

# THE BEACON

December 6, 2107

## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING REPORT

Holy Trinity is a very special congregation as was once again demonstrated at our annual meeting this past Sunday. We were able to adopt a Spending Plan for 2018 in the amount of \$623,764 due to the faithful and increased pledging of our members and friends. Thanks to all who have returned pledges for the coming year. *Those who have not yet done so are asked to respond as soon as possible as these pledges are very important to meeting our Spending Plan.*

- **Susan Barney, Bruce Gerlich, Susan Manion, Mitch Overstreet, and Karen Pollok** were elected to Church Council for three-year terms. Our thanks to all who allowed their names to be placed in nomination; and, to **Barry Lobb** and **Lisa Taylor** for their years of service as they go off Council.
- **Eric Kenny**, Stewardship Committee chair, thanked the members and friends of the congregation for their increased time and talent and financial stewardship response for 2018.
- **Davis von oesen**, Finance Committee chair, reviewed the proposed income statement and proposed spending plan for 2018. No changes were made to the proposed spending plan that was mailed to the congregation in October. The proposed income and spending plans were then adopted unanimously.
- The Church Council elected the following officers for 2018 at its organizational meeting: president, **Teresa Weinmeister**; vice-president, **Mike Rooney**; co-secretaries, **Bob Howell** and **Susan Manion**; treasurer, **Kim Hall**; and, financial secretaries, **David Barney, Sr., Don Hesson, Faye Hesson, Mitch Overstreet, Nancy Overstreet, Cindy Sanders, Jeff Schneider, Sally Schneider, and Lisa Taylor**. Our appreciation to **Jeff Schneider** for his service as president and to **Steve Royer** for his service as co-secretary.

## SERVANT OUTREACH PROJECT

Our December outreach project supports the **YWCA Domestic Violence Prevention Center**. Needed are personal hygiene items including soap, shampoo, deodorant, and lotions for Center residents. The Center provides a safe haven for women and children who have been victims of domestic violence. Counseling, education, and support services are also provided for the entire family. Please place hygiene items in the outreach basket in the narthex.

## CHILDREN'S NATIVITY REHEARSALS

Rehearsals for our Children's Nativity, which will be a part of the 5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service, will be held Sunday mornings, December 10 and 17, during Sunday Church School. All children are encouraged to participate.

### **GERMAN LANGUAGE ADVENT SERVICE**

The Second Sunday in Advent  
Sunday, December 10, at 7:00 p.m.  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church



Join us for lessons, hymns, and special music. Pastor Roberts will lead the service.

A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall.



### **MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP**

Wednesdays,  
December 6, 13, and 20

**12:10 p.m.**  
Service of Holy Communion

**7:00 p.m.**  
Advent Vespers



# Second Sunday In Advent

December 10, 2017

**8:30 A.M. - SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION and HOME COMMUNION**

**9:30 A.M. - SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL and NATIVITY REHEARSAL** (age three through adult)

## ADULT EDUCATION

### BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

*Days of Awe and Wonder:*  
How to Be a Christian in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

- Awe, Wonder, and Jesus

(Parlor)

Leader: Pastor Roberts

### FAITH AND BIBLICAL WITNESS

Luther: Gospel, Law, and Reformation



Faith and Works

(Community Room)

Leader: Jürgen Pest

**10:30 A.M. - SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION and HOME COMMUNION**

*The Lessons: Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8*

*A nursery is provided from 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. A coffee hour follows both worship services.*

