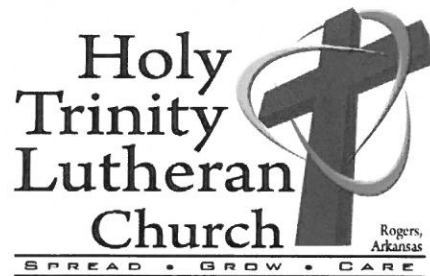


CLARION

DECEMBER, 2017

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



The season of Advent is all about beginnings. As we enter the month of December, it is important to note that this is the beginning of our 55th year as a congregation. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church was officially organized on the first Sunday of Advent (the first day of a new church year) in 1962. The date was December 2. On that Sunday, a worship service was held at 3:00 PM in the newly dedicated church building (currently our Chapel) on Highway 102. Holy Trinity began with a membership of 60 communicants and 29 children for a total of 89 souls. Marcella Smith and her son David Smith, Marsha Black, Laurie Martin, and Debbie Studyvin (the girls of Marcella Winkleman), and Vern Schmiegelow are our remaining charter members. So to start with, Happy Birthday Holy Trinity!

The season of Advent is also a time for us to prepare to celebrate the coming of Jesus at Christmas. To help understand the significance of what we are celebrating, I would like to share a story from Eric Butterworth. He told about a young soldier who lost his legs in battle. Something died within this young man when he found he would never walk again. He lay in his hospital bed, staring blankly at the ceiling. He refused to talk to anyone who tried to help him. He refused to cooperate with doctors or nurses who wanted to help him to adjust. One day another inmate of the hospital strolled in and sat down on a chair near the bed. He drew a harmonica from his pocket and began to play softly. The patient looked at him for a second, then back to the ceiling. That was all for that day. Next day the player came again. For several days he continued to come and to play quietly. One day he said, "Does my playing annoy you?" The patient said, "No, I guess I like it." They talked a little more each day. One day the harmonica player was in a jovial mood. He played a sprightly tune and began to do a tap dance. The soldier looked on but was apparently unimpressed. "Hey, why don't you smile once and let the world know you're alive!" the dancer said with a friendly smile. But the legless soldier said, "I might as well be dead as in the fix I'm in." "Okay," answered his happy friend, "so you're dead. But you're not as dead as a Fellow Who was cru-

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cified two thousand years ago, and He came out of it all right." "Oh, it's easy for you to preach," replied the patient, "but if you were in my fix, you'd sing a different tune." With this the dancer stood up and pulled up his trouser legs and the young man in the bed looked and saw two artificial limbs. The tap-dancing fellow with the harmonica had once been where he was.

As we prepare for Christmas, it helps us to understand that God came to this earth in the person of Jesus so that we would better be able to understand Him. The Writer to the Hebrews said, "Since the children have flesh and blood, He too shared in their humanity so that by His death He might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil — and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ... Because He Himself suffered when He was tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted" (Hebrews 2:14, 15, 18). This Advent and Christmas season, remember what we are celebrating — God become man to rescue us from sin, temptation and death. And so Advent is about a time for God to come, for us to wake up our faith, and to celebrate the Greatest Gift we could ever receive, God's Messiah—our Savior Jesus.

In Christ,
Pastor Besel

PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS AROUND THE WORLD

This information comes from the Voice of the Martyrs.



ERITREA: Fikadu Debesay, a mother of three children, died a few weeks ago at Metkel Abiet, an Eritrean detention camp. Fikadu had been imprisoned for worshiping in a Lutheran church not recognized by the government. She and her husband were among 33 believers arrested on the same day in May. The harsh treatment she endured in the camp and the extreme desert temperatures reportedly contributed to her death. Since May, the number of detained Christians has grown to 210. Dozens of children have been left without one or both parents as a result of the arrests. Pray that these children will know Jesus and be raised by Christians. Pray that they will grow in their relationship with Christ and not lose hope. Pray, too, that those in the camps will hold fast to their faith and continue to be a light in the darkness.

