

Trinity Parish

December 2006 • Camp Hill, Pennsylvania • www.trinitycamphill.org

Advent and Christmas Worship Opportunities

WEDNESDAYS

December 6, 13, 20

Communion Service - 7:00 a.m. - Chapel

THURSDAYS

December 7, 14, 21

Communion Service - 6:30 p.m. - Chapel

SATURDAYS

December 2, 9, 16, 23

Communion Service - 5:30 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

SUNDAYS

December 3, 10, 17

Traditional Worship - 8:15 and 11:00 a.m. - Nave
Contemporary Worship - 10:45 a.m. - Fellowship Hall

December 17

Holy Communion and Service of Healing
3:30 p.m. - Chapel

December 24

Traditional Worship - 10:00 a.m. - Nave
Contemporary Worship - 10:45 a.m. - Fellowship Hall

CHRISTMAS EVE - Sunday, December 24

Family Service - 4:00 p.m. - Nave

Contemporary Service with Communion
7:00 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

Lessons and Carols with Communion
8:30 p.m. - Nave

Candlelight Service - 11:00 p.m. - Nave

CHRISTMAS DAY - Monday, December 25

Holy Communion - 10:00 a.m. - Nave

Trinity's Festival of the Arts Presents

Messiah

George Frederic Handel's Masterpiece

Sunday, December 3 - 4:00 p.m.

Featuring the Chancel Choir,
Soloists, and Orchestra

H. Timothy Koch, Director



Trinity Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 10 - 4:00 p.m.

Featuring the Childrens, Youth, and Adult Handbell
Choirs of Trinity Lutheran Church;
and... a performance of the musical,
"The Twelve Days of Christmas"
by the Carol, Crusade, and Matins Choirs



A Candlelight Carol

Sunday, December 17 - 4:00 p.m.

Presented by the Susquehanna Chorale,
Linda Tedford, Director

*** Tickets required for this concert. ***

Regular: \$20

Seniors/Students: \$18

Trinity Concert Series Patrons: \$10

\$20 and \$18 tickets available at the door
or by calling 214-ARTS.
Patrons tickets available in the church office.

Artist of the Month

Richard (Dick) Michaelian

As a student at Grove City College (PA), Dick took his first course in painting and enjoyed the experience of creating art. Yet, it has only been in the past eight years that he became more serious in pursuing the hobby of watercolor painting. Through classes at the Harrisburg Art Association, Dick learned and studied under David Lenker, a local artist with many professional accomplishments.

Dick was raised in Newport News, Virginia and has been influenced by the Williamsburg and Tidewater regions for subjects to paint. The use of color with an eye for specific detail has allowed Dick to paint from a realist's perspective. He has won several awards at the Harrisburg Art Association, most recently First Place in Watercolor at the Fall Membership Event. Many of his works and prints have been sold throughout the Harrisburg area.

Members of Camp Hill Presbyterian Church for over fifteen years, Dick and his wife Becky and their three school-aged children enjoy many of the activities at the church. As a past Deacon and Elder and a current Sunday school leader and Confirmation Mentor, Dick has been involved with numerous programs.

Dick considers his art to be a ministry and testament to his faith. All that he creates and all that he accomplishes is rooted in the knowledge that all of his gifts come from God.

DEADLINE

January issue of *Trinity Parish* is

Monday, December 11

Please forward all articles to the Editor, Donna Sprowls at:
parish@trinitycamphill.org

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717-737-8635 trinluth@trinitycamphill.org

J. STEWART HARDY, *Senior Pastor*

JOHN H. BROCK, *Associate Pastor*

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PETER A. FOX, *Director of Youth Ministries*

H. TIMOTHY KOCH, *Director of Music Ministries*

DEBRA WILSON, *Director of Music for Contemporary Worship*

DONNA V. SPROWLS, *Editor*

Staff Notes

Tradition!

“Tradition!” they sang in the musical “Fiddler on the Roof.” For Tevye and his people, tradition was the bedrock of their daily activities, and when tradition wasn’t there, things just didn’t seem quite right.

