



Trinity Tidings

December 2020

Grace to you from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ. Listen to Father Richard Rohr's thoughts about living as a citizen of the Kingdom of God;

There are always two worlds. The world as it is usually operates on power, ego, and success. The world as it could be operates out of love. One is founded on dominative power, and the other is a continual call to right relationship and reciprocal power. The secret of this Kingdom life is discovering how we can live in both worlds simultaneously.

Indeed, how do we live all together? Sometimes it may feel like it is the church against the world. But we know that it is our duty to go out into the world bringing the Kingdom of God to those who do not know Him. We are, like in Jesus' parable, just a tiny mustard seed meant to overcome the world as it is. Jesus tells us that though tiny, the mustard seed has potential to be "*the biggest of shrubs and become a tree, so that birds of the air can shelter in its branches*" MATTHEW 13.31-32. What a great image! Oh to be so powerful and grow so fast that we cannot be stopped. Jesus compares this healing phenomenon to a fast-growing weed; why would He want us to plant weeds in the world? Those who understand mustard plants know they can be invasive, and not always welcomed. Truthfully, we may feel that way, often. So why would Jesus use this particular seed to represent the Kingdom of God? Think of it in terms of faith and the gift to evangelize. We are not even close to utilizing the potential power we possess when it comes to sharing the Gospel. Simplicity and nonviolent, unbiased love can flourish, "even wildly so," like a weed (Belief.net). Granted, a mustard seed may have a pungent taste and fiery effects, it is also extremely beneficial for health, wrote Pliny the Elder (Natural History, 23-79 CE). Though a mustard seed is invasive and has the potential to spiral out of control that, my friend, is in God's hands. In the same way then, we may not always please those who hear us speak of God's love, but the fire is the presence of the Holy Spirit and of course, when planted in the heart, is extremely beneficial for health and all parts of the soul. Despite our sinfulness, by the Grace of God we get to spread far and wide the Good News of Jesus Christ. We get to plant seeds of Faith, Hope and Love and not forsake the world as it is. Let us operate out of love not power, ego and success. Under the watchful eye of the Kingdom of God, may we fast and furiously spread encouragement everywhere we *safely* go this season. Blessings, Pastor Cheri



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colebrook

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SPIRITUAL PREPARATION FOR THE COMING OF JESUS CHRIST

Advent Marks the Beginning of the Church's Liturgical Year
The Season of Advent is a Period of Both Repentance and Celebration

HOPE – Sunday, November 29

The first Sunday of Advent represents hope or expectation of the coming Messiah.

PEACE – Sunday, December 6

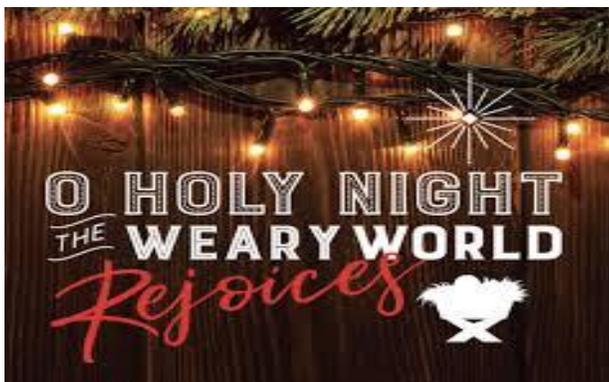
In the second week of Advent, we take time to reflect on God's peace that he supplies to us without end in Jesus.

JOY – Sunday, December 13

The third week of Advent is about the joy that is ours because God has entered the world.

LOVE – Sunday, December 20

In the fourth week of Advent, we celebrate the love of God that is demonstrated in the coming of Jesus into the world.



ONLINE CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Thursday, December 24

We think of Christmas as a time of warmth, love, and family gatherings. But this year will look and feel very different. The stress and chaos that exist all around us during this season can hinder us from remembering the true reason we celebrate Christmas. It's not about all of the external trappings that may not be able to look the same this year.

It's about what God did for us by sending His Son. Hope, peace, joy and love are still present in the world and available to us through Jesus.

Watch for the online worship which promises to be spiritual and fulfilling this Christmas season.



