

Trinity Parish

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church · Camp Hill, Pennsylvania · December 2010 Edition
A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services at Trinity

Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. - Family Service

Children's Choirs, Children's Bell Choir
Vicar Bill Chamberlin, leading

7:00 p.m. - Contemporary Candlelight Service
with Holy Communion

FaithX Band
Pastor Nancy Easton, preaching

8:30 p.m. - Traditional Candlelight* Service
with Holy Communion

Matins Choir, Youth Bell Choir, Trinity Youth Strings
Pastor Glenn Ludwig, preaching

**New for this year, we have added candlelighting.*

11:00 p.m. - Candlelight Service
with Lessons and Carols

Chancel Choir, Adult Bell Choir
String Chamber Orchestra
Pastor Glenn Ludwig, preaching

Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. - Traditional Service

Traditional Liturgy with Holy Communion
Pastor John Brock, preaching



Christmas at Trinity

Sunday, December 12 - 4:00 p.m.
"Christmas Celebration"

Timothy Koch, Conductor
Chancel, Matins, Children's Choirs,
Adult, Youth and Children's Bell Choirs,
and FaithX with full orchestra
Free admission - but early seating is advised.
Christmas reception to follow.

Sunday, December 19 - 4:00 p.m.
"A Candlelight Christmas"

The Susquehanna Chorale
Linda Tedford, Director
Tickets required.
Regular \$20; Seniors/Students \$18
Trinity Concert Series Patrons: \$10
(available through the church office)
\$20 and \$18 tickets available at the door
or by calling 214-ARTS.

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OUR VISION

"Disciples in the making, making disciples"

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

"Called by the Holy Spirit to be Christ's Disciples, we seek to equip ourselves and others to live like Christ, and to be sent into the world proclaiming and living the Good News as daily witnesses of God's transforming love."

LARC Vespers Service

(Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic)

January 23, 2011, 5:00 p.m.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Homilist, Bishop Joseph P McFadden
New Bishop of the Roman Catholic
Diocese of Harrisburg

Reception to follow.

All are invited!

Book Discussion Group

The Book Discussion Group invites you the third Sunday of every month in Room 232-234 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

December 12: "The Tortilla Curtain"
by T. C. Boyle

Trinity Parish Deadline

The deadline for the January 2011 edition of *Trinity Parish* is **Friday, December 10, 2010 – no exceptions**. If articles are e-mailed, please send to the Editor, Donna Sprowls at parish@trinitycamphill.org. Please keep all articles to 300 words or less. Articles may also be dropped off in the *Trinity Parish* box in the church office.

Trinity Parish is published 12 times a year by the Publicity and Communications Committee of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2000 Chestnut Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011.

717-737-8635 trinluth@trinitycamphill.org

GLENN E. LUDWIG, *Interim Senior Pastor*

JOHN H. BROCK, *Associate Pastor*

NANCY R. EASTON, *Associate Pastor*

GUY S. EDMISTON, *Support Pastor-in-Residence*

WILLIAM E. CHAMBERLIN, *Vicar*

CHRISTOPHER L. COUCH, *Director of Learning Ministries*

PETER A. FOX, *Director of Youth Ministries*

H. TIMOTHY KOCH, *Director of Music Ministries*

DEBRA D. WILSON, *Director of Music for Contemporary Worship*

JUDY K. COLLINS, *Spiritual Gifts Coordinator*

DONNA V. SPROWLS, *Editor*

Staff Notes "Reflections"

The Reverend Glenn E. Ludwig

Reflections. I think that would be an appropriate title for the *Staff Notes* for this month as we enter the reflective and pensive season of Advent. It is my favorite season of the church year – filled with soft images of candles providing light into the dark corners of our lives and world; of the color blue adorning our altars and reading desks, the color of hope; of hymns sung plaintively and slowly as we examine that darkness of December days being replaced by increasing light from candles added week after week in anticipation of the Light coming into the world.

