



HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LAMPLIGHTER

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light in my path." Psalm 119:105



December

Mission Statement

For Holy Trinity

**Seek, Serve and Share
Christ**

In prayer and thanksgiving we:

Focus on Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

Accept all people with Love.

Invite and baptize into God's family.

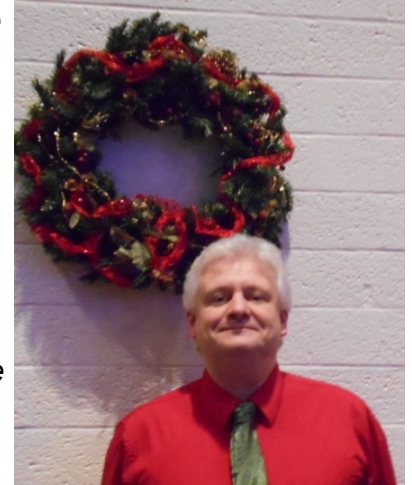
Teach and Live God's Word in joy.

Heal through the power of the Holy Spirit.

*God's angel spoke
in the dream:*

*"Joseph, son of
David, don't
hesitate to get
married. Mary's
pregnancy is Spirit-
conceived. God's
Holy Spirit has made
her pregnant. She
will bring a son to
birth, and when she*

*does, you, Joseph, will name him Jesus—
'God saves'—because he will save his people
from their sins." Matthew 1:20-22*



Now through October 2017, Lutherans are celebrating the life and work of Martin Luther and the Reformation. Over the last two months, we have reviewed Luther's thoughts on education and on politics. This month we consider Luther's teaching on Christmas and the birth of Christ.

After Luther's teachings began to take hold, Luther settled down with Katherine von Bora and started a family at a large, old monastery in Wittenberg. The monastery building was large enough not only to house the Luther's and their six children, but also to board students at the university as well as family and friends who were guest's of the Luther's. History professor Paul Maier observes that Christmas was a time when Martin Luther became cheerful and more humorous at Christmastime.

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1825 Glendale Ave. - Toledo, Ohio 43614 - (419) 382-5644

Check us out on FB—Holy Trinity Lutheran Church—Toledo

E-mail: htlctoledo@gmail.com web site: <http://holytrinity-toledo.org>

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS CONTINUED

Maier notes that “all his words and songs and thoughts concerned the incarnation of our Lord ... For this is indeed the greatest gift, which far exceeds all else that God has created.”

Mary and the No Longer Hidden God

For Luther, the most important gift of the birth of Jesus was that God was no longer a hidden, disconnected God. God is incarnated - made flesh - in the birth of Jesus. In a sermon preached in 1543, Luther observed that “The Son of God did not want to be seen and found in heaven. Therefore, [God] descended from heaven into this humility and came to us in our flesh, laid himself into the womb of his mother and into the manger and went to the cross.” This coming to earth is not to make war against sinners, as Satan desires, but to be “sin’s devourer and death’s strangler, who extirpates sin and knocks death’s teeth out”. In a sermon preached in 1527, Luther explained that “God is not to be feared but loved,” unlike the hidden Satan, who “brings home to me the Majesty and my sin, and terrifies me so that I despair.”

Consequently, Luther exalted Mary for her faith in being chosen by God to reveal God’s self through Jesus. Luther believed that Mary’s pregnancy and birthing “happened to her exactly as to other women, consciously with her mind functioning normally and with the other parts of her body helping along.” However, Mary was different from all mothers - she had chosen to bear the Son of God. Thus, “she gave birth without sin, without shame, without pain, and without injury, just as she had conceived without sin. The curse of Eve ... did not apply to her.”

Luther believed that the greatest miracle of the Christmas story wasn’t in the Virgin nature of Jesus’ birth, but in Mary’s trust in God. Luther noted that “the Virgin birth is a mere trifle for God ... the most amazing of all is that this maiden [Mary] had been chosen to be the mother of God ... Had she not believed, she could not have conceived.” Mary’s trust in God should be modeled by all Christians who come after her: “This is the hardest point, not so much to believe that [Jesus] is the son of the Virgin and God Himself, as to believe that this Son of God is ours.”

Angels Preach the First Christmas Sermon to Shepherds

Luther believed that the story of angels appearing to Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds was necessary to fulfill the work of Jesus as Savior. In 1532, Luther preached that “it is not enough that Christ is born ... Without the proclamation of His birth, we would be left without its blessing.” In other words, without the proclamation from the angels, the Savior would still be a hidden God. “Christ might have been born a hundred times over,” Luther preached, “but it would all have been in vain if it had not been preached and revealed to us.” So important was the proclamation by the angels that our own Lutheran liturgy includes the angelic words of the *Gloria* at the beginning of worship and the *Sanctus* at the beginning of Holy Communion.

