

The Orbit

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ALTOONA PA
TrinityAltoona.com | Facebook.com/TrinityAltoona



December 2021

"We read in Isaiah, 'Every valley shall be exalted...and the crooked places made straight.' Lord, even the high and holy days that lie ahead there will be valleys, quiet moments of aloneness, of desolation, of remembering loved ones absent, family members perhaps long gone, hopes that were never quite fulfilled, plans and promises long shattered. And there will be the crooked places also, when the worst that is in us springs to life again, the heart twists, the mind turns in upon itself, and we know jealousy and malice, anger or greed. For even in these highest days we are still ourselves, your dreaming, hoping children who can yet stumble and fall, go far astray along the way. Make our crooked laces straight by your power, not our own. Exalt the valleys of our lostness and loneliness with your love. And when the feast is over, the last gift opened, and the final carol sung, stay with us and stay for us and hold us in your newborn yet eternal arms forever. Amen."

"Faces at the Manger"

J. Barrie Shepherd

From the Pastor:

The Christmas season can bring out the worst in us. We can become stressed, financially in debt, wanting to hide from the world so that we do not have to face the Ho Ho Ho's of the season by those who are cheerful. There seems to be more Grinches whose heart was two sizes too small instead of Grinches whose heart grew three sizes that day. And all this humbug before Christmas is even here. We have a lot of valleys to go through and a lot of paths to make straight before December 25th arrives. That is what Advent is for. Preparing us and our hearts to receive the savior of the world. While we wait are also reminded of our sinfulness, which is the reason God sent his Son in the first place. May each of us remember what the advent season is about. Returning to God and waiting in our sinfulness for the gift from above that no one can purchase, and no one can live without. Christ, born in a manger, as innocent the day he was born as the day he was crucified. May we find Christ in our hearts and our homes this Christmas season.

Peace,





The Orbit

Trinity President

December--A happy month and a sad month. So many fun festivities happening, family gatherings, gift exchanges, the joyous sound of kids laughing, singing, cookies and candies, on and on. The birth of Jesus the most important and awesome event on our list. Sad because many have lost loved ones to cancer, covid, surgeries and more. We've experienced the loss of homes, businesses and family breakups. Pray for all those in need. The blessings God has given us far outweighs the sufferings we have endured.

As a church we have been blessed many times with the most caring and compassionate congregation. Thanks to all of you for supporting each other during the unusual amount of issues we have been going through. We have been assigned this mountain to show others it can be moved. We have been given this life because we are strong enough to live it, praise God!

Lifting you up in prayer and hoping you and your loved ones have a happy, healthy and safe New Year.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

Linda Hoover
Council President



The Orbit

Trinity Things to Think About

TRINITY'S THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

What 5 things does December mean to you?

Do you believe if you stay positive it will make a big difference in your life?

Happiness is an attitude. We either make ourselves miserable, or happy and strong-the amount of work is the same

When the moon is directly overhead, you will weigh slightly less

Do you realize how strong you are until being strong is the only chance you have?



Trinity Social Ministry Committee

SOCIAL MINISTRY

The Committee met on November 9th. We will be selling tickets for 14in hoagies and ham & cheese sandwiches. Our vendor is Yummy Money. I'm fairly sure many have not heard of it, but Ken and I have and have had the hoagies. And we can say they are very good. The cost of the hoagie ticket is \$8 and your choice is Italian, Ham, American, Turkey or Cheese. The ham & cheese ticket is \$5 and includes chips and a soda. I will have the tickets soon. The building is on 6th Avenue next to the parking lot on 20th Street- 1920 6th Avenue. Parking is across 6th Ave or in the back across the alley from ARC. Proceeds from this sale will go towards our Current Fund to help with the flooding that we have had in the basement.

Also, we will be ordering the Pet Odor candles for Christmas. A decision will be made at the December 14th meeting, as to where the proceeds will be assigned.

Thanks to Betty, Norma and Pastor for deciding on the hoagie sale proceeds.

God Bless Sharon Kutz



Trinity Stewardship Committee

When doing your online shopping this holiday season, please remember to designate Trinity as the recipient of your Amazon Smile donation.

When you checkout of your Amazon purchases, you will receive a message that certain products qualify for Amazon Smile donations. 5 cents will be donated to a charity/non-profit organization that you designate for every \$10.00 of your purchase.

There are many organizations you can choose, but we hope you will consider entering "Trinity Lutheran Altoona" as the recipient of these donations.

This is a rebate from Amazon and DOES NOT INCREASE THE COST OF YOUR PURCHASES

Also, many of Trinity's committees are in need of volunteers to help with the work of the Church. These committees are listed below:

Christian Education	Worship and Music	Property	Finance
Social Ministry	Personnel	Evangelism/Fellowship	
Stewardship			

If you have an interest or expertise that might be of help in these areas, please consider lending your Time and Talent to Trinity.

