

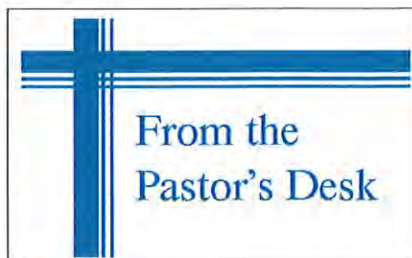
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JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER



"On Christ, the Solid Rock I stand. All other ground is sinking sand."

Hymn- "The Solid Rock" (words public domain)



Happy New Year! We now officially enter the decade of the twenties. I wonder at this nascent stage of the decade what will the future be? As I gaze back at the past, I am reminded that this decade a century ago was known as the roaring twenties. It was a decade of prosperity, advancement in technology, and changing culture. During this decade the radio made it's way into most homes. People would go out to theatres to see "moving pictures" and the automobile began to establish itself as a regular form of

transportation. The horrors of WWI and the devastation of the Spanish Flu, which killed more people than the war, were in the past and being replaced by better times. Of course, the roaring twenties had it's downside as well. Prohibition, the rise of organized crime and the Great Depression that began as a result of the 1929 stock market crash took their tolls upon that decade.

All economic indicators indicate that we are starting the new decade in a time of prosperity. But this new decade comes in the wake of terrorist attacks, increased gun violence, a politically divided country, soldiers still dying in "endless" wars and the threat of global warming. I am reminded of the truth that life is a mixture of good and bad things, of triumphs and tragedies. I am also reminded of the great gift that God has given us through the birth of His Son, Jesus. Hope. Through the good and the bad, the triumph and tragedy that we experience through our lives, the hope that God has given us through Jesus is always there. On Christmas Eve we sang the hymn, "O Little Town of Bethlehem." My favorite line of that hymn is "The hopes and fears of all the years are met in Thee tonight." In other words, God never abandons us. Through faith our fears can be turned into hope, our sadness to joy. We don't know what this decade will be for us, but we do know that regardless of what happens God is with us, destroying our fears and bringing us hope.

Many of you know that Lutheran Crossings, formerly known as The Lutheran Home at Moorestown has been sold by Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey to a "for profit" corporation. I mentioned this in my annual report. What I did not know at the time was what would happen to the Auxiliary of the home. It has been concluded that the Auxiliary cannot be affiliated with this new company since it is under the auspices of Lutheran Social Ministries, a non-profit company with no affiliation with the purchasing for profit company. As of December 31, 2019, the Lutheran Home Auxiliary has been disbanded and dissolved.

On a happier note, I am pleased to inform you that our new council vice president is Anna Marie Wright. Anna Marie is our first female vice president. Erica Lunn was re-elected as council secretary. I am the president of council as per our constitution. I have had the pleasure of serving with five vice presidents during my time as your pastor. Each one has brought their own nuance to the job and I am grateful for the time I have had with each of them. I am also grateful for the many people who have served on council during my years as your pastor. As we begin this new year, I look forward to facing the challenges ahead as we share together in the ministry God has called us to here at Trinity.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Andy

SERMON PREVIEW

January 5, 2020- THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Matthew 2:1-12

"FINDING JESUS IN THE LIGHT"

January 12, 2020- THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Isaiah 42:1-9

"DEFINING OUR MISSION"

January 19, 2020- THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Psalms 40:1-11

"MY HELP IS IN THE NAME OF THE LORD"

January 26, 2020- THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

"BELONGING TO JESUS"

February 2, 2020- THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Matthew 5:1-12

"BACK TO BASICS"

February 9, 2020- THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

"THE CAPTIVATING WISDOM OF THE CROSS"

February 16, 2020- THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Psalms 119:1-8

"A HAPPY OBEDIENCE"

February 23, 2020- THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Matthew 17:1-9

"A BRIEF GLIMPSE OF GLORY"

Sunday School News: January 2020

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and receives human approval. Romans 14: 17-18

Make the New Year's resolution: "Walk Closer with Jesus". God reigns in our soul. He reigns eternally with absolute truth, reality, spirit, and love. Serving Christ is spiritual exercises of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. To serve him is the ultimate goal of our being; setting our own interests to this highest sense, God's will. The highest glory of man is to be acceptable to God and enjoy his friendship and fellowship; bringing us respect and approval from men. Jesus is the bringer of spiritual wellspring into our souls - a time of rejoicing. He is the Sun of Righteousness who warms our hearts. We can have his warmth all year through if we live in the rays of Christ's countenance.

Our Christmas program was presented at the 10:00 AM service on December 15th. Pre-K through 2nd grades sang "Candy Cane Song". The upper grades, 3rd through 6th presented the skit, "No Room at the Inn". Candy canes with their meaning were handed out for the occasion. Our children gave a most wonderful performance. I always find it a very joyous time watching our children perform. I hope you do as well. Our Christmas present to them was a beautiful candy cane ornament.