Important for Luther was to whom angels revealed Good News. The announcement first to Mary and Joseph (each a “non-descript” maiden and carpenter) and then to anonymous shepherds. Kings and wealthy people are not first to receive this news.

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PASTOR'S THOUGHTS CONTINUED

More importantly, the shepherds don't run and hide when they hear the angel's news. Instead, they kept on being shepherds. Luther preached, "they do not run out into the desert - which is what the crazy monks and nuns in the cloisters did! No the shepherds continue in their vocation, and in the process they also serve their fellow men." The Good News is not good if it is hidden in cloistered solitude. The Good News must be shared between neighbor in the everyday activities of life. The shepherds are examples of loving God and loving neighbor in the lives they are living in. Luther so strongly believed that Christ is served when Christians serve their neighbor that his Christmas sermons often rebuked his parishioners' nostalgia and sentimentality:

"There are many of you in this congregation who think to yourselves: 'If only I had been there! How quick I would have been to go with the shepherds to see the Lord lying in the manger! How quick I would have been to help the baby! I would have washed his linen!' ... Yes you would! You say that because you know how great Christ is, but if you had been there at the time you would have done no better than the people of Bethlehem. Childish and silly thoughts are these! Why don't you do it now? You have Christ in your neighbor. You ought to serve him, for what you do to your neighbor in need you do to the Lord Christ himself."

The Beggar-King Climbs the Ladder to Salvation

The Lord Christ, of course, is the whole point of celebrating Christmas. For Luther, words like "Lord" and "Savior" could be deceptive to people unaware. This Lord and Savior is not a pompous ruler with flashes and thunder. This savior is a Beggar-King. In a sermon in 1534, Luther preached that "God did not consider [becoming an angel] ... the angels are blameless and holy ... He sets the course, chooses the lowly, poor human nature, lost in sin and subject under the devil's rule and power of death, plagued and troubled through and through by the devil and his ceaseless pressure. That meant sinking to the lowest depths." This Beggar-King cannot be found in the halls of power. Luther warned his listeners, "don't be gawking for a golden throne, velvet garments and pieces of gold, or impressive mounted retinue ... For Christ will come in lowliness, meekness, and sorrowful of heart, for all to see, riding on a donkey."

As such, Luther noted in an Advent sermon that "the world is offended that Christ is so miserable and poor." The world expects a pompous, triumphant king. But that is not Jesus' style. In fiery words, Luther preached, "The inn was full. No one would release a room to this pregnant woman. She had to go to a cow stall and there bring for the Maker of all creatures because nobody would give way. Shame on you, wretched Bethlehem!" Thus, Luther took great care in connecting the story of Bethlehem with the story of Calvary. Mary rides into Bethlehem on a donkey in the same way Jesus rides into Jerusalem. The pregnant Mary is rejected at the inn as Jesus was rejected through the cross. Jesus' birth is marked with blood and fear just as was Jesus' crucifixion. The birth of Jesus is a birth into new life; the risen Jesus is a resurrection into new life.

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PASTOR'S THOUGHTS CONTINUED



Saturday, December 24th

7 p.m. Family Candlelight Christmas Eve Service with Communion

Special music begins at 6:30 p.m.

12 a.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve/Day Service with Communion

Special music begins at 11:30 p.m.

This Month's Schedule



Wednesday

Advent Services.....11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Sunday

Adult Sunday School.....9:00 a.m.

Worship in the Sanctuary.....10:00 a.m.

Children's Church.....10:15 a.m.

Holy Communion at 10 a.m. Service

Lamplighter Staff

Typists:.....Nancy Heaney

Carol Ludwig

Articles for the Lamplighter should be submitted by the 15th of the month for the following month's edition.

In his 1543 sermon, Luther compared this ascension from birth into resurrection as a ladder for us to reach everlasting life. God placed God's self into the womb of Mary, then on to the manger, and finally to the cross itself. "This was the ladder," Luther wrote, "that God placed on earth so that we might ascend to God on it."

Have a blessed and joyful Christmas!

Pastor Rob

References:

Klug, Eugene. *The House Postils, vol 1.* Baker Book House. Grand Rapids. 1996.

