

December 2024 Newsletter

See, the home of God is among mortals.

Revelation 21:3b

Hello Fellow Workers in the Kingdom of God,

I write wishing you a Blessed Advent Season as we prepare for the coming of the Lord. And, I wish you a Merry Christmas as we celebrate Christ's Nativity. But, as we turn the calendar over during the holiday week at the end of the month, I also wish you an Accompanied New Year! An "accompanied" new year? What's that?

The scripture above is actually a portion from one of the scriptures assigned for worship on Tuesday, December 31st, New Year's Eve. When most of us are thinking about balls dropping, cocktails, and whether or not we'll still be awake at midnight, John, in Revelation, is proclaiming to us that God has made a home among us mortals.

I used to see every December 31/January 1 transition as a new beginning, a time to set resolutions and create a new life for myself and my family. Sometimes that involved a new diet/exercise routine, a new budget plan, a new study plan or even the commitment to explore a new hobby. But, often those efforts would fail and by Valentine's Day I'd forget what I'd even attempted.

In more recent years I've taken comfort from the fact that the only thing that's really changed is the date (and insurance deductibles, but that's another topic for another day). What remains is the blessing of my life, with all its hardships included, and frankly, God.

As we enter new phases in our lives, whether it's a new start at the new year, or any transitional point, we so often place our effort, trust, and energy in ourselves to make this new thing work. But, our lives are best lived in recognition of God's accompaniment. How can we faithfully celebrate Emmanuel (meaning = "God with us") on one Wednesday and by the next Wednesday be turning to our own devices as we flip the calendar page?

Thus, I truly do wish and pray for you an Accompanied New Year. God has broken into the world to be with us. Let us not forget how powerfully that changes our world view as we gaze

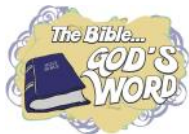
on this creation God so loved and engage together in the work of loving that Jesus has set before us.

In our Baptismal celebrations we acknowledge one another as workers together in the Kingdom of God. Yes, we're in a broken world and many of us are broken. But the Savior who is born for us reminds us in every gospel that the Kingdom of God has come near. God is truly in it with us; we are not alone.

So, let us begin this coming new year safe in the knowledge that whatever we are called to do, we do it fully Accompanied by a God who gave up the glory of Heaven's throne to sit in the sand and cry with us, heal us, offer us grace, and move mountains with his love.

Love, Pr. Susan

THANK YOU all for your love and support throughout Terry's continuing recovery. **God is with us through YOU!** *In deep gratitude, The McCarthys*



UPCOMING SUNDAY SCRIPTURE LESSONS

As we gather for worship on Sundays, our time together revolves around God's Holy Word, most usually a reading from the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament), a Psalm (ancient hymn), a reading from the Epistles (letters to early churches), and a Gospel reading (good news about Jesus). The upcoming scriptures are listed below to help you worship each Sunday morning. Need help navigating the Bible or figuring out a particular passage? Give Pastor Susan a call; she'd love to chat with you about the Bible!

12/1: Jeremiah 33:14-19; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Thess. 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36

12/8: Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philemon 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

12/15: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6; Philemon 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

12/24: Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20

12/29: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52

Our Mission: We are a family of Christian disciples committed to making Christ known while loving and serving God and neighbors.

Our Vision: To fulfill our mission, we will:

Worship through liturgy, music, prayer, and Sacraments;

Teach God's Word and nurture spiritual growth;

Serve and provide for those in need;

Witness to others by sharing the Gospel;

Celebrate with fellowship;

Return with joy what God has given;

Be active in our community and the Church.

Worship, Serve, Celebrate!



Bible Study Plans for December



The Bible Study group is continuing a study of some of our favorite hymns and the scripture associated with them. Hymns tell us biblical stories, offer praises to God, echo the Psalms, and so much more! Please zoom in to be a part of this great conversation and learning. Zoom link opens at 5:30 for social time; study begins at 6:00. Ask Pastor Susan if you have questions.

The Zoom meeting ID for these sessions is **818 4814 6815**. Passcode is **Bible**. Or, watch weekly emails for the Zoom link to join! Newcomers welcome; each study stands pretty much on its own so you won't be lost.

Drive Thru Holy Communion distribution will be held Sunday, December 1, at 10:30am. Anyone wishing to participate should arrive at the back of church to receive the sacrament from your car.



Trains!



On Sunday November 3, Trinity was invited to a special day of Trains! Very BIG THANK YOU to Scott Arber for arranging this special event!



On Sunday, October 27, we welcomed Violet Chidester as our new sister in Christ!

