

HOLY TRINITY NEWS

DE CEMBER 2022

VOLUME 57 NO. 12



*He shall
be great
and shall be
called the
Son of the
Highest.*

Luke 1:32

CHURCH SERVICE 10:15 AM

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

610-826-2524

502 LAFAYETTE AVE. PALMERTON, PA 18071

E-MAIL

htlcoppa@ptd.net

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REV. MICHAEL FROST

570-620-8189

PASTOR E-MAIL ADDRESS

htpastor@ptd.net

December 2022

December 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 27	28	29	30	Dec 1 Secretary Out 10:30am Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	2 House Tour	3 House Tour
4 10:15am Worship Service in Church and Zoom	5	6 Office Hours 8:30-12:30 9:00am Thrift Shop	7 Office Hours 8:30-12:30	8 Office Hours 8:30-12:30 10:30am Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	9	10 9:00am Children's Christmas Shopping 6:00pm Movie Night
11 10:15am Worship Service in Church and Zoom	12	13 Office Hours 8:30-12:30 9:00am Thrift Shop	14 Office Hours 8:30-12:30	15 Office Hours 8:30-12:30 10:30am Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	16	17
18 10:15am Worship Service in 11:30am Congregational Meeting 6:30pm Council Meeting	19	20 Office Hours 8:30-12:30 9:00am Thrift Shop	21 Office Hours 8:30-12:30	22 Office Hours 8:30-12:30 10:30am Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	23	24 10:00pm Candlelight Service
25 10:15am Worship Service in Church and Zoom	26	27 Office Hours 8:30-12:30 9:00am Thrift Shop	28 Office Hours 8:30-12:30	29 Office Hours 8:30-12:30 10:30am Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	30	31

From the Pastor's Desk – December 2022

“Hope and Expectation”

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.
Romans 8:18-25

The 8th chapter of Paul's Letter to the Romans is one of my favorite passages in the New Testament. Here the Apostle proclaims the powerful message of the hope that we have in Jesus Christ. In the death and resurrection of Jesus we have the precious treasure that is the ultimate victory of God's saving love over the power of sin and death. He acknowledges the reality of our struggles in our life in this world and even the overall brokenness of all creation, but he lays out for us the good news of our redemption in Christ.

In these weeks of Advent, moving on then into Christmas and our celebration of the Incarnation, the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, hope is the word that rings most powerfully true for me.

Lately, I've been sharing with people my

childhood memories of Christmas mornings. When my younger brother and sister and I went to bed on Christmas Eve, after returning from the Candlelight Communion Service at St. Paul's, the tree was set up in the living room but undecorated; there were no presents set out under the tree. The "magic" happened overnight. We knew, we just knew, that in the morning it would all be perfect. The tree would be decorated, the presents would be there, and before we were allowed to go out to see it all, my Dad would put the Nat King Cole Christmas record on the turntable (my Mom's favorite Christmas record, from Perry Como, would be next in line). I suppose there might have been some way in which it didn't happen, but it always did. Our expectation, our hope, was always fulfilled. Why? Because our parents loved us and wanted that day to be the best possible.

Likewise, our hope for redemption, for salvation, for victory over the powers of sin and death through Jesus Christ WILL be fulfilled. There is no way in heaven or on earth that they won't be. In God's great love for his people and through the death and resurrection of Jesus God has given us the promise and, with that promise, the guarantee. Victory is ours. God will bring the Kingdom in all its fullness. We need only wait with patience.

That's the tricky part, isn't it? Patience isn't always in such great supply. We want it now. Like our grandson who thinks he knows what he'll be getting under the tree on Christmas morning, he wants it now. Why does he have to wait? Paul writes to the believers in Rome that all creation is groaning as in labor pains, awaiting the restoration, the redemption of all things in that day. We too, Paul writes, groan inwardly as we wait for the redemption of our bodies. Lord, grant us patience – RIGHT NOW!

But we wait and we hope. Our waiting is not done in idleness. We don't just sit

around waiting. There is much to be done in these days. The Kingdom is coming and we know what the realities of the kingdom will be – no one will suffer, no one will go hungry, no one will be alone, and all will be at peace. If those are the values of God's kingdom in eternity, those are the values to which we can apply our energies here and now. May we – you and I – and the whole of Christ's Church be about this kind of life and ministry. May we be the living signs of the kingdom coming, breaking into this world here and now. Jesus is surely coming – God's victory guaranteed. Even so, come quickly Lord Jesus. In the meantime, we live and we work in hope. Amen.

Blessings to you and peace,
Pastor Mike

CELEBRATING AN DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

December 20 Glen & Sherry Bishop 31 years

WE WISH YOU A HAPPY BIRTHDAY

December 03	Deirdre Gonzalaz
December 05	Debbie Solt
December 09	Amelia McIntosh
December 11	Patty Kripper
December 11	Kelly Sosik-Hamor
December 12	Victor Jahelka
December 16	Zacary Reif
December 17	William Zeky
December 19	Taylor Keblish
December 19	Kirk LaRose
December 19	Jereme Zuberka
December 20	Christopher Fredericks
December 21	Jean M. Fritzinger
December 24	Madilynn Husack
December 25	Ann Eckhart
December 25	LaRae Fink
December 28	Lynn Perone
December 29	Lucy Brown
December 31	Victoria Young



[NOTE: If we have omitted your birthday or anniversary, please let us know.]



