

HOLY TRINITY

Evangelical Lutheran Church

ECHOES NEWSLETTER

Parkview & Lycoming Avenue | Abington, Pennsylvania 19001 | Tel: 215.659.2642

December, 2016

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Pastors

The Rev. Dr. Michael G. Tavella

The Rev. N. Amanda Grimmer

Staff

The Rev. John Bradosky,

*Bishop of the North American
Lutheran Church*

Mrs. Jacqueline Smith, *B. Mus.*

M. Mus., Director of Music

Mrs. Deborah Mumford,

Parish Secretary

Worship Services

Saturday at 5 pm

Sunday at 9 am

*(Sunday Church School
at 10:30 am)*

Holy Communion

Saturday evening, Sunday morning
& Festival Days

*Deadline for submission of material
for the Echoes Newsletter is 9 am
the 15th of each month*

From the Pastors

Dear Parish Family,

A good friend has died. We have known Father Brewster Hastings for over twenty years. He was a beloved pastor and Rector of Saint Anne's Episcopal Church. His ministry affected the lives of many people including members of Holy Trinity Church. We grieve at this great loss.

Brewster was dedicated to the faith of the Christian Church handed down over many centuries. He had a special spiritual gift for healing ministry and was involved in training people for this work. Brewster was charismatic, being filled with the Holy Spirit in the exercise of his gift of healing and his many other gifts.

Brewster was winsome, almost always cheerful. He knew the joy in the Lord. He had a great laugh and bore up well in adverse circumstances. His confidence was in the power of God which can never fail.

Brewster was a man of fervent prayer. He believed that prayer made a difference, that it had power to change the lives of believers. He led the local pastors in prayer once a month when we gathered for fellowship. He was a source of great inspiration.

Brewster was a writer who produced stories that became two books. His stories are themes on faith struggling against desire and the battle against the unseen world of evil. Brewster's writing arose out of his deep Christian faith.

Brewster was a sinner, and he knew it. He was also a saint, redeemed by the blood of Christ. He loved His Lord. Most certainly, the Lord Jesus loved him.

His chair can never be filled by anyone else. We feel the loss so deeply in our hearts. But, he is now in the loving arms of a merciful God. Thanks be to God!

In Christ,

The Rev. Dr. Michael G. Tavella

The Rev. N. Amanda Grimmer

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Mission Statement

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is a congregation of people of God, bound together in love for the purpose of glorifying God in worship and in fulfilling His will through spreading the Gospel of salvation in Jesus Christ to all humankind.



Altar Flowers

The Altar Flowers have been presented to the Glory of God by the people of Holy Trinity. Altar Flowers must be ordered no later than the Tuesday afternoon preceding the Sunday they are presented. They may be ordered through the Church Office (215-659-2642). You may pay by placing \$20.00 in a small white pew envelope checked, "Altar Flowers." If you know it, indicate your envelope number.



*Once in our world a stable had something in it
that was bigger than our whole world.*

– C. S. Lewis





Healing Prayer Ministry

After the 9:00 A.M. Sunday Service, trained members of the Healing Prayer Team are available in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd to meet with you for healing prayer. Prayers are offered for your physical, emotional, and spiritual health.



† Women's Prayer Group

The Holy Trinity Women's Prayer Group cordially invites all women to join us in the SS Peter & Andrew Study
Monday, December 5th
at 7:30 PM

To lift up all concerns for spiritual, emotional or physical well-being.

“Prayer is the breath, the watchword, the comfort, the strength, the honor of a Christian.”
– Spurgeon.

Resumes Jan. 16, 2017
at Rosemary Hinkle's

Prayer List

One of the beautiful aspects of Christian Fellowship is that we can share one another's concerns through prayer. Please pray for the following:

Please pray for the following individuals & their families: (we cannot add last names or initials) The families of the members Holy Trinity together with those they love, including: Adelaide, Alex, Alicia, Allan, Amanda, Ambre, Amy, Andrea, Ann, Annura, April, Ashley, Art, Barbara, Ben, Beth, Betty, Beverly, Bill, Billy, Bob, Brandy, Brian, Brianna, Cameron, Cara, Carole, Carolyn, Cassidy, Chris, Christopher, Cindy, Clark, Clyde, Colleen, Collette, Cradle of Hope, Dalillah, Dallas, Dave, David, Debby, Deanna, Dick, Dottie, Drew, Eda, Ed, Edward S., Eileen, Eleanor, Elias, Elisabeth, Eric, Fima, Florence, Fran, Frannie, Gene, George, Ginger, Gloria, Greg, Gregory, Hannah, Harry, Helen, Herman, Howard, Jack, Jason, Jean, Jeanne, Jennifer, Jill, Joe, John, Judy, Justin, Juwan, Kayla, Ken, Kim, Kiran, Laura, Lauren, Leah, Linda, Lisa, Liz, Lorraine, Luis, Lutheran World Relief, Lynnae, Maggie, Marc, Maria, Marilyn, Marissa, Mark, Maryanne, Marylou, Matthew, Maureen, Max, May, Megan, Michael, Michele, Mickey, Miles, Mina, Mindy, Missy, Mayet, Mrs. Rutherford, NALS, Nancy, Nathaniel, Nia, Nickie, Nicky, Nikki, Noreen, Pam, Paul, Paula, Pat, Patty, Peter, Phillip, Rachel, Rick, Rita, Roger, Samantha, Sam, Sarah, Sean, Sheila, Shelli, Shirley, Solomon, Stephen Sr., Suzanne, Tara, Ted, Thelma, Theresa, Tiffani, Tina, Tom, Tony, Tricia G., Trudy, Tyler, Vera, Veronica, Vernetta, Vicki, Wanda, Water Missions, William, Xavier.

