



Milton Lutheran Parish Newsletter

Serving God through faith formation, worship, service, evangelism, and fellowship

December 2019

A Brief Look . . .

Sunday Worship Services for the month of December are at Trinity at 9:30 am.

Mid-Week Worship service is each Wednesday at 3 pm at Christ Lutheran.

Cookie Bar at Trinity on December 15 after the combined service.

Christmas Eve Family Service is at Trinity at 6:00pm.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at Christ at 7:30pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at Trinity at 11:00pm

Visit the Milton Lutheran Parish Website for more information!

miltonlutheranparish.faith/

Message from Deacon Schaeffer

Advent- A Season of Waiting and Being

Dear Friends,

As we begin the season of Advent in the church year I've been reflecting on the idea of this time being both a time of waiting, and a time of being.

You can almost feel the energy in the air following Thanksgiving. People are busier, they are shopping for the Christmas season, preparing for time with family and friends, and planning to celebrate Christmas.

It's easy during this time to get caught up in all that is going on and forget that Advent is a time of waiting. We are eagerly awaiting that wonderful evening where we all gather together in worship to celebrate the birth of Christ. We are looking forward to singing the songs that we love, darkening the sanctuary, lighting candles, and seeing people we care about.

At the same time advent is also a time of being. Of recognizing what is going on around us. Of living our faith, of being reminded of God's love and grace in our lives. The waiting can often times distract us from just being who we are and who God has called us to be.

This year my prayer for all of us is that we can do both, waiting and being. In doing so we can be mindful of the relationships we have, the ways in which God is at work in the world, and the needs of people who are less fortunate than we are.

Blessings,

Gary

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Prayer List

After receiving feedback from members of the parish and in an effort to maintain a current and accurate prayer list, the combined congregational councils decided to adopt the policy that names will remain on the parish prayer list for 30 days. After 30 days names will be removed from the prayer list unless you notify Donna Riccio that you wish to remain on the prayer list.

Family Christmas Eve Service

The time is fast approaching to prepare for the children/youth led Christmas Eve worship at Trinity. We are seeking kids to serve as leaders, readers, ushers, acolytes, and share their gifts of music and/or dance. If you know of another way you may like to participate that would be great too. Participants will have their materials in advance and a practice will be held on Saturday, December 21, time to be determined. Please contact Mindy at mindelle2@ptd.net or 570-742-7146 if you would be interested in participating. All are welcome.

Christmas Cookie Bar & Cookie Exchange

There will be a Christmas Cookie Bar and cookie exchange at Trinity on December 15th after the combined service. Make your favorite cookie to enjoy and share. See Bridgette Reish Coup for more info. Sign up sheet is in the vestibule. Or call Donna at the office.

USS ARK

USS Ark is a monthly newsletter highlighting ministries in the Synod. Visit this link at the Upper Susquehanna Synod website to read the latest edition <https://www.uss-elca.org/uss-ark/>. Or, pick up a copy at either church building.

Newsletters

Newsletters will no longer be mailed except to the homebound and out of state members. It will be available at both churches and on the parish website miltonlutheranparish.faith. We will be emailing the newsletter to all those with an email address if desired, please let Donna know at either office if you would like your newsletter emailed and give her an up to date email address.

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Mission Trip to Liberia

Claire Weisner will be going on a mission trip to Liberia in January 2020 to learn more about what our synod and the church in Liberia are doing together. If any member of either church would like to contribute to help her with this trip, please indicate on your envelope a special offering and how much. Checks can be made out to Trinity and the total of the gifts will be added to the \$500 donation the church is giving. Please make your gift no later than 12/29/19 to support Claire on this amazing mission trip.

Worship Service Schedule

All Sunday Morning Services are at 9:30 am!

November – at Christ Lutheran
December – Services at Trinity Lutheran
January – Services at Christ Lutheran
February – Services at Trinity Lutheran
March – Services at Christ Lutheran
April – Services at Trinity Lutheran

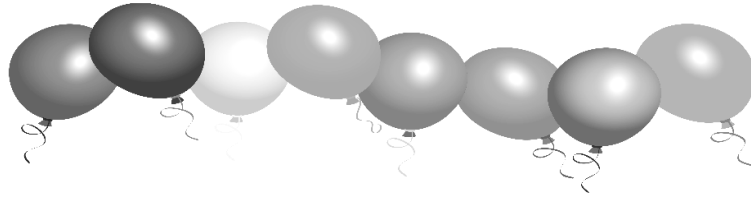
Times and locations of special services such as Christmas, Good Friday, Easter, etc. will be announced ahead of time.