Advent and Christmas mark a time when traditions evoke the deepest of feelings from inside each of us. These traditions are the bedrock of our daily activities in the weeks to come, and without these traditions things just don’t seem quite right. Some traditions are part of our worship and programmatic life here at Trinity—the lighting of the Advent candles over four successive weeks . . . the appearance of wreaths and trees, bows and poinsettias . . . the strains of Handel’s *Messiah*, the ringing of hand bells, and the glorious “*Gloria in excelsis!*” from the throats of all ages. **My** favorite tradition at Trinity? I particularly delight in watching the progression of the nativity scene figures as they move, Sunday to Sunday, ever closer to the manger, arriving just in time for the birth of Jesus. Watching them, it seems as if I, too, am drawn ever closer to the manger and the coming of my savior.

Some of our traditions take place in our own homes—family devotions around a homemade Advent wreath, cookie baking using Great-Grandma’s recipe (with her very specific “a pinch of this, a handful of that . . .”), the trek to the woods for a Christmas tree, the scent of Bayberry candles. **My** favorite tradition at home? Placing my growing collection of angels on display. The angels come in all sizes and shapes and materials. Six of them adorned a table in my Grandmother Burglund’s home when I was growing up. Nothing valuable enough to merit a trip to “Antiques Roadshow,” but valuable to my heart and memory. I can almost imagine that glorious “*Gloria in excelsis*” coming from their throats as well.

All these traditions we will observe in the coming weeks serve to point to something . . . or, shall I say, **someone**. The writer Fred Buechner compared the Advent season to that expectant moment just before something wonderful is going to happen. It is a moment where, he said, “you can almost feel the beating of your heart” in anticipation. It is no surprise we hunger for these traditions—what they do is prepare us for the One for whom we truly hunger. So, prepare! Like Tevye, shout “Tradition!” Or, as the Advent song goes,

“Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east, and sing today---Love, the Guest, is on the way.” (WOV, #626)

The Reverend Nancy R. Easton



Concert Review and Acknowledgements

As we reminisce about the excellent concert by the Kyiv Symphony and Chorus on October 30, we cannot help but marvel at what a wonderful way God was glorified that evening by the beautiful music. We are grateful to all the musicians for their dedication in spreading the Gospel to all who hear them.

It was great to see the response of everyone who, in any way, gave of their time to make this concert possible. With so many assisting in all the aspects of planning for this event, it would be difficult to acknowledge everyone without missing someone. To all, the Art Committee extends its appreciation.

Thanks, Tim, for the wonderful job of arranging this concert, as well as all the other events of the Concert Series. We are extremely indebted to the excellence you bring to Trinity Church in the field of music and the arts.

Arts Committee
Bill Range, Chair

Letter to Trinity

Dear Trinity Members:

Thank you all for your thoughtfulness these past few weeks. Your prayers, thoughts, concerns, visits and flowers have been greatly appreciated.

Thank You.

Lydia M. Oyler

Herbal Advent Wreath

Rosemary – for remembrance...in legend the herb that changed its flowers from white to blue in Mary's honor

Sage – Herb of immortality

Lavender – Beloved by Mary...represents purity and virtue

Rue – Herb of Grace...symbol of repentance

Thyme – A manger herb...symbol of bravery...associated with the Holy Child who would endure much suffering

Garden Mint – Known since Medieval times as "Our Lady's Mint" and dedicated to Mary throughout Western Europe

Wild Strawberry – Used by Botticelli in his religious paintings of the 15th century as a symbol of righteousness

Rosehips, cockscomb and globe amaranth – added for color

Donna V. Sprowls

YG NEWS

Greetings to all in the name of the Lord. The YG (youth group) season so far has been extremely busy. Our YG calendar is so jam-packed with so much to do for everyone. There is something YG related on every weekend. If it's not a large group meeting, it's a small group meeting. There is plenty of meetings, events, retreats, sleepovers, and various get-togethers for everybody. What a year we have planned for the YG and it has all just begun. So the time is definitely right to get out to YG and make a fresh start. If you are in grades 6-12 we want to see you soon. Here is a taste of what we did in the month of October.