ANNIVERSARIES

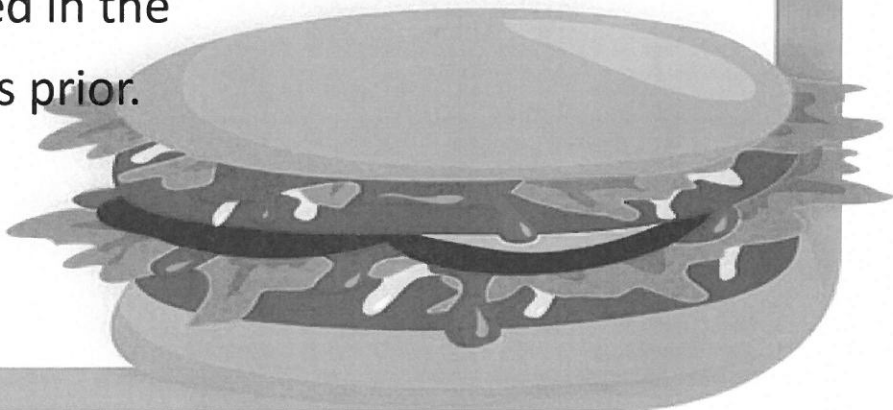
6	Bryan & Kati Evans	22	Christopher & Jennifer Reimers
8	Ken & Jenny Sevick	27	Kurt & Anita Frevert
15	Alvin & Gayle Brewer	28	Gary & Marcia Black
16	Christian & Jennifer Lehenbauer	30	Ron & Gloria Sommers
20	Dan & Laurie Martin		Marian & Carol Wahl
		31	Kurt & Kim Schrock

1	Gary Black	10	Dolores Hermes	19	Bob Wolgast
	Natalie Wahl		John Jenkins	20	Brian Bulin
2	Camiran Brockhoff		Pearl Powers	21	Marian Venenga
3	Bob Bauer		Pat Rader	22	Lynn Chapman
5	Helen Jones	11	Charles Scott		Erin Reinker
	Bettye Platt		Jennifer Vojdani	23	Tommy Byrd
	Beryl Zemke	12	Lauren Kellogg	25	Cathy Dodge
6	James Sij	13	Roger Gust		Arthur Gearheard
7	Scott Gutche	15	Mary Hanson		Peter Tang
9	Vernon Schmiegelow		Chase White	26	Christopher Reimers
8	Charles Wilken	17	Levi Wright		Christopher Wilken
9	Adrienne Kerr	18	Jeffrey Blake	27	Colleen Catroppa
	Eric Kerr		Joanne Byrd		Natalie Scott
	Donna Spencer		Caleb Wilken	30	Dan Martin
				31	Jenny Sevick



Girl's Lunch Out

We had a wonderful time at our November lunch out. We gathered for fun and fellowship at the Double Tree Hotel Restaurant in Bentonville. The group decided that we will take a break for December and resume Lunch Out on January 18th at Mimi's Café, 2105 Promenade Blvd., Rogers. Signup sheet will be posted in the Narthex two weeks prior.



PINOCHLE CARDS

We will again be playing Pinochle on December 1st and invite any newcomers that enjoy the game. We meet in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m. to set up and start playing cards at 6:30. There are tasty snacks to enjoy and great fellowship to share. Coffee and water are there to wash down those goodies. Please join us if you can.

CAMERON'S CORNER

Well November is gone and I am not real sure where it went. Seems like we were just at Trunk or Treat last week! Speaking of which, a big shout out and thanks to all who helped. We know we gave out 500+ hot dogs so we had a lot of people here on the 31st which is great!

The November LinkT retreat was a successes as well. We had 5 girls and 3 boys from our Jr High up on Petit Jean and there was so much going on. We shot bows, a professional crew shot a real cannon, we played 9 square and gaga ball till midnight, and we talked about war! The war that takes place outside of our usual senses and we got into some deep territory. It was a great blessing.

Speaking of blessings, in case you didn't hear, we wrapped and packed 215 shoeboxes to go to children around the world. Another huge shot out to all who helped with Operation Christmas Child. It was great!

