



United and empowered to worship, connect, serve.

## Choose from five Christmas Eve services, and come back on Christmas Day

Trinity is offering Christmas Eve worship services at 2, 4, 7, 8:30, and 11 pm. "Homecoming" is this year's theme.

Be sure to invite family, friends, and guests to join in this time of great joy as we hear God's Word, sing carols, and let music fill our souls.

### Christmas Eve times and types of worship

Select a time that suits you best. Or experience the joy of more than one service. Communion is offered at every service except 11 pm.

- 2 pm. Candlelight
- 4 pm. Kids' pageant, choir, bells
- 7 pm. Candlelight, FaithX praise band
- 8:30 pm. Candlelight, youth choir, strings, bells
- 11 pm. Candlelight, adult choir, strings, bells

More than 2,100 people joined us for the 2016 Christmas Eve services. With so much going on again this year, similar numbers are expected.

Look for an oversized postcard (the front is pictured below) around Trinity, as well as in your bulletin later in the month. Give a card to a family member, a friend, a neighbor, a colleague, or anyone. Your personal invitation to visit Trinity may be just what someone needs at this time of year. So don't be shy.

### Change in December 24 morning schedule

Note that December 24 falls on a Sunday this year. Normal Sunday morning services are therefore changed: Contemporary at 9, Traditional at 11. The same holds true for the following Sunday, December 31.

### Christmas Day, Monday, December 25

Worship is 10 am. The theme is "Singing with Angels." And sing we will. Come celebrate the birth of our Savior, and Merry Christmas to all!

  
**trinity | camp hill**  
 LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Christmas Eve at 2, 4, 7, 8:30 & 11 pm**  
**Christmas Day at 10 am**

2000 Chestnut Street, Camp Hill, PA

Come home for Christmas

Our  
normal  
worship  
times

**Sundays 9 & 10:45 am contemporary**  
**Sundays 8:30 & 11 am traditional**  
*Christian education/Faith formation 10 am*  
**Thursdays 6:30 pm • Saturdays 5:30 pm**

**See front page for special times on December 24, 25, and 31**

## Be an angel – Invite someone to worship

*<sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.  
 (Luke 2.10)*

I remember the expression “Will you be an angel?” growing up. It was usually older women asking me to help with something ...opening the door, taking a package to the car, passing on a message.

In the gospel of Luke, angels show up right away to make announcements, first to Zechariah for the impending birth of John the Baptist, and then to Mary for the birth of Jesus.

The third time angels show up is to shepherds, who respond immediately to go to see “this thing that has taken place.” The announcement leads to movement and the shepherds coming into the presence of Jesus.

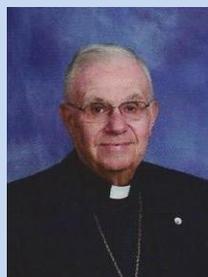
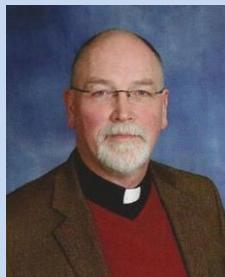
Now, in 2016, I ask if YOU will be an angel this Christmas. That is, will you help announce Jesus’ birth?

Think about it this way. For a number of reasons, Christmas is the best time to share the message of God’s love by inviting a person to worship:

1. “Christmas spirit” is still pervasive despite our increasingly secular society.
2. The same curiosity that led the shepherds to Bethlehem is at work among seekers who want to experience Christmas worship.
3. Finally, the “good news of great joy” announced by the angels is still a desire for those people who are hurting today.

What you offer, through your invitation, is a place of hope, a place to meet Jesus.

Rev. Dr. Jack Horner



Pastors (l-r): Rev. Dr. Jack Horner, Lead Pastor  
 Rev. John Brock, Ministry Director for Parish Life  
 Rev. Dr. Guy Edmiston, Director of Congregational Care  
 Rev. Jennifer Crist, Interim Associate Pastor

The **trinity parish** is published by Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, an ELCA congregation.

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Or call 717.737.8635.

Deadline for January issue is Sun., Dec. 10, at 4 pm.  
 Max. 200 words. We edit for space and clarity.

Trinity 2017-18 Concert Series

## 'Tis the season for outstanding holiday music as our popular concerts continue

### HARRISBURG SINGERS: HOLIDAY!

**Sat., Dec. 2, at 7:30 pm**

Up to 4 free tickets for Concert Series patrons (Non-patrons pay regular ticket prices)

Who doesn't love this group and its great vocals? You'll hear seasonal favorites and even get to sing along with some of the carols!



