



Volume 6, Issue 12

2021
December

The Trinity Times

Rejoice in the
coming of the Lord!

Have a *Blessed*
Advent!



November 28th marked the first Sunday in Advent. As in past years our Advent Services include a time to light the Advent Candle. If you are on Zoom, you may wish to have your own “safe” advent candle ring to light or turn on. This years’ theme is *“Home for Christmas”*. For many people, Advent is a time of counting down the days until the BIG celebration. The season often seems filled with extra work, extra people, and extra spending. Advent 2021 may mark the first time since the onset of COVID-19 that some families have gathered. It will definitely be the first Christmas when most families feel safe enough to reunite. Advent 2021 is an invitation to come home, whether that is to a literal home or a spiritual home.

As a result of the pandemic, many of us have temporarily misplaced the participatory aspects of our faith. We watched virtual worship and stopped speaking the words of the liturgy and singing the lyrics of the hymns. We slowly developed a spectator faith and now need to re-engage our ability to practice our faith. Each week during Advent you are invited to join us as we read a focus scripture passage and reflect on how that scripture impacts our lives today and what it means to be *Home for Christmas!*

December 10th - Last Day to Order Poinsettias for the Sanctuary

At our combined “live and zoom” church service on Christmas Eve at 7:00, we will again be filling the sanctuary with a poinsettia garden in memory or in honor of loved ones. The cost of each poinsettia is \$7.00, and December 10th is the last day to submit your order. You may bring your order to church on a Tuesday, Wednesday, or Friday between 9:00 and noon, call the church office at 717-273-1970, or email lebanontrinity@comcast.net. Be sure to include the wording of your remembrances. The list of “Remembrances” will be included in the December 19th, 24th, and 26th bulletins. We are hoping that the upgrades to our video system will be completed and allow the live service to be seen on Zoom at the same time!



Bell Ringers

Trinity once again rang the bell for the *Salvation Army* at the Lebanon 8th Street Market on Saturday, November 20 from 8:00 to 2:00. We thank the following for representing Trinity in support for this important mission... Jack Stouffer & Karen Neblock, Barb & Dave Wallett, Debbie Kern & Sally DeJesus, Reba Sterner, and Tiffany DeJesus & Natalina Harrison.

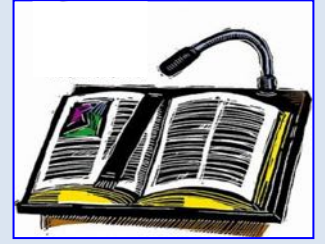
Thank you all for ringing the bell!

LISTENING CORNER



Liturgists

<u>Date</u>	<u>Zoom Service (9:15)</u>	<u>Live Service (10:30)</u>
December 5	Carol Hollich	Barb Querry
December 12	Gloria Clark	Dea Kishpaugh
December 19	Reba Sterner	Keith Earle
December 24	TBA	
December 26	Pat Swartz	Rev. Rick Clark



If you are unable to serve as lay reader, please call... 717-838-2812

December Missions

We are asking for monetary donations for the United Methodist Women's Christmas stockings that go to nursing homes. Checks can be sent to the church with "UMW missions" in the memo. We will take all items to LCCM as a special Christmas gift to those in need in our community.



Save the date

Thursday Evening - January 6

We have invited Nuevo Nacimiento to celebrate "Three Kings Day" in our Fellowship Hall on January 6th. They are planning a puppet show and fun activities to remember this special day. Epiphany or "Three Kings Day" is all about gift giving. So they will be inviting children and youth to come and are asking us to join in the celebration and provide some gifts for the kids. We are hoping that this is the beginning of a partnership that leads to better use of our facilities and additional missions and ministries in the days ahead! More information to follow in the upcoming days!