Lenker, John N. *Sermons of Martin Luther, vol. 1.* Baker Book House. Grand Rapids. 1983.

Maier, Paul L. *Celebrating Advent with Martin Luther.* <http://www.christianitytoday.com/history/2008/december/celebrating-advent-with-martin-luther.html> Accessed November 3, 2016.

Pless, John. "Learning to Preach in Advent and Christmas from Luther." *Concordia Theological Quarterly*, 62:4. Pp. 269-286. October 1998.

THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

I am writing these words on the 13th day of November. While driving down Detroit Avenue tonight, I came across a sight that shocked and angered me: a house that was decorated for Christmas.

It's eleven days before Thanksgiving, and I'm confronted with the jolly figure of Santa Claus, all decked out in red. Can't we enjoy Thanksgiving (one of the few holidays that haven't been totally commercialized) first, before we proceed with the insanity we Americans call "the holiday season?"

If I sound like Scrooge, it's because Christmastime in our country has been hijacked by merchants who try to convince us that we can't be happy unless we buy _____ (fill in the blank). Last year, my downstairs neighbor filled a large portion of the basement with gifts for his three daughters. It sure wasn't like that for me and my six brothers and sisters; when we were growing up, all of our Christmas gifts would fit under the tree.

This is the time of year when we need to educate people about the true meaning of Christmas. It isn't about us – it's a celebration of the birth of Jesus. Our Lord and Savior was born to a young Jewish couple while they were far away from home. Mary and Joseph couldn't even get a room at the Bethlehem Red Roof Inn; they had to settle for a stable. The long-awaited Messiah was born in the most humble of circumstances.

Let me continue my rant. By the time you read this, one of our local radio stations will have begun its month-long marathon of Christmas songs. That happens to be the month I refuse to listen to that station. Coincidence? I think not.

Why am I so grumpy? One reason is that the holiday season is a difficult time for many of us. We may be dealing with depression, illness, or the death of a loved one. For example, during December of 2011, my wife Brooke was dying of cancer. On Christmas Day, I took her to Flower Hospital. Four days later, Brooke was transferred to Hospice of Northwest Ohio. She never returned home. I am no longer grieving Brooke's death, but my Christmas 2011 experience made me acutely aware that the tragic realities of life – and death – can't be eased by jolly old Saint Nick.

During this Christmas season, I encourage you to become aware of those who are going through a tough time. It could be someone who lost a loved one this year, or a person with a physical or emotional illness. Perhaps you know someone who is unemployed or experiencing financial difficulties. You don't have to buy a gift. A phone call, a card, or a hug will make him or her feel better. Another suggestion: offer a listening ear to a friend, family member, neighbor, or co-worker. Don't try to be a problem-solver; just give that person your undivided attention. In this hectic world, that's a gift anyone will appreciate.

Have a Merry Christmas!

Tony



CONGREGATIONAL MTG.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

At the Congregational Meeting on November 20th the following persons were elected to various offices for 2017:

Term expiring December 2017

James Barker
Richard Mitton
Roselyn Retzke

1 year term Youth 2017

Paige Ludwig

Term expiring December 2018

Gary Troknya
Carol Toney
Dean Weygandt

Term expiring December 2019

Darla Austermilller
Julie Barnes
Areena Block

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

3 year term January 2017-December 2019
Cindy Zielinski

NOMINATING COMMITTEE NOMINEES

Nominating Committee for 2017
Tony Biel
Don Fisher
Elaine Ludeman
Rob Ludeman

SYNOD DELEGATES FOR 2017

Delegates: Jim Barker
Patrice Barker
Youth:
Alternates: Craig & Jennifer Beck Siemens



Church Council

We want to gratefully acknowledge the service of our out-going Council persons:
Tony Biel, Don Fisher, Walter Anderson and Justin Albright--Youth Representative.

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE

**“Make a Joyful Noise Unto the Lord.
Praise Him with Songs and Shouts of Joy!”**



“Next to the word of god” Martin Luther wrote, “music deserves the highest praise”. It is no surprise that Lutherans have been known as “the singing church”.

What sets music in worship at Holy Trinity apart from other churches?

I remain at Holy Trinity because I feel blest to teach, play and share with this great congregation our love of Christ through music. Our congregation is a place where faith is lived and hymns and praise songs are the means by which our doctrines are shared with its members. We are fortunate to have each other to carry on in this great tradition.

