

December, 2017

Volume 27, Issue 12

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5th Annual Neighborhood Christmas Block Party

Please join us on **Wednesday, December 13th at 5:30pm.** The evening will include a chili dinner, a service project for our community, Christmas cookie decorating, marshmallow roasting, drinking hot cocoa & cider and singing & ringing Christmas carols. All of the activities will be taking place in the chapel entrance and Trinity Commons on University Blvd. This will be a great way to connect with and meet our neighbors. We look forward to seeing you there!



Cantata Sunday

On **Sunday, December 17, during the 10:30 am worship service**, the Trinity Choir and Trinity Handbells will present Robert Hobby's cantata entitled HOLY LIGHT. This magnificent work is a collection of traditional carols with beautiful orchestral complement, that recounts the Christmas story with meaningful narration by Susan Sherwin. This presentation during our Advent worship season will truly prepare you for the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

*One Service Only December 17, December 24 & December 31.
The 8:00 am Sojourner's Chapel worship service
will resume January 7.*

Worship & Music

Christmas Eve Services

Christmas Eve Morning

10:30 am

A special presentation by Trinity's youth of "The Christmas Candle" by Richard Paul Evans.

The Trinity Choir and Trinity Ringers will be leading the music.

Casual Christmas Eve

5:00 pm

An informal service that includes a children's pageant, a brief Christmas message by Pastor Mack, carols and candles.

(Please call 623-2579 for your child/grandchild to take part.)

Christmas Café

6:00 pm

Enjoy hot apple cider, cocoa, sandwiches, cookies, fellowship with friends old and new, and live Christmas music.

Please bring holiday goodies, veggies or fruit to share.

Traditional Christmas Eve

7:00 pm

A candlelight service with a Christmas message, led by the pastors, the Trinity Choir and the Trinity Ringers.

Bring your family, friends and neighbors as we celebrate our Lord's birth on this holy day!

Christmas Cantina & Market

The Christmas Cantina & Market will be held December 3 in Fellowship Hall at 11:45 am with a light lunch & piñata. The Christmas Market benefits Refugee Focus and will continue December 10 and 17. Donations of gift cards (any grocery, Target & Walmart), new toys and new clothing (children or adult) can also be brought those days and will be given to Refugee Focus to distribute.

Walk Through Winterhaven Night

Friday Dec 22, 2017

Meet at Trinity at 6:00 pm then carpool to Winterhaven,

Please bring: 2 cans of food for the Food Bank & Money for Hot Chocolate or Coffee from Circle K

Everyone is Welcome!



CHRISTMAS EVE FELLOWSHIP

Dust off your favorite Christmas cookie recipe or bring veggies or fruit in "finger food form" to this year's fellowship time on Christmas Eve. Meet in Fellowship Hall between the two Christmas Eve evening worship services. There will be cider, hot chocolate, sandwiches, and strolling minstrels to enliven our holiday festivities.



CHRISTMAS DINNER will be served at noon on Christmas Day. Rincon Market will furnish roast beef, turkey, dressing, gravy, scalloped potatoes, green beans, cranberry sauce and rolls. There will be pies with ice cream for dessert. The rest of the meal will be potluck. Side dishes of vegetables, salads & breads would be welcome. We can also use volunteers to serve the food. Please RSVP to the church office at 623-2579 or office@trinitytucson.org.

Pastoral Letter

“AND THE ANGEL SAID TO THEM, ‘BE NOT AFRAID; FOR BEHOLD I BRING YOU GOOD NEWS OF A GREAT JOY WHICH WILL COME TO ALL PEOPLE; FOR TO YOU IS BORN THIS DAY IN THE CITY OF DAVID A SAVIOR, WHO IS CHRIST THE LORD. AND THIS WILL BE A SIGN FOR YOU: YOU WILL FIND A BABE WRAPPED IN SWADDLING CLOTHS AND LYING IN A MANGER.”

The Gerber Corporation has been in business in America for well over one hundred years, and most in my generation were weaned on Gerber products. Do you recall the Gerber slogan, which has been an advertising trademark for over half of a century? “Babies are our business: our ONLY business.”

That familiar slogan should come to mind as we celebrate one of the two holiest seasons of the Christian year – Advent and Christmas. Most of our Christmas “business” is wrapped up (pun intended) in decorating, travel plans, and figuring out how to stretch our dollars into appropriate gifts. Perhaps another approach to the business of Christmas is needed. Perhaps this year, instead of focusing on the trappings of the season, we can focus our energy on the baby who started this whole Christmas thing. At Christmas, that baby should be our business - our ONLY business.

