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Trinity Messenger

December 2023 Issue 1

Alleluia. Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia. Ps. 85:7

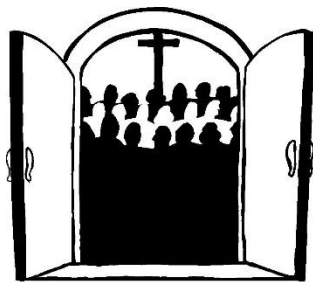
Stewardship Special Giving for December: ELCA GOOD GIFTS

The ELCA Good Gifts is a creative, meaningful way to support the ministries of the ELCA that mean the most to you and your loved ones. These gifts are real examples from projects currently supported through ELCA churchwide ministries, the ELCA Fund for Leaders, ELCA Global Church Sponsorship, Disability Ministries and Lutheran Response. Each of these programs is a long-term partnership-based ministry that focuses on the needs identified by local congregations and global companion churches and their communities.

Your donation will be used where it is needed most. The ELCA is at work in nearly 80 countries around the world, including the United States. More than 85% of your donation directly supports these programs, with less than 15% used for administrative purposes.

The variety of items that may be provided ranges from different animals: cows, pigs, goats; to providing clean water for a family, to vaccinations, school supplies, seeds and gardening tools, to Sunday School start-up kits. The list goes on and on!

Please be as generous as you can! The need is GREAT!



Congregational
MEETING

Congregational Meeting

A congregational meeting will be held **Sunday, December 3**, immediately following the worship service. The meeting will be held in the Sanctuary. The agenda includes election of council members and voting members to the synod assembly, adoption of a 2024 Ministry Support Plan, and a presentation of options for Holy Trinity in 2025 and beyond. The 2023 Bulletin of Reports which includes the proposed

Ministry Support Plan is now available in the gathering area or by contacting the church office.

St. Nicholas Brunch: Sunday, December 3

Please join us immediately following the congregational meeting in the Social Hall for brunch. We will celebrate St. Nicholas Day and the beginning of the Advent season.



Presents for Neighborhood Santa

Christmas will soon be here and this year we will be collecting gifts for the Neighborhood Santa Program which supports area children through EASS. We were given 60 ornaments. Please take an ornament from the display located in the Gathering Area. Place your wrapped gift with the ornament in the Gathering Area by December 3rd. See display for more details. If you have any questions, please call Rob Gilbert at 721-3822.

Advent Day Apart

at The Wittel Farm



All are invited to a day of prayer and meditation in preparation of the birth of the Christ child.

Saturday, December 9, 2023
9am – 2pm

We don't like to wait for anything, especially Christmas. With all its secular attraction, this holiday is often a focus on over-indulgence, and too often neglected is the best gift of all...one worth our waiting. You are invited to The Wittel Farm for a day apart from the busyness of life for prayer and contemplation as we journey toward the celebration of Christmas.

Casual, comfortable clothing will be appropriate. A \$15 registration fee covers program and luncheon costs. To register by December 1st for this event, visit www.LutheranCamping.org or call the Camping Office at 717-677-8211.

Kirchenwald Winter Youth Retreat: January 5-7, 2024

For youth in grades 3 through 9

Enjoy Kirchenwald in the Winter! Play broom hockey and other games on the frozen pond. Have fun sledding, playing snow soccer and other winter games. Creative Bible studies and worship experiences led by our summer camp counselors are an important part of this retreat. Other indoor and outdoor activities may be included, as the weather dictates. Cost for the retreat is \$170.

A great Christmas gift for that grandchild who has everything!

Register information is on-line at www.LutheranCamping.org or get a form from Lisa Garrett. Please register by **December 15th**.



Revelation Bible Study

Bible Study: *The Revelation to John*

You are invited to join Pastor Mark on Tuesday mornings, from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM, for a study of the book of *Revelation (The Revelation to John)*. The group will meet in the conference room next to the office. The class will run for six consecutive weeks. **The class will not be meeting on November 21.** You are invited to bring your own Bible to take notes if you wish (yes, writing in your Bible is okay); however, Bibles will be available. You are also invited to bring lunch with you in case you want to hang out afterward for more discussion on any topic or to enjoy fellowship time.

Pickleball News

Holy Trinity now has Pickleball equipment, and a court set up in the multi-purpose room. Anyone who is interested in learning how to play pickleball or who already is a pickleball player may use the court. There are two signup sheets on the table in the gathering area. One for beginners and one for those who already know how to play and want to sign up for times and dates. We need to know this info so we can coordinate the use of the area with other events that might be happening. See Ron Kerschner if you have any questions.