The Apple Dumpling Gang



BIG Thank you to our Apple Dumpling Gang! We are grateful for all the volunteers who peeled, rolled, baked, packaged and purchased Trinity's Apple Dumplings!



Trick-or-Treat night in East Berlin was made more fun with Trinity's candy crew! Children of all ages enjoy the "candy chute".

Welcome New Council Members

Thank you to all who attended the annual congregational meeting on Sunday, November 17. Thank you for trusting all the people who work on the budget so that Trinity can continue to thrive in sharing Christ's love. Thank you to Bob King and Sherry Brown whose council terms have expired after faithful service. Thank you to the newly elected council members: Sami Kurtz, Sue Smith, and George Vance.

Trinity has very active ministry teams who work hard to follow the lessons of Jesus to love and care for one another. Please consider how you can help. Together, we can continue to share Christ's love and make a difference in a difficult world.

2025 Giving Envelopes are available in the Narthex. Please take your envelopes when you are here on Sunday.

2025 Directory Updates: If you have any changes to the directory, including phone numbers, email addresses or physical addresses, please notify the church office. They will be printed and available in January.

Mission in Motion is focusing on the implementation of the summer food program, "Good Food For You." This program will provide bags of nonperishable food to children in need during the summer. We will work in cooperation with St. John's in Abbottstown and the Ruth's Harvest program. More information will be coming with ways that you can help.

Good News & Brews is held the second Tuesday of each month at the Altland House in Abbottstown. Join with other local disciples to enjoy conversation, food and refreshments. Next meeting is December 10 from 6:30pm-8:00pm. **EVERYONE IS INVITED!**

Christmas Angel Tree-WELCA received names from 12 Adams County families which include 33 children. Please make their Christmas wonderful! Choose angels, pray for that child, purchase wish list items, and include clothing if you would like to make their holiday extra special. Then wrap, attach the Angel tag to the packages and place them in our Chapel by December 8. Thank you for sharing your love and support with our Christmas Angel Tree project!



2025 Calendars donated by Feiser’s Funeral Home are available throughout the church. Take home as many as you want! Share one with a friend!

Jesus calls us to go and make disciples and Trinity's Discipleship Team is looking for individuals who would like to answer that call. Would you be willing to volunteer to help lead a Sunday School class or other event that pertains to faith? (The biggest need is for substitute teachers on a Sunday morning.) Would you be willing to work behind the scenes to research online Christian education resources that can be included on our church website? How would YOU like to grow in faith? Please let us know! Please reach out to Pastor Susan, Lisa Miller, or Joshlyn Sharrer for additional information. Thank you!



EBACC Christmas Bazaar—Trinity will have a booth at the EBACC Christmas Bazaar to be held on Saturday, December 7, 2024. We hope to receive donations of craft and homemade items from the congregation.

We plan to set up on Friday December 6th, in the afternoon. If you have questions regarding what to donate, please contact Shelly Livingston at 717-259-9711 or Ruthann Bowen at 717-634-6047.

National Wreaths Across America Day
December 14, 2024

Join East Berlin VFW Post 8896 and the East Berlin Community to honor Veterans. The Wreaths Across America service will be held Saturday, December 14, 2024, at the East Berlin Cemetery at 12:00 noon. Immediately following the service, you're invited to join in placing live balsam wreaths on all Veteran's graves.



Survey: The *Worship and Music Team* strives to plan and conduct worship in ways that serve God through Word and Sacrament in interesting, engaging, understanding, and welcoming ways, with the participation and involvement of all of God's people, wherever they may be. The *Discipleship Team* strives to plan and conduct opportunities for all to grow as disciples of Christ. Please complete the survey so that we may provide the most meaningful opportunities for worship and growth. Use the QR code above to complete the survey. If you are unable to complete the survey electronically, there are paper copies available in the Narthex. Each member of your family is invited to complete an individual survey. Thank you for taking the time to help us grow and learn from each other!

GINGERBREAD HOUSE WORKSHOP

Our Gingerbread House Workshop will be held Sunday, December 1 at 4:00 p.m. in the social hall. Everyone is invited to attend this fun annual event! A donation list and sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board near the elevator downstairs. Volunteers to help will be needed.



Any questions, contact Deb King at 717-259-0494.

PASTORAL CARE CONCERNS should be directed to the church office or directly to Pastor Susan or Judy Burgard, Trinity's visitation coordinator. We don't know when someone has had a crisis, a health concern, or other reason for care. Please share concerns so that we may love one another well. Thank you!

We are in need of people to volunteer to take meals to friends coming home from the hospital. Contact Judy Burgard at 717-259-9507 or sign up on bulletin board near the elevator by the back door.



