

# TRINITY TIDINGS

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## Do you long for something brand new?

When the seasons change, we may find our spirits feeling a bit uneasy. We can feel the shifting in the air and may begin to feel uncertain, unsure of what is ahead of us. Some may feel excitement, ready to welcome the newness carried by the crisp autumn breezes. Even though we know Thanksgiving is followed by Advent and Christmas, each year is always a bit different, and we may find ourselves longing for something fresh. Liturgically, our lessons and themes of the coming Church Year keep us grounded in our faith, while urging us to look toward the coming of Jesus into our lives in surprising ways.

We are on the cusp of the season of Advent, a season full of possibility and hope.

Advent carries the potential to fill us with longing for the Christ child born into our lives in new ways. This year, our worship services will follow the traditional lectionary lessons and familiar patterns. We will also use several Barn Geese Worship resources with fresh prayers and readings. What will God reveal to you this year, perhaps even “out of the blue”?

Join us each Sunday in Advent, beginning November 27, as we walk together toward the celebration of the birth of Jesus once more.

*Arise! Shine! For your light arrives!  
The splendor of the Lord shines on you!  
For, look, darkness covers the earth  
and deep darkness covers the nations,  
but the Lord shines on you;  
his splendor appears over you.  
(Isaiah 60:1-2, New English Translation)*

Grace and peace to you!  
**Pastor Karen Durbin**



**TRINITY**  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
**ON MAIN**  
“Sharing God’s Love”™



*Arise! Shine! For your  
light arrives!  
The splendor of the  
Lord shines on you!*

*Isaiah 60:1-2*



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## Music Notes



### Our Ensembles

Handbell ringers and choir singers meet on Wednesday evenings to rehearse and prepare music to glorify God at Sunday worship.

New participants are always welcome to join us for the year, a few months or even for just a particular season of the church year (like Advent, Christmas or Easter). See Deb Hartman (bells) or Melissa Jacoby (choir) for more information.

Do you play an instrument or have a favorite sacred song you would like to perform or sing? There are many opportunities through the year to sing or play in our worship services. Leave a note in the church office for the Minister of Music.



### Story Behind the Hymn: ELW 840

*Now thank we all our God  
with heart and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things has done,  
in whom his world rejoices;  
who from our mothers' arms  
has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.*

On the Eve of the Thirty Years' War, Martin Rinkart came to minister to the people of Eilenburg. Known as a skilled musician as well as a writer and theologian, he arrived with the intent to serve his people, many of whom

had fled there seeking shelter within the town walls. Already overcrowded, in 1637, a great pestilence struck. Thousands died and the other clergy either died or fled, leaving Rinkart to serve alone. He performed more than 4000 funerals that year, including for his own wife. Following the plague came a famine, and even in poverty and need, Rinkart shared all the food he could. In the aftermath of this unimaginable suffering, Martin Rinkart wrote a hymn. What kind of song could come out of such tragedy? A lament? A plea for vindication? A cry for mercy?

Instead, Rinkart wrote a hymn of gratitude, *Nun Danket Alle Gott* ("Now Thank We All Our God"). *As the Lord had sustained and spared him through the terrible plight of war, pestilence, and famine, the song of Rinkart's heart was one of thankfulness.*

The text sings with gratitude, while at the same time looks forward to a great deliverance. How fitting a meditation for someone who has walked through the valley of the shadow of death, and yet still longs for the great redemption to come.

(Notes from Dan Regier, Minister of Music at First Baptist Church, San Jacinto)

- Melissa Jacoby, Minister of Music

## SYNOD NEWS

The Lower Susquehanna Synod has an on-line newsletter that provides information about what is going on around the SYNOD! Just go to the LSS website: <http://www.lss-elca.org/>

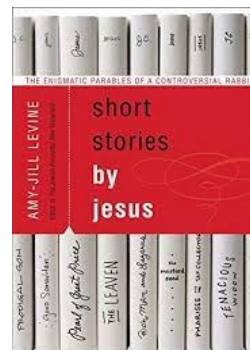
# Snax n Study Schedule



Snax n Study Continues throughout November, Sunday mornings at 8:45 am

The Snax & Study group is looking at several of Jesus' parables from the unique perspective of New Testament scholar Dr. Amy-Jill Levine. We are using her book and DVD series, "Short Stories of Jesus." All are welcome to join us.

"Short Stories of Jesus" series  
(lesson descriptions from leader's guide of book)



## Nov 6 "The Widow and the Judge" (Luke 18:1-8)

We will examine biblical images in stories of widows, and consider what can be gained when rejecting stereotypes in favor of viewing and engaging with people as individuals.