What a wonderful business that baby, the Son of God, gives to a weary and spiritually hungry world. That baby’s business is mission – the love, hope, and faith of the Christ child put into action through our lives. When God reconciled creation to the divine through the gift of the Messiah, God gave us the opportunity to reconcile our many blessings with the great needs of this world.

Christmas should be a time when our spirit of mission is renewed. It is a time of gifts – not the

kind that come wrapped in brightly colored paper, but those tangible acts that shrug off the trials and tribulations of living in a fallen world. When our mission includes helping those in need, we visit the manger in the same manner as the awestruck shepherds. When we take the time to witness to our family, our friends, our neighbors, and the world by sharing and living the good news of this great joy, we hear the angels singing, “GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST.” When we seek out the lonely and the hurting to offer comfort and support, we become the wise who follow the star, a star that brings the light of love and hope into the world. Such acts of love are what make Christmas the unique business that it is.

This season brings another opportunity for we who claim the name of Jesus to reaffirm what this holiday represents – that a baby humbly born 2000 years ago is our business today – in fact, it is our ONLY business. Merry Christmas, and have a blessed and Happy New Year.

Dr. Mack

ORDER YOUR POINSETTIA



A cherished tradition at Trinity, poinsettias adorn the sanctuary and chapel and enrich our worship during Advent. The cost is \$10 each and you may order as many as you like. Take your poinsettia(s) home following the 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship or Christmas Dinner or leave them to be distributed by the Deacons to members unable to attend. Order your poinsettias by calling the church office at 623-2579 or using the enclosed order form. *The deadline to order is December 11.*

Congregational News



CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Through the Christmas Joy Offering, Presbyterian congregations have long expressed their compassion for others, especially for those who serve the Church. This Offering is received for the equal benefit of the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, which distributes financial assistance to eligible church workers and their families, and racial ethnic schools and colleges of the PC(USA). This offering will be taken Christmas Sunday.

BIRTHDAY THANK YOU'S

Wow! On November 12 I celebrated my 100th birthday at Trinity. My grandson Ian and his wife Nina brought their three children along with another great grandson and his girlfriend to worship with us. After the service, 600 sandwiches were made for Casa Maria and it was the first time Brian Flagg (from Casa Maria) had ever seen sandwiches being made. Many community friends came to help me celebrate and Trinity's members and friends welcomed them. The Fellowship Hall was full of people and I felt very humbled. I got flowers and cards along with donations in my honor to Casa Maria & Primavera. Thank you Trinity for a wonderful celebration. *Jane Parker*

Dear Trinity family and friends,
What a great 90th birthday celebration this has been!! Thank you all for **GOOD WISHES, SPECIAL CARDS AND YOUR VERY MEANINGFUL SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT.** Christmas Blessings and New Year Peace to us all. *Imogene Moser*

Child Protection and Sexual Misconduct Prevention Policy Training Planned for Saturday December 2

The training will be conducted by Mary Jo Norton, Commissioned Ruling Elder of the Presbyterian Church of Superior and is mandatory for many in the church, including Staff, Elders, Deacons, and Volunteers who work with children. It is on **Saturday, December 2, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in the Upper Rooms East & West.** It will be videotaped so that those who are unable to attend that session, may fulfill the training requirement at a later date by viewing the video. Other members of the congregation are welcome to attend the training as well. In addition we will also be inviting Presbytery de Cristo's pastors to join us in order to fulfill the requirement that they receive this training.

Those who are required to attend Child Protection & Sexual Misconduct Prevention Policy training have been notified by email.

SANDWICH MAKING

will be Sunday, **December 10** for the Casa Maria Soup Kitchen. Please join us in Fellowship Hall at 11:45 am to make 600 sandwiches.



DECEMBER SCRIPTURE READINGS

December 3 Isa. 64:1-9; Ps. 80:1-7, 17-19; 1 Cor. 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

December 10 Isa. 40:1-11; Ps. 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15; Mark 1:1-8

December 17 Isa. 61:1-4, 8-11; Ps. 126 or Luke 1:46-55; 1 Thess. 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

December 24 Isa. 9:2-7; Ps. 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

December 31 Isa. 61:10-62:3; Ps. 148; Gal 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

Mission News

TRINITY FOOD PANTRY

Trinity's Food Pantry is open **Sundays from 12:00 to 2:00 pm** and **Tuesday and Thursday from 12:00 to 4:00 pm**.

RESOURCE CENTER

The Resource Center is open **Tuesday and Thursday from 12:00 to 4:00 pm** to help clients with Department of Economic Security (DES) applications, ordering birth certificates & identification cards and notarizing documents.

