

Trinity Tempo

December 2019



Merry Christmas! Sisters and Brothers,

How exciting is this?! We finally find ourselves at the beginning of Advent. This is a journey I look forward to taking every year. There is always something very exciting about the road that leads to Christmas morning. It is a well paved road; we have all made this journey before. We know the songs and the traditions. But there always seems to be a feeling of newness and vibrancy.

My dad asked me if any of his children enjoy decorating as much as he does. Like clockwork, my dad would start decorating the house on the Friday after Thanksgiving. We knew that as soon as we got out of bed, the Christmas music would be playing and we would be hard at work for the rest of the day putting up the ornaments, garland, tinsel, lights, etc. But that decorating bug didn't get passed down to me. I love Christmas, but I don't feel the need to decorate. Give me a manger scene on the mantle and a picture of a Christmas tree hanging on the wall and I am happy. Now, my family would not be happy. So we too go all out decorating each year, with Elijah and his grandmother in charge of the outside lights and props.

I love the fact that Christmas is stronger than decorations, more exciting than presents, sweeter than the baked goods. My favorite thing about the Christmas season is its strength. There is nothing that can diminish the fact that we are celebrating the birth of Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy. We are celebrating the realization that God has not and will not ever forget about us. Though we may walk in the muck and mire of life, God came to journey with us.

I hope everyone has a Blessed Advent and a Merry Christmas.

PTL,

Pastor Justin Judy



Trinity Happenings

Angel Tree

Prison Fellowship Ministries

Angel Tree is an opportunity for you to make Christmas a little brighter for children with a parent or caregiver in prison.

This year, Trinity will be supporting about eight local children. (Four of the twelve local children reported last month were taken by another church.) Joanne Ondulich is preparing envelopes for you to use when donating to this mission project. Your contributions are used to purchase gifts for the children—usually an article of clothing and a toy suggested by the parent. Gifts (purchased on behalf of the incarcerated parent) are wrapped and presented to the children before Christmas. So on your way out of church stop and select an angel from the tree in the vestibule. For more information, speak with Joanne.

Hats, Gloves, Scarves and Mittens

This year, Trinity is partnering with Level Green Elementary School to provide hats, gloves, scarves and mittens to local children in need. (New items are preferred although they will take gently used ones.)

The greatest need is for items appropriate for children—elementary and middle school—but the school will accept items for teens and adults as well. We are collecting these cold weather accessories through December 8. Drop off your donation in the box located in the overflow area.

Christmas Play and Dinner

The children in Trinity's Sunday School classes will be performing a Christmas play on December 15 at 4 p.m. followed by a covered dish dinner. Take a break from the holiday frenzy, and relax and enjoy an engaging performance, good home cooked food, and wonderful fellowship.

A Word from Our Extended Family

(by Jane Pogue)

Peggy Whitfield:

Peggy had her surgery and has come through that very well. However, now they have found some spots on her kidney and she needs further

testing. Her spirits are good, but she truly needs our love, support and prayers.



Jean Swick:

Jean is still getting rehab at the Paramount Senior Living Center in Bethel Park. We went to visit her and she is doing well, but doesn't get many

visitors. Please call (412.831.1860) or send her a card. She would really like to hear from her church friends.



Note: Jean Swick may have been released to return home since this article was written. Call her before sending a card or making a visit.

Please remember that it's the holidays, and we have friends and family with whom we can share those holidays. Below are the names and addresses of our extended family and we are sincerely asking you to take a little time to send them a card. They are our family, and we need to keep in touch with them.

JoAnn Booher

406 Fairmont Avenue | Trafford PA 15085

Roberta Cuttler

6935 Blue Water Lane | Fennville MI 49408

Joan Hartley

Room 226 | Concordia of Monroeville
4363 Northern Pike | Monroeville PA 15146

Jan Keefer

Room 233 | Independence Court
279 Center Road | Monroeville PA 15146

Judy Mason

Room 332 | The Palms at O'Neil
1 Glenshire Lane | White Oak PA 15132

Kay Meadowcroft

Room 230 | Concordia of Monroeville
4363 Northern Pike | Monroeville PA 15146

Jay and Vicki Stokes

1409 Lyons Chase Circle
Murrysville PA 15668

Jean Swick

Room 220 | Paramount Senior Living
5785 Baptist Road | Bethel Park PA 15102

Peggy Whitfield

Room 118 | Baldwin Health Center
1717 Skyline Drive | Pittsburgh PA 15227

Helping Hands for Trinity

(by Thelma Johnson)

The November 12 meeting was attended by six people. The members voted to keep the same officers in their positions for 2020. The hostesses were Evelyn Felmlee and Donna Piper. The program was given by Beverly Piper from the book *Every Good Gift* by Ann Voskamp and focused on abundant giving.

The next meeting—our annual holiday event—will be held December 10. Trinity's Travelling Tea Party will host our luncheon again this year so it is sure to be wonderful.

We wish our church family "Happy Holidays!"

