

DECEMBER 2023



# Trinity Topics



Monthly Publication of The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity

**Our mission is to Worship, Grow, Witness and Share through Christ's love in Service to God and Neighbor.**

## Christmas Eve Worship Schedule

### Christmas Eve & New Year's Eve Worship Schedules

Christmas Eve Service | *Handicapped Accessible*

Sunday, December 24, 2023 ~ Christmas Eve Services

10 AM Advent 4/Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion  
9:45 AM Musical Prelude ~ No Sunday School

5 PM Family Service with Holy Communion and candle lighting  
4:45 PM Musical Prelude

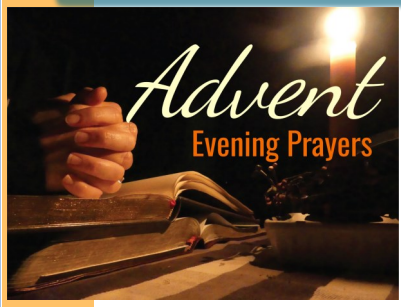
10 PM Festival Service of Holy Communion and candle lighti  
9:45 PM Musical Prelude

Sunday, December 31, 2023 - New Year's Eve Services

10 AM Service of Holy Communion, lessons and carols  
Pajamas Optional! ~ No Sunday School

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#### HOLDEN PRAYER SERVICE @ 7 PM

December 6 & 13'  
(In person & live streamed)

#### LONGEST NIGHT December 20 ~ 7 PM (In person & live streamed)



#### COOKIE WALK December 9, 2023 Pg. 8



*We wish you & yours a joyous holiday season that's filled with hope, peace, joy & love.  
— Merry Christmas!*

# Congregation Council News

## HIGHLIGHTS--CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES

October 17, 2023

### Attendance:

**Council Members:** Pastor Brommer, Ethan Ellenberger, Deb Brooks, Rodney Gross, Kurt Nielsen, Kendra Ruhl, [Charis Mincavage](#), JoEllen Myers, Susan Bianchi, Beth Dunham

**Treasurer:** Stephanie Gross    **Secretary:** Chip Haak    **Financial Secretary:** Denny Schwenk

**Guest:** Nathan Paul, Chair-Finance Committee

The Congregation Council Meeting was called to order at 7:03pm by President JoEllen Myers

### Reports:

**Treasurer's Report:** Report for September was reviewed by Stephanie Gross. Property Insurance combined with below average giving resulted in Net Income for the month of \$917.75. That decreased the year to date Net Loss to \$-10,036.

**Financial Secretary's Report:** The September report was included in the packet. [Denny had no additional comments.](#)

**Quarterly Reports:** Special Accounts, Youth Investment Account, Rent Escrow.

Endowment: Decreased from \$809,080 to \$784,072.

Capital Projects: Decreased from \$258,837 to \$255,361.

ELCA Mission Investment Fund:\$33,415.

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes from the September 19,2023, Council meeting were presented.

**Pastor's Report:** Report for September 20th-October 17th was emailed to members prior to meeting.

**Correspondence: Thank you** for financial donations

Lutheran Camping Corporation-\$1,500 (from Endowment allocation)

Reconciling Works-\$250 (from Endowment allocation)

### Ministry Teams:

Property Committee: Minutes from their meeting on October 10,2023 were presented.

Extended Ministries: Committee members were notified of the Council approval to use \$5,000 of Endowment allocation to pay salary for new [Youth and Family Ministry Director](#) for the remainder of 2023.

### New Business:

**Congregation Business Meeting:** Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 11am.

**Christmas Eve Services:** Since it falls on a Sunday, the 10:00am service will be part 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent and part Christmas Eve. The family service will be at 5:00pm and the late service at 10:00pm.

**Ministry Spending Plan:** Copies of draft Plan were distributed as part of the Council packet. Nathan Paul addressed the \$-19,941 deficit of expenses over projected giving. A portion of the deficit is due to the additional dollars for the new position of Youth and Family Ministry Director. Options included presenting the plan as is and have Council monitor the giving and expenses throughout 2024. If needed, some of our excess "cash on hand" created by PPP loan could be used. Another option would be to use some of the Endowment Allocation money.

**Faith Commitment to Synod:** Each year we submit a signed commitment with the amount of our pledge. Typically, this represents 10% tith of our adjusted regular giving. If our yearend giving exceeds our pledge amount, we historically have made an additional donation. With the current trend in giving below other years the concern is making a pledge which we would not be able to honor. Council felt that it was better to reduce the current amount from \$28,500 to \$25,200.

