



# Ebenezer UCC Tidings

Monthly Newsletter - February 2024



The season of Lent has been a tradition for reflection over the years. The church had set aside a time for repentance and servanthood. We are asked to reflect on our dedication to God in the past year. But also, to take into consideration the cross coming at Good Friday. Lent has been one for self-control for many. The tradition of Fastnacht Tuesday is a Pa. German tradition that had my grandmother and many others cleaning out the cupboards to make doughnuts with lard. These doughnuts had little sugar in them so many of us used honey to coat them, so they went down with a sweet taste. This tradition was done the day before Ash Wednesday. Our church tradition had us limit our food consumption especially for the sweets like doughnuts yet other traditions in Christianity called for the restriction of eating meat on Fridays in Lent. Another tradition was to fast for certain days for spiritual signs or reflections on our living God's way. We read that Jesus was in the wilderness going without eating while being tempted in the wilderness with the Devil. (Mark 1:12, Matt. 4, Luke 4) Jesus went without eating to be clear of what evil was saying to him. This example of Jesus is why many feel fasting can help us discern what God is saying to them, but also if the devil is speaking to us. It seems that when we are satisfied with our food intake, we tend to forget our mission for God. I tend to call it "being spoiled." I have learned in a small group that met at 5 different restaurants over 15 years that grown men can complain about driving distances, the price of food, the quality of the waitress and, of course, the cost of the breakfast, all while the food we were eating was falling out of our mouths as God watched us. We all had transportation to these places. We all had the money to buy anything on the menu. We all had the time to sit and complain about how bad other people are as we complained to each other..... Spoiled Old Men.

Are you a spoiled person? That is what lent season is about. Looking into the proverbial mirror and reflecting on, am I grateful for what God has done for me? This is why many people fast in Lent. We do it to feel the pains of life that many in our world struggle with daily. Jesus taught us to pray for our daily bread. We have had enough bread for years, yet many in our world need to find food today because they had no access to food yesterday. In 2024 we still have many people who lack food daily. Yet many have used hunger strikes to protest the neglect of humanity to help humanity as Jesus has taught. Even Mahatma Gandhi used this method of communication to make a statement of Good for all mankind.

This Lent season we at EB will have an opportunity to talk about our faith. Our Lent study will be about forgiveness. We will view Adam Hamilton's DVD on forgiveness. Forgiveness is the key to our Christian faith. The more we learn to forgive, the more mature we grow in our faith of Jesus, our Lord. Adam teaches the way of Christ by pointing out that Jesus first forgave us, and we are to do the same. Forgiving others is what sets us free to live a life of hope, joy, peace and love each day of our lives. Come join our discussion. Look for the dates, times, and places in the newsletter and bulletins.

Hope to see you in the small group for conversion about our faith and, of course, Sunday worship will be a time of celebration and worship of God.

Agape, blessings, Wally

If you would like to speak with Pastor Wally about a questions, concern or counseling need, please contact him.

✉ [pastor@ebuccnewtripoli.org](mailto:pastor@ebuccnewtripoli.org)

☎ (484) 330 6061

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For up to the minute news from Ebenezer UCC, please

➤ visit our website:

[EbenezerNewTripoli.org](http://EbenezerNewTripoli.org)

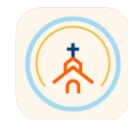
➤ follow us on Facebook:



[facebook.com/ebuccnt](https://facebook.com/ebuccnt)

➤ login to your

**My Church phone APP**



Submission Deadline for the Ebenezer UCC Tidings is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Please contact the Ebenezer office with ideas and suggestions for our publication.

