

# The Trinitarian



DECEMBER 2015

BREWSTER, NEW YORK

## Pastoral Reflections—Keeping Christ in Christmas



Along with the swift departure of the Halloween decorations and the arrival of Christmas music and retail sales, has arisen the saying about “keeping Christ in Christmas.” For the most part what I think this means is to be able to say “Merry Christmas” rather than just “Happy Holidays.”

On the one hand, it is one of the ways in which we do express our own faith. Yet, there are times when we do not know the particular faith of another person and what they are celebrating during this season. There are a great many different kinds of faith expressions in this country as we were born from those who were fleeing religious persecution. We are free to live our faith without fear of retribution. By saying “Happy Holidays” to someone, we are recognizing that not all are Christians and respecting where they are in their own journeys.

Beyond our greetings, what does it mean for us, as Christians, to “keep Christ in Christmas?” If we were to reflect on the Christmas story (Luke 2:1-20 or Matthew 1:18-2:23), what do we learn about what it means to follow and honor the Christ-child in our celebrations?

Here are a few things that I see:

- ☆ Mary and Joseph’s marriage began with a **scandal**, pregnant before they were married.
- ☆ They were traveling and far from their home, **not welcomed** at anyone’s home when Jesus was born.
- ☆ Born into **humble** and **dirty** surroundings in a **backwoods** town.
- ☆ The first to bear witness to this birth were shepherds who were **outcasts**, on the outskirts of society.

- ☆ The current king of the Jews, Herod, wanted to kill him because he was **threatened** by him, but **foreign** kings came to honor him.

This is what the birth of our Savior, the Christ-child looked like – *scandal, not welcomed, humble, dirty, backwoods, outcasts, threat, foreign*. Not what we usually imagine or see on the Christmas cards that arrive in the mail. Yet, this is why Jesus was born, why the “Word became flesh and dwelt among us” (John 1). Jesus came to the outcasts, not to the popular. Jesus was born in a manger, not a palace. Jesus came to both comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable.

Keeping Christ in Christmas, for us as Christians, involves following in the way of Christ. It is about reaching out to those who are not welcomed by others. It is about offering hope in the midst of the dark places. It is about living lives of peace and acceptance. It is about saying more than “Merry Christmas” and saying “God so loved the **world** that he sent his only Son” (John 3:16).

So, how are you keeping Christ in Christmas this year?

Peace in Christ,  
Pastor Jen



**Thursday, December 24**

**Christmas Eve Services**

**4:00, 8:00, & 11:00 PM**



**Friday, December 25**

**Christmas Day Service**

**10:00 AM**





*Advent Vespers*  
*Saturday, December 12, 2015,*  
*5:00 pm*

Trinity's choirs and ensembles will host our annual **ADVENT VESPERS** on **Saturday, December 12, at 5:00 PM**. Our theme this year is the **Morning Star**. Please think about attending (refreshments will be served!) and bring your friends and relatives. Help us prepare the way for the Christ Child!

*An Advent  
 Devotional*



written by members of Trinity is available.

Printed copies are in the narthex. If you would like to receive this electronically on a daily basis, please let Pastor Jen know.

*Compassionate Friends  
 World Candlelight Vigil*  
*Sunday, December 13*  
*6:30 PM*



This event is held annually the second Sunday of December, uniting family and friends around the globe as they light candles for one hour, from 7 to 8 PM local time, to honor and remember a child or sibling who has died at any age from any cause.

This year a lighting will be held here on **December 13** in Fellowship Hall. This nondenominational event will include readings, music, lighting of candles, and reading of the loved ones' names. Those attending may bring a photo or small memento of their loved one for the remembrance table. Set up begins at **6:30** with the program to follow at 7:00 PM.

For more information, to RSVP (for an attendance count), or to have your child/sibling remembered if you are unable to attend, please call Rosemary Gebhardt at 845-225-4076.

*Longest Night/  
 Blue Christmas Service*  
*Monday, Dec 21, 7:00 PM*

For many of us Christmas can be a difficult time. While all the decorations and activities around us call out "be happy and celebrate," we may be feeling sad, aching with the emptiness of having lost a loved one, facing the breakup of a marriage, dealing with financial pressures or the loss of a job, struggling with illness in ourselves or someone close to us, or feeling lonely away from family or friends. We may just be overwhelmed by the hustle and bustle of the world. There are many reasons why we may be feeling "blue."

