



TRINITY HIGHLIGHTS JANUARY 2015

A monthly newsletter of Trinity Lutheran Church - Greencastle, PA
"Sharing Christ in Word and Deed"

SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:30 & 11 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

FROM PASTOR BILL



“How large is your church?”
This is normally the question I get when I meet new people in “non-church” settings. As soon as they find out I am a pastor I can count

on that question coming in the next ten seconds.

I guess that three things prompt that question. One, they don't know what else to ask me, two, this is the way we measure things in our culture and three, it is a safe question. I would be floored if any asked me about my theology of the sacraments or what theory of the Atonement I believe. That might open up disagreement or an argument. I was taught never to talk about politics or religion in public gatherings. Therefore, if one has to do that, ask something safe.

My problem is that I never know how to answer that. I know sometimes I have answered with, “What number do you want? The number on the roll, the number who show up on Sunday? The number who really care?” I have even been tempted when asked about the size of the church to reply with “a little over 10,000 square feet”. So normally I will say we are an average size congregation with about 110 people in worship on Sunday.

What I really would like to say is “if you are really interested I would love to tell you about the congregation I serve but that takes a story and not a statistic”. I would much rather talk about things like the various ministries, the worship life, the gatherings and the outreach. While there might be a very few who would really be interested my hunch is that two sentences into that answer I would be looking at glazed-over eyes.

How do we measure our congregation? By the rolls. That was the big number when I was first ordained. Churches were defined by baptized members in the parish register. But that number is pretty skewed. Too many churches carry people on the rolls for year. Some of these would need a road map to find their home church.

Then the big number was worship attendance. That is more realistic. Except that there are people who are very active disciples of Jesus that for one reason or another cannot be every week attenders. While more accurate, weekly attendance still isn't the best number.

A few years ago our national church (the ELCA) put a new line of the report we make to each year. We are asked to identify how many people are actively involved in the life of the congregation whether official members or not. The only issue is that the identity of those people is left to each congregation to define. Therefore, I have to come up with that number. Every year it includes anywhere from 25-40 people who are not listed on our rolls but are active in the life and ministry of Trinity.

What is next? I think the next defining feature of congregational size will have to do with ministry to those beyond the congregation and ministry done for others in the community. I am not sure how to quantify that but it starts to move from statistics to actual ministry. That is a welcome change. Maybe we can move away from our obsession with numbers and focus more on actually caring for other human beings.

In the end I am not really sure to answer “how large is Trinity?” How would you answer that? Maybe it isn't even the right question.

In Christ,

Pastor Bill DeHass

Congregational Dinner and Church History

You are all invited to a pot-luck dinner on Saturday January 31 at 5:30 pm. Please bring a hot or cold food dish to share. Place settings and drinks will be provided.

Now for the fun part! We are going to use time that evening to work on a congregational history together. We will be using a “time-line” from 1927 to the present. Eventually the history will be on large sheets of paper stretching around the hallways of the building.

We want everyone to be involved. Therefore, we invite you to bring pictures or photocopies of pictures to share on the time line. We want you to be able to write down your memorable events at Trinity. We want everyone from young to old to share in this!

We will have some information already on the time line – especially documents of the early history including a copy of the original petition in 1927 for a group to sever relationship with Evangelical Lutheran and form a new congregation.

So whether you have been at Trinity your whole life or just a few weeks you are very welcome to be involved in this.

This project comes to you from the Stewardship Committee as part of our “thanks” emphasis in past year. Our hope is that this project will not just be a look backward but will help us to also move forward into the future as well!

There will be more specific information coming to you in the next weeks as we move toward the January 31 dinner.

TRINITY IS NOW ON FACEBOOK

As of late November we now have a Facebook page. You can check out the page as we will keep it current with things going on and pictures from things that have happened. We welcome pictures from congregational events!

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM WRAP-UP

We thank all those who were involved in the Children's Christmas Program “A Capital Christmas” on December 21. Those young people involved were:

Alexis Barbuzanes

Grace Cessna

Madison Cessna

Connor Cline

Kayann Coote

Maddie Coote

Gabrielle Coote

Everett Coote

Keira Davis

Hannah Ford

Scarlett Imler

Adam Kline

Madison Kline

Kristen Louder

Georgia Meals

Raymond Meals

Timothy Meals

Faith Miller

Dorian Pryke

Lydia Pryke

Bella Stevens

Ella Swart

Josie Thomas

Larson Thomas

Abbie Wolfe

Sarah Wolfe

Thanks to **Lorena Davis** for coordinating the program!