HAVE YOU BEEN WORSHIPING ONLINE?

In the month of November, we had 182 video views, with 62 hours of watch time. Of those 182 views we have 45 returning viewers! We now have 196 subscribers! Thank you to those worshiping from home (and away). If you're an online worshiper, please feel free to contact the church office with requests for connection, pastoral needs, and feedback about your online experience. We'd love to hear from you!

WELCA News

The Women of ELCA November's meeting was busy and we accomplished a lot! We donated the \$300 to New Hope Ministry for the semi-annual amount for Trinity's Food Pantry contribution. We also donated \$250 to Wreaths Across American to be held December 14 at noon at the East Berlin cemetery.

There will not be Advent mid-week luncheons this year, but we will provide the refreshments after the Blue Christmas Service, held at 2pm, on December 14.

A Thrivent Action Team \$250 gift card was approved for our Angel Tree families' wishes and another was approved for Christmas Cookie Kits/Holiday Baking Kits for the Food Pantry families. Shopping for these two projects will be done before the end of November.

The Angel Tree is located in the Narthex and ready for our congregation to help make these children's Christmas wonderful. We have 33 children's names this year and each child has three wishes. Gifts are due back at Trinity December 8 and should be placed in the Chapel.

Our next meeting & Christmas Party will be held **December 3 at 5:30** in our social hall. The Men's Ministry will make the meal and a free will offering will help Cristian to purchase a car and car insurance. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. All women are invited and encouraged to attend!

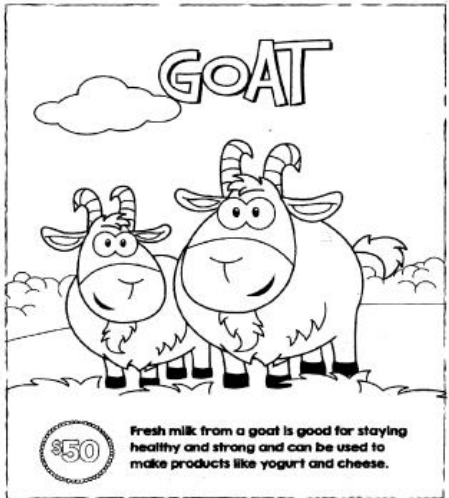
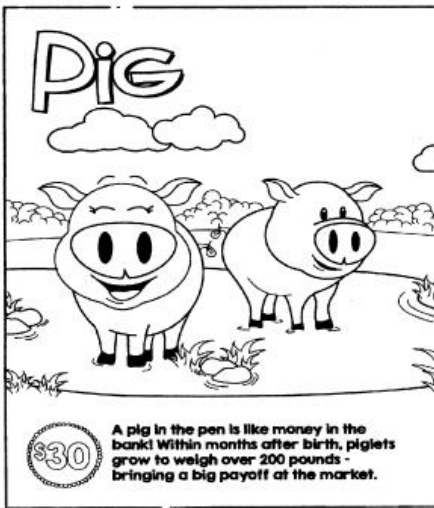
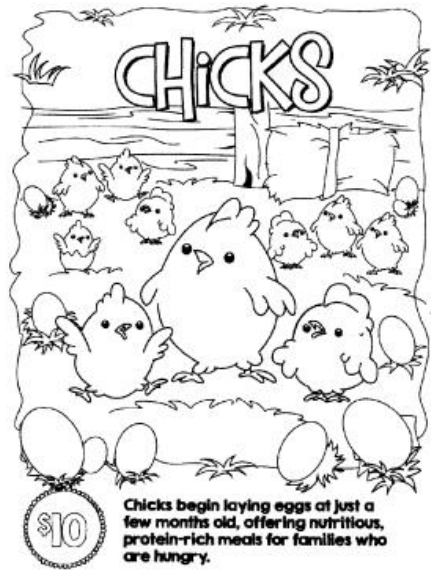
Coffee Station: Trinity's coffee station located in the narthex is available for anyone to use. In addition to coffee, there is hot chocolate and occasionally, hot cider.

Directions for using the Keurig are listed next to the cups. We are looking for sponsors to help purchase the cups/lids and k-cup pods that are used in the machine.

Please sign-up on the sheet by the coffee station. Thank you!



The Women of ELCA at Trinity are asking you to help us collect coins for ELCA's Good Gifts. We will collect any coin other than quarters. Save your quarters for Laundry Love! Donated coins will help purchase animals and other items to help families world-wide. Each gift makes a difference for the family that receives it! These are a few examples of gifts we will be able to purchase with your coin donations.