Bill Calhoun, Pennie Freet, Wendy Hammer (Vice President), Dan Hardy (Secretary), Jeff Keener (President), Rich Scanlon, Earl Smith, Tim Yeingst and Jessica Writer
Council Meets the First Sunday of the Month

Finance Committee:

Dan Hardy, Jeff Keener (Chair), Craig Korte (Treasurer), Audra Spang (Financial Secretary), Brad Yeingst, Bob Yeingst

Christian Education Committee (Adult, Youth & Children's Education, VBS & Field Trips):

Dan Hardy, Heather Kimmel, Audra Spang, Sandy Walborn

Property Committee:

Bob Hammer, Dan Hardy, Rick Fox, Greg Kulp, Steve Miller, Brad Yeingst

Social Outreach Committee (Evangelism, Fellowship, Social Ministry, WELCA):

Bill Calhoun, Diane Carroll, Pennie Freet, Wendy Hammer, Dan Hardy, Marie Martin

Worship and Music Committee (Plan Liturgy, Music and Worship Setting):

Joe Buchmoyer, Dan Hardy, Karen Miller, Sandy Walborn

TREASURER'S REPORT - Account Balances as of 10/30/2020

Account	10/30/2020 Balance
Bank Accounts	
Checking	12,119.65
Savings	34,341.00
Youth Savings	80.00
TOTAL Bank Accounts	46,540.65
Cash Accounts	
Mutual Fund	54,936.33
TOTAL Cash Accounts	54,936.33
Liability Accounts	
Building	- 2,008.33
Memorial	- 9,421.00
TOTAL Liability Accounts	- 11,429.33
OVERALL TOTAL	90,047.65

NOTICE: The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Revenue have issued Trinity Lutheran Church of Colebrook a new SALES TAX EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE. This newest certificate is valid until 03/25/2025

THIS EXEMPTION NOTICE WILL BE IN THE COPIER ROOM, FRAMED AND HUNG ON A WALL.

November 1, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes (Pending Approval)

Jeff Keener opened with devotions and prayer. Dan Hardy will have them December 6th. In attendance were Jeff Keener, Bill Calhoon, Rich Scanlon, Pennie Freet, Wendy Hammer, and Pastor Cheri.

●Previous minutes were approved after correction to date on indoor service. Rich made a motion to accept, Bill 2nd.

Both Treasurer and Financial reports were discussed, reviewed and accepted by motion made by Bill and 2nd by Pennie.

●Pastor's report accepted. Council extended their appreciation to the Pastor on the continued excellent You-tube services. Council would like to make note that the 2nd Sunday in October is Pastor Appreciation Sunday, we'll try to do better next year.

●No correspondence in or out but Pennie Freet did say that her family will not be using the Fellowship Hall for a Family Thanksgiving as previously planned.

●No membership concerns but Pastor reminded us to continue with calling members, sending cards, and keeping in-touch, especially those who are shut-in and not able to be out and about.

●Worship and Music-no formal report. Pastor updated that the organ was looked at and is in need of a part but it could not be determined which kind. 2 have been ordered, they will return to fix and we will only be charged for the part that is needed. Karen Miller and Pastor met and are working on a Christmas service.

●Christian Ed.-no report. Dan has picked up the bench.

●Property-Jeff reported from Steve Miller that future elevator inspections will be made in August so to avoid any issues with the state. It was discussed if we need to pay for snow removal this winter if we are not attending church. Steve will be intouch with the company who does it.

●Finance-no report

●Social Outreach-no report

●WELCA-no report

●Cemetery-no report

●Old Business-Committee Reports are due to Pastor Cheri Nov. 7th so they can be included with the Annual Report that will be included with Dec. Tidings since we will not be able to have our Congregational Meeting the 2nd Sunday in December. Task Force update- met October 27th to discuss opening of church for worship possibly on November 15th pending approval of council. After lengthy discuss by council a motion was made by Bill and 2nd by Wendy to have indoor worship Nov. 15th and the 29th. There was mixed reluctance on the acceptance but felt for the good of the members that want to attend council agreed. Pastor will send out an email with details on how we will proceed.

