



TRINITY TIMES

VOLUME 12

Trinity United Church of Christ
www.trinityucchanover.org

DECEMBER, 2018

General Information:

Sunday Service
9:00am

Fellowship Time
10:00am

Sunday School
10:30am

Office Hours
Mon-Fri 9am-1pm

Telephone
717 637-2233

Church e-mail
info@trinityucc
hanover.org



The perfect gift

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry said, "Love does not consist in gazing at each other but in looking outward together in the same direction." At Christmas we celebrate God coming to earth to look outward with us in the same direction, from our perspective and experience.

Jesus was an ordinary person: He learned to talk and walk like any toddler, learned a trade from his father and acquired the habits of faith from his family. In adulthood, Jesus experienced life as we all do: the challenge of hard work, grief at a loved one's death, heartache over oppression and the world's great needs — but also joy in celebration, fellowship with neighbors and deep friendship.

God personally knows our every experience, emotion and need — because Jesus, while fully divine, lived as a full human being. He has gazed at the world, life and even death from our direction, giving us the perfect Christmas gift: love.

Many happy returns

Somehow, not only for Christmas,
But all the long year through,
The joy that you give to others,
Is the joy that comes back to you.
And the more you spend in blessing
The poor and lonely and sad,
The more of your heart's possessing
Returns to you glad.

—John Greenleaf Whittier



Special dates

First Sunday of Advent, *December 2, 2018*
Second Sunday of Advent, *December 9, 2018*
Third Sunday of Advent, *December 16, 2018*
First day of winter, *December 21, 2018*
Fourth Sunday of Advent, *December 23, 2018*
Christmas Eve, *December 24, 2018*
Christmas Day, *December 25, 2018*
New Year's Eve/Watch Night, *December 31, 2018*



*The
staff at
Trinity Church
extends the greetings
of peace and goodwill to
all as we enter into the sacred
Season of Christmas, and we send
our wishes for hope, joy, love, and peace
to be among the gifts that are offered to the
world in the
name of the
Child of Bethlehem.*

Peg's Page

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The church year begins with Advent. We are waiting. We are hoping. We are longing. We are expecting. Our waiting is two-fold, the coming of the baby, who is Christ our Lord at Christmas, and the final coming of Christ when all of creation will be fulfilled.

Advent was originally a season of preparation for Epiphany and the baptism of Christ. The original color for the season, purple or violet, suggests penitence though now the purple is seen as the royal color and the blue stands for hope.

The Advent wreath has pagan roots. It was the custom to light torches and mount them on evergreen decorated wagon wheels to encourage the return of the sun during the bleak days of northern Europe's winters. Protestant Germany, in the sixteenth century, made the Advent wreath a domestic celebration and over time this lovely custom spread to the churches.

Four violet or blue candles are set into the evergreen wreath. Sometimes one of the four is rose colored to celebrate Gaudet or Joy Sunday. Each Advent Sunday one candle is lit. On Christmas Eve or Christmas Day a larger white candle, the Christ candle, sitting in the center of wreath, is lit to remind us that Christ is the light of the world.

The church staff and I wish you Christ's peace this Christmas and much joy in the coming year.



A Couple of Reminders

Hanover Hospital and many other hospitals are tightening up their Hippa protocols. Please do not rely on the hospitals informing the church of your admission. I want to visit you, however, you or a family member must let the office (or me) know when you expect to be hospitalized.

Also, please remember that if you are entering or exiting the church on a weekday that no one waiting at the door for entry may be let in. Even if the weather is bad, Mike or Betsy and/or a Nursery School staffer must “vet” all in-coming folks. All people wanting entry must ring the doorbell unless they are staff or committee members. Nursery school parents and grandparents know and understand why we are strict about church access. Thanks so much!

