

December, 2017

Christmas & More, 2017

Holiday Ministries of Trinity Lutheran Church
Bedford, PA



IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, Dec. 17; 9:45 am

50th Anniversary Family
Festival Celebration
Sunday, Dec. 17; 3:00 pm

Poinsettia Display
Orders by Sunday, Dec. 17

Sunday Morning, Dec. 24
ONE liturgy at 10:00 am

Christmas Eve Liturgies
Sunday Evening, Dec. 24
6:00 pm, 8:30 pm & 11:00 pm

Christmas Day Liturgy
Monday, Dec. 25
ONE Liturgy at 10:00 am

Christmas Church Walk
Wednesday, Dec. 27; 6:00 pm

Sunday Morning, Dec 31
ONE Liturgy at 10:00 am
Holiday Brunch to follow

Sunday, Jan 7, 2018
Celebrating the Feast of the
Epiphany; Eucharists at 8:30 &
11:00 am / Special Breakfast &
Craft at 9:45 am

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Liturgies...

Advent 4

Sunday Morning, Dec. 24
ONE Eucharist at 10:00 am
On Sunday, December 24,
(the morning of our
Christmas Eve Liturgies), we
will gather for (only) ONE
Eucharist, at 10:00 am.
Sunday School will also be in
recess this morning.



Christmas Eve

6:00, 8:30 & 11:00 pm
Worshippers will gather to
celebrate the Feast of the
Nativity of our Lord with
three beautiful candle-
light Eucharists on
Christmas Eve and one
Eucharist on Christmas
morning.

The evening liturgies will be
celebrated at 6:00 pm, 8:30
pm, and 11:00 pm.

The 6:00 pm Eucharist will
be especially welcoming to
families with young children.
Children of the parish will
sing, and we'll also gather

the kids for a special
"Children's Homily".

The 8:30 pm liturgy will be
led by our Bell Choir.

The 11:00 pm liturgy will be
led by our Anthem Choir and
will be accompanied by
organ and a brass ensemble.

Christmas Day 10:00 am

The 10:00 am Christmas
Morning Eucharist will
include traditional readings
and carols.

"FAMILY FESTIVAL" ~ Our 50th Annual Gathering

Sunday afternoon,
December 17, at 3:00 pm,
parishioners and friends
of Trinity will gather for
our 50th Annual Family
Festival Celebration.

We're excited to welcome
friends from our historic
Greater Bedford Lutheran
Parish family of
neighboring Lutheran
Congregations.

This year's gathering
begins in the Nave with
the Children & Cantata
Choir's combined
presentation of "Oh

Come, Little Children",
composed by Terry
Osman.

Then, we'll take a little
break and re-group in
Trinity Hall, where our
Children will share their
annual Christmas
Pageant.



Following the pageant,
we'll share in a special
gathering, with some
wonderful finger-foods
and refreshments, as we
renew acquaintances with
friends from our "Greater
Bedford Lutheran Parish"
days.

Please come and spend the
afternoon with friends of the
parish, and our neighbors,
as part of our Holiday
Preparations.

2017's Annual Congregational Meeting...



Through the years, the people of Trinity and the ministries we share have been used by God to bless and nurture the faith of parishioners and friends alike. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we strive to share a vibrant Christian Witness with not only this community, but across the region and around the world as well.

All Parishioners and Friends are encouraged to gather with our parish leaders and participate in our 248th Annual Congregational Meeting, which will be held Sunday, December 17 at 9:45 am (in Trinity Hall).

Please join us to hear about and affirm the many ministries which Trinity shares to serve our Lord and witness to our neighbors of His love.

We'll elect four new parishioners to serve on our Church Council, which works with our pastors to organize and coordinate our many ministries. "Thanks!" to Alice Corle, Wayne Hulihan, Mary Lorah, and Carol Siegfried for agreeing to accept a nomination to the ballot.

We'll review and act on the 2018 Parish Ministry Budget, which has been thoughtfully prepared by

our Ministry Teams and Church Council. This Budget allocates the financial resources for accomplishing our ministries through the upcoming year.

We'll also act on the proposed Altar-Nave Renovation Project and the proposed Amendments to Trinity's Constitution & Bylaws.

Please visit Trinity's website, prior to the meeting, to review the resources which have been posted, and plan to attend the meeting.

A Special Sunday Morning ~ December 31, 2017 ONE Liturgy at 10:00 am...



Sunday, December 31, The 1st Sunday after Christmas, we will gather for ONE Sunday morning Eucharistic liturgy, at 10:00 am.

As we gather for this final Eucharist of 2017, we will

also enjoy another opportunity to hear our Children and Cantata Choir sing, "O Come, Little Children".

During this liturgy, we will share in the prayers of Installation with our 2018

Church Council Members.