On **Monday, December 21, at 7:00 PM** we will have a special worship service that acknowledges that not everyone feels jolly at Christmas time. Called **Worship on the Longest Night** or sometimes a **Blue Christmas Service**, this quiet time for worship provides an opportunity to remember our loved ones or share our hurting places with God, and gives us a time to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. It is held near the day that has the least daylight and the longest night of the year, calling to mind the darkness that we feel in our lives when we grieve. It also provides the reassurance we need that, even in our longest night, God's love surrounds us. Come and share in this time of worship and supportive fellowship.

**FIRST FRIDAY  
December 4  
6:00 PM  
Fellowship Hall**



Please join our youth who traveled to Detroit for the ELCA Youth Gathering in July as they host our next First Friday dinner. Hear their stories and experiences, view their slide show, and join us for this Italian-themed meal.

Please let us know you are coming by signing up in the Narthex or by contacting Cyndi Bertone at bertonejca@aol.com or 845-279-8240 so we know how many to expect.



**2015 Advent  
Retreats  
I–November 27-29  
II–December 4-6  
III–December 11-13  
IV–December 18-20**

Join us for a weekend filled with music, crafts, nature, comfort food, cookies, and worship. Cozy up by the fireplace and enjoy time away in God’s beautiful creation.

Pricing per person. All meals and programs are included in the weekend rate. Rates listed are for accommodations in the Conference Center: \$216/Single; \$170/Double; \$140/Triple; \$86/Children Cabins are available! Please call our office to discuss rates and details.

**(800) 980-2267 [www.koinoniany.org](http://www.koinoniany.org)**



*Christmas Decorations*

If you wish to place poinsettias in the Chancel or make a donation toward decorations, please use the form below. The cost of each poinsettia plant is \$10.00 and donations for wreaths or decorations can be made in any amount. Checks should be made payable to the “Trinity Lutheran Church Flower Fund.” **By December 13**, please complete the form below, enclose your money, and place in the offering plate, put in the church office mailbox, or mail it to: Flower Fund, Trinity Lutheran Church, 2103 Rt 6, Brewster NY 10509. The plants may be brought home following the 10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service. Plants not taken by donors will be delivered to shut-ins and/or area nursing homes.

*2015 Christmas Decorations Order Form*

- Please place \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettia plants in the Chancel. Attached is a check for \$10.00 for each plant, payable to “Trinity Lutheran Church Flower Fund.”
- Enclosed is a donation for wreaths and decorations

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ or cash \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

OR (check one)

\_\_\_ To the Glory of God OR \_\_\_ In gratitude for God’s many blessings



**Affirmation  
Christmas  
Caroling**  
**Sunday, December 20, 3 PM**  
**Everyone is welcome!**

Contact Charlie Germain for more information  
 or if you would like to have carolers visit  
 someone (by Dec 13)



**BESP**



Your enthusiastic response to signing up for our first week of ministry (Dec 21-27 at the Brewster First Baptist Church) is really appreciated. **Our second week of service will be at the First United Methodist Church from January 11 to January 17.**

Those without a warm place to sleep are met nightly at 8:45 pm by the paid overnight supervisor on the front steps of this First United Methodist Church and escorted to the shelter's location, which rotates among four churches.

Please check your calendars to see if you can help. We also need boxer underwear, t-shirts, warm socks, warm gloves. (We have more than enough toiletries at this time.)

Please contact Gail Pease (h) 845 225-8921,(c) 845 629-1963, gpeasesoar@aol.com or Irene Germain (h) 845 225-4698,(c) 845-260-5385 (no reception at home), Irene6174@comcast.net.

God's blessings... Gail & Irene

*This season BESP, our interfaith temporary homeless shelter, runs December 7, 2015 through March 27, 2016. Trinity's weeks are Christmas week Dec 21-27 at the Baptist Church; Jan 11-17 at the Methodist Church; and Feb 22-28 at the Baptist Church.*

John Castle (Brewster First Baptist)–chair  
 Don Cuomo (Trinity)–treasurer  
 Gail Pease (Trinity)–board  
 Irene Germain & Gail (Trinity)–co-coordinators of Trinity's ministry  
 Charlie Germain & Tom Pease (Trinity)–assistants



## Faith@Home Good Gifts

Tis the season for LISTS! Lists for cleaning, preparing, cooking and baking, decorating, and buying presents. It is easy to get caught up in all the activity, particularly finding just the right gift for that special person.

As you reflect upon the ways in which to live and express your faith during this holy-day season, take the opportunity to help your children experience more than just what they “get” this season. How might what they “get” be the same thing as what they “give?”

