



# HiLites Newsletter

Boonsboro, MD 21713

[www.trinitylutheranboonsboro.org](http://www.trinitylutheranboonsboro.org)

**First Edition**

**December 2016**

## PASTOR'S DESK

We've all heard, and perhaps used, the expression "X Marks the spot." I'm not sure when we began to designate a place with an "X". Years ago when many persons were illiterate, one made his or her "X" for a signature on a document. All of us know that when we are signing a legal document we look for the Xs which indicate where we are to sign.

Several years ago there was a reaction to the use of "Xmas" to designate Christmas. We heard, "Put Christ back into Christmas!" What many failed to realize was that Christ wasn't taken out of Christmas by using the word "Xmas" because the "X" stood for the Greek letter "chi" which is the first letter of the word "Christ" in the Greek language. I won't go into the real ways we leave Christ out of Christmas such as celebrations of the season without any reference to him.

When God incarnated himself in the person of Jesus of Nazareth he, in St. Paul's words, *emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. There for God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

That moment in time, "in the fullness of time", when the Almighty, Everlasting God of all creation enfleshed himself in a baby in the womb of a young girl and came in to our world as one of us: God with us, Emmanuel – that moment marks the beginning of a new creation, a new covenant, enabling those who receive the Christ as Lord and Savior to be a "new people, a royal priesthood", looking in hope to the promise of a new heaven and a new earth. That coming, that advent, that incarnation is what we celebrate and for which we give thanks and make Eucharist in the holy season of Christmas. Christ truly does mark the spot.

Here are a few ways to help you mark the spot of Christmas at Trinity, listed in chronological order:

Sundays, November 27, December 4 and December 11: The Adult Sunday School class that meets in the Social Room is doing a special Advent study making use of a video and discussion based on the movie "The Nativity Story". Also, during the Advent season we will offer special music in our sanctuary prior to the service beginning at 10:00 am. And, the sanctuary tree will be decorated after worship on November 27.

Sunday, November 27, a service of Lessons and Carols for Advent will be held at Haven Lutheran Church, 1035 Haven Road, Hagerstown. Trinity's own choir, along with choirs from other Washington County Lutheran Churches, will be participating. Bring a canned food item for the food pantry.

Friday, December 2: Trinity sponsors its First Friday dinner at 5:30 and from there you can be part of the Christmas Caroling at Boonsboro Park's Community Center

Sunday, December 4, from 1-3 pm, you can enjoy the warmth of woodstoves and campfires, and create some holiday crafts to decorate your home at Mar Lu Ridge. Contact the camp at 301-874-5544 or [mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org](mailto:mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org).

Friday & Saturday, December 16 & 17: We will packing boxes of food at Trinity to be delivered to hungry people.

Sunday, December 18: Sunday School Christmas Program. Immediately after the program the Sunday school classes will host a birthday party for Jesus.

Saturday, December 24: Christmas Eve service at 7:00. Pre-service music begins at 6:45.

Sunday, December 25: Nativity of Our Lord – Christmas Day.

Sunday, January 1 – First Sunday After Christmas. On this day we will observe a “Service of Lessons and Carols”.



## TRINITY HI-LITES "ABOUT US"

Published by:

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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**Web site:**

**www.trinitylutheranboonsboro.org**

Pastor: The Rev. Ron Schlak

Editors: Mrs. Susan Brown  
The Rev. Ron Schlak



The following members and friends of Trinity were included in our prayer list during November:

Emily Saylor	Karen Saylor
Kristi Lescaleet	Leonard Summers
Elouise Himes	Jean Carr
Anna Burkett	Peggy Costion
Jim Everline	Mary Wolfe
Andrew Himes	Rose Popovich
Rose Sours	Barbara Douglas
Bill Hughes	Martha Harshman
Jeff Stewart	Lori McLaughlin
Adam Dellinger	Declan Bennett
Don Hair	Sarah Ellis
Levi Vance	Sandy Powell
Sally Ware	Lucy Eshelman
Jean McCammon	Betty Swain
Chris Kalmasy	Angy Kalmasy
Katie Kalmasy	Mike Flores
Dixie Patton	

### ATTENTION

Announcements for the bulletin must be submitted to the church office **NO LATER** than **9:00 Friday morning**.

Newsletter article should be submitted into the church office **NO LATER** than the **15th of the month**.