Then, following the liturgy, we'll gather in Trinity Hall, with families and friends of the parish, to enjoy our traditional "Holiday Brunch", served by The Women of Trinity.

Christmas Poinsettia Display ~ Memorials & Honorariums...



Each Christmas, we create a beautiful display of red and white poinsettias to the Glory of God as a memorial and honorarium to friends and loved ones of the congregation.

Special Envelopes have been created to enable donors to conveniently

share gifts, which are available from the ushers on Sunday mornings, in Trinity Hall, or by calling the church office.

Please include your gift of \$10.00 for each memorial or honorarium you would like to share, and be sure to indicate the name(s) of

the person(s) in whose memory or honor your gift is made.

So that your honorarium or memorial can be included in our Christmas Publications, please be sure to return it to the Church Office by Sunday, December 17.

Bedford Community Christmas Church Walk...

The 2017 Church Walk will be held Wednesday, Dec 27, beginning at 6:00 pm, at the Bedford United Methodist Church (132 E. John Street).

Come and join with friends of the Bedford Community as we make our annual ecumenical pilgrimage through the downtown churches, singing carols and reading the Christmas Story together.

In addition to the readings and carols, each church is planning to share a little special music as part of our visit.

This is also a great opportunity to see the beauty of our neighbors' churches as they are adorned and decorated for the Holidays.

We'll visit the United Methodist Church, St James Episcopal Church, St Thomas Roman Catholic

Church, the Bedford Presbyterian Church, Trinity Lutheran Church, Mt Pisgah AME Zion Church, and conclude at St John's U.C.C., where our hosts are planning a time of refreshments for one-and-all to enjoy.

Please share an invitation with a friend, and plan to join us!

... hint... carrying a flashlight can be most helpful...



Celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord...

Sunday, January 7, 2018 will be our parish Celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany.

With two Festival Eucharists (8:30 and 11:00 am) and a special All-Parish Gathering and special craft time with our children & families at 9:45

am, we're looking forward to remembering the Adoration of the Magi, as they came bearing their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh for our Infant Lord, and celebrating the Good News of His Saving Birth which reaches out to all people of the earth!

At the conclusion of both liturgies we will gather in the Narthex for the annual "Blessing of the Doors" and share sticks of chalk for worshipers to take home to mark the doors of our own homes, as well.



Generosity Abounds at Trinity...

Through 2017, parishioners and friends have demonstrated wonderful generosity and support of the ministries of Trinity.

We've hosted 50 weekly Free Community Dinners, clothed 30+ local children with winter clothing, shared gifts of more than \$12,000 with Lutheran Disaster Relief Efforts following natural disasters, supported Camp Sequanota's Framing Faith for the Future Campaign with a

gift of \$3,500, shared more than \$37,000 with Trinity's special building appeal to replace the protective coverings on our stained glass windows, coordinated more than \$22,000 in charitable aid for utility and rental assistance to our local neighbors through our partnership with Salvation Army, supported the work of the Allegheny Synod with a Faith Commitment of more than \$15,000, and advanced the ministries of

the ELCA World Hunger Appeal with gifts of more than \$2,500.

And all of this, of course, is above and beyond our "regular offerings" which provide for our ongoing ministries which support our congregational employees and pastoral staff, our worship, learning, fellowship ministries, and the upkeep and improvements of our facilities.

Your generosity enables us to share the Gospel in unique and profound ways.

Thank You!

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Staff:
Pastor David Weinhold
Pastor Raymond Short
Children's Ministries: Liz Miller
Secretary: Kathie Crist

A Special "Free Community Dinner"...

On Tuesday, Dec 19, Trinity's Free Community Dinner Servers are planning a very special Holiday Dinner for our Tuesday-night Guests.

We're planning a turkey dinner, with all the

fixin's, and... a special distribution of Personal Hygiene Items.

Sign up in Trinity Hall, or call the Church Office, if you would like to help with this special holiday dinner.



"Good Gifts" for Gift-Giving...

The ELCA's Good Gifts catalogue is a marvelous way to reduce the stress of shopping for those "hard to buy for" family members and friends – and is available year round (not just at Christmas) for you to share gifts and an act of Faith at the same time!

You can donate chicks for \$10, a hive of honey bees

for \$20, a piglet for \$30, a young goat or a share of a milk cow for \$50, or a lamb for \$125.

Your gifts will be shared with a family to help them start a small farming business which will help them be more self-sufficient and even more able to support their neighbors.

Special cards are available through "Good Gifts" which donors may send to their

family and friends to let them know that a gift has been made in their honor.

For more info, please visit www.elca.org/goodgifts.



Address Label Here

Postage
Stamp
Here

Trinity Lutheran Church
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