## JOYS and CONCERNS

Have you been blessed and would like to share your good news with Ebenezer? Or perhaps something is concerning you and you'd like to express that. If you would like to share your joys and concerns with the members of Ebenezer UCC in this Tidings newsletter, you can contact the church office:

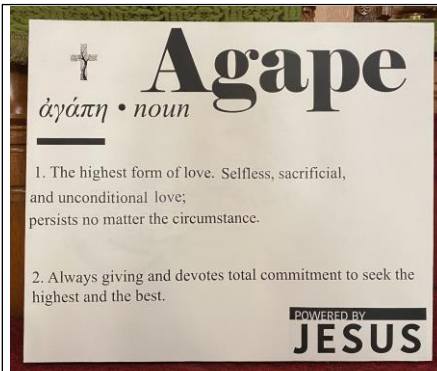
☎ (610) 298-8000

✉ [office@ebuccnewtripoli.org](mailto:office@ebuccnewtripoli.org)

OR use this QR code:



(Submission deadline: 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.)



*Thank you to Sheila Burkert for designing and creating this beautiful work of art.*

## Holy Communion 2024

January 7	August 4
February 4	September 1
March 3	October 6
March 31	November 3
May 5	December 1
June 2	

## Church Staff

### Pastor

Wally Frisch

Phone # 484-330-6061

Email: [pastor@ebuccnewtripoli.org](mailto:pastor@ebuccnewtripoli.org)

### Administrative Assistant

Office Phone: # 610-298-8000

Email: [office@ebuccnewtripoli.org](mailto:office@ebuccnewtripoli.org)

### Christian Ed Director

Stephanie Quier

Phone: Home – 484-212-5172

Cell – 610-657-7830

Email: [Meizdiz@gmail.com](mailto:Meizdiz@gmail.com)

### Music Director

Valerie Borman

Phone: 615-948-7944

Email: [music@ebuccnewtripoli.org](mailto:music@ebuccnewtripoli.org)

## UPCOMING LENTEN SERVICES

**Ash Wednesday Service** - Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> - 7 p.m.

**Palm Sunday Celebration** – Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> – 10:15 a.m.

**Maundy Thursday Service** – March 28<sup>th</sup> – 7 p.m.

**Good Friday Walk with The Cross** – Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> – 10 a.m.

**Easter Worship and Communion** – Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> – 10:15 a.m.

Please join the Consistory at their monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> as the membership of ALL COMMITTEES is established for 2024. As a communicant member in good standing, you can participate on one or more of Ebenezer's standing committees. We need your help to conduct the business of the church and to keep our church successful in achieving our goals.

## Our Consistory

### Elders:

*Jason Breininger (Vice Pres.)*

*Mike Schock (President)*

*Mike Wertman*

### Deacons:

*Valerie Borman*

*Debra Boyer*

*Sheila Burkert*

*Pam Delligatti*

*AnnaLou Fritzinger*

*Cheryl Handler*

*Clarence Opolsky*

*Holly Rainey (Secretary)*

*Bambi Snyder*

Annual Reports are due.  
Please submit to AnnaLou or Valerie. Reports will be made available next month.

**Women of the Church**  
NO Monthly Meeting until  
Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 7 p.m.  
*All women are welcome to attend!*

Our monthly Consistory Meeting  
will be held on  
Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.  
*Members are welcome to observe.*



## WINTER WEATHER AND CANCELLATIONS

Please refer to WFMZ Channel 69 News

or our Facebook page for information regarding church closing.

Online: WFMZ.com | Blue Ridge Cable: Channel 4 | SEC TV: Channel 8

*If we have your cell phone number and/or email in our Amplify system, you will receive notification of cancellation via text and/or email.*



If you have not received your 2023  
Annual Giving Statement, please  
contact the Church Office at  
(610) 298-8000 or  
[office@ebuccnewtripoli.org](mailto:office@ebuccnewtripoli.org)

I want to send out a huge "Thank You" to all of the dedicated and reliable greeters who have been awesome throughout the year of 2023!!! Thank you so much.

--AnnaLou Fritzinger

### ♥ How will you serve? ♥

At Ebenezer UCC, we are all called to serve God. But there are also many opportunities to bless the people in our church, community and world. With all the available options, how will you serve?

Did you know that one of our sanctuary's ceiling panels was installed incorrectly? It is turned 90 degrees.