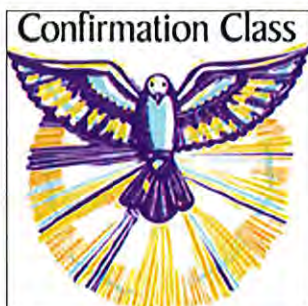
Our PB&J Family 12/19

As part of your New Year's Resolution please help to feed the hungry by supporting our outreach. Donate peanut butter and jelly, bottles of water, packaged snacks and warm socks to UR Important 2 US". Come join us on Saturday January 18th at 8:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall to make PB&J. We have a nice group of individuals and families who come to help while having fun fellowship, and leave with the joy of knowing they have helped to feed the homeless. During this past Advent Season we were able to give 144 blankets to the homeless as Christmas presents. Also please remember to donate to help Mission Teens. They help the desperate by ministering the Gospel of Jesus Christ to those willing to seek God as the answer to their problems. Make checks payable to "Trinity Lutheran Sunday School", donation envelopes are available as you enter the church.

In the Name of Jesus may this New Year Bring Great Joy and Blessings to All.

Carl Nagel
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Home: 856-784-2360
dadx3d@comcast.net





CONFIRMATION CLASS

Colossians 3:17 – And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus.

We should fear and love God so that we lead a pure and decent life in what we say and do.

We are heading back to the books and our study of The Ten Commandments. We are now up to number 6 – “You shall not commit adultery”.

I just wanted to thank the class for doing such a great job during the Advent season. It can get confusing knowing what candles to light and in what order on the Advent wreath. You did a super job!

Also wanted to thank all the students who came out and helped to serve at the luncheon for the congregational meeting and the packing of the gifts and food for the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets. The students had their eyes opened, meeting the less fortunate, and carrying food baskets out to the cars for them. Some of the needy showed up with only bikes and carts to get all this home. We are so proud of this class and the congregation for their donations.

We gave a Christmas party for the class, which they really enjoyed. Mrs. Anna Marie Wright also made a dip which the kids and I loved and devoured.

Back to class January 5.

Thank you for your support and please your prayers also.

In Christ's love, Confirmation teachers.

The Prayer Shawl monthly meeting was held on Friday December 6, 2019. In attendance were Barbara Anconetani, Ann Carter, Peg Cochran, Val Colasuonno, Eleanor Epley, Nanci Fallon, Dolores Keller, Dorothy Martin, and Mary Raws. The meeting officially started at 10:05 a.m., with The Lord's Prayer.

We received the following: 1 Prayer Shawl/Lap Blanket and 1 Cross

Cathedral Kitchen: 43 hats, 62 scarves, 19 pair of gloves, 5 pair of socks,
and 2 crocheted blankets

Osborn Family Med.Ctr. 38 Baby/Toddler hats

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our many helpers, Susan Dilks, Peg Floro, Elaine Keher, Marie Thatcher and Beth Shute for their contributions

Distribution:

Cathedral Kitchen -- 28 hats, 58 Scarves, 19 Gloves, 5 Socks and 2 crocheted blankets.

Vineland Veterans Home -- Dolly Gibelyou picked up 12 lap blankets, 12 hats and 12 crosses for the Runnemedede VFW. The VFW provides a Christmas luncheon at Vineland and will present these gifts at that time.

UR Important 2US -- 86 hats, 51 scarves, 16 gloves.

Corresponding Secretary: Barbara Anconetani read a thank you for the blanket baby Aston received. A note of appreciation was also received from Carol Peters and the Social Concern Committee.

Baptismal Historian: Mary Raws reported there were no baptisms.

Ann Carter will be making the delivery on December 19, for the Cathedral Kitchen distribution.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday January 3, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. We wish everyone a most Merry Christmas and a very Healthy and Happy New Year. Hope to see more of you next year. The closing reading was from Psalm 94:19 and we adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Val Colasuonno
Vice President Prayer Shawl Ministry
"May God Hold You in the Palm of His Hands"



Property Committee

Greetings in Christ,

I hope everyone enjoyed a very Merry Christmas with your friends and loved ones. Let us pray for a happy and healthy New Year for all.

Many of us start out the New Year with resolutions that fade very quickly, myself included. This year I plan to write down my resolutions and to keep track of my goals.

On our last work day December 7th we had a great group of volunteers.

Some completed projects were:

- Set up Nativity Scene
- Tested Lights
- Cleaned up Game room
- Replaced defective light fixtures in the storage room
- Replaced toilet seat in the boy's rest room by the nursery school room
- Replaced lamps in the kitchen area
- Recleaned group in the restrooms
- Cleaned leaves around the portico area
- Checked water leak in 3rd grade classroom – None found
- Reset door latch on mechanical room on 3rd floor

Our next work day will be **January 11th** starting at 8:00 a.m. We will start to take down decorations in the church along with some of our other projects. One of them will be to find the leaking pipe near the choir room.

