



Patience in A Busy Time

Pastor Weinhold

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

- Galatians 5:22

Sometimes the joy we experience when we receive a gift is made that much greater by the patience and self-control we had to display as we waited for its arrival.

As we prepare to shift into the season of Advent, we find ourselves surrounded by a culture of instant gratification. And yet, as Advent begins, we find that we must patiently travel through four Sundays before we get to burst forth into the joy and celebration of Christmas. This is a difficult thing to do as excitement and anticipation grows.

Yet, as we patiently maneuver through one week and then another we find a shift happening inside of us. We learn that the wait does not kill us. We find that we have time to think about exactly why Christmas and the birth of Christ are such earth shaking events. We have the chance to prepare ourselves to greet the celebration of Christmas morning in good and faithful ways.

We do not enjoy waiting for the fun and exciting things in life. But this Advent, may we embrace the wait. And may we take the time to pray, reflect, and anticipate the joyous blessing that it is to have God among us in this world.

Perhaps we will find that when Christmas does arrive, the joy and wonder of it all is even more than we expected.

**Family Festival
Sunday, December 17**

3:00pm

Christmas Musicale

Children's Pageant

Trinity Dancers

Refreshments & Fellowship

Don't miss a great afternoon together at Family Festival. We will sing, laugh, enjoy a children's pageant, dance, and fellowship together.

December Fellowship at Trinity

Dec 3 at 9:45am

Advent Day Festivities

Dec 3 at 2:00pm

Youth Group

Dec 7 at Noon

Mid-Day Dinners at Springhouse

Dec 7 at 6:00pm

Women of Trinity Christmas Fun

Dec 12 at 6:00pm

Trinity Book Club

Dec 17 at 3:00pm

Family Festival



Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, December 17

9:45am

Trinity Hall

Plan to be with us for our Annual Congregational Meeting this December 17. We will review and give thanks for a great year together, adopt a budget for 2024, and elect 4 new council members to 3 year terms.

Advent Calendars

Available at the Resource Table
in Trinity Hall

Stop by and grab an Advent Calendar that will help you mark the season and build expectation as we prepare to celebrate God with us on Christmas Morning.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing Trinity's Week to Ring December 18-24

Last year through our partnership with Salvation Army, we were able to share almost \$27,000 in local assistance from our office at Trinity.

All of that was generated through donations made to the Red Kettles between Thanksgiving and Christmas. If you would be willing to take a bell ringing shift at either Save-A-Lot or Giant Eagle this December, please sign up in Trinity Hall and help us raise new funds to share with our local neighbors in the coming year.

Christmas & End of Year Worship

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 24

One Liturgy at 10:00am

Christmas Eve Liturgies

Sunday, December 24

6:00pm - Guitar & Cantor

8:30pm - Piano & Bells

11:00pm - Organ w/ Anthem Choir
& Brass

Liturgy on Christmas Day?

Monday, December 25

One Liturgy at 10:00am

(Please Sign Up in Trinity Hall if Interested)

New Years Eve Liturgy

Sunday, December 31

One Liturgy at 10:00am





Blessing of Vicars

This Fall we have had the great blessing of serving as an apprenticeship site and welcoming Vicar Dale among us on Sunday mornings. He and his family will remain with us through Christmas Eve.

In mid-January, Seminarian Quinn Silco (pictured below) will come among us to begin a yearlong Vicarage at Trinity.

Trinity is a wonderful congregation and provides excellent opportunities for future pastors to train and grow. And we benefit greatly from the faithful gifts and insights they share among us as well.



Christmas Church Walk

Wednesday, December 27

6:00pm

Join us for an ecumenical and faith inspiring walk through seven local congregations as we sing together and hear from the Scriptures of the birth of Christ.

Christmas Poinsettia

Sponsorships

\$10 Each

If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia that will adorn our Nave on Christmas Eve in memory or honor of a loved one please use one of the designated envelopes found in the rear of the Nave. After Christmas, Poinsettias will be shared with homebound members of the congregation.

----- Outreach Update

I often like to ask myself if our surrounding community would notice if our congregation were to disappear one day. I think the outreach we have shared this year will go to show that our congregation does indeed make a difference in this world.

A few highlights include:

- Nearly \$27,000 shared through Salvation Army Local Assistance
- Over \$4,000 in additional utility, rent, and crisis assistance
- Organized Sheetz for the Kids Program Sharing \$6400 in Christmas gifts with local children
- Children's Winter Clothing sharing \$5,500 of warm clothes with local children
- Over \$13,000 raised in special appeals assisting with disasters, food insecurity, missions, and local and global needs
- Nearly \$20,000 to the larger church, seminary, seminarian support, and creation of congregational resources
- On track to serve 4000 hot meals through Free Community Dinners this year alone
- Provided space for Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries, 4 Local Scout Troops, Military Mothers, Youth & Adult Leadership Bedford County, Southern Allegheny Museum of Art, RSVP Choir

Thank you for the support, time and encouragement you share which allows this congregation to truly and tangibly be the hands and feet of Christ in this world.

A Generous Year at Trinity

As another calendar year begins to come to a close it is fitting to give a huge word of thanks for the gifts that you have shared with the congregation this year.

We have enjoyed another year of vibrant and healthy giving which has allowed us to fund and fuel some amazing ministries in this community. Through your gifts we have been able to offer faithful and beautiful worship, faith formation for all ages, regular sacramental engagement, compassion to those facing difficulty and challenge, visitation for the homebound, encouragement and rejoicing with those in times of celebration, assistance to those in need, care for our building and campus, and support for the larger ministries of the Church.

Thank you for the faithful gifts you have shared. We strive to use them well in service of Christ, in care of those he loves, and in dedication to His Church.





Advent/Christmas Newsletter

Trinity Lutheran Church

Trinity Lutheran Church
106 W Penn St.
Bedford PA 15522