

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR RANKIN



**CONTINUING OUR
JOURNEY OF FAITH!!**

Silent night! Holy Night!
All is calm, all is bright;
'Round yon virgin mother and
Child.

Holy Infant so tender and mild;
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent Night! Holy Night!
Darkness flies, all is light;
Shepherd hear the angels sing:
Alleluia! Hail the King!
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.

Silent Night! Holy Night!
Guiding Star, lend thy light!
See the eastern wise men bring
Gifts and homage to our King!
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.

Silent Night! Holy Night!
Wondrous Star, lend thy light!
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King!
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.

Catch the Vision,
Share the Joy!!

Parish Post Deadline:
3rd Monday of the month

Dear Fellow Disciples,

This year marks the 200th anniversary of the familiar Christmas carol *Silent Night*. I am sure many of you know the story of its origin, but some may not. Father Joseph Mohr was preparing for the midnight service at the newly built Church of St. Nicholas near Salzburg when he learned that the organ was broken. There was now a need to make changes to the music planned for the service. Father Mohr decided to write a new hymn that could be sung without the organ. He quickly wrote the words, "**Silent Night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright...**" Father Mohr took his words to the organist, Franz Gruber, and explained the situation. He asked Mr. Gruber to write a simple tune for this new song.

On December 24, 1818, *Silent Night* was sung for the first time at the Church of St. Nicholas. Since the organ the organ was broken the carol was accompanied by a guitar. I've heard that Pastor Geisler would often have guitars accompany the singing of *Silent Night*. I have often thought about revitalizing this tradition. This might be the appropriate time! So if you play guitar, let me know!

The familiar Christmas carol was first published for congregational singing in 1838 in a German hymnbook. It was used in America by German-speaking churches. It later appeared in its current English form in a Sunday School hymnal in 1863.

We will sing this familiar carol at both Christmas Eve services as we pass the light of Christ around the sanctuary. The beauty of this carol will remind us that the Christ child has come to bring us light in the midst of darkness. I would encourage you to look around as our sanctuary radiates with the light of Christ!

I hope you will join us in the coming weeks as we prepare for this light. This year will be lighting our Advent wreath during the children's sermon at the 10:30 service. As we light the candles each week, we will learn about the gifts received from the Christ child: hope, peace, joy, and love. On Christmas Eve, we will light the Christ candle and celebrate that we no longer walk in darkness. We will then remember Father Mohr's words: **Darkness flies, all is light;....Christ the Savior is born.**

In Christ,
Pastor Chris

(Historical Information taken from *Then Sings My Soul: 150 of the World's Greatest Hymn Stories* by Robert J. Morgan)



TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2340 State Street
East Petersburg, PA 17520
Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 9:00-2:00
www.trinityeastpete.org
569-1632/ 569-0592

STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Chris Rankin, **Pastor**
575-0286(cell)
chris@trinityeastpete.org

The Rev. Dr. Carrie Call,
Covenanted Minister of Mission
ccall@lancasterseminary.edu

Mr. Jack Hocker, **Student Pastor**
jhocker@lancasterseminary.edu

The Rev. Harry Royer,
Pastor Emeritus

Michael Slechta, **Director of Music**
569-0543
music@trinityeastpete.org

Christina Oetama, **Organist**
717-627-2278
Christine.oetama@gmail.com

Carol Kratz, **Administrative Assistant**
secretary@trinityeastpete.org

Sean McKelvey,
Preschool Director
preschool@trinityeastpete.org

Engleside Janitorial Service
625-0523

CONSISTORY

George DeLong, **President**
569-6254

Nevin Cooley, **Vice President**
371-0346

Paula Dennes, **Secretary**
333-9614

Dan Otthofer, **Financial Secretary**
569-8247

Ken Zimmerman, **Treasurer**
569-5084

Pastor Rankin, **Chair of Elders**
575-0286(cell)

Nevin Cooley, **Chair of Deacons**
371-0346

Chuck Husted, **Chair of Property**
285-5741

NOVEMBER CONSISTORY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The Consistory received training from Denny Eberly regarding armed intruder response and awareness of possible threats. Further information will be presented later to the congregation!

A request was presented to us from the U.C.C. Pension Board's Generations in Service campaign. The Board of Deacons will discuss this at their December meeting.

The reorganization meeting of the Consistory will be held on December 11.

ADVENT ENVELOPES

The Consistory has decided that all money received in the Advent offering envelope will support the Christmas Fund of the U.C.C.

THE TRINITY MEN'S GROUP

The next meeting will be on December 8th at 8:00 a.m. at Family Fare Restaurant in East Petersburg. This is open to all men of the congregation!

ADVENT WORKSHOP ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1 FROM 1:30-5:00 P.M.

We are coming up on preparing Trinity Church for the Advent season.



Sign-up sheets will be on table in Narthex to help with indoor decorating or outside lights or crafts for kids.

All help in making this happen is greatly appreciated as we decorate our church for season. We will conclude with a brief service and a pizza dinner!

Speak with me if you are willing to help plan the workshop.

Thank you, Donna Denlinger



CALLING ALL INSTRUMENTALISTS

For Christmas Eve Early Service Preludes, two intergenerational instrumental groups are being reassembled. Trinity Band and Trinity String Ensemble will both be rehearsing following the 10:30 AM church services on Dec. 9 and Dec 16 with an additional rehearsal and/or warm up to be scheduled as needed. Please contact Michael, Dina, or Christine to sign up.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/01	Hope Krantz
12/01	David Trostle
12/02	Randy Woerner
12/02	John Wolf
12/03	Claire Miller
12/04	Scott Wible
12/05	Theodore Slechta
12/07	Steven Shenk
12/07	Diane Summers
12/08	Ronda Hartenstine
12/11	Charles Lucabaugh
12/12	Megan Harley
12/14	Charlene Cristy
12/17	Lainie Christensen
12/18	Dorothy Schadt
12/18	Thomas Goodhart
12/19	Sarah Paulukow
12/20	Marvin Lehman
12/23	Hedwig Hunsicker
12/23	Jerry Richards
12/24	Penny Kilgore
12/26	Judy Chapman
12/28	Sherrye Garrett
12/29	G. Joyce Becker
12/31	Rev. Jack Esbenshade

Stewardship XXVIII by Rev. Jack Esbenshade

In October the Mega Million lottery reached a jackpot of \$1.6 billion dollars. One ticket purchased in South Carolina won the whole thing. Sorry to say, it wasn't me.