- 07 - Lori Grandi
- 07 - Roxanne Miller
- 12 - Linda Loeper
- 12 - Nathan Sechrist
- 13 - Joe Hollich
- 17 - Bob Neblock
- 20 - Reba Sterner

Worship Service Update

The new computer and camera in the sanctuary are installed and working (hooray)! But the new sound board is still on a container ship somewhere on the West Coast (boo)! When it arrives we will be able to control all of our media equipment from the sanctuary. In the meantime, we think we have a way to simultaneously "zoom" the in-person 7:00 Christmas Eve service. If all works as planned, we hope to begin offering both services at the same time in January. Stay tuned!

CALENDAR DATES

- Dec. 1... Staff Parish meeting
with the District Superintendent
- Dec. 5... Good Cheer Sunday
and Communion
- Dec. 9... Worship Team (7:00 pm)
- Dec. 12... Ad Council (1:00 pm)
- Dec. 24... Christmas Eve Service (7:00 pm)
(Live & Zoom)
- Jan. 2... Communion
- Jan. 9... Fellowship Planning Meeting
- Jan. 18... Ladies' (& Men's) Luncheon (12:30)
Hoss's in Annvile



Good Cheer Sunday - Dec 5



Each year on the first Sunday of December, we take a collection for our *Good Cheer fund*.

The monies received help provide Christmas gifts for our home-bound members. Help spread "Good Cheer" with money or a check to help with expenses. Although we will not be caroling at the homes this year, we need volunteers to visit these members and take them a gift from *Trinity*.

Fellowship Planning

All are invited to the annual fellowship planning meeting on **Sunday, January 9th at 1 p.m.** (hopefully in-person). More info will be in the next newsletter, but in the meantime save the date and add your name to the sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board! (The snow date is January 16.) Ideas like the Ladies' Luncheon, Spaghetti Supper, the BAZAAR, repairs in the church, and special Church Fellowship trips will be in the mix of activities discussed. Share your new ideas and help plan a 2022 of fun-filled fellowship events!



Christmas Eve Service



On December 24 at 7:00 p.m., Trinity will celebrate the birth of our Savior with a "LIVE" family Christmas Eve Service. Plans include a small choir, chimes, scriptures, carols, and candle lighting. At 6:45 there will be an organ recital. Bring the whole family and celebrate Jesus' birth. We hope to be able to have the service on Zoom for those who are not able to attend.

LADIES' LUNCHEON AT HOSS'S



Every 3rd Tuesday of the month, Trinity ladies will meet at Hoss's in Annvile at 12:30 for lunch and fellowship. Our first outing was on November 16th with 7 women attending (5 men ate together on the other side of the restaurant). Although we are not getting together in December, we plan to be together at Hoss's on Tuesday, January 18th at 12:30. All are invited to join this group whenever you can. It's a lot of fun and good food!



Our very own Tina Washington will be presented the Athena Award by the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce on December 16th. This award is given to recognize individuals who have excelled in their profession, given back to their communities and helped advance the careers and leadership potential of women in the community. Congratulations Tina!!



DISCRETIONARY FUND

Many times throughout the year the pastor is asked to help members of Trinity or the community as they go through difficult times. Prior to COVID, monetary gifts that were given as we approached the communion table helped to support this special fund. In this season of Advent, please consider making a special gift marked for the "Discretionary Fund".

The following are Trinity's 2022 leadership positions approved at Charge Conference on November 10. **Each blank area is an opportunity for you to help determine the future of Trinity UMC. PLEASE VOLUNTEER** by talking to our Pastor or Lay Leader!!!