		<b>December Birthdays</b>
Dec.	1	Arthur Poffenberger
	3	Parker DeBaugh
	4	Emma Smith
	5	Alexandra Bowl
	5	Mark Poffenberger
	5	Louise Richardson
	6	Theresa Foster
	7	Katie Clevenger
	8	Joshua Bikle
	8	Bryce Davis
	9	Christine Fazenbaker
	13	Brody Norris
	13	Carter Norris
	16	Cathy Beachley
	16	Jacob McElroy
	17	Roxanne Coe
	19	Bob Harshman
	21	Brandi Hutchinson
	22	Rebecca Crawshaw
	22	Tony Nally
	23	Janice Gantz
	23	Jeanette Richmond
	26	Benjamin Otto
	27	Owen Smith

### **SECRETARY AND PASTOR OFFICE HOURS:**

Wednesday & Friday 9:00 AM - Noon

You may reach the pastor and secretary by leaving a message on the church answering machine. Messages are accessed several times a day.

Do you want to use the social room for a church, community or personal family activity? Contact the church office at 301-432-2226 or by email at [hello@trinitylutheranboonsboro.org](mailto:hello@trinitylutheranboonsboro.org) for permission.

**Worship schedule for December:**

- Nov 27 First Sun. of Advent with Holy Communion - 10 AM Pre-service music
- Dec 4 Second Sun. of Advent - 10 AM Pre-service music
- Dec 11 Third Sunday of Advent-Contemporary Service - 10 AM Pre-service music
- Dec 18 Fourth Sun. of Advent-Sunday School Christmas Program and party - 10 AM Pre-service music
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve Service 7:00 PM with Holy Communion - 6:45PM Pre-service music
- Dec 25 Nativity of Our Lord - Holy Communion
- Jan 1 First Sunday of Christmas - Service of Lessons and Carols



**NURSERY SCHEDULE FOR 10:15 WORSHIP**

- December 4 - Julie Hartman
- December 11 - Andrea Smith & Jean McCammon
- December 18 - No Nursery
- November 25 - No Nursery

Please be considerate to others when placing your children in the nursery during worship time. The nursery is for children ages infant to 4 years old. Older children 5 and older should not be in the nursery. Thank you for your cooperation to ensure our little people are properly cared for.



**DECEMBER ALTAR FLOWERS**

- Dec. 4 Smith
- Dec. 11
- Dec. 18 Hutchinson
- Dec. 25

The above dates are for flowers to be placed on the altar in honor or memory of a loved one. The 2017 Flower Calendar is on the podium in the narthex. Persons wishing to place flowers on the altar may fill in the spaces for their Sunday so that the secretary can have their dedication in the bulletin. Any questions--- call Karen Cunningham at 301- 797- 8274

As Altar Guild Chair, I would like to thank the individuals and families who placed flowers on Trinity's altar this past year. Your flowers truly added beauty and life to our altar and services. Please know that I appreciated your generous gift to Trinity.

Sincerely,  
Karen Cunningham,  
Altar Guild Chair



Our Children's Church Program at Trinity is a wonderful ministry to our young people ages 4 through grade 3. Children's church is offered the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month as part of our 10:15am worship service. Volunteers are needed! Please consider leading two Sundays a month so that we are able to continue this ministry. Thanks so much!



### Joyful Noise Choir

Children ages 3 and older are encouraged to participate in the Joyful Noise choir. We practice the last 15 minutes of Sunday school and sing to the congregation on the 4th Sunday of each month. Any questions, please call **Jen Poffenberger** at **301-432-0456**.



## MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Bible Study meets in the Funk Education Center on **Sunday, December 4 & 18 at 8:00 AM**. Join us for this very meaningful opportunity for fellowship and study.



**OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2017** will soon be available in alphabetical order on the table in the education wing. Please look for the envelopes in the near future and stop by and pick up your set of envelopes.



### PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THIS ANNOUNCEMENT

If a loved one is admitted to the hospital and you wish Pastor Ron to visit, please let him know that your loved one is in the hospital. Call him on his cell phone at 304-561-4482. He would love to visit any patient in the hospital but needs to know they are there!



### SCHEDULE FOR CRUCIFERS & ACOLYTES DECEMBER

#### Dec. 4 - Second Sunday in Advent - Communion

Crucifer - Jared Tribett  
 Acolytes - Alexandra Bowl  
 Haylee Hartman

#### Dec. 11 - Third Sunday in Advent

Crucifer -  
 Acolytes -

#### Dec. 18 - Fourth Sunday in Advent

Crucifer - Donovan McClellan  
 Acolytes - Brooke Iager  
 Leah Phippen

#### Dec 24 - Christmas Eve - 7PM - Communion

Crucifer - Cullen Talhelm  
 Acolytes - Fantasya Roberts  
 Grace Phippen

#### Dec. 25 - Christmas Day

Crucifer -  
 Acolytes -



**FIRST FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP FOR  
DECEMBER 2 at 5:30 PM**

Just a reminder to all going to "The Christmas Experience" at Antietam Recreation on December 15, 2016. Gates open at 6pm, activities until 7pm show is at 7:45pm.