In addition to the variety of outreach ministries that we are involved in at Trinity (food and shelter for BESP, food for Putnam CAP, gifts for Bedford Correctional facility/Hour Children's Center), you can get a gift for your family member by giving a gift to someone else.

Through ministries like the ELCA Good Gifts, you can give a goat, a chicken or help fund another child's education. You can go to

<https://community.elca.org/elcagoodgifts>

or pick up a copy of their catalogue at church to look through and decide what you would like to give.

Share your stories and experiences with others (maybe you'd like to write up a paragraph about what you picked and why; send it to Pastor Jen).



## Stewardship in the Shadow of the Shema

by Raymond Bonwell

When Jesus is asked to name the greatest commandment (Mark 12:30; Luke 10:37), he responds from a position of abundance and offers two. The first is “to love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength” and the second is “to love your neighbor as yourself.” These relationships (vertical with God, horizontal with neighbor) point beyond the merely spiritual to the physical and incarnational. Jesus’ answer lies in what I call “the Shadow of the Shema.”

When Jesus answers “to love the Lord your God with all your heart...”, this is not a new or unfamiliar passage to the Jewish audience. Jesus is drawing from Deuteronomy 6:4-9, what Donald McKim calls “the central theological and liturgical affirmation of Judaism.” The name “shema” comes from the Hebrew word that begins this passage—“shema” means “hear.”

While the quotation of the Shema ends with v. 9, it is vv. 10-12 that expands the scope and importance of what is at stake. These verses read:

<sup>10</sup> When the Lord your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you -- a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, <sup>11</sup> houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant -- then when you eat and are satisfied, <sup>12</sup> be careful that you do not forget the Lord, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

Notice how this is a litany of things that God has provided—cities, houses, wells, vineyards and groves (the latter to partake and be satisfied).

Many people worship in communities of faith where they are not a “founding member.” Many people are joining communities of faith that were established before they joined, and will continue after they leave. In other words, we are worshipping those in

the Holy City (Revelation 21:2) we did not build, in houses of worship filled with resources we did not provide, where we are able to eat (of the bread) and drink (from the cup) and be satisfied.

Let’s be both grateful and mindful that we are entrusted to watch over these physical resources to help form the faith. Collectively, we must take care we “do not forget the Lord” (Deuteronomy 6:12).

And if this first part of the “greatest commandment” is in regard to the vertical relationship with God, then I think the second part of the horizontal relationship with our “neighbor” can also be informed by the shadow of the Shema.

Take, for example, the description of “neighbor” from the children’s programs “Sesame Street” and “Mister Rodgers’ Neighborhood.” Sesame Street’s lyrics “People in your Neighborhood” remind us that neighbors are “the people that we meet each day” and Mister Rodgers greets everyone with a warm, friendly, “Hello, Neighbor.” Our neighbors are so much more than those who are geographically residing near us—our neighbors are better understood as those who we encounter in our daily activities. And this answer certainly fits the question asked to Jesus in the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37).

And the Shadow of the Shema reminds us to be stewards of, with, and for our neighbors, too. We are to use our resources (our cities, our homes, our food and drink) to better serve those who we encounter daily. From a consumer mentality, some may see these as “mine”— they are “my possessions.” But the Christian response is to realize the gifts, skills and talents that made these acquisitions possible in the first place come from God, and should be used to give God glory.

If the “greatest commandment” is to be summarized as “love God and love neighbor,” then we can look at the broader passage cited to “love God” in Deuteronomy. Reading the next three verses remind us that all we have is meant to help us remember the great things the Lord has done for us. And, for that, may we truly be thankful.

This month’s **stewardship** article is shared from the newsletter of the Center for Stewardship Leaders (Luther seminary)



## YOUTH GROUP

We are introducing a credit system to ensure that everybody helps **to participate in fundraising and service projects. We will discuss this system at a future meeting.**

Don't forget about our suggestion box in the narthex!

If your 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade child(ren) is interested or if you or they would like to be included on the e-mail contact list, please let Albert (tgoblondie@aol.com) and Lauren (ickenlauren@gmail.com) know. Albert Cuomo, Lauren Icken, and Joy Baggetta

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranyouthgroup1> and <https://www.facebook.com/groups/trinitylutheranyouthgroup> and Instagram: @trinityyouthgroup

## Sunday School December News

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. We are now in the Advent season and our children have had another fun Advent Festival to get ready for the coming Christmas holidays. The children's choir sang for us at the service before our festival. They pinned stars on the manger and made angel ornaments and other Advent-related crafts. Thank you to all for the delicious treats to make this annual event so enjoyable for all. There will be no SCS on 12/27/15 and SCS will resume on 1/3/16. Wishing you and your families a blessed Christmas holiday season.