John Ebersole



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Trinity Evangelism Committee

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

Lots of thanks are being sent to Trinity members and friends that helped out in anyway with Trinity's Treats from Trunks. This event wouldn't be so successful without people like you who very kindly made donations and /or came to the church and handed out the treats providing fellowship to all those who passed by. The evening was a huge success, giving out treats to more than 200 young folks. One hundred invitations to church were also handed out in the form of a Halloween card. There were many different costumes this year and the young folks were quite polite. I can honestly say it was an enjoyable night; not just for myself but I think for all. Again, thank you; everyone's help was greatly appreciated.



The Evangelism Committee





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Trinity Volunteer Request



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We are a church family, and we need your help! Please consider helping as Lector, Usher or on the Altar Guild. We will train you for the position of your choice. Please fill out the form below and put in the offering plate or call the church office at 814-943-3972.

Name: _____ Phone: _____



Trinity Congratulations

65th ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to Robert and Nancy Ickes as they celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on November 17, 2021. If you see either one of them, please congratulate them. Trinity is very proud of Robert and Nancy.



Trinity Children's Page





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Trinity Children's Page

Christmas Word Search

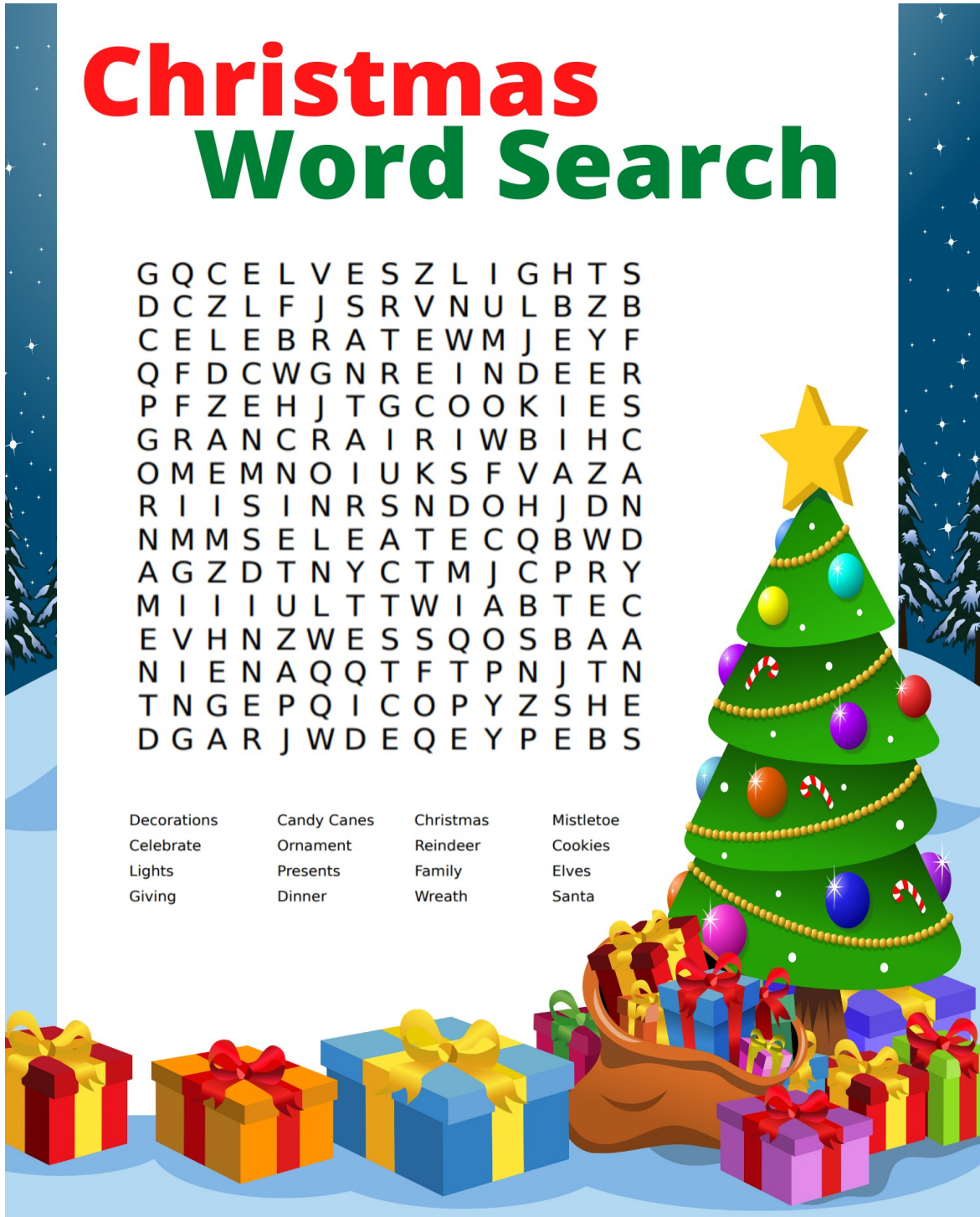
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 D G A R J W D E Q E Y P E B S

Decorations
 Celebrate
 Lights
 Giving

Candy Canes
 Ornament
 Presents
 Dinner

Christmas
 Reindeer
 Family
 Wreath

Mistletoe
 Cookies
 Elves
 Santa



Prayer List

Please keep the following people in your prayers ...