We started the month with SR. HIGH BOWLING NIGHT at ABC West on the Carlisle Pike. Around 30 Senior High YG and four advisors came out for the night of total fun and fellowship. We had a blast! Next up on the calendar was our first REAL YG of the year. I say "real" because this was the first meeting where we started on our theme for the year. Every year we have a theme. This year's theme is called "BACK TO BASICS" and it focuses our study on the essential teachings of Jesus in His ministry years. This year at each YG meeting we will be looking at Jesus' many teachings and relating them to modern life, so our youth have better understanding of Jesus and how relevant His teachings still are today. Our first YG MEETING was a success, drawing out around 60+ YG, plus some advisors. The topic for the night was JESUS AS HUMAN/JESUS AS GOD. This meeting focused on Jesus being human as well as divine. It was eye opening for a lot of our youth who see him one way and not the other. The meeting was awesome and everyone got something out of it. Our next YG MEETING was two weeks later. Once again, we had 60+ kids, plus some advisors. Our topic for the night was JESUS AS HEALER. This meeting focused on the many healings that Jesus performed in His ministry and the kids learned how they can be healers to others in need in their lives. Once again, another powerful meeting. Both of these meetings served as a great start to our YG year. Our last event for the month was the 10th ANNUAL HAUNTED WOODS EVENT at the Reed's house. Sixty plus YG, many advisors and many parents/volunteers gathered on this perfect night for a night of total fun and fellowship. Everyone dressed in costume. It was fabulous. We carved pumpkins, ate hot dogs, told stories around the fire, and took scary walks in the woods. All and all, the night was a success as it normally is. What a month! November will be even busier, I can't wait. CU @ YG ...

Yours In Christ,

Peter A. Fox

Youth Ministry Director

The Giving Tree

“God, take my gifts and invest them in the well-being of others to your glory alone.”

The **Giving Tree** will be in the Gathering Space again this year. This is your opportunity to participate in our giving to others at Christmastime.

There will be six organizations to choose from. Gift requests are listed on the following decoration tags:

- Angels** - Gifts for the Prison Ministry children
- Trees** - Gifts for the men who are cared for at Frank's Place in Camden, N.J.
- Teddy Bears** - Gifts for our own members at Trinity in need
- Mittens** - Gifts for women and children at Delta Community
- Stockings** - Gifts for Churches Affiliated Child Care Centers

Help undecorated the tree. Please take a tag of your choice, purchase the gift requested and bring the gift and tag ornament to the tree no later than December 10. Those who receive your gifts are most grateful for your support. Thank you.

Volunteer Corner

“For those who are denied, this blessed boon of God, may all the needy be supplied.”

Thanks to the **Christ Renews His Parish** Women's Continuation Team #2 for the display at the Thanksgiving Eve service of produce on and under the table in the altar area. This food was contributed by CRHP women for the purpose of “giving to Bethesda Mission” and was coordinated by CRHP Sister Marla Peters.

The CRHP Women's Team #2 also delivered meals to at-home Trinity members on the afternoon of the Sunday, November 19 Thanksgiving Celebration meal held at Trinity.

Donna V. Sprowls



Supper Clubs

Supper clubs are now forming for January, February and March. What a great way to enjoy good company and food, all while getting to know fellow members of Trinity better. The formal name of Trinity's supper club is **Bread Breakers** – but the basics are the same as any supper club.

There will be six to ten people in each supper group. They'll get together once a month for three months at dinners held at a fellow member's home. The host prepares the main dish and everyone else brings side dishes, desserts, etc. Sign up or get more information by talking to Kathy Holmes at kathyholmes@mac.com or 761-4977.

Keep Trinity in Your Thoughts, Prayers, and End-of-Year Contributions

As we near the end of 2006 and reflect on our blessings and how we might try to make a difference for the myriad of charitable causes that fill our mailboxes with overwhelming solicitations, let's not forget about Trinity.

We are fortunate to have a generous congregation who supports the many ministries here at Trinity throughout the year. Although we trust that Trinity will experience favorable end-of-year giving again this year, each of us may want to consider doing our part with that giving to permit us to continue and enhance our ministries and build the resources necessary for a rich and wonderful 2007. As the year comes to a close and we experience once again the miracle of Christmas though the birth of our Lord, let us prayerfully keep Trinity in mind and on our gift list.