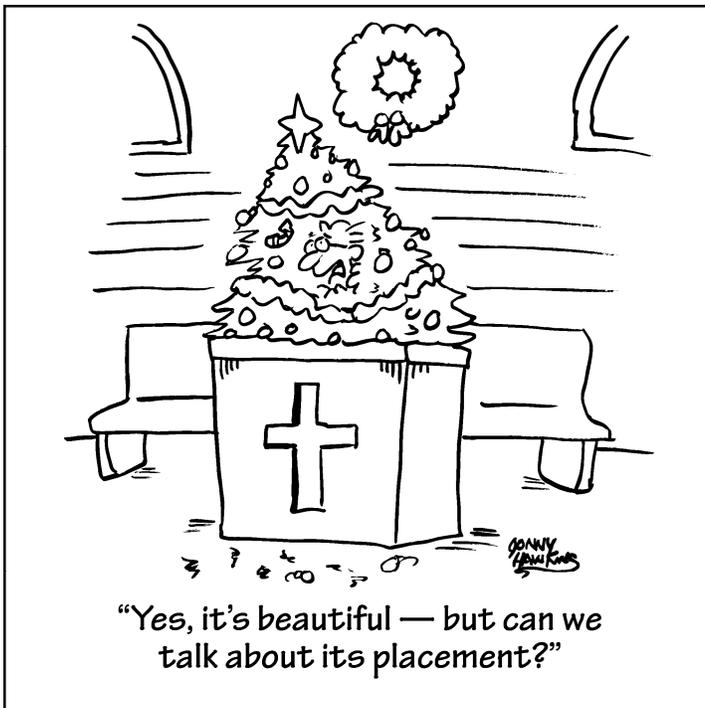


December

ANNIVERSARIES

Day	Name	Yrs.	Day	Name	Yrs.
1	Rosalie and Harold Diehl	45	14	Kay and Charles Altland	43
1	Michelle and Michael Becker	22	19	Nadine and Jerry Morningstar	43
3	Joyce and Richard Nestor Jr.	30	21	Holly and Subhajit Chakravorty	16
9	Pamela and David Lentz	51	24	Carolyn and Larry Diehl	36
11	Corrine and Ronald Lawrence	48	26	Linda and Dean Krout	31
11	Sheila and James Wiest	30	31	Ann and Richard Shelleman	58

If your anniversary was omitted, please contact the office to update your records.



Sing some of your favorite carols!
 Join us for Sunday worship, December 16 at 9am for Advent/Christmas music and carols accompanied by the church orchestra and sung by you!



*Christmas Eve
 Worship*

Join us Christmas Eve at 7:30pm as we await the birth of the Christ child.





Gordon D. Shank

Born - November 23, 1953

Died - October 30, 2018



Statia Weaver	December 4
Dolores Albright	December 6
Jean Nassivera	December 15
Anna Mae Alwine	December 18

Are you having trouble with the high cost of heating or paying for your food bills and daily living expenses?

The Century Trust Fund may be able to help. Assistance from the Century Trust Fund is available to members of Trinity United Church of Christ who may be in

need of financial aid to remain in their own homes, retirement homes, boarding homes, or nursing homes, provided certain conditions

are met. Applicants must be members of Trinity Church for at least five (5) years, at least 62 years of age, and must show reasonable proof of financial need. All applications are strictly confidential. Applications are available in the plastic bin outside the church office.



Notes From the Office

The **2019 Offering Envelopes** are available in the narthex extended. The envelopes are in alphabetical order. If you cannot find yours or if you do not receive envelopes and would like to, please contact Mike in the church office. Forms to request envelopes are also available on the table.

Committee Reports

Committee chairs are requested to submit their reports for inclusion in Trinity's Annual Report. These reports should include a brief summarization of the past year's activities as well as plans for the upcoming year. If possible, please e-mail your report in Microsoft Word format to Mike or Betsy in the church office at info@trinityucchanover.org

Deadline: December 20th



Dear Trinity Church Members,

We are so grateful here at Golden Visions for your kind donations for our pantry. This was a true blessing for our clients. We can't thank you enough. May God bless each and every one of you. Once again, thank you all from the bottom of our hearts.

*Love & Prayers,
Staff & Clients of Golden Visions*

Organ Update

Trinity's new organ is scheduled to leave the Allen Organ Factory in Macungie, PA on December 5, 2018, so it should be in our Sanctuary within a week or two of that date barring any unforeseen circumstances that would cause a delay in the completion or delivery date.

The organ committee has been spending many hours making needed changes and updates to the organ chambers in preparation for the arrival of the new organ.

Some of the changes are more visible than others, such as replacing the grille cloth that covers the front of the two organ chambers. This is the fabric behind the wooden lattice work on either side of the altar.

Some committee members have received questions from members of the congregation asking about when a fundraising drive to help pay for the new organ might begin. The short answer is, the organ committee was not asked to spearhead a fundraising campaign.

Our mission was to research and provide a recommendation to Consistory and the congregation on the best course of action to deal with what was becoming a lengthy list of needed repairs to the organ that had been in our Sanctuary since the early 1970s. Our recommendation was to replace the organ with a new Allen Genisys 350 Digital Organ which has more capabilities than our pipe organ from the 1970s and costs significantly less than rebuilding the old organ.

We certainly encourage anyone and everyone who would like to make a donation towards this new instrument to do so, especially once you have heard the sound of the new Allen Organ.

