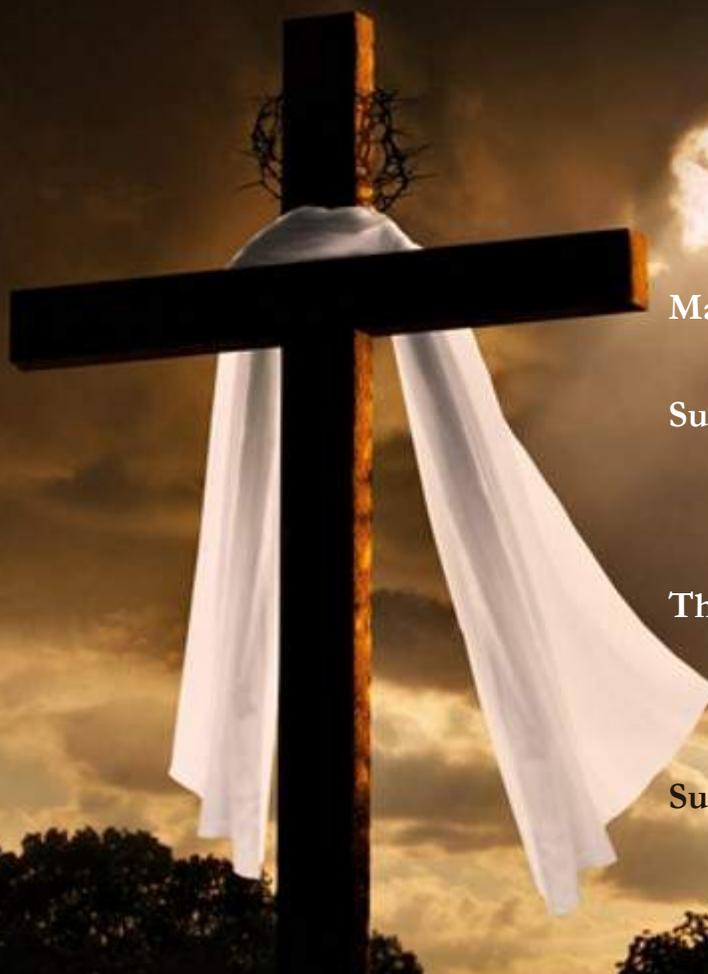


March 2019

## Lent and Holy Week



March 13 through April 10; 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers

Sunday, April 14

Palm/Passion Sunday with narrative reading of the Passion according to Matthew at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. services

Thursday, April 18; 7:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday worship with presentation of "The Living Portrait of the Last Supper"

Sunday, April 21; 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Celebration of the Resurrection

Quarterly publication of **Trinity Ecumenical Parish**

40 Lakemount Drive  
Smith Mountain Lake, Virginia  
540-721-4330 - [info@trinityecumenical.org](mailto:info@trinityecumenical.org)  
[www.trinityecumenical.org](http://www.trinityecumenical.org)

# Fireside Chats with P, B & Shea

By Jerry Hale

Trinity's Pastoral Team invites all parishioners to attend the Lenten Soup Suppers, held on Wednesday evenings at 6:00. "Fireside Chats with P. B. and Shea" will attempt to provide "Answers to Questions about Religion, Faith, Worship and Our Church (which you may have been afraid to ask)."

"Our tradition is to alternate our annual Lenten Series programs between worship and education," said Pastor Philip. "Last year we held the Holden Evening Prayer worship services in the Sanctuary. This year we'll be in the Fellowship Hall, learning and growing together in a 'fireside chat' setting."

The idea for answering parishioners' queries in a non-threatening format came from Pastor Bea Miller who, after leading a similar session years ago at a former church, suggested it to Trinity's Adult Education Team. Explained Bea, "For several weeks, congregants were encouraged to drop anonymous written questions in a box. The submitted questions were sorted and then addressed at a congregational gathering. Adult Ed thought a similar format would be well received here."

Added Philip, "Christians often have questions they need answered but don't ask because

1. They think 'everyone else already knows the answer,' which they don't and
2. They fear they'll appear 'ignorant' by asking.

So important questions go unasked and unanswered. At Trinity, this is compounded because we come



Even if you didn't experience them first hand, students of history are familiar with FDR's Fireside Chats, first delivered to the nation in 1933 and continued until 1944.

from so many different faith backgrounds and traditions."

Pastors Philip and Bea will share the "fireside chat" stage with Vicar Shea Berbaum. Quipped Bea, "Just think of the panel as a Clergy Sandwich—P, B, and Shea!"

"We'll pre-select the most common question themes," she continued. "It's a chance to put us on-the-spot without the questioners feeling on-the-spot themselves."

Parishioners should feel free to feed the collection box located on a table in the Fellowship Hall with as many questions as they wish. By addressing "themes," the pastors will often be responding to multiple questioners with each answer.

"We may not have time for every question," Pr. Philip emphasized, "but we'll try to get to a solid sampling. And don't be surprised if you hear some differing perspectives among us as we've

each walked our own faith path to get to this moment.