NOTES FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation was held on December 14. There were two items of business. First, we elected **Alan Shank, Darrell Swart** and **James Thomas** to three year terms on the Council.

Second, after questions and discussion the proposed budget of \$168,629 for general expenses was adopted by a vote of 48-8.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

January 2015

Jan 4 Christmas 2 8:30 & 11:00 Holy Communion
Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20
Ephesians 1:3-14 John 1:1-18

Jan 11 The Baptism of our Lord 8:30 & 11:00 Holy Communion
Genesis 1:1-5 Psalm 29
Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-11

Jan 18 Epiphany 2 8:30 & 11:00 Holy Communion
1 Samuel 3:1-20 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
1 Corinthians 6:12-20 John 1:43-51

**Jan 25 Epiphany 3 8:30 Service of the Word
11:00 Holy Communion**
Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Psalm 62:5-12
1 Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20

Sunday Morning Schedule

Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.

THANKS TO:

Bud and Donna Wolfe for the gift of the new numbers and slides for the hymn boards. Now that we have two hymn boards we needed more numbers!

Don Swart for getting the candelabras repaired and repainted. Over the past two years Don also got the pew end torches repainted. Everything looks really good.

Andy Gehr for completing two terms on our Congregation Council. We appreciate all his time and input over the past six years!

James Thomas for the new "collection station" for all the items we are collecting plus the recycling of paper. It is now in the vestibule.

FROM THE PARISH HEALTH COUNCIL

Are you SAD in the Winter Months?

Seasonal affective disorder (SAD) is a type of depression that occurs in some people due to decreased amounts of daylight during the winter.

That decrease may trigger SAD by disrupting the body's internal clock, causing a drop in levels of a mood-affecting chemical called serotonin, or by altering levels of melatonin, which plays a role in sleep patterns and mood, researchers say.

"The most important take-home message is that people who experience seasonal affective disorder should not suffer in silence. SAD -- like other types of depression -- is treatable, and people who experience symptoms should seek help," Dr. Jeffrey Borenstein, president of the Brain & Behavior Research Foundation, said in a foundation news release.

Symptoms of SAD may include: feeling depressed most of the day, nearly every day; feeling hopeless or worthless; low energy levels; loss of interest in activities you once enjoyed; sleep problems; appetite, weight changes; feeling sluggish or agitated; difficulty concentrating; and frequent thoughts of death or suicide, Borenstein said.

Treatments for SAD include light therapy, counseling and medications. Keeping your home and workplace as sunny and bright as you can may help. It also helps to spend more time outdoors, and to get regular exercise, Borenstein said.

**AROUND THE CHURCH
JANUARY 2015**

- 4 - Worship - Holy Communion – 8:30 a.m.
Fellowship time following worship
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Worship - Holy Communion - 11 a.m.
ET Youth Group – 4-6 p.m.
- 6 – Outreach Committee – 2:30 p.m.
- 7 - Council - 7:00 p.m.
Praise Band Practice – 5:30 p.m.
- 8 - Choir Practice - 6:45 - 8 p.m.
- 10 –Worship & Music Committee – 9:00 a.m.
- 11 - Worship - Holy Communion – 8:30 a.m.
Fellowship time following worship
Blood Pressures taken in Quiet Room
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Worship - Holy Communion - 11 a.m.
- 12 –Finance Committee – 7:00 p.m.
- 13 –Christian Ed. – 7:00 p.m.
- 14 - Praise Band Practice - 5:30 p.m.
- 15- Choir Practice - 6:45 - 8 p.m.
- 17 – Health Council at Pure & Simple Café – 10 a.m.
- 18 – Worship with Holy Communion - 8:30 a.m.
Fellowship time following worship
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Worship - Holy Communion – 11a.m.
ET and TELL Youth Groups – 4-6 p.m.
- 19 – Mutual Ministry – 2:00 p.m.
Stewardship Committee - 7:00 p.m.
- 21 – Worship & Music – 7:00 p.m.
Praise Band Practice - 5:30 p.m.
- 22 - Choir Practice - 6:45 - 8 p.m.
- 25 – Worship – Service of the Word – 8:30 a.m.
Fellowship time following worship
Sunday School – 10:00 a.m.
- 26 - Youth Committee – 7:00 a.m.
- 28 - Praise Band Practice – 5:30 p.m.
- 29 – Choir Practice – 6:45 – 8 p.m.
- 31 – Potluck Dinner sponsored by Stewardship Committee
5:30 p.m. – Will be doing Time Line for history of Church

AA Meetings are held every Monday and Friday nights at 8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Room.