Please pray for the following families:

All of the families of Holy Trinity, together with those they love and pray for; especially we pray for the: Andreassen, Bednarczyk, Bell, Bell-Powell, BeninCasa, Bertsch, Biehl, Booth, Boyer, Brooks, Burns, Butler, Cheri, Christmann, Clarkes, Corrodus, Costello, Cuff, Del Vecchio, Dobes, Donnelly, Donovan, Drobish, Eckler, Eisenmann, Fahy, Frame, George, Guckin, Haines, Hastings, Hendricks, Ischinger, Kabic, Keane, Kennedy, Kleinschnitz, Laraccini, Lawrence, Long, Lynch, Mackintosh, Martin, McGinley-Kaplan, Melair, Mitchell, Morrison, Natvin, O'Fee, Paolone, Pickwell, Powell, Ragg, Schmidt, Sears, Singrella, Skilton, Slagle, Smyser, Spalding, Stapleton, Steinmetz, Tolton, Weld, Williams, Wyszomierski, Yakscoe, Young, Youngman, Zaroli, Zika, and Zimmermann families.

Please pray for the following petitions:

That God would bless and protect all members of Holy Trinity, together with those they love and pray for.
That God would guide each of us to grow in grace & that He would please send workers into the Harvest.
For all who are chronically ill and/or shut-in.
For all who struggle with addiction to drugs and alcohol.
For the sick and the grieving.
For all congregations of the NALC.
For all travelers and for the dying.
For the military and their families.
The unemployed, the underemployed & the uninsured, especially those in our own families.
All Caregivers, rescue workers, doctors, nurses, firefighters, EMTs,
For the members of the Mekane Yesus Lutheran Church in Ethiopia, and for the Nifas Silk Congregation.
For our sister congregations: Nifas Silk in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and First Lutheran in Kirkland Illinois.
For all Christians who are being persecuted for the faith throughout the world.
For the victims of rains, wildfires, earthquakes and hurricanes and for favorable weather and an abundance of crops.
For all in financial difficulty that they may be totally restored.



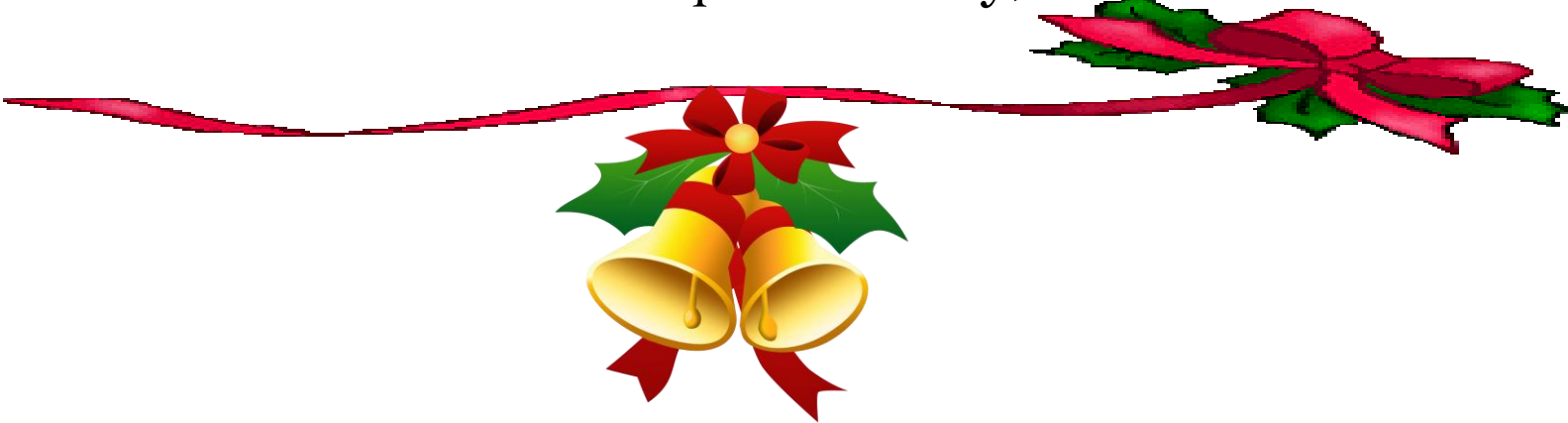
Welcome
to Our
Church New Members:

John and Mollie Cappel (Associate Member)

Todd and Alyson Kuenstner

Tim Ulmer (Associate Member)

Received at Worship on Sunday, December 4th



Mark your calendar!