I don't regularly play the lottery but when the jackpot reaches a billion dollars, I admit that I give in to temptation and buy a few tickets. I can't say I know how to pick numbers, so I let the computer make the choices for me.

Those of you who oppose gambling are probably appalled that this subject would be included in a church newsletter, and you may want to stop reading and go on to another article or the church calendar.

Only when the jackpot reaches a phenomenal amount do I reach into my wallet and buy a few tickets. I have this fantasy that if I were to win a large sum of money I would create a charitable foundation. There are some very fine models of such generous people in our community like Mrs. Ann Barshinger, Mr. Dale High and Mr. Bob Groff. My fantasy is to be in their company and distribute gifts to worthy organizations and needy persons.

Beneath it all, I believe the Good Lord knows I don't need the headaches or the disruption such a major change would cause in my life. I am certain that if I won 1.6 billion everyone and his brother (and sister) would be knocking on my front door.

So I've been given one talent and not ten or more. But I continue to work diligently to invest and use that one talent to the fullest. It may not generate millions of dollars, but it does mean that I carefully invest it and show my generosity responding with grace.

So purchasing a lottery ticket is a whim, it's a way to step outside reality. Some people go to the movies to do that. When the jackpot reaches half a billion or more, I buy a few numbers. Every other day I simply give as I have planned.

"KNIT IN GOD'S LOVE" PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The next meeting is Tuesday,

December 18th
from 1-3 p.m.

Come, bring a friend, enjoy an afternoon of tea, snacks, good fellowship and



help us to continue this ministry. We have given many shawls in the past few months and more are needed. **If you would like to financially support the prayer shawl ministry, you can make donations on your weekly offering envelope.**

OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Lauren Lichtenwalner
Bucknell University
701 Moore Ave C0487
Lewisburg, PA 17837

Jeremy Eberly
505 Baugher Ave.
Elizabethtown, Pa 17022

Hans Slechta
311 Eddy St., Apt. 7
Ithaca NY 14850

Sarah & Robby Kilgore
307 Spurrier Drive
Lititz, Pa 17543

Erika Otthofer
408 Lancaster Drive #1652
Shippensburg, PA 17257

Scriptures for December	
2	Isa. 64:1-9; Psa. 25:1-10; 1 Cor. 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37
9	Mal. 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6
16	Zeph. 3:14-20; Isa. 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18
23	Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:46b-55; Heb. 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-55
30	1 Sam. 2:18-20,26; Psa. 148; Col. 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52



The sign-up sheet for Koinonia is downstairs by the kitchen. Anyone interested in contributing a small snack for this time of fellowship is encouraged to sign up. Talk to Paula Dennes for more information.



November 19, 2018
Members of Trinity U.C.C.

Your box of envelopes contains the special pink envelope....Pastor's Christmas Gift....which you may be using shortly. A special envelope for the student minister will be available.

This letter is to remind you that any gift given through the church to the pastor and student minister is taxable according to IRS rules.

In order for the pastor and student minister to receive their full amount, the gift should be given directly to them by you. Meaning any checks written should be payable to "Rev. or Mr. name of individual" and any cash given directly to them. The money does not go through the church deposit. The pastor and student minister will then receive their full amount of your gift but you, as the contributor, are unable to take a tax deduction. It is just like giving a gift to a friend or other individual.

The choice is yours. You can continue to place your gift in the offering plate but will be separated depending on how it is identified....cash in that special envelope will go directly to the pastor and student minister and checks made payable to the church will be processed through our treasury and handled in accordance with IRS rules. Checks made payable to the pastor and student minister will be given to them.

Any questions or comments are welcome and can be directed to any member of the Finance Committee.

Thank you,
Ken Zimmerman, Treasurer



THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATIONS!

A sincere word of thanks to all who submitted "I PROMISE" form for 2019. While we did not reach the goal of 90, we did receive 75, which exceeds last year's total. You are a good group!

Thanks & Blessings,
 Jack Esbenshade
 Stewardship Chair

BIBLE STUDY GROUP NEWS

The Bible Study Group next monthly meeting will be on Tuesday, December 11, 7:00 pm at Karen Olley's home. We will continue the study of the book of Nehemiah. All are welcome. For more information contact Diane Rice.

ALTAR GUILD VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



We are looking for two more teams (2-3) people to serve on our altar guild. The duties

include preparing the altar each week for worship. If we add a new team then each team would be scheduled once every four months. Speak to Pastor Chris or Tim Geiger for more information!



We will include the order of healing at both services on December 23. This will give us spiritual strength as we approach the holidays, a difficult time of the year for many.

ADULT ADVENT STUDY

Pastor Rankin & Student Pastor Hocker will be leading a combined adult Christian Education class during the Advent/Christmas season. The class will be using the Kerygma program's ***The Light Will Shine: A Study for Advent***. Our study will discover new light in traditional texts and seasonal themes. The topics to be discussed are: Watchful Expectancy; John the Baptizer; The Fulfillment of All Promises; The Dawning of Day; Shine, Jesus, Shine: Epiphany Day. **The class will begin December 2 in Isenberg Hall!**

CHRISTMAS CAROLING



We are planning to go Christmas caroling around the East Petersburg

community and the surrounding area on December 9 from 2-4 p.m. We will return to the church for some hot chocolate and cookies. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. See Pastor Chris for more information.

SERVICE OF



Join us on December 30 (the first Sunday after Christmas) at 10:30 a.m. for a service of lessons and carols. The service will be an adaptation of the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at King's College in Cambridge, England. **We will also have a regular 7:45 Service of Word & Sacrament.**

STUDENT PASTOR SCHEDULED TO PREACH

Student Pastor Jack Hocker will be preaching at both services on December 16.

SUNDAY LUNCH GROUP

The Sunday lunch group to Chives is having their next lunch will be on January 6 (after the 10:30 service). The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Deadline to sign-up is December 30. Contact Donna Zirkel for more information!