LEBANON: TRINITY UMC LEADERSHIP
January 1, 2022– December 31, 2022

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Chairperson (*Elected by Charge Conference*): George Hollich

Recording Secretary (Appointed by the Chair): Carol Hollich

EX OFFICIO

Pastor: Lynn Hackman

Lay Member of Annual Conference: Gloria Clark

Staff/Parish Representative: Reba Sterner

Church Treasurer: Keith Earle

Worship Representative: Carol Hollich

Education Representative: Sally Ann DeJesus

Lay Leader: George Hollich

Missions Coordination: Dea Kishpaugh

Trustees Representative: Jack Kishpaugh

Financial Secretary: Mary Gruber

Finance Representative: Barb Query

AT LARGE MEMBERS - (3 year term, permitted to repeat)

Class of 2022

[Redacted]
Marilyn Smith
Joyce Dissinger

Class of 2023

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Class of 2024

Kitty Fair
Jack Stouffer
Elmer Fair

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Co-Chairpersons (Elected by Committee): Jack Kishpaugh & Dave Wallett

AT LARGE MEMBERS - (3 women, 3 year term, permitted to repeat)

2022

Jim Allwein
Barb Query
[Redacted]

2023

Jack Kishpaugh
Mike Query
Barb Wallett

2024

Keith Earle
Dea Kishpaugh
Dave Wallett

STAFF-PARISH

Chairperson (*Elected by Charge Conference*): Reba Sterner

EX OFFICIO

Rev. Lynn Hackman

Lay Leader: George Hollich

Lay Member of Annual Conference: Gloria Clark

AT LARGE MEMBERS - (limit of 6 consecutive years)

2022

Kevin Long
Leslie Dissinger

2023

[Redacted]
Barb Query

2024

Keith Earle
[Redacted]

FINANCE

Chairperson (Elected by Committee): Keith Earle

EX OFFICIO

Pastor: Lynn Hackman

Treasurer: Keith Earle

Ad Council Chair: George Hollich

Lay Member to Annual Conference: Gloria Clark

Lay Leader: George Hollich

Financial Secretary: Mary Gruber

Staff/Parish Representative:

Trustees Representative: Keith Earle

AT LARGE MEMBERS - (limit of 6 consecutive years)

2022

Barb Query
[Redacted]

2023

Sue Robson
Joyce Dissinger

2024

Rick Clark
Tod Dissinger

NOMINATIONS and LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

EX OFFICIO

Pastor: Lynn Hackman, Chairperson Lay Leader: George Hollich
AT LARGE MEMBERS Nominated/Elected at Charge Conference (3 year term, permitted to repeat)

<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Dea Kishpaugh [REDACTED]	Sally Ann DeJesus [REDACTED]	Carol Hollich [REDACTED]

WORSHIP

Chairperson: (Elected by Committee) – Carol Hollich

EX OFFICIO

Pastor: Lynn Hackman Music Director: Carol Hollich
Organist: Caroline Jacobs Ushers: Dave Wallett, Sr. Greeters: Claire Earle
Flowers & Communion Steward: Donna Mease Sound Board Operator: Jack Kishpaugh

AT LARGE MEMBERS - (3 year term)

<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Jack Kishpaugh Pat Swartz	Betsy Allwein Barb Wallett	[REDACTED] Sally Ann DeJesus

EDUCATION/WITNESS

Chairperson: (Elected by the Committee) – Sally Ann DeJesus

EX OFFICIO

Pastor: Lynn Hackman

MEMBERS

Dea Kishpaugh, Sally Ann DeJesus, George Hollich, Marilyn Smith,
Tina Washington, Betsy Allwein, Carol Hollich

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Reba Sterner

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

Lebanon County Christian Ministries:

Community Homes of Lebanon: Rev. Lynn Hackman

LINKS (formerly ConneXion) – Sally DeJesus, Lynn Hackman

CARING & HOSPITALITY TEAM

Pastor: Lynn Hackman Lay Leader: George Hollich Parish Visitor: Rev. Rick Clark
Sally Ann DeJesus, Deb Forry, Carol Hollich, Donna Mease, Karen Neblock, Sue Robson, Reba Sterner,
Jack Stouffer, Pat Swartz, Joyce Twigg, Barbara Wallett, Tina Washington