Can you find it?



## EASTER CANDY

**Easter Candy season is here!**  
Candy order forms are available in the sanctuary, on our Facebook page and are included as an attachment with our weekly email.

**Orders are due 2/11.**

**You can join the Ebenezer Candy Crew and help to make candy OR you can donate meals and desserts for our hard-working confectioners. Please contact Mike Schock if you would like to donate a meal for the Crew.**

### Worship Service Sundays - Volunteer Opportunities

Service	Greeter	Acolytes	Lay Reader
2/4	NEEDED	NEEDED	Vicki Moyer
2/11	NEEDED	NEEDED	NEEDED
2/18	NEEDED	NEEDED	NEEDED
2/25	NEEDED	NEEDED	NEEDED

Our Fellowship Hall renovations continue! The team has been hard at work to keep our deadline and complete this project by the end of February. All of these upgrades are made possible by the Candy Crew – all of the folks who have made our Christmas and Easter. Thank you so much for selling, buying and supporting their efforts!



The former choir room is done! With new paint and a new floor, this space will serve as a dressing room for the summer theatre camp and for general storage. The stage has been painted and awaits a new floor, curtain back drop and front curtain cleaning.

Pastor Wally is always there to help!



Fred Reith doesn't just sing - he's been a professional painter for more than 60 years!



## UPCOMING SERVICES

Join us for worship with FELLOWSHIP following these services:

February 4 – 10:15 am - Holy Communion – Birthday Sunday  
Christian Education's Souper Bowl

February 18 - Valentine's Share the Love of Christ –  
Bring a Friend!

February 25 – 10:15 am - Scout Sunday

March 3 – Holy Communion – Birthday Sunday

March 17 – Wearing of the Green! Bring a Friend!

April 7 - 10:15 am- Birthday Celebration Sunday

April 21 – Spring Cleanup Day – Bring a Friend!

### Please join us as we pray for:

- Tim Snyder
- Sheila Burkert
- Scott Koenig
- Anne Bowers
- Jean Borman
- All homebound members
- All friends and family members recovering from an illness or a loss
- Our Veterans, Military Service Personnel, Firemen and First Responders

To request prayers, please us this QR code:



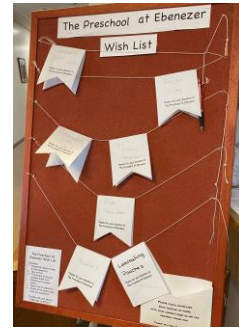
## The Preschool at Ebenezer

The Preschool at Ebenezer is now accepting registrations for our 2023-24 school year. Registration forms are available outside the preschool room and on our website:

[EbenezerNewTripoli.org/preschool-program/](http://EbenezerNewTripoli.org/preschool-program/)



## Have you checked out the Preschool Wishlist?



*You'll find the items needed for the Preschool on the Wish List board outside the Sanctuary.*



## Ebenezer Vacation Bible School 2024

Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> - Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup>

6 p.m. to 8 p.m. daily

We need adult and teen volunteers to lead our 2024 VBS classes and activities. Our sign-up sheet is located outside the sanctuary.



Use this QR code to sign up as a volunteer!



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are in need of additional Sunday School teachers. Our Christian Ed. & Preschool Director, Steph Quier, would like to have a rotation of volunteers who could help to fill in regularly. If you would like to help teach our Sunday School student at 9 a.m. on Sunday mornings, please contact Steph!

## Lenten Challenge for Ebenezer

Join Pastor Wally for a 4-week, Small Group Experience on Forgiveness with a video followed by discussion.