**Jeanette Baldanza,**  
Sunday School Superintendent

## Faith Formation for Adults

**WEDNESDAY EVENINGS BIBLE STUDY (7:00-8:00 pm)** All are welcome to join us. (Does not meet Wednesdays when there is a council meeting.)

**FIRST THURSDAY** of each month **Bible Study** at WELCA meetings, 10:00 am in Fellowship Hall, beginning in January



**DECORATING** the nave will be on Sunday, December 20, following the 10:45 AM service.

## Thursday WELCA Group

### WELCA Christmas Luncheon

We would like to invite all women of Trinity to attend the Christmas Luncheon at Camp Herrlich on Thursday, December 10, at 12:30 PM. The cost is \$20 per person. It is a fun time of fellowship for all. Please let Irene Germain at Irene6174@comcast.net, 845-225-4698 or Marge Westerville at margerw01@gmail.com, 845-5593 know that you are coming.

### Thank you for making our fair a success:

We would like Sharon Laird and Scott Dzibela for organizing the Trinity-WELCA Christmas Holiday Market. We also want to thank the numerous people that helped set up, help on fair day, help clean up after the fair, made crafts, contributed silent auction items, made soup and chili, made cake, and did all the other odd jobs. We also thank Amy Finney and Dorothy Kafalas in the office, who help us immeasurably.

### December schedule:

Thu, Dec 10 12:30 PM Christmas luncheon at Camp Herrlich  
Thu, Dec 17 10 AM Business meeting

We hope that many women from the congregation will join us for the Christmas luncheon on December 10<sup>th</sup> at Camp Herrlich. Irene Germain, Irene6174@comcast.net, 845-225-4698; Marge Westerville, Margerw01@gmail.com, 845-855-5593

## Sunday Morning WELCA Group

Coordinators: Joanne Icken (jicken@yahoo.com) & Heidi Kuhland (CraftierQ@aol.com)

♪ JOYFUL NOISE ♪  
 CHILDREN'S CHOIR ♪  
 Meets about 9:20 AM in  
 Shepherd's Hall  
 with Joy Baggetta



Special Music  
 for  
 Christmas  
 Eve



Children in Sunday School (Pre-K through 5th grade) may participate in this group, singing pre-arranged songs for performances at worship services throughout the year. Rehearsals are on Sundays in Shepherd's Hall 9:20 AM-9:45 AM. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex, or just join us. Please contact Joy Baggetta (joy\_baggetta@hotmail.com) for more details.

All those gifted with musical talent, children and adults, are invited to offer special music for our Christmas Eve services. Traditionally we have children's musical offerings at the 4:00 PM service. If you or your child would like to sing or play for Christmas Eve, please contact Franklyn Commisso **no later than Sunday, December 6.** All musical selections must reflect the religious nature of our Christmas celebration—no Santa and reindeers, please!



Worship  
 Assistants

**Assisting Ministers, Readers, and Ushers NEEDED**

Trinity is blessed to have a number of people who enrich our worship services by acting as ushers and assisting ministers—but **we need more help in those areas.** Do you think you might be called to give a little of your time to serve in one of these roles? It's not difficult. It doesn't require a big commitment of time. You come to worship anyway, so why not think about participating in a new way!

Please keep this ministry in your prayers and consider it in your heart. If you have questions about what's involved, speak with Mary Beth Commisso. If you'd like more information, contact Mary Beth Commisso, Dawn Morello, or Pastor Jen.

**Senior Choir**  
 Rehearsals are Thursdays at 7:00 PM. Please contact Franklyn Commisso for more information.

**Altar Flowers 2016**

The chart for 2016 is posted in the narthex. Flowers may be taken home after Sunday worship or left to beautify the altar. You may designate the gift as a memorial or thanksgiving gift. Sundays may be shared with other donors, reducing the \$30/week cost. You may also give a general gift to the Flower Fund. Contact Kathie Ruhs at 845-277-8012 or Linda Salinger at 845-277-5345 for more information.

