



TRININTY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
THE GOOD NEWS  
DECEMBER 2020





## ***Pastor's Pause*** ***December 2020***

### **Suspended Church**

We are all growing weary and frustrated. It's been nearly ten months since we last entered into the beautiful sanctuary of God's House. Even the smell of the church building is missing, the candles, the preparation for Thanksgiving and Christmas, for Epiphany and so on.

Easter 2020 feels a million years ago and it was anything but "normal" as we distributed Easter lilies, purchased before we knew the pandemic would keep us apart, by front-door handoffs. We worshiped together for Easter by a radio presentation. It was novel and okay, but it was not "normal."

Now, we are heading into the next holy season of the Church, the beginning of the new Church year, celebration of our Savior's birth, and in the midst of it we will be looking toward the highest holy day, Good Friday. That's an odd juxtaposition of terms, isn't it? Christmas and Good Friday. Yet, it is indeed Good Friday that we look toward in the Church year, as we celebrate the birth of this baby that saved all creation. No, most people in the Church don't really think about Good Friday in the middle of Christmas preparations, but pastors and other leaders in the Church do. Good Friday, when Christ sacrifices himself for all, for *ever*. It starts in this grand joy of Christmas, the hopefulness in this beautiful little darling baby!

Preparing for Christmas, do we really consider the real sacrifice of Christ? Do we consider that humanity has also sacrificed him

by an unwillingness to simply follow God? Ah, the telling is in the language! "Simply" following God is not simple. It is difficult to follow God's Commandments, to live in peaceful harmony with one another and with creation as a whole. God has understood this difficulty for humans well, and so God has given us a Savior. We are just not capable as human beings, "as a little less than the angels," to do it alone.

Still, we venture to try. We still venture into worship and contemplation, into scriptural direction and language, into biblical terms and guidance, into a life in Christ through baptism and faith journeying. In all this effort, we are trying our best to adhere to, and live by, the moral, ethical, spiritual, and faith foundations that God has given all humanity.

In suspension, we feel, perhaps, denied. As we're not present in the physical church building, not gathered in the way that used to be, not singing out loud or having meals and decorating and events, that we're being denied the opportunity to "show" God that we're trying to follow God. You see, the Sabbath event, the Sunday morning worship, is very visible to us individually and to the corporate congregation, therefore we expect it is visible and known to God, as well.

Yet, for all that display of faith, not one heart is seen or truly known. I can make assumptions about how faithful, trustworthy, loving, and so on a person may be, but I can never actually know another person's heart.



An example that comes to mind is that of a comedy movie by John Waters, titled “Serial Mom.” It starred Kathleen Turner as the stereotypical prim and proper suburban white housewife, who followed all the best and “proper” fashion rules, who cared for her home and her children, as well as for her husband. If you’re familiar with John Waters’ films, you know that this set up of the nuclear family is actually part of the larger joke. It is a dark comedy, that requires a non-traditional sense of humor to appreciate all the movie offers. The message I see in the movie, however, is that of Kathleen Turner’s character: presenting as one type of person who is loved and respected but, whose heart is very different from the outer presentation. The character will kill if it means providing for her own family. Her heart is ultimately very dark and not as loving as her persona.

I do *not* suspect any of my parishioners of being like the character in the movie. Indeed, not! However, I do think we *all* possess a bit of a mixed bag of character in that we do present ourselves, most of the time, as being our best, without exposing what might lie beneath the surface. Back to that dichotomy of self as related to faith...

During this time of suspended service, we are experiencing our faith on a very personal level. The entire experience is very personal. We are alone in our houses, perhaps offices, and we are having to hear ourselves, to learn about ourselves, to see ourselves. We are seeing our own hearts.

Perhaps we see love in our hearts and we’re wanting to bring that love to others. Perhaps our hearts are looking so dark to us that we fear God will judge us poorly. Whether love or darkness is seen, we must remember whom we celebrate and thank, and worship and praise, that is God in Christ. Christ, the One who has saved us already. Being alone and apart from one another as worshipers is hurtful, and depressing, and sad if we are without hope. We have hope. Christ is our hope.

If we are afraid because we don’t like what we see in our hearts as we ponder them alone with God, then we need to ask God for light and healing. We need to remember that Christ has this – Christ has us. It is not necessary for us to “put on the Sunday display,” but rather only to ask God to take the love we feel and to spread it, to take the darkness we see and to flood it with light. Give yourself some love, give God praise, and continue to protect yourself and others.

