



**SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
GRINDSTONE HILL**

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March 2026

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Solomon's Says

A Newsletter from the Faith Community of Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church

"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."

Pastoral Letter – Pastor Julia Brown

Hello friends!

The beginning of the year is always an administratively busy time. Taxes, membership reporting, annual reports, budget approvals, and council transitions all come due at the start of the new year. Visioning often comes, too. Last year at this time, we were embarking on a discernment journey about our shared pastorate with Solomon's United Church of Christ. This year, we are once again discerning the future for our church.

What is God asking us to let go of? What is God asking us to continue, and how do we refine that? What is God asking us to do differently? What is God asking us to pick up? Who is God asking us to be? Does God's call to us still sound the same?

Those are all good questions to ponder, even if the invitation God extends is simply to keep doing what we are doing and leave the rest to God. In our context as a small church, though, the question often underneath those questions - the one many of you have asked - is how do we grow the congregation?

There is a lot I could say on that subject. For now, know that I have been pondering that question with you. Among others, here are two questions I feel the Spirit asking in response to us: How might we love our church as it is? How might we be the church as we are?

“Small church,” even “tiny church,” is not synonymous with “dying church.” It may mean creativity in terms of staffing or forms of income, but thriving as a small church is possible with the help and according to the will of God.

You are asking good questions. Know that I am here to support your discernment and encourage your creativity! I am praying with you.

See you in church,
Pastor Julia

P.S. I feel I must offer you a book recommendation, so here it is: *How the Bible Actually Works* by Pete Enns. (See also, *The Bible Tells Me So...* and/or *The Sin of Certainty* by Pete Enns.)



Gospel Readings for MARCH:

- Sunday, March 1 - John 3:1-17
- Sunday, March 8 - John 4:5-42
- Sunday, March 15 - John 9:1-41
- Sunday, March 22 - John 11:1-45
- Sunday, March 29 - Matthew 21:1-11



LARC LENT 2026 *Living Water in a Dry Land*

Date	Weekly Theme	Location	Preacher
February 25 7pm	Thirsting for God Isaiah 55	Corpus Christi Roman Catholic 320 Philadelphia Ave Chambersburg, PA 17201 (717) 264-6317	The Rev. Tommy Wimsae Trinity Lutheran
March 4 7pm	Water from the Rock Exodus 17	Corpus Christi Roman Catholic 320 Philadelphia Ave Chambersburg, PA 17201 (717) 264-6317	The Rev. Jane Nicholson First Lutheran
March 11 7pm	Living Water Offered John 4	First Lutheran 43 W Washington St Chambersburg PA 17201 717-264-2015	Deacon Ford Brooks Trinity Episcopal
March 18 7pm	Washed in the Water Romans 6	Trinity Lutheran 431 Philadelphia Ave Chambersburg, PA 17201 (717) 263-8156	Father Benjamin Kwaghgba Corpus Christi Catholic
March 25 7pm	A River of Life Ezekiel 47	Trinity Episcopal 58 S 2nd St Chambersburg, PA 17201 (717) 264-6351	Deacon Richard Ramsey Corpus Christi Catholic

Offering – The lay members of LARC have chosen Hearken House, a transitional care center for transitional housing for those convicted of sexual offences and have served their prison time. Checks to support Hearken House may be made **payable to LARC**.

Soup Suppers – Each week the hosting church for worship will also host a 5:30 supper at their congregation.

Friendly Reminders

If you would like to sign up for **altar flowers**, the following dates in March and April are still available: 3/1, 3/8, 4/12, 4/19.

Have an item for the April newsletter?! Deadline is **March 18**. Email Kimberly at office@solomonslutheran.org.

Solomon's Serving Schedule - March

	3/1/26	3/8/26	3/15/26	3/22/26	3/29/26
<i>Head Usher</i>	Aaron Shreiner				
<i>Lector</i>	Wayne Dale	Bonney Coldsmith	Rich McEntire	Kathy Bowen	Rich McEntire
<i>Acolyte</i>	Janice McEntire	Wayne Dale	TBD	Janice McEntire	TBD
<i>Communion Set-Up</i>	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<i>Communion Clean-Up</i>	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<i>Communion Assist</i>	TBD	Ron Coldsmith	TBD	TBD	TBD
<i>Communion Bread</i>	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<i>Securing Offering</i>	Ron Coldsmith & Rich McEntire				
<i>Coffee Fellowship</i>	Kathy Bowen				

News from Christian Ed



Christian Education Spring Fun Event is scheduled for April 11, 2026. We will meet at Nellie Fox Bowling at 2:30 p.m. We will bowl until 5:00 p.m. and then go to Vinnie's for pizza and drink. Please sign up (sign-up sheet is in the Sunday School room) so we know how many people there are to plan for.

All are welcome!



A **GREAT BIG thank you** to everyone who supported the Souper Bowl. We collected 46 cans of soup for Maranatha Food Pantry. Maranatha will be very appreciative to receive our contributions.

Seahawks WON THE SOUPER BOWL!!

Seahawks *28 cans of soup*

New England *18 cans of soup*



Maranatha Paper Drive:

During the month of April, we will be collecting paper products for Maranatha Food Pantry. Paper products cannot be purchased with Food Stamps. Items needed are toilet paper, napkins, paper towels, Kleenex, hand wipes, diapers, etc. Please place the items in the totes under the coat rack, next to the mailboxes.



Celebrating a Birthday in March....

- | | | | |
|------|------------------|------|-------------------|
| 3/1 | Larry Socks | 3/20 | Riley Garner |
| 3/7 | Martie Veilleux | 3/26 | Tammy Helman |
| 3/9 | Lilly Chiado | 3/27 | Joyce Skelly |
| 3/12 | Tyler Kuykendall | 3/30 | Kipten Parr |
| 3/16 | Garrett Mull | 3/31 | Emma Schultz |
| 3/19 | Curtis Reichard | 3/31 | Jaren Nitterhouse |



Celebrating a Wedding Anniversary in March...

- | | |
|------|-------------------------|
| 3/18 | Norm & Nancy Kuykendall |
| 3/20 | Joe & Karen Wolfinger |

EASTER FLOWERS - 2026

Anyone desiring to remember a loved one or honor someone with Easter Flowers is asked to complete the following form and return it to the church office or put it in the collection plate along with cash or a check made payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church, marked "Easter Flowers." Flowers will be in the church on Sunday, April 5, 2026, and can be taken home that day, or call the office 717 267-2266 to make other arrangements.

The deadline to order Easter Flowers is March 8!

*The Easter Flowers in
Memory and Honor of Family and Friends
has been donated by:*

_____ (name)

Daffodils (6"pot).....\$10.00
Yellow _____

Tulips (6 bulbs)\$10.00
Red _____ Yellow _____ Purple _____

Lilies.....\$10.00 White _____



Total amount enclosed _____

Total plants ordered _____

In memory of _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

In honor of _____

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Join us Sunday mornings!
10:45 a.m. Worship Service

OR check us out on *YouTube!*
Links are listed on our website.

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"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.."
Philippians 4:13 (NRSV)