## Nov 13 "The Laborers in the Vineyard" (Matthew 20:1-6)

We will consider the spiritual lessons and concrete levels of this teaching when applied to our own lives.

Nov 20 – Christ the King Sunday psalm study on the Enthronement Psalms - led by Melissa Jacoby

**Volunteers are needed to bring snax for our Snax n Study time!  
Sign up on the sheet that is posted on the bulletin board in the  
hallway if you are able to provide snax for a week. Thank you!**

## Sermon Series on the Sacraments

We are halfway through a sermon series on the sacraments that began on Sunday, October 23. In the Lutheran tradition we acknowledge two sacraments -- Holy Baptism and Holy Communion. Our Triune God promises to be especially present and active through the combination of word, water, oil, bread, and wine in the community of faith. Make a point to be present with us for Sunday worship throughout this series as we are reminded about these gifts of grace, learn something new, and join our confirmands who are also learning about Sacraments this fall.



## UPCOMING SUNDAY EVENTS

November 6: Daylight Savings Time ends  
8:45 am, Snax n Study  
November 13: 8:45 am, Snax n Study  
November 20: 8:45 am, Snax n Study  
November 27: 8:45 am, Snax n Study  
11:30 am, Budget meeting  
following 10:15 am worship

## MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Men's Breakfast will not be held in November. Stay tuned to find out when the men will begin meeting again!



# *Advent at Trinity*

Our theme for Advent is "Out of the Blue" from Barn Geese Worship. It is a season of waiting and longing for the coming of the Christ Child once more. How will God surprise you with touches of grace in unexpected ways this year?

Consider these opening words from our Advent liturgy. Take some time to pray these words with a friend. Take turns reading the light print, and then read the bold print together. God comes to change us. We are not afraid!

For God, change can be small,  
evolutionary, atomic.  
A crumbled resistance,  
a slightly different direction,  
a fresh idea in the middle of the night.

For God, change can rain down like a  
tempest,  
a flood in every street  
that sweeps into our lives  
with energy that does not yield  
or listen.

**God is urgently waiting to finally arrive.**

God, we have been waiting for you, too.  
**Yet you often arrive before we notice:**  
**in the place we did not expect,**  
**in the word we did not hear.**

Do not be afraid,  
your angels always say,  
right before you change a life.

**You are here to change this place.**  
**We are not afraid.**

Used by permission of Barn Geese Worship.



## Out of the Blue Advent Vespers

Pastor Karen and our Minister of Music, Melissa Jacoby, are teaming up to bring you a midweek vespers service throughout Advent. You are invited to come to the church sanctuary at noon each Wednesday for a 20-minute time of meditative worship with candle lighting, readings, singing, and prayer. We will be recording these services to post online for those unable to attend at noon. Please note that those who gather in person will not be filmed.

Plan now to take a meditative pause in these busy weeks of Advent to watch and wait for the coming of Christ. Stay tuned for more information in your Friday emails or on our web page.



## Christmas Worship Schedule

Christmas Eve Worship with  
Holy Communion – December 24.  
Prelude at 8:15. Worship at 8:30 pm

Christmas Day Worship with  
Holy Communion – December 25, 9 am

New Year's Day Worship  
with Holy Communion – January 1, 9 am



## Blessing of the Animals!

Our Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 9 was a huge success! We had visits from many furry friends who came to receive a special blessing from Pastor Karen. Check out some of the highlights below... (Photos courtesy of Melissa Jacoby)





More Animal Blessing pics...



We sure  
love our  
animal  
friends &  
their  
humans!



## Streets of Treats

Trinity Church had a very busy October and one of the wonderful events that happened was the Mechanicsburg Streets of Treats. Everyone had a great time, and thank you to those who donned costumes and helped to hand out treats! Check out the pics below..





## Streets of Treats, cont'd



Photos courtesy of  
Melissa Jacoby





## Upcoming & Ongoing Events




# FREE



# Adult Clothing

## Saturday, Nov. 12

## 9-11am



**Trinity's Closet on Main**  
**132 E. Main St.**  
**Mechanicsburg, PA**

Thank you for your gifts of gently used clothing for Trinity's Closet on Main. We continue to have more and more people taking advantage of this ministry. November is "Coat Month." In addition to focusing on coats, the carry-out lunch will be turkey sandwiches and a cranberry side.

In December, guests will receive packages of homemade cookies along with warm clothing that they will surely find.