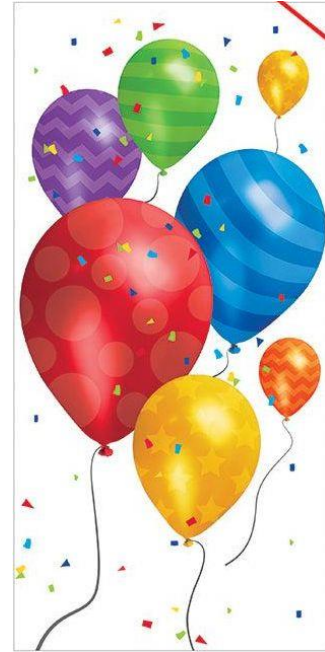
Happy Birthday

To the members of Holy Trinity who are 70 years and older and celebrating a birthday this month.

December

- 1 Larry Hummer
- 2 Jim Brodt
- 3 Doug Stick
- 11 Vicki Strock
- 13 Greg Paparo
- 15 Susan Rentschler
- 23 Bruce Rettew
- 24 Thomas Dickersheid

SEND THEM A BIRTHDAY CARD OR CALL THEM WITH YOUR GREETING. WE PRAY GOD GRANTS THEM MANY MORE YEARS IN THEIR PILGRIMAGE.



THE ADULT (all adults are welcome) LUNCH BUNCH Will be going to The Ephrata Plaza Diner after the liturgy on December 10. We'll meet downstairs after the liturgy. All are welcome. For reservations, please call Cheryl Plummer by December 9 at 625- 3187. Plan to join us!

Senior Choir rehearsals are Wednesdays at 6:45 PM! All are welcome!!!

BELL CHOIR Rehearsals are Tuesdays at 7:00 pm.

December 3-9 Calendar

Sunday, December 3	
9:00am	Worship
10:00am	Coffee Hour After Worship
10:15am	SCS
Monday, December 4	
10:00am	Women's Prayer Group
6:30pm	Yoga
7:00pm	Evangelism
Tuesday, December 5	
11:00am	Bible Study
3:30pm	Trini Mini
7:00pm	Bell Choir
7:00pm	Fellowship Committee Meeting
Wednesday, December 6	
6:45pm	Senior Choir
Thursday, December 7	
3:30pm	Trini Mini
7:00pm	Property Committee
7:00pm	Yoga
7:00pm	Thursday Worship
Saturday, December 9	
7:30am	Walking Group

[View This Month's Interactive Calendar Here](#)

December 3th Servers

Council: Kevin Gingrich, Ed Quirke
Assisting Minister: John Fuehrer
Lector: John Fuehrer
Acolyte: CH: Anya Gilbert
Ushers: Steve Sweigart, Carl Rentschler, Andy Sweigart
Altar Guild: Barb & Steve Sweigart, Andy Sweigart
Linens: Patrice Mull
Deliver Flower: Winnie Gerlach



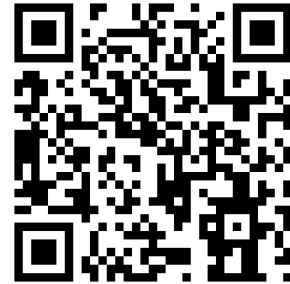
Office Hours: December 4-8

We recommend you call the office prior to stopping in to ensure hours have not changed.
Office Phone: 717-733-4134 Pastor's Cell: 315-317-8517 Donna's Cell: 717-669-7831

Day	Sue	Pastor
Monday	8:00 AM- 4:00 PM	9:00 AM-12:30 PM
Tuesday	8:00 AM- 4:00 PM	9:00 AM-12:30 PM
Wednesday	8:00 AM- 4:00 PM	9:00 AM-12:30 PM
Thursday	8:00AM -12:00 noon	9:00 AM-12:30 PM
Friday	8:00AM -12:00 noon	OFF

Make Your Regular Offering Electronically

On the Holy Trinity website (www.holytrinityephrata.org), a tab on the menu bar called "Online Giving" will take you to a secure web site for you to give. You can also give your Regular Offering, your Special Appeal donation, your building fund, or your Homes of Hope fund donation by using your Smart Phone and following the QR code.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS & TREES

POINSETTIAS CAN BE ORDERED BY RETURNING THIS FORM VIA MAIL OR DROP OFF TO THE CHURCH OFFICE. **ORDERS WILL NOT BE TAKEN IN CHURCH THIS YEAR.**
DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

NAME _____

PHONE _____

_____ Poinsettias (\$8.25 each) 6 ½ in. Pot

IN MEMORY/HONOR OF: _____

OR

I WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THE PURCHASE OF CHRISTMAS TREES.

\$5.00 _____ \$10.00 _____ \$15.00 _____ \$20.00 _____

IN MEMORY/HONOR OF: _____

Thanks for reading! Have a great week ahead!