Let us not rush to gather in fear of how we are seen at a time when it is unsafe, but rather let’s celebrate together to spread joy when God has brought healing to this pandemic.

This time of suspended service represents great love one for another, as Christ commanded. We are not fearful of the virus as much as we are wanting to care for one another. We are not afraid to gather as much as we are wise to how to limit the spread of the virus. We are not “show” believers, we are faithful believers.

We are Church in suspended service as much as when we are gathered - even more so because during this time of pandemic, we are making sacrifices *in Christ* to love and protect each other. We are always Church, we are always gathered, for we are in Christ in our baptism, saved by Christ’s sacrifice, and assured of God’s promises in the Resurrection.

Thanks be to God!

~Pastor Hahn





**Pastor's Schedule:**

**Church Offices:** You can access all church offices by the East Market Street entrance. Church Office Hours are Monday 10:00AM -1:00PM., Tuesday-Thursday 9:00AM-1:00PM, Friday **Office Closed**

[Office Accessible by Telephone only at this time]

E-mail: [trinitylutheran@ptd.net](mailto:trinitylutheran@ptd.net) Pastor's e-mail: [pastortlc@ptd.net](mailto:pastortlc@ptd.net)

Please call the office at 570-275-0283 to schedule appointments to meet with pastor. Office Hours are Monday & Thursday 10:00AM—Noon. Pastoral Care emergencies should be made to the pastor regardless of day and time at 570-486-3792.

Thank you!

Pastor Trevor

**Pastoral Emergencies:** The Pastor's emergency number is his personal phone number as published in the member directory. Please be sure to add this number to your speed dial on your home phone, on your cell phone, or both. Pastor can receive text messages, also. Please contact the pastor directly when there is an urgent pastoral need (an emergency visit to the hospital, accident, coping situations, family death). Please let the pastor know when there is a change in residence (such as from assisted living to the hospital, even if temporary). *We currently are not advised by area hospitals of when our members and member relatives are admitted, so we depend very heavily on the contact you make to the pastor and/or to the church office.*

Remember! All **medical** emergencies require you to **call 9-1-1!**

***Please Note Information Below:***

*Food Insecurity: Montour County Human Relations Department waiving applications for all county residents.*

*CALL 570-271-3028 and they'll advise options.*

*211 - system is up and running in PA, this is the first stop for referrals for individuals to agencies for assistance.*

*National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)*

*Nacional de Prevencion del Suicidio: 1-888-628-9454*

*Crisis Text line: Text "PA" to 741-741*

*Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-985-5990*

*Disaster Distress Helpline: 1-800-985-5990*

*Get Help Now Hotline (for substance abuse disorders): 1-800-662-4357*

*PA Sexual Assault Helpline: 1-888-772-7227*

*Columbia-Montour Crisis Hotline (Women's Center): 1-800-544-8293*

*National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233*

*Geisinger Coronavirus Hotline: 570-284-3657*

*LGBT National Hotline: 1-888-843-4564*

*The Trevor Project (suicide prevention, crisis intervention for LGBT youth): 1-866-488-7386*

*For anyone wishing to make a financial donation to the community, please do so to:*

*The Good Samaritan Mission (they are still taking Crisis Calls).*

*Columbia-Montour United Way (which has a COVID-19 Crisis Fund).*

*Danville Area Food Bank (giveaways once a month continue).*



**MAILING ADDRESS FOR TRINITY:**

241 East Market Street  
P.O. Box 417  
Danville, PA 17821

Phone: 570-275-0283  
Fax: 570-275-6209

Pastor's Days Off – Friday & Saturday

**Email**

[trinitylutheran@ptd.net](mailto:trinitylutheran@ptd.net)

**Facebook**

Trinity Lutheran Church, Danville, PA

**Web Site**

[www.tlcdanvillepa.org](http://www.tlcdanvillepa.org)

**OFFICE HOURS**



Monday	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Tuesday	8:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Wednesday	8:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Thursday	8:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Friday	CLOSED



Continuing during this time of  
Suspended Services, please contact  
Pastor Hahn thru the church office  
@ 570-275-0283, Ext. 302

*Thank you!*

**CHURCH STAFF**

Custodian – Ed Haas  
Assistant Custodian – Shawn Haas  
Church Organist – Carol Payne  
Church Secretary – Robin Santucci  
Treasurer – Tom Summers



### DECEMBER BULLETINS

Dec 6 Open

Dec 12 Open

Dec 20 Open

Dec 24 5:30 PM



IMO of Loved Ones  
By Peg Fryling

7:30 PM IMO Peg & Gene Whitenight  
By Sam & Randy Spayd

Dec 27 Open

### DECEMBER FLOWERS

Dec 6 Open

Dec 13 Open

Dec 20 Open

Dec 24 5:30 PM Open  
7:30 PM Open



Dec 27 Open

Note: Altar Flowers have increased by \$1.00 to \$36.00 a set.