Stuff You May Not Know

- *Trinity partners with the Lutheran Camping Corporation & can help you get to camp this coming summer.
- *The new Directory is not just for official members. Everyone is included.
- * Trinity's Worship & Music Team is envisioning a long-term project to make the worship space more accessible for everyone, include a Playground, and make room for a baby grand piano.
- * The copier is in hospice as we await a new contract and machine. Please say a little prayer for Jen's stress—she makes LOTS of copies in December.
- * The folks from Salem Lutheran, Dover, gave the beautiful snowflakes from their congregation before it closed; thank you!



Trinity's Christmas Pageant: On Sunday, December 22nd at 10:30 AM during the Sunday School hour, we will host our Christmas Program Pageant in the sanctuary. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate, no rehearsal necessary!

Blue Christmas: Trinity is hosting a Blue Christmas service on Sunday, December 15th, at 2:00p.m.

This year's worship service will be held in the Nave upstairs and will include scripture and liturgy that acknowledges the longest days of the year, which are not the most joyous for many of us. Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors who may have a hard time with the holidays to be a part of this healing service that acknowledges grief and ambivalence about the festivities of the season.

The worship experience will be followed up by lunch served in our social hall.



Christmas at Trinity

Please join in the celebration of Christmas this season at the following services:

- **Sunday, December 15th at 2:00pm**— Blue Christmas Service, a daytime service recognizing that grief impacts our celebration. Followed by a light lunch.
- **Sunday, December 24th at 7:00pm**— Family Christmas Eve Service. This service focuses on a children's celebration of Christ's Nativity, including a parade, a child-friendly Nativity scene, reading from the children's bible, battery candles for the lit-tlest, and Holy Communion. Kids, see Pas-tor Susan to volunteer for a worship leader job.
- **Sunday, December 24th at 10:00pm**— Traditional Christmas Eve Service. This ser-vice will feature a traditional Christmas lit-urgy with Holy Communion, and candle-light.



Property Team News

The Property Team has had a busy 2024! In addition to the normal maintenance of our property and facilities, the site work and walkway installation of the gazebo, numerous meetings have been held to assess and develop a restoration plan for the original portion of our church building. Since constructed in 1887, and to our knowledge, there has been no full-scale maintenance or restoration work performed on the masonry or roofing on the primary structure. Three masonry restoration contractors provided estimates for masonry restoration, and we are currently awaiting estimates for the bell tower and Sanctuary roofing repairs. During these contractor site visits and closer inspection, other property improvement items have been noted and are being considered. Here's a partial summarized list of the major restoration items being considered:

- Tuckpointing of masonry on the entire original church structure including bell tower. Repair/replace damaged brick and brownstone sills
- Helical stitching of vertical cracks with stainless steel rods
- Repair or replacement of bell tower roof.
- Removal of all bell tower wood railing, enclose (4) bell tower openings with louvered coverings and install interior screens to prevent bird infiltration
- Cover all wood surfaces (inside bell tower roof) with maintenance free aluminum
- Cover all exterior bell tower wood soffit with maintenance free aluminum
- Re-surface bell tower internal metal roofing with an epoxy or rubberized coating
- Box out West and East sides of Sanctuary overhang and cover with maintenance free aluminum
- Cover North and South wood soffit surfaces with maintenance free aluminum
- Replace all wooden windowsills (19) with precast concrete sills
- Repair/replace damaged or broken slate on Sanctuary. Seal and seal any "popped" nail heads

- Determine cause of water infiltration resulting in rotting roofing substrate and propose remediation alternatives.
- Repair/replace any rotted roofing substrate on Sanctuary
- Remove/Repair/ bell tower finial (weathervane)

We hope to have estimates from the two roofing contractors by the end of November so we can determine the projected overall cost of this restoration effort. Once all this information has been received and evaluated, these details will be shared with Council and the congregation through a series of meetings and postings. Due to the magnitude and cost of this proposed restoration effort, congregational approval will be required through an official congregational meeting before any further action will be taken. If anyone is interested in joining the Property Team, please see Jay Smith or Leon Leas.



Worship Leader Schedule

Date	Assisting Minister	Communion Helper	Lector	Us
Dec 1	Jim K.	Luke M.	Noelle K.	Leon/Geor
Dec 8	Bob K.	Ruthann B.	Greta H.	Janet/M
Dec 15	Sue C.	Becky R.	Joyce F.	Bob/D
Dec 22	Amber N.	Bob K.	Melissa H.	Jay/S
Dec 24 Early				
Dec 24 Late	Ruthann B.	Bob K.	Sami K.	M
Dec 29	Violet C.	Sue C.	Sandy E.	Jim/Noel

Note: If you need to change the date you are scheduled to serve, please contact o



Teen Time: A few of the Teen Time disciples, enjoying breakfast and a conversation about the Acts of the Apostles. Thank you to the Discipleship and Property Teams for making this private space possible!