### CHRISTMAS AT TRINITY

**Sun., Dec. 10, at 4 pm**

Free admission  
Come early for seating

This exceptional and very popular concert features Trinity Concert Choir and Orchestra, plus Cherub, Junior, Matins, and Bell choirs, as well as FaithX.

- **Reception afterward!**

The Arts and Fellowship teams cordially invite you to a reception immediately following this concert. Food donations such as appetizers and desserts should be brought to the kitchen by noon on the day of the concert.



#### Next two concerts in this series:

### HARRISBURG YOUTH SYMPHONY & JUNIOR STRINGS IN CONCERT

**Mon., Feb. 5, 2018, at 7:30 pm** (Free admission)

Be amazed at the talent of this next generation of musicians led by conductors Gregory Woodbridge and Krista Kriel. PLUS: The Youth Symphony includes Trinity members Kierra Heinly and Alison Koch!

### U.S. AIR FORCE SINGING SERGEANTS & THE HARRISBURG SINGERS

**Tues., Feb. 20, 2018, at 7:30 pm** (Free admission)

What a combination! The Singing Sergeants, as the official chorus of the U.S. Air Force, features 24 active duty airmen who perform a wide range of musical styles. And, of course, we all know that the Harrisburg Singers have become one of Central Pennsylvania finest choral ensembles.

**SAVE THE DATE: Trinity's annual chili cook-off is Sun., Jan. 21, after late services.**

## Volunteer to serve breakfast at St. Patrick's

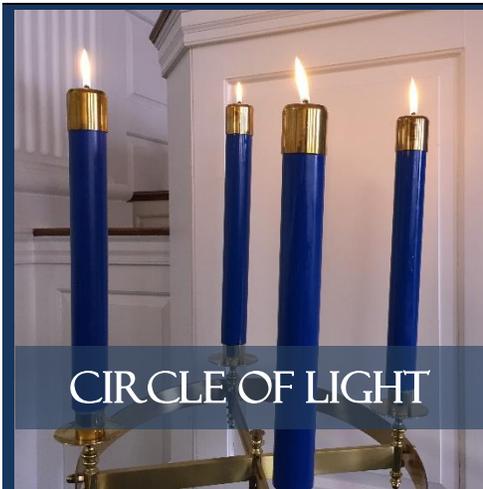


Please consider joining a group of dedicated Trinity volunteers who help a team at Cathedral of St. Patrick, 212 State Street, Harrisburg, to serve breakfast on Saturdays to between 90-115 men, women, and children who are unemployed, underemployed, or homeless.

The team prepares a hot meal consisting of eggs, meat, and potatoes. Grits, cereal, and bakery products are also offered, along with juice, coffee, and tea. The volunteers arrive by 6 am to prepare the meal. Serving begins at 7:15, and cleanup is done by 8:45.

If you join this group, you would serve maybe 3-4 Saturdays each year. Contact Kathy Gottlieb at [bbbkw55@aol.com](mailto:bbbkw55@aol.com) or 717-379-6834. And thank you to all who are already part of our volunteer team!

*Breakfast at St. Patrick's is supported by Trinity's Social Ministry Team.*



**December 3 is the first Sunday in Advent. The weekly Advent sermon theme is "Circle of Light."**

**Week 1. Circle of Light: Promise**  
**Week 2. Circle of Light: Comfort**  
**Week 3. Circle of Light: Witness**  
**Week 4. Circle of Light: Revelation**

## Two more opportunities to hear about ideas for building renovations

By now you've surely read and/or heard that we've been brainstorming about possible building renovations to improve safety and better serve others as we carry out our mission. But if you haven't been to any of the update sessions, or if you'd like to attend again, here are two more options to hear directly from folks in the know!

**Sunday, December 3, between 5:45 pm and 7:30 pm, Gathering Space**

*Join this open Q&A forum any time to chat with Property Committee Chair Charlie Suhr. We chose this time window to occur during kids' choir rehearsals so that parents can attend!*

**Monday, December 4, 6:30 pm, Room 237**

*Once again, we'll show detailed architectural drawings and explain what renovations could look like if we proceed. AND we'll repeat that NO decisions have yet been made.*

## YG: Retreat, Isaacs, party, fundraising

Peter Fox sends his greetings. YG is going strong—both YG and Sr. High have been awesome. Things are hoppin' and the time is definitely right for you to get involved. YG wants YOU, so check out the dates below and come on out to all things YG. Bring friends!