Wednesdays, 6 – 7 p.m.:

2/21, 2/28, 3/6 & 3/13

Saturdays, 10 – 11 a.m.:

2/24, 3/2, 3/9 & 3/16

*Love*

IS PATIENT,  
LOVE IS KIND,  
IT DOES NOT ENVY,  
IT DOES NOT BOAST,  
IT IS NOT PROUD,  
IT DOES NOT DISHONOR OTHERS,  
IT IS NOT SELF-SEEKING,  
IT IS NOT EASILY ANGERED,  
IT KEEPS NO RECORD OF WRONGS.  
LOVE DOES NOT DELIGHT IN EVIL  
BUT REJOICES WITH THE TRUTH.  
IT ALWAYS PROTECTS,  
ALWAYS TRUSTS, ALWAYS HOPES,  
ALWAYS PERSEVERES.  
LOVE NEVER FAILS.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-8

## Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the 40-day season of Lent.

"On Ash Wednesday, we mark our foreheads with a cross made of ashes from the burnt palm branches from last year's Palm Sunday service.

This mark is rich with significance. The cross is a sign of our faith that God can transform even the most terrible and final ending into a glorious new beginning. Indeed no power on earth can stop God's boundless love for us. Placing ashes on the head was a Biblical practice that demonstrated grief and repentance—the desire and intention to turn in a new direction.

With these ashes, we mourn the wounds of the world and acknowledge our commitment to Jesus' Way of radical love and reconciling justice. We recognize our mistakes and failures so we can be free to move in a new direction. Because they are the dusty remains of palm branches, these ashes also remind us of our mortality and our connection to the whole cycle of creation." - opentoGod.org

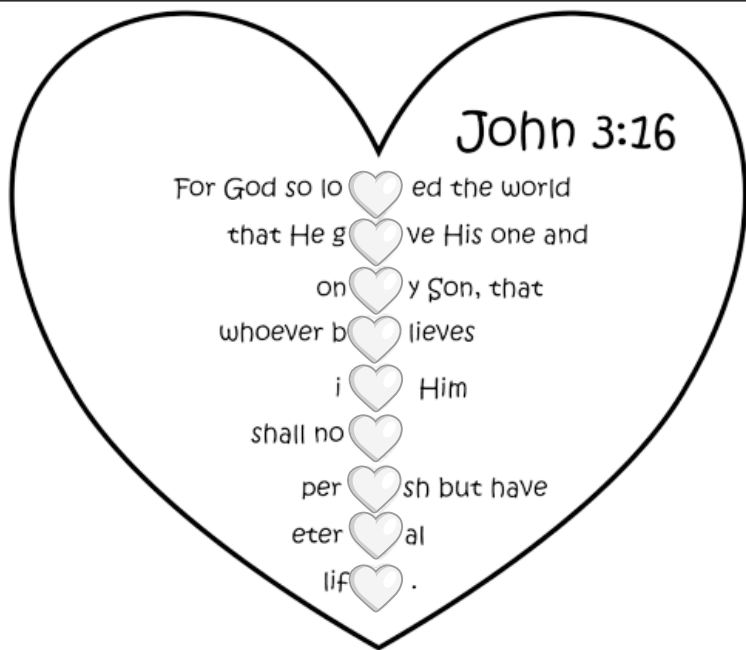


## Lent: February 14 through March 28

"Lent is a 40-day period during which Christians focus their attention on deepening their connection with God.

Scripture readings follow Jesus' ministry

as he moved toward Jerusalem, the capital city and religious center of the Jewish people. The final week of Lent, often called "Holy Week," calls Christians to reflect on the events traditionally associated with his final week of life, leading up to his murder as a political and religious prisoner." – communityucc.org



Fill in the missing letters to reveal the mystery word.

Q: What flower gives the most kisses on Valentine's Day?

A: Tulips!