Holy Trinity is extremely blest to have an adult choir, a handbell choir and some fine instrumentalists to embellish the Sunday service music. I am very pleased with the dedication and enthusiasm of each of the groups’ members. Please come and join any of our musical ensembles if you are interested. As well, I love to hear the church Sanctuary filled with the voices of our congregation during the Sunday service--all the voices of a loving Father coming together to worship Him!

As we approach the season of Advent, let us think about a gift we can share with each other and offer to Christ. For my part, some new music has been composed and will be introduced during the Wednesday Advent Services. Please come and join in singing the NEW music. These intimate services allow for some time to relax, reflect and pray together away from the hustle and bustle of the secular Christmas season. In this way we will feel the Peace of Christ instead of the wild frenzy that the secular world pushes us toward.

During this Advent Season may you and your families be blest with some time for peace and tranquility as we prepare for the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Peace Be With You,
Betsy Nonnenmacher-Monks

HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS

In our recent study on Creating Healthy Congregations, we discussed how we are one body with many different parts. Each part has its own unique function. All parts are working independently but all are needed to maintain the health of the body. In our human bodies, the digestive system gives us the fuel (*food*) we need for energy and the elimination of waste (toxins) to keep us healthy. The Circulatory system delivers that fuel to each individual cell and then collects the waste from each cell to eliminate. All of the thousands of functions of the human body working together for one body. Amazing!



Healthy relationships are when we can value the diversity of people. We are NOT always the same. We enrich each other. We are able to grow and prosper when our friends know that they are loved and valued for who they are, they are free to express themselves with their unique gifts, talents and functions. These many different people (parts) working together make our lives whole.

1 Corinthians 13 is many times picked as a scripture to be read at a marriage but I think the message is true for building relationships and friendships as well as marriages. Below are two translations of 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

⁴Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵ or rude.

It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;

⁶ it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.

⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

New Revised Standard Version

Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self. Love doesn't want what it doesn't have. Love does not strut, doesn't have a swelled head, doesn't force itself on others, isn't always "me first" doesn't fly off the handle, doesn't keep score of the sins of others, doesn't revel when others grovel, takes pleasure in the flowering of truth, puts up with anything, trusts God always, always looks for the best, never looks back, but keeps going to the end.

The Message

1 Corinthians 13:13 NRSV And faith, hope and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is **LOVE**

Accept all people with Love (Part of HTLC mission statement)

Carol Ludwig

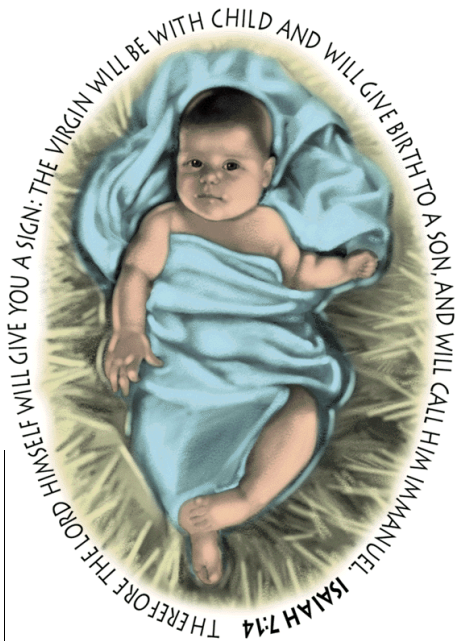
CHRISTMAS SHARING



THE MITTEN TREE is up and ready to accept your contributions of “warm and cozy” items. (scarves, hats, mittens, blankets, and similar items) These will be available to those in need in our clothing store. The items may include “like new” gifts as well. Please do what you can to brighten the Christmas and winter season for the recipients of these gifts.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Want to send everyone in the church greetings for Christmas, but need to conserve on postage? Send one card to the church and we'll post it in the hallway on our Christmas bulletin board. If you would like, send a check in the card earmarked World Hunger and we will send the money to the E.L.C.A. World Hunger Appeal.



We wish you a Blessed Holiday Season!

Pastor Rob Johnson

Betsy Nonnenmacher

Craig Siemens

Kim Seay

Bart Bay

Deanna Malohn

Nancy Heaney

Brad Walch

John Eggert

Suzy Walch

Carol Ludwig

John Ramlow

ADVENT SERVICES

First Sunday of Advent—November 27

Second Sunday of Advent—December 4

Welcome Christmas Concert—3:00 p.m.

Third Sunday of Advent—December 11

Cantata sung during service

Fourth Sunday of Advent—December 18

Children's Pageant during service



Advent Services— Wednesday, November 30, 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 7, 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 14, 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 21, 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.



