



Trinity Christian U.C.C.
Skippack, PA
Advent Newsletter 2023

Since ancient times no one has heard, , no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.

Isaiah 64:4

As I write this note to our congregation, we are entering the season of Advent and are inching our steps towards Christmas Eve. This is a very busy time of the year for many of us, perhaps the busiest time of the year. The activities and obligations of this season are often overwhelming – we try to find the perfect presents for others, bake the most delicious cookies, decorate our homes and yards, sing all of the merriest carols, and get everything just right. But, doing all of the work of the season can become just that, work, and a season that we long to be joyful becomes stressful

I pray in this season of Advent, we will allow ourselves time to take a pause – to breathe and calm down and relax and remember, this is the season of waiting for Christ to enter the world. The other things we do are extras – but Jesus is the reason behind why we do this. And, all of the busy-ness can be a distraction from the reason for the season – God chose to send Jesus to us, to teach us about God's love for the world, and that we are God's people. Our work is to love God and love each other.

So, my friends, I pray we will allow ourselves some grace – we don't have to get all of the preparations perfectly right. This is our season to joyfully wait for the Lord. May we open our hearts more fully to Jesus and to Jesus' direction in our lives.

Blessings, Pastor Amelie

Their descendants will be known among the nations and their offspring among the peoples. All who see them will acknowledge that they are a people the LORD has blessed.

Isaiah 61:9

WORSHIP SERVICES

Our in-person worship services begin at 10:15 a.m. in our sanctuary and are also live-streamed Facebook.

Join us for our Sunday morning hymn sing at

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

We also have a Sunday morning Bible Study on ZOOM and in person at 8:30 a.m.

This is a new meeting time. Here is the link to log in:

[https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76933813590?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76933813590?pwd=NzcoMkthZFBkdjVNTGYycjVtRXkwUT09)

[pwd=NzcoMkthZFBkdjVNTGYycjVtRXkwUT09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76933813590?pwd=NzcoMkthZFBkdjVNTGYycjVtRXkwUT09)

Meeting ID: 769 3381 3590

Password: 7qLSWw

Password: 7qLSWw

TRINITY BLOG

Trinity now has a blog where Pastor Amelie is posting notes to the congregation and the text of her sermons. If you would like to read these notes and messages, you can find them at:

www.trinityskippack.blogspot.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Our Pre-K through 6th grade students will continue to go to Sunday School after the children's sermon on Sunday mornings. Our older kids, 7th grade and up, will have their "Confirmation" Sunday School class on Sunday mornings from 9:15 to 10 am. Everyone is invited to our Sunday morning class, which focuses on the intersection between our Christian faith and current world events. Our class will continue on ZOOM from 8:30 to 9:15 a.m.

We are always looking for classroom assistants. If you are interested, please contact Susan Vogl (610) 202-6319.



Lunch Bunch meets weekly!

**Everyone is invited to join us on
Tuesdays at 12 noon.**

Please bring your own lunch. We are currently studying Rev. Kate Bowler's guide "Bless the Advent We Actually Have". We will explore the Advent texts and talk about the joys and struggles of the Advent season.

All men are invited. We meet for fellowship, conversation, and a good meal. Our men's breakfasts are held on the second Saturday of the month.



It's Time to Order Poinsettias!

If you would like to purchase a plant in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out one of the envelopes on the table in the Narthex and place it in the offering plate, or give it directly to Harry Crossgrove. Plants are \$8.00 each.

Orders are due no later than Sunday, Dec. 10th. You will be able to take your plants home after the Christmas Eve Service.



HOAGIE SALE

Saturday, December 2

Pick-up 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. (or sellout)

Italian, Turkey, Ham

Cost is \$7.00

Order online at:

<https://form.jotform.com/201836095667161>

Or call Harry Crossgrove at 610-584-0843

HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE

We are again partnering with the Girl Scouts in an effort to support the needs of those who rely on the Daily Bread Food Pantry. As such, we have agreed to be a drop-off location. There will be a bin at the side entrance of the Education Building. New and unwrapped items please.

The collection will take place:

Saturday, December 2 - 10:00 a.m. - 12 noon

New or Gently Used Toys such as Blocks, Crafts, Gift Cards for Teens, Legos Board Games, Educational Toys, Action Figures, Dolls, Outdoor Toys

(Please include and secure all pieces/parts to gently used toys/games.)



As always, thank you for your support!



Our Current Needs

Adult Soups* – Tomato Soup & Creamed Soup or Progresso Soups	
Canned Potatoes*	Stuffing*
Condiments*	Tomato Products*
Drinks* (Adult & Children)	Broth
Gravy*	Baked Beans
Mac & Cheese	Baking Supplies
Oatmeal*	Canned Green Beans
Pancake Syrup*	Canned Peas
Pretzels*	Cookies
Shelf Stable Meat*	Crackers
Shelf Stable Milk*	Other Pasta
Skillet Dinners*	Peanut Butter
Spaghetti*	Potato Chips
Spaghetti Sauce*	

* = critical need

The Daily Bread Community Food Pantry is open daily from 9 a.m. until noon, Thursday 6-8 p.m., and Saturday 9-11 a.m. to accept donations. You can also use their drop box 24 hours a day for non-perishable food items. Thank you for your support!