Trinity Members

Ted Baird	Kristina Henderson
Tyler Bennett	Doris Hollingshead
Ruth & Bob Brubaker	Rose Hornberger
John Bush	Martha Jones
Tina Chestney	Garry Knee
Church HealthTeam	Gary Lonsinger
Church Council	Jessica McGraw
Don Corl	Ken B. Myers
Gary Crownover	Jaden Rhode
Sondra Deffibaugh	Fred Teigler
Jane Eamigh	Nancy Yeager
Garner Family	
Georgine Hamilton & Family	
Marla & Tom Hammond	
Kathy Hatch	

Trinity's Homebound Members

Chris Burda	Dawn Mangus
Audrey Deiluliis	Bill McLaughlin
Clara Hite	Bob Nearhoof
Shannon Kratzer	Sue Nycum
Ken Kumpf	Arlene Roessing
Marie Laich	Leta Veit

Those Serving in the Armed Forces

Eddie Bennett	Nathan Frank
Sarah Brown	Ryan Maguire
Jim Buchanan	Justin Patz
Jason Buck	Eric Sweet
Kyle Eberhart	

Family Members and Friends

Donnie Alwine	Tim Harrison	Frances Pringle
Janet & Charlie Aungst	Don Haslem	Albert Pugliese
Scott Aungst	Tom Hatch	Abby Remendowski
Dan Baughman	Danielle Hatfield	Katie Riggleman
Behe Family	Heikkila Family	Toran Robertson
Frank Bennett	Robin Housley	Carl Ruckinger
Kris Bennett	Jack Hoyne	Michael Ruckinger
Casey Bondarenka	Renee Imbrenda	Bill Senitko
Dorothy Bush	Judy Johnson	Ronald Settle
Sue Carter	Katie Kanczaryk	Debbie Smith
Sue Casalviere	Pastor John Klingeman	Patricia Smith
Mary Francis Clites	Cindy Lamant	Dave Stenger
Josh Clites	Jan Lastaglia	Sultage Jr. Family
Tracee Cole	Janelle Lehr	Blair Umholtz
Debbie Coley	Raija Lind	Lillian Umholtz
Scott Corl	Bill Lytle Jr	Paul & Nina Wallis
Andy Conte	Linda Mardula	Henrietta Weidley
Raynoo Cox Family	Bernie Market	Steve Wood
Patty Davis	Ron Matta	Elsa
Jim Deffibaugh	Sharon Mayers	
Jorden DeFrancisco	McConnell Family	
Zane Dodson	Chad McDowell	
Cheryl Ecker	Eddie McGee	
Phil Esper	McGilvery Family	
Tessa Farone	Chris McGreary	
Nancy & Bill Filler	Kathy McIntyre	
Elsie Fogel	Sharon McKeehan	
Joyce Gates	Barbara Meader	
Gary Gearhart	Janelle Messner	
Haley Gehret	Rudy Muccitelli	
Dawn George	Bill & Penny Murphy	
Amanda Gregg & Daughters	Wyatt Nite	
Pat Griffith	Judi Nocito	
David K. Harpster	Zach Noel	
	Richard Perry	



Please know that you can add someone to our prayer list at any time by calling the church office (943-3972). If it is appropriate to remove someone from the prayer list, again, please inform the church office. Names of family and friends will remain on the prayer list for two weeks. You can keep someone's name on the list by calling the church office and giving us a brief update so that we can continue to effectively pray for your loved one.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Lectionary Readings for the Month of December

Dec 5

Malachi 3:1-4
Luke 1:68-79
Philippians 1:3-11
Luke 3:1-6

Dec 12

Zephaniah 3:14-20
Isaiah 12:2-6
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:7-18

Dec 19

Micah 5:2-5a
Luke 1:46b-55
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

Dec 26

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26
Psalm 148
Colossians 3:12-17
Luke 2:41-52

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Also worth mentioning...

The next Orbit Deadline is December 24th

Please get your article to the newsletter in one of the following ways:

- Email your article to:
office@trinityaltoona.com
drgeesey@verizon.net
- Drop your article in the Orbit mailbox inside the Christian Education office.

Please remember:

- **All articles will be included as long as space permits.**
- **Articles will be edited for grammar and/or clarity where needed.**
- **Any article turned in after the deadline will be included in the next month's Orbit.**

Thank You!