**December Worship Schedule**

- Thu, Dec 3 Holy Communion/Spoken Worship, noon
- Sun, Dec 6 Holy Communion, 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.
- Thu, Dec 10 Holy Communion/Spoken Worship, noon
- Sun, Dec 13 Holy Communion, 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.
- Thu, Dec 17 Holy Communion/Spoken Worship, noon
- Sun, Dec 20 Holy Communion, 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.
- Thur, Dec 24 Christmas Eve, 4:00, 8:00, 11:00 PM**
- Fri, Dec 25 Christmas Day, 10:00 AM**
- Sun, Dec 27 Holy Communion, 10:00 a.m. ONLY (no Faith Formation classes)
- Thu, Dec 31 Holy Communion/Spoken Worship, noon



## PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Scott Dzibela and his wife Joanne have done an excellent job of overseeing the contractor, Burdick Blacktop, to replace the sidewalks around our church. Work has been completed and it looks terrific. Thanks again Scott and Joanne and Burdick Blacktopping for a job well done. The owner Eileen Burdick and her son Fred, who ran the project, gets a big THANK YOU for not only doing a very professional job, in addition saved us a lot of money as well. If you need any job done around your house, please consider giving Burdick Blacktop a call. It looks terrific as I said and it bears repeating. Also I would like to thank all those who have made some wonderful contributions for the project. Over half the money that was needed has been donated by some of our wonderful members. Praise God for your generosity. It is so gratefully appreciated. If you would like to help support this project your donation would be most humbly accepted. Please indicate on the check memo line: BIF/Paving. We are so very blessed to have so many parishioners who truly love their place of worship. God's blessing on you all.

Fall Cleanup for 2015 is completed. WOW, did we ever have some terrific volunteers show up! Even before 8am to have coffee made and doughnuts and bagels available. Thanks to Lois Lawrence and her crew for a great feast! We had over fifteen volunteers on hand. Also Charlie Larocchia and Dick Winters was there as well. They didn't make the picture. From raking leaves, trimming trees and bushes, replacing lights, etc. A lot was accomplished.

Also a huge THANKS to Joan Bradley and her crew for maintaining the flower beds. As usual they look terrific.

Pat Wills, Property Use Coordinator: We received a thank you note from the Brewster/Carmel Garden Club for use of space for their annual garden show. The Church will be very active in Nov. and Dec. There will be something going on every day and most evenings. Mainly Trinity sponsored events.

Two pre-school concerts will be held in Dec. At our January Property meeting I would like to discuss future fees charged for these events due to the number of people attending.

Perhaps groups of over 50 or 75 should be charged \$50 an hour or a flat fee per concert. This will be discussed in depth at that meeting. If you would like to comment on this send an email to Ken Mongold at kemgold@hotmail.com. Your input would be helpful and appreciated.

A friendly reminder, when you leave the bathrooms please turn off the lights. Also if you notice a light on and no one is using that room, please turn the lights off. It is very important to help us with this as it costs money. Your support is greatly appreciated. You may want to pass this info onto the rest of your family as well.

Also last but not least, thanks again to Gary Gerfen for coordinating the lawn maintenance and to Charlie Larocchia, a huge thanks for preparing the mowers for winter storage. We have indeed been blessed by all those who help with our outside and inside maintenance all year long!

God's blessing on all our wonderful volunteers. You are all greatly appreciated.

Submitted by Ken Mongold  
Chair person, Property Committee





*Pledges for 2016*

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO MAKE A PLEDGE.** If you have not completed one, there is still time! Blank cards are available in the narthex or contact the church office to have one e-mailed to you.

**COMMENTS**

**GENERAL ACCOUNT INCOME**—Total income is \$1,279 less than projections.

**GENERAL ACCOUNT EXPENSES**—Total expenses are \$6,997 less than projected.

**MORTGAGE FUND**—Contributions are \$1,971.43 behind payments.

**MONTHLY INCOME**—October income was \$2,375, below expenses.\*

**YEAR-TO-DATE**—Expenses were \$6,997 more than income for the year.

\*Income includes two \$5,000 loans, March & August

*Demonstrate Your Thankfulness This Season*

Each holiday season, Trinity anticipates and relies on a seasonal increase in contributions. It is through the donations of every individual and family in the congregation that we are able to carry on our work now and throughout the year.

If you need a convenient way to make recurring contributions or plan to make an additional gift before the end of the year, we encourage you to check out our electronic giving options. As the pace of life speeds up around the holidays, you may find electronic giving a most welcome way to make contributions.

To set up a recurring giving schedule, visit Trinity's website, [trinitybrewsterny.org](http://trinitybrewsterny.org), and click on the "Offering" button, set up an account or "profile," and follow the instructions to complete your donation amount and frequency. Questions? Please contact Stephanie Lyons after church or email her at [lyonss1@comcast.net](mailto:lyonss1@comcast.net).

