



TRINITY TIMES

VOLUME 12

Trinity United Church of Christ
www.trinityucchanover.org

DECEMBER, 2011

General Information:

Sunday Service
9:00a.m.

Fellowship Time
10:00a.m.

Sunday School
10:30a.m.

Office Hours:

Mon-Fri 9a.m.-4p.m.

Telephone:

717 637-2233

FAX:

717 637-2795

Church e-mail

info@trinityucchanover.org

Make your preparations 'Advent'-urous

Advent — the first season of the liturgical year — includes the four Sundays and weeks prior to December 25. Advent dates from the fourth century, when it lasted 40 days and included fasting and solemnity, much like Lent.

Advent is from Adventus, Latin for “coming,” referring to Jesus’ birth in Bethlehem and also his second coming. The traditional colors of Advent are purple for penitence or blue for hope.

Observing Advent is a meaningful, adventurous way to prepare for Christmas. Buy or make an Advent wreath and use candles of your choice: four blue, four purple, or three blue or purple and one pink. If you have a fifth spot, add one white Christ candle. During meals or devotions, light only one candle the first week. Add another for each new week (the pink candle traditionally marks the third week), concluding with the white candle (if you have one) on Christmas. The increasing light reminds us we’re getting closer to celebrating Christ’s light coming into the world.



Special dates

- Second Sunday of Advent, December 4, 2011
- Third Sunday of Advent, December 11, 2011
- Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 18, 2011
- First day of winter, December 22, 2011
- Christmas Eve, December 24, 2011
- Christmas Day, December 25, 2011
- New Year’s Eve/Watch Night, December 31, 2011



*The
staff at
Trinity Church
extends the greetings
of peace and goodwill to
all as we enter into the sacred
Season of Christmas, and we send
our wishes for hope, joy, love, and peace
to be among the gifts that are offered to the
world in the
name of the
Child of Bethlehem.*

Peg's Page

I've been taking stock lately and I've realized that my apartment is cluttered, my car is cluttered, my office is cluttered and I hate clutter. It makes me feel out of control. I don't like living and working in chaos. All this mess is symptomatic of the clutter that accumulates in my heart. You know what I mean, the worries, concerns, trivia, regrets, and doubts that overwhelm the clean heart. What do we do to clear away the mess?

As we begin the new church year and on its heels, the secular new year, it seems like a good time, the right time, to take on the task of de-clutterization; clearing up, cleaning out, getting rid of all those things no longer needed (many were never needed) that take up space in the heart and lie heavy on the spirit.

Since Advent is about living in hope and preparing to greet the God who comes at Christmas, if I am going to welcome God and invite friends and neighbors to share in the celebration I will need to get rid of stuff, empty myself, in order to fill myself with the Good News.

Isaac Watts the English Congregationalist and prolific hymn writer got it right when he wrote: "Let every heart prepare him (Christ) room." Two gospel readings illustrate ways to prepare room. In the Gospel According to Luke (1:42-45) we are told of Mary's visit to her older cousin Elizabeth who is also pregnant. Elizabeth set aside all her own preoccupation to joyfully welcome Mary and the child she was carrying in her body. In Luke 3, John is asked by the crowd, "What should we do?" His answer is essentially, live righteously and show compassion.

Advent, a time of waiting and preparation is a perfect time for clearing out the soul of junk and clutter, our preoccupation with self, our obsession with things. Christ is ready to enter into us. Let us prepare him room.

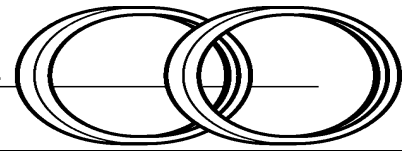
Wishing each of you a joyful Christmas and a peace-full 2012.