COMMUNICATIONS

Deb Forry, Carol Hollich, George Hollich, Joyce Dissinger, Gloria Clark

MISSION / OUTREACH TEAM

Rachel Brossman (Prayer Warriors), Claire Earle (Prayer Chain), Pat Swartz (Cornwall, UMW),
Dea Kishpaugh (Monthly Mission Projects), Sally DeJesus (Music Camp and Willow Terrace),
Jack Stouffer (First Friday), Joyce Dissinger (Second Sunday Serving & Food Ministries),
Lynn Hackman (Emerging Ministries)

STEERING TEAM

Leslie Dissinger, Lynn Hackman, George Hollich, Dea Kishpaugh

Adult Sunday School – December



God Requires Justice is the focus of our lessons in December as we begin the winter theme of **JUSTICE, LAW, & HISTORY**. God’s law gives his people a standard for justice. In December we will discuss how justice springs from God’s own character and provides the pattern for right human conduct and social order. The leaders of God’s people are called to follow God’s example as they administer justice. As we live day to day, God’s justice is mirrored in our human relationships. King David fulfilled his promise to Jonathan by caring for his deceased friend’s son. Sometimes God brings about justice through a demonstration of his mighty power. At other times his justice

appears in the form of an outpouring of his righteousness. The Messiah prophesied by Isaiah would bring perfect justice into his perfect reign. Unfortunately, humans often become angered when justice seems to be delayed and need to hear Nahum’s prophecies as a reminder that God sees the cruelty of the nations and will judge them rightly. Consider these topics and join us in our weekly discussions.

December 5

Justice and Obedience

Deuteronomy 5:1b–3; 10:12–13; 27:1–10

December 12

Justice and Kindness

2 Samuel 9:1–7, 9–12

December 19

Justice and Righteousness

Isaiah 9:2–7

December 26

Justice and Deliverance

Nahum 1:1–3, 6–8, 12–13, 15

Many Americans can tell you about the Twin Towers. The world watched in horror as these buildings in New York City crumbled to the ground after a vicious attack by a foreign enemy. The assault was not only deadly to so many, but it also threatened the very ideals of this nation. Life changed dramatically for America after that fateful September day in 2001. Like those two skyscrapers that towered high above the New York City skyline, God has twin towers of His own. Psalm 89:14 tells us those two pillars, justice and righteousness, are foundational to the throne of God. When a nation and a government hold these standards in esteem as the Lord intends, that nation is strong. But when these two pillars are misused, abused or destroyed, the nation cannot stand.



A clear understanding of God’s justice is fundamental because our legal system is based upon the Judeo-Christian ethic; the ideals of our Founding Fathers and the foundational documents of our government are based upon that understanding. We need to understand that the suffering caused by terrorists was not willed by God... but was permitted because of man’s freedom to commit sin. So the French Revolution, the Russian Revolution and the terrorists of today are unwitting instruments of divine justice.

Did September 11, 2001, bring America back to God or are we still in denial that we need him? Did abortion, pornography, or materialism stop after September 11, 2001, or are they going stronger than ever? Our God is not a

wimp, neither is he a merciless dictator. He seeks our welfare... but sometimes the only way to reach us is by attacking our false gods. Sometimes we have to lose everything to find God. God’s justice is his last resort in reaching us. In our lessons this quarter we examine the Bible’s sense of God’s justice entrusting people with missions vital to His plan. Join this month to discuss how we learn more about God’s Justice, Law & History.

December 5

1. The Lord required Israel to serve him with all their heart and _____ . Deuteronomy 10:12
2. The Israelites were not to use what kind of tools while building an altar? (iron, stone, bronze). Deuteronomy 27:5

December 12

1. What gift did David grant to Mephibosheth? (land, money, clothing). 2 Samuel 9:7
2. Ziba and his sons and servants were commanded to farm Mephibosheth’s land. T/F. 2 Samuel 9:10

December 19

1. The coming of the Messiah would be a time of great joy for Israel T/F. Isaiah 9:2
2. This new ruler will reign from whose throne? (David’s, Saul’s, Isaiah’s). Isaiah 9:7

December 26

1. The Lord vents his wrath against his _____ . Nahum 1:2
2. The Lord angers very quickly and easily. T/F Nahum 1:3

Trinity United Methodist Church

757 Willow Street, Lebanon, Pa. 17046

Where "Faith, Hope and Love abide to encourage all to respond to the call of Christ."