It is a season for poetry, hymnic melodies of restrained enthusiasm, and inward examinations. And, it is hard to pull-off in a world that demands our rushing and running and outward preparing. As I write this in early November, TV ads are already showing up and pushing a season that is still a month away! So, I find that I must be particularly attentive to the still small voice of God during this busy time, setting aside moments for reflection and prayer. Otherwise, I'm not sure I'd observe much of Advent at all.

Trinity offers opportunities to still ourselves during this time, with Advent services at 7:00 a.m. each Wednesday during the season with breakfast afterwards, followed by the same themes being presented at the Thursday evening service at 6:30 p.m. This year, under the guidance and planning of Pastor Easton, we will focus our thoughts on the great Magnificat of Mary as sung in and through the Gospel of Luke (see fuller explanation and schedule in this *Trinity Parish*). I hope you will make and take time to share in these opportunities, for they will help us focus not on the outward displays of the season approaching Christmas, but on the inward journey we are called to in the darkness of December.

So as we approach Advent, I am reminded of the prayer Sister Doris Klein, C.S.A., once prayed: "In the cave of our hearts . . . in the fabric of our lives . . . in the soul of the earth . . . you continue, O God, to be born."

It's the phrase "in the cave of our hearts" that brought me up short when I read her prayer. And got me thinking. What happens when we take the time,

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even a moment in time, to turn inward in our journeys through this hectic and busy world? Do we find shadows in that cave of the heart? If so, do they scare us, so we avoid, or do we explore them to find the source of our fears or worries? Do we discover God hidden there, as God always finds us no matter how dark our lives, our hearts, our worlds? And if we do discover God's continuing presence, do we revel in the mystery of this all-knowing God and sit comfortably in the dark quiet of our cave nights? Are there images on the walls of our caves, images created by our histories, our pasts, our successes and, yes, our failures? If so, can we forgive them without excusing them? Can we view them as maps to where we are right now on the road of life, and leave them behind enough to gaze into a hopeful future? And if we enter the cave of our hearts, can we ever emerge into the light the same?

Such, my friends, is the journey of Advent. Walk with me, the staff, and others, will you, into that cave this year. If you do, I guarantee when we stick our heads out to see a star not far away, the star will lead us to great joy, peace and light.

"The Lutheran" Adult Forum Sunday, December 26, 2010

Please join us at 9:30 a.m. in Room 232-234 for a discussion on "**Women Clergy – 40 Years Later**" from pages 22-28 of the November 2010 issue of *The Lutheran* magazine. As the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America observes the 40th anniversary of the first ordination of our women pastors, we have much to celebrate. The number and percentage of women in pastoral leadership positions is growing. Today about one in five pastors is female and about half of the future pastors now in seminary are women. Our own Rev. Nancy Easton will share her thoughts and experiences as an ELCA pastor. If you do not have access to the articles, paper copies will be available about two weeks in advance of the session and may be picked up at the reception desk in the Gathering Space. If you have any questions, please contact class coordinators Craig Staller or Doug Bonsall (921-1957).

My Soul Magnifies the Lord! Midweek Advent Services

During this holy season of preparation, join us for worship at our Midweek Advent services. This year's theme is based on Luke 1:26-55, with particular emphasis on the joyous and prophetic song sung by Mary that we call the *Magnificat*. As Mary prepared for bearing the Christ Child into the world, she sang a song of faith and devotion to her Lord. Yet it was also a radical statement of how God's coming kingdom would usher in the reversal of earthly things: The hungry would be fed, and the rich sent away empty...the lowly lifted up, and the mighty cast down from their thrones. The birth of God's Son in humble estate was the sign of the coming wondrous kingdom of God.

Midweek services are held on Wednesday mornings (7:00 a.m.) and Thursday evenings (6:30 p.m.) in our chapel. Holy Communion is offered at each service. A breakfast in Fellowship Hall follows each Wednesday morning service.

Dates and themes are as follows: December 1 and 2 (*Nothing Will Be Impossible with God*), December 8 and 9 (*My Spirit Rejoices in God My Savior*), December 15 and 16 (*God Has Lifted Up the Lowly*), and December 22 and 23 (*God Has Remembered His Promises*).