*The color for the Advent season is blue.*

**Ushers:** 8:30 a.m., Chris Elbrecht, Steve Royer, Nancy Childress, Denton Sisk, Michelle Sisk, Nancy Trent, Tim Wiger; 10:30 a.m., Joe Fedeler, Jeff Fleck, Cecil Beckman, John Kling, Jürgen Pest, Ida Proco, Rob Taylor. **Altar Guild:** Esther Keene & Pat Hawkins. **Acolytes:** 8:30 a.m., Sean Wiger; 10:30 a.m., Colin Adams. **Crucifers:** 8:30 a.m., Sean Wiger; 10:30 a.m., Katelyn Kruckenber. **Lectors:** 8:30 a.m., David Royer; 10:30 a.m., Marjorie Huiner & Stephen Elam. **Assisting Ministers:** 8:30a.m., Barb Garman; 10:30 a.m., Nancy Hall. **Greeters:** 8:30 a.m., Jerry Johnson & Esther Keene; 10:30 a.m., Harvey Huiner & Carole Royer. **Communion Assistants:** 8:30 a.m., Bruce Royer; 10:30 a.m., Mary Ann Lippincott. **Coffee Hour:** 8:30 a.m., Wilma & Les Beebe; 10:30 a.m., Patty & Conrad Kauppi. **Beacon Assistants (December 13):** Wilma Beebe, Nancy Hall, Kay Nunley, Bob Nunley. **Bulletin Folders (December 15):** Marjorie & Harvey Huiner.

**11:45 A.M. - JUNIOR YOUTH** (grades six - eight; at Youth House)

**6:30 P.M. - SENIOR YOUTH** (grades nine - twelve; at Youth House)

**7:00 P.M. - GERMAN ADVENT SERVICE**

## THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 10 - 16

<u>MONDAY,</u>	10:00 A.M.	- STRENGTH AND BALANCE EXERCISE CLASS
<u>TUESDAY,</u>	5:40 P.M.	- HANDBELL CHOIR REHEARSAL
<u>WEDNESDAY,</u>	12:10 P.M.	- SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION
	7:00 P.M.	- ADVENT VESPERS
	7:30 P.M.	- ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL
<u>THURSDAY,</u>	9:00 A.M.	- PARISH NURSE AVAILABLE (until 10:00 a.m.)
<u>FRIDAY,</u>	10:00 A.M.	- STRENGTH AND BALANCE EXERCISE CLASS
	10:30 A.M.	- ALTAR GUILD - Chrismon Tree
	6:00 P.M.	- DINNER FOR RESIDENTS OF THE GATEWAY
<u>SATURDAY,</u>	10:00 A.M.	- INTERFAITH OUTREACH ASSOCIATION CONGREGATION OPEN HOUSE (until 2:00 p.m.)

## IN THE CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY

Hospitalized and released is **Peter Kjeseth** (Martha Johnson's father). . . . Congratulations to **Dot Tester** on the birth of great-grandson Elijah Stetson. Congratulations to **David Jones** on the birth of twin grandchildren Sophie Elizabeth and Walter James Nichols. . . . Our sympathy to **Bobbi** and **Steve Chester** on the death of Steve's father.

## 2018 ADULT LUTHER HERITAGE TOUR PROPOSAL AVAILABLE

The proposed itinerary for a 2018 Holy Trinity Luther Heritage Tour for adults is available in the church office or via email. The dates of the trip are August 1 - 13. The proposal includes a daily schedule and overview, projected costs, and additional information. Those interested in participating in the trip are asked to notify the church office by **December 15**. Please speak to Pastor Roberts for additional information.

## TRIBUTE FUND

Those who would like to make a holiday contribution in lieu of Christmas cards, presents, etc., are reminded of our TRIBUTE FUND. Those honored are sent a card announcing that a gift has been given in their name and proceeds support our social ministry outreach. Please contact the church office for additional information.

## NEW MEMBERS TO BE RECEIVED

We will welcome new members into Holy Trinity in the coming weeks. Please speak with Pastor Roberts if you are interested in joining our church family.

## CHILDREN'S and YOUTH MINISTRIES THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 10 - 16

Sunday, December 10



- 9:30 a.m. - Sunday Church School (age three - grade twelve) & Nativity Rehearsal  
11:45 a.m. - Junior Youth (grades six - eight)  
Christmas Celebration!  
Lunch, devotions, games, gift exchange!  
Please bring a wrapped gift (that costs less than \$8.00).  
6:30 p.m. - Senior Youth (grades nine - twelve)  
Christmas Party!  
Dinner, devotions, games, gift exchange!  
Please bring a wrapped gift (that costs less than \$8.00).

### ADVENT OFFERINGS

Our special Advent offerings are designated for the broader mission and ministry of Holy Trinity Church through our partnership with the Virginia Synod.