"Questioning is not a sign of weak Faith," Philip concluded, "but rather of a faith that seeks to grow. A faith that is growing craves understanding. Just think of how many times the disciples questioned Jesus!"

The Lenten Series will span five Wednesdays beginning March 13. Soup and bread supper begins at 6 p.m. and the program from 6:45 to 7:45. Each week the panel will respond to as many questions as time allows. Attending all five sessions will expose audience members to the full range of topics.

Please sign up to provide soup and/or bread for these dinners. We ask that you provide an ingredient list for those with food allergies.

**No P, B & J is needed; each evening will feature "P, B. & Shea" instead!**



## “A Living Portrait of the Last Supper”

Maundy Thursday – April, 18 at 7:00 p.m.

The idea for this presentation was brought to the Liturgical Arts Team by Joanne Fritz. The script which will be used was written by Earnest K. Emurian and approved by Pastor Philip, Penny Larsen, and Nancy King.

Leonardo daVinci was commissioned to decorate the dining room of the convent church and appropriately chose the Last Supper as the theme. His design followed the style and dress of 15<sup>th</sup> century Italy.

The cast was select this fall and have been rehearsing in small groups; support teams were recruited in February and are busy as this is written.

The presentation, which will be a part of the Maundy Thursday worship service, is done through soliloquy and music. Holy Communion will follow.

Director Nancy King stated, “We hope this will be a moving and memorable experience for all. Everyone involved, actors and those behind the scenes, have been working very hard, employing their talents, time, and dedication.”

**A special thanks** is extended to Martinsville First Presbyterian (background flats), the members of our parish(prop donations), and the parish staff.

### Cast, in order of speaking

Penny Larsen and Linda Worman, narrators; Tom Curling, Jesus; Dave Phelps, James the Lesser; Scott Sayre, Matthew; Clif Collins, Andrew; Jerry Hale, James; Kevin Leap, Simon the Zealot; Pr. Philip Bouknight, Judas; John Maresca, Nathaniel; Gary Scheidt, Thomas; John Robert Mark, John; Vicar Shea Berbaum, Philip; Chuck Hitzemann, Thaddeus; and Bo King, Peter.

**Director:** Nancy King

**Set construction:** John Rieth, Smith Chaney, Les Daenzer, and Chuck Koyanagi

**Painting:** Judy Dunbar and Jan Jansen

**Props:** Susan McSlarrow and Ann Duncan

**Costumes:** Sandra Ferguson, Barb Abell, and Nancy Robbins

**Make-up:** Connie Canova, Linda Leap, and Sue Halloran

**Music:** Aaron Garber

**Sound & lighting:** Steve Miller and Donny Shafer

**Publicity:** Joanne Fritz and Linda Worman



# Hunger Poverty Action Group

By Cindy Decker

The United States and the world have made substantial progress against hunger and poverty over the past 50 years. But too many people, Americans and non-Americans alike, including those living in Virginia, are still being left behind. But first a question: In the United States, where does Virginia rank in terms of hunger? The answer is at the end of this article.

## HPAG Projects

The Trinity Ecumenical Parish Hunger Poverty Action Group (HPAG) is involved in a number of projects to help our neighbors address hunger and poverty.

### School Food Packs

Each week during the school year, members of the group pack weekend backpacks for 12 students at Dudley Elementary School. The food packs are delivered to the school every Thursday morning. When the 2018-2019 school year started, two students were homeless, but they have now moved to permanent housing.

### Souper Bowl Sunday

In February, the group worked with the parish youth to support the annual Souper Bowl collection of canned goods. The effort resulted in 344 pounds of canned goods delivered to Heavenly Manna and Lake Christian Ministries. Monetary donations totaling \$1,344 were shared among Heavenly Manna, Helping Hands, and Lake Christian Ministries.

### Gleaning

The 2018 gleaning effort collected 23,763 pounds of food. A wide variety of vegetables and fruits were gleaned from area farms and delivered to Lake Christian Ministries and Heavenly Manna. The giving

gardens, based at Booker T. Washington National Monument and Coopers Cove, donated 7,000 pounds of produce to Lake Christian Ministries.

### Bread for the World

Trinity is also a covenant church with Bread for the World, a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. By changing policies, programs, and conditions that allow hunger and poverty to persist, it provides help and opportunity at home and far beyond where we live.

### Box Tops for Education

The HPAG is most appreciative of the support of the congregation. Your response to requests for peanut butter and jelly, socks, underwear, knit hats, and mittens enables us to reach many children in need. In addition, we are now also requesting "Boxtops for Education" to benefit Moneta and Dudley Elementary Schools. The collection box is located inside the main entrance of Fellowship Hall.

In 2019, we are continuing all of the above programs and are working closely with the guidance counselor at Dudley to facilitate members of the parish to act as mentors by having lunch on a regular basis with the children who receive the backpacks. This is very important because adults are often missing in these children's lives.

If you are interested in learning more or becoming involved in these projects, please contact Cindy Decker at [thedeckers@centurylink.net](mailto:thedeckers@centurylink.net).

### The Answer

Virginia is the 43<sup>rd</sup> hungriest state in the country (data provided by Bread for the World).