Schedule—December 2024

Leaders	Altar Guild	Cantor(s)	Acolyte	Cookie Break
George/MaryAnn	Ruthann B.	Dona/Sami	Jack B.	Jess W.
Mac/Kathy	Kathy K.	Mary J.	Claire W.	Jen M.
Deb/Sandy	Janet M.	Joss/Karen	Tristan B.	Lisa M.
Joe/Terry	Sami & Jer K.	Chris L.	Grace W.	Anita M.
Mark	Deb K.	Becky R.		-----
Joe/Ruthann	Noelle K.	Becky R.	Koltyn H.	Erin H.

Others on the list and arrange a swap. Please notify the church office of the change.



All Saints' Sunday Remembrance was held Sunday, November 3.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY UPDATES

Join us for the next gathering of the Prayer Shawl Ministry **Wednesday, December 11 at 2pm** in the church parlor to learn more about this community ministry. Come learn to knit and/or crochet. Volunteer to visit and deliver prayer shawls all over. Sit and pray with us as we bless the shawls ready to go out. We will meet on Wednesday afternoons at 2pm. See Pat Bjornes (see directory) for more information or with questions. Everyone can join in!



WEDNESDAYS FELLOWSHIP & FAITH

You're welcome at the **Wednesday Morning Prayer** service **@ 10AM in the Chapel**, or worship online through the Trinity Lutheran EB Fellowship Group on Facebook. A fellowship time will be held at **8:30 at Graybill's Diner, Abbottstown**, Dutch treat.



Kids' Quarter Collection: The next Tin-Cup Quarter Collection will be on Sunday, December 1 with a **NOISY OFFERING**. *Please bring your quarters with you to worship that day.*

All the money we collect goes to
Laundry Love



Poinsettias for the Christmas Eve services are now available to order for \$9.00 each. Please stop by the church office or call the secretary to order. Orders and money are due by December 15th.



Poinsettias cost \$9.00 and will be available after the Christmas Eve services. Orders and Payment are due by Dec 15th. Contact the Church Office with questions 717-259-9125.

Red Quantity _____ x \$9.00 = _____

Name: _____

In memory of:

In honor of:

Ministry Pages

THE SHARING SHELF

UPDATE:

- With the holiday coming soon, we could use donations of instant mashed potatoes (individual packets), stovetop stuffing, canned sweet potatoes and canned fruit. Thank you all for your donations to this valuable, local community ministry!



PLEASE KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THE REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR INVITING YOU TO GIVE TO THE SHELF EACH DAY.



Get New Glasses Recently? The East Berlin Lion's Club has a donation box for old eye glasses at Trinity located under the bulletin board near the elevator. Thank you for thinking of others.

Ruth's Harvest Packing will occur Wednesday, December 18 at 12:30pm at St. John's in Abbotstown. This year we will be packing approximately 100 bags of food each month for students attending Bermudian Springs Elementary. Items needed this month are **fruit snacks, candy canes and non refrigerated, individual milk boxes (any flavor)**. There is a bin in the Narthex for donations.

EB Laundry Love will be held **Tuesday, December 10 from 5:00-6:30pm** at the White Dove Laundromat in East Berlin behind Jim & Nena's Pizza. Laundry Love is getting busier each month. We have approximately 25 people making use of this ministry. We need volunteers for the second Tuesday of each month from 5:00 to 6:30 PM. To sign up to help at the laundromat see the sheet on bulletin board by the elevator.



This ministry is always in need of quarters. **Dec 1st Noisy Offering will collect quarters for this ministry, or you may drop them any time in the collection box in the narthex (upstairs lobby). Quarters or other monies (all carefully labeled) may also be offered in the Offering Plate.** Thank you for your support of this important, loving, ministry.

PLEASE NOTE: the Laundry Love Ministry has been expanded to twice per month! On the second Tuesday and third Wednesday each month (same location and time). Zwingli UCC, our partner in this ministry has decided to host the additional Wednesday of each month. Spread the word!

Food Pantry: New Hope Ministries is bringing the mobile pantry from 4:00-6:00pm on **Friday, December 6, 2024 **** **(Note the change in date).** **REMINDER:** Volunteers are needed to serve as personal shopping assistants, set-up and tear-down, stockers and loading assistants. No need to sign-up in advance to help. Simply show up anytime after 3:00 p.m. on the day of the Food Pantry. Any questions, contact Anita Madsen (see directory for contact info).