And now for a note to congregation members: Please support our YG fundraiser endeavors. All proceeds go toward sending our 19 Sr. High YG to this summer's 2018 ELCA National Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas. We'll be helping those in need following Hurricane Harvey's catastrophic flooding. We need to raise money and would love your help. Thanks.

In the meantime, here are this month's meeting dates:

- **Fri.-Sun., Dec. 1-3, YG Winter Retreat, Grove Lodge, Camp Nawakwa.** If you are going, you already know the details of this trip.
- **Wed., Dec. 6, Isaac's Community Night Fundraiser, Lemoyne Plaza, 5-9 pm.** Pick up a flyer in the Gathering Space, fill it out, pay your bill at Isaac's, and Isaac's will donate 25 percent of your total to our YG to help support next summer's 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas. This deal works not only for in-store eating, but also for call ahead, pick up, or online orders. Spread the word to all that you know. Every bit helps!
- **Sun., Dec. 17, YG Christmas Party, 6-8:30 pm.** If you're in grades 6-12, come out to this super event that has become a tradition. First, we take a walk over to Manor Care Nursing Home and sing Christmas carols to everyone there, and then we head back to the church for YG games and a Christmas party. This night is special, meaningful, and a blast! Bring friends and snacks; we provide the subs and drinks.



On Oct. 29, our Youth Group held its annual pasta dinner fundraiser. More than 100 folks attended and enjoyed the great food and fellowship, while at the same time providing financial support to our youth.

## You will NOT want to miss out on these holiday happenings December 8-10



### Friday, December 8 Family Friday - Caroling with St. Nicholas 6:00 pm, Begin in Fellowship Hall

St. Nicholas is returning to Trinity this year. He's inviting us all to go caroling. Meet in Fellowship Hall at 6 pm to get organized. Then we'll head out to sing our way through the neighborhood.

When we return to the church, you'll enjoy cookies, cocoa, crafts, AND a **FREE FAMILY PHOTO with St. Nick!**

This family event is so much fun that you'll want to bring friends!

*Pre-registration is encouraged (you can sign up online) but not required.*



### Saturday, December 9 Open House with the Horners Drop in between 1-6 pm

Join Pastor Jack and Linda at their home, 96 Wheatland Road, Lewisberry, about 15 minutes from the church.

You'll enjoy refreshments and fellowship. And you'll love the miniature Christmas village!

*No sign-up or RSVP is necessary. See you there!*



### Sunday, December 10 Christmas at Trinity Starts 4 pm but come early for seating

This concert is so good that we've written about it twice in this newsletter. See page 3.

## Give to others at the Giving Tree

Share your love and concern for others by un-decorating the Giving Tree in the Gathering Space. Take an ornament and purchase the gift indicated. Whether large or small, each gift shares the message of true Christmas given from the heart.

## Thanks & Giving: What an event it was!

What a wonderful Thanks & Giving event we had on Sunday, November 19, thanks to more than 150 volunteers who made it a success.

Here's what happened:

- ✓ Hundreds of pounds of turkey were roasted and carved
- ✓ Beautiful Thanksgiving cards were drawn and decorated by Trinity children
- ✓ Nearly 300 pounds of non-perishable food were collected and taken to New Hope Ministry
- ✓ 175 meals were packaged and delivered to elderly Trinity members and members of our surrounding communities
- ✓ 30 meals were taken to Susquehanna Safe Harbor homeless shelter
- ✓ All remaining food was delivered to Bethesda Mission

And all this went on while those present had fun at an 80's dance party with a full-size costumed turkey running around Fellowship Hall.

Kathy Holmes, Fellowship Team Facilitator, sends her sincere thanks to all the volunteers who helped and to anyone who contributed. "Trinity is so blessed to have a community of people coming together at the holidays to help others," she said, "all while having a wonderful time together. We know this is a busy time of year, and we're so glad you chose to be part of Trinity's Thanks & Giving celebration!"



## Buy an ELCA Good Gift to help others



Give an ELCA Good Gift in honor of a friend or loved one to make a difference in people's lives around the world.

Examples of gifts:  
For \$10, you can "buy" chickens. For \$30, you

can "buy" a piglet; \$40, a uniform for a school girl; \$100, a pair of goats.