Trinity UCC
2340 State St.
East Petersburg, PA
www.trinityeastpete.org

Concert/Desserts

Featuring
Trinity Church Musicians

Sunday, December 2, 2018

Concert – 6:00 PM
Desserts Following The Concert
Sign-up Sheet In Church Narthex
Or
Call 717-569-1632 For Dessert Reservations



*Freewill Offering Benefits
Music For Everyone
and Trinity Music Ministry*



**Also Join Us Dec. 24
For Christmas Eve:
6:30 PM Family Service
10:30 PM Eucharist
Musical Preludes
Prior To Services**



Trinity Concert Series and Upcoming Concerts

(Half of the Free Will Offering from each Concert Series Concert will support the listed charity):

December 2, 2018 - Trinity Christmas Concert - 6:00 PM concert followed by desserts - Music For Everyone

February 10, 2019 - The Celtic Martins - 3:00 PM - Ting Ministries

April 28, 2019 - Trinity Spring Concert - 6:00 PM concert followed by desserts

October 13, 2019 - QuintEssentially Brass Concert - 4:00 PM

December 1, 2019 - Trinity Christmas Concert - 6:00 PM concert followed by desserts

JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM



We are arranging a trip to see the Christmas story come alive at Woodcrest Retreat in

Ephrata on Friday, December 7 (inclement weather date will be December 14). We will meet at the church at 5 PM. There's a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Speak to Donna Geisler or Pastor Rankin for more information.

MONETARY USHERS NEEDED

We are in need of 2-3 ushers to fill some vacancies. If you are interested in serving, please speak to George DeLong or Pastor Rankin.

PEANUTS

Thank you to everyone who helps with peanuts. A great group to have fun with. This is what we did with our profits.

Ting Ministries -

\$2,000(7/2/17)

Good Shepherd Window -

\$5,000(3/8/18)

Ting Ministries - \$2,000(5/16/18)

Hempfield Power Packs -

\$1,000(5/20/18)

Bahret Church Interiors (Good

Shepherd Window) -

\$542(9/11/18)

We thought you would like to know what we did! Thank you!

Peanut Crew

DID YOU KNOW?

We have a wheelchair, a cane, two sets of crutches, and two walkers for members of our church family to borrow. Contact the church office if you need to borrow any of these items.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who has supported our capital campaign. As of November 18 we have received 89 pledges totaling \$531,434. This means we have achieved 138% of our original goal (\$385,000). We have received \$478,709.40, 90.1% of the pledges. We have also received \$6,583.39 from people who did not submit a pledge.

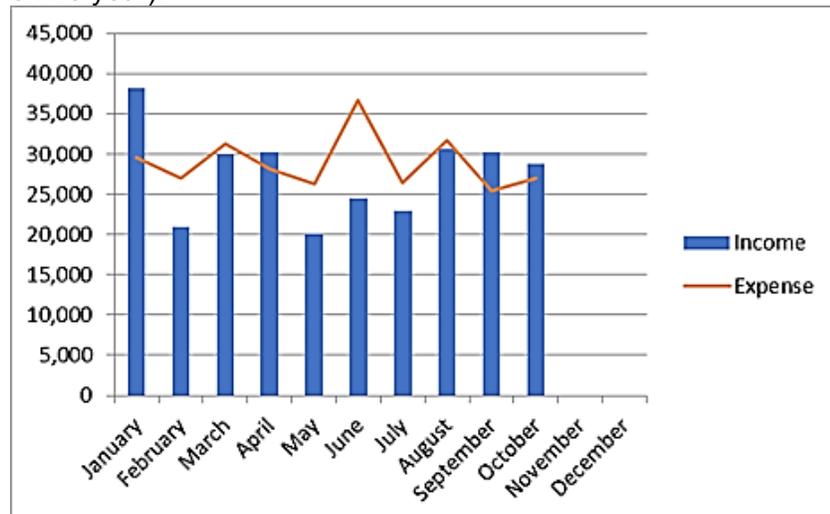
There is still time to submit a pledge if you have not done so already. Pledge forms can be found in the narthex. You can put it in the offering plate or mail it to the church. We will continue to update the congregation on the status of the campaign. **Remember to put your contribution in a separate envelope or use the special designation box on your envelope. Contributions in building improvement box go to the building fund!** Term Loan remaining balance...\$15,000 (original loan \$400,000). Mortgage Balance.....\$364,437.98 (original mortgage \$400,000)

MONTHLY FINANCIAL DATA THROUGH 10/31:

Below is a graph comparing our monthly income/expenses through October.

YTD Income--275,962, YTD Expense--290,073, Shortfall 14,111.

(January income is above normal due to a member contributing for the entire year).



PLEASE NOTE: Please put any information for the secretary in her mailbox and not on her desk. Thanks so much for your help in this matter.

You Are Invited

The Lancaster Association invites you to the following ordinations:
December 2-Nilda Roman at Wisdom's Table at St. Peter's U.C.C.
December 16-Laura Ramsey at Christ U.C.C., Elizabethtown

Both services will at 3 p.m. As members of the Lancaster Association we are called to share in these services as a witness to our covenantal promises. Speak to Pastor Chris for more information.

CONTRIBUTIONS BY WAY OF ON-LINE OR TELEPHONE

Did you know that you can make your contributions to Trinity by way of an on-line transaction or using QR code on your smart phone? It can be a one-time transaction or an automatic continuing transaction.

ON-LINE or SMART PHONE

Go to our web site...www.trinityeastpete.org. Click on RESOURCES tab and you will see:

GIVE ONLINE – OUR GIFTS TO OTHERS

GIVE ONLINE OUR GIFTS TO OTHERS

GIVE ONLINE-NORMAL CONTRIBUTION

GIVE ONLINE – NORMAL CONTRIBUTION

QR Code for smart phone giving...OGTO

QR Code for smart phone giving...Normal Contribution



Click on the SELECT BOX and you can then identify to which account you contribution is to be credited. You have the following options:

Create an account or not.

Select to include the extra 3% if paying by credit card

Select to include the extra 1% if paying by your bank account

If not selected, the added cost will be paid by the church.

We will show the QR code in the Sunday Bulletin and Parish Post in the future so it is accessible.

Any questions, please contact Ken Zimmerman.

WHITE GIFT SUNDAY ON DECEMBER 2.



As in years past, we will share our blessings with others by bringing (unwrapped) Christmas gifts to the service. This is our special time of sharing our gifts with residents of Ephrata Manor and Bethany Home.

The residents are very appreciative of our caring and both homes are requesting gift card suggestions to better meet needs and interests.

Ephrata Manor (United Church of Christ Home)requests:

Apple/ iTunes, Walmart, ACMoore, VISA/MC, Target, Dollar Tree

Bethany Home requests:

Poster Board, 3 ring binders (1 & 2 inch), Sheet Protectors, Trifold Display Boards (Foam Style for School Projects), White Out Strips (no liquid please)

Gifts Cards: AC Moore, Lowes, Home Depot, Michaels, wal-Mart, Target, McDonald's & Kohls.

Please include Trinity U.C.C Church and address and/or individual along with your card.

Gifts will be received at both services on December 2. The children will collect them during the 10:30 service. Thank You!