Please contact a member of the organ committee with any questions you may have.

The members of the committee are: Valerie Wentz, Betsy Bristol, Bob Dobrovolski, Ron Bristol and Dick Betlyon, chairman.

Thank you, *Trinity Organ Committee*

2017: How the Funds Were Used

One of the unique aspects of the Christmas Fund is that the funds provide direct financial assistance to individual UCC clergy, lay church employees, and their surviving spouses/partners—the funds do not support programs or institutions, but people. With your continued generosity, more individuals will receive the support of the Church in their time of need.



- **MONTHLY PENSION SUPPLEMENTATION** for 424 lower-income retired UCC clergy, lay employees, and surviving spouses/partners totaling \$1,513,602. Retired servants of the church rely on this additional income for basic needs such as food, utilities, and medical expenses. Funds to meet this need comes from three sources: the Christmas Fund Offering, Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM), and the Ministerial Assistance Fund.
- **QUARTERLY HEALTH PREMIUM SUPPLEMENTATION** for 210 lower-income retired UCC clergy, lay employees, and surviving spouses/partners totaling \$492,863. These funds subsidize premiums for the UCC Medicare Supplement Plan so that individuals can afford and receive quality health care.
- **CHRISTMAS "THANK YOU" GIFT CHECKS** were given to 477 retired UCC clergy, lay employees, and surviving spouses/partners totaling \$228,300. This special gift at Christmas time reminds these Veterans of the Cross that they have not been forgotten and that the Church is grateful for their service.
- **EMERGENCY GRANTS** for 384 active/retired UCC clergy and lay employees totaling \$136,012. Sometimes those who serve the Church need help to respond to unexpected and unfunded emergencies—for example, large medical expenses, or home damage resulting from natural disasters. In 2017, special gifts were provided to over 300 authorized ministers in Florida and the Houston area after hurricanes devastated their regions.

Special Congregational Meeting

Mark your calendars! Please plan to attend a special congregational meeting to be held Sunday, December 9th immediately following the worship service. The purpose of this important meeting is to elect new consistory members for 2019. Individuals to be elected to the 2019 consistory are: Kay Altland, Brittany Breighner, John Coulson, and Bill Spangler.



CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are needed to help deliver toys Saturday, December 15th from 9am to noon. If interested, a sign-up sheet has been placed on the narthex bulletin board or you may call the church office at 717 637-2233. Your help is most appreciated!



December	2	9	16	23	30
	Advent 1	Advent 2	Advent 3/Carol Sing with Orchestra	Advent 4/ Family Christmas Service	
Consistory Team	6	1	2	3	4
Worship Leader					
	Lorene Crooks	John Coulson	Susi Guinn	Katie Winhauer	Lee Bartlett
Young Adult Leader					
	Adam Leib	Grant Reichart	Leland Smith	Caleb Leckrone	
Ushers					
	Zinneman & Myers Families	Ada May Koehler/ Volunteers Needed	Leib Family	Jim Barnhart/ Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
Fellowship Host					
	Ruth & Steve Weaver, Mike Blottenberger	Sanctuary Choir	Friends Group	<u>No</u> Fellowship Time	Volunteer Needed
Altar Flower Sponsor	Hart	Edwards		Rinker	Open
Chancel Flower Sponsor	Dubs & G. Rohrbaugh	Open	Rebert & C. Rohrbaugh	Open	Open
Bulletin Sponsor	Rhodes	Open	Wilson	Open	Open

Please call the church office to schedule a flower or bulletin dedication for any available date. The cost is \$40 for altar flowers and \$25 for pedestal arrangements (plus tax), and \$20 for bulletins. If you would like to assist with ushering please call the church office at 717-637-2233. Volunteers are always needed. Thank you.

December Trinity Times

Trinity United Church of Christ

116 York Street
Hanover, PA 17331

Change Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE

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Hanover, PA

PERMIT NO. 7



Trinity's Mission Statement: Trinity United Church of Christ strives to be a warm, caring family of Christian believers. Our calling is to witness and strengthen the Christian faith through meaningful worship, Christian education, and Christian living in the home, the community, and the world.

Trinity Staff:

Rev. Peg Grzelkowski, Pastor

Mike Blottenberger, Admin. Assistant

Betsy Bristol, Secretary

Bill Spangler, Office Assistant

Sue Seidenstricker, Director of Music

Dawn Magee & Aimee Bohn, Childcare/Children's Sunday School

Steve & Ruth Weaver, Michael Dandy Jr., Sextons

Trinity Nursery School, Tina McCole, Director

E-Mail Address:

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For January Newsletter Articles

December 15, 2018