If you have questions or would like to volunteer in any way, contact Heather Zielonis.

## Find us online!

At least once a week, we will post an event or invitation on Facebook. When you see our posts, leave a positive comment and hit the "like" and share buttons. Your "likes" and "shares" help us get the word out about the good things happening at Trinity to all of your friends too.

Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TLCMech>

Don't forget to visit Trinity on Main's website for information about current events and the weekly worship videos. <https://www.trinity-on-main.org/>





# Community Dinner

The Community Dinner sponsored by the Mechanicsburg Area Churches and hosted by Trinity Church on Sunday, October 16 was absolutely delicious and the fellowship among everyone who attended was just wonderful, not to mention the gorgeous fall weather! Here are some highlights....





## Community Dinner Highlights, cont'd...



The next Community Dinner is scheduled for Sunday, February 12, location to be determined and details to follow. We hope you will join us!



## Thanks, Praise & Other Stuff!

A BIG thank you to  
One80 Ministries in  
Mechanicsburg, for their  
generous donation to our  
Clothing Closet. We  
appreciate your thinking  
of us and those in our  
community!



Thank you so much to everyone who volunteered their time at our recent Community Dinner. Your help and willingness to serve in whatever capacity needed was very much appreciated by the sponsoring churches as well as all those who attended. You helped to make the evening the fun and successful event that it was. For highlights of the dinner, please see page 7...

*You  
Are  
appreciated*







Nov 3	Robert Lamason
Nov 4	Susan Eckerd
Nov 7	Deanna Walton
Nov 12	Robinette Butts
Nov 12	Anthony Moats
Nov 21	Joseph Hafer
Nov 21	Aubrey Charlotte Hartman
Nov 22	Tom Hocker
Nov 23	Eric Hocker
Nov 24	Jon Hartman
Nov 27	Dorothy Dellinger
No 27	Rachel Wise
Nov 30	Cortney Thomsen

If you see any of these folks this month, be sure to wish them well on their birthday!

Is your birthday missing? Please let us know so we can update our database!



### New Hope Ministries "Christmas Blessing Express" Gift Donation Drive:

Trinity Church will be collecting new, unwrapped gifts for children whose families are struggling during Christmas. More details coming soon. Watch for an announcement in an upcoming bulletin!

#### Office Contact Info

Church & Staff Office Hours  
Mon. – Thurs. 9 AM –2 PM  
(other hours as needed)

Phone: 717-766-2662

[trinitymburgoffice@gmail.com](mailto:trinitymburgoffice@gmail.com)

[www.facebook.com/TLCMech](https://www.facebook.com/TLCMech)

<https://trinity-on-main.org/>

#### Pastor Contact Info

Pastor Karen Durbin

Email: [pastorkjd@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkjd@gmail.com)

#### Minister of Music Contact Info

Melissa Jacoby

Email: [trinitymburgmusic@gmail.com](mailto:trinitymburgmusic@gmail.com)

#### Parish Administrator Contact Info

Debbie Schue

Email: [trinitymburgoffice@gmail.com](mailto:trinitymburgoffice@gmail.com)



**PLEASE NOTE:** The deadline for submitting articles for Tidings is the 15th of each month for the following month.

### Blessing Box and New Hope

Donations of non-perishable food and personal care items are always needed, but particularly in high demand right now. Items needed are canned vegetables and fruit, pasta, tomato sauce, peanut butter, tuna and tuna helper. Bring your donations to the church during office hours or on Sunday mornings.





# NOVEMBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 6:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	3 9 am AARP Driver Safety Refresher Course	4	5
6 Daylight Savings Time ends 8 am Spoken Service Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship with Music 4:30 - 7 pm Confirmation Class	7 7 pm New Hope Planning Meeting	8 Election Day	9 1 pm Staff Meeting 6:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	10 11 am Bible Study 7 pm Church Council	11 Veterans' Day Green bean collection deadline 4 pm Set up for Trinity's Closet on Main	12 9-11 am Clothing Closet
13 8 am Spoken Service Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship with Music	14	15	16 6:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	17 11 am Bible Study 7 pm Worship & Music Ministry Meeting on Zoom	18	19
20 8 am Spoken Service Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship with Music 4:30 - 7 pm Confirmation Class	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Day Church office closed for holiday	25	26
27 8 am Spoken Service Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship with Music 11:30 am Budget Meeting following Worship	28	29	30 12:00 noon Advent Vespers 6:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal			

**This meeting is open to all church members.**