- **DID YOU KNOW** that grounded in the ancient message of Scripture and in the historic confessions of the Church, our Lutheran seminaries in this country have prepared men and women for ordained and lay ministry for over 190 years?
- **DID YOU KNOW** that Lutheran Family Services of Virginia ministers to thousands of persons each year, many of whom are emotionally, physically, and sexually abused and in need of a helping hand?
- **DID YOU KNOW** that the Gracelinside Virginia prison ministry provides chaplains who provide weekly worship services and pastoral care for thousands of prisoners in our state prisons and juvenile institutions?
- **DID YOU KNOW** that the mission of Virginia Lutheran Homes is to serve the needs of the aging by providing low cost housing in New Market and Virginia Beach and nursing facilities / retirement community in Roanoke?
- **DID YOU KNOW** that in the past year over 100,000 lives were touched with the Gospel in word and deed through the agencies and institutions supported by our Virginia Synod?
- **DID YOU KNOW** that we at Holy Trinity participate in these extended ministries through our benevolence offerings?

We are encouraged to be generous in our support of the far-reaching ministries of our church as we use the special Advent envelopes included in our offering envelope packets.

### HOLY TRINITY NOTE CARDS and COOKBOOKS

- Holy Trinity note cards, featuring the original Solly Blank artwork that graces our Holy Trinity cookbook, are available for purchase in the church office. Packages of twelve cards and envelopes are \$10.
- Holy Trinity cookbooks are also available for purchase for \$15 each. Six or more books may be purchased at the discounted price of \$13.00 each. Please contact the church office to make your purchase.

### ALTAR FLOWERS

The 2018 Altar Flower Calendar is available in the narthex. Please note that no dates are reserved from previous years. The cost of altar flowers is \$77 per week for two vases. Payment for altar flowers should be made to *Holy Trinity*. There are no delivery fees or sales tax. Please contact **Susan Barney** (907-1244 or [skwbarney@gmail.com](mailto:skwbarney@gmail.com)) with any altar flower questions you may have.



### CANDLE TRIBUTES

The 2018 Candle Calendar is now available in the narthex. The cost is \$20 per week, with checks made payable to *Holy Trinity* and "Candle Fund" noted on the memo line. Please contact the church office with any questions.

### GREATER RIVERMONT CONGREGATION OPEN HOUSE

Interfaith Outreach Association will host its Third Annual Walter M. Fore, Jr., Congregation Open House Saturday, December 16, from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. This year's tour will be held in the Greater Rivermont area.

The cost for the open house is \$20 per person and proceeds benefit Interfaith Outreach's Emergency Assistance program. The ten congregations that will be open for the public are Agudath Sholom Synagogue, Centenary United Methodist Church, Church of the Covenant, Fellowship Church of Christ, First Christian Church, First Presbyterian Church, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Peakland Baptist Church, Peakland United Methodist Church, and St. John's Episcopal Church. Special music will be offered at Holy Trinity at various times during the open house.

A thirty-fifth Birthday Celebration for Interfaith Outreach will take place at 11:00 a.m. at Fellowship Church of Christ. Also, visitors may enjoy listening to the rehearsal of Cantate Children's and Youth Choir of Central Virginia from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church.

Tickets may be purchased at the following venues: the Holy Trinity office, Interfaith Outreach Association, Downtown Lynchburg Visitor's Center, Boonsboro Gladiola Girls, and Aylor's Farm Store in Forest. Tickets will also be available the day of the event at participating open house congregations. Payment may be made by cash or check only, with checks made payable to *Interfaith Outreach Association*.

Interfaith Outreach Association is a non-profit located in Lynchburg, Virginia, that has been helping families in need in Central Virginia since 1982. IOA offers assistance through six programs: Emergency Assistance, Emergency Heating Assistance for Elderly, Furniture and Furnishings, Progressive Release, Vision Programming, and Interfaith Rebuilds.

### THANK YOU

- Thanks to **Mike Connolly** and **Susan Manion** for assisting in the Food Pantry.
- Thanks to **ALL** who helped count ballots following last Sunday's annual congregational meeting.