Artist of the Month

Lyn Marsh attended the Wyomissing Institute of Fine Arts and has studied with nationally recognized artists. Involved with the art community for over 50 years, Lyn has served on the board of the Art Association of Harrisburg, is a charter board member of the Mechanicsburg Art Center, and a charter/founding member of the PA Watercolor Society. Lyn's paintings have been the recipient of numerous awards. Her work is diverse but always involves her love of color, expression of light and shadow, composition, and design.

Alzheimer's Support Group

The Alzheimer's Support Group will meet Wednesday, December 15, from 7-9 p.m. in the Library. For more information, contact Donna Sprowls at 766-8075 or sprowlsd@aol.com.

Prayer Concerns

“And the angel said unto them, fear not: for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people.”

Luke 2:10

There is a security in our traditions, and a value in continuing those that bring us meaning and pleasure. But too often we continue a custom long after its time has passed. Just as there is a time for every season under heaven, there is also a time for changing how we do things. In finding new ways to appreciate familiar situations and people, we discover things we might never have known otherwise.

The Christmas story reminds us how many people had to toss out their customary routines and expectations to participate in the adventure of faith God planned for them. That first Christmas nothing was in keeping with the way we do things.

We could discover great and marvelous things if we are bold enough to cast off some of our old traditions and dare to venture into uncharted territory. How often do we limit God by insisting he work in the same old ways for us? What if we faced the future with hearts and hands open to all possibilities. We might face some awkward situations and uncomfortable circumstances and encounter some people different than us, people we would not otherwise meet. But we would be in good company. Mary and Joseph, the Shepherds and the Magi all had to leave their comfort zones and step into the unfamiliar. God told them, “fear not” and surely He would tell us the same.

Lord, help us to be unafraid when You bring changes into our lives. May we face them with grace and faith, knowing you are with us each step of the way. Amen.

New Members Received

The Affirmation of Faith Class of October 2010 was recently received into membership. Please welcome to the Trinity Family: Mike Berney, Jim and Cathy Brommer, Russ Brown, Chad and Julie Buhman, Jeff Hollenbush and Joyce Libby, Mary Houck, Randy, Cindy and Matt Kuentzler, Jamie McFadden, Karen Albert and Heather McFadden, Christopher Mirocco, Matt and Marjorie Taylor, Chad and Tonya Masser-Turns and Christa Williams, Angelina, Lennon and Christian Lees.

Council Update

Each month this column highlights actions and significant items of interest from the most recent meeting(s) of Trinity’s Congregation Council.

From the November 2010 Meeting:

- Opened the meeting with a reading from the book, *Steel Pudding*, about a group of retired school teachers volunteering in their community, Gary, Indiana.
- Elected Lorraine Graybill as Congregation Council President and Barbara Musselman as Congregation Council Vice-President for 2011.
- Approved Associate Membership with Trinity Lutheran Church for Ruth and Sam Chester. Associate Members have all the right and privileges of regular members except the right to vote at Congregation Meeting.
- Approved revisions to Policy Page 1.30.2 Arts Committee.
- Announced the Women of Trinity Christmas Luncheon on Saturday, December 4. The luncheon is open to the entire congregation. Vicar Bill Chamberlin will be the guest speaker
- Announced the Lutheran Men in Mission *Breakfast with Santa* on Saturday, December, 18. The event is open to the entire congregation and visitors.

Additional Council Updates are available online at: www.trinitycamp-hill.org/Council_Minutes/index.htm

Family Choir to Sing December 12

The *Family Choir*, will be singing again for worship on Sunday, December 12 at 11 a.m. This choir consists of children (5th grade and older), parents, grandparents, relatives, etc... The rehearsal will be held at 10:15 sharp on December 12 (before the service). We have over 40 singers on the roster, but not all are able to sing that day. You are invited to join us. Please call or email Tim Koch if interested at 737-9921, X229 or timothy.koch@trinitycamp-hill.org

Blood Bank News

Hard to believe, but this is the last Trinity Parish for 2010! When I called my Central PA Blood Bank contact to see how we were doing, I was “just bursting at the seams,” when they told me that as of the end of October, Trinity has received credit for 192 units. Since this does not count blood donations in November and December, by the end of 2010 we will have well over 200 units! That is our best yet, and I thank you for making my job both easier and more satisfying.