Fellowship Hour is held before the Food Pantry on Friday, December 6 from 3:00-4:00pm. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy some time playing games, talking, doing a puzzle, and having a time of prayer as needed. Light refreshments will be served.



Dear Dona and Trinity Lutheran Church,

Please accept our heartfelt thanks and gratitude for your help and kindness for Gloria Gruver's funeral. During this difficult time, your members were nothing short of magnificent! We thank the soloist and the organist for adding so much heartfelt comfort. We thank Janet and the greeters for their help. We thank the set up and clean up crew for the preparation for the luncheon. We especially thank Jim and Noelle for their hard work baking brownies, filling sandwiches and their hard work for a very long day. And last but certainly not least, we thank Karen! Her skills are truly amazing. She saw that every detail was completed (and I'm a bit of a perfectionist) Karen was truly amazing, loving and kind—oh and hard working! Bravo to Trinity for all your help in our very difficult time! Pastor Susan did a wonderful job seeing and comforting our family before, during and after Mom's death. Her eulogy was beautiful as was the entire service. Again, thank you to the church for everything!

~Robin, Kobie and Glenn



The East Berlin Area Community Center will have their Christmas Festival on Friday, December 13. Zwingli UCC will have a live Nativity that evening as horse-drawn wagon rides take you through town. Visit EBACC.org for more information.



YOU ARE INVITED TO EXPERIENCE CHRISTMAS WONDERLAND 2024, *THE BRIGHTEST STAR*, A DRAMATIC MUSICAL FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY.

HELD AT CHRISTIAN LIFE ASSEMBLY ON LISBURN RD IN CAMP HILL.

DECEMBER 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14 & 15 (EVENING AND MATINEE PERFORMANCES AVAILABLE) TICKETS ARE \$15 FOR ADULTS, \$10 FOR STUDENTS

PURCHASE TICKETS AT CLAPRODUCTIONS.COM OR CALL 717-737-1887



Save the Date for the next Family Retreat – March 21, 22, 23 2025.

Are you creative? Would you like to help us welcome guests who attend our weekly service? Then please consider helping us to make Guest Gift Bags. A handout with additional details is available on the table in the upstairs lobby (Narthex). There is also a sign-up sheet on the table—if you'd like to help, please sign your name to cover a month of this calendar year. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.



Worship Schedule

(All Sunday services begin at 9am unless indicated otherwise)

- December 1—1 Advent
- December 8—2 Advent
- December 15—3 Advent, 2:00pm Blue Christmas Service
- December 22—4 Advent
- December 24—7:00pm Family Christmas Eve Service
- December 24—10:00pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
- December 29—1 Christmas

Midweek Morning Prayer Service

Every Wednesday at 10AM (chapel)

Drive-thru Holy Communion Distribution will be held Sunday, December 1 at 10:30 a.m. in the rear of the church near the disability parking.

NOTES:

- The following elements are available during Communion: wheat bread, wine, grape juice, gluten-free wafers, pre-blessed sealed wheat wafer and grape juice packages
- At any time during Holy Communion you may step out of line to spend time at the chancel rail as you desire. If you are unable to come forward, please let an usher know and the distributors will come to you.
- *Anyone interested in serving as a Lector, Assisting Minister, Communion Assistant, Usher, Hymn Leader, Acolyte or Altar Guild is asked to contact the church office.*

Do you have a voice remote with your smart TV or cable box? If you do, try saying, "**Trinity Lutheran Church, East Berlin, YouTube,**" with the remote's microphone button held in. Your remote lets you select the service you'd like to attend by watching. Please join us! Call the church office if you need help.

Notes



From
the

Music Director



Our Advent Season is upon us and we prepare for the coming of Jesus with great expectation and hope. The 27 advent hymns in our hymnal speak of hope and wonderful anticipation and we will be singing these hymns during the four weeks of advent.

The adult choir and handbell choir are preparing for Advent and Christmas worship. We thank all who give time and talent in rehearsals to enhance Trinity's worship.

Trinity has many opportunities for advent worship—Wednesdays at 10:00am in the chapel, a "Blue Christmas" quiet worship on December 15 at 2:00pm, each Sunday at 9:00am plus Christmas Eve 7:00pm and 10:00pm. Advent and Christmas music will be plentiful thanks to our talented musicians here at Trinity. We are grateful for all who participate in each service. Many blessings to all.