*Thank you for your generosity and support!*

**YEAR TO DATE BUDGET REPORT (through October 31, 2015)**

**GENERAL CHECKING ACCOUNT**

Category	Budget	Actual	Variance
<b>INCOME</b>			
Contributions	\$154,810	\$143,124	(\$11,686)
Other Income	\$18,047	\$28,453	\$10,406
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$172,856</b>	<b>\$171,577</b>	<b>(\$1,279)</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Benevolence	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0
Pastoral	\$91,334	\$93,773	\$2,438
Education	\$4,166	\$2,907	(\$1,258)
Evangelism	\$116	\$436	\$320
Worship & Music	\$17,766	\$8,375	(\$9,391)
Administration	\$43,664	\$41,775	(\$1,889)
Property	\$25,504	\$28,310	\$2,806
Stewardship	\$0	\$0	\$0
Social Ministry	\$20	\$0	(\$20)
Fund Raising	\$20	\$18	(\$2)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$187,590</b>	<b>\$180,593</b>	<b>(\$6,997)</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>(\$14,734)</b>	<b>(\$9,016)</b>	<b>\$5,718</b>

**CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCES** (includes \$15,000 in loans)

January 1, 2015 balance	\$12,251
Current balance	\$3,136

**MORTGAGE FUND**

Contributions	Payments	Variance
\$33,688.57	(\$35,660.00)	(\$1,971.43)

*Memorial Gifts*

**We are grateful for contributions to the Memorial Fund** in memory of Ed Butler and in gratitude for all the prayers from Ericka Butler, Christine, Sarah, and Dan, and from Stephen & Jean Louise Fischer and Tom & Janice Brodowski in memory of John Simon.

Christian memorial gift is a contribution of money or property to some Christian cause in loving memory of a relative or friend. We give such memorial gifts on the occasion of a loved one's being called to Eternity, on an anniversary of the "Gift of Life," or on the remembrance or celebration of an event in the life of the departed one. Such gifts, given lovingly, honor the Living Lord, Jesus Christ. If you would like to contribute a monetary memorial gift to Trinity, there are forms available on the credenza in the Narthex. If you are interested in sponsoring an item, please contact the office for a list of suggested gifts.

## We remember in prayer those who are

### In the hospital, ill, recuperating from surgery, or undergoing medical treatment:

Brigitte, Lee, Augie Autieri, Tamara Bagen, Lisa Bagnati, Kitty, Barbara Jean Bennet, Patricia Berwind, Joe Bettcher, Nicole Bettcher, Michael Boyd, William Brown, Lilly Browne, Wendy Bucaj, Betty Buckmaster, Lynn Byrnes, Gail Cardella, Dorothy Carlson, Tamara Casablanca, Christine, Colleen, Erin Conroy, Helen Conte, Jon Cope, Linda Cowen, Ben Dalecki, Karen Delduco, Kathren Devine, Dilynn, Dominic, Gert Donovan, Lillian Eberhardt, Wayne Farber, Christine Gallegher, Barbara Goos, Eleanor Greene, Alexandra Grimaldi, Eric Halbekath Sr, Thomas Ingate, Joe, JoAnn Johnston, Kelly Kern, Sally Kindt, Dick Kittle, Bob Koenig, George Kramer, Matthew Kromar, Pr Sandy Leifster, Raymond Maglio, Meg, Michael, Beth Maley, Hedy McCloskey, Dan McGill, Ziggy Mignanelli, Oliver Milton, Michael Montana, Karen Myerwold, John Noone, Pr. Paul Nordeen, Bob Obuck, Pr Scott Paradise, Pr Garry Patrylo Jr, Ed Ranieri, Muriel Rapp, Elaine Rigo, Nicholas Rogan, Ronnie, Larry Ruhs, Debbie Ruxton, Marilyn Schoeller, George Schwarz, James Sorge, Phyllis Sorge, Joe Stark, Meyer Steinhardt, Curt Stiles, Audrey Stone and Figo, Walter Straub, Michael Stringer, Meranda Sue, Grace Tadler, John Tadler, Michelle Tessier, Teddi Tom, John Torlish, Mary Torlish, Greg V., Henry Von Bargaen, Katherine Waldvogel, Jessica Wilkson, Gina, Cele, Marv, Arthur, Jeff