**Happy Birthday to those
celebrating birthdays in January**

- 4 - Paula Ricker 16 - Shirley Freeman
- 5 - Dick Hall 22 - Maryellen Fairchild
- 9 - Larson Thomas 25 - Arlene Sipple
- 11 - Mimi Barbuzanes 26 - Madison Cessna



**Happy Anniversary to those Celebrating
Anniversaries in January**

- 17 – Charles & Nancy Freshman
- 18 – Kevin & Lorena Davis
- 23 – Bruce & Bobbi DeMaster

Worship Assistants for January 2015

8:30 AM

Assisting Ministers:

- 4 – Carol Swart
- 11 – Ralph Burdick
- 18 – Dave Wolfe
- 25 – Don Swart

Lay Readers:

- 4 – Don Swart
- 11 – Carol Swart
- 18 – Dave Wolfe
- 25 – Bobbi DeMaster

Ushers:

- 4 – Bruce DeMaster, Andy and Rachelle Gehr
- 11 – Gust Barbuzanes, Terry Ellis, Bud Wolfe
- 18 – Charlie Ford, Richard Miller, Darrell Swart
- 25 - Ralph Burdick, Don Swart, Dave Wolfe

Acolytes:

- 4 – Conner Cline
- 11 – Larson Thomas
- 18 – Grace Cessna
- 25 – Tyler Landry

Greeters:

- 4 – Peggy Eichelbrger and Richard Miller
- 11 – The Cline Family
- 18 – Charles and Nancy Freshman
- 25 – Gust and Mimi Barbuzanes

Nursery

- 4 – Michelle Kline and Kelly Landry
- 11 – Linde Cessna and Stacie Wolfe
- 18 – Jen Barbuzanes and Debbie Cline
- 25 – Donna Wolfe

Cantors:

- 4 – Trevor Timmons
- 11 – Dave Wolfe

18 – Matt Cessna
25 – Ralph Burdick

WE ARE CONTINUING TO SAVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

Communion Presenters:

4 – Darrell, Jess, Ella and Norra Swart
11 – Dave, Sarah and Abbie Wolfe
18 – Betsy Fisher, Faith and Mason Miller

Communion Assistants:

4 – Ralph Burdick and Dave Cline
11 – Doris Burdick and Betsy Fisher
18 – Deb Miller and Carol Swart

Communion Preparers for 8:30 a.m. Service:

4 – Paul and Shirley Freeman
11 – Don and Carol Swart
18 – Keith and Pam Arnold

11:00 A.M. Service

Ushers

4 – Dot Potter
11 – Dale Thatcher
18 - Cameron Schroy
25 - Peggy Potter

Communion Assistants

4 – Kevin and Lorena Davis
11 – Dale Thatcher and Keisha Davis
18 – Peggy Potter and Donna Wolfe
25 – Bobbi DeMaster and Trisha Davis

SPECIAL APPEAL FOR JANUARY

The special appeal for January is designated for the Homeless Shelter and Cold Weather Drop In. If you desire to make a monetary donation, please mark your envelope for Special Appeal or use the white envelope in the pew rack and mark it "Special Appeal".

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

The ET Group meets the first and third Sunday of each month from 4-6 p.m.

The TELL (Trinity/Evangelical Little Lutherans) group meets the third Sunday of each month from 4-6 p.m.

Postage Stamps – The “Stamps for Missions” program is ongoing. One pound of stamps provides a Bible for someone. When you cut them leave about 1 inch around each stamp. Campbell Soup Labels and General Mills Box Tops for Education. Old Cell phones and chargers. **A new collection station**, made by James Thomas, has been placed in the vestibule with separate boxes to deposit these items.

Ink Cartridges – These are being recycled by Donna to purchase office supplies. There is also a box in the new collection station to deposit your cartridges.

CHAMBERSBURG CONFERENCE NEWS

DINNER AT THE RIDGE

Dinner at the Ridge will be held at 12:00PM at the Fleck Center on Wednesday, January 14, 2015. The cost is \$6.75. The menu for January is Creamed Lettuce, Baked Chicken, Hashbrown Casserole, Country Beans, a variety of Desserts & Beverage. Please call 264-3212 to make your reservation. Deadline for reservations is January 8th.

Postage Stamps – The “Stamps for Missions” program is ongoing. One pound of stamps provides a Bible for someone. When you cut them leave about 1 inch around each stamp. James and Mary Thomas will be taking care of the stamps. Campbell Soup Labels and General Mills Box Tops for Education. Old Cell phones and chargers.

Ink Cartridges – These are being recycled by Donna to purchase office supplies. The box has been placed on the table in the vestibule to make it more accessible for everyone.