Rev. Peg

Celebrating

An Anniversary This Month



Day	Name	Yrs.	Day	Name	Yrs.
1	Rosalie and Harold Diehl	38	11	Sheila and James Wiest	23
1	Michelle and Michael Becker	15	11	Pamela and Robert Weaver	13
3	Joyce and Richard Nestor	23	13	Jane and Steven Caler	41
4	Laci and Matthew Wildasin	7	14	Kay and Charles Altland	36
7	Angie and Vincent Bashore	18	17	Doris and Nevin Dull	58
9	Shelba and Dale Crabbs	44	17	Jennifer and Oscar Laughman	17
9	Pamela and David Lentz	44	19	Nadine and Jerry Morningstar	36
9	Rosie and Kenneth Hershey	22	21	Holly and Subhajit Chakravorty	9
10	Barbara and Albert Forry	56	24	Sharon and Marshall Goldstein	22
11	Corrine and Ronald Lawrence	41	26	Linda and Dean Krout	24
11	Dawne and Tony Kress	29	31	Ann and Richard Shelleman	51

Note: *If your anniversary was omitted, please contact the office to update your records.*

Thank you.



A special thank you to Steve Sabaka and Dean Nace for volunteering their time and expertise to replace the badly worn front door on the toy workshop. Thanks to their efforts we were able to save the cost of the labor. Again, thank you Steve and Dean for a job well done.

*B.J. Rhodes &
Toy Workshop Volunteers*

The Evangelism team would like to thank everyone who purchased chili and/or made a donation. Thanks to your kind generosity a gift card for \$265.00 was purchased from WalMart and given to the Red Cross to help needy families during this Thanksgiving holiday.



Mary E. Nace

Born - January 2, 1926

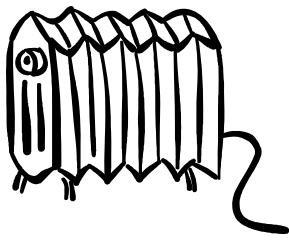
Died - November 6, 2011

Please make note that on December 25th the morning worship service will begin one hour later at 10:00am instead of 9:00am. Also, there will be no fellowship time or Sunday School on Christmas Day. Any questions please contact the church office at 637-2233.



Christmas Day Worship

Are you having trouble with the high cost of heating or paying for your food bills and daily living expenses?



The Century Trust Fund may be able to help. Assistance from the Century Trust Fund is available to members of Trinity United Church of Christ who may be in need of financial aid to remain in their own homes, retirement homes, boarding homes, or nursing homes, provided certain conditions are met. Applicants must be members

of Trinity Church for at least five (5) years, at least 62 years of age, and must show reasonable proof of financial need. All applications are strictly confidential and are available in the bin across from the church office.



Trinity's Friendship Tree

In this advent season, the saying 'Love One Another' seems most appropriate. The Education Committee will be sponsoring a friendship tree. Look for the tree in the narthex. It will contain names of Trinity members who are no longer able to attend church for one reason or another. We are not asking you to buy them a gift, instead, we are suggesting a phone call perhaps followed by a short visit. The gift of your time would be a truly meaningful gift to one of our homebound members. To know that they are still in our thoughts and prayers will make a difference in their lives. Make this a memorable advent season for yourself and someone else by selecting a name from our friendship tree.



Committee Reports

Committee chairs are requested to submit their reports for inclusion in Trinity's Annual Report. These reports should include a brief summarization of the past year's activities as well as plans for the upcoming year. If possible, please e-mail your report in Microsoft Word format to Mike or Betsy in the church office at info@trinityucchanover.org

Deadline: December 18th

The Evangelism Team needs your help!!

The Evangelism team will be sponsoring families for Christmas through the Red Cross "Hope for the Holidays" program. By helping with this program we will be able to make a difference for those less fortunate in our community. Information as well as directions will be available on the Narthex bulletin board. You simply sign up by the item or items you would like to purchase, or if wish, you may donate money to purchase food cards. If you have questions please contact Mandi Smith at 632-2086 or any member of the Evangelism team. As always we appreciate your generosity.