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT -- December 5, 2021

(The service begins at 9:15 with the fellowship area opening at 9:00.)

To be a part of worship on the computer go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84273234069>
or join by phone by dialing 1-646-876-9923 and entering 842 7323 4069 when prompted.)

*The flowers in the sanctuary today are presented in memory of their parents,
Kathryn & John Robson and Ruth & Robert Leiss by Sue and Gary Robson*

Welcome

Lay Leader: George Hollich

Prelude

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming - Rasley

Organist: Caroline Jacobs

Call to Worship

Liturgist: Carol Hollich

L: Look to the East. The rising sun, our morning light, chases away the night.

P: A voice cries out in the wilderness: Make ready the way of the Lord!

L: Make a good path so all may walk in beauty with kind steps and happy hearts.

P: A voice cries out in the wilderness: Make ready the way of the Lord!

L: Look, the rising sun, the dawning of forgiveness, the advent of hope,
the beginning of peace.

P: Let us make a bright path for Jesus to come!

Advent Candle Lighting (Candle of Peace)

Song

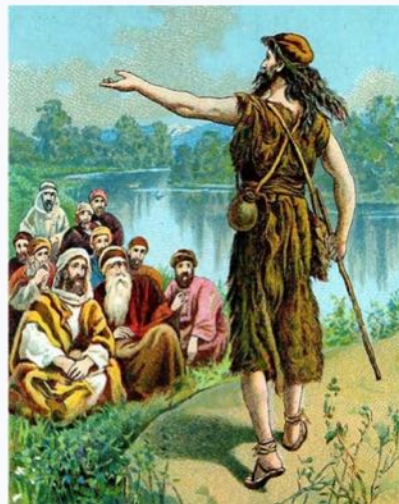
On Jordan's Bank

Charles Coffin

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh
Awake and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
Make straight the way of God within,
And let each heart prepare a home
Where such a mighty guest may come.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
Whose advent doth thy people free;
Whom with the father we adore
And Holy Spirit evermore.



Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Pastor Lynn Hackman

Musical Meditation

Shine Jesus Shine

Graham Kendrick

Celebration of Gifts

Pastor Lynn Hackman

(Your offerings can be sent to Trinity UMC, 757 Willow Street, Lebanon, PA 17046)

Hymn #203

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

W.H. Monk

1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.
2. He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.
3. He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.
Before him on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go,
and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.
4. To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.
The tide of time shall never His covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever, that name to us is love.



Old Testament

Malachi 3:1-4

Liturgist: Carol Hollich

New Testament

Luke 1: 68-79

Sermon

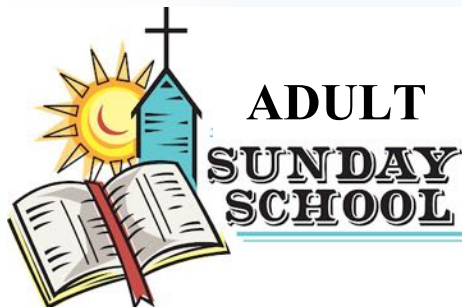
Rescued

Pastor Lynn Hackman

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Benediction

Announcements & Social Time



Sunday School – *Justice & Obedience*
Deuteronomy 5:1b-3, 10:12-13, & 28:1-10

In terLink

(A discussion of this theme will follow the 9:15 Zoom service this week.)