4TH ON 4TH SUPPER

We are taking a break in November & December since there are other options available for meals. We had great turnouts in 2017 & look forward to resuming this mission January 26, 2018.

Christian Education

WORD OF LIFE

Word of Life meets **at 9:00 am** in Lower Level Lounge Room 5. We continue a new study based on the book **"First Corinthians" by Bruce Fisk**. Come join us for lively discussions.

THEOLOGY FOR TODAY

Theology for Today meets **at 11:45 am** in Lower Level Lounge Room 5. The class will not meet December 3, 24 or 31.

POLO

Parents of Little Ones (POLO) meets at **9:00 am on the second and fourth Sunday of the month**. We meet in the nursery for family breakfast munchies and then head downstairs to **Lower Level Room 1** for our parent study: **"Grace Based Parenting"** by Tim Kimmel and **"Jesus Calling: 365 Devotions For Kids"** by Sarah Young.

DO YOU HAVE KIDS? WE HAVE A PLAN

Have you noticed how crowded the steps are during the Children's Message? Sometimes there are more than twenty children up there, avidly watching the minister, or poking each other.

Our Children and Youth Ministry is growing and we are doing all we can to keep up with this active bunch. And that means providing places for them to be and things for them to do. So, even if you do not bring small people to church with you, please take a look at our format. You might be able to help a new parent find a place for that toddler or middle schooler.

All teachers return the students to the narthex to be reunited with their grownups at 11:30 am. After the announcements, **our young adults (high school and up) can go to Room 1 with Rona Kreamer.**

Isn't all this growth wonderful!



9:00 am to 12:00 pm Children 4 and under are welcome in our nursery. DeDe and Lela love children and provide a caring environment for our youngest members.



9:00 am to 10:30 am Children 4 and up can participate in low action activities—puzzles, and coloring, with some low sugar snacks. Alix supervises the Children's Activity Table in Fellowship Hall.

10:30 am to 11:30 am Children 4 and up participate in the Worship Service in the Sanctuary. After the Children's Message they leave for these age appropriate classes.



Liz teaches Godly Play in Room 7 with children 4 and 5 years old.



Kathy presents Hands-On Bible for Kids in Room 8 with children 6, 7, and 8 years old.



Matt & Billie have students from 9 years through Middle School in Room 6 for Kreamer's Crusaders.

Session Notes

The highlight of the November Stated Session meeting was receiving five wonderful people into the membership of the Trinity family. The congregation will receive them on December 3, 2017. We are delighted to welcome Essowoe (Allen) Akou and Amao (Nathalie) Meheza into our congregation. Also, we are joyous to welcome the parents of Peter, Paula and Gracia – Emmanuel and Lydia Alley. And, we are delighted to welcome Mathias Class, father of Isabella, Breayana and Beeyanca. We are so grateful for our new members.

- ◆ Billie Holbrook opened the meeting by relaying the story of Karen Armstrong and her book “12 Steps to a Compassionate Life.” She expressed gratitude that the City of Tucson has adopted a Compassionate City Resolution. Hope and love is nurtured when places emphasize compassion.
- ◆ The 2017 Congregational Nominating Committee announced that the Class of 2020 Deacon Nominees are Charity Everitt, DeDe Markin, Kathy Moser, Jerry Rowe and Bobby Whipple and the Class of 2020 Elder Nominees are Doug Holland, Janet Jones, Rona Kreamer, Carolyn Maycher and Ann Walker. Their election is scheduled for December 3rd.
- ◆ Session approved gifting \$3,000 as partial salary for YAV Rachel Lovins.
- ◆ Session approved renewing the contract with the Community Food Bank of Southern AZ for Trinity to remain as a food distribution site.
- ◆ Worship Committee presented dates for all the times for serving Communion in 2018. The committee also plans some slight changes for the 10:30 AM service format to begin in early January.
- ◆ Growth & Outreach asked Session to approve hosting a bloodmobile drive at an unspecified date in 2018.
- ◆ Session also approved the idea of registering with Amazon Smile to raise funds for our Food Bank distribution site and our Resource Center.
- ◆ Administration & Personnel is clarifying personnel assignments and reviewing temporary employees who are supporting our volunteer Sunday School children.
- ◆ Christian Education sees a need to double the number of Sunday School teachers as children keep coming to church. Twenty-eight children were counted on one Sunday in November.
- ◆ And, CE is planning a spring Confirmation Class and expects to mentor between four to eight con-

- firmands. This is an exciting development and we can be grateful for these young people.
- ◆ Billie Holbrook and Leone Mohny reported the doings of the October 21st Presbytery de Cristo meeting at Valley PC in Green Valley. Our Presbytery boasts a new manual of procedures, new by-laws and a review of Robert’s Rules of Order. It’s the Presbyterian way to keep things in good and decent order.
- ◆ Property Committee is reviewing plans for upgrades for the Memorial Garden and plans to show due diligence, fiscal prudence and to study future maintenance needs.
- ◆ Session prayed for congregants in need of healing, safe travels and compassion.