Saturday, December 24th

Christmas Eve and Day Candlelight Services

with Communion

at 7:00 p.m. and Midnight

Special music offered 1/2 hour before each service.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

December Altar Guild

Coordinator: Sharon Mall-419-385-1139

Darla Austermilller

Priscilla Badik

Sharon Mall

GREETERS

December 4 Richard Bockbrader

December 11 Elaine & Rob Ludeman

December 18 Kathy Ludeman

December 24 6:30 p.m.

11:30 p.m.

LAY ASSISTANT

December 4 Judy Hurst

December 11 Jan Fisher

December 18 Martha Everhart

December 24 6:30 p.m.

Julie Barnes

11:30 p.m.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

December 4 Cindy Zielinski

December 11 Cindy Moreo

December 18 Brad Walch

December 24 6:30 p.m.

11:30 p.m.

ACOLYTES

December 4 Charlie Herrmann

December 11 Tony Portillo

December 18 Zoey Ludwig

December 24 6:30 p.m.

11:30 p.m.

USHERS

December 4 Elaine & Rob Ludeman

Peggy & Joel McDonald

December 11 Peggy & Joel McDonald

Julie & Carl Barnes

December 18 Julie & Carl Barnes

John Ramlow, Bart Bay

December 24 6:30 p.m.

Carl Barnes

11:30 p.m.

SOUND TECHNICIANS

December 4 Tom Creekmore

December 11 Glenn Zielinski

December 18 Glenn Zielinski

December 24 6:30 p.m.

11:30 p.m.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

December 4 Cindy Zielinski

December 11 Carol Toney

December 18 Children's Pageant

DECEMBER INFANT NURSERY

December 4 Chris & Paige Ludwig

December 11 Trumbull Family

December 18 Children's Pageant

DECEMBER COUNTERS

December 4 Brad & Suzy Walch and

Julie & Stephen Thomas

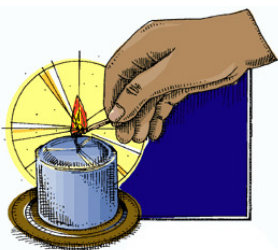
December 11 John Ramlow and

Barbara & Jim Ray

December 18 Nancy Heaney and

Richard Bockbrader

December 25 Deanna Malohn and



*Worship
Assistants Needed*

CHRISTMAS EVE ASSISTANTS NEEDED

As you can see we don't have positions filled for the services held on Christmas Eve because we don't know which service you will be attending. If you see a time and opening you would be able to fill please give us a call in the office. Your help would be appreciated!

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

In order to prepare for next month, and also to see if you have any conflicts with dates, we are printing the volunteer assignments for January in the space below. If you find you cannot serve on the date you are assigned, please try to switch with someone else or let the office know as soon as possible. Also, if you see a blank date and would like to volunteer for that time please let us know. Thank you!

January Altar Guild

Coordinator: Sharon Mall-419-385-1139

Julie Thomas
Roselyn Retzke

GREETERS

January 1
January 8 Irene Fairchild, Joan Kinsey
January 15 Marian & Bart Bay
January 22 Julie & Carl Barnes
January 29 Julie & Stephen Thomas

LAY ASSISTANT

January 1 Carol Ludwig
January 8 Chris Ludwig
January 15 Fred Heaney
January 22 Tony Biel
January 29 Rob Ludeman

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

January 1 Jennifer Beck
January 8 Tom Creekmore
January 15 James Egan
January 22 John Eggert
January 29

ACOLYTES

January 1 Charlie Herrmann
January 8 Zoey Ludwig
January 15 Tony Portillo
January 22 Riley Crable
January 29 Cassie Herrmann

SOUND TECHNICIANS

January 1 Jim Roman
January 8 Jeff Seay
January 15 Jeff Seay
January 22 Dean Weygandt
January 29 Dean Weygandt

USHERS

January 1 Dee Stein, Jennifer Trumbull
Gary Troknya, Richard Mitton
January 8 Gary Troknya, Richard Mitton
Dianne & Ron Curtis
January 15 Dianne & Ron Curtis
Shirle Johnson, Kathy Ludeman
January 22 Shirle Johnson, Kathy Ludeman
Betsy & Ron Sutphin
January 29 Betsy & Ron Sutphin
Priscilla & Ron Badik

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

January 1
January 8 Allison Irons
January 15 Children in Worship
January 22 Pat Albright
January 29 Becky DeLucia & Beth Creekmore