Plan to stop in for a bowl of chicken noodle soup (vegetarian and gluten free options available also - just let us know) and enjoy the festivities in town afterward (RSVP's for First Friday are due no later than noon on November 30).



Do you want to schedule the social room or other space at Trinity for a church-related or family activity or an event for an organization to which you belong? To schedule an event, contact the church office, Steve Jamison or Pastor Ron. The master event calendar is kept electronically through Google calendar.

Before you contact the office, you may view the Google calendar at Trinity's website at [www.trinitylutheranboonsboro.org](http://www.trinitylutheranboonsboro.org).

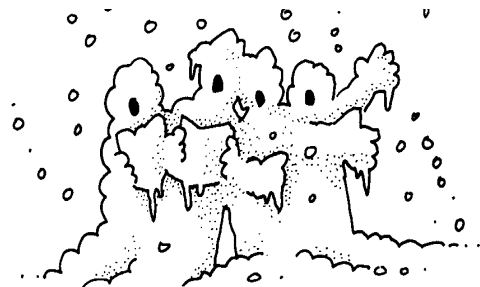
Click "home" at the top of the page to make certain you are on the home page then scroll to the bottom of the page and click on "Calendar - See What's Happening at Trinity". This takes you to the Google calendar and you will be able to scroll through the entire year to find available dates.

Knowing Trinity's schedule in advance will help you plan your events! We try to keep the calendar up-to-date as best we can!



**Updating the Directory Listings**

Cynthia Grills and Elaine Michael wish to thank everyone for your help in bringing our church records up to date and for helping us update our directory. We have completed our first task - to gather information. Now we are assembling and ordering information. Soon we will be publishing the information. You should have it soon.

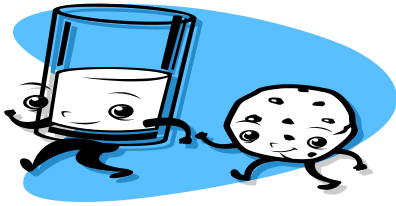


**CANCELLATION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The announcement of the cancellation of Sunday school and/or worship services due to snow or ice can be heard on the following radio stations:

WCRH (90.5 FM)  
WJEJ (1240 AM)

WFRE (99.9 FM)



### Cookie Walk 2016

Ready for another Cookie Walk?  
Bakers will be needed!

December 3 from 10 - 3 pm Saturday

We need lots of home-made cookies and shoppers that day. You can bake any kind, and or do the same as you did last year. You can drop off the baked goods by 10 am Saturday or earlier on Friday if you choose. Write down what kind, any peanuts in them for allergy reasons.

Contact Melissa Schwalbe 240-469-4569, [mashogan@myavtc.net](mailto:mashogan@myavtc.net). Your assistance that morning will be very much appreciated also. Give Melissa a call if you can help out.

It Does "Take A Village". We must remember that this is done for charity and all donations going to Micah's Backpack.



**CHRISTMAS CAROLING** - A group from the church will once again be spreading "Christmas Joy" by caroling. The first event is in the **Boonsboro Park Community Center on December 2, 2016**. We will meet in the **Community Center at 6:30 PM for singing**. If you can arrive by **6:15**, we will sing O Christmas Tree when they light the town tree in the park following the parade and then move inside. It is great fun and maybe we can get the mayor and town constable to join in the singing. We will be inside the community center so it is warm, unlike our first few years, when we were outside. Barb Holder will be bringing the song books so we hope that you can make it. In addition, she has been working on the schedule for caroling to shut-ins and friends this Christmas season. If you are interested in

joining us watch for announcements in the bulletins or contact Barbara Holder at 301-432-8933, [bholder@myactv.net](mailto:bholder@myactv.net). We would love to have you join us.



### COUNCIL DINNER MEETING

As has become our custom the past few years, the December council meeting, on **Tuesday, December 13**, will be a Christmas party/dinner/organizational meeting. The dinner begins at **6:00 p.m.** in the social room. **All 2016 council members and the newly elected members are invited to attend**. Following the meal, we conduct our December council meeting.



### LIGHTS CAMERA ACTION

Let the **LIGHT** shine this Christmas!!!

With this humorous play, kids and their families will discover the true star of Christmas. Set in Biblical times in Bethlehem, they help Ray and Vanessa in their search for the baby King.

Each Child will create their own prop and rehearse simple songs and motions during Sunday School. A full cast rehearsal will be held on Friday, December 16, at 6 PM in the sanctuary. Please make plans now to attend.

Please let Mr. Hutch know if you will not be able to participate. 301-432-2602.