3938 Ridge Pike
Collegeville, PA 19426

Look for the **CHRISTMAS ANGEL TAGS** on the tree in the Narthex. Each tag lists a gift for a boy or girl that relies on the Daily Bread Community Food Pantry. If you are interested in purchasing that gift, please take the tag. After purchasing the gift, **please place the unwrapped gift under the tree by December 17th**. Please keep in mind that the parents are only able to pick three gifts for each child, so it is better to buy one large gift rather than a lot of small gifts. Each child gets three gifts, large or small. The Food Pantry does not need any more Barbies, games, or crafts. The Human Services Committee would like to thank you for your continued support!



We welcome Denni Carey as our Interim Music Director. Denni has filled in as accompanist on numerous occasions. We look forward to experiencing more of her musical talent here at Trinity.

**SAVE THE DATE!
CHRISTMAS CAROLING**

Friday, December 8
Young & Old, Singers & Non-Singers



Please join us for some fun and Christmas spirit by Christmas caroling through the Village of Skippack.

We will meet at the church at 6:00 p.m.



Blue Christmas

We will gather for our Blue Christmas Service on the 21st of December. This is a service for those who are struggling with the Christmas season—those who are grieving, those who are sad, and those who are lonely. We will gather to pray, to mourn, and to battle the forces of darkness.

Please join us at 7 p.m. in our Education Building Hall.



Our Youth Group is invited to attend a Movie Night at the Church on Friday, December 22nd, at 6 p.m. We plan on having pizza, snacks, and fun. Please let Pastor Amelie or Megan Wiglusz know if your young adult (grades 7 and up) can attend.

Please remember your offerings. If you have the means to contribute to the church, you may drop them off during the Sunday morning service, at the church office, or you may mail it to our address: Trinity Christian UCC, 2009 Church Road, PO Box 538, Skippack, PA 19474. Thank you for your faithfulness!





**Christmas Cantata
Sunday, December 17
10:15 a.m.**

Our choir has been working very hard to bring you this wonderful service of music. Please join us as we lift our voices and rejoice in this magical season.



Christmas Eve Services:
Sunday, December 24

This year there will be two services in the Sanctuary. Our regular Sunday Service will be held at 10:15 a.m.

Our Candlelight Service will be held at 6:00 p.m. and will be family-friendly.

The beauty of the season will come alive once again as we celebrate the Christ Child in our midst through communion and singing our praises by candlelight.

Trinity Winter Study - Tuesdays starting January 2nd

Pastor Amelie invites you to join her in a study of Lisa Sharon Harper's book The Very Good Gospel: How Everything Wrong Can Be Made Right. Her book explores the biblical text, particularly the first three chapters of Genesis, and shows us what "very good" can look like today.

We will discuss the book chapter by chapter. Please sign up so that Pastor Amelie can get a book for you. We will meet in person on Tuesdays at 12 Noon in our Education Building - please bring a bagged lunch.

We will meet on ZOOM on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Pastor will send out the ZOOM link to all participants. Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex or email her at PastorAmelieSell@gmail.com so that she knows to email you the link for the ZOOM meeting and get a book for you.



December

12/17	Rita Dickey
12/17	Peggy Hood
12/20	Janet Crossgrove
12/20	Christopher Hayes
12/25	Bob Davis
12/27	Aubree Cox
12/27	Penny Walker

January

1/3	Chelsey Cox
1/5	Belle Lopez
1/9	Jo Ann Davis
1/9	Jennifer Riccitelli
1/12	Pam Morris
1/19	Denise Clark
1/21	June Fretz
1/23	Charles Hayes
1/23	Carolynn White
1/26	Elaine Becker
1/27	Edward Harkins
1/28	Laura Parker

February

2/3	Addalea Mace
2/10	Crystal Crossgrove
2/11	Nathan Hayes
2/12	Nancy Gallagher
2/15	Diana Polec
2/17	Kevin Sauerwald
2/17	Dru Schillow
2/19	Becky Sauerwald
2/20	Ella Mae Kalbach
2/23	Keemaya Sharma
2/27	Christine Cassel

Trinity Christian UCC
P.O. Box 538
2009 Church Road
Skippack, Pa 19474



Winter Schedule

Sunday Morning Bible Study on ZOOM and in person 8:30 AM
Children's Sunday School (Pre-K through 6th Grade) During Worship
In-Person Youth Sunday School 9:15 AM
In-Person Worship Service 10:15 AM
Facebook Livestream 10:15 AM (Worship)
Website: www.trinityskippack.org
Pastor: Amelie Sell Castillo
PastorAmelieSell@gmail.com