●New Business-A motion was made by Wendy and 2nd by Pennie for New council members -Steve Miller to replace, Jeff Keener, Greg Kulp to replace Bill Calhoon and Dan Hardy will stay on for another term. The budget for 2021 will be down \$2778.00 due to Pastor being on Medicare and removing the Retiree support. Also discussed keeping our commitment to the synod the same for 2021 and after reviewing our finances it was decided to send the synod money before the end of year. Proposed budget approved. Budget will be sent out with the Dec. Tidings. Replacing the Community Aid Bin with a bin from Jubilee was discussed and approved. Wendy will make the arrangements.

●Rich made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Bill. Next meeting will be December 6th. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Wendy Hammer, substituting for Dan Hardy

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Sue Baney; Victoria Brooks; Harold & Carol Brown; Ben Chicoria; Diane Haney; Carol Gingrich; Betty Lighty; Dennis Martin; Kelly Morgan; Erin Overholser; Doris Savage; Nikki Scolet; Earl & Mary Lois Smith; Marlene Stehman; Kendra Wolfe; Aurora Wyant; Bob Yiengst



Assisted and Skilled Care – Ellen Gepfer & Family (loss of her brother)

Others in Need – Kiwira Coal Mine Congregation

First Responders – Abigail Romberger; Brad Yeingst; Dylan Yeingst; Tim Yeingst

Military – Matthew Buchmoyer; Todd Campbell; Roger Daub; David Martin; Sawyer Mundorf; Townsend Mundorf; William Rimmler; David Walborn; Andrew Yeingst



Reverend Walter D. Carlson, of Lancaster, died on Reformation Sunday, October 25. He was ordained into ministry by the Lutheran Church in America and served at Trinity Colebrook and churches in Stoverstown and Lancaster. He was Chaplain at the Lutheran Home in York and author of the book, *For the Church, One Holy, Catholic and Apostolic*.

To have the Prayer Chain activated for a family member or friend in need of our prayers, please contact:



**PRAYER
REQUESTS**

1. Pastor Cheri at 717.606.8851 to begin the prayer chain.
2. If Pastor Cheri is not available, call Barbara Hardy.
3. If Barbara Hardy is not available, call any other person listed.

Margaret Daub	717.964.3342	Lillian Minney	717.964.5032
Barbara Hardy	717.867.1286	Pennie Freet	717.269.3292
Karen Miller	717.304.7012	Connie Weirich	717.665.6448



Lillian Minney (Dec 4); Mary Lois Smith (Dec 12); Leonard Monette (Dec 15); Angela Lightner (Dec 18); Brian McGeehan (Dec 19); Carol Gingrich (Dec 20); Betsy Hoy (Dec 21); Rodney Rhoades (Dec 28); Jill Brooks, Glenn Hoy & Gregory Zentz (Dec 30)

Rodney & Diane Carroll (Dec 11)



FRIDAY ZOOM PRAYER SERVICE

How can we pray for you today? Contact Pastor Cheri or join in at 10:00 for prayer.

Connection: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/855957967>
Meeting ID: 855 957 967
No password required





ADOPT *a family*

Even with Covid going on we are still hoping to participate in this Christmas outreach program.

This year we will be helping Talonda and her 4 kids. You will find a tree in the narthex with name tags and gift ideas along with a paper with additional family info.

Your gift needs to be returned by Tuesday, December 15 - **UNWRAPPED!**

Please contact Wendy Hammer if you have any questions.

Bless you all for helping to make this Christmas special for Talonda and her kids!



We Filled the Lutheran Camp Auction Basket!!

Thanks to your generosity, Trinity again filled our auction basket to overflowing:



3 movies, Michael Buble CD, Christmas Delight Cook Book, holiday tablets, holiday tissues, scented sachet, holiday kitchen towels, box of Christmas cards, scripture verse cards, games (Uno, Uno Flip, Rack'o), soup, cookie and cocoa mixes, holiday mug, Nativity set, Nativity puzzle, hand sanitizer, 2021 calendar, framed Christmas message, ornament, decorative lights and "Jesus Calling for Christmas" devotional book.