LADIES OF TRINITY CELEBRATE



"BUSY HANDS AT CHRISTMAS"

T.W.O.'S COVERED DISH SUPPER

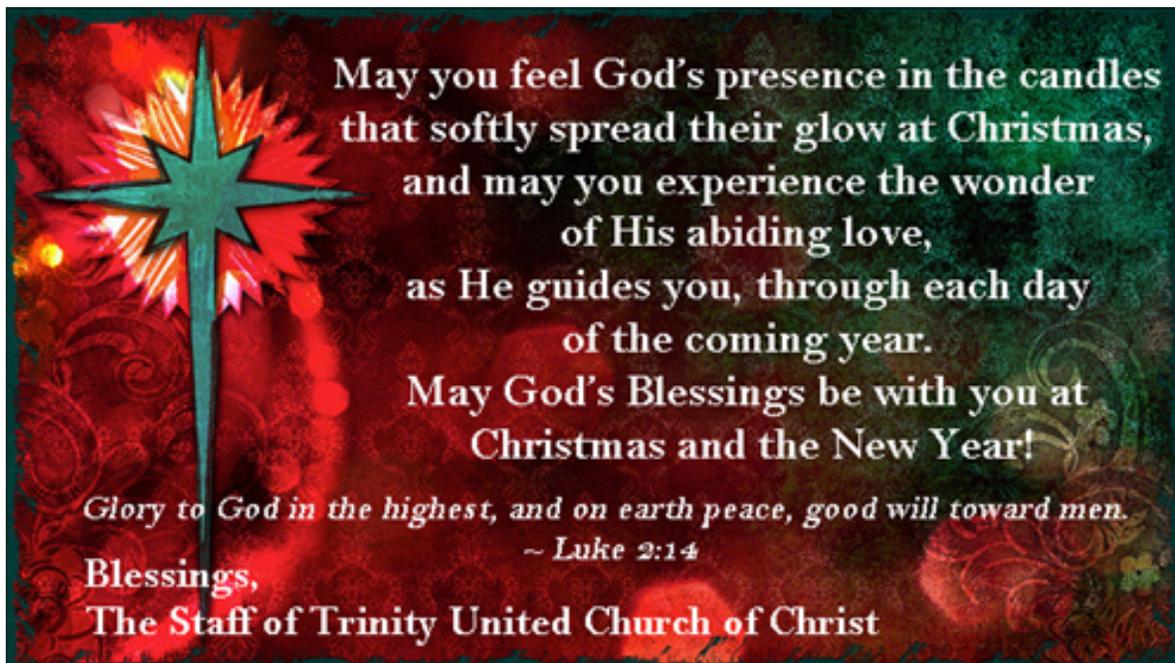
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2018 6:00PM

WE WILL SHARE FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, DEVOTIONS AND BUSY
HANDS WITH A CRAFT LED BY KATHY COOLEY

BRING A DISH TO SHARE

AND

MEMORIES OF FAVORITE HOLIDAY CRAFTS YOU CREATED OR
HAVE BEEN GIVEN



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

We will have two services on Christmas Eve:



6:15 p.m. Prelude/6:30 p.m. Family Candlelight Service

10:20 p.m. Prelude/10:30 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service with Holy
Communion



Trinity UCC,

Once again I want to thank all your calls, cards, flower & talks. Without you all I couldn't deal with all of this. Thank you all for helping me not feel & be so alone. God is helping me deal with it all too, of course. I miss my son Jim so very much. Thank you all.

Love & Prayers,
Joyce Becker

My baby brother David (49) and all his family thank you for your prayers and concern. David was on our Trinity prayer list for part of the 5 1/2 years he was on dialysis while he waited for a kidney. Sept. 5th. he received his new kidney at Hershey Medical Center. He is recuperating very well and will soon be back to work. Again, many thanks for your faithfulness in prayer.

Lainie Christensen

Dear Trinity UCC,

Our thanks for an absolutely delicious dinner yesterday. John and I thoroughly enjoyed this gracious gift.

God bless those who prepared and delivered this meal.

Rev. Susan and John Sokolowski

Dear Good News Class,

Thank you for your wonderful card. I have many ups and downs but receiving your card is a big Upper! Thank you so very much for thinking of me.

John Sokolowski



QUINTESSENTIALLY BRASS CONCERT

Many of us enjoyed the wonderful concert by the QuintEssentially Brass at Trinity Church in October. They will be providing a Christmas concert on Friday, December 21 at 7:30 p.m. at First Reformed U.C.C. (40 E. Orange St., Lancaster). There will be an offering to support the Multiple Sclerosis Society. First Reformed Church does have an elevator to their sanctuary. For more information, speak to Pastor Rankin.

WINTER WEATHER POLICY

We are now in the winter months and we may see some snow! We will try to hold worship services as long as the pastor can make it to the church. However, there may be times when we have to change the Sunday morning schedule or cancel services & Sunday School. The pastor and the Consistory president will make these decisions in enough time to inform you through the website, e-mail, church voicemail and WGAL (you can check their website for church information). If we decide to hold services and Sunday School, we ask that you make a personal decision on whether you can attend. We don't want you to risk your health!

DECEMBER VOLUNTEERS

● = CHRISTMAS EVE

ACOLYTES CRUCIFERS GREETERS FLOWERS

December	December	December	December
2 Rachel Baynard	2 Lily Kilgore	2 John & Dolly Barr	2 P Miller
9 Lily Kilgore	9 Jack Hocker	9 Jack & Donna Esbenshade	9 Connor
16 Landis Knoll	16 Thomas Goodhart	16 Autumn & Steve Shenk	16 Himelwright
23 Zach Baynard	23 Thomas Goodhart	23 Beth Bossert & Joann Peck	23 Barr
24 TBD	24 TBD	24 Jodi & Jack Keller(6:30 PM)	24 Portser
30 Caleb Kreider	30 Jack Hocker	30 Dennis Eberly & Betty Fogle	30 Zirkel

LECTORS AND COMMUNION ASSISTANTS TRINITY BREAD WORSHIP AIDS

December	December	December
2 Jack Hocker	2 Pat Miller	2 Enders
9 Jack Hocker/Carrie Call	9 Jill Otthofer	9 Rankin
16 Sandy Morris/Jack Hocker	16 Joann Peck	16 Himelwright
23 Jack Hocker	23 Denise Huggins	23 Bradley
24 Jack Hocker	30 Marlyn Wible	30 Rankin
30 Jack Esbenshade/Rich Christensen		