### Bible Verse Valentines:

*I have hidden your word in my heart so that I won't sin against you. - Psalm 119:11*

*God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life. - John 3:16*

*Find your delight in the Lord. Then he will give you everything your heart really wants. - Psalm 37:4*

*Love is patient. Love is kind. - 1 Corinthians 13:4*

*God is love. - 1 John 4:16*

*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your mind and with all your strength. - Mark 12:30*

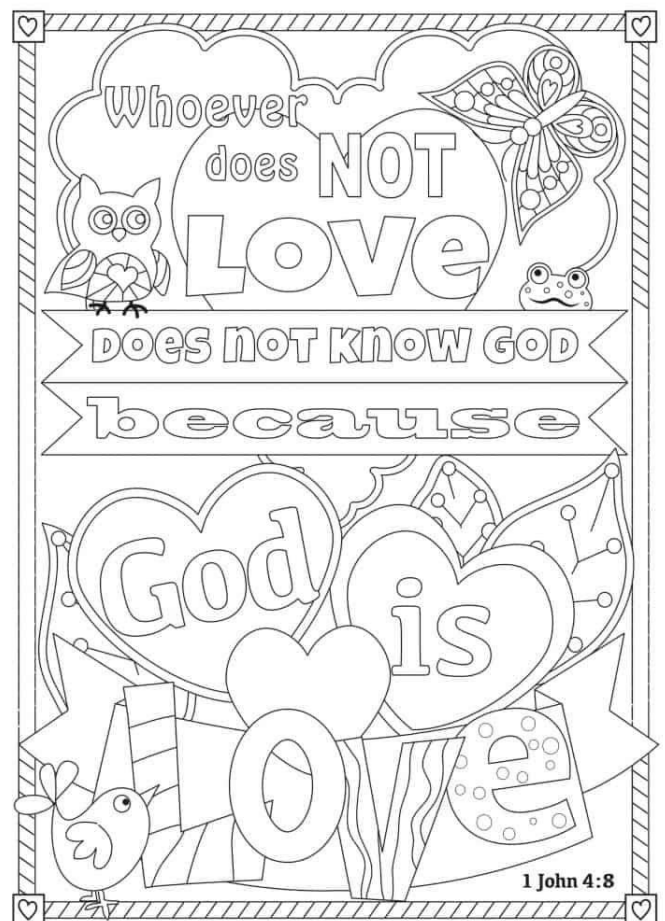
*Love must be honest and true. - Romans 12:9*

*Let all that you do be done in love. - 1 Corinthians 16:14*

### Make a Heartfelt Message!



1. Fold a piece of paper in half.
2. Line your index finger and thumb along the fold.
3. Trace your hand on the paper.
4. Cut around your traced line.
5. Unfold and add your message!



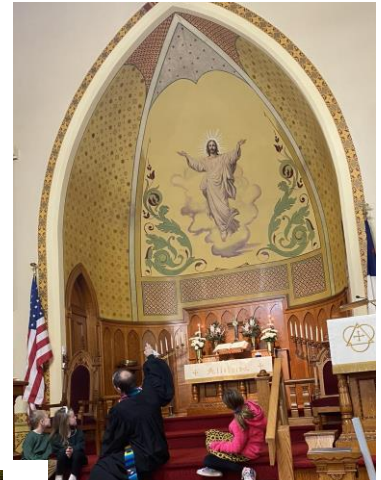
Color the picture



The Children's Message



Gone Fishing!



Learning about Jesus!



### AT DAY'S END – John Hall

Is anyone happier because you passed his way?  
Does anyone remember that you spoke  
to him today?  
The day is almost over, and its toiling  
time is through;  
Is there anyone to utter now a kindly  
word to you?  
Can you say tonight, in parting with  
the day that's slipping fast?  
That helped a single brother of the  
many that you passed?  
Is a single heart rejoicing over  
what you did or said;  
Doe the man whose hopes were fading,  
now with courage look ahead?  
Did you waste the day or lose it?  
Was it well or sorely spent?  
Did you leave a trail of kindness,  
or a scar of discontent?  
As you close your eyes in slumber,  
do you think that God will say,  
"You have earned on more tomorrow by the  
work you did today"?

The beautiful poem  
on the left was  
submitted by Linda  
Smith.

Thank you, Linda,  
for all you do for  
Ebenezer!