DECEMBER INFANT NURSERY

January 1
January 8 Jim & Patrice Barker
January 15 Kim & Bailey Seay
January 22 Chris & Paige Ludwig
January 29 Carol Toney

JANUARY COUNTERS

January 1 Brad & Suzy Walch and
Roselyn Retzke
January 8 John Ramlow and
Priscilla & Ron Badik
January 15 Nancy Heaney and
Roselyn Retzke
January 22 Deanna Malohn and
Priscilla & Ron Badik
January 29 John Ramlow and
Barbara Mitchell

SHARING CHRISTMAS

Mark your calendars for our Ladies Advent Brunch on

December 3rd at 10:00 a.m.

Our speaker will be Aaron Bivens. You will enjoy meeting Mr. Bivens and will be thrilled with his seasonal water color demonstration. He is a local award winning artist who also offers classes at the Artist's club at the Toledo Botanical Gardens on Elmer Drive.

Invite a friend to join us for this lovely morning at the Walbridge Park Shelter House. This is always an uplifting event with beautiful tables decorated by women from HT. You are invited to sign up to decorate a table (*centerpiece and 8 place settings*). Attendance is limited to 100 persons, so get your reservation in early to be sure of a spot.

The Fellowship committee will be taking reservations through November 27th in the main hallway. The cost is **\$8.50** and is payable when you make your reservation. Hope to see you there!



WELCOME CHRISTMAS !

Our annual "Welcome Christmas" program will take place on Sunday, December 4, at 3:00 p.m. in the Holy Trinity Sanctuary.

The Spirit of Christmas will be inspired by the many forms of music, art and readings. The Maumee High School Select Choir will be our special guests, offering a variety of sacred and secular music.

Bring your family and friends to enjoy this beautiful afternoon of music! There will be refreshments and fellowship following the concert.

CHOIR MEMBERS—REMEMBER YOUR REHEARSAL TIMES AND DATES!

Welcome Christmas Refreshments!

If you would like to volunteer to bring in Christmas cookies please call the office or put this in the offering plate. Thank you for being part of the friendliest church in Toledo.

I will bring cookies _____

Name _____ Phone _____

SHARING CHRISTMAS

Christmas Cantata



Betsy and the choir have been working very hard and will be proud to present their Cantata to the congregation on Sunday, December 11th, during the 10 a.m. service. You won't want to miss this special presentation and gift to God as we await the coming of Our Lord and Savior, the baby Jesus. You might also get to hear a little part of it when they perform during the "Welcome Christmas" concert as well. Come and enjoy and invite your friends to both of the events.

As you listen to the bells, orchestra and choir this Christmas season we hope you will want to be a part of these wonderful ministries that let us serve God. Join us on the respective evenings and see if you don't really enjoy the experience.



Bell Choir meets on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. in the balcony.

Orchestra meets on Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m. in the Chancel.

Choir meets on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room that is located in the basement by Luella's Kitchen.



Orchestra



YOUTH ACTIVITIES



CHILDREN'S PAGEANT

Our Children's Christmas Program will be presented during the 10:00 worship service on Sunday, December 18th. All youth in preschool through Junior High school are invited to participate. Please contact Bailey Seay if you have any questions or would like more information.

Donations of cookies and goodies needed
for

"COOKIES BY THE POUND"

(Youth fund raiser)

December 18, 2016

After service

Drop off your donations before service in
Getter Lounge.

After Service come and pick a variety of
Christmas Treats for just \$4 a pound.



Cookie Fundraiser



A huge thank you to the youth and adults who came out to help decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas. Our hearty crew consisted of:

Justin Albright, Darla Austermiller, Priscilla & Ron Badik, Norma Jeanne Bick, Tony Biel, Sheryl Buck, Cheryl & John Eggert, Nancy & Fred Heaney, Deb Krist, Elaine & Rob Ludeman, Kathy Ludeman, Paige Ludwig, Richard Mitton, Tony Portillo, Pr. Rob and Bailey, Kim & Jeff Seay.

After decorating we all enjoyed eggnog and snacks provided by our Christmas angel.

POINSETTIA SALE

Annual Christmas Poinsettia Sale
All PROCEEDS TO:

Our Mission Partners

Salem and Redeemer Lutheran Churches



Fill in the order blank below and put in offering with ALL checks made payable to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Please mark your check memo Poinsettias.