Trinity's Library

There is always room in the Trinity library for one more new book. If you would like to purchase a book to be placed in the library in memory or in honor of a loved one, please contact either B.J. Rhodes at 637-5417 or Dee Stauffer at 632-6116. A new book is the gift that keeps on giving.



Dolores Albright	December 6
Meredith Nace	December 7

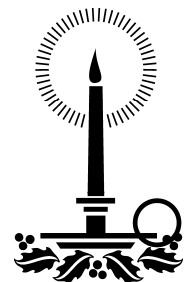
Carol Sing/Orchestra

Please join us for our annual Christmas Carol Sing on Sunday, December 18th, following the morning worship service. The carol sing will be held in Fellowship Hall. Orchestra members who would like to practice their part can pick up the music on the table in the choir room beginning December 1st. If you've never played in the orchestra and would like to join us, please contact Randy Day, Trinity's Minister of Music at 637-2233 ext 4.



Christmas Eve Services at 7:00 pm and 11:00 pm

A service of lessons, carols, and candle lighting will take place at both 7:00 pm and 11:00 pm. The 7pm service is designed for families with children. The preludes for the 11pm service will begin at 10:30 and will include music by the Trinity Ringers, the Trinity Brass, and organ selections. We will sing many of the familiar carols during both services and include the lighting of candles. Ushers will have copies of Handel's Hallelujah Chorus at the late service for those who wish to join the choir in singing the postlude from their pew. For all of you who will attend, we simply pray that the music and words you'll hear will lift your spirits if you're down, and add to your joy if you're not.



Christmas Offering: How the funds are used

The generous gifts of UCC congregations and individuals to the Christmas Fund enabled the Pension Boards' Ministerial Assistance program to provide the following gifts:

Some form of Ministerial Assistance will be provided to approximately 1,600 persons during 2011.

- Christmas Gift checks were sent to approximately 900 persons in 2010. Of those who received checks, 20 are over 100 years of age. The oldest person is 107. One person has received Christmas checks continuously since 1976. The 900 gifts total \$270,000.
- Monthly pension supplementation is being provided to 438 persons. These gifts total \$105,756 per month. A significant part of annual total of \$1,269,072 comes from the Christmas Fund. (2011 data)
- Quarterly health premium supplementation is being provided to 264 families, totaling \$158,333 per quarter. All of the funding for health premium supplementation is derived from the Christmas Fund. (2011 data)
- Emergency Grants totaling \$41,361.56 were provided to 32 individuals and families from January 1 through September 30, 2011.



Christmas Fund Offering

These statistics reflect annualized projections as of September 30, 2011. The numbers of persons receiving assistance and the totals of assistance payments fluctuate on a monthly basis.

Homewood at Plum Creek "Garden of Life"

The sixteenth annual "Garden of Life" will spark the opening of the holiday season at Homewood at Plum Creek. Please join us Friday, Dec. 2nd at 6:30pm in the Town Hall Chapel or at 7:30pm in the Windows Dining Room for the service preceding the illumination. This event promises to offer a special time for everyone to unite in fellowship, to celebrate the spirit of the season, to remember and honor loved ones, and to reflect upon the blessings of life.

Guest will be invited to join in singing traditional Christmas carols led by choir members. Prayers and words of inspiration will be offered. In commemoration of the "Garden of Life," the Light of Peace will be passed to all in attendance.

Holiday socials, following each service, will be hosted in the Fireside Dining Room and the Windows Dining Room with entertainment and refreshments.

Donations of \$5 per light in honor or memory of individuals will benefit the Homewood Benevolent Foundation which helps to support those residents who have exhausted their financial resources. Names of all donor and honorees will be listed in a Book of Honor to be located in Town Hall. Your tax-deductible gift to the Garden of Life shall be accepted through Dec. 31, 2011. Checks, payable to the Homewood Foundation, may be mailed to Homewood at Plum Creek, 425 Westminster Ave., Hanover, PA 17331.

Looking for Adult Education Opportunities?