The Sunday after Christmas Eve, **December 25th** is

Bell Sunday

Bring a small bell with you from home.

Any kind of bell is OK.

The Sunday after Christmas Day is **Bell Sunday**. Everyone is encouraged to bring a small bell from home. These bells are to be rung throughout the liturgy and the hymns of the worship service on the first Sunday following Christmas. The ringing of bells during Christian worship is an ancient custom. We ring bells in obedience to God's command to "make a joyful noise," as a sign that something supernatural is happening in our midst, and as a way to celebrate the defeat of evil through the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. You are encouraged to ring your bells every time you hear (or sing) Gloria, "Holy, holy, holy", Praise, or any reference to joy, bells, singing, ringing, angels, celebration, or Jesus Christ.

Don't forget your Bells!

Join the Conversation!

We want to hear from you! Pastor Mandy has a blog on which she posts regularly. This blog is embedded right in our website at www.holytrinity.net. Your feedback is wanted! Please come on in and check us out. At the bottom of each blog there is space for your comments. Let us hear from you.

Support Us

Please consider a gift of appreciated securities to Holy Trinity as you do your tax planning for this year. You may direct questions about how to do this to Alan Hinkle @ alanhinkle@comcast.net

Treasurer's Report

October 31, 2016 (For the Year 2016)

| | Holy Trinity Ministries | Wider Church |
|---|----------------------------|--------------|
| Year to date received for current income | \$ 332,334.38 | \$ 52,068.27 |
| Carry over from 2015 | \$ 3,983.81 | \$ 15,077.80 |
| Expenses paid to date | \$ 341,832.15 | \$ 46,340.00 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) 2015 | (\$5,513.96) | \$ 20,806.07 |

Keep in your prayers the following individuals serving in the armed forces:

Christopher Biehl
Michael Boerner
Phillip Gettmann
Shaun Hall
C.J. Hess
Eric Henderson
John Quici
Nathan Quinlan
Vikas Shah
Jonathan Skilton, MD



Our Christian Sympathy to

Elisabeth Booth and family
on the death of John
November 22, 2016
Beloved husband and father

Psalm 112:6

“For the righteous will never be moved;
they will be remembered forever.”

**Please remember your
Church in your will.**



It's that time of year again!

Holy Trinity will begin the drive to stock the shelves of the Martin Luther-Silver Springs Positive Behavior store

Beginning Sunday, November 27th the Christmas tree will be out in the Narthex and wrapped presents will be available for everyone to take home. Within the wrapped present are the typical suggestions for purchase such as: stuffed animals, basketball and footballs, puzzles, crayons and coloring books, board games and card games. The wish list from Martin Luther-Silver Springs also included some more expensive options that may be a perfect match for some members of the congregation. If any member is interested in giving one of these items, please contact Ann Frey at any time. These items are not under the tree with the other suggestions, but are still welcomed throughout this collection.

Merry Christmas!

Nicole Miller

Ella Murphy

COOKIE WALK

HOME-MADE CHRISTMAS COOKIES
\$5 PER DOZEN OR \$8 A POUND
CHOOSE YOUR OWN FROM A VARIETY
CONTAINERS PROVIDED



Saturday, December 10, 2016

Time: 9 am to 12 pm

In fellowship hall

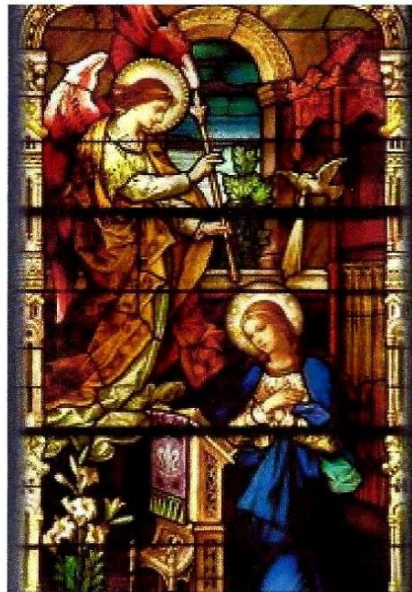
Proceeds to benefit Parish Relief
and the Interfaith Food Cupboard