Deadline for placing orders is Sunday, December 18, 2016

Poinsettias are in 4 1/2" pots with three blooms

No. of plants @ \$7.50 each _____ Enclosed \$ _____

Specify color - Red _____ White _____

No flowers, thanks. My entire check for \$_____ should go directly to the Mission Partners.

Name _____ Phone _____

MY GIFT IS GIVEN:

In Loving Memory of (Deceased)

In Honor of (Living) _____

FUN STUFF



Christmas J.O.Y. (*Just an Older You*)

On Thursday, December 1st, Social hour begins 10:00 a.m. The children from our HT Nursery School will entertain with their Holiday music and smiling faces at 11:00 a.m. We will have our special Holiday dinner with assorted appetizers & Christmas Punch. The main entrée will be beef Stroganoff w/buttered noodles, Spinach/Romaine Salad w/pears, dried cranberries & poppy seed dressing, rolls & butter and assorted eclairs & cream puffs. Lunch will be served around 12 noon. Cost is \$7.00. Visitors are welcome.

Please call the office with your reservation or tell your phone caller.

CALLING ALL MEN OF THE CHURCH

Come, join together for breakfast and fellowship on Saturday, December 10th at the Bob Evans at Reynolds and Heatherdowns for a Men's Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. Guests are also welcome.

P.S. The Women's Breakfast Group will not meet in December as they have the Women's Advent Brunch they will be attending on December 3rd. See you in January!



Staff meetings are held each Monday from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

If you call the office during this time, leave a message and we will return your call.



Flower Chart

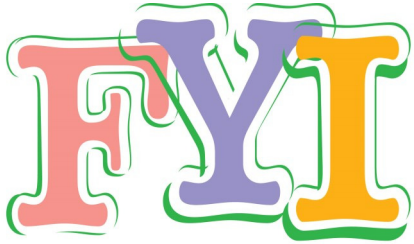
The Flower Charts for 2017 are now in place on the bulletin board in the Narthex. The office will call members who have signed up for a Sunday so that they, in turn, can contact Emery Flowers and Company at 419-867-0962 to directly place the order. The florist will bill to the home, and no charges will be made to the church. The centerpiece charge will be \$20.00; the two Altar vases will be \$25.00 unless you order something more elaborate. Orders should be placed by the Wednesday prior to your Sunday.



THE OFFICE IS CLOSED ON FRIDAY

If you have a need, you can either leave the information on the answering machine or, if it is an urgent situation, you can call Nancy at either 419-382-2392 or 419-464-1707.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS



• FOR YOUR INFORMATION •

Did you know that we now have our web site up and running. It is beautiful as well as informational. It is still in it's infancy but new things will be added over time. Go check us out...

<http://holytrinity-toledo.org>



Silver Sneakers!

THE SILVER SNEAKERS group meets on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 11 a.m. They have a new room set up just for them in the Sunday School wing. There is no fee and the classes are open to all ages. Come, join the fun and get fit as well!



HOLY TRINITY DAY NURSERY

If your family has child care needs, please consider Holy Trinity Day Nursery. We offer a quality program Monday through Friday at a reasonable price. Plus, Church members receive a discount! If interested, call 419-382-4088.

The phrase is simple and the words are few, but behind them is a whole lot of appreciation for all your prayers.



In Gods Love,
Barb Mitchell

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On behalf of the board members and the people we serve, please accept this heartfelt note of thanks for your donation to Hannah's Socks. Your generosity will allow us to continue our mission of providing dignity one pair of socks at a time. Our clients' needs are great and continue to grow. Supporters such as you create sustainability for our work. Thanks to the children for their wonderful offering.

Kind regards,
Robin Laird
Executive Director

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Thank you to our Holy Trinity Thrivent members who directed their choice dollars to us. \$238 was deposited in our account in November.

CELEBRATIONS

December Birthdays

- 1 Jim Barker
- 3 Barbara Mitchell
Gerald Schreiner
- 4 Amanda Moreo
- 8 Don Rogers
Colton Stilwell
- 9 Heidi Croley
Fred Heaney
- 12 Brad Everhart
Jean Schramm
- 14 Melissa Griggs
- 16 Nancy Heaney
- 17 Cindy Moreo
- 18 Joseph Lieser
- 19 Alice Weygandt
- 20 Marshall Tharpe
Miranda Zielinski
- 25 Bob King
Gary Troknya
- 26 Ed Pohlman
Kevin Schlipf
- 27 Dianne Curtis
- 30 Marion Berkebile



December Anniversaries

- 9 Jack & Pat Albright (44 years)
- 12 Dan & Anne Thomas (30 years)
- 20 Ralph & Vicki Gross (47 years)
- 26 James & Barbara Ray (51 years)

Staff meetings are held each Monday from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

If you call the office during this time, leave a message and we will return your call.