I hope each of you has a very merry Christmas and a blest new year and if your resolution is to join a gym, let me know, I get referral points at planet fitness :)

God bless!



Holy Trinity Youth are coming off many great events in November. We held our first ever color war and a great Jr. High Link T retreat. Thank you for all your prayers and support. Looking ahead for December mark your calendar for Saturday December 9th for the Youth Progressive dinner. We will meet at church at around 4 PM and head out to have a wonderful time, Please watch the news and notes for more details on this and other Youth activities.



Advent by Candlelight

Hello Ladies, it's almost that time of year. The time when we prepare for Christmas. Not for the shopping and decorating but preparing our hearts and minds. One way we do this is with the annual Advent by Candlelight evening. Here is some basic information:

Where? In the chapel here at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

When? 6:00 p.m. Sunday December 3rd, 2017

Who? This is a female only event and is open all who would like to come. We have almost as many non-members as members come every year. Invite your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers! We ask that our younger ladies have been confirmed for members and at least 13 yrs. old for nonmembers.

What? This is an evening including a service, music, food and fellowship.

Wear? This is a semi-dressy evening.

Bring? An appetizer to share.

This year the Theme will be "Advice". We will look at what kind of advice the people central to the Christmas story would give us if we could sit down with them today.

There will be a sign up board in the Narthex so we have an idea how many people to plan for. If you would like to help with the evening by decorating a table please contact Pam.

If you have any questions about the evening please contact Pam Pickett.
Phone 479-601-2550 email: pamsue27@gmail.com



Our Advent and Christmas Schedule - 2017

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Rogers, Arkansas

December 3 – “*Clay in His Hands*” (Isaiah 64:8)
Regular Sunday Schedule

December 6 – “*It’s About Time for God to Come*” (Isaiah 64:1-9)
Advent Worship at 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM / Soup Supper 5:30-6:45 PM

December 10 – “*The Comfort We Always Need*” (Isaiah 40:1-11)
Regular Sunday Schedule

December 12 – “*It’s About Time to Wake Up*” (Romans 13:11-14)
Advent Worship at 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM / Soup Supper 5:30-6:45 PM

December 17 – “*An Advent Wish*” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-24) – Rev. JD Zischke
Regular Sunday Schedule

December 20 – **Children’s Christmas Service:** “*Operation Baby King*”
Worship at 7:00 PM / Soup Supper 5:30 – 6:45 PM

December 24 – “*The God of Surprises*” (All Three Lessons)
8:45 AM – Sunday School and Bible Classes
10:00 AM – Sunday Worship (only one service that morning)

December 24 – **Family Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols**
Worship at 7:00 PM – “*God’s Greatest Gift*”
Each family is invited to bring a candle and holder to represent their family

December 25 – **Christmas Day**
“*It’s About Time for the Messiah to be Born*” (Galatians 4:4, 5)
Worship at 10:00 AM with communion

December 31 – “*Celebrate God’s Grace This New Year*” (Isaiah 61:10-62:3)
Regular Sunday Schedule

January 7 – **Epiphany Sunday / The Baptism of Our Lord**
“*Light Comes to the World*” (Genesis 1:3)
Regular Sunday Schedule / Installation of Leaders (both services)

SERVERS



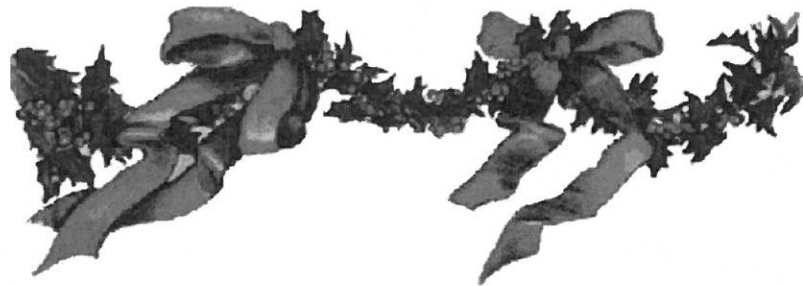
CHRISTMAS SERVICES

CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 24TH

7:00 PM

Greeters	Faye Carrol & Marcella Smith
Reader	Annette Garling
Video	Eric Kerr
Acolytes	Lizzie Gregory & Landen Kerr
Ushers	Team E