PRESENTER OF ELEMENTS COMMUNION USHERS

December	December
2 Zach Baynard/Caleb Kreider	2 Dave Trostle , Lee Bossert, Ken Zimmerman
16 Rachel Baynard/Piper Miller	16 Pat Sensenig, John Bailey, Ken Zimmerman
	24 (10:30) Diane Rice, Karen Olley,Dave Trostle

MONEY COUNTERS CHURCH NURSERY

December	December
2 Jack Richards, Dave & Noreen Trostle, Paula Dennes	2 Anne Rankin, Heidi Fischer
9 Jack Richards, Dave & Noreen Trostle, Paula Dennes	9 Deb & Mike Lichtenwalner
16 Nevin Cooley, John Bailey, Pat Sensenig, Charlene Cristy, Stacie Eberly	16 Karen Olley, Charlene Cristy
23 Nevin Cooley, John Bailey, Pat Sensenig, Charlene Cristy, Stacie Eberly	23 Pat Miller, Jane Starr
30 Lee Bossert, Ron & Donna Denlinger	24 (6:30)Sandy DeLong, Jodi Keller
	30 Iris DeMaio, Betty Fogle

REGULAR OR MONETARY USHERS **Bold=Head Usher** Underline=Distribute bulletins

December
2 Steve Shenk , <u>Betsy Bailey</u> , John Bailey, Chuck Husted, Denise Huggins, Lee Bossert, Judie Bistline, Jane Starr
9 John Barr , <u>Chuck Portser</u> , Hank Fox, Jane Portser, Dolly Barr, Theodore Slechta, Stan Seachrist, Thomas Goodhart
16 Bud McCarty , <u>Kathy McCarty</u> , Mark Eyer, Christine Eyer, Dennis Eberly, Jack Richards, Scott Summers, Zach Baynard
23 Dave Connor , <u>Ken Zimmerman</u> , Dan Otthofer, Bob Kilgore, Jill Otthofer, Anne Rankin, Robby Kilgore, Heidi Fischer
24 (Ch. Eve-Early) Don Miller , <u>Mike Wagner</u> , Shelley Wagner, Charlene Cristy, Lon Wible, Tim Geiger, George DeLong, Betty Tyndall
24 (Ch. Eve-Late) Ken Zimmerman , <u>Tim Geiger</u> , Lon Wible, Dan Otthofer
30 Steve Shenk , <u>Betsy Bailey</u> , John Bailey, Chuck Husted, Denise Huggins, Lee Bossert, Judie Bistline, Jane Starr

VISITATION MINISTERS ALTAR GUILD KOINONIA

Dec.	Dec.	December
Paula Dennes, Nancy Enders	Pat Miller, Carmen Richards	2 Enders/Dennes
CALLED TO CARE	BUILDING TRUSTEE CARD	9 Zirkel
Oct. – Dec.	December	16 Gockley/Burger
Tim Geiger	Pat Sensenig	23 C. Hoshauer
	Advent Workshop (Donna Denlinger)	30 A. Rankin & Rachel

THE 2019 FLOWER AND WORSHIP AIDS CHARTS ARE POSTED:

Thank you for supporting this part of our worship service by your sponsorship! Chancel flowers cost \$33 or \$41. Worship Aids (bulletins, communion elements, candles, and other worship items) cost \$26.



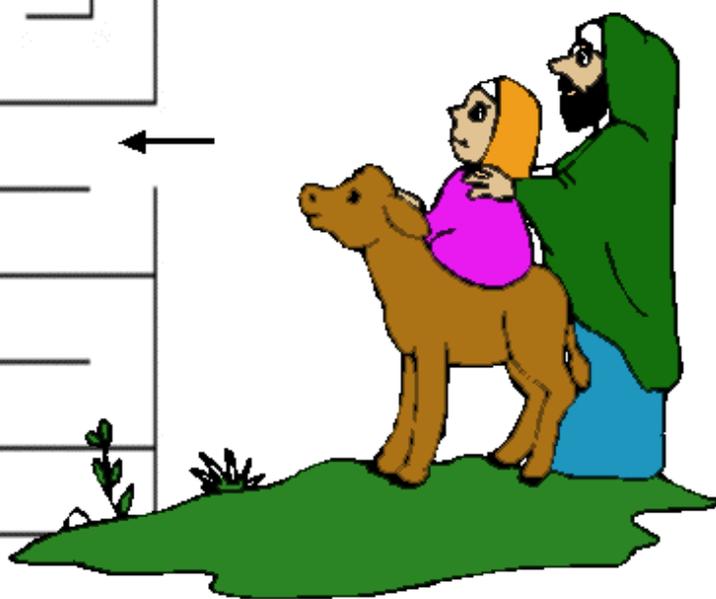
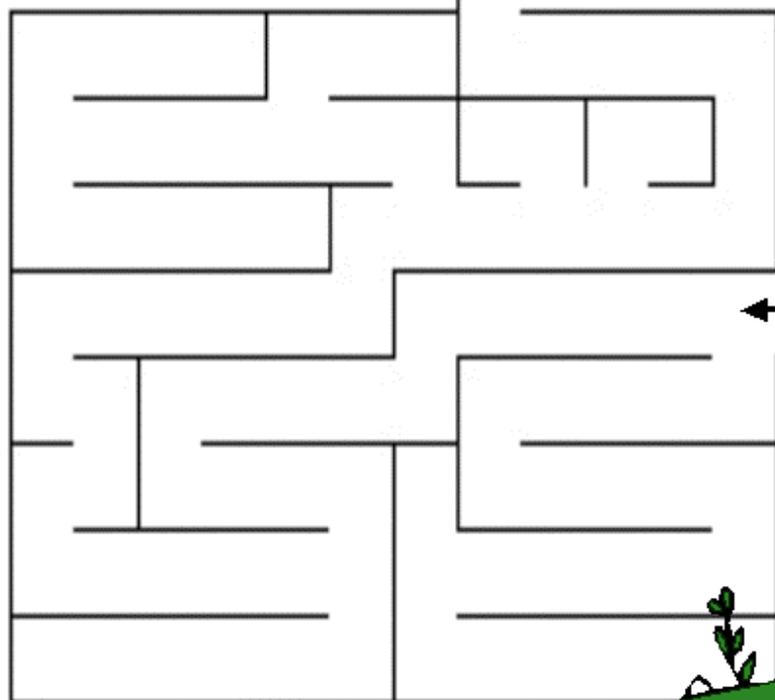
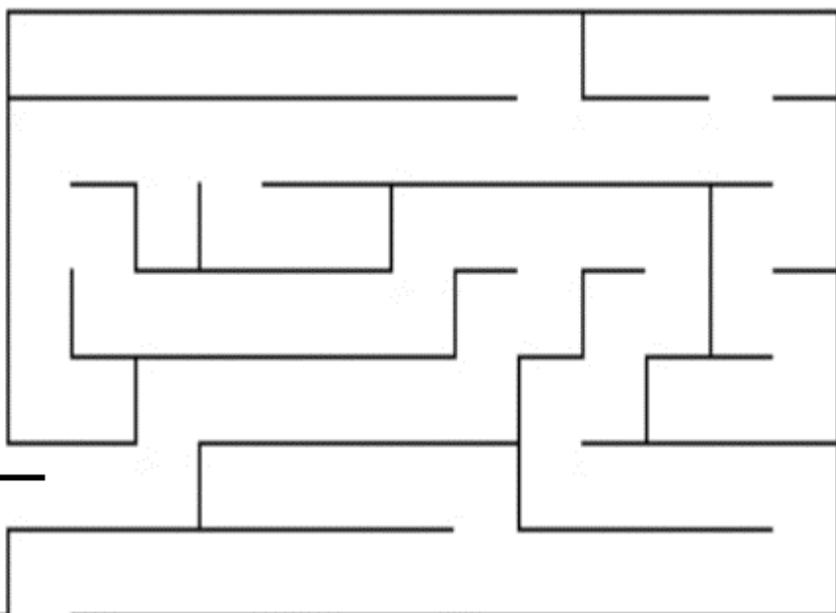
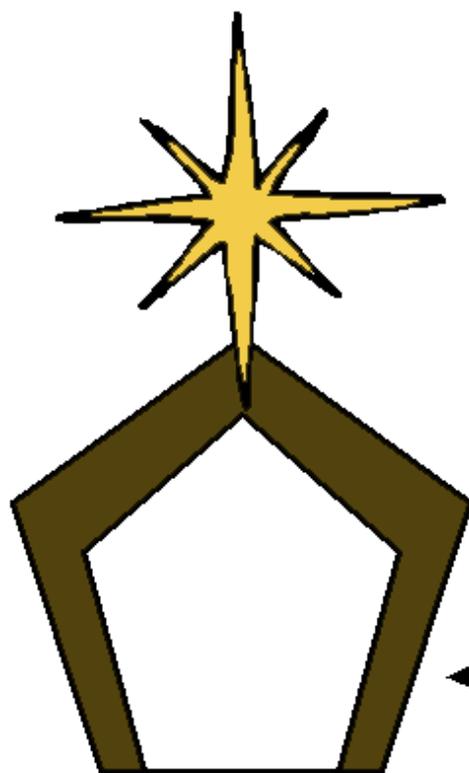
DECEMBER 2018