Bob Frymoyer

Book Discussion Group

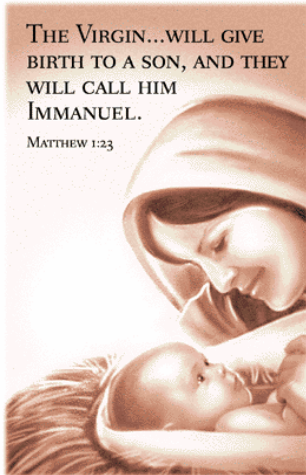
The December book, *Under the Banner of Heaven: A story of violent faith* by Jon Krakauer, reports on mainstream Mormonism and its fundamentalist offspring, which frequently promote polygamy and racism.

The Book Group will meet Sunday, December 10 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 234. The group is open to all members of Trinity. The purpose of the group is to enjoy fellowship while talking about a commonly read book. For more information, contact Craig Staller at c.staller@att.net or 717-921-1957.

Missions Corner

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel which means, ‘God is with us.’”

(Matthew 1:23)



Kathryn Sime, director of the ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal writes: At Christmas, we celebrate God made flesh, God with us. On that first Christmas, Jesus, Emmanuel, was found among the poor and lowly. Today, Jesus is with the 800 million people who suffer from chronic hunger and poverty. Jesus is with the five million children under five who will die this year of hunger-related causes. Jesus is with all those who live

with the silent disaster of chronic hunger and poverty, and Jesus is with all those who walk with the poor and hungry on their journey to health and wholeness. Jesus is with Rose of Uganda living with HIV/AIDS. Jesus is with Joyce who is guardian of her daughter's three sons whose parents died of AIDS. Jesus is with Ahmed in Ethiopia as he makes a living for himself in his drought-stricken region. They are blessed by the gifts that you give to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. These gifts give them courage and perseverance and the knowledge that they do not walk alone.

Think about your gifts to others this year. Will one be to someone who needs the message of Christmas, Emmanuel, God with us? Please check out the Missions Bulletin Board for suggestions of just how you might do that. There is the ELCA Good Gifts Catalog, World Hunger Christmas cards and many Fair Trade gifts items available for you. If you are not able to get to church but would like to know about these items please call me at 697-3673. I am happy to help anyone who just asks.

Elizabeth Winters

From Your Director of Learning Ministries

Well, it is the season of Advent. Advent means “coming” and is an old word given in the participle (-ing) form. Which means that Advent is not static; it is a process. A process of remembering and preparing for the coming of Christ.

Some find this time of year easy to enjoy. Others find it hard to endure. But I hope that each of us might find

some joy in appreciating the Advent season as a time of promise. The promise of the delivery of the baby Jesus and, through him, the promise of salvation for humanity.

And while Advent may not be static, that doesn't mean it can't be still. So I might also hope that each of us finds time to enjoy stillness—a process in itself—to reflect on why we mark this time of year.

Our Sunday Church School classes for the fall will finish on December 17, after which classes will not be held for children and youth until January 7 in the new year. Please check with your leaders if you are in an adult class that may or may not be meeting over the holiday time.

On January 7, a new Winter-Spring listing of opportunities for faith learning will be distributed throughout the church. We will enjoy a number of Sunday Church School Special Topics classes, a new Sup and Study series in Lent, and more classes for members in our Affirmation of Faith series. Affirmation of Baptism will continue through early June at which time our Confirmands will fully affirm their baptismal vows into full membership in Trinity Church and the Church of Christ.

In looking further ahead, I know we will need new leadership in the Senior High Class on Sunday morning. After three years with the class, Stephanie Maurer will be stepping down as the teacher. So a new teacher for Senior Highs will be needed. Ideally, we should have a team of at least two teachers. Anyone thinking they might enjoy spending time with the group should talk with me or Stephanie now—you may even begin visiting with the class right away. I have found our particular Senior High group on Sunday morning to be especially focused and thoughtful. These youth ask good questions in discussion and offer constructive contributions. And there are snacks!