**A motion** to pledge the \$25,200 was made by Ethan Ellenberger, second by Rodney Gross, approved by Council.

With this change the deficit is reduced to \$16,641. Council's approach will be to monitor giving and expenses and take appropriate action as needed.

**A motion** to approve the Plan with the modification to the Faith Commitment was made by Rodney Gross, second by Susan Bianchi. Approved by Council.

**Next Council Meeting: November 21, 2023, via Zoom @7pm**

### Adjournment:

**A motion** to adjourn by Beth Dunham and second by Deb Brooks, approved by Council. The meeting concluded at 8:16pm with Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted by *Chip Haak*, Secretary



## Help Support Our Youth

A quick & easy way to help support our Youth is to purchase Giant Gift Cards! You get to match dollar for dollar of your gift card purchase toward the cost of your already expended expenses for groceries & gas too! All proceeds go to support the Youth programs.



**How it works:** You buy a card at face value (\$25, \$50, or \$100). The Youth then will make 5% on that sale from Giant. You can then use that gift card anytime you shop at Giant stores (including gas purchases). If interested, see Nathan Paul in the Narthex after service on Sunday.

## December Special Offering Envelopes

The special offering envelope for December included in all envelope packets is for the Hershey Food Bank and Community Outreach.

The purpose of the Hershey Food Bank and Community Outreach is to serve the Derry Township community by providing food and assistance with the temporary needs of families and individuals in financial distress. The Food Bank distributes food twice monthly and also prepares food baskets at Thanksgiving and Christmas to families identified and referred from churches, schools and others as being in need. In addition, general gift cards and gift certificates for children's clothing are included with the Christmas food baskets. For established clients they may also provide financial assistance for utility bills and rent payments on an emergency basis. Most cases are referred to Social Service agencies for further assistance. Budget counseling is available and provided free of charge.

Besides the monetary donations, the Food Bank relies upon donations of non-perishable food items such as canned vegetables fruits, soups, etc. as well as paper goods. Food donations can be dropped off in the narthex at Holy Trinity or taken to the drop off bins at the Food Bank, 120 E. Derry Road, Hershey.

Check out their website at [hersheyfoodbank.com](http://hersheyfoodbank.com).

## Capital Repair Fund

The Capital Repair Fund is used when we have major repairs to the church building. As you tithe, we encourage you to designate funding toward the Fund so that we don't need to make urgent appeals for things such as roofs or heating systems.



## Online Giving

To give your offering through Holy Trinity's website, snap a picture of this code with your phone and it will take you to our giving page.

**2023 CONTRIBUTIONS** Your contributions for 2023 were recorded weekly in the office. After the end of the year, a statement will be printed out so that you may use the information for your tax reports. Statements will be available for pick up before and after the church service on January 14, 2024. All statements not picked up will be mailed by the end of January. Only money postmarked by December 31 will be on your 2023 statement. If you hand in an envelope dated 2023 in January 2024, it will be recorded as money received in 2024. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

**Many thanks to all who have contributed & faithfully commit their tithes each & every week.** Your gifts to the Church throughout the year & this Christmas season are very much appreciated. These contributions help benefit the ongoing ministries & operating needs of the Church & Community. .

If you would like information on VANCO electronic or automatic giving, please contact the Church office or Peg Huebner.

**ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**



## Financial Information October 2023\*

\*All figures are subject to audit pending necessary adjustments

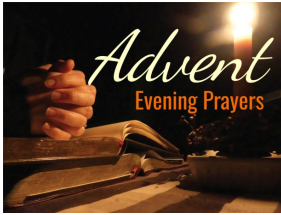


GIVING	2023	
	September	YTD
General Offering	26,173	225,955
Rental Income	2,450	21,850
Total General Offering *	28,623	247,805
Special Offerings	1,160	5,598
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Actual*	27,706	257,842
Budgeted	30,439	273,951

**For those who plan to gift extra or if you are planning to be out of town traveling before year end, please remember that only money postmarked by December 31 will be on your 2023 statement.** If you send in your gift in an envelope dated 2023 in January 2024, it will be recorded as money received in 2024.

# Advent

## ADVENT EVENING PRAYER—Wednesdays @ 7 PM



### HOLDEN EVENING PRAYERS

Please consider joining us on Wednesday evenings during Advent for Holden Evening Prayer, offered in person and “livestream” at 7:00 p.m.