### In hospice care: Eligio

### Wrestling with long-term health issues:

Moshen Alameldin, Morgan Andren, Judy B, Malcolm Beal Sr, Amanda Beneway, Gloria Bretone, Neal Brundage, Janet Canor, Tony Cardella, Nancy Cuomo, Deena Cox, Tom Curran, Glen DiSanto, Al Eberhardt, Priscilla Elz, Donna Ficara, Jim Fiore, Mollie Fitzpatrick, Margaret Fowler, Amanda George, Catherine Henneforth, Sue Kaufman, Raymond Kiernan, Janet Kniffin, Ryan Lee, Renee McElroy, Thaine Manske, Virginia Mead, George Miller, Tanya Murgai, Regina Paulson, Katie Ray, Betty Rodda, Rosaleen, Riley Rushia, Sindy, Sally Sheets, Zack Small, Michael Smith, Kenneth Strawn, Kathy Sullivan,

Josephine Talley, Gina Venezia, Glenn Wagner, Walt, Elizabeth Waugh, Cecilia Winters, Stephanie, Donna, Richard Yessian

**Facing life's challenges:** Daniel Baggetta, the Banuelos/Cable/Lyon family, Wanda & Cliff, Della Arndt, the Bueti family, Catherine, Jeannie Graham, Terry Gregori, Larry Hampson, Logan Keane, Nicola Kenny, Matt, Bill & Debbie Logan, Anita Luhrs, Mary Jane McMahon, Ryan, Isabel Ranieri, Sue Rodriguez, Alex Smith, Barbara Sparkes, Katelyn Stufano, Kristen Sullivan, Michael Talarico, Jennifer West, Helga Whalen, Dave, Lisa, Jaimie Zeola

**Remembering the lives of:** Heddie Kessel, aunt of Joy Baggetta; Oliver Milton, foster brother of Audrey Stone

**Serving in the Armed Forces:** Michael Caitney, Dylan Cumpston, Adam Elliott, Phillip Gerhardt, Ron Hansen Jr., Dylan Kinsella, Pr Anthony Stephens, Adam Vieux, Jessica Woodall, all those in the service of our country, especially in Iraq and Afghanistan, and their chaplains

**Restricted to home/nursing home:** Marge Christie, Gerrit Franssen, Lucy Hillers, Marian Langlois, Horatio Massatti, Marge Popham, Sylvia Rieg, Scott Werner

**Attending seminary:** Dawn Morello

**Partnership Ministries:** The Northwest Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania; the Brewster Soup Kitchen (Brewster 1st Baptist Church) and Brewster Food Pantry (St. Andrew's Episcopal), Brewster Ecumenical Service Partnership (BESP); local small business owners in challenging economic times

**INTERCESSORY PRAYERS:** To add a name to Trinity's prayer list, please complete a request form located in the pew and place it in the offering plate or send it to the church office. Names are usually listed for four weeks. Wednesday is the deadline for including names in the following Sunday's printed list. **Please contact Amy in the church office [trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com) if a person should be moved to a different area of concern or removed.**

**Servants of the Church:** Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, and the Churchwide staff; Bishop Robert Rimbo of the Metropolitan New York Synod and staff; Pastor Jennifer Boyd, Deacons Charles Germain, Jr. and Dorothy Kafalas; Minister of Music Franklyn Comisso; Council members; Sunday School teachers, and worship leaders



## Thank you

To everyone who helped with the WELCA Holiday Market. It was a marvelous day. We are grateful for everyone who publicized, made and donated crafts, boutique, and other items, set up, worked at the fair, made and sold fabulous baked goods, soups, and sandwiches, cleaned up, came as vendors, and came to enjoy the day. The weather even cooperated!

We are especially appreciative of the efforts of Scott Dzibela, without whom the fair could not have happened.

WELCA earned \$4500 profit, which we will distribute in various ways.

For next year (yes we're planning that already) WELCA would appreciate donations of Christmas gift bags for craft sales and greeting card fronts from which they make gift card tags to sell.

Sharon Laird  
Holiday Market coordinator  
Trinity's Women of the ELCA



**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Jean Schuff 12/1	Susan Kolar 12/15
Helga Siebern 12/2	Freyja Smith 12/15
Harold Hansen 12/6	Inez Arrigo 12/17
Lauralee Ulrich 12/7	Barbara Von Bargaen 12/17
Heather Loftus 12/8	William Groundwater 12/18
Juliette Dudowitz 12/10	Tyler Lee 12/19
Sawyer Loftus 12/10	Susan Megaro 12/19
Meagan Beal 12/12	Karen Nicoletti 12/19
Marisol Langke 12/12	Keira Markert 12/20
Cassandra Wise 12/12	Anna Ruopp 12/21
Kevin Wise 12/12	Sandra Kenny 12/22
Joe Bettcher 12/13	Kaitlyn Hansen 12/24

Dan Kafalas 12/25  
 Gabrielle Scorrano 12/26  
 Laurie Bell 12/27

**DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

Robert & Jane Lee 12/26

Are you celebrating a birthday or anniversary in December and aren't on this list? Please contact the church office with the complete month-day-year information.