CHRISTMAS STOCKING PROJECT

We thank everyone who generously filled red stockings. Thanks, also, to the Prayer Shawl Ministry members, Tracy Hoy and Lilie Minney, who sewed the stockings. They will be blessed on Sunday, November 29, and delivered by Wendy Hammer.



LEBANON SHELTER FLEECE BLANKETS

This year, 57 no-sew fleece blankets and 50 caps (provided by the Prayer Shawl and Quilt Ministry) were delivered to the Lebanon Shelter.

A resounding THANK YOU to everyone who gave funds, provided a Thrivent card, purchased blankets, cut and tied and provided transportation.

WOW! This was a wonderful effort by Trinity.



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL KITS

We did such a wonderful job gathering items for 150 school kits that we are still in need of \$125.00 to cover the cost of shipping them. Please consider contributing. Thank you very much for any donation you can make.

Food Banks Continue to Need Help

You may already be supporting the food banks financially or with food donations and for that we are sincerely grateful. The need is never ending, especially during this time of the Covid pandemic.

Below you will find a new kind of Advent calendar and a good way to help the food banks. Fill your box throughout the Advent season and either deliver it yourself to your local food bank or drop off at church in January and we will deliver it for you. Thanks for your help!

**REVERSE
ADVENT CALENDAR**

**EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A
FOOD BANK.**

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

PASSIONATEPENNYPINCHER.COM



Still time to walk, bike or rock!

Members of the congregation can get sponsors to donate money for the miles they will walk or bike or the time they will rock. Of course, you can also participate by being a sponsor. You can do your activity at any location you choose and on any date until weather doesn't suit. **Need a sponsorship form? They can be emailed, mailed and are also available in the Narthex at church.**



Barb Hardy will be upgrading the directory so if anyone has any changes let Barb know (717.867.1286 or bhgram@hotmail.com) by the beginning of the year. Many thanks, Barb



Prayer Shawl and Quilt Ministry...

Will be meeting on Sunday, December 20, from 1:00-3:00 pm. Masks will be required. Everyone is welcome.



Thank You

Thank you everyone for your cards, phone calls, thoughts and prayers over the last few months. I am feeling much better and hope to stay that way. Betty Lighty

CARING & SHARING

(Shared by Shirley Keener)



PRAYER

- Author Unknown

May I become at all times, both now and forever:
A protector for those without protection
A ship for those with oceans to cross
A bridge for those with rivers to cross
A sanctuary for those in danger
A lamp for those without light
A place of refuge for those who lack shelter
And a servant to all in need.



(Shared by Barb Hardy)

Twas the Night Before Jesus Came - Unknown

Twas the night before Jesus came and all through the house
Not a creature was praying, not one in the house.
Their Bibles were lain on the shelf without care
In hopes that Jesus would not come there.

The children were dressing to crawl into bed,
Not once ever kneeling or bowing a head.
And Mom in her rocker with the babe on her lap
Was watching the Late Show while I took a nap.

When out of the east there arose such a clatter,
I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter
Away to the window I flew like a flash
To open the shutters and threw up the sash!

When what to my wondering eyes should appear
But angels proclaiming that Jesus was here!
With a light like the sun sending forth a bright ray
I knew in a moment this must be THE DAY!

The light of His face made me cover my head
It was Jesus! Returning, just like He had said
And though I possessed worldly wisdom and wealth
I cried when I saw Him in spite of myself.

In the Book of Life, which He held in His hand,
Was written the name of every saved man.
He spoke not a word as He searched for my name;
When He said, "It's not here," my head hung in shame.

The people whose names had been written with love
He gathered to take to His Father above.
With those who were ready He rose without sound
While all the rest were left standing around.

I fell to my knees, but it was too late;
I had waited too long and thus sealed my fate.
I stood and I cried as they rose out of sight;
Oh, if only I had been ready tonight!

In the words of this poem the meaning is clear;
The coming of Jesus is drawing near.
There's only one life, and when comes the last call
We'll find that the Bible was true after all!

TIDINGS INFORMATION & ARTICLES

January 2021 Tidings Deadline
Sunday, December 13

Items can be emailed to grannycalhoon@gmail.com or sent to Diane Calhoon,
Westwood 2J, PO Box 125, Cornwall, PA 17016-0125.