

HOLY TRINITY NEWS

DECEMBER 2023

VOLUME 58 NO. 12



DECEMBER

CHURCH SERVICE 10:15 AM

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 610-826-2524
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WEB PAGE

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REV. MICHAEL FROST

570-620-8189

PASTOR E-MAIL ADDRESS

htpastor@ptd.net

December 2023

December 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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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 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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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 26	27	28	29	30	Dec 1 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	2
3 10:15am Worship 3:15pm Girl Scouts (Small 5:30pm Girl Scouts Troop	4 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 7:00pm Boy Scouts	5 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Thrift Shop	6 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 5:30pm Girl Scouts	7 10:30am Bible Study (Adult SS Room)	8 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	9
10 10:15am Worship Service in 3:15pm Girl Scouts (Small room	11 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 7:00pm Boy Scouts	12 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Thrift Shop	13 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	14 10:30am Bible Study (Adult SS Room) 5:30pm Girl Scouts	15 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 4:00pm Christmas Movie Night	16
17 10:15am Worship 3:15pm Girl Scouts (Small 5:30pm Girl Scouts Troop	18 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 7:00pm Boy Scouts	19 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Thrift Shop	20 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	21 10:30am Bible Study (Adult SS Room) 5:30pm Girl Scouts	22 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	23
24 10:15am Worship Service in Church and Facebook Live	25 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 7:00pm Boy Scouts	26 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Thrift Shop	27 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	28 10:30am Bible Study (Adult SS Room) 6:30pm Camera Club (Fellowship)	29 Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	30
31 10:15am Worship Service in Church and Facebook Live	Jan 1, 24	2	3	4	5	6

From the Pastor's Desk – December 2023

“All in The Family”

¹²⁻¹⁶ *When the Babylonian exile ended,
Jeconiah had Shealtiel,
Shealtiel had Zerubbabel,
Zerubbabel had Abiud,
Abiud had Eliakim,
Eliakim had Azor,
Azor had Zadok,
Zadok had Achim,
Achim had Eliud,
Eliud had Eleazar,
Eleazar had Matthan,
Matthan had Jacob,
Jacob had Joseph, Mary's husband,
the Mary who gave birth to Jesus,
the Jesus who was called Christ.*

¹⁷ *There were fourteen generations from
Abraham to David,
another fourteen from David to the
Babylonian exile,
and yet another fourteen from the
Babylonian exile to Christ.*

Matthew 1:12-17 (The Message)

This, from Eugene Peterson in his preface to *The Gospel of Matthew*, in *The Message 100 – The Story of God in Sequence*:

“The story of Jesus doesn't begin with Jesus. God had been at work for a long time. Salvation, which is the main business of Jesus, is an old business. Jesus is the coming together in final form of themes and energies and movements that had been set in motion before the foundation of the world.” (p. 1383, The Message 100)

I've long been intrigued by the genealogy that Matthew uses to begin his story of the life and ministry of Jesus. Above you see just the last third of that list of the family line of Joseph, the husband of Mary, the mother of Jesus. Who were those men? What was the nature of their lives? How did they live? What sort of work did they do? I think it fair to say that neither Abiud nor Azor nor Eliud had the slightest inkling that

they would be the ancestor, in any way, of Messiah, of the Redeemer of God's people Israel or, more broadly, of the Savior of the world. Yet here are their names standing in Holy Scripture in Matthew's account of the family line of Jesus.

In Peterson's introductory words, quoted above, he declares that what God was up to in Jesus, God's work of salvation, had been set in motion before creation, before there was anything but God. Even without knowing it, men and women going about the routines of their daily lives in this world, were carrying out their part in God's eternal plan for the salvation of the world in Jesus of Nazareth, this Jesus who was called Christ.

This day – the day in which you are reading these words of mine – is part of time on this side of the story of Jesus. For us, the incarnation of the Eternal Son of God is part of our human history. This Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary. He was raised in the household of Mary and her husband Joseph. He was, at thirty years of age, baptized by John at the Jordan River. In time he entered the Holy City where he suffered at the hands of the authorities, both political and religious. He was sentenced to death and was executed on a Roman cross, his lifeless body was buried in a borrowed tomb. On the third day he was raised from death and appeared to those who knew him and had followed him.

Now you and I are part of the story of Jesus. Not unlike Abiud, Azor, or Eliud, we have a role to play in God's plan of salvation. As you go about your daily tasks, the routines of everyday life, you are a part of the story. Your choices, your behavior, your actions speak a word of faith, a word of the love of God in Jesus Christ. You are one way in which Jesus comes into the lives of those with whom you come into contact. Your kindness, your cheerfulness, your helpfulness, your love, your encouragement and support are the touch of Jesus on their

lives. In the hectic rush of this season, in all of the rushing around and busyness, be aware of the people you meet. See them. Really see them in that moment. Know that they are loved by God and strive to be a way they may feel and know that love.