CHRISTMAS DAY

DECEMBER 25TH

10:00 AM

Greeters	Bruce Pilcher
Reader	Karen Launderville
Video	David Heintz
Acolytes	Owen Winters
Ushers	Team D

Serving in December 2017

	December 3	December 10	December 17	December 24 10:00 AM Service	December 31
Greeters	8:00am LB & Ila Teeter	Vernon Schmiegelow & Karen Launderville	Dean & Nancy Eisma	Omar & Ione Kauffeld	Eric Kerr & Bruce Pilcher
	10:45am Evelyn Waters	Jan Emmons & Mary Hartwig	Duane & Mary Wright		Phil & Annette Garling
Readers	8:00am John Jenkins	Mary Frevert	Karen Launderville	Leyland Hermes	Elaine Launderville
	10:45am Lee Landauer	Scott Gutche	Kurt Schrock		Jeanne Meyer
Video	10:45am Roger Gliedt	David Heintz	John Jenkins	Stephany Frano	Roger Gliedt
	10:45am Matt bolte	Cole Brockhoff	Dave Lehenbauer	Reanna Dunlap	Matt Bolte
Acolyte	10:45am Owen Winters	Reanna Dunlap	Addison Faust	Zachary Gust	Jena Eisma
	Ethan Leech	Lizzie Gregory	Ellie Griffin	Roger & Diane Glied	Ethan Leech
Lead Counters	Roger & Diane Gliedt	Roger & Diane Glied	Roger & Diane Glied	Dennis & Verlee	Roger & Diane Glied
Counters	Cari Brokaw & Mary Hartwig	Herb & Shirley Bernthal	Clayton Studyvin	Scheel	Phil Garling
Lawn Care	Team #5	Team #1	Team #2	Team #3	Team #4
Office Helpers	Dec. 1	Dec. 8	Dec. 15	Dec. 22	Dec. 29
	Dorine Hand & Libby Garner	Joe & Barbara Raleigh, Maxine Reihman	Shirley Bernthal & Betty Brokaw	Elaine Launderville & Omar & Ione Kauffeld	Jan Emmons & Mary Hartwig