## NEW SCHEDULES MAILED

The December - February schedules for lectors, greeters, assisting ministers, coffee hour servers, communion assistants, acolytes, and crucifers have been mailed. Please review the new schedules and notify the church office of any substitutions. Thanks to all for their faithful service in these various capacities.

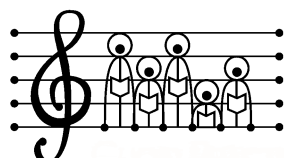
## YEAR-END GIFTS

We are encouraged to meet in full our planned offerings for this year and make additional contributions according to our many blessings as we strive to meet our challenge level of giving (an extra dollar per week or fifty-two dollars per year). We continue to meet new opportunities for mission and ministry and each person's gifts are very important.

We are reminded that our church financial records remain open through Sunday, January 14, 2018, for contributions toward 2017 pledges. Please keep in mind that contributions must be received or postmarked by December 31 for 2017 tax purposes.

## SIMPLY GIVING®

We continue to offer electronic fund transfers for interested contributors. Participants may specify that offerings be transferred weekly on Monday or monthly on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup>. Member enrollment forms for new participants are available in the church office. Those already participating do not need to complete another enrollment form, but should notify Parish Administrator Carol Dee Robertson if they wish to make any changes to their current giving.



### **LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR ADVENT**

Sunday, December 17  
10:30 a.m.



**HANDBELL CHOIR & ADULT CHOIR**

## RECEPTION FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Our Campus Ministry Committee is honoring Holy Trinity college and graduate students at a coffee hour reception to be held Sunday, December 17, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service. All students here for the holidays are invited and encouraged to attend.

## COLUMBARIUM

The Holy Trinity columbarium, located on the upper lawn, contains niches in which the ashes of those who have died rest in peace and dignity within the shadow of the church. Each niche has space for the ashes of two people. Since opening in 1995, the costs for opening and closing the niches and purchasing name plaques have escalated. On January 1, the cost per niche will increase to \$1,600 to reflect these higher expenses. Anyone interested in purchasing a niche at the current price of \$1,200 may do so through the end of the year. Please contact Pastor Roberts for additional information.

## INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

We are reminded of the following information in the event of inclement winter weather.

- ✧ Please call the church office for the latest schedule information. Any changes or cancellations will be available on the church voice mail system and on the "Weekly Calendar" link at [www.holytrinitylynchburg.org](http://www.holytrinitylynchburg.org).
- ✧ Weekday education activities at Holy Trinity are canceled any day that Lynchburg City Schools are closed because of the weather. Music rehearsals may be held if road conditions improve later in the day. Participants in music groups will be notified if a rehearsal will be held.
- ✧ Sunday cancellations will be determined by 7:00 a.m. that morning. The information will be placed on the church voice mail system, on the "Worship Schedule" link at [www.holytrinitylynchburg.org](http://www.holytrinitylynchburg.org), and communicated to Lynchburg/Roanoke television stations. Please consult the "Closings" listings on the television station web sites.

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## LAST CALL - CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

We will again decorate our chancel and sanctuary with poinsettias this Christmas. Poinsettias may be given in memory or honor of individuals. The cost is \$15.00 per plant. Poinsettias may be picked up after the 11:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve.

Please return no later than **Sunday, December 10.**

Given by \_\_\_\_\_ Number of plants \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor/Memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
(please circle)

Payment of \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed. (\$15.00 per plant)

In observance of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, studies and programs relating to the life of Martin Luther and the Reformation are denoted with the following symbol:



Ministers: *The People of Holy Trinity*

Organist-Choirmaster: *J. William Greene*

Parish Nurse: *Gail Midkiff*

Parish Administrator: *Carol Dee Robertson*

Director of Youth and Campus Ministries: *Susan H. Williams*

E-mail: *susanhtlc1000@aol.com*

Pastor: *Dennis S. Roberts*

Pastor Emeritus: *Stephen J. Schulz*

Church Office: *434-384-8441*

E-mail: *HTLC1000@aol.com*

*www.holytrinitylynchburg.org*