Christmas is about the love of God breaking into this world in Jesus so that life and salvation might be made known, might be realized and experienced by each and every person. How can you hear and answer God's call? How can you make God's love known in real ways by those you meet?

Blessings and Peace to you in Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
Pastor Mike



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

December 21 Glen & Sherry Bishop 31 years

WE WISH YOU A HAPPY BIRTHDAY

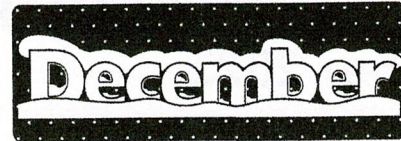


- December 05 Debbie Solt
- December 11 Patty Kripper
- December 11 Kelly Sosik-Hamor
- December 12 Victor Jahelka
- December 16 Zacary Reif
- December 17 William Zeky
- December 19 Taylor Keblish
- December 19 Kirk LaRose
- December 20 Christopher Fredericks
- December 21 Jean M. Fritzinger
- December 25 Ann Eckhart
- December 25 LaRae Fink
- December 28 Lynn Perone
- December 29 Lucy Brown

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



9am-1pm



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

December 3, 2023 COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: Rich Hyer
Ushers: Scott & Kelly Heinrich
Altar Guild: TBD

Worship Service 10:15 AM

December 10, 2023 COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: Krissy Keblish
Ushers: Ron Keblish w/ Taylor & Terry Holland
Altar Guild: TBD

Worship Service 10:15 AM

December 17, 2023 COMMUNION

Christmas Pageant

Assisting Minister: Larry Arner
Ushers: Carol Heffelfinger & Loren LaRose
Altar Guild: TBD

Worship Service 10:15 AM

December 24, 2023 COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: TBD
Ushers: TBD
Altar Guild: TBD

Worship Service 10:15 AM

CHRISTMAS EVE

Assisting Minister: Lynn Perone
Ushers: Rich & Jeanette Hyer
Altar Guild: TBD

Worship Service 7:00 PM

December 31, 2023 Healing Service COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: Vicky Holland
Ushers: Gordon & Mary Walls
Altar Guild: TBD

Worship Service 10:15 AM

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Mike will do children's sermons on the second Sunday of each month.

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.



SNAPPLE FACTS



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

The Statue of Liberty wears a size 879 sandal

COUNCIL MEMBERS

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Rich Hyer | President |
| Don Delich | Vice-President |
| Karen Talamantes | Secretary |
| Larry Arner | Treasurer |
| Teri Delich | |
| Scott Heinrich | |
| Terry Holland | |
| Krissy Keblish | |
| Ron Keblish | |
| Jim Miller | |
| Eric Reif | |
| Ray Talamantes | |

FINANCIAL PERSONNEL

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Larry Arner | Treasurer |
| Carol Heffelfinger | Financial Sec. |

FINANCE

Oct. Monthly Envelope Offering:	\$6,713
Oct. St. Matthews Pastoral Service	\$6,617
Oct. Additional Income	\$6,269
Oct. Monthly Expenses:	\$9,858
Attendance:	
October 1, 2023	36
October 8, 2023	43
October 15, 2023	41
October 22, 2023	35
October 29, 2023	41

ANNUAL MEETING DECEMBER 17TH

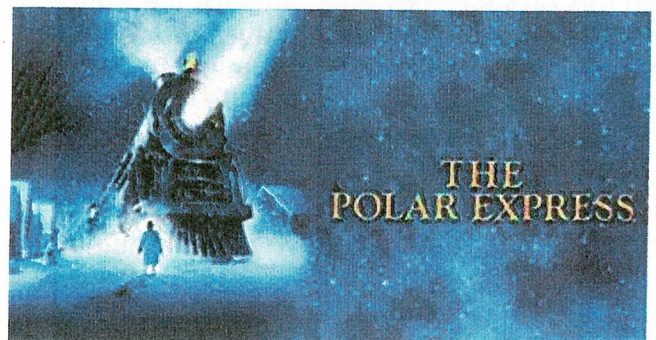
After the service we will hold our annual end of the year congregational meeting for the adoption of the church budget for 2024 and the election of members to the Church Council. Your attendance and participation in this important meeting is requested.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Dec 17 6:30 p.m. Council Meeting

ALL ABOARD!

Save the date. On Friday, December 15, we are going to meet at Holy Trinity at 5:00 for some good old fashioned caroling around the neighborhood. Dress warmly. We will return to the church for pizza and snacks. Of course there will be dessert and hot chocolate as we watch The Polar Express and make gingerbread houses. Call the church office to let us know you are joining in on the fun. Bring a friend or two! 610-826-2524.