Advent carries two simultaneous visions of our expectations: we await yet again the birth of the babe in the manger, and we also await Christ’s coming again to fulfill all things. Advent, the first season of the church year, reminds us to return to our sense of longing for and expectation of God’s coming into the world

Join us as we share Holden Evening Prayer on Wednesday, December 6, and 13. On December 20, we will share a “Longest Night Service” as Advent comes to a close and we prepare our hearts and minds for Christmas.



### Longest Night Service Wed. December 20—7 PM

The Longest Night Service is held near the shortest day of the year as we mark the official start of winter. We will gather in the darkness of December and anticipate the coming of the Light of the world, Jesus Christ, who gives us hope. The service will provide a time of reflection as the season of Advent draws to a close.

Preparing for the Christmas holidays can be a time filled with excitement & joy but it can also be a somber time for those of us who are missing lost loved ones or experiencing life-altering circumstances. Grief, illness, aging, depression, loneliness, unemployment and loss can be magnified in the midst of all the holiday joy and cheer.

If you would like to take some time for reflection in the midst of your holiday craziness or need a little uplifting this Advent, you are invited to a time of worship on **December 20 at 7 PM**. We will listen to scripture, pray, sing hymns, light candles and celebrate Holy Communion.

It’s almost time to start collecting greens again. The Decorating Committee is planning beautiful decorations for the sanctuary for the Christmas season and we need some fresh greens to adorn the narthex, sanctuary and chancel areas. Please consider clipping a trash bag or two of greens (no holly or yews, please!) from your yard and delivering them to the back porch of the church office in plastic bags by **Tuesday, December 19th**.



### Time to Decorate! December 22—9 AM

You are invited to join in preparing our church for the Christmas season. All will be prepared. We just need helping hands to complete the work. Please contact Betsy Phillippy (717-533-7151) or the church office (717-533-2467) and let us know if you plan to come. We hope you can join us in this time of fellowship and celebration.



### ADVENT DAY APART at The Wittel Farm December 9

We don’t like to wait for anything, and especially Christmas. With all its secular attraction, this holiday is often a focus on over-indulgence, and too often neglected is the best gift of all... one worth our waiting. You are invited to The Wittel Farm for a day apart from the busyness of life for prayer and contemplation as we journey toward the celebration of Christmas. \$15 registration includes lunch. For more Information visit: <https://www.lutherancamping.org/event/advent-day-apart-2023>

# Worship

## Bulletin & Flower Sponsorships

If you would like to sponsor the altar flowers or bulletins in honor/memory of someone or a special event there are several Sundays open. Cost for flowers is \$45 for the arrangement. Please contact the church office to schedule a date(s).

For bulletins, please write the information in the book or contact the church office. The cost is \$12.50 for 1/2 of the bulletin and \$25.00 for the whole bulletin. If you would like to sponsor the bulletin, please call the office at 717-533-2467 or email the office at [htluth@comcast.net](mailto:htluth@comcast.net).

## Worship Schedule

Please join us for worship on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM. Services will be in-person and livestreamed.



Website: [www.htluth.org](http://www.htluth.org) & click on Facebook link.



**ALTAR GUILD** is looking for volunteers to deliver flowers. Flowers can be delivered on Sunday or Monday at your convenience. Check with the altar guild person after church or check the flower sign-up sheet to see if the flower recipient is someone living near you or if you'd be willing to deliver to them.



Delivering the altar flowers is a great way to brighten someone's day! Thanks for your help!

## Holy Communion "at home"

Communion elements are available for those of you who are not able to attend in-person worship. By having these elements at home, you can share communion with us as we celebrate in the church. You can pick them up or we will bring them to your home. If you would like to receive communion elements, please contact Pastor Cindy at 717-512-4645 or the church office at [htluth@comcast.net](mailto:htluth@comcast.net) or 717- 533-2467.

## READERS, GREETERS & FLOWER DELIVERERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to greet people as they come into church and deliver flowers after the service on Sunday. Readers are needed to read the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and the Psalm. The lists are available on the bulletin board. Please sign up today or contact the church office if you would like to volunteer.

## Pastoral Acts in November

### Sacrament of Baptism:

Owen Johnathan Gansor, son of Phillip & Andrea Gansor, great-grandson of Bob and Barbara Trump. Please keep the Gansor family in your prayers.