~ Karen



December Birthdays



12-4 Butch Mummert

12-15 Pastor Susan McCarthy

12-16 Ayla Kohler

12-18 Mary Bowen

12-19 Kyle Hermansen

12-20 Ryan Eisenhart

12-21 Daniela Biles

12-21 Maxine Herman

12-23 Ryan Hoffman

12-24 Noelle Kline

12-26 Sandy Boyer

12-26 Deborah Myers

12-28 Mia Fortuna

12-28 Milon Eaton

12-29 Chris Long

12-29 Erin Hermansen

12-29 Doris Wolf

12-31 Leon Leas

12-31 Adeline Ryder



**HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY**



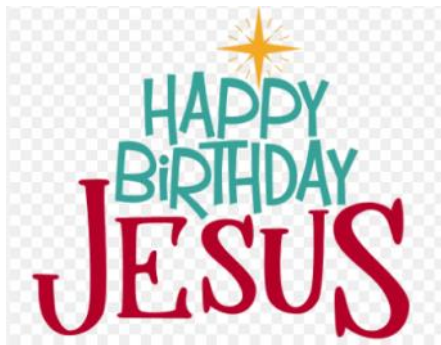
12-6 Matt & Sarah Nickey ~ 22 Years

12-22 John & Rebecca Rinehart ~ 46 Years

12-27 Butch & Barb Mummert ~ 65 Years

12-28 Dave & Joshlyn Sharrer ~ 22 Years

12-28 Scott & Debra Young ~ 42 Years



HAPPY 65th 
anniversary



Happy 65th Anniversary to Wayne and Barbara Mummert.

Butch and Barb were married here at Trinity by Pastor Harold Stoudt. They were schoolmates growing up and after they married, they took over the farm until they recently retired. They have 2 children, 3 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren.

*Happy 65th Anniversary to a
wonderful couple!*

Church Office Closed December 25—December 27
for the Christmas holiday. If you need to make ar-
rangements to have access to the building, please
notify Jen in the church office (717)259-9125.



IMMACULATE HEART of MARY

CATHOLIC CHURCH



Christmas Concert

Sunday December 8th

Start the holiday season by joining friends and family at a FREE Christmas Concert at IHM.



The Celtic group, SEASONS, will be performing holiday music on Sunday, December 8th from 6pm-8pm in the sanctuary.

All are welcome!



Collecting nonperishable foods at the door to benefit the East Berlin food bank...

Join Us for a Jingle: The community is invited to the Log Cabin in East Berlin for a sing-along, hot chocolate, cookies, warm fire & snowballs for the kids on Sunday December 22. Caroling around East Berlin from 1-2pm and Log Cabin from 2-3pm. Hosted by the East Berlin Girl Scouts, Historical Society & Mayor.



CHURCH COUNCIL

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
October 15th - 7:00 p.m.

Present: Pastor Susan McCarthy, Sue Clauser, Mark Boyer, Karen Sheaffer, Bob Aims, Joshlyn Sharrer, Dona Lerew, Michael Sheads, Sandy Emig, Barb Kauffman, Sherry Brown and Bob King. Absent was Leon Leas

Dona called the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda. 1 addition was made; New member discussion (Sherry Miller).

Secretary's Report was reviewed. Motion to approve was made by Sherry and seconded by Pastor Susan. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Surplus to date caused by decreased utility expenses.

Ministry Reports:

Worship Life:

Worship Team (Worship & Music):

W&M met on 9/24.

Reviewed livestreaming – looking for improvement opportunities. Microphone problems from last Sunday now understood and solved (blue-tooth had turned off and needed to be turned on). Looking for ways to improve sound from altar area (want to have the altar microphone working and available as a backup if needed)

Good response from Kid's Corner activities on Sunday.

New members have signed up for various worship leadership roles.

Good feedback from using name tags – will continue for a couple of weeks.

Choir rehearsals begin 9/29. Bell choir to start practicing 10/16.

Pastor has begun thinking about how to include kids in worship leadership roles for the Christmas Eve service.

Worship Budget discussed.

Administrative Ministries:

Property:

Property Meeting from 9/19/24 10:00am. Present: Bob, Les, Earl, Leon, Jay

Reinstall door closer in Narthex

Assemble room dividers

Replace entrance bulb both front and rear entrances

Pick up 40-60 4' LED bulb

Next meeting 10/17 at 10:00am.

Constitution:

Meetings will be held October 21 & 28.

Outreach:

Mission-in-Motion:

Mission in Motion met on September 24.

The Guatemala trip has been canceled. Most people initially interested are now unable to go.

Jorge and family are ok. Jorge is still in a rehab near Phila but should be moving to a Lancaster rehab in Nov. His brain injury is severe.

