TRINITY

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Chambersburg, PA

The Visitor



VOLUME 52 ISSUE

JANUARY 2024

COMING UP:

January 7

Epiphany Sunday

January 14

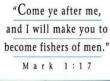
Baptism of Our Lord

January 21

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 28

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany





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From the Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This December, Trinity proved the church is counter cultural. Our congregation stepped away from Christmas to truly celebrate the season of Advent. We explored what it meant to wait for Jesus focusing most on His most important coming – in our lives right now. I hope that taking time to flex your spiritual muscles has given you new eyes to see Jesus everywhere.

Now, in January, we turn the pages of the calendar to a new year. It's time for those pesky New Year's resolutions. Except... Jesus isn't interested in resolutions. Instead, in all the stories in the gospels, Jesus is focused on transformation, changing our directions and our hearts from the inside out.

This focus on transformation isn't the same as the self-improvement programs that begin every New Year. Every year we make resolutions to be and do something better only to give up by the middle of February. Let's make our resolution this year not to make a resolution. Instead, let's put our hope in God who guides us gently with love to become our best selves.

Rolling up our sleeves and getting to work changing this or that does work for a time. At some point, though, we run out of steam. That's the moment we realize that grace – God's unconditional love, care, and forgiveness – is essential for lasting growth. God gives us what we need to move forward. God provides the guidance and the tools. Opening our hearts to receive the gifts is our response.

Consistent spiritual practice is the way we nurture our souls and nourish our spirits. It is vital for each of us to take time to be in God's presence and intentionally allow God space to "get at us."

Vital dynamic congregations are spiritually growing. Each of us must make time to be still and know God is among us. It matters that you take the time. The specific practices depend on your personality, life responsibilities and how God is challenging you to be present. What IS important is that the practice you choose to begin or deepen gives you an opportunity for an intentional encounter with the One Who Loves Us. If at the end of the year, we aren't changed, we're not paying attention.

May God grant us all a felt sense of presence that leads to deep and authentic transformation.

God bless you in your journey this New Year!

Pastor Barb

KEEPING UP WITH TRINITY

NOVEMBER ATTENDANCE

DATE	IN-PERSON	STREAMED
11/05	90	98
11/12	97	120
11/19	100	110
11/26	81	60



NOVEMBER INFORMATION

NOV	Income	\$32,292.50
NOV	Expenses	\$25,415.10
YTD	Budget Underspent (Overspent)	\$6,877.40

Trinity's Larden L'roup

Trinity's garden group spent a fun afternoon making Christmas arrangements. Let us know if you want to join us on our next adventure, possibly exploring a local dahlia garden in warmer weather.













A BIG Thank You to the Garden Group for making the Christmas Urns look so beautiful!



COMING UP @ TRINITY



The church office will be **CLOSED** from *Monday, December 25, 2023 and will reopen Tuesday, January 2, 2024*

Church Office will be **CLOSED Monday, January 15, 2024** to observe
Martin Luther King Jr. Day



SEWING GROUP

Jan 31, 2023 @ 11 AM @ Helen W's home. For more info call/email



Due Thursday, January 2, 2024

CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 28, 2028 after worship





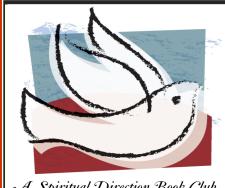
Welcome Monica Crider, new communications secretary, to the office. There are now three new people in the office, two secretaries and the pastor. The learning curve is steep. Please be patient as we learn new systems while addressing the needs and wants of the congregation. It will take time.



ADULT GROUPS







A Spiritual Direction Book Club

Wallace Whitworth and Jim Druckenbrod would like to restart the Christian reading book club. Books to read shall be volunteered by the membership. Anyone can join in for any book that seems interesting.

We shall meet the 3rd Wednesday of the month, beginning January 17, in the lounge at Trinity, at 7 PM.

I offer as the first reading, "Radical Optimism" by Beatrice Bruteau. It highlights many of the themes we covered before: living in the present moment, safety in God's Unconditional Love and that we all belong. And there is great adventure for us ahead in her discussion on leisure (Sabbath rest), cultivating imagination in our spiritual meditation and/or scripture reading, and her concept of God's radical optimism (once it percolates into us) allowing us to become radically optimistic about ourselves, each other, and the fate of God's world.

This year I am going to encourage participants to buy their own copy of the upcoming book. I purchase used books on-line at a fraction of their cost, even after shipping.