Adult Christian Education Classes

The Pilgrim Enrichment Class extends a warm invitation to all those who would like to participate in a discussion-type Sunday School class. The Pilgrims are an intergenerational group who endeavor to value and respect everyone's contribution. Vic and Lorene Crooks, Dick and Diane Betlyon, and Judy Maust are the facilitators. The class meets downstairs in Room 45 at 10:30am on Sunday mornings.

The Combined Adult Sunday School Class invites anyone who enjoys a lecture-style format of teaching to join them each Sunday morning beginning at 10:30am in the parlor. The class uses the *Standard Lesson Quarterly* which provides quality, biblically sound lessons based on the ISSL/Uniform Series. Facilitators lead the group in their studies. Some discussion is encouraged.

All classes begin at 10:30am (after Fellowship Time) and conclude around 11:15am.

Christmas in the Barn

Please join the *Women4Christ* and their friends as they prepare for the birth of our Savior on Sunday December 4th, at 3:00pm in Fellowship Hall. Come and help them celebrate the 'reason for the season.' Light refreshments to follow the program.



Thank you from the WOT

The WOT would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who helped to make the Holiday Bells Bazaar a big success. Thank you to: Diana Ryon and Ruth and Steve Weaver for all of their help, the men and women who helped to set up and tear down the tables, the kitchen crews who provided delicious meals, the crafters and sewers who made beautiful items to sell, the bakers and candy makers, everyone who donated items for Granny's attic, books, or the Silent Auction/Grand Opportunities, and last but not least, all those who tended the tables and worked during the bazaar. The bazaar is successful because of the support of the members of Trinity. We cleared over \$7000.00 that will go to various programs & charities thanks to all of you.



From the Music Desk...

Have you ever wondered when musicians begin planning for Christmas and the holidays? At least the January before. You see, we debrief as soon as possible about what music we've used during the most recent Advent/Christmas season and determine where we might go for the next year. During the summer we take our creative ideas and begin shopping for just the right anthems or instrumental music or cantatas that will bring fresh twists on old melodies or entirely new compositions that will also inspire. In August we take stock of our human resources and begin rehearsals. By Thanksgiving we have had nearly twelve weeks of being baptized in seasonal texts and musical themes. December is the time for tweaking that last musical nuance and correct notes or rhythms out of each piece and simply letting everything simmer, ready to be digested when the time is right.

The Choirs of Trinity U.C.C. have been hard at work since September, sifting through various anthems, preparing just the right ones to enrich your Advent and Christmas worship services. Below is a listing of some of our musical offerings for this 2011 Advent/Christmas season:

Sunday Services – 9 a.m.

Nov. 27	Advent I	“Every Valley”	Sanctuary Choir
Dec. 4	Advent II	“Comfort, Comfort Ye, My People”	Trinity Brass and Organ
		“A Waiting Carol”	Children’s Choir
Dec. 11	Advent III	“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”	Trinity Handbell Quartet
		“Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel”	Sanctuary Choir
Dec. 18	Advent IV	“Enatus Est Emmanuel”	Sanctuary Choir
		“Change Ring on ‘Divinum Mysterium’	Trinity Ringers

Notes From the Office:

The **2012 Offering Envelopes** are available in the narthex extended. The envelopes are in alphabetical order. If you cannot find yours or you would like to receive envelopes, please stop by the church office and see Mike Blottenberger. Forms to request envelopes are also available on the table.

Mike and Betsy would like to thank the many volunteers who assisted us with office duties throughout the year. Your dedication and willingness to help is always appreciated. We wish you a safe and joyous Holiday Season and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

We need your assistance. Please notify the church office when you know of someone who needs pastoral care—a friend, neighbor or family member. We cannot respond to situations that we do not know about. A call to the church office will make it possible for us to notify the appropriate person providing care. Thank you for your help in making Trinity a caring congregation—you are a very important part of that link.