### CHRISTMAS PARTY

Everyone is invited to attend!!!! Immediately following the Christmas program on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> the Sunday School classes will be hosting a Birthday Party for Jesus. We will enjoy a mini luncheon together provided by the Sunday school classes. If you would like to contribute something but don't attend Sunday school, items such as cheese and crackers, vegetables and dip, meatballs, mini sandwiches, fruit etc. would be graciously accepted. There will be a Toys For Tots donation box that the children can place their gifts in. We will conclude the party by singing Happy Birthday to Jesus.



### Toys For Tots

We have started our annual Toys For Tots drive for Washington County. Please donate. Last year we provided toys to more than 3,700 verified needy children in Washington County in 900 families. The need may be greater this year. Thank you for your help in the past.



If you wish to contribute a monetary Christmas gift to Pastor Ron, please place your gift into the offering plates in a brown envelope and mark Christmas gift for Pastor Ron. We will receive these gifts from now until Dec. 20.



### POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

Every year we like to decorate the chancel with lovely poinsettias for the Fourth Sunday in Advent (December 21) and Christmas Eve. If you would like to place a poinsettia in the church for a loved one, order it from your favorite florist and have it delivered to the church by **1:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 23**. We would like for them to have **green foil** and a red ribbon. The color of the flower may be red, white or pink (red preferred!).

Please have your dedication information to Susan by **Wednesday, December 21**, so that it can be ready for the Christmas bulletin. If you have questions or concerns, please contact **Karen Cunningham @ 301-797- 8274**.



# Christmas

Join us to celebrate Christmas at our Christmas Eve service. The Christmas Eve service begins at 7:00 p.m. with pre-service music at 6:45.

The festival service includes favorite Christmas carols and Holy Communion. Please join us to celebrate Christ's birth. And we will celebrate Our Lord's birthday at 10:15 Christmas Day.



## Stewardship Ministry

On the table in the church office hallway is a "Stewardship Request Form". Trinity's Stewardship Committee is very eager to assist South County residents or organizations that serve those residents who are experiencing hardship such as loss of job, or medical emergency or other short-term specific need.

Just fill out the form, or give it to someone who needs it, and either return it to the office or mail it to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 64 South Main Street, Boonsboro, MD, 21713. The Stewardship Committee will review the request and notify the applicant of the decision. All information is kept confidential. Forms are available on Trinity's website under the Member tab.



## Read the Bible in a Year

Have you ever wanted to read the entire Bible but didn't know where to begin or, after a short time, found yourself giving up? A new class will start in early January where you can read the Bible in a year. There will be a structured reading list which will require 20 to 30 minutes of daily reading. Then we will meet as a group once a week to discuss some of the readings from the prior week.

It is hoped that by being part of a group, you will feel a commitment to stick with your reading plan. The weekly meeting will be during the evening. The day will be decided by the group, but we will lean toward Wednesdays. If you have an interest in this study, please see Gene Walkley, or email him at [gwalkley@comcast.net](mailto:gwalkley@comcast.net).

# The Bulletin Board

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>DECEMBER 2016</b>				1 1-3 PM Food Bank & Micah's Backpack 6 PM Girl Scouts 7 PM AA	2 5:30 PM First Friday 6:30 PM Christmas Caroling Shafer Park	3 10AM-3PM Cookie Walk
4 8 AM Men's Bible study 9 AM SCS - 10 AM Pre- Service Music 10:15 AM - Worship - Communion	5	6 7 PM AA	7 3 PM Girl Scouts 7 PM Adult Choir 7 PM Support Group	8 1-3 PM Food Bank & Micah's Backpack 6 PM Girl Scouts 7 PM AA	9	10
11 9 AM SCS - 10 AM Pre- Service Music 10:15 AM - Contemporary Worship	12	13 6 PM Council Dinner & Meeting 7 PM AA	14 7 PM Contemporary Choir 7 PM Support Group	15 1-3 PM Food Bank & Micah's Backpack 6 PM Girl Scouts 7 PM AA	16 6:30 PM Christmas Program practice	17
18 8 AM Men's Bible study 9 AM SCS 10 AM Pre- Service Music 10:15 AM Worship - Sunday School Program & Party	19 4:30 PM Gaggle	20 7 PM Outreach 7 PM 11 <sup>th</sup> Step	21 3 PM Girl Scouts 7 PM Adult Choir 7 PM Support Group	22 1-3 PM Food Bank & Micah's Backpack 6PM Girl Scouts 7 PM AA	23	24 6:45 Pre- service music 7PM Christmas Eve Service
25 10:15 AM - Worship - Nativity of Our Lord NO Pre-service Music	26	27 7 PM 11 <sup>th</sup> Step	28 7 PM Adult Choir 7 PM Support Group	29 1-3 PM Food Bank & Micah's Backpack 6 PM Girl Scouts 7 PM AA	30	31