This is also a BIG reminder that our first blood drive in 2011 is on January 23, with sign up in the Gathering Space on January 9 and 16. That also means that we start over at the **Big 0!** Here is a challenge for all Trinity members--how about making a New Year's Resolution to become a regular blood donor? A large turnout will get 2011 off to a good start number wise, but it will really help the Blood Bank. The blood supply is normally down because of the holiday season, and the winter months always bring an increase in traffic accidents! Trinity's # is 157. Call Jeanie Bentzel, 766-3526, or jeanneil@paonline.com, with questions.

Did you know that by the time a person has reached the age of 72, he or she has a 95% chance of using blood or blood components? However, please do not wait until you are 72! Donate NOW!

Jeanie Bentzel

Thursday Evening Bible Study

The Thursday evening Bible Study taught by Pastor Ludwig will continue after the first of the year to meet at 7:00 p.m. in Room 237. The topic for winter/spring will be “The Gospel of Matthew.” There is no pre-registration and the class is open to all who would like to share the study of the Gospel which will be our focus in worship during this next year. The class is from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. No experience necessary!!

Spotlight on Trinity's Giving Tree

The **Giving Tree** will be available during the advent season to share our love and concern with others. It will be located as you enter the Gathering Space. On the first Sunday of Advent, please choose an ornament representing one of the following benevolence ministries:

Crosses: This ornament represents our support to CROSS, a residential ministry for young adults with mental and physical challenges. We will be collecting paper products and cleaning supplies.

Toy Trains: This ornament represents our ministry to CACCC (Churches Affiliated Child Care Centers). We support their scholarship program for low-income parents who must return to the workforce. We will be collecting paper products, cleaning supplies and office supplies (copy paper, tape, staples).

Trees: This ornament represents the Missions Committee. This year we are requesting gift cards for the support of young students and their families at Gettysburg Seminary.

Red Houses: This ornament represents our ministry to Delta Housing, a local organization helping single parents with children find housing and employment with the guidance of experienced staff members. Read the ornament for requested gift items.

Churches: The churches represent our Parish Ministry which reaches out to those in need within our congregation through gift cards for local stores.

Angels: The angels represent our Prison Ministry for recently released men and women and their families.

Thank you for your support of these ministries, which will share God's grace with all in need.

Some Tips...

Please return all gifts as early as possible but definitely by the third Sunday in Advent (December 19) to the Reception Desk in the Gathering Space.

Read the back of the ornament for requested gift items and to find out if you need to wrap the item.

Give the gift cards with the ornament attached to the receptionist. There will be a box at the Reception Desk to put the gift items in.

Whether it be large or small, each gift will share in part the message of true Christmas joy if given from the heart.

The Giving Tree Ministries

Some Notes from Your Director of Learning Ministries

A reminder that classes for everyone are not scheduled during the Christian Education Hour for Christmas Sunday, December 26. Classes for children and youth will not meet on Sunday, January 2, as well. However, the Affirmation of Baptism Class will meet on January 2 during the Christian Education Hour (which is 9:30 to 10:30, each Sunday morning). All classes will resume on Sunday, January 9.

Then, over the three Sundays of January 9, 16, and 23, our pastors will be with our children in the rotation program sharing our understanding of the Sacrament of Communion. Parents are certainly invited to attend these sessions with their children. The rotation classes meet on the first floor of the education wing (again, during the Christian Education Hour).