**PIZZA & MOVIE NIGHT**  
We ate popcorn and watched  
LEO!



**The Little Lights**  
The Children of Ebenezer UCC  
"Let the children come to me..." - Matt. 19:14



Our first Birthday Celebration  
Sunday– celebrating all of our  
members' JANUARY Birthdays  
with cupcakes baked by  
Pam Dellagatti.



**Basic First Aid Certification Class**Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> - 10 to 11a.m.

in our Fellowship Hall

\$20 per person fee for 2-year certification card  
(Fee payable in cash or Venmo at the event.)**FREE** for those who do not request  
a certification card.Use the QR code to register or  
sign up outside the sanctuary.Open to the members of Ebenezer  
and our community.**Souper Bowl Sunday**

SOUP &amp; CHILI COOK-OFF

FEBRUARY 4<sup>th</sup>Join us after our worship service for a fellowship meal.  
Our panel of judges will determine the prize-winning  
entrée!You can enter the contest by signing  
up outside the sanctuary or by using  
this QR code:

Proceeds benefit the Christian Education Department.

**Ebenezer's Closet***Ebenezer's Closet is open on the  
second Thursday and Saturday  
of every month. All clothing is  
FREE! Please spread to word so  
we can serve those in need.*Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> - 6 pm to 8 p.m.  
Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> - 10 am to 12**You're Not Alone**This is a support group for widows,  
divorcees, parents who've lost a child, those who've  
lost a sibling, anyone who is recovering from a loss.If you have any questions about our group, please  
contact Donna Herman for more information:✉ [donnaeherman47@gmail.com](mailto:donnaeherman47@gmail.com)**Upcoming meetings:**Tuesdays, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> & Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> @ 1 p.m., Room 126**\*\* Little Lights and Youth Event \*\*****FAMILY GAME NIGHT**Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> - 6 to 8 pm  
featuring "Family Feud!"  
Bring your family and your  
favorite board games.**SCOUT SUNDAY**Join us on February 25<sup>th</sup> for our  
worship service as our Scouts present  
their Flag Ceremony and  
share their Scout Oath.**Ebenezer's Annual****Easter Egg Hunt**Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> - 1 p.m.

More details to come!

Enjoy dinner and a  
"show" on March 9<sup>th</sup>  
in our newly renovated  
Fellowship Hall.Dinner includes spaghetti, salad, garlic bread and  
a dessert. Top your pasta with a choice of sauces  
and meats. Musical entertainment provided by  
Nashville recording artist, Valerie Borman,  
throughout the evening.

Pricing and ticket availability TBA.

**Ebenezer's Escape Room Youth Event**Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup> - 6 to 8 p.m.

Challenges for different age levels.

Fun for the whole family!

**VENDOR &  
CRAFT FAIR**Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>**1 TABLE - \$15****2 TABLES - \$25**More details to be  
announced.Coach - Michael Kors  
Vera Bradley - Kate Spade  
& moreSunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> - Time TBA

Hosted by Diamond Fire Co.

209 Washington St., Walnutport, PA



## GIRL SCOUTS

Girl Scout cookies are now available for purchase at \$5/box. Please support Troop 6143 and all our local Girl Scouts!



### "Recycle Beyond the Bag" has ended.

The Girl Scouts are no longer collecting bags and other recyclable plastics\* to turn into benches! Thank you for helping the Girls Scouts reach their bench goals!



## BOY SCOUTS / CUB SCOUTS



### FEBRUARY

2/17 - Wreaths Across America Cleanup  
 2/24 - Blue & Gold Banquet  
 2/25 - Scout Sunday at Ebenezer UCC  
 2/27 - Pack Meeting & Advancements 6:30  
 Committee Meeting 7:30  
 2/28 - Derby Car Testing

### MARCH

3/5 & 3/12 - Derby Car Testing  
 TBD Crossover  
 3/16 Pinewood Derby  
 3/26 Pack Meeting & Advancements 6:30  
 Committee Meeting 7:30