Trick or treat night was super fun this year! We managed to lure over 1000 kids to Holy Trinity, dressed as princesses, super heroes, tv show and movie characters, along with creepy and scary monsters. Even canine fur babies enjoyed special treats that night, handed out by Big John, Steve and his sister, Mary. Mr and Mrs Delich served coffee and hot chocolate to the adults and big kids. 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 at the intersection, and sometimes stopped vehicles, ensuring the safety of those crossing the streets. Taylor and her friends, Morgan and Claire, handed out bags of candy, and were met with many 😊😊😊. Karen kept refilling the girls' baskets with candy, ensuring they didn't run out. Halloween themed music accompanied the unseasonally mild weather.

Thank you to all who helped make this year another success, including those who donated their time, candy and monetary donations. A special thank you also to Sara and Mia, the Weimert family, Taylor, her friend, Kamryn and my mom who helped bag candy again this year!

CHILDREN'S SHOPPING 2023

The ever popular Children's shopping will take place on Dec. 9, 2023. From 9:00 to noon.. The gifts will still be offered for 25¢ each. There will be 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

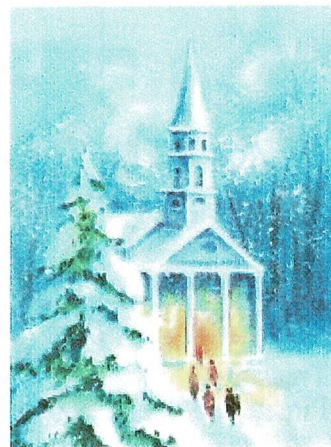
animals. We do not need wrapping paper, bows, or cards this year. But gift bags will certainly help speed up the wrapping process. The most popular gifts are Christmas decorations and knick-knacks. We also need volunteers to register families, direct traffic, and help our young customers find what they are looking for. Volunteers should be at the Fellowship Hall at 8:30. Please call Connie at 610-509-9873 if you have questions.

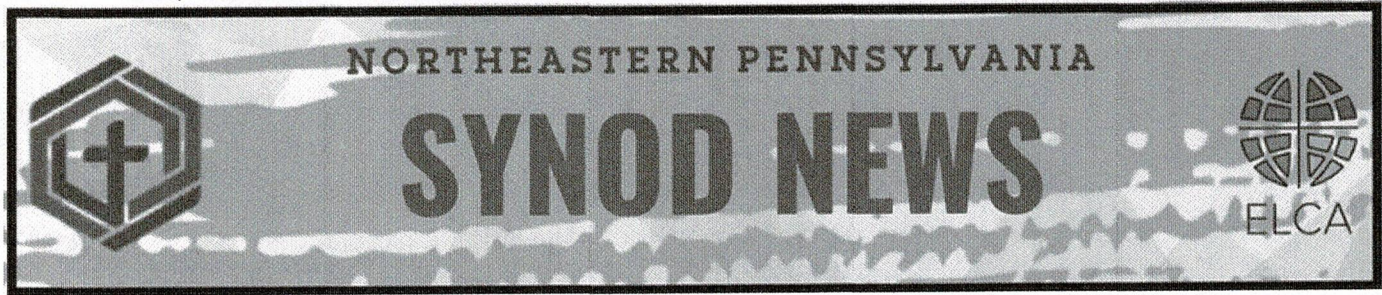
Once again, shopping will be Saturday, December 9 from 9:00 to noon. Children from 3-12 years old are welcome. As usual, they may buy one gift for each person on their list for only 25¢.



WEATHER RELATED & SCHEDULING ANNOUNCEMENTS

In the event of inclement weather, a message will be left on the office phone system to alert you if the church service is canceled. 610-826-2524





Young Adults in Global Mission: A Year in Senegal

Asalaa maalekum. May God's peace be upon you.

My name is Quentin Bernhard. I recently served with the ELCA program Young Adults in Global Mission—YAGM—in Senegal. My time with YAGM came to an end in July, and Senegal country cohort peers and I returned to the United States. We are among the 23 young adults from the 2022-2023 year who served in accompaniment in four different country programs.

I live in New Tripoli in Lehigh County, and I'm a member of New Life Lutheran Church in New Tripoli. Many individuals and congregations from our synod supported me in my YAGM year. Thank you for your support of my time in Senegal and for the opportunity to be in continuing relationship after my time abroad.

My coming to the United States, to the communities I grew up in in Pennsylvania, was also my leaving a community I grew in—a community I grew in as a Lutheran and as a young person, one I have good friends in. I lived in Yeumbeul Bene Baraque, in western Senegal, for ten months. I lived with a host family in a community. I saw friends every day, many when at my placement site. Connected with our partner organization Senegalese Lutheran Development Services—SLDS—I worked in a community center that serves the community in numerous ways, splitting my time between the library and the mutual fund credit union.