MUSICA CONCORDIA
with The Bells of Holy Trinity

Jacqueline Smith, director

presents

MUSIC FOR THE ADVENT SEASON



Hymns, canticles, and anthems
by Charles H. Giffen, John Ireland, Charles Wood, and others

Two performances:

Saint Cecilia Church
535 Rhawn St., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19111
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2016 4:00 PM

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
2086 Parkview Ave., Abington, PA 19001
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2016 7:00 PM

No tickets required Free will offering will be received



NOTES OF THANKS

Nov.13, 2016

November 16, 2016

Dear Congregation of Holy Trinity,

Finals time at school is always a stressful time. So the timing of receiving a box full of goodies from the church couldn't have been better! Thanks so much for thinking of me and whoever packs the boxes sure knows the perfect treats to fill it with!

Sincerely,
Sami Mumford



Dear Congregation of Holy Trinity,

Thank you for your generous support of Blanket Sunday. We collected \$550.00 which will be used to purchase 80 blankets that will be shipped to Lutheran World Relief. We also delivered two adorable baby blankets to Cradle of Hope when we went to tour their new facility.

Thank you so much,
Katie Beyer
LCW Christian Action Chair



November 12, 2016

Greetings to everyone at Holy Trinity,

I presently live at Southampton Estates and miss attending church with all of you. Holy Trinity has always been a large part of our family's life for many years. I appreciate Pastor Mandy bringing me Holy Communion and Mike Breslin bringing a beautiful bouquet of flowers from the altar recently.

I send you all my love and best wishes.

Dottie Gerlach





NOTES OF THANKS (cont...)



Dear Friends at Holy Trinity,

Thank you for being a strategic partner of Your Persecuted Christian family through your prayers and recent gift to The Voice of the Martyrs.

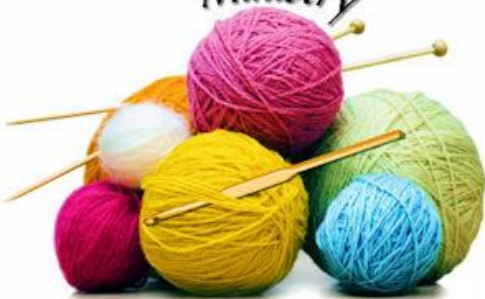
Brenda

Hebrews 13: 3 " Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body."

Thank you so much Ladies
for the beautiful Shawl
along with the Lord's
Blessing.

Dick Erb.

*Prayer Shawl
Ministry*



Dear Holy Trinity,

Thank you for your wonderful response to the Dolls, Dolls, Dolls notice. We received 20 dolls, 14 Barbie and 6 Baby.

This may seem like a small thing to do. But, for the girls at Silver Springs, it is huge! Many of them have never had a doll before. Having a doll to cuddle and love will help to heal the abuse that they have received.

Merry Christmas,
Your Social Ministry Board.





Youth Group
Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
2086 Parkview Ave
Abington, PA 19090

October 20, 2016

Dear Youth Group of Holy Trinity,

We can't thank you enough for your generous donation to the Inter-Faith Food Cupboard of 732.7 pounds of non-perishable food items! You spent time shopping, hauled in the bags, and filled our shelves with food that we give to our clients every day. Your efforts have meant so much to the people in our community who struggle to put food on the table. We deeply appreciate your contribution, not only of food, but of time and effort.

This letter serves as our acknowledgement to you of your gift, and should be kept with your tax records to substantiate any deductions you may wish to claim for Federal income tax purposes. Inter-Faith Housing Alliance is recognized by the IRS as a charitable organization under regulation 501(C) 3. As required by law, we represent that we have not provided you with goods or services in consideration, in whole or in part, of your gift.

If you know of a family or individual in need of food in Montgomery County, please suggest that they come to our cupboard Monday-Friday 11:00-1:00. Donations can be dropped off Monday-Thursday 9:00-3:00.

Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Kelly
Food Cupboard Coordinator



Why are Poinsettias the Flower of Christmas?

Bright, flaming red, star-shaped Poinsettias are known as “The Flower of the Holy Night” or the “Flame Leaf Christmas Star” in the United States.

One of the most popular flowers in Central America, it was brought here by Dr. Joel Poinsett, the first US ambassador to Mexico, over 100 years ago. The legend of the Poinsettia also comes from Mexico and explains how this flower came to represent the deep love of innocent hearts shown, by poor children, for the Baby Jesus.

Once upon a time, two very poor children lived in a village in Mexico. They were a brother and sister named Maria and Pablo. Just like all the other children in the village, Maria and Pablo looked forward to the special Christmas parade and the annual Nativity play. During this Nativity play, a large manger scene was set up in the village church. All the children of the village marched in the Christmas parade to bring their presents to the Baby Jesus on Christmas Eve.