Parents are also invited and encouraged to attend the Parenting Class, meeting in Room 227-229 on Sunday morning. This group has become a small community of learning and sharing. If you are a parent, consider bringing your children to their classes in the Sunday Church School and then staying the hour yourself with the Parenting Class. If you are not a parent but are close to someone who is (and, now that I think on it, who isn't?), you are welcome as well.

There are many learning and sharing groups that meet in the Trinity building and in Trinity homes. Many of these—with their descriptions and schedules—are described in a seasonal brochure, whose winter-spring edition will be available at the church (building) in January. Please look for and take with you a copy.

Along with learning opportunities for our lives of faith, the brochure also lists all our service times. And so my final note to you here is about worship and especially about Sabbath. We have six opportunities weekly at Trinity to worship God in a Sabbath experience: Thursday evening in the Chapel; Saturday evening in Fellowship Hall; and at 8:15, 8:30, 10:45, and 11 o'clock on Sunday. What a privilege we have! And in the context of worship, writing that phrase makes me think of the old lyric, "What a privilege to carry/Everything to God in prayer."

We are privileged indeed.

Please stay in touch. Please take care. Have an Advent and Christmastide of blessings,

Christopher Couch
Director of Learning Ministries

Letters to Trinity

To Trinity Lutheran Members,

It really is a blessing to belong to such a loving and caring congregation.

I truly appreciated all the cards, calls and visits while I was recently hospitalized and especially from Pastor Brock and Vicar Will.

The flowers received were really a reflection of the beauty of this time of year and enjoyed for a long time.

Again thanks to all.

In Christian Love.

Fay Pepperman

Dear Trinity,

When the light of our Great God shines even in your darkest hour, you know God has blessed you with his grace and mercy. We thank all the wonderful people of Trinity who helped to make our journey memorable and filled with love. My Bob was truly humbled and grateful for all the cards, visits, and acts of Christian devotion. Our special thanks to Bishop Edmiston for bringing church to us. May God grant to you all the peace and joy that you so lovingly gave to us during these last three years.

Very gratefully,

(Bob) and Mary Ann Landis

December Birthdays

Our Homebound

December 9 **John Orris**
11 Moore Circle
Carlisle, PA 17013

December 18 **Stellamary Bertram**
3404 Choco Chase
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Our Staff

December 2 **Pastor Nancy Easton**

Mark Your Calendar

Women's Wednesday Morning Bible Study
January 19 to April 13, 2011
More details to follow in January newsletter.

YG News

Greetings to all in the name of the Lord. YG (Youth Group) season is now in its busiest period of the fall. This is the time of many sign-up's and due dates. The YG calendar is jam-packed with so much stuff; new meetings, new retreats, new events, and new friendships all await our YG kids. There are Junior High events and Senior High events, all age events and everything in between. So make sure to get on out to YG if you're in grades 6-12 and give it a try. There is truly something on almost every weekend and it will "all be good!"

We kicked off the month of October on Sunday, October 3 with JR. HIGH GAMENITE. Around 25 YG and a handful of advisors came out for the night of total fun and fellowship. We played lots of games, ate pizza, and closed down the night with prayer. Everyone had a blast! Sunday, October 10 was our first YG NITE. Around 50 YG and advisors were in attendance. We began with our much-hyped AGAPE theme for the year. This year is all about agape, which means "God's love." Throughout this whole YG season we will focus on helping the YG to realize what it means to be a disciple for Christ and God's love for us. In today's world, more than ever we need to be reminded of the love that God has for us. Once we better understand this amazing love, we should find solace and strength in it. Only God's love can serve to equip us to face the trials and tribulations this world has to offer. In short, this YG year will empower our youth in their discipleship journeys. To help us with the AGAPE theme, we are focusing every YG NITE around the music of a Christian rap artist friend of mine who goes by the name of AGAPE. The title for each YG NITE is an AGAPE song title, and each meeting relates to the song. So there will be a strong musical tie-in all year long. It should be awesome, especially if every YG NITE goes like this first one did. The kids are really stoked for this season, so I'm excited.