Doorways to Hope at Home: December 8

Your gifts for this special offering support six mission agencies in Western PA: Erie United Methodist Alliance, United Methodist Human Services of Johnston, UPA Prison Outreach Ministries, Connellsville Area Community Ministries, Greater Pittsburgh Ministries and Eastbrook Mission Barn. These agencies offer a range of services from food and shelter to skill building. Your gifts help keep the doors of these agencies open and serving their communities.

I Didn't Know a Craft Show Could Do That

(by Stephanie Judy)

Most of you probably know that my nephew Declan has been living with our family since August and will continue to be here at least through the end of the school year. He is 12 years old; in fact, just 4 days older than Jonathan. My stepsister and I "shared" our pregnancies. We were both high risk because our first children arrived 10 weeks and 12 weeks early. We shared the same doctor and took our appointments at the same time. She was a single mom even then. We grew closer than ever during this difficult time.

Anyway, Declan now has a lot of problems. He was diagnosed with ADHD and is on medication that gives him many side effects to deal with. He was bullied at his old school and came here with a lot of social anxiety. There is a new husband at home and right now they are trying to work on the home environment so he can return and they can have a loving and supportive family. Please, continue to pray for this situation.

I wanted to write this article to express my thankfulness to God for putting you, our wonderful church family, in Declan's life. Your loving ways embrace and hold up Declan. He is feeling love and support from so many people at Trinity. God's power and perfect way of giving us what we need is amazing me right now.

The day of our craft show was Declan's sister's birthday. He was quite sad that his mom wasn't able to come for a visit that weekend. Justin and I were both helping with the event and so I had to force Declan to come. He was a very miserable little kid that morning. However, the presence of God in our church touched him and changed him. God used so many of you that day to give him an unforgettable demonstration of love. I just can't thank you all enough.

Jo Jo gave Declan a last minute craft table where he was able to make and sell tiny pompom animal creations and very "unprofessional" plastic bead and pipe cleaner jewelry. He spent all day at the show forming relationships with the people in our church. It is so special that Trinity would open up a "professional" fundraising event to this little boy. He made \$25 and tithed 20 percent of it. God and His people (You!) changed Declan's day from misery to joy. Praise the Lord!



Declan with some of his pompom animal creatures.



Ora Mae visits Jo Jo's craft table



Laney, Jonathan, Declan and Drake

Halloween

This year Trinity passed out bags of candy (along with information about the church and a coloring page with the *Pumpkin Parable*). Hotdogs were also available to hungry Trick or Treaters and their parents. Thanks to Beverly Piper, Carol Piper and Jeanne Ruccio for all their hard work.



Carol (above) and Beverly (below) dressed up to distribute candy.



Hardy Trick or Treaters, in all shapes and sizes, braved wind and rain and arrived wearing fun and creative costumes!



Joys & Concerns

Please keep Trinity family, friends and neighbors in your prayers.

Pray for

Elaine Abrams (Jane Pogue's friend)
Christian and George Boehm (sons of Sharren Breakey)
JoAnn Booher
Kathy Ebner
Robert Hainsey
Kevin Knopf
David Whitfield (Peggy Whitfield's brother)
Peggy Whitfield
Dorothy Yocum

Also take a moment and give thanks for friends and family who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this month.

December Anniversaries

1st Jerry and Darlene Williams
8th Les and Donna Race
31st Jerry and Sharren Breakey

December Birthdays

1st Jean Swick
3rd Gloria Stultz
5th Linda Yocum
7th Brent Clausner, Dana Hainsey
8th Bailey McLaughlin
12th Caleb Baker
15th Bryce McLaughlin
16th Janice Mills
18th Greg Keefer
21st Noell Stultz
26th Judy Cromer
28th Joan Vowler
29th Susan Rising
30th Anthony Keefer, Jay Stokes

December Schedules

Greeters

1st Bob and Sandy Chiappetta
8th Patty Aubele
15th Diane Haney
22nd Colleen Divito
24th Piper family
29th John and Jeanne Ruccio

Liturgists

1st Bob Lovre
8th Roger VanRyn
15th Sandy Chiappetta
22nd Joanne Ondulich
29th Beverly Piper

Nursery

1st Beverly Beam and Cindy Graw
8th Jane Pogue and Joan Vowler
15th April Beam and Donna Race
22nd Stephanie Judy and Beverly Beam
29th Noell Stultz and Cindy Graw

Altar Flowers

1st Helping Hands
8th Jane Pogue
15th Cliff and Evelyn Felmlee
22nd Choir
29th open

December Calendar



Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
1 <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship/Communion Scrip Order Day	2 1-2 p.m. Senior Friends	3	4 7:15 p.m. Immersion Bible Study	5 7:15 p.m. Choir	6 7:30 p.m. Crafts & Games Night	7 9 a.m. Trustee Meeting/Work Day at Parsonage
8 <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship/Healing Service Scrip Order Day	9	10 12 p.m. Helping Hands Holiday Party	11	12 7:15 p.m. Choir	13 7:30 p.m. Crafts & Games Night	14
15 <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship 4 p.m. Christmas Play and Dinner Scrip Order Day	16 1-2 p.m. Senior Friends	17 6:30 p.m. Ad-Council	18 Tempo Deadline	19 7:15 p.m. Choir	20	21 9:30 a.m. Cantata Practice
22 <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship/Cantata	23	24 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service 11:15 p.m. Christmas Eve Service <i>Christmas Eve</i>	 <i>Church office closed</i>	26	27	28
29 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship Scrip Order Day	30	 <i>New Year's Eve</i>	 <i>Church office closed</i>	2 7:15 p.m. Choir (tentative)	3	4 10 a.m. Unhanging of the Greens