Contact either Wallace or myself if you have any questions or suggestions. Jim Druckenbrod

THANK YOU



Thank you for the Christmas cards and gifts

I am so grateful to be part of the Trinity Family. You are in my thoughts and prayers **Pastor Barb**

Dear Trinity Church Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers and best wishes for my 90th birthday. I truly appreciated all the cards that I received. Thank you ever so much for your kindness.

Love and Blessings, Ann Wagner

SERVICE TEAM

Thank You for Your Baking Response

The Service Team thanks the congregation for their remarkable response to our request for baked goods to honor our 'Saints Among Us.' We were able to distribute 122 bags of baked goods to our state and local police departments, Chambersburg area fire departments, ER and medical emergency workers, emergency communication center, and sanitation department workers. All recipients were most appreciative to receive the baked goods. We were blessed by your generosity. We also thank G.R and Brianne Parham, Sharon Emmons, Helen Wlazlowski, Mary Jo Frey, Libby Felix, Judy Tinberg, Sandy Knoll, Debbie Hile, Jim and Jean Druckenbrod, and Dave and Louisa Etter for distributing the baked goods. The Service Committee.



Salvation Army Bell Ringing

This year Trinity committed to be bell ringers for the Salvation Army at Sunnyway Foods on December 9 for 8 hours. The response for bell ringers was greatly appreciated. Thank you to those accepting one hour responsibilities. Bell ringers were the Vogal Family (Eric, Laurie, Jenna & Carley,) the Barkman Family (Travis, Janell, Brooklyn, & Izzy,) Shirleen Engle, Linda Hins, Debbie Hutsler, Brianne & G.R. Parham, Ken & Sherry Saylor, and Lynn and Lynnette Fisher. Others who offered but



were unable to ring the bell for a variety of reason were Jim & Jean Druckenbrod, Sid Strayer. and Libby Felix. \$622.55 was collected. Major Chris Mauk of the Salvation Army was "VERY pleased with the collection from a great group people."

Louisa Etter, Service Committee Chair



Soup and Vegetable Cans Continually Needed

10 ¾ oz. soup, 14.5 oz. vegetable, and 15 oz. fruit cans are need for daffodil arrangements. Each year the third week in March the Service Team makes and gives the arrangements to Meals on Wheels for delivery to the meal recipients. Please place clean cans in the marked bin in the church office. Thank you.

SEASONS GREETINGS

Dear friends.

Lee and I take this opportunity to extend our best well wishes to you all this Christmas season. May the holy Child that was born long ago, grow and live in your hearts, and may you all be blessed.

Pastor Neal and Lee Hively

KID'S CORNER



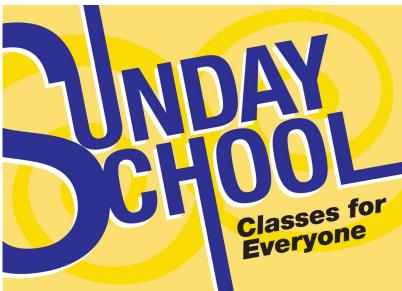


YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS



SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES









SUNDAYS - 9 AM - CLOUD 9



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



- 1 Christine Newell
- 2 | Loriann Smith
- 3 Darlene Dixon Shirlene Engle Stephen Nicola Alison Ross Hannah Ross
- 4 Macy Coder
- 6 Bishop Christman
 Richard Morrissette
 Doug Newman
 Stevi Bowman

- 10 Evan Shreffler
- 13 David Gniewek
 Alexander Lensbower
- 14 Debra Hutsler
- 15 Joan Bellows
 Ray Brindle
 Sydney Fischer
 Mary Royce
- 18 Robert Hardsock
- 19 Patrick Upham
- 24 Jeanine Hocker
 Bradley Keefer

- 25 Brian Barrows
- 27 Margaret Etter
 Corinne Morrissette
- 28 | Sage Brown
- 30 Nikki Aurand Mary Jo Frey
- 31 William Fochtman



READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

JANUARY BIBLE READINGS					
Jan 1	Matt 1-4	Jan 12	Matt 26	Jan 23	Luke 2-3
Jan 2	Matt 5-6	Jan 13	Matt 27-28	Jan 24	Luke 4-5
Jan 3	Matt 7-8	Jan 14	Mark 1-3	Jan 25	Luke 6-7
Jan 4	Matt 9-10	Jan 15	Mark 4-5	Jan 26	Luke 8-9
Jan 5	Matt 11-12	Jan 16	Mark 6-7	Jan 27	Luke 10-11
Jan 6	Matt 13-14	Jan 17	Mark 8-9	Jan 28	Luke 12-13
Jan 7	Matt 15-17	Jan 18	Mark 10-11	Jan 29	Luke 14-16
Jan 8	Matt 18-19	Jan 19	Mark 12-13	Jan 30	Luke 17-18
Jan 9	Matt 20-21	Jan 20	Mark 14	Jan 31	Luke 19-20
Jan 10	Matt 22-23	Jan 21	Mark 15-16		
Jan 11	Matt 24-25	Jan 22	Luke 1		

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING



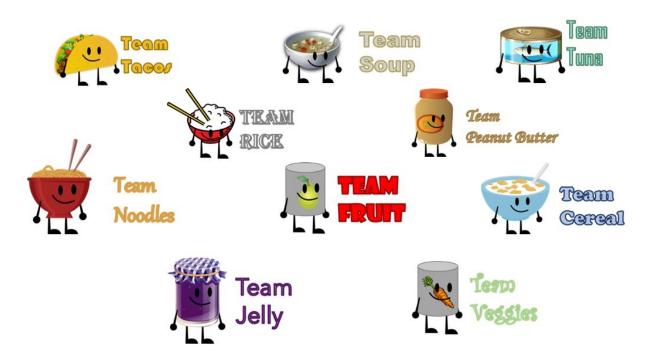
Are You Ready For Some Football? Super Bowl 58 is right around the corner.

While we don't know which teams will be playing, we can still get ready for the big day, and help with another big challenge we face every day...

Help contribute to our neighbors who are hungry!

As last year, the event will be in a marathon format instead of weekly races. It will run
It will

Let's meet the teams!



Voting for the Super Bowl winner with monetary donations will take place after services on February 11th!

All donations will go to local efforts to fight hunger.

Thank you for your support!

HELPING HANDS



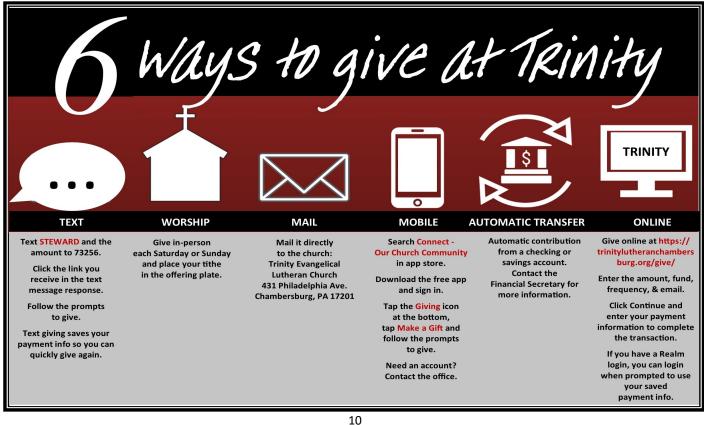
New Discount Cards Are Here!

Please see your SpiriTrust Lutheran Chambersburg Auxiliary representative, Sharon Emmons to get yours at mysunni@comcast.net / or 717-264-3977. The sale benefits

Luther Ridge Community--residents.







HELPING HANDS



In need of prayers or know someone who is?

We have a

"Prayer List" and a "Prayer Chain"

Contact the church office

Contact the church office and let us know your request. 717-263-8156 or office@trinitychbg.org



@trinitychambersburg
If you are a member and would like to be part of Trinity's Church Members
Group to get the latest news, go to
* Trinity's Facebook page
* Groups

* Request to join the Members Group.



GO GREEN TO GET GREEN TRINITY PAPER DAY JANUARY 28

The best vessel to put your recycled paper (including junk mail and magazines) in is a paper grocery bag or a cardboard box. Please do not tape or tie anything closed. This benefit helps people to stay warm. Thanks so much for your participation.



Sign-up on bulletin board in hallway or call the church office.

Altar Flowers \$40+

Children's \$3 Bulletins



OUR WEBSITE

trinitylutheranchambers-

burg.org/worship/worship-

services/





TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

431 Philadelphia Avenue Chambersburg, PA 17201



"Growing in God"

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

For more information:

www.trinitylutheranchambersburg.org

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(c) @Trinitylutherancburg

717-263-8156

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



email: office@trinitychbg.org



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Come, follow me. . . and I will make you fishers of men. Mark 1:17