



# The Burning Bush

News and information about growing God's children at  
**Tree of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church**

Odessa, Delaware

February 4, 2018

**Today's  
Hymns**  
858  
843  
466 469  
860

**This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here.**

We share a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person -- questions, complexities and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.



Those who **hope** in the **LORD**  
will **renew** their **strength**.

**They will soar on wings like eagles.**

ISAIAH 40:31, NIV

## God strengthens the powerless

In our reading from Isaiah today, it is the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars—it is that God who strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God lifting up the sick woman to health and service (diakonia). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up to health and diakonia. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

- *sundaysandseasons.com*



Today's flowers are donated by Pam Nichols  
in celebration of the birthday of husband Jim Pileggi



## It is easy to donate altar flowers

Sign up for a Sunday of your choice at the desk near Fellowship Hall, put \$25 in one of the envelopes there (Make your check payable to Tree of Life LC.) with your name and date of the Sunday you are paying for, and place it in the offering plate. **After service, the flowers are yours to take and enjoy.** **Please leave the silver container and the vase - which belongs to the florist - on the kitchen counter.** You can take your flowers home in a church vase located in the lower cabinet to the left of the stove.

**Let us pray for ...** Robert and Judy Horensky, Deborah Atkinson, Jim Mowery, Craig Bailey, Paul Schuler, Ronald Rollerson, Frank Houghton, Dallas Dean, Gary Eberhard, Patrick Pileggi, Danny Matz, Danielle Fangman, Elizabeth Schreppler, Elizabeth Zaiser, Vernon Foraker, Bernadette Paine, for those who serve and have served in our military; disaster victims and victims of violence everywhere; and for discernment and the Spirit's guidance as we search for a permanent pastor.



## Today we welcome Interim Pastor Greg Johnson

A friend of Tree of Life since our beginnings 25 years ago, Pastor Johnson has agreed to be our interim Pastor as we continue our search for a permanent leader.

Pastor Johnson spent over 20 years as the pastor of Zion Lutheran Church in Wilmington (Delaware's oldest Lutheran parish), retiring in 2014.

## Our Prayer List to "start over" February 18

Beginning with the first Sunday of Lent, we will remove all names from the Prayer List and begin again. Please resubmit any names of those you wish to remain on the list, and, in the future, any that you would like to add, please give them to Jean Mullen at [jaramullen1@verizon.net](mailto:jaramullen1@verizon.net) or [treeoflifelc@verizon.net](mailto:treeoflifelc@verizon.net).

## Let's help homeless stay warm

We are joining with New Castle County and Charity Crossing to conduct a "Socks for Homeless" Drive. Bring in new or gently-used socks, gloves, hats or scarves and deposit in the collection bin in the Narthex. The deadline is next Sunday, February 11. Council President Donna Parks is also still collecting winter coats if you still have a coat to pass on.

## Weekly financial update: *How are we doing with our weekly offerings?*

Our offering last Sunday totaled \$2,777.00, making the average weekly offering for the month of January \$2,173.00. To be able to call a full-time pastor, we need to average \$3,000/week, an amount we do not yet reach consistently. If you would like to reconsider your pledge amount for 2018, pledge forms are on the Ushers Table, or see Gene Zaiser, our treasurer.



**Coming up for Lent:** *Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper*, February 13, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., here. Troop 505 families will serve special cookies! Invite friends, neighbors, and family. All are welcome.  
*Ash Wednesday community service*, February 14 at St. George's United Methodist Church, 109 Broad St., St. Georges.  
*First Sunday of Lent* February 18; *Palm Sunday* March 25; *Maundy Thursday* March 29; *Good Friday* March 30; *Easter Sunday* April 1

**The Synod is encouraging congregations to collect a special offering for the Caribbean Synod next Sunday, Feb. 11. Your donation will be used to help with material goods that can help the congregations of Puerto Rico recover from the recent hurricane.**

**REMINDER:** The blue and yellow receptacle outside is NOT for trash. It is for yard waste only. Please use the other receptacle for trash. Thanks!

## Mark your calendar, volunteer, participate!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
FEB 4 10:30am Worship Service 11:45am Immigration Study Group	FEB. 5	FEB. 6 10am Grocery sorting 6:30pm Council meeting	FEB. 7 6pm – 7:30pm Troop 505 Faith Formation	FEB. 8 Noon - OWLS at Cantwell's Tavern	FEB.9	FEB. 10
FEB. 11 10:30am Worship Service Deadline for bringing in socks Offering for Puerto Rico— see special SYNOD insert	FEB. 12	FEB. 13 5:30-7pm Pancake Supper	FEB. 14 10am—Quilting No Troop 505 7pm ASH WED. at St. Georges UMC	FEB. 15 3:30-5pm Grocery distribution	FEB. 16	FEB. 17

### **Serving today....**

**Presiding and preaching:** Greg Johnson

**Musician:** Duane Dillard

**Usher:** George Matz

**Acolyte:** Sam Lintz

**Worship Assistant:** Jim Pileggi

**Communion Assistant:** Bill Glass

**Altar Guild:** Nicky Zaiser

**Offering Counter:** Edwin Kruah

**Nursery:** Volunteer

**Fellowship:** Nicky Zaiser



**Dust Busters:** Zaiser and vol. families

**Altar Flowers:** Dot Schreppler

**Office Manager:** Jean Mullen

**Worship Folder:** Gail Russell

**Burning Bush:** Pam Nichols

**The Leaflet:** Donna Parks

**Webmaster:** Jeff Russell

**Facebook:** Scott Soucy and Jean Mullen

**Troop 505 - Faith Formation:**

Pam Nichols, Joanne Letwinch and parents



### Tree of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church

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The Rev. Dr. Greg Johnson, Interim Pastor, [revdgrj@gmail.com](mailto:revdgrj@gmail.com)