SERVING ALL MONTH

ALTAR GUILD

Mary Mayer & Mary Frevert

Mary Frevert

ELDERS

8:00am

Mike Nelson

10:45am

Duane Wright

USHERS

8:00am

Team A

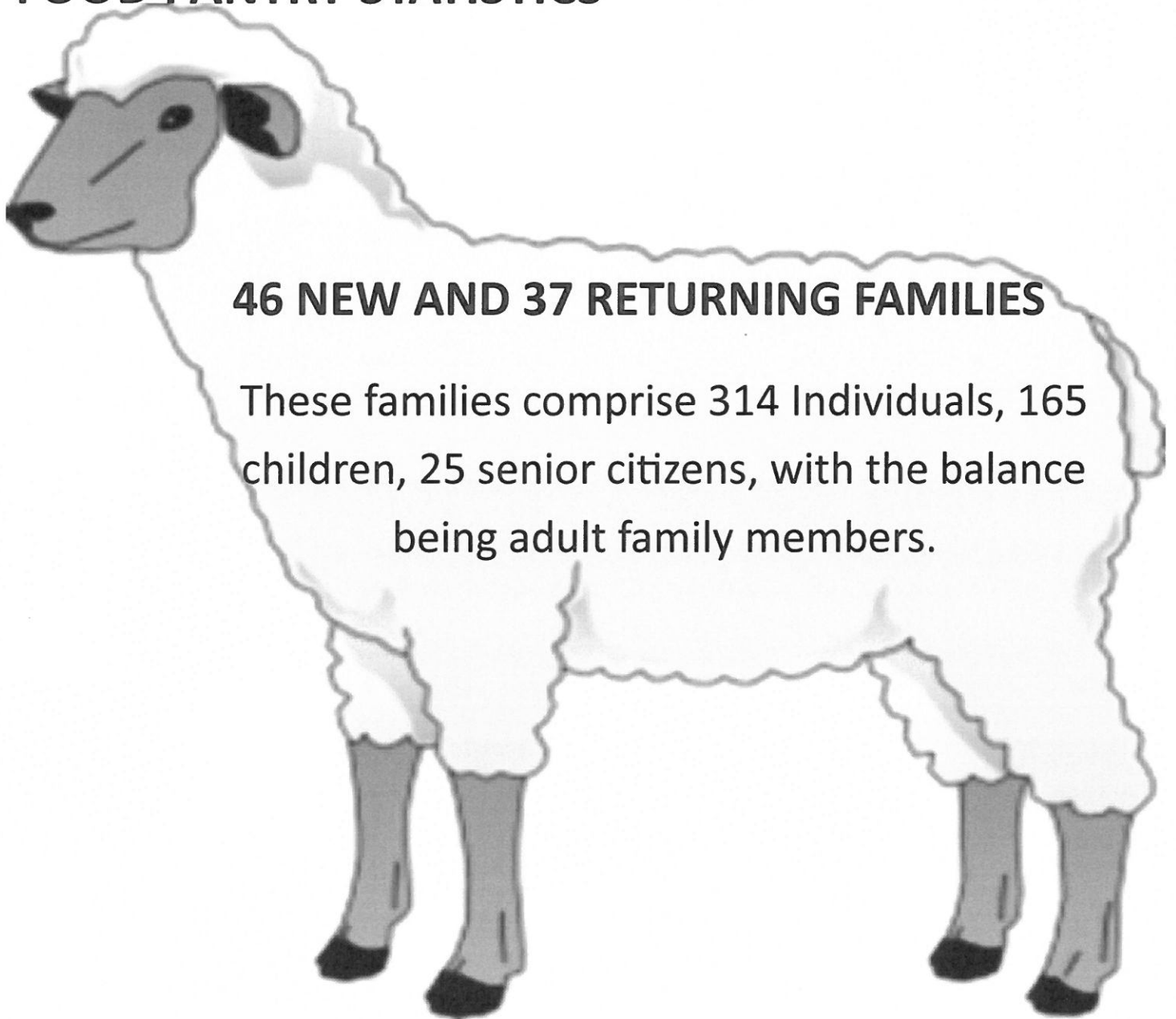
10:45am

Team C

Tommy Byrd, Fred Faust, Sam Welborn, Dave Ferguson, Zach Sanders
Fred Lewis, Brent Garner, E.C. Von Holdt, Kevin Brockoff, Don Mayer

FEED MY SHEEP OCTOBER

FOOD PANTRY STATISTICS



46 NEW AND 37 RETURNING FAMILIES

These families comprise 314 Individuals, 165 children, 25 senior citizens, with the balance being adult family members.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.
YOUR NEIGHBORS APPRECIATE IT.

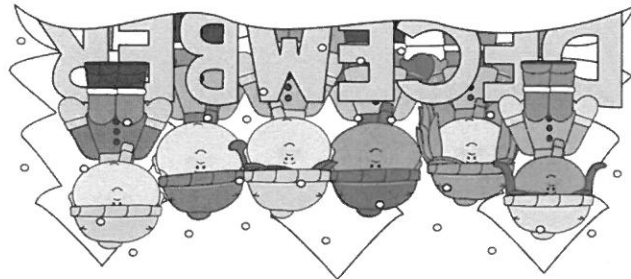
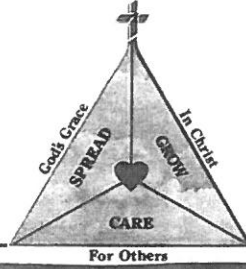
OUR MISSION

The mission of Holy Trinity is to:

SPREAD God's Grace

GROW in Christ

CARE for Others



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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