Please remember the *Trinity Times* is available at www.trinityucchanover.org. or in the Narthex on the Visitor’s table. If you would like to have the *Times* sent to you via US mail, please contact the church office at 637-2233.

December 2011

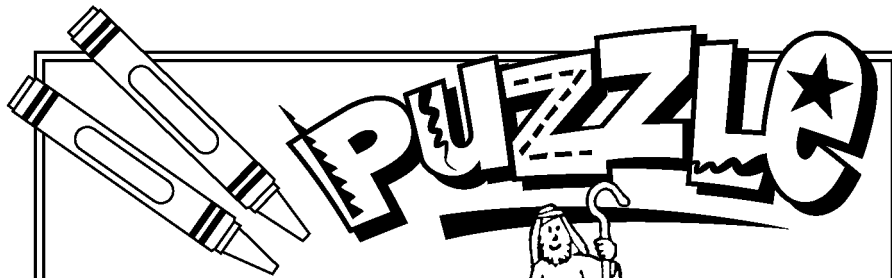
Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<i>1</i> 6:15 PM Trinity Ringers 7:30 PM Sanctuary Choir	<i>2</i> AA-Annex (8am)	<i>3</i>
<i>4</i> 10:15 AM - 11:00 AM Children's Choir 3:00 PM Christmas in the Barn-FH Advent 2	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> 12:00 PM Toy Workshop Luncheon/with staff 6:00 PM Evangelism Mtg AA-Annex (6&8pm)	<i>7</i> 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Sorting Toys 11:30 AM PAL 7:00 PM NA-Annex	<i>8</i> 9:00 AM Sewing Circle 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Sorting Toys 6:15 PM Trinity Ringers 7:30 PM Sanctuary Choir	<i>9</i> AA-Annex (8am)	<i>10</i> 4:00 PM Pot Pie Supper (boiler)
<i>11</i> 10:15 AM - 11:00 AM Children's Choir Advent 3	<i>12</i> 7:00 PM Endowment/ Investment	<i>13</i> 7:00 PM Consistory AA-Annex (6&8pm)	<i>14</i> 7:00 PM NA-Annex	<i>15</i> 6:15 PM Trinity Ringers 7:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Newsletter Deadline	<i>16</i> 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM Toy Pickup AA-Annex (8am)	<i>17</i> 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Toy Delivery
<i>18</i> 10:15 AM - 11:00 AM Children's Choir Advent 4	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM Staff Meeting AA-Annex (6&8pm)	<i>21</i> 7:00 PM NA-Annex 7:00 PM Nursery Board Mtg	<i>22</i> 9:00 AM Sewing Circle 6:15 PM Trinity Ringers 7:30 PM Sanctuary Choir	<i>23</i> AA-Annex (8am)	<i>24</i>
<i>25</i> 10:00 AM Worship No Fellowship Hour	<i>26</i> Office Closed	<i>27</i> AA-Annex (6&8pm)	<i>28</i> 6:00 PM Executive Committee 7:00 PM NA-Annex	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> AA-Annex (8am)	<i>31</i>

December	4	11	18	25
	2 nd Sunday in Advent/ Congregational Meeting	3 rd Sunday in Advent	4 th Sunday in Advent/Carol Sing Fellowship Hall	Worship begins at 10:00am
Greeters	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4
Lay	Worship	Leader		
	Lorraine Hall	Yvonne Dickert	Jim Barnhart	Holly Smith
Young Adult	Worship	Leader		
	Morghan Hinkle	Madelyn Hutton	Courtney Helt	
Usher Team				
	The Conroy Family	Jim & Dolores Zinneman, Allen & Peggy Myers	Martie Young, Ron Albright	Kris & Ryan Smith, Jim Barnhart
Child Care	Stephanie Markle	Holly Smith	Nancy Sanders	
Fellowship Hosts	Evangelism	Christian Ed. Ministries	Men of Trinity	No Fellowship Time
Anthem	Schedule			
	Brass Ens. Children's Choir Sanctuary Choir	Handbell Quartet, Sanctuary Choir	Sanctuary Choir, Trinity Ringers	TBA
Altar Flower Sponsor**	Hart	Edwards	Schue	Open
Chancel Flower Sponsor**	Rohrbaugh, Dubs	Open	Open	Open
Bulletin Sponsor**	Rhodes	Open	Wilson	Open

