dick & Nancy Webber (18 th)
	David & Laurie Jurgens (47 th)		