Maria and Pablo loved Jesus and the season of His birth very much, but they had no money to buy a gift for Him. That evening as they walked to join the other children in the Christmas parade, they took the long route in hopes that they might be able to find some flower blossoms to lay before the manger of the Christ Child. But they couldn’t find any.

Although they were sad at heart and quite disheartened by their poverty, they picked the prettiest green leaves they could find, squared their shoulders, and joined the parade of children. The other children teased them cruelly for bringing “weeds” to the Christ Child, yet Pablo and Maria braved their way to the Nativity Scene, knelt in worship, and placed the greenery carefully around the manger. As the children lifted their heads, a miracle occurred. Bright red star-shaped flowers burst forth from the greens and were the most beautiful of all the gifts that the Christ Child had received that day.

Poinsettia Order for Christmas Eve **Deadline - December 18, 2016**

___ Red Poinsettias @ \$10.00 apiece ___ White Poinsettias @ \$10.00 apiece

Amount enclosed: \$_____ Dedicate or memorialize as follows (if desired):

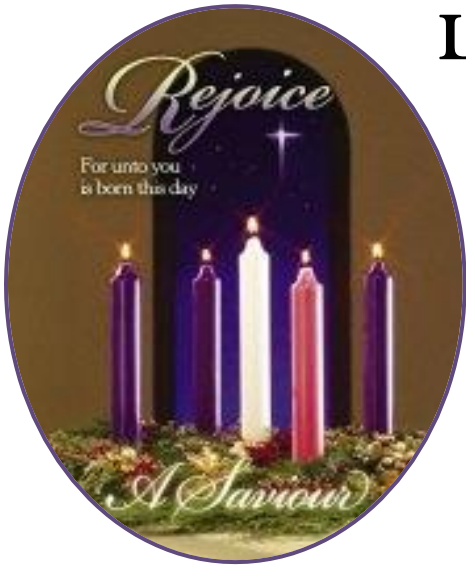
Your Name: _____ Envelope Number (If known) _____

Please enclose order and payment in small pew envelope marked “Poinsettias” and place in offering plate.

Make checks payable to: Holy Trinity

L.C.W. of Holy Trinity invites you to

Advent Family Night - December 4, 2016



4:00 PM: In the Sanctuary

Advent Vespers for the whole family

5:00 PM: Dinner in Fellowship Hall

white glove service provided

by the Sons of Thunder Youth Group

6:00 PM: Tuckers Tales in the Sanctuary

Dinner includes baked ziti, salad and dessert.

Cost: \$5.00 per person or \$10.00 per family

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for this fun event

Life Celebration by Givnish

Cordially invites you to participate in our 13th Annual

Memorial Tree Service

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

6:30 PM - Registration

7:00 PM - Service

Craft-Givnish of Abington, Inc.

1801 Old York Road

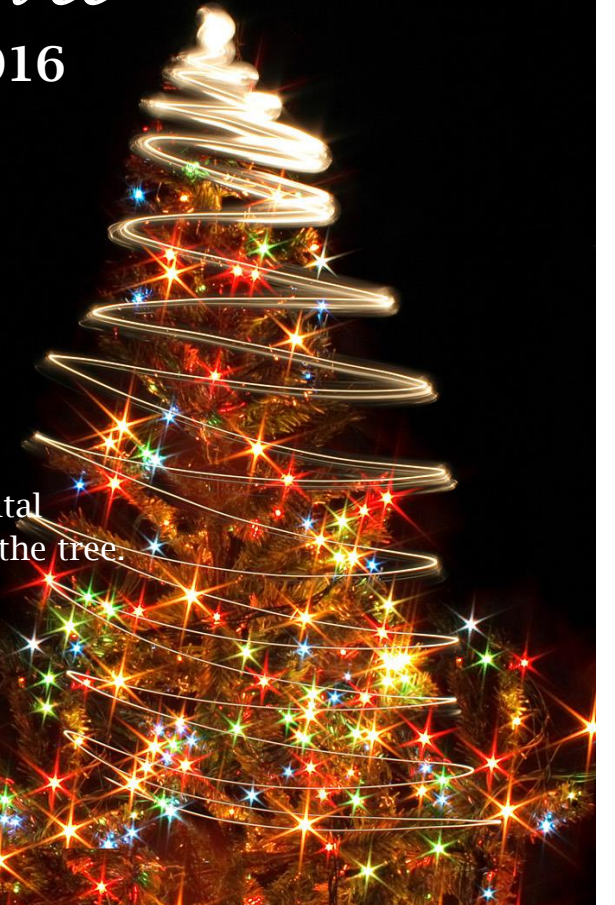
Abington, PA 19001

(215) 659 - 2000

Families who have lost a loved one in recent years will be given the opportunity to place an Ornamental Dove, which carries the name of your love one on the tree.