In looking less further ahead, I am still in need of more media display equipment for the learning ministry program, which is to say that more CD players, DVD players, monitors (down home we call these televisions), or any projection equipment could be used by our classes. New curricula, especially for adults, require greater use of media material. So anyone replacing anything, consider giving what is being replaced, if the thing is still good, particularly for viewing and listening to tapes and disks (typically, we don't record or receive broadcasts). Thanks for considering!

And thanks for everything. Happy new church year (remember the church year begins with the first Sunday in Advent), Happy Advent, Happy Christmas, and Happy New (calendar) Year.

God keep you all,

Christopher



From the Vicar



I want! At Christmas those words strike terror in the hearts of most Christian parents. We are so overcome with commercialism and social obligations that we sometimes forget Jesus is at the heart of it all. The theme for the 4 p.m. Children's Christmas Eve Service refocuses our attention on God's gift of Jesus. We respond to that gift by being gifts of love for each other. As a concrete symbol of God's invitation to love, **children attending the 4 p.m. service are asked to bring a non-perishable food item which they will place on the altar during the sermon time.**

Vicar Barbara Pond

Birthdays

Homebound

- December 1 **Pauline Middleton**
The Woods at Cedar Run
824 Lisburn Road, Apt. # 315
Camp Hill, PA 17011
- December 7 **Jim Fickes**
3015 Mayfred Lane
Camp Hill, PA 17011
- December 11 **Gladys Smeal**
7 Marshall Drive
Camp Hill, PA 17011
- December 24 **Bob Wallower**
Seidel Hospital Living Care Center
120 Filbert Street
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Staff

- December 2 **The Reverend Nancy R. Easton**

Trinity Prayer Concerns

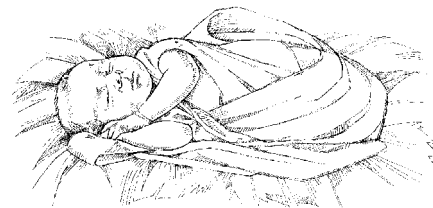
We pray:

- that our hearts will be prepared for the coming of the Lord, and that we may take time to savor the true meaning of Christmas.
- for those who are serving in the military, that they will feel connected to their loved ones during the Advent and Christmas seasons.
- that our world may be filled with peace and justice as we await the coming of the Prince of Peace.
- for all those who lead our worship services; including our pastors and staff, lay assistants, and musicians.
- for the homeless that they may find shelter and be fed with the bread of life.

Weekly Prayer List

November 26-December 2: Christopher and Ainsley Berney; Beth Berney; Neil and Jeanie Bentzel; Evelyn Bentz; Ruth Bennett; Deborah Benna; Terence, Janet, and Austin Benham. **December 3-9:** Violet Belknap; Jason, Stephanie, Ethan, Jaren, and Delaney Beigh; Daniel and Oneida Beigh; Marjorie Beers; Chris, April, Gavin, and Maren Beckett; Melissa, Davis and Ross Becker; Daniel Becker. **December 10-16:** Rachel Beck; Nathan Beck; James, Idana, Devon, and Derek Beck; Edwin and Katherine Beck; Lois Beatty; Kenneth and Leslie Beamer; Kelly Beam. **December 17-23:** John Beall; Janet and Jonathan Baxley; Virginia Baum; Joanne Baum; Harold and Joann Bastian; Steven Bartron; Ardelle Barry. **December 24-30:** Michael Barrick; Matthew and Jonas Barrick; Joseph and Margaret Barrick; Ronald and Jane Barnes; Eric Barnes; Harvey Barndt; Kimberly, Jennifer, and Kimberly Banzhoff. **December 31-January 6:** Evelyn Bannan; William and Elizabeth Banks; Alison, Sally, and Eleanor Ballantine; Reuben, Debbie, Miriam, Benjamin, and Elizabeth Balasundram; William Baker; Paul and Kristina Baker; Melissa Baker, and Nicole and Ryan Grimes; Clifford and Rose Marie Baker.