WORSHIP SCHEDULE



8:30am –12:30pm

December 4, 2022 COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: Rich Hyer

Ushers: Scott & Kelly Heinrich

Altar Guild: Barb & Joe Herman

Worship Service 10:15 AM

December 11, 2022 COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: Krissy Keblish

Ushers: Ron Keblish w/ Taylor & Terry Holland

Altar Guild: Debbie Hansut & Gerry Dorshimer

Worship Service 10:15 AM

December 18, 2022 COMMUNION

Christmas Pageant

Assisting Minister: Lynn Perone

Ushers: Carol Heffelfinger & Loren LaRose

Altar Guild: Debbie Hansut & Gerry Dorshimer

Worship Service 10:15 AM

December 24, 2022 COMMUNION CHRISTMAS EVE

Assisting Minister: Debbie Hansut

Ushers: TBD

Altar Guild: Debbie Hansut & Gerry Dorshimer

Worship Service 10:00 PM

December 25, 2022 COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: Larry Arner

Ushers: Rich & Jeanette Hyer

Altar Guild: Debbie Hansut & Gerry Dorshimer

Worship Service 10:15 AM

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Children's special involvement in worship will resume when it is safe to do so.





BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Mondays - 1:30—3:00 pm at St. Matthew's
Thursdays -10:30am-Noon – Adult Ed Rm

HOLY TRINITY ACTION MINISTRY

Tues. 9AM- 12:30 PM Thrift Shop



HOME VISITS

Home visits and shut-in visits are being planned for December. If anyone would like to receive communion from Pastor Mike, please call the office @ 610-826-2524.

2022 SPONSOR SHEETS

Please sign up!

2022 sponsor sheets are on the bulletin board outside the office: **Weekly Bulletin \$10, Flowers \$25**
Weekly Communion Bread \$2.50
Monthly Website \$20, and Altar Guild.



SNAPPLE FACTS



The first human-made object to break the sound barrier was a whip.

Sip on some knowledge. Most of these are the Real Facts

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Rich Hyer	President
Don Delich	Vice-President
Karen Talamantes	Secretary
Marlene Bollinger	
Teri Delich	
Scott Heinrich	
Jim Miller	
Eric Reif	
Ray Talamantes	
Gordon Walls	
Mary Walls	

You can join us on Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9636129008?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9636129008?pwd=YzhTQ1M0OCtnV285RWJhXzdsMmJHJz09)

[pwd=YzhTQ1M0OCtnV285RWJhXzdsMmJHJz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9636129008?pwd=YzhTQ1M0OCtnV285RWJhXzdsMmJHJz09)

Meeting ID: 963 612 9008

Password: 119675

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,9636129008#,,1#,119675# US (Chicago)

+16465588656,,9636129008#,,1#,119675# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 963 612 9008

Password: 119675

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kqjbmliiV>

FINANCIAL PERSONNEL

Larry Arner
Carol Heffelfinger

Treasurer
Financial Sec.

Oct. Monthly Envelope Offering:	\$10,629
Oct. St. Matthews Pastoral Service	\$3,173
Oct. Additional Income	\$5,731
Oct. Monthly Expenses:	\$10,789
Attendance:	
October 2, 2022	47
October 9, 2022	42
October 16, 2022	28
October 23, 2022	40
October 30, 2022	48

ANNUAL MEETING DECEMBER 18TH

After the service we will hold our annual end of the year congregational meeting for the adoption of the church budget for 2023 and the election of members to the Church Council. Your attendance and participation in this important meeting is requested. If you zoom for the service please remain as your voice will count.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Dec 07	4:15 p.m.	Worship & Music
Dec 18	6:30 p.m.	Council Meeting



Trick or treat night lured close to 950 kids to Holy Trinity, dressed as princesses, super heroes, tv show and movie characters and creepy and scary villains. Even canine fur babies enjoyed special treats that night, handed out by Jon and Jess. Rich and Jeanette served coffee and 15 gallons of hot chocolate to the chilly accompanying adults and big kids. Don and Ray safely transported those beverages up from the church kitchen, and Carol and Val busied themselves in the kitchen preparing those hot drinks. Ron and Morris bravely directed traffic in the intersection, and sometimes stopped vehicles, ensuring the safety of goofy goblins crossing streets. Taylor and her friend, Hannah, handed out bags of candy, and were met with many 😊😊😊. Lastly, Teri D greeted children excitedly dancing and singing along with Halloween themed music.

Thank you to all who helped make this year another success, including those who donated their time and monetary and candy donations. A special thank you also to Sara and Mia who helped bag candy again this year!

CHILDREN'S SHOPPING 2022

The ever popular Children's shopping will take place on Dec. 10, 2022. From 9:00 to noon.. The gifts will still be offered for 25¢ each. There will be no refreshments. Hand sanitizer will be readily available in many locations. This shopping day gives children the opportunity to find nice gifts for their families and friends.