## Time to Order Christmas Flowers

Would you like to donate money for flowers at Christmas in honor/memory of a loved one or for the beauty of the service? Please fill out the flower envelope from your offering envelopes, include a donation of any amount and mail it to church office or put in the offering plate. You can pick up a Christmas Flower envelope on the small table by the elevator. Please be sure your name is on the envelope and mark if the money is in honor or in memory of someone and who that person is. Please print neatly! **All contributions must be in by Friday, December 15th.** Thank you for your cooperation.



*Holy Trinity Lutheran Church welcomes and affirms everyone seeking God's love and grace, regardless of faith background, age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation and expression, gender identity and expression, ability, size, class, immigration, or relationship status. We explicitly stand against hate and discrimination, as our Church community strives to continually grow and learn within the Body of Christ according to Christ's teachings. We are committed to creating and maintaining a welcoming and safe environment for all people.*

## FAMILY FELLOWSHIP SUNDAYS COME! JOIN THE FUN!

**WHEN:** The third Sunday of the month  
**TIME:** Immediately following the Church  
**LOCATION:** We will meet on the first floor of the Church adjacent to the Sunday school classrooms.  
**DETAILS:** Join us each month for a light lunch, an Elementary-age craft, followed by another FUN-FILLED activity!

If you are interested in assisting with these events, please email Danielle Mariano at [Willtess2@icloud.com](mailto:Willtess2@icloud.com),  
**Next Gathering: December 17 ~ Christmas Party!**



## ADULT DISCUSSION GROUP

The Adult Discussion group meets on Sundays in Room 16 at 9:00-9:45am. Kurt Nielsen is offering a study of the book of Revelation. Please consider joining this time of learning and faith sharing.



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS	
Date	Lesson/Scripture
12/3	Advent II
12/10	Advent III
12/17	Advent IV
12/24	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL (Christmas Eve)
12/31	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL (New Year's Eve)



FAMILY FELLOWSHIP  
CHRISTMAS PARTY



**FAMILY FELLOWSHIP  
CHRISTMAS PARTY!  
December 17th  
11:30am - 1:00pm-ish**

Come down to Fellowship Hall for a luncheon, Christmas games, fun, fellowship, and a closing prayer.

Home-baked goodies are welcome, it's a party!

This event is for all church families and their children.

**YOUTH GROUP MEETING:** The theme for this next night will be Friendship and getting to know one another better. We will be playing a bunch of wacky Youth Group games and doing a handful of group building activities. It's a great night to bring a friend too. That said, I want to challenge everyone to bring a friend to this HTY Meeting. This meeting will be awesome, and jam-packed with fun, faith, and fellowship.

**Youth Grades 6 - 12  
Bring a friend!  
December 3rd  
5-7 PM**



# OUTREACH MINISTRIES



- We have completed the collection for the Stork's Landing and delivered the donations on Friday Nov-24<sup>th</sup>. See photos attached.

Faith in Action made a monetary donation of \$500.00 to the UPMC Pinnacle Foundation. Stork's Landing is not recognized as it's own budget item, so the funds must funnel through the UPMC Pinnacle Foundation to be used by Stork's Landing. Dawn Rice was very grateful and thanks everyone for our support.

Summary of other donations:

13 packs of diapers (1,461 total diapers)

Size N – 313 diapers

Size 1 – 602 diapers

Size 2 – 546 diapers

16 packs of baby wipes (1,361 total wipes)

4 tubes of baby ointment

5 bottles of baby shampoo

6 jars of Vaseline

50 cotton cleansing pads



We also discovered that they stock baby outfits for newborn thru 12 months ... as you can see from the attached picture.

## UPCOMING PROJECT—JANUARY 15 | FEED THE HOMELESS (WATCH YOUR WEEKLY EMAILS & BULLETINS FOR UPDATES)

**A sign-up sheet will be available at a later date**

- Feeding the Homeless project G2:10 Project
- Rod Gross applied for a \$250.00 Thrivent Action Team Grant. Status is pending
- We purchased 800 Eco Friendly serving trays for G2:10 to use for feeding the homeless every Monday. Cost =- \$184.31
- We also purchased 250 six ounce Eco friendly serving containers with lids for \$42.39. We use these containers for things like: baked beans, potato salad, macaroni salad. Historically we paid \$48.74 for 100 containers from Amazon the last two projects.
- Rod Gross purchased a personal residential membership for \$50.00 and saved \$48.05 on items b and c above. This is a yearly membership to The Restaurant Store in Camp Hill. We can use the membership for any future purchases the church may require.