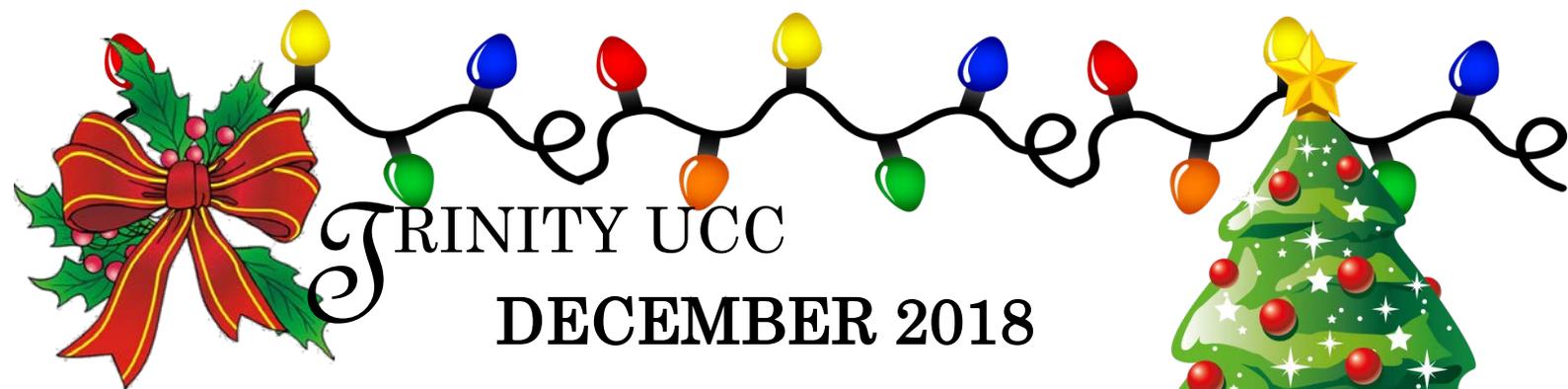


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 1:30 PM Advent Workshop 8:00 PM/AA
2 White Gift Sunday 7:45 AM Eucharist 9:00 AM-C.E. 10:00 AM Koinonia 10:30 AM Eucharist 12:30 p.m. Chives 6:00 PM Concert	3 8:15 PM Bells	4	5 6:30 PM Pastor Parish Team	6 7:00 PM Lanc.Assoc. Executive—Isenberg Hall 7:00 PM Preschool Bd.	7 5:00 PM Journey to Bethlehem	8 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast 8:00 PM AA
9 7:45 AM Eucharist 9:00 AM-C.E. 10:00 AM Koinonia 10:30 AM Worship(followed by Inst. Practice) 2:00 PM Caroling	10 7:00 PM Choir 8:15 PM Bells	11 7:00 PM Consistory/Bds.	12	13 10 AM-Noon Mercersburg Study Group Preschool 2 Day Program	14 Preschool 3 & 4 Day Program	15 8:00 PM AA
16 7:45 AM Eucharist 9:00 AM-C.E. 10:00 AM Koinonia 10:30 AM Eucharist(followed by Inst. Practice) Jack Hocker preaching	17 7:00 PM Choir 8:15 PM Bells Parish Post Deadline	18 1:00-3:00 PM Knit for God's Love Prayer Shawl	19 7:00 PM T.W.O.	20 6:30 PM Cub Scouts No Preschool	21 No Preschool	22 8:00 PM AA
23 7:45 AM Eucharist 9:00 AM-C.E. 10:00 AM Koinonia 10:30 AM Worship Order of Healing	24 6:30 p.m. Family Candlelight Service 10:30 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service with Holy Communion No Preschool	25 OFFICE CLOSED No Preschool	26 No Preschool	27 No Preschool	28 No Preschool	29 8:00 PM AA
30 7:45 AM Eucharist 9:00 AM-C.E. 10:00 AM Koinonia 10:30 AM Lessons & Carols	31 7:00 PM Choir 8:15 PM Bells No Preschool					

Christmas Maze

Help Mary and Joseph find their way to the inn.