**TO VOTE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING  
 JANUARY 24, 2016**

In order to be a *voting* member of Trinity Lutheran Church, confirmed church members must make a contribution of record once and receive Holy Communion here once a year.

To ensure that our records are accurate: Please use your offering envelopes! 2016 envelopes will be in the Narthex for pick up soon. Make a note of your envelope number and ensure that it is marked on any contributions.

Whenever you receive Holy Communion, please complete a Record of Communion card and hand it to an usher. We record this information and encourage you to get into the habit of completing one each time you receive Holy Communion.

**YOGA AT TRINITY**

Tuesday mornings 9:30-11:00 AM AND Thursday nights 7:30-8:45 pm. Just bring a yoga mat and an open mind! All abilities welcome. Cost: Suggested donation of \$10. Donations exceeding \$10 will be donated back to Trinity. Contact Cyndi Bertone, RYT, at 279-8240 for more info.

**PLANNING AN EVENT?**

Please contact **Pat Wills** regarding any **PROPERTY USE** at 845-259-3138 or e-mail her at [p.wills@comcast.net](mailto:p.wills@comcast.net)

Articles for the January *Trinitarian* are due **Fri, Dec 18**. Please email articles to Amy Finney at [trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com)

**Office Hours:** Mon to Fri, 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**PASTOR JEN'S CONTACT INFO**

Here is my personal contact information, in case of emergency.  
 Cell phone (518) 231-4633  
 Home phone (203) 616-5207  
 Home address: 17 Filmore Ave, Danbury, CT 06811; Email: [revjedyer1@yahoo.com](mailto:revjedyer1@yahoo.com)

**RECYCLE FOR TRINITY!**

**TRINITY NOW RECYCLES PLASTIC CUPS!**

In addition to the personal care & beauty, natural care, and e-waste brigades, **Trinity has joined the Terracycle SOLO CUP BRIGADE** and can turn **ANY RIGID PLASTIC CUPS MARKED #6** into cash for Trinity. Cups should be emptied and placed in marked bins at coffee hours and events. To recycle additional items, see the list in the narthex or contact Georgina Marek.



[www.organdonor.gov](http://www.organdonor.gov)

Give thanks. Give life.

**WE'RE ONLINE!**

Current issues of Trinity Weekly, the monthly calendar, and the *Trinitarian* are always available at [www.trinitybrewsterny.org](http://www.trinitybrewsterny.org)

## DECEMBER 2015

**Sunday Services**  
**8:30 & 10:45 a.m.**

**Spoken Word Worship**  
**Thursdays at noon**

All content and enclosures  
are an extension of this  
church's ministry.

Trinity Lutheran Church  
2103 Route 6  
Brewster, NY 10509

*Return Service Requested*

### Trinity Lutheran Church

**Mission Statement:** As a  
people of God, we desire  
to experience the presence  
of God in our lives that we  
might be the presence of  
God in the lives of others.

**2103 Route 6**  
**Brewster, NY 10509**

**Phone: 845-279-5181**

**Website:**  
**trinitybrewsterny.org**

**E-Mail Pastor Jen at**  
**revjedyer1@yahoo.com**

**Office: trinklutheranoffice**  
**@yahoo.com**



## DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS



- Fri, Dec 4 First Friday Supper hosted by Youth Gathering, 6:00 PM
- Sun, Dec 6 Second Sunday of Advent
- Sat, Dec 12 Advent Vespers, 5:00 PM
- Sun, Dec 13 Third Sunday of Advent  
Compassionate Friends Candlelight Vigil, 6:30 PM
- Sun, Dec 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent
- Mon, Dec 21 Worship on the Longest Night, 7:00 PM
- Thur, Dec 24 Christmas Eve services, 4:00, 8:00, & 11:00 PM
- Fri, Dec 25 Christmas Day service, 10:00 AM
- Sun, Dec 27 Lessons & Carols, 10:00 AM

*Remember to see the full December calendar enclosed as well*



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.