## Our Local Community



### **Ebenezer's February SOUPER BOWL FOOD DRIVE**

All food will be donated to the  
 Lowhill Food Pantry.  
*Thank you for your donations\**

#### **FOOD ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO RESIDENTS OF NORTHWESTERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Christ's Church at Lowhill Food Pantry  
 4695 Lowhill Church Road, New Tripoli, PA  
 610-298-2054 or 610-674-2440

- We offer a "Choice" Food Pantry that allows each family to choose the items they need and in the amount needed based on their family size.
- Families may visit us 1 time each month
- Hours:  
 1st Saturday of each month - 9 to 11 AM  
 Wednesday before the 3rd Thursday of each month 10 AM to 12 NOON  
 3rd Thursday of each month - 4 to 6:30 PM

All information given is kept confidential.  
 Eligibility is based on the size of the household and the current household income level.



### **St Patty's Day Gift Card Bingo is coming to Heidelberg!**

Saturday March 16th  
 Snowdate - March 23rd  
 Doors open at 12:00 noon  
 Bingo begins at 1:00 pm  
 Tickets \$25 at door  
 Pre-purchased tickets \$20

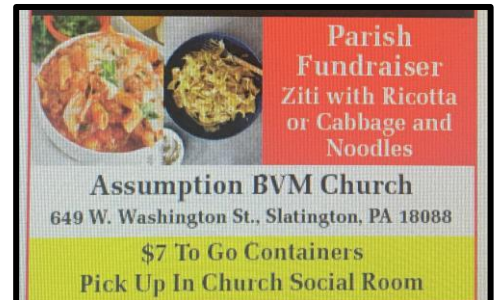
Call the Heidelberg office, 610-767-4740 for more information.



6305 Route 309 Suite 3

New Tripoli, PA

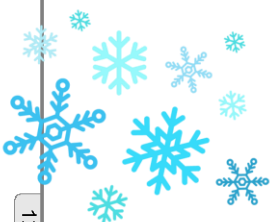


(484) 274 - 3248



Assumption BVM Church  
 Ash Wednesday fundraiser.

Cabbage and noodles (haluski) or  
 baked ricotta ziti. \$7 per containers.  
 To go orders only.

# February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	29	30	31	1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21
Birthday Celebration Sunday <b>Souper Bowl Sunday -</b> Soup & Chili Cook-off 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Church 10:15am - Holy 7:30pm - Confirmation	10am - Quilters 	9am - Crafters 7pm - AA Meeting 7:30pm - Cemetery	Birthday - Bill Mantz	2pm - Choir Rehearsal Birthday - Hannah Hansut Birthday - Ian Alboucq Birthday - Roy Dengler 6pm - Ebenezer's Closet 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal	 Birthday - Erin Schrock	Birthday - Rosalie Wucher 10am - Basic First Aid Certification Class
9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Church 7:30pm - Confirmation	10am - Quilters	9am - Crafters 1pm - You're Not Alone 7pm - AA Meeting	7pm - Ash Wednesday 			Birthday - Amanda Nonstein
Birthday - Jane Wehr Valentine's Special Love of Christ - Bring a Friend! 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Church 7:30pm - Confirmation	10am - Quilters	Birthday - Mike Wertman 9am - Crafters 7pm - AA Meeting	6pm - Lenten Small Group	Birthday - Emily Snyder 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal	6pm - Little Lights & Youth Event - GAME NIGHT	10am - Lenten Small Group
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		2
<b>SCOUT SUNDAY</b> 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Church 7:30pm - Confirmation	Birthday - Pastor Wally 10am - Quilters	Birthday - Holly Kunkle 9am - Crafters 1pm - You're Not Alone 6:30pm - Consistory 7pm - AA Meeting	Birthday - Avery Paden 6pm - Lenten Small Group	6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal		



Ebenezer United Church of Christ

7293 Decatur Street

New Tripoli, PA 18066



Dated Material – Please Expedite  
Address Service Requested



February 2024

**WELCOMING ALL WITH OPEN ARMS!**