RSVP requested

Refreshments will be served following the service.





At Annual Meeting this year, the first item of business will be the adoption of Rules of Procedure. This adoption of Rules of Procedure has always been done at the outset of every denominational or synodical convocation (LCA, ELCA, or NALC). This adoption needs only a simple majority and is done to make the meeting run smoothly. Among other things, The Rules of Procedure say that Holy Trinity's Annual Meeting will be governed by Roberts Rules of Order, that all speeches will be limited to three minutes, and that anyone can present a resolution but that this resolution must be presented in writing to the Committee on Reference and Counsel by 3:00 p.m. on the Monday immediately prior to Annual Meeting. At the time each resolution is presented to Annual Meeting, Reference and Counsel will advise the Annual Meeting as to whether or not the resolution should be adopted. Copies of these Rules of Procedure and Forms for Resolutions are available in the Narthex.



To All Committee Chairpersons

If you haven't already, please submit your Annual Report to Deb in the office

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Women
Save this date**

April 28 - April 30, 2017

LCW Retreat at Mother Boniface Retreat Center

Additional Information will be forthcoming.

*Mark your
calendars*



Lutheran Church Women's Circle Bible Study



December Joseph: A Christmas Story

What was there in Joseph that God chose him to be the earthly father of Our Lord? What can we learn from him? If you are or you have known an adoptive parent, then you may well have a particular curiosity and interest in the character of Joseph. He knew what it was to parent a child he did not father. Did he ever feel inadequate? Did he ever doubt his own abilities? Did he ever gaze into the night sky wondering how he would do it?

We will look at Matthew's account of the birth of Jesus, and, in particular, how Joseph, a righteous man, faced a heartbreaking dilemma at the news of his beloved's unexplainable pregnancy. He then began a journey of trusting God as he was given a number of revealing dreams.

Please prayerfully consider coming to one of the following circles. You are welcome at any time to any circle. Circles offer wonderful opportunities to enrich your Christian walk in fellowship with other women. Please direct questions either to LCW President Janice Donnelly (267) 679 - 9343 or church secretary Deb Mumford (215) 659 - 2642.

(See Circle listings on the next page)

Special note: For December



Please mark your calendars and be sure to join us for Advent Family Night
Sunday, December 4th beginning with Vespers at 4:00 PM



DECEMBER CIRCLES

Here is the listing of the Circles, when and where they meet in December, and the Circle leader with contact information. Do not hesitate to contact a Circle leader to find out more about an individual Circle.

Sarah Circle - Thursday, December 8 at 12:00 pm at the home of Linda Cassady
10 Carosal Lane, Willow Grove (215) 657 - 4636

Hannah Circle - Tuesday, December 13 at 6:30 pm at the home of Maryann Leventhal
509 Preston Lane, Hatboro (215) 441-0224

Leader: Marilyn Murphy (610) 304-7601 mvetal4@verizon.net

Ruth Circle - Wednesday, December 14 at 7:30 pm at home of Vicky Coleman
2073 Parkview Ave., Abington (215) 657-0162

Leader: Nancy Necker (215) 884-2123 nnecker52@gmail.com

Eve Circle - Thursday, December 15 at 6:30 pm in the SS Peter & Andrew Study
Potluck dinner & Pollyanna game.

Leader: Sue Tolton (215) 659-7054 suetolton@comcast.net

The holidays are upon us
so if you have started to think
about shopping, remember
Giant Cards make great gifts.

I have a small number of cards on hand,
but will be happy to order whatever you need.

See Joy Alderfer for cards or orders.



HTLCW receive a 5% cash back award for each card sold which goes to our scholarship fund. Our scholarship fund is utilized to offset the cost of an LCW related function for any church women who may want to attend but may need some financial assistance.



Coram Deo

We meet in the SS Peter & Andrew Study
on most Mondays at 7:30 PM
You do not have to read the selection in advance
and can drop in for any or all sessions.

December 2016

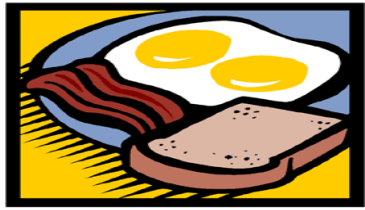
December 12 - *A Child's Christmas in Wales* by Dylan Thomas



The Free Book Basket has a lovely
assortment of brand new books
for you to keep and enjoy
or to pass on to your friends & family.
The basket is located in Fellowship Hall.



BREAKFAST



FELLOWSHIP

Adult Christian Breakfast Fellowship

(All Adults Young & Old are invited)

When: **Saturday, December 3, 2016**

Time: 9:00 A.M.

Topic: Civil War or Aren't You Hot in This?