# Faith in Action

**THE GIVING TREE PROJECT** Benefitting local families served by Hershey Food Bank & Community Outreach. Holy Trinity is collecting \$25 gift cards to support children & youth.

If you would like to participate, please bring gift cards to the church and put them in the Giving Tree box by **Sunday, December 17, 2023**.

Another way to help is by making a monetary contribution. Checks should be made out to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and put in the same box. There are envelopes available for your use.

All gift cards are welcomed, but VISA & cards to Target & Walmart which offer a variety of merchandise & food are especially helpful.





## LET'S STAY IN CHECK!

Blood Pressure Screenings following Worship are back! Holy Trinity will offer blood pressure screenings the first Sunday of every month in the front of the sanctuary following the worship service.

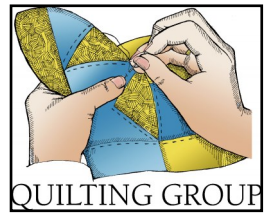
**Next Scheduled Screening:  
Sun. December 3**

## QUILTING NEWS

The Quilters will begin meeting again on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays each month @ 9 AM in rooms 15 and 16. If you don't know how to quilt, we will teach you! If you cannot make the workshops, but have a sewing machine at home & are willing to sew quilt tops together, we will gladly supply patches for you to sew! Many thanks to all who have helped with this amazing ministry!

The quilters will meet on December 6, 2023~ 9 AM

There will be NO quilting on Wed. December 27th



## Join us for a Cookie Walk!

**Saturday, December 9,  
2023  
9 AM— 12 Noon  
in the Fellowship Hall**

Join us on December 9th

from 9 AM—noon (or until sold out!) for a chance to pick out some delicious cookies for your holiday entertaining or just to enjoy yourself! If you've gotten cookies in the past, you know that the cookies are all extremely tasty and the variety is amazing! Containers for taking the cookies home and plastic gloves will be provided. **Fill a box for only \$12.00!**

**Bakers are needed.** We ask that you bring at least 4 dozen cookies (no store-bought cookies, please). Dig out your favorite recipes or be adventurous and try something new. There is a sign up sheet for bakers in the narthex. *Cookies should be brought to the Parish Hall on Friday, December 8th between 4:00 PM and 7:00 PM.*

*All proceeds benefit Holy Trinity's  
Youth Group Activities*

**Thanks for your support!**



## BIBLE ART JOURNALING

**Sunday, December 10 ~  
6:00pm – 7:30pm**

Meets in the Sunday School room off the Fellowship Hall (Alley entrance). Please sign up in the Narthex.

You're welcome to bring your own art supplies, or not. We have plenty to share. Please contact Colleen Nielsen (nielsenc@mhs-pa.org) for more information.

**Mediating on the Word of God ♦ Take time to create with a variety of materials ♦ Enjoy fellowship in a creative setting.**





# Share

- |                               |  |                     |
|-------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| 1 Elizabeth Stuart            | 20 Ryan Duh                            | 28 Ada Martin       |
| 3 Declan Killick              | John Knol                              | 29 Lori Kuhn        |
| 4 Jennifer Kipp               | 21 George Kieffer                      | Russell Lingle      |
| Kurt Nielsen                  | 22 Tess Mariano                        | Rick Mann           |
| 7 Jack Bishop                 | Darryl Tiberie                         | 31 Steven Libertore |
| 8 Linda Crandall              |  |                     |
| 9 Sarah Haak                  |  |                     |
| 11 <b>Jacqueline Walters*</b> | 23 Susan Bianchi                       |                     |
| 12 Joan Rizzo                 | 24 <b>Susanne Wiest*</b><br>103 years! |                     |
| 16 Mary Ann Kelly             | 25 Max Griffiths                       |                     |
| 17 James Henry                | 27 Mary Martin                         |                     |
| 18 Audrey Knapp               | Kurt Smith                             |                     |
| Jane Saylor                   |  |                     |



\* celebrating 90+ birthday!

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

We celebrate our members who have reached 90+ birthdays in December:

### Dec. 11

**Jaci Walters (91)**

459 Sand Hill Rd., Apt. 642, Hershey, PA 17033

### Dec. 24

**Susanne Wiest (103)**

12 Conestoga Drive, Apt. 114  
Lititz, PA 17543-7542



To the many thoughtful members of Holy Trinity Church ...for the Happy Birthday cards. They are so beautiful! (10-28-23).