Let's start the New Year by keeping Trinity a beautiful place to worship and praise our Lord and Savior.

In Christ,

Rich Greiner

Co-chair – Property Committee



SOCIAL CONCERNS

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Well, our busy Christmas season is over, and it has been as busy as ever. We had our fourth annual "Breakfast with Santa." About 90 children and adults enjoyed breakfast and a special visit with Santa. Everyone had a great time, especially Santa. A special thank you to Santa for doing such a great job and to all those who set-up, cooked and cleaned up.

We went from breakfast with Santa right into our Project Angel. We would like to thank everyone for all of their help with the shopping, sorting, packing, and distributing of the Christmas gifts and baskets. Thanks to your generosity we were able to help 39 families and 32 children this year.

Our pantry days will start up again on January 23rd. Other than that, we will be enjoying our usual January rest and relaxation time.

Our Clothing closet continues to provide much needed clothing to our pantry families. The closet is also open to all members of the congregation. If you plan to drop off any of your donations, please remember to keep the bags light. They can be dropped off on the porch at 17 Knight Avenue anytime.

Dates to remember:

Clothing Closet January 14 and 23

Pantry day January 23

New members are always welcome. We meet on the second Sunday of the month after the 10:00 service. Please come out and join us. Remember God loves a cheerful giver. Those who not only give of their wealth, but of their time, their talents and their possessions. With God ALL things are possible.

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

Matthew 25:40

Caring and Sharing
Diane Kochon





ADULT CHOIR

Many thanks to all the choir members who put in so much time this Advent season rehearsing all the music that we presented. We had some long rehearsal nights, practicing 7-8 numbers a couple of weeks. We especially wanted to thank Mrs. Floss Adler and Susan Dilks for expertly accompanying us on the organ and piano.

We want to welcome Pastor Dave to the choir who just started this past week. We also wanted to thank Eric Grant and Austin Hui for the excellent job they did narrating during one of the anthems. They both asked if they could have music so they could sing along. What beautiful voices. There are several confirmands who have good singing voices who we hope will come out and join the Adult Choir this year. When I was younger (a long time ago), There were a group of us who moved up to the Adult Choir when we were in seventh grade.

I especially wanted to thank Pat Schmidt for the excellent job she is doing, training the younger voices. Just listening to their voices every Sunday makes me so excited to see what is coming up.

Anyone 7th grade and older can join us. You don't have to know how to sing. We will help you. Just come out and have fun with us

Practice: 7:30-8:30 every Thursday night. We sing at the 8:30 service every Sunday and 10:00 service on the first Sunday of the month.

In Christ's Love,

Jim Shisler



JUNIOR CHOIR

The entire Junior Choir has been "wound up" with excitement and JOY in the Lord. Weather remained clear for our singing in December "*Joseph's Dream*" and remained so for Christmas Eve when we did "*Jesus Came*" and in the middle of that song, Katy Reichert sang "*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*". Everyone was on time and we were well prepared.

"*Joseph's Dream*" was the song the angel sang to Joseph, telling him that Mary would give birth to God's Son here on earth! You can imagine how Joseph felt. He would be the earthly father to the Baby Jesus! The central message of the song was that Joseph listened to the angel and that he followed where God led him. Can you imagine what it would have been like to have an angel speak to you?

And then in "*Jesus Came*" we can mentally visualize living in a manger with animals nearby! The world had waited for a King and He came as a little baby! What a gift of hope to all the world!

The song that Katy sang with such a clear and sweet message: Christ was born for YOU.

January 19th will bring a song many of you know: "*Celebrate God's Love*". Isn't that a message for us and for us to share to others? What a wonderful way to begin the New Year.

A sincere thank you to everyone who helped to make December a wonderful month of love and JOY!

With love and blessings to all,

Mrs. Schmidt

"STEP" INTO THE NEW YEAR

Make this craft to remember God's many blessings.