Speaker: Allan Shikhvarg



Join us for breakfast & fellowship.



Men's Devotional Group

Mark your calendar & don't miss out on the
Men's Devotional Group Meeting.

They meet the second Thursday of every month.

Join us **Thursday, December 8th at 7:00 P.M.**

in the Sons of Thunder Youth Room.

If you've never joined us before, now is the time to start
and see what we are all about! Hope to see you all there.



Youth Ministry

All events are on SUNDAY unless otherwise noted

December 4, 2016 ADVENT FAMILY NIGHT

This event supercedes Sons of Thunder Youth Group
for the month of December

Don't miss out on the fun beginning at:

4:00 PM Vespers service

4:30 PM All Youth Servers meet in kitchen for dinner

★ Remember to wear all black with your ★
Sons of Thunder Youth Group Tee-Shirt!

5:00 PM Dinner Served (White Glove service)

6:00 PM Tucker's Tales Puppet Show



Wishers

Needed! No qualifications necessary other than
a heart to serve God & others! Consider joining as a family!

Willing congregants contact Phil Diener (215)657 – 3867 or call
the church office (215) 659 – 2642 email secretary@holytrinity.net



...wanted to tell someone about God's love, but were hesitant to do so?
...been asked why you're a Christian and not been able to answer?
...wished that a friend of yours could share the joy that you experience as a Christian, but you didn't know how to help that person?

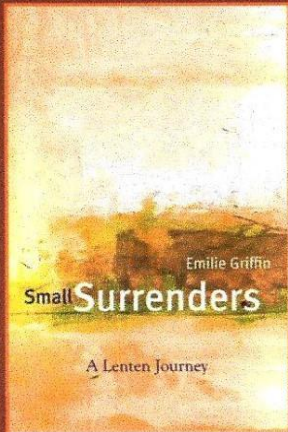
If you have, have we got a course for you!

RETREAT JAN. 13 – 14, 2017
WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES RUN JAN. 18TH, 25TH
FEB. 8TH, 15TH 22ND 7:00 – 9:30 PM

Caring Evangelism



Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex



Small Surrenders – A Lenten Journey (January 10 – March 28, 2017)

This winter, Pastor Mandy is offering an 8 week course on Emilie Griffin's *Small Surrenders – a Lenten Journey*.

Last fall, a group of us absolutely fell in love with this author, teacher, spiritual director and poet as we studied her book on the beauty and difficulty of aging. So this winter, I am offering an 8 week course on her book “Small Surrenders.” (instead of Peter Holmes’ book on fasting)

Emilie Griffin sets the tone for the overall reflection of this devotion in the first paragraph of the introduction page when she writes: *Lent is a time when we deepen our faith in a journey not of grand gestures but of small surrenders.*

The journey begins, as one might expect, with a reflection on Ash Wednesday and continues through Easter Sunday. She interacts with the writings of spiritual masters, both ancient and contemporary, to help illumine her reflections. The content is deep, but the presentation of it is witty and transparent. Emilie Griffin writes with a gentle and tender spirit, drawing from a deep well of spiritual wisdom. Her words are seasoned with humility and genuine concern for others.

The format is straightforward and follows the successive weeks of Lent – although we will be beginning our reflection in January (even though Ash Wednesday is not until March 1). Each writing is a brief 3-5 pages long and takes almost no time to read, but the substance of the writing can be meditated on all day long. You will find your heart and your intellect stirred repeatedly by her words.

I know that Jan/10-Mar/28 is more than 8 weeks. If we have no snow, the class will end early; if we DO have snow, snow days won't make me crazy. **Class will be offered on Tuesdays at both 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm.**

I have 10 hardback books available at \$5 apiece (used) for the first 10 people who sign up; Kindle copies cost \$10. I can order additional paperback copies for \$21 + postage, although you can get one much cheaper through Amazon.

There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.



December Worship Assistants Schedule



December 4

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------|---|
| Usher 3 | Greeter | The Schied Family | Presenters of Gifts | Ella & Marilyn Murphy and Maryann Leventhal |
| Count 4 | Acolyte | Elli Nilsen | | |
| Christophers Mike Breslin | Crucifer | Jim Necker | | |
| Prayer Team Kathy Ingerson | Lay Reader- Sat | George Powell | Communion Assistants | Kevan Berkovitz and Allan Shikhvarg |
| | Sun | Barbara Harvey | Setup | Maryann Leventhal |

December 11

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| Usher 4 | Greeter | The Ischinger family | Presenters of Gifts | Jody Cheeseborough, Kevan Berkovitz & Barb Harvey |
| Count 1 | Acolyte | Kevan Berkovitz | | |
| Christophers Sue Tolton | Crucifer | Connor Breslin | | |
| Prayer Team Sue Tolton | Lay Reader- Sat | Linda Cassady | Communion Assistants | Linda Bell-Powell and Linda Frezza |
| | Sun | Kathy Ingerson | Setup | Tina Bednarczyk |