Faith in Jesus

Sunday School Handout - December 5

Study Text: Acts 3

KEY VERSE: *By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.* —Acts 3:16



Five-Tool Players

When looking for a future superstar, most baseball scouts seek players that excel in all facets of the game - hitting for average, hitting for power, base running, throwing, and fielding. Such “five-tool players” are rare! In the history of the game, only a handful merit that designation. Willie Mays was a lifetime .302 hitter who had 660 career home runs and 3,283 hits. Mays was also a great base runner, stealing 338 bases. “Hammerin’ Hank” Aaron slugged 755 home runs, drove in 2,297 runs, and stole 240 bases while posting a career .305 batting average during his career. Ken Griffey Jr. was named to his league’s all-star team 13 times and won seven Silver Sluggers awards. Other players fall into the five-tool category, but the list is short. Just as scouts look for five-tool players, employers look to hire someone who is the “complete package;” but the Bible tells us that there is only one way to be perfectly whole.

THE SERVANT LEADER

Victor Herman accompanied his father to Russia in 1931 to help build a car manufacturing plant. When Victor became an adult, he refused to become a Russian citizen and was imprisoned for 18 years. His memoir *Coming Out of the Ice* tells the story. He and 15 other prisoners were locked in a small cell 24 hours a day, forbidden to move or speak. At night they slept jammed together on the cold concrete floor. One man, “the Elder,” voluntarily took a place near the door. The spot was closest to the stench of the latrine. This position also made him the first to be beaten by sadistic guards. The Elder made sure that each man got his daily bowl of soup. Herman says the Elder’s example of servant leadership in that horrible setting taught him that “only the one who is most exposed to the blows of the system can claim authority to lead and serve.” Peter informed his audience that Jesus placed himself in the greatest jeopardy in order to bring salvation. He served in a way no other can so that we would be servants of sin no more. What should we learn from Jesus’ example?

Restorative Justice?

Conor McBride walked into a Tallahassee police station on March 28, 2010, and said, “You need to arrest me; I just shot my fiancée.” He was telling the truth. He and Ann Margaret Grosmaire had argued for 38 hours and then he shot her. In the hospital, Ann was unconscious, but her father was sure she said “forgive him” just before she died. Conor was charged with first-degree murder, but Ann’s parents didn’t want him to spend his life in prison. A prison chaplain told them about the concept of restorative justice. Anne’s family interceded for Conor and he received a lesser sentence than the law required. God’s system of restorative justice works differently. We are offered a restored, right relationship with him only on the basis of Christ’s payment our sins. A more appropriate designation for God’s system of restorative justice is *grace*. This system requires no gathering of various parties to agree to a reduced sentence. God’s grace means there is *no* sentence!

Thoughts to Consider

1. How can we ensure that people see that it is God’s power that undergirds our accomplishments and success?
2. What are ways that our personal limitations can be a basis to bring glory to God?
3. How can we help each other get past blind spots in understanding Jesus properly?

FAITH IN JESUS

Lesson 1, Acts 3:11-21, NIV

WHAT'S MISSING?

As they are, these common adages don't make much sense. Fill in the missing words to make them complete.

1. Birds of a _____ flock _____.
2. A bird in the _____ is worth two in the _____.
3. Don't judge a _____ by its _____.
4. Better _____ than _____.
5. Nothing _____, nothing _____.
6. _____ killed the cat.
7. Never look a _____ _____ in the mouth.
8. There's no such thing as a _____ _____.
9. Two _____ don't make a _____.
10. _____ makes _____.
11. You can't teach an old _____ new _____.
12. Stop and _____ the _____.
13. He who _____ is lost.
14. _____ twice, _____ once.
15. Strike while the _____ is _____.

HELPING THE HURTING

Read each of the Scriptures below, and consider how it can help you minister to those who are hurting. Then think of someone in particular to whom you will reach out this week.

Psalm 34:18

Proverbs 25:25

Isaiah 40:29

Matthew 11:28

Psalm 82:3

Matthew 25:40