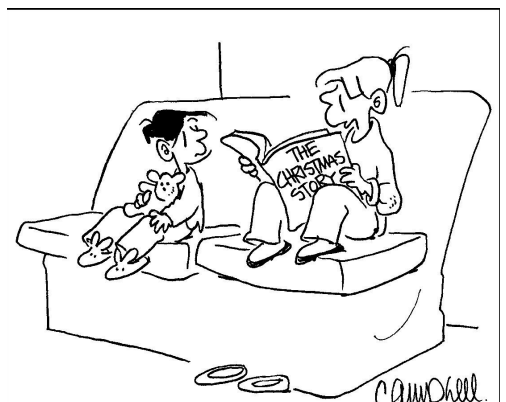
I wish everyone a very happy holiday season and a hopeful new year! —Dona Pastuck

Thank you for the beautiful flowers I received from the Church. Also, thank you Linda Boudman for delivering the flowers and keeping me supplied with Church elements—Shirley Espen-shade



**IT COMMUNICATION REQUEST  
PLEASE HELP KEEP OUR  
COMMUNICATIONS UP TO DATE**

Thank you for submitting your bulletin, newsletter & calendar updates to the Church office in a timely manner. We have recently been getting articles after the deadline causing last minute changes needing to be made to accommodate late submissions. Whenever articles are submitted, we ask that you please include Anita Housman ([aahousman2@gmail.com](mailto:aahousman2@gmail.com).) so that your submission can be included in both the weekly updates/communications through social channels & newsletters. **Bulletin deadline is Tuesdays (by noon); Newsletter deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Thank you in advance for your help!**



"Because they didn't have e-mail then. That's why God sent an angel to proclaim the baby's birth."

**The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity  
206 Cocoa Avenue, Hershey, PA 17033—717-533-2467— htluth.org**

**Our mission is to Worship, Grow, Witness and Share through Christ's love  
in Service to God and Neighbor.**

**CHURCH  
OFFICE HOURS**  
Mondays thru Thursdays  
9:00 AM—2:00 PM  
Fridays Staff work Remotely

**2023**

# December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:00am Choir Practice 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship (In person and Livestream)	27 6:30pm Scouts- Troop 65	28 6:00pm Scouting Pack 65- Lion Den	29 7:00pm Evening Prayer (In-person and Livestream)	30	1 Office Closed	2
3 9:00am Choir Practice 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship (In person and Livestream) 5:00pm Youth Group	4 6:30pm Scouts- Troop 65	5 6:00pm Scouting Pack 65- Webelos Den	6 7:00pm Evening Prayer (In-person and Livestream)	7	8 4:00pm Cookie Walk In-take	9 9:00am Cookie Walk
10 9:00am Choir Practice 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship (In person and Livestream) 6:00pm Bible Art, Journaling	11 6:30pm Scouts- Troop 65	12 6:00pm Scouting Pack 65- Webelos Den	13 9:00am Quilter's Workshop 7:00pm Evening Prayer (In-person and Livestream)	14 6:00pm Scouting- Wolf Den 7:00pm Congregation Council Zoom meeting	15	16
17 9:00am Choir Practice 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship (In person and Livestream) 11:00am Family Fellowship	18	19	20 7:00pm Longest Night (In-person and Livestream)	21 5:00pm Scouts Pack 65 Troop Meeting	22 9:00am Sanctuary Christmas Decoration	23
24 10:00am Advent and Christmas Eve Worship (In person and Livestream) 5:00pm Christmas Eve Family Worship Service 10:00pm Christmas Eve Festival Worship Service	25 Office Closed	26 Office Closed	27	28	29	30
31 10:00am Worship (In person and Livestream)	1 Office Closed 6:00pm Scouts- Troop 65	2 Office Closed 6:00pm Scouting Pack 65- Webelos Den	3	4 6:00pm Scouting- Wolf and Tiger Den	5	6



### **In Case of Weather Emergencies**

Church services will be held if at all possible even when winter weather causes concern. Please know that we understand that our many volunteers may not be able to make it to church on those days. We will fill in for you if necessary but will miss your presence with us. Above all, be safe and use your good judgment to decide if you can get to church or not.

If driving is impassible or the sidewalks and streets around the church cannot be cleared, we will cancel services. In that case, watch for cancellations on the Church website or by calling the office for a recorded message.