One Small Child



Epiphany Travels with Dr. Brice Arndt

Join us Sunday, January 7, 2007
In Fellowship Hall
Supper – 5 p.m.

And a presentation about the “missionary journeys”
Dr. Arndt has made over the years.

Save the date.
Watch the *Trinity Today* for further details.

The Twelve Days of Christmas

People often think of The Twelve Days of Christmas as the days preceding the festival. Actually, Christmas is a season of the Christian Year beginning December 25 and lasting until January 6 – the Day of Epiphany – when the church celebrates the revelation of Christ as the light of the world and recalls the journey of the Magi.

From 1558 until 1829 people in England were not allowed to practice their faith openly. During this era someone wrote “The Twelve Days of Christmas” as a kind of secret catechism that could be sung in public without risk of persecution. The song has two levels of interpretation: “the surface meaning plus a hidden meaning known only to members of the church.” Each element in the carol is a code word for a religious reality.

1. The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus Christ.
2. The two turtledoves are the Old and New Testaments.
3. Three French hens stand for faith, hope and love.
4. The four calling birds are the four Gospels.
5. The five gold rings recall the torah (Law), the first five books of the Old Testament.
6. The six geese-a-laying stand for the six days of creation.
7. Seven swans a-swimming represent the sevenfold gifts of the Spirit.
8. The eight maids a-milking are the eight beatitudes.
9. Nine ladies dancing are the nine fruits of the spirit (Gal.5).
10. The ten lords a-leaping are the Ten Commandments.
11. Eleven pipers piping stand for the eleven faithful disciples.
12. Twelve drummers drumming symbolize the 12 points of belief in the Apostles Creed.

There you have it, the HIDDEN meaning of “The Twelve Days of Christmas” and the secret behind the song.

Valet Parking



Recently, Trinity placed five (5) ‘Valet’ parking signs on the west side of the upper parking lot in front of the garage area. These spaces are being reserved for those of our members who use our ‘Trinity Assisted Parking’ service. These members have difficulties walking a longer distance and also need to have some certainty

about finding their car if they have to leave the worship service early.

This service has proven to be very helpful to members who otherwise would not have been able to attend regularly without parking assistance. The parking limitation for access to the available spaces is only for the time period between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings and does not limit their use as handicapped spaces for the rest of the week.

We’re asking that you support this service and do not use these spaces unless you have a walking handicap.

DID YOU MISS THE NOVEMBER CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH WEEKENDS?

Mark your calendars for the
Spring 2007 Weekends

Men’s Weekend – May 19-20
Women’s Weekend – June 2-3

Sign-up sheets and forms are
available now on the Gathering
Space bulletin board.

Hats – Scarves – Mittens WOT Collecting for YWCA

The Women of Trinity are collecting new hats, scarves, and mittens for women and children to be donated to the YWCA. A collection box for your donations is near the Gathering Space Collection Closet. Please make sure your donations are in the special box by December 17 so that all the items can be taken to the Y and distributed before the weather gets too terribly cold.

Thank you.



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AFFIX LABEL HERE

Women of Trinity Christmas Luncheon December 9, 2006 - 12:00 Noon – Fellowship Hall

The *Women of Trinity* (WOT) Christmas luncheon and Program will be held on December 9 at 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall. All women of Trinity and their guests are invited to attend!

The luncheon program will begin at 12:00 noon, but you are invited to come at 11:00 a.m. to pack cookies for our at-home members. If you wish to donate cookies for this event, please drop them off in the church kitchen during the week prior to packing time and label them "**WOT Christmas Cookies.**" Cookies should not contain nuts and be soft cookies or bars.

The catered luncheon will be at approximately 12:00 noon. The cost will be about \$10.00 per plate.

The guest speaker will be Lisa Mulford, an elementary teacher at Foose School. Lisa will be sharing with us some of the challenges that children face today. At the luncheon we will be collecting books for early readers, up through the second grade reading level. Please consider donating a new book or two so that young children have books to read to let their imaginations grow!

Please join us for a time of joy and fellowship in the celebration of the Birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.