If services are still suspended, flowers will not be ordered.



NO MONTHLY CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER

NO SERVICE MINISTER'S SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER



**Stewards in Christ**

*Danville Area Food Bank*  
 December  
 Canned Fruit

*Good Samaritan Mission*

*The Gate House*  
 Transitional Housing

*Trinity Lutheran Church Grace Fund*

*Upper Susquehanna Synod*  
 Local Congregation Support  
 Global Partnerships

*Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*  
 World Hunger Appeal,  
 Lutheran Work Relief, Lutheran Disaster



The Danville Community Christmas Tree Program will be happening this year. It'll be a little different due to COVID ~ toys for kids and gift cards. parties in need of this service shall contact Nancy Fritz, 570-275-2525 for info.

The Danville Riverside Food Bank continues to serve those in need in our area. During the pandemic, we have averaged approximately 100 more families per distribution. Our distributions have had to change to a drive through format and with assistance from Danville Fire Police, have been working well.

Month	Families	Children	Adults	Seniors	Total	Crisis Calls
Jan	290	233	318	275	826	7
Feb	267	177	291	227	695	6
Mar	280	170	285	225	680	29
Apr	397	244	397	300	941	10
May	325	186	330	243	759	8
Jun	290	162	275	259	696	7
Jul	302	170	298	268	736	4
Aug	314	158	251	299	708	6
Sept	329	137	268	298	703	12
Oct						
Nov						
Dec						
<b>Totals</b>	2794	1637	2713	2394	6744	89

## Jubilee Kitchen

11:30 – 12:30 PM

Meals will be distributed from the Church parking lot the following Saturdays:

12/5  
12/12  
12/19

Weather permitting.



## Night of Joy

4:30 – 5:30 PM

Meal will be distributed from the Church parking lot:

12/29

### OUR CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL & MINISTRY CHAIR MEMBERS

	Council Members	Ministry	Chair / Co-Chair
<b>President</b>		Mutual Ministry	Linda Harvey
<b>Vice President</b>	Joe Muscato	Communications	Colleen Ruths Joe Muscato
<b>Secretary</b>	Kathy Knarr	Stewardship	Kathy Knarr
	Brenda Reber	Evangelism & Fellowship	Linda Tessarvich
	Gary Patterson	Property	Wayne Tessarvich Ed Haas
	Jim Kishbaugh	Finance	Barry Ashenfelder
	Joe Shepperson	Memorial Committee	Karen Humphries
	Don Holdren	Grace Fund	Dale Erb
	Abby Miller	Christian Education	Jennifer McWilliams
	Zac Miller	Music & Worship	Zac Miller
	Peg Reed	Outreach & Nurturing	Kim Rock Linda Harvey
	Betsy Reed	Youth Ministries	Betsy Reed



**AGAPE**  
*Sweets! &*  
*Holiday Treats*

So Many Treats, So Little Time  
Don't Bake It, Buy It  
"Local Elves will make Home Made Pies,  
Cakes, Fudge & More for You!"  
(It'll Be Our Little Secret. No One Need Know.)  
Saturday, 12/19/20 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
Monday, 12/21/20 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

AGAPE  
19 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street ~ Bloomsburg, PA 17815  
ALL Proceeds Benefit AGAPE





# FINANCE

## CURRENT ACCOUNT – October 2020

### INCOME:

Member Giving	\$	9,347.01
Rents	\$	1,675.00
INVESCO (Haney)	\$	178.36
Wells Fargo Interest	\$	2,204.68
Bequest	\$	(10,000.00) transferred to Memorial

**TOTAL INCOME:** \$ 3,405.05

### EXPENSES:

Pastors & Staff Compensation	\$	16,299.22
Music & Worship	\$	259.33
Parish Administration	\$	784.98
Church Property	\$	554.20
Property Insurance	\$	1,122.24
Ministry Expense	\$	289.62