TRINITY UCC

DECEMBER 2018

CREATE SOME PEACE THIS SEASON

The holiday season can be filled with activity and special pleasures.

We hope that you will create time to catch your breath, be still, and enjoy your child. Reading a book or telling a story with your little one snuggled close

can be of more value than viewing too many television specials. Family traditions

are more memorable than squeezing in more "Christmas spectaculars." We wish you each a blessed and beautiful holiday season!



SNOW DAYS (Just In Case!) Remember to listen to WGAL-TV, Channel 8, or check their web site for any delays or cancellations. When Hempfield schools are delayed, we will have classes with a modified schedule. 2 day am, 3 day, and 4 day 10:30-12:30. 2 day pm 1:00-3:00. Tiny Tots 10:30-11:30, Enrichment Class 12:30-2:30, and Lunch Bunch 12:30-2.

EMAIL ALERTS/REMINDERS Please be sure we have an accurate email address you use regularly.

FUNDRAISER APPRECIATION We are grateful to all of you for the ways you supported Trinity Preschool through the fundraiser with Bird-in-Hand Bakery! We sold well over 500 baked goods! We are aware of how much time some of you put into taking orders, collecting money, picking up and delivering and we thank you! The proceeds will be used to replace worn out, tired toys as well as pay for field trips and special events.

CHRISTMAS KINDNESS Our preschool children will have the opportunity to practice compassion for others this holiday season. We will collect games and craft supplies to donate to Clare House in Lancaster County. If you would like to participate you are invited to drop your donations into the Christmas decorated box outside your child's classroom during the month of December.

PRESCHOOL SKILLS Your child spends time each day in class developing fine motor skills like cutting with scissors, manipulating writing tools, and placing puzzle pieces. The more opportunities they have to practice at home, the less frustrating it will be for them. Keep this in mind as you make your child's "wish list" for the holiday! Does your child have access to a wide variety of writing tools, child safety scissors, glue, paints, reading/picture books and play dough? There are some wonderful teaching videos and television programs but nothing teaches better than **doing!**

PARENT REPRESENTATIVES

Alisha Katzenstein (Rylan Katzenstein Tiny Tots) alishakatz0115@gmail.com

Lillian Renauro (Benjamin Ranauro 2 Day AM) lillianranauro@gmail.com

Matt Bollinger (Shane Bollinger 3 Day) matthew.bollinger@sherwin.com

Jillian Fry (Makenzie Fry 3 Day) psuchica03@hotmail.com

Gabrielle Knowles (Camden Gill 4 Day) gabbyknowles1026@gmail.com



HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS Our 2-day class children will celebrate Christmas the last day before their vacation, Thursday, December 13th. We invite you to school that day for crafts, refreshments and singing. Details will come later. Our 3-day and 4-day children will celebrate Christmas on Friday, December 14th. We invite you and family and friends to the church sanctuary for a musical program at 10:45am for the morning classes and 1:45 for the afternoon class.

A CHILD'S LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT Your child may be able to express himself so that you can understand, but he is still developing! To stimulate speech and language development:

- encourage your child to express his feelings, ideas, dreams, wishes and fears.
- comment on what you did or how you think your child feels; this will stimulate more speech than a direct question.
- allow your child to create new, free designs with crayons and paper; then ask her what she has made.
- help your child memorize songs, rhymes and verses. Nursery rhymes are terrific!
- continue to read longer stories.
- talk with your child as you would with an adult in most instances.
- remember that your child will understand more than he/she will be able to say.
- actively listen when your child talks.

SPECIAL DATES AND TOPICS

Thursday, December 13 – 2-day classes Christmas programs

Friday, December 14 – 3-day and 4-day class Christmas programs

Thursday, December 20 through Tuesday, January 1 – **NO SCHOOL** Christmas Holiday

Wednesday, January 2 – Classes resume

Monday, January 21 - **NO SCHOOL** – Martin Luther King Jr. Day



4-day class – Wow, the holiday season is already here! We will be building gingerbread houses, discussing the difference between wants and needs, Christmas traditions, and how some other countries celebrate the holiday season. Merry Christmas!

3-day class – We had lots of fun in November graphing leaves, learning to tally, working on letters Rr & Tt, patterning, and making turkey disguises. December is a short month full of gingerbread men, gifts, giving, gold and practicing for our holiday program. We wish you all a wonderful holiday season

2-day AM & PM classes – November was full of turkey feathers as we cheered up our hallway turkey and practiced our turkey feather colors during circle time. We will continue to work on name recognition, shapes & number recognition, and rote counting during December. We are looking forward to our holiday program and spending the morning singing and crafting with our 2-day families!

Tiny Tots – Tiny tots will be exploring the color green, and triangles. We will learn some Christmas songs and be thinking about Santa and his reindeer!



PRESCHOOL TAX NUMBER TAX #23-1719341. IF YOU ARE WORKING WHILE YOUR CHILD IS IN PRESCHOOL, YOU MAY BE ABLE TO CLAIM TUITION. SEE YOUR TAX ADVISOR.



“I hear, and I forget. I see, and I remember. I do, and I understand.” – Chinese proverb



Trinity Concert Series Looking For Supporters 2019

Would you like to support the Trinity Concert Series with a donation towards the expenses incurred? Please complete this form and return it with your donation to the church office, or place it in the offering plate. If you wish to Sponsor a complete concert, please speak to the Director of Music.

1848 Circle \$200.00 or More
Benefactor \$100.00 - \$199.99
Patron \$50.00 - \$99.99
Well-Wisher \$0.01 - \$49.99

Name

Amount

In Honor/Memory Of:

Trinity U.C.C.
2340 State Street
East Petersburg, PA 17520

The Lancaster Association

of the
Penn Central Conference
United Church of Christ
Upcoming Events



December 2018



President's Corner



Dear Members of the Lancaster Association,

It was a true joy to see many of you at our fall meeting on November 4 at Lancaster Theological Seminary. The setting was magnificent as we heard from some of our committees, approved our 2019 budget, remembered clergy who died since our last meeting, and learned more about the PA Academy of Ministry.

As we look ahead to December, I remind our congregations to make sure they send in their dues before December 31. We have several congregations who have not sent their check to our treasurer.

I also want to remind you of the two ordinations in December:

December 2-Nilda Roman at Wisdom's Table at St. Peter's U.C.C.