December 18

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Usher 5 | Greeter | Kevan Berkovitz and Nancy Myers | Presenters of Gifts | Ruth McCandless, Dottie Erb, & Linda Frezza |
| Count 2 | Acolyte | Jayden Butler | | |
| Christophers Deb Mumford | Crucifer | Earl Whipple | | |
| Prayer Team Nancy Ischinger | Lay Reader-Sat | Clem McLaughlin | Communion Assistants | Mark and Erica Affleck |
| | Sun | Jim Necker | Setup | Sue Tolton |

December 24

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|--------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Usher 6:30 1 | Greeter | The Rowley Family | Presenters of Gifts | 6:30 The Nilsen Family 9:00 Jim & Nancy Necker and Deb Mumford |
| 9:00 4 | Acolyte | 6:30 Charlotte Whipple | Communion | 6:30 Eric Gregg |
| Lay Reader- 6:30 Suzanne Brown | Crucifer | 6:30 Heather Lee Whipple | Assistants | Charlie Tolton |
| 9:00 Allan Shikhvarg | Acolyte | 9:00 Elli Nilsen | Communion Assistants | 9:00 Gil & Betsy Zimmermann |
| | Crucifer | 9:00 Jared Ickler | | |






December 25

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--|
| Usher 2 | Greeter | Don & Linda Borkowski | Presenters of Gifts | Rob & Nancy Ischinger and Barbara Harvey |
| Count 3 | Acolyte | Charlie Tolton | | |
| Christophers Nancy Necker | Crucifer | Rob Ischinger | | |
| Prayer Team Deb Mumford | Lay Reader | | Communion Assistants | Deb Mumford and Tony Quici |
| | Sun | Nancy Necker | Setup | Deb Mumford |

If you cannot serve please contact someone on the list for that particular service team and find a replacement.
If you cannot find a replacement simply contact the office (215) 659-2642 or email Deb at secretary@holyltrinity.net

Called to *Serve*

DECEMBER 2016

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|--|--|--------------------------|---|
|  First Sunday in Advent | | | | 1 6:30 Handbell Choir 8:00 Chancel Choir | 2 7:30 AA | 3 9:00 Adult Breakfast Fellowship 5:00 Holy Communion 7:00 AA |
| 4 ADVENT 2 9:00 Holy Communion 10:30 Sunday School Pre-K thru Adult Advent Family Night 4 pm Vespers 5 pm Dinner 6 pm Tucker's Tales | 5 6 – 7:30 Brownies 7:30 Women's Prayer Group | 6 No Bible Study/Compline | 7 7:30 Council | 8 12:00 Sarah Circle at the home of Linda Cassidy 6:30 Handbell Choir 7:00 Men's Group 8:00 Chancel Choir | 9 7:30 AA | 10 9:00 - 12:00 Cookie Walk 5:00 Holy Communion 7:00 AA |
| 11 ADVENT 3 9:00 Holy Communion 10:30 Sunday School Pre-K thru Adult | 12 6 – 7:30 Brownies 7:30 Coram Deo | 13 6:30 Hannah Circle at the home of Maryann Leventhal. No Bible Study/Compline | 14 7:00 Evangelism 7:30 Ruth Circle at the home of Vicky Coleman | 15 6:30 Eve Circle Potluck dinner 6:30 Handbell Choir 8:00 Chancel Choir | 16 7:30 AA | 17 5:00 Holy Communion 7:00 AA |
| 18 ADVENT 4 9:00 Holy Communion 10:30 Sunday School Pre-K thru Adult 7:00 Musica Concordia Advent Concert | 19 SHOP & COOK AIDS DINNER 6 – 7:30 Brownies | 20 DELIVER AIDS DINNER No Bible Study/Compline | 21  FIRST DAY OF WINTER | 22 6:30 Handbell Choir 8:00 Chancel Choir | 23 7:30 AA | 24  Christmas Eve Worship SERVICES 6:30 AND 9:00 |
| 25 Christmas 9:00 Holy Communion  | 26 6 – 7:30 Brownies | 27 No Bible Study/Compline | 28 | 29 | 30 7:30 AA | 31  NEW YEAR'S EVE 5:00 Holy Communion 7:00 AA |

Special Dates:

- Second Sunday of Advent, *December 4, 2016*
- Third Sunday of Advent, *December 11, 2016*
- Fourth Sunday of Advent, *December 18, 2016*
- First Day of Winter, *December 21, 2016*
- Christmas Eve, *December 24, 2016*
- Christmas Day, *December 25, 2016*
- New Year's Eve/Watch Night, *December 31, 2016*

Merry Christmas