My friends and family in Senegal continue to send me voice messages, reminding me that I am also Maguette Ndiaye, my Senegalese name, and reminding me that we are still connected, even if connected in a different way now. Our relationships and our future—all of our future—is unknown to us. Our faith—and our trust in one another—can allow us to take steps and leaps in that future.

Quentin Bernhard

FINDING HOLY FOCUS IN HUNGERING TIMES

BISHOP'S CONFERENCE 2024

FEBRUARY 6-7, 2024

REGISTER
NOW!

PRESENTED BY:
NEPA SYNOD

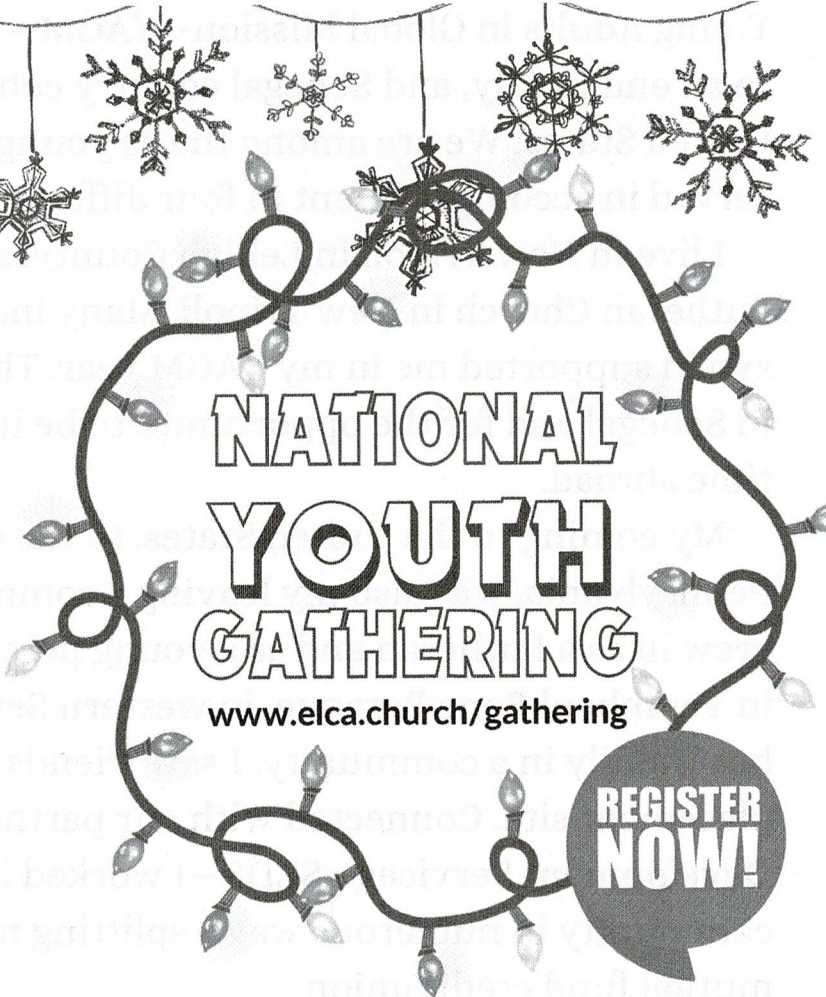
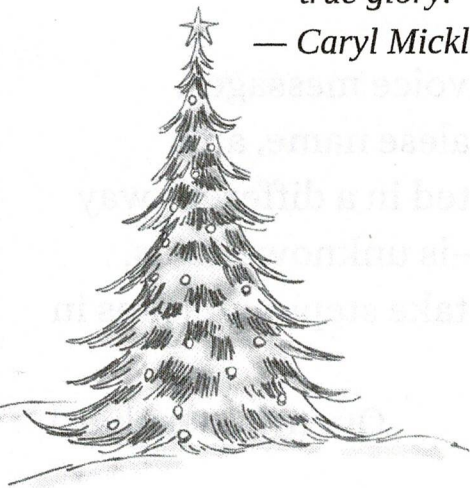
**FOR ALL ROSTERED LEADERS AND SYNOD AUTHORIZED LAY MINISTERS



God of Goodness, We give you praise for the ordinariness of Christmas - that the day comes the same as any other day. We give you praise that there is no sign in the heavens, and no bright star but the light of your presence in the ordinary birth of the child. We give you praise that unobtrusively you are in the center of human affairs, involved in the struggle of life, and sharing human experience.

We give you praise that out of compassion you take our part, and open to us a new way of life. We pray that this day we shall be able to see its true glory."

— Caryl Micklem



NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

www.elca.church/gathering

REGISTER
NOW!