Janet Hooper
Clerk of Session



TRINITY BOOK CLUB

Trinity Book Club will meet at 7:00 pm Tuesday, December 26 in Fellowship Hall to discuss “The Store” by James Patterson. We will also meet January 23 to discuss Tony Morrison’s “One Blue Eye”.



Thanks to everyone who purchased raffle tickets benefitting the Resource Center.

Calling All Bakers & Cooks



We have received several recipes, but need more for the Trinity Resource Center Cookbook. We will be including a section for recipes of family members or loved ones who have passed away. Let their cooking/baking legacy live on by including those recipes! Bring a copy to me or submit recipes to ddmarkin@centurylink.net. DeDe

Trinity Milestones

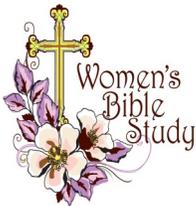
Honoring & Memorials

In Honor of Jean Dalke by Tom & Wade Henderson
In Memory of All The Saints by Leone Mohney
In Memory of Howard Moser by Imogene Moser
In Honor of Jane Parker by Catherine & Errol Dimenstein
In Honor of Jane Parker by Leone Mohney
In Honor of Imogene Moser by Leone Mohney
In Honor of Barbara Wiley by Leone Mohney

December Birthdays

2	Ida Wickizer	17	Heather Lind
4	Melinda Arnold	19	Melissa Bird
5	Errol Dimenstein	19	Ann Butler
6	Evalene Hillmar - 88	19	Janet Jones
6	Elliott Koeppen - 88	22	Jeremy Roggow
9	Bonnie Stull	22	Beatrice Marie Spillers
12	Rosalie Goll	25	Charity Everitt
13	John Hill	29	Don Myers
16	Shelby MacDonald	31	Sherry Letson

Trinity Women



The Horizon's Bible Study on Hebrews will be **December 12, at 10:00 am** in Fellowship Hall,. Join us as Dr. Mack leads the study.

Ryan's Bears will be blessed on Sunday, December 10 & then they will be distributed to Our Family Social Services, Primavera and Arizona Children's Association for their Christmas Giving.



Approximately 50 bears were made this year with many thanks to: Rosalie Goll, Leila Lax, Imogene Moser, Leone Mahoney, Jane Parker, Ruth Russell, Helen Forbes, Charity Everitt, Janet Jones and Melissa Bird. It takes many hands to made a bear. Thanks also to Peter Holbrook and Maria Andrade for unlocking doors, closets, toting bags and fixing the coffee. We will begin Tuesday 9:30 am in the Lower Lounge on January 19, 2018 making bears for Christmas 2018.

January Birthdays (1—10)

1	Linda Lohse	3	Dr. Mack Sigmon
1	Amos Nsinga	5	Jeanette Ryan
1	Hadija Bamurange	9	Jeri Ogden
2	Dale McCray		

December Anniversaries

5 Arlie and Jackie Winn - 63 years!
 17 Bobby Whipple & Sherry Letson



Office - Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
 Food Bank - Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday
 Resource Center - Tuesday & Thursday
 Primavera Gumbo prep and serve - 2nd Thursday
 Sandwich Sunday prep - 2nd Sunday
 Communion setup - 1st Sunday
 Contact us at office @trinitytucson.org or 623-2579 if you are interested .



Trinity Presbyterian Church

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@trinitypcprays is our “real time” prayer request line you can use anytime. You will need a free twitter account to do this. Sign up at www.twitter.com. Once you have done that you can “tweet” your prayer requests to our pastoral staff by signing into your account and clicking the TWEET button at the top right of the screen. Type in @trinitypcprays then your message and click the TWEET button on the message screen.

We are “LIVE” streaming the 10:30 am service if you cannot attend. It is on the home page of our website.

Visit our website at www.trinitytucson.org for all the information and events you are looking for.

Trinity Presbyterian Church
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520-623-2579
Office 9:00 am-5:00 pm Monday-Thursday

Trinity Website
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Email Addresses
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volunteers@trinitytucson.org



**Deadline for the January 2018 VISION is
Tuesday, December 19**
**Please submit typewritten articles to the
church office or to: office@trinitytucson.org**