On Sunday, October 24 we had another YG NITE. Around 50 YG and advisors were in attendance. The theme for the evening was ART IMITATES LIFE and it focused on getting the YG to recognize that we are always interpreting our experiences in life, and sometimes our interpretations and judgments are inaccurate. Even though it's impossible not to have a "gut feeling", we need to see people as Christ did and spare our judgments until after we've really gotten to know them.

This YG NITE was equally as good as the first. The large group discussion was intense and the small group discussions were even better. Everyone learned a lot and I received much positive feedback from the YG once again on the theme for the year.

We wrapped up the month with our new annual YG PASTA NITE. Around 40 YG and advisors came to make this night happen. We had kids hard at work all night long to make the experience a good one for everyone. Around 100 church members, families and friends came out to support the night, which was great! We were able to raise over \$700 to go towards the Sr. High Summer Retreat. The YG always love it and the kids have a great time serving others. They really do a great job! Well, that was October for you, and it was a great start for what promises to definitely be an awesome year.

Yours In Christ,

Peter A Fox
Youth Ministry Director

A Story of Faith, Hope, Promise

Once upon a time, year after year, a young woman and her father sat side by side every Sunday morning in church. faithfully, reverently.

Then God intervened, and the father became an Angel. That's when the ladies of Trinity Church, starting with Grace Morgan, moved in – lovingly, considerately, to become surrogate companions to her, Sunday after Sunday. The young woman is Beth Catlin, an autistic savant who makes birthday cards for everyone she meets, including most of Trinity Church.

My heart is forever grateful to these wonderful ladies who sit where Don sat, to be Beth's companion during worship, to steer her as he always did, to and from the communion cup.

These ladies have filled the void and continue to provide loving, caring companionship every Sunday morning. To see this unfold is to behold the most beautiful expression of Christian love.

They are truly God's angels in our midst. And Don would be so pleased.

Barbara Catlin



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December

AFFIX LABEL HERE

Weekly Prayer List

November 28-December 4: Kristin and Grace Treaster; Christi, Nicholas, and Matthew Treadwell; Timothy Trayer; Martin Tozer; Buck Towner; Jeanne, Alexis, and Zachary Torstenson; Michael, Carolyn, Elise, and Michael Tonelli; Gerald, Mary, and Barbara Tome. **December 5-11:** David, Cynthia, and Joseph Tolsma; Anne Tolsma; George and Sumiko Tokuhata; John Tobin; Michael Tighe; Mary Louise Tietbohl; Lawrence, Sherry, Lawrence, Robert, Madison, and Jackson Thompson; George and Jean Thompson. **December 12-18:** Josh and Katty Thomas; Herbert and Sandra Thomas; Arletta Thomas; Cindi Teeter; James, Tracie, and Derek Tenetylo; Robert Telford. **December 19-25:** Sean, Melissa, Tristan, Genevieve, and Logan Taylor; Matt, Marjorie, Vivian, Lana, and Marly Taylor; Dave and Kelly Taylor; Chris, Kim, Aiden, and Kamryn Taylor; Carolee Taylor; Bill, Kim, and William Tauriello; Celeste Tarbox; Yoke, Jean, and Andrea Tan; John, Jill, Alexa, and Levi Tamosaitis. **December 26-January 1:** Sandy Sykes; Gene, Carolyn, and Eugene Sweeney; Marilyn Swartz; Marcia Swartz; Craig, Jodi, and Ryan Swartz, and Branden and Kirsten Wintermyer; Bill, Trudy, Nate, and Rebecca Swanger; Keith, Lori, Alex, Caroline, and Patrick Swade; Gina, Lake and Cole Sutliff.

Free Photo with Santa

To help celebrate the joy of the Christmas Season, Trinity's Lutheran Men in Mission-Master Builders will be offering free photos with Santa on Saturday December 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon, in Fellowship Hall. In addition to a free photo enjoy a snack and hot chocolate. In the spirit of Saint Nicolas, donations of nonperishable food items will be accepted and donated to local food banks and pantries.

*Merry
Christmas!*