Charles Husum

The Don Faist Family
The Lininger Family

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Erleen Steiger who joined the Church Triumphant on November 2nd. Pr. Rob officiated at the funeral service on November 7.

DECEMBER 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>27 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School in G/L 10:00 AM Worship in Sanctuary w/communion 10:15 AM Children's Sunday School 6:30 PM Catechism in G/L</p>	<p>28 8:00 PM Al-Anon in AA Rm</p>	<p>29 9:00 AM Retirees/SOUL 11:00 AM Silver Sneakers Exercise Group 6:00 PM Bell Practice 6:00 PM Harvard Tutoring</p>	<p>30 11:00 AM Advent Service 7:00 PM Advent Service 8:30 PM Men's Basketball in B/H</p>	<p>1 10:00 AM JOY Senior Group 6:00 PM Orchestra Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p>2 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>3</p>  <p>8:00 AM Men's Al-Anon 10:00 AM Women's Advent Brunch 12:00 PM Sarah Loach B/H 12:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>
 <p>4</p> <p>9:00 AM Adult Sunday School in G/L 10:00 AM Worship in Sanctuary w/communion 10:15 AM Children's Sunday School 3:00 PM Welcome Christmas Concert</p>	<p>5 6:30 PM Council Night 8:00 PM Al-Anon in AA Rm</p>	<p>6 9:00 AM Retirees/SOUL 11:00 AM Silver Sneakers Exercise Group 6:00 PM Bell Practice 6:00 PM Harvard Tutoring</p>	 <p>7 11:00 AM Advent Service 7:00 PM Advent Service 8:30 PM Men's Basketball in B/H</p>	<p>8 11:00 AM Silver Sneakers Exercise Group 6:00 PM Orchestra Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p>9 OFFICE CLOSED 4:30 PM Beard Party in G/P</p>	<p>10 7:00 AM Herrmann Party in B/H 8:00 AM Men's Al-Anon 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast at Bob Evans 10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 2:00 PM Holt Party in G/P</p>
 <p>11</p> <p>9:00 AM Adult Sunday School in G/L 10:00 AM Worship in Sanctuary w/communion and Cantata 10:15 AM Children's Sunday School 5:00 PM Mungon's Event in B/H 6:00 PM Herrmann Party in G/L</p>	<p>12 LAMPLIGHTER ARTICLES DUE 8:00 PM Al-Anon in AA Rm</p>	<p>13 9:00 AM Retirees/SOUL 11:00 AM Caring & Conversations in G/L 11:00 AM Silver Sneakers Exercise Group 6:00 PM Bell Practice</p>	 <p>14 11:00 AM Advent Service 7:00 PM Advent Service 8:30 PM Men's Basketball in B/H</p>	<p>15 11:00 AM Silver Sneakers Exercise Group 6:00 PM Orchestra Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p>16 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>17 8:00 AM Men's Al-Anon 10:15 AM Allen Event in B/H 2:00 PM Wealleans Party in G/P</p>
 <p>18</p> <p>9:00 AM Adult Sunday School in G/L 10:00 AM Worship in Sanctuary w/communion and Children's Pageant 10:15 AM Children's Sunday School 11:15 AM Youth Cookie Sale</p>	<p>19 6:30 PM Toledo Youth Orchestra Mtg in G/L 8:00 PM Al-Anon in AA Rm</p>	<p>20 9:00 AM Retirees/SOUL 11:00 AM Silver Sneakers Exercise Group 6:00 PM Bell Practice</p>	  <p>21 11:00 AM Advent Service 7:00 PM Advent Service 8:30 PM Men's Basketball in B/H</p>	<p>22 11:00 AM Silver Sneakers Exercise Group 6:00 PM Orchestra Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice</p>	<p>23 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	 <p>24 8:00 AM Men's Al-Anon 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</p>
 <p>25</p> <p>12:00 AM Christmas Day Candlelight Service</p>	<p>26 8:00 PM Al-Anon in AA Rm</p>	<p>27 9:00 AM Retirees/SOUL 11:00 AM Silver Sneakers Exercise Group</p>	<p>28 8:30 PM Men's Basketball in B/H</p>	<p>29 11:00 AM Silver Sneakers Exercise Group</p>	<p>30 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	 <p>31 8:00 AM Men's Al-Anon</p>