What you need:

- Small stones
- Permanent markers
- Foil pan and cooking spray
- Drop cloth
- Gloves
- Quick-set concrete (and adult help)
- Bucket and paint stirrer

What you do:

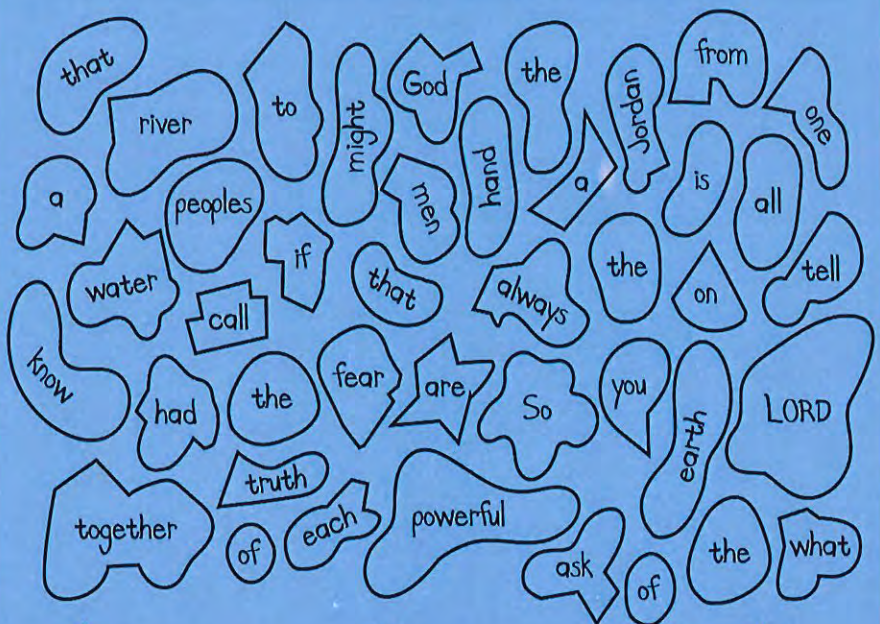
1. After reflecting on the past year, use markers to decorate stones with memorable words, dates and drawings.
2. Spray pan with cooking spray. Set pan outside on a drop cloth.
3. Wearing gloves, mix concrete in a bucket, according to instructions.
4. Pour concrete into pan. Smooth top with paint stirrer.
5. Press in stones, handprints and other decorations.
6. Let dry completely. Remove from pan.
7. Place the stepping-stone outside as a reminder of God's continued goodness.



Reminder rocks

When Joshua and the Israelites crossed the Jordan River, they set up stones for a special reason.

Directions: Shade all the rocks that aren't completely rounded. Unscramble the remaining rocks to reveal a message from Joshua 4:24, NIV.



So _____ the _____ the
 _____ the _____
 _____ the _____

JOSHUA 4:24, NIV

Answer: So that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the LORD is powerful. Joshua 4:24, NIV

JANUARY Birthdays

1- Andria Passalacqua
 1 - Susan Wallen
 1 - Nicole Quinton
 2 - Stephanie Kraemer Patton
 3 - Rich Haines
 4- Linda Ackley
 4- Tyler Kell
 4- Jacqueline Blasko
 5- Dana Kemery
 5 - Miriam Szalabofka
 6 - Carol Papa
 6 - Floss Robinson
 6 - Joseph Ficarro III
 7- Brandon Corson
 7- Craig Joseph Theisen
 8 - Michael Belzer
 8 - Carolyn Shinseki
 9 - Gloria Guenette
 9 - Owen Palmer
 10 - Amber Scott
 10 - Andria Passalacqua
 11 - Hailey Siracuse
 12- Kiera Dickson
 12 - Fallon Shinseki
 12- Joanne Slotterback
 12 - Kathy Papa
 13 - Jim Fenton
 13 - Isabelle Cloud
 15- Nico Baer
 15 - Phillip Daniels
 15- John Zuzulock
 17 - Tim McGarvey
 18- Kaitlin Hatch
 18 - Michelle Harris
 18 - Brent Bowne
 18 - Bryan Mayer
 19 - Nicole Thatcher
 20 - Jennifer Delmar
 20 - Matthew Schaffer, Jr.
 20 - Ryan Richards
 21 - Barbara Anconetani
 22 - Lauren Nagel
 22 - Lindsey Lucas
 22 - Barbara Shinseki
 24 - Stephen Daly
 25 - Dylan Schroeder
 25- Brody Esbensen
 25 - Mickey Dunda

25- Nancy Kahoun
 26 - Gina Greiner
 26- Dorothy Martin
 27- Frances Perry
 28 - Dorothy Mattern
 29- Martha Thomas
 29- Carl Nagel
 30 - Christopher Cheeseman
 30- Andrew Richards

JANUARY Anniversaries

2 - Phillip & Nancy Daniels
 4 - Anthony & Danielle Devecchio
 5 - Richard & Gina Greiner
 6 - Steven & Kari Wszolek
 14- Gaetano & Lisa Giglio
 14 - Robert & Kathleen Zentner
 17 - John & Darlene Thatcher



Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of those listed.

On December 7, 2019
JEAN H. KENNEDY (91)
 Of Runnemede, NJ

On December 10, 2019
VEDA A. HOHL (96)
 Of Blackwood, NJ

On December 13, 2019
MARK R. GOSEWISCH (61)
 Of Somerdale, NJ



COVER PHOTO- "On the Rocks"
Fortescue, NJ by Janet Lipski