**TOTAL EXPENSES:** \$ 19,309.59

**NET LOSS/SURPLUS YTD ACTUAL** \$ 24,186.369



**Prayer List**

Rhonda & Eric Brouse  
Ruth Campbell  
Dottie Eister  
Linda Harvey  
Pauline Hesbacher  
Jude & Gary Kurtz  
Sylvia Lewis  
June Reich  
Steve Reich  
Rev. Dr. Arthur Ruths  
Joel Ruths  
Sarah & Valeria  
Eleanor Sandmeyer  
Tom Schneider  
Randi Spayd  
Linda Tessarvich  
Edna Ulrich

**Serving in our Military**

Collin Arndt  
Jay Brennan  
Rob Bromwell  
Andrew Deck  
Michael Deck  
Rob DeWire  
Casey & Logan Franks  
Derek R. Kirkner  
Garrett Krum  
Jason Lee  
Jason McCann  
R. Marks  
J.T. Mullen  
Tyler Quinton  
Dalton Semiclose  
Kurt Wimble



**To the Family & Friends of:**

Raymond Fryling

Jacqueline Kay Wetzel  
(sister of Althea Wertman)

Do you have a minute to send a card to brighten someone's day? Listed below are Trinity Members who would like to hear from you:

June Reich  
The Easton Home  
1022 Northhampton Street  
Chapelwood Room 15  
Easton, PA 18042

Carl & Sarah Swartzlander  
280 Church Street  
Northumberland, PA 17857

Sylvia Lewis  
140 Heather Hills Drive  
Danville, PA 17821

Robert Savidge  
249 Blue School Road  
Danville, PA 17821

Ruth C. Campbell  
Room 106  
Emmanuel Nursing Center  
11 Schoolhouse Road  
Danville, PA 17821

Eleanor Sandmeyer  
423 Meadow Lane  
Danville, PA 17821

Tom Schneider  
34 Jay Street  
Danville, PA 17821

Doris & Jerry Lemon  
169 Foust Street  
Danville, PA 17821



### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Dec 1 Abby Miller
- Dec 3 Rebecca Palm, Pauline Hesbacher
- Dec 4 Frank Sandmeyer, Laurie Fitzpatrick
- Dec 5 Bonnie Patterson
- Dec 7 Elias Lehr
- Dec 10 Doris Lemon, George Underwood
- Dec 14 Betty Underwood
- Dec 15 Glendora Mann
- Dec 16 Barbara Fruin
- Dec 17 Alta Kirkner
- Dec 19 Blake Sassaman, Samantha Spickler
- Dec 22 Beth Landis, Alexander Humphries
- Dec 25 BABY JESUS
- Dec 26 Robert Savidge
- Dec 27 Robert Bromwell
- Dec 28 Addelyn Palm, Bonnie Martin
- Dec 30 Joshua Kendrick, Leslie Pritchard
- Dec 31 Stephen Dempsey, Darlene Holdren



I am sorry that I missed the November Newsletter with my “Thank you’s”!!

I wish to thank everyone who sent me cards, gifts, gift cards and the many phone calls I received. Trinity people are just fantastic. I love you all.

Here is my new address if you wish to correspond:

Donna Evans  
119 Hastings Street  
Apartment D  
Brookville, PA 15825



**“Thank You”** to the council and congregation

For the beautiful bouquet, card and check to celebrate my 45 years of music ministry at Trinity Lutheran Church.

I was truly overwhelmed. Thank you for the privilege to be your organist. God Willing, I will make it to a half a century.

Carol Payne



## Christmas Poinsettia Memorials

### In Memory of :

Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Gerringer  
Mr. & Mrs. Karl Lemon & Daughter Karline Wright  
William & Vi Reppert & Daughter Holly Hartman  
Departed Loved Ones  
Robert & Helen Horton  
John C. & Ethel Beyers  
Robert Sr., Robert Jr., & Florence Hettinger  
Jack, Stephanie & Cleve Schneider  
Departed Loved Ones  
Eleanor Deutsch  
Robert & Dorothy Burger  
Robin Hampton  
Ruth Ann Montague  
Bonnie & Jack Reilly  
Dorothy & Leroy Hack, Miriam Brandt  
Peg Rudy  
Frank & Sara Gehrig  
Departed Loved Ones

### Presented by:

Doris & Jerry Lemon  
Doris & Jerry Lemon  
Doris & Jerry Lemon  
Doris & Jerry Lemon  
John and Betsy Hack & Sons  
John and Betsy Hack & Sons  
By the Family  
Nancy Schneider  
Sandmeyer Family  
A Friend  
Daughters & Families  
Family  
Nieces & Nephews  
Daughters & Families  
Family  
Ron Rudy, Daughters & Families  
Family  
Dottie Eister