** Please call the church office to schedule a flower or bulletin dedication for any available date. The cost is \$38 for altar flowers and \$25 for pedestal arrangements (plus tax), and \$20 for bulletins. If you would like to assist with child care and/or ushering please call the church office at 717-637-2233. Volunteers are always needed. Thank you.

Kid's Page

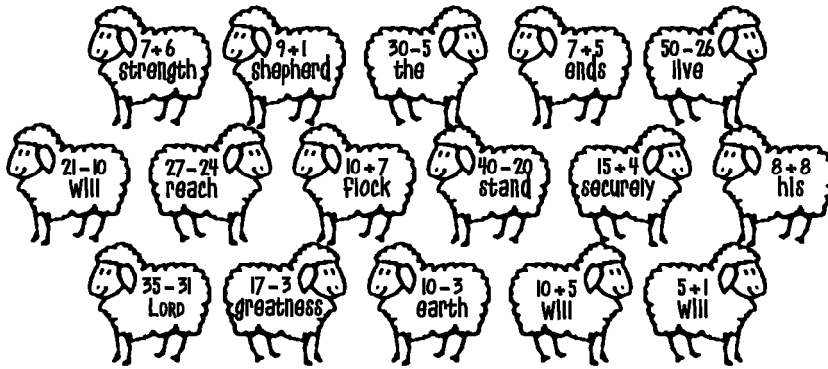


A PROMISED RULER



Prophets told of Jesus' birth hundreds of years before it happened. Never had a baby's arrival come with such a promise.

Directions: To read what one prophet (Micah 5:4, NIV) said about Jesus, complete the math problems below. Then fill in the words, using the math solutions as your guide.



"He 15 and 10 his 17

in the 13 of the 4 And they 11 24

19, for then 16 14 6

3 to the 12 of 25 7."

MICAH 5:4, NIV

Answers: "He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth." Micah 5:4, NIV

SAVIOR ORNAMENT

This Christmas, celebrate Jesus' birthday by making this keepsake ornament.

What you need:

- Wooden clothespin with round end
- Black permanent marker
- White cloth or felt
- Small wooden star (available at craft stores)
- Yellow paint
- Paintbrush
- Gold glitter (optional)
- Glue gun (and an adult)
- Straw-colored raffia
- Palm-size wicker wreath (available at craft stores)
- Ribbon

What you do:

1. On the clothespin's round knob, draw two dots for eyes.
2. Wrap the white cloth around the clothespin, like a swaddled baby.
3. Paint the star yellow; add glitter, if desired.
4. With the glue gun and adult supervision, glue the raffia to the bottom inside of the wreath. Then glue the swaddled clothespin atop the raffia and glue the gold star atop the wreath.
5. Tie a ribbon around the top, near the star.
6. Hang the ornament on your Christmas tree or tie it on a gift.

Trinity United Church of Christ

116 York Street
Hanover, PA 17331

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Non-Profit Organization

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Hanover, PA

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Trinity's Mission Statement: Trinity United Church of Christ strives to be a warm, caring family of Christian believers. Our calling is to witness and strengthen the Christian faith through meaningful worship, Christian education, and Christian living in the home, the community, and the world.

Trinity Staff, E-mail Addresses, & Church Phone Extensions

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Mike Blottenberger, Admin. Assistant	mike@trinityucchanover.org	222
Betsy Bristol, Secretary	betsy@trinityucchanover.org	221
Sextons: Diana Ryon; Steve & Ruth Weaver		
Trinity Nursery School, Tina McCole, Director	trinitynursery@netscape.net	(717) 637-2126

Deadline for January Newsletter is December 15, 2011