December 16-Laura Ramsey at Christ U.C.C., Elizabethtown

Both services will be at 3 p.m. Clergy are invited to process with red stoles. We encourage all clergy and lay leaders to join us for these two services!

As we approach the season of Advent, let us prepare for the hope, peace, joy, and love we receive from the Christ child. In the midst of the division we are experiencing in our world right now, let us be messengers of hope and life!

Blessings,
Chris, Association President

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED
Ephrata
Manor
(Please Post)**

**DATES TO
REMEMBER**

**Dec. 2
Concert
Ordination**

**Dec. 8
Carol Sing**

**Dec 9
Blue
Christmas
Service**

**Dec 16
Ordination**

Ephrata Manor

A United Church of Christ Home

Ephrata Manor is looking for a few volunteer pianists and/or organists who may be willing to share their gifts, during their Wednesday afternoon worship services. Other musicians and vocalists are of course very welcome!

Our residents love worship, love music, and love God, and look forward to our 3 pm Wednesday afternoon services. We have a choir of about 20 people with two volunteer choir leaders. The choir likes to offer a Choral Introit, an Anthem, and a Choral Benediction. We usually have about 80 to 100+ in worship each week.

Our hymns cover a broad spectrum; we sing the "old time favorites" and we sing newer songs too, all coming from a wide variety of traditions, as God is always doing and teaching us new things! Typically most services have the choir's offerings, three hymns/songs, a prelude and postlude.

The choir rehearses at 2 pm on Wednesdays and our service begins at 3 pm and typically lasts no longer than 45 minutes. The commitment need not be every week, but what you could offer would certainly bless many at this important ministry serving older adults.

For additional information, please contact:

Rev. Edward A. Dickel
Chaplain @ Ephrata Manor
99 Bethany Road
Ephrata, PA 17522
717.738.4940
edickel@ucc-homes.org



"In the spirit of Christ's love, the ministry of United Church of Christ Homes is to provide care and service to elders through acts of love and compassion."



Trinity UCC

2340 State St.
East Petersburg, PA
www.trinityeastpete.org

Concert/Desserts

Featuring
Trinity Church Musicians

Sunday, December 2, 2018

Concert – 6:00 PM

Desserts Following The Concert
Sign-up Sheet In Church Narthex
Or

Call 717-569-1632 For Dessert Reservations



*Freewill Offering Benefits
Music For Everyone
and Trinity Music Ministry*



Also Join Us Dec. 24
For Christmas Eve:
6:30 PM Family Service
10:30 PM Eucharist
Musical Preludes
Prior To Services



Praise God from whom all blessings flow!



You are Cordially Invited to the
Service of Ordination for
Ms. Nilda Roman

Sunday December 2nd at 3:00 PM

Wisdom's Table at St. Peter's UCC
816 Buchanan Ave.
Lancaster, PA

Dr. Elizabeth Conde-Frazier, Preacher

Light refreshments to follow in Fellowship Hall

Clergy please wear red stoles
and gather at 2:30 PM for instructions, prayer and processional



Trinity UCC

2340 State St.
East Petersburg, PA
www.trinityeastpete.org

Concert/Desserts

Featuring
Trinity Church Musicians

Sunday, December 2, 2018

Concert – 6:00 PM

Desserts Following The Concert
Sign-up Sheet In Church Narthex
Or

Call 717-569-1632 For Dessert Reservations



*Freewill Offering Benefits
Music For Everyone
and Trinity Music Ministry*



Also Join Us Dec. 24
For Christmas Eve:
6:30 PM Family Service
10:30 PM Eucharist
Musical Preludes
Prior To Services



Praise God from whom all blessings flow!



You are Cordially Invited to the
Service of Ordination for
Ms. Nilda Roman

Sunday December 2nd at 3:00 PM

Wisdom's Table at St. Peter's UCC
816 Buchanan Ave.
Lancaster, PA

Dr. Elizabeth Conde-Frazier, Preacher

Light refreshments to follow in Fellowship Hall

Clergy please wear red stoles
and gather at 2:30 PM for instructions, prayer and processional

Old Zion Church Carol Sing



December 8

Old Zion Church offers the tradition of a Carol Sing on Saturday, December 8 at 2 PM and 4:30 PM. Old Zion Church is a historically preserved church located on Reifsnyder Road in Brickerville. This year *Break From Blue Collar*, a modern barbershop quartet, will perform and lead the carol sing at 2 PM and 4:30 PM.

The church remains in its original state from 1813, without heat or electricity. Candles and a chandelier lit annually add to the beautiful Christmas atmosphere. Remember to dress warmly and bring along a flashlight to guide you back to your car. In the event of inclement weather, please check www.OLDZIONCHURCH.ORG for information. Winter Weather Policy follows. **For safety reasons, ice or snow on the ground on Saturday, December 8 will result in a cancellation of the event.**

FREE tickets are required with up to 6 tickets requested for either service. Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope, to David Hoffman, 1263 Ash Lane, Lebanon, PA 17042. Ticket requests accepted after November 15.

Photo courtesy of Break From Blue Collar.



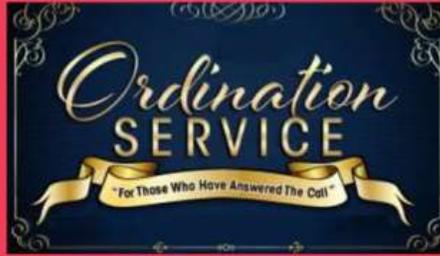
Christ Church UCC
247 S. Market St.
Elizabethtown, PA

Blue Christmas Service

December 9
7:00 p.m.

Christ Church will offer a special Blue Christmas service on Sunday evening, December 9th at 7:00 p.m. The Christmas season, with all its pageantry and celebrating, can be a particularly difficult time for those experiencing loss, loneliness, or other stressful life events. A Blue Christmas service allows us to acknowledge the struggles that we all face while providing a safe place of rest, comfort and healing. Join us for this gentle, contemplative service. All are welcome to attend.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!



You are Cordially Invited to the
Service of Ordination for
Laura Ramsey at
Sunday December 16th at 3:00 PM
Christ U.C.C.
247 S Market St., Elizabethtown

Clergy please wear red stoles
and gather at 2:30 PM for instructions, prayer and processional



An Epiphany Concert

Featuring Seasonal Holiday Favorites



Sunday, January 6, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

Palmyra Church of the Brethren
45 N. Chestnut St., Palmyra, PA 17078
www.palmyracob.org

A good will offering will be taken to benefit the band and church music ministry.