So. What can the congregation do to help with this project? We need gifts for men and teenage boys – think after shave, boxes of candy, small tools, earbuds, packs of batteries, etc. Sports memorabilia is always popular. Gifts for teenage girls might include cute purses, hair bands or barrettes, perfume, etc. Coloring books that are still not colored in are good. We have lots of stuffed animals. We do not need wrapping paper, bows, or cards this year. But gift bags will certainly help speed up the wrapping process. The most popular gifts are Christmas decorations and knick-knacks. We also need volunteers to register families, direct traffic, and help our young customers find what they are looking for. Volunteers

should be at the Fellowship Hall at 8:30. Please call Connie at 610-509-9873 if you have questions.

Once again, shopping will be Saturday, December 10 from 9:00 to noon. Children from 3-12 years old are welcome. As usual, they may buy one gift for each person on their list for only 25¢.

CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS TREE

The tree is set up in the narthex. All donated items should be new and not wrapped so they can be easily matched with a need for woman or child. Occasionally Turning Point also serves abused men.

Turning Point Sunday will be celebrated on **Dec. 18th**. Donations will benefit Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley. Turning Point has been serving women and children in our area who need to escape from an abusive home. Many arrive at Turning Point with only what they're wearing. In addition to undies for women and children they also need hats, gloves, scarves, disposable diapers and personal items. Monetary donations are greatly appreciated.



MOVIE NIGHT

Movie night is back again. On Saturday, December 10th at 6:00 pm we will be presenting an appropriate for all ages Christmas movie. At this time it hasn't been decided just what movie we will be showing, but come out for a movie & refreshments. It is always a good time lots of fun and fellowship.

SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA



Merry Christmas

Dear Friends and Christ,

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Creator and from Jesus Christ! On behalf of the Northeastern PA Synod Staff and Bishop Christopher deForest we wish you the merriest Christmas and a blessed and fruitful new year!

This year the NEPA Synod accomplished a cornucopia of ministry in all corners of the NEPA territory. Your love for God in Christ fed the hungry, built relationships with the downtrodden and outcast, diapered babies, shared the love of God in Christ, and much more...

Christmas reminds us of the length God goes to build relationships with us. God comes all the way down to a dirty stable in Bethlehem... an unexpected, messy beginning for the Messiah. Jesus is exactly the Messiah we needed without understanding why we needed him.

Christmas is an opportunity to reflect on the ways God comes to us unexpectedly -- It's an opportunity to meditate on the reality that Christ comes to us as an infant, totally reliant on his parents... Christ comes in the most usual way, and yet he's the one foretold in the prophets of old, he saves the people from sin and death, and he keeps coming to us. Jesus comes to us in bread and wine, in baptism, through prayer and thanksgiving, and when we gather together around God's Word.

Continue to be the Body of Christ in the world. Keep serving, preaching, proclaiming, worshipping, and sharing the good news of what God has done for us!

Yours in Christ,
NEPA Synod Staff



Register Now!

Join us!

LEARNING MINISTRIES DAY

January 28, 2023

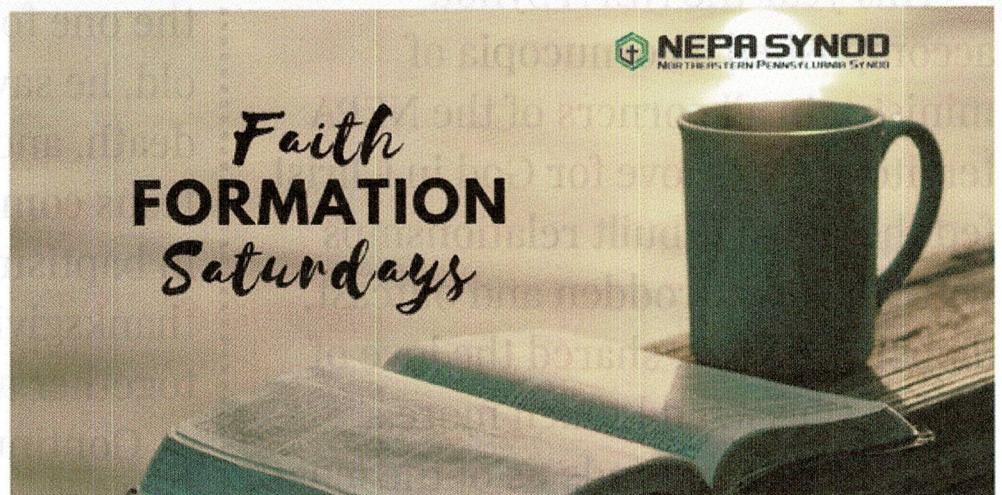
[WWW.GODSLOVE.ORG/
LEARNINGMINISTRIESDAY](http://WWW.GODSLOVE.ORG/LEARNINGMINISTRIESDAY)



**SAVE
THE
DATE**

**SYNOD
ASSEMBLY
2023**

**JUNE
1-3**



Faith Formation Saturdays

Date: Monthly (2nd Saturday)

Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm EST