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
407 DUQUESNE AVENUE
TRAFFORD PA 15085

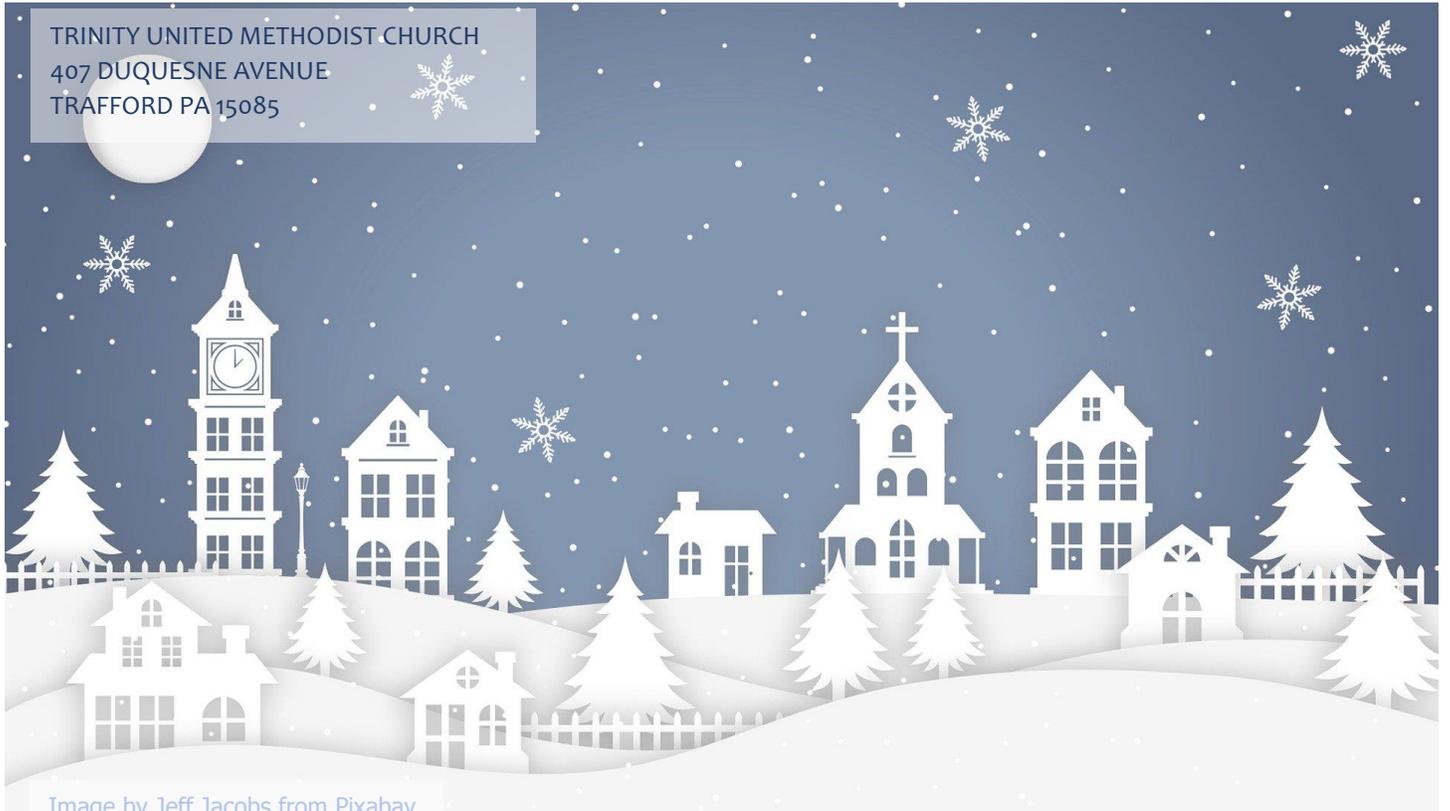


Image by Jeff Jacobs from Pixabay

Tempo Deadline

Articles for the January 2020 issue of the newsletter are due Wednesday, December 18, 2019.



Trinity United Methodist Church

407 Duquesne Avenue • Trafford PA 15085
tumctrafford.org

Justin Judy, pastor

724.594.4073 • pastor@tumctrafford.org

Church office

412.373.0835 • office@tumctrafford.org

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service: 11:15 a.m.

Get Those Coats Ready!

(by Jane Pogue)

Our Warm Hearts, Warm Coats campaign is underway—as you may know—and we need your coats!

Please take time to clean out those closets, and ask your friends and relatives for donations, too! Our goal is at least 50 coats, and I know we can do it. If you have coats, and like me, forget to bring them, I will be glad to give

you a reminder call Sunday mornings!