Cristian Concepcion will be 18 in February and will be taking driver's ed in order to get his license by the time he is 18. He could use funding for driver's ed for now and help with a car in the near future.

Mission in Motion voted to fund Cristian's driver's ed for \$400

We will be working towards future local events that will encourage participation and that will benefit people and families in need.

The apple dumpling sale is taking place in November. Please order!!

We will meet again in November.

Social Ministry:

The Next Food Pantry will be held Wednesday, November 6 from 4:00-6:00pm. A Fellowship Hour will be held at Trinity at 3PM prior to every Food Pantry.

Our Next Laundry Love date is Tuesday, November 12 from 5:00-6:30pm at the White Dove Laundromat.

WELCA:

The Women of ELCA voted to donate \$500 to Lutheran Disaster Response to help recent hurricane damaged areas. We later found out Thrivent will add \$1 to each \$2 donated, so we were able to do so along with Trinity's donation from the Endowment Fund.

Thrivent Action Team \$250 gift cards will be used for the Angel Tree gifts if possible, and we another for the Food Pantry families at Christmas for Cookie Kits/Holiday Baking Kits.

Looking ahead-would we like to have a Christmas party in December, and we will ask the Men's Ministry to make our meal.

We will collect coins (other than quarters) for ELCA Good Gifts. Samantha Kurtz is working on a piggy bank made from a water cooler bottle. We will collect and empty it frequently to show the dollar amount collected on our poster's thermometer. Let's see what we can do until the end of the year...although there is no time limit to this project...we may want to continue this into next year.

Tonya Mincey from Adams County Housing Authority has agreed to help us with an Angel Tree wish list for the clients they serve. She still works with these clients but as an independent. She now has her own business called TM Integrity Care. We will have the Angel Tree names and wish lists at the beginning of November.

Pastor's Report: Worked with Pat Bjonnes and family to memorialize Steve who passed into eternal life on 9/2/24, service on 9/8/24; participated in WELCA picnic; continue Wednesday morning fellowship breakfasts & prayer service; participated in September fellowship & food pantry; continue to work with constitution committee for revision; visited Fall Festival at Trinity; worked with area pastors to host and lead worship in the park 9/15/24; celebrated Jen Guiher's birthday on 9/15 with Zwingli & Trinity folks; resumed Bible Study on Mondays, prepping for and leading studies on various hymns and their scriptural ties; attended Hanover Conference meeting 9/19; continue to plan for upcoming worship services with W & M committee; worked with Gruver family for funeral of Gloria Gruver, service on 9/28/24; participated in Mission in Motion meeting and discernment about the future ministries of the group; reading "We Make the Road by Walking," by Brian McLaren for continuing ed with Hanover conference and "What Remains," by Rabbi Steve Leder for ULS continuing ed.; began serving as Hanover Conference secretary; continue to meet weekly for bible study with pastors from Hanover & Gettysburg conferences; made 7 visits; began work with one new family re: some pastoral care needs; introduced Prayground for kids during worship service as part of a sermon illustration – items are available for kids and/adults to use as they'd wish; planning Thanksgiving project during worship for November; working on worship focus for season of Advent; meeting with local area pastors to plan for community Thanksgiving service and Advent lunches.

Old Business:

Disciples Directory: In process

Advertising:

- Will be in the Lake Meader
- EBACC Newsletter was full, on waitlist

Masonry work estimates are not yet ready

Council Nominees: Have 1 nominee – need 1 or 2.

New Business:

Funding from Endowment Holding Account : Motion was made by Bob and seconded by Sherry to fund Servants, New Hope, and Adams Rescue Mission for \$500 each. Additional funding will be discussed in the next meeting. \$1000 had been approved via email for Lutheran Disaster Relief.

Proposed 2025 Budget:

Following items discussed:

- Motion was made for the Pastor's vacation to include 6 weeks and 6 Sundays. In addition, 2 days for continuing education.
- Motion was made to increase Jen's compensation by \$600 to open door when needed and no one available.
- Motion was made to approve the budgeted Operating Fund by Barb and seconded by Sandy. Motion passed.
- Motion was made by Sherry and seconded by Pastor Susan to direct \$5K for floor improvements out of the Capital Improvement Budget. Motion passed.

Council Reps to Teams: To be assigned.

New Member: Sherry Miller's transfer from Bendersville Evangelical Lutheran Church to Trinity was discussed. Motion to approve was made by Mark and seconded by Karen. Motion passed.

Important Upcoming Dates

Newsletter Deadline – April 19th, 2024

Next Council Meeting – May 21, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Sherry made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Bob seconded. All agreed and the motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:04 pm followed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mark Boyer