### **DECEMBER CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

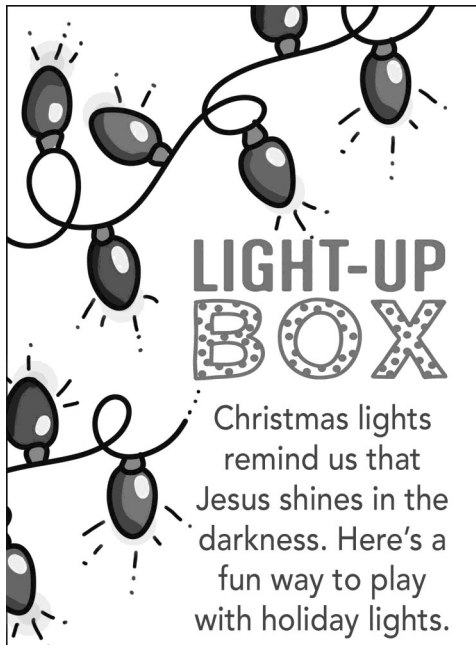
**Mondays-Thursdays | 9 AM—2 PM**

The Church office will be **CLOSED** in observance of Christmas & New Year the following days

**Christmas:** Monday & Tuesday, December 25 & 26

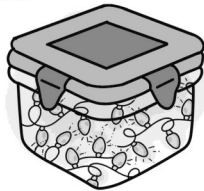
**New Year's:** Monday & Tuesday, January 1 & 2

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



**What you need:**

- A strand of Christmas lights
- A large clear plastic container and lid
- Green tissue paper
- Colorful beads



**What you do:**

1. Plug in the lights and place them in the container.
2. Put on the lid. (If the lid isn't transparent, flip the box over.)
3. Play with your light box, using these ideas as starters:
  - Cut tissue paper into triangles and arrange them in a tree shape. Decorate the tree with colorful beads.
  - Use the light box for tracing. Place a picture on it, with a clean sheet of paper on top. Then trace the drawing.
  - Use magnet tiles to build designs atop the light box.

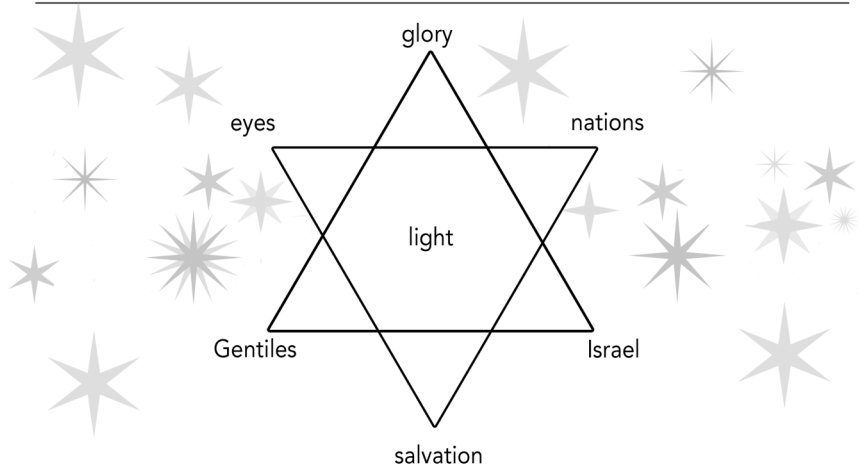
Try building a 3-D Christmas tree!



## SIMEON'S SIGHT

When Joseph and Mary brought baby Jesus to the temple, they heard a special prophecy from Simeon.

*Directions: Using the star key, write the words in the correct spaces to complete Luke 2:30-32, NIV.*



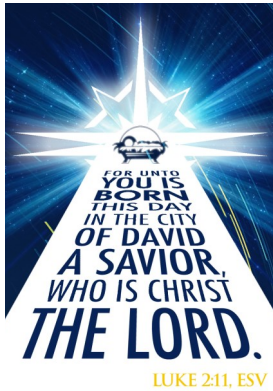
"For my \_\_\_\_\_ have seen your \_\_\_\_\_, which you have prepared in the sight of all \_\_\_\_\_: a \_\_\_\_\_ for revelation to the \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of your people \_\_\_\_\_."

*Luke 2:30-32, NIV*

Answers: eyes, salvation, nations, light, Gentiles, glory, Israel



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