No matter the amount, you'll change lives. Every item is a real example of a project supported through church-wide ministries.

Get info in the Gathering Space on Sundays this month, or go to [www.ELCA.org/goodgifts](http://www.ELCA.org/goodgifts)

## Attend a Trinity budget forum on December 10

The Finance Committee will host a Budget Forum on December 10 to discuss Trinity's budget process and the current state of our budget preparation.

Being good stewards of God's gifts includes a thoughtful approach to how those gifts are used in His ministry. Please join us at 10 am in Room 237 for the discussion.

**NOTICE: All contributions for 2017 must be received at Trinity by Sunday, December 31, to be included as part of your 2017 giving record.**

## Every member prayer list for December

Each week we pray specifically for several members. Every member is ultimately included. Volunteers call the listed members to tell them they are on the list for that week, and names are read aloud at services.

- Dec 1-7:** George, Carol, Michael, & Kimberly Sundy; Rebecca Sundara; Al, Rekha, Andrew, & Sarah Sundara; Tim & Winnie Sullivan; Charlie, Amy, Christine, & Bridget Suhr; Warren, Debra, Ashlyn, & Logan Stumpf; Lois Stumpf; Jim & Peggy String
- Dec 8-14:** Pegge Striewig; Caroline Straub; Thomas & Debbie Stover; David Stoudt; Bill & Sylvia Stotler; John Stoner; Laurie, Dave, & James Stockdale; Tonya & Gregory Stitler
- Dec 15-21:** Dan, Mari, Sarah, & Danica Stewart; Rick Stevens & Debra Smith; Julie Stevens; Kenneth & Jean Sterner; Ron Stern; Leoma Stern; Rick & Lynn Sten; Carol Steffy
- Dec 22-28:** June Stauffer; Bruce & Tina Stauffer; April Stare, & Gavin & Maren Beckett; Tom Stank; Bruce, Judy, & Devon Stank; Keith & Julie Stambaugh; Emily Stafford; Anne Stafford & James Miller
- Dec 29-Jan 4:** Bob & Donna Sprowls; Kurt Sprowls; Erich Sprowls, & Noelle England & Rylee Sprowls; Val Sprinkle; Tania Springer; Anna Springer; Judith Sponaugle; Mark & Susan Spaseff

## January birthdays

Remember, we now list birthdays a month ahead!

### Homebound

- Jan 1** ▫ Dick Hassinger, 4905 E. Trindle Rd., Bldg. 4, 3rd Floor, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
- Jan 8** ▫ Barb Seaman, 2100 Bent Creek Blvd., Apt. 104, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
- Jan 25** ▫ Miriam Culton, 707 Shepherdstown Rd., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
- Jan 26** ▫ Doris Hookway, 5225 Wilson Ln., Ste. 219, Maplewood Asst. Liv., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055



### Staff

- Jan 16** Peter Fox ▫ **Jan 18** Amy Koch ▫ **Jan 21** Pastor Brock ▫ **Jan 30** Kelly Falck, Criss Floray

### Dear Trinity

...A long overdue thank you for all your visits, cards, calls, and help during my fall, hip fracture, and complications. It has been a long time since early June that I have been confined to my home and unable to attend church. I especially want to express my thanks to Pastors Edmiston and Horner for my home visits and communion; also to Grace Morgan for faithfully sending me weekly bulletins, etc., so I might keep in touch with Trinity. I am out of wheelchair, using a walker, and hope to be back in full swing soon. Thank you again for all your concern. Happy to be a member of a great church. --Regards, Fay Pepperman

...Words cannot convey the spiritual dimension added to one's life after Trinity's concerts filled with glorious music. God bless you richly. --Mel Shenk, American Guild of Organists

### Did you know?

Last month we wrote about Christ Lutheran Church's health ministry in the Allison Hill neighborhood of Harrisburg. But did you know that, once a week for the past five years, Trinity member Dr. Meg Groff, a licensed physician, has volunteered to provide medical care at the church's Urgent Care Clinic? She has helped hundreds of clients, and she hopes that other Trinity members consider volunteering in some capacity there (e.g., translating, reading, doing clerical work). Meg and her husband, Phil, sing in the choir, attend Thursday morning Bible study, and volunteer their time elsewhere as needed.



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LUTHERAN CHURCH

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717.737.8635

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