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve- 6:00pm – Family Service @ Trinity
Christmas Eve- 7:30pm – Candlelight Service @ Christ
Christmas Eve- 11:00pm – Candlelight Service @ Trinity

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December Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

Julie Benschhoff-12/1
Crystal Gnidovec- 12/1
Nancy Watts-12/1
Charlene Francis-12/3
Carolyn Daniloff-12/5
Ruth Greenly 12/7
Florence Ishler- 12/7
Helen Fisher- 12/10
Doris Shappell- 12/12
Grant Wargo- 12/13
Joe Rearick- 12/16
Penny Ulmer- 12/17
Linda Valiquette- 12/17
Peggy Buck- 12/18
Scott Reed- 12/18
Kevin Fry- 12/20
Kellie Haupt- 12/20
Alyssa Byers- 12/21
Janie Bloom- 12/22
Blake Wargo-12/22
Sara Delp- 12/23
Joan Schwartz- 12/24
Evan Coup- 12/25
Polly DeHart- 12/25
Ryleigh Heimbach-12/25
Ann Mellman- 12/25
George Bolich- 12/29
Anna Mae Harpster- 12/29
Cuff Greiner- 12/30

Anniversaries

Erik & Stephanie Strawer- 12/13
Willard & Janie Bloom- 12/16
Dave & Shirley Robinson- 12/25

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Milton Lutheran Parish Prayer Concerns

Members, Friends and Family of Milton Lutheran Parish Prayer List

Wanda Aikey, Glenda Arnold, Barb Ashenfelder, Patsy Aunkst, Linda Bastian, Rodney Bastian, Betty Baumer, Carolyn Beach, Pam Belkins, Julie Benshoff, Karen Bergan, Harry Berger, Mary Billhime, Georgia Boyer, Brian Breed, Betty Callenberger, Caroline Jean Carter, Tracy Coleman, Donna Collins, Barbara Coup, Stacy Cox, Mary Jane & Melvin Crist, David, Rose Deaner, Terry Deaner, Jordan Deitrick, Travis Deitrick, Anthony DeLong, Ken Delp, Frank Dominick, Peggy Drum, Matt Edinger, Terry Eisenhuth, Deniene Enders, Quentin Erb, Jaime Evock, Judy Farr, Teresa Feese, George & Joanie Fisher, Helen Fisher, Charlene Francis, Robert Francis Jr., Friends, Ken Gaugler, Sean Gay, Ann Gelnett, Edith Getz, Martha Jean & Gary Gill, Patricia Gitschlag, Gerald Greenly, Miah Haddock, Michael Hall, Kimberly Handy, Valerie Handy, John Heffelfinger, Doris Heffelfinger, Emily Heintzelman, Mary Wagner Hines, Florence Ishler, Evelyn Kelley, Ronnie Kessler, Curtis Klodnikie, Bill Lebard, Ray & Dottie Leeser, Brookson Lehman, Danny Leitzel, Tom Martin, Marvin, Emily Mateja, Nancy Mensch, Shannon Moll, Rod Moore, Ron Mull, Ed Nelson, Jonathan Noaker, Mark Nolder, Oren Oberlin, Linda Parrish, Dorithi Jean Poeth, Bob Queen; Helen & Leroy Reinard, Henry Reinsborrow, Bill Rothermel, Alice Roush, Mark Rudisill, John Shaffer, Jean Shirk, Connie Sholly, Barb Smith, Cathy Smith, Gordy Smith, Janet Smith, Janet Timms, Keisha Trimble, Fran Valentine, Karen Walters, Nancy Walters, Shirley Wargo, Nancy Weikel, Mike & Lynnette Weisner, Ava Westhaupt, Jeannine Wilkerson, Erick Wood, Sheri Yingling, Darlas Yost, Harold Webb, George Zeyn.

Those serving in the military:

Kristen Bastian, Matthew Dorman, Jeremiah Fisher, Stephen Himes, Cody Pursley, Cody Messinger, Tyler Sokolas and Trent Wargo.

Our leaders, guides, & activities:

Deacon Schaeffer, Rev. Brian & Christine Palmer, missionaries, Bishop B.J. Collins, Synod Staff, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Authorized Lay Worship Leaders, our Parish Call Committee, Mutual Ministry Team, Parish Council, Parish Stewardship, Christian Ed Ministry and Spiritual Growth Ministry.

PLEASE CHECK THIS LIST EACH WEEK IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN AND LET THE OFFICE KNOW OF ANYONE WHO NEEDS ADDED OR CAN BE REMOVED.

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PRAYER WARRIORS!

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FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE **Office Hours** – 8 am-3:30 pm
Trinity-Mon.-Fri. mornings
Christ- Mon.-Fri. afternoons

Deadline for the next newsletter is Dec. 20. Any items received after the 20th of the month will not be in the newsletter. Please **e-mail** the Parish Office Administrator with any bulletin announcements or newsletter articles or drop them off at either church.

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

1125 Mahoning Street, Milton, PA 17847 Church Phone- 570-742-7473
Parish Office Administrator – driccio@christlutheranmpa.org

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

100 Mahoning Street, Milton, PA 17847 Church Phone-570-742-4601
Parish Office Administrator- tlcmilton@ptd.net

Milton Lutheran Parish Website: <https://miltonlutheranparish.faith/>

Deacon Gary Schaeffer – Interim

Parish Council Members

Don Fisher - President
Bill Heimbach - Vice President
Joe Yaiko - Secretary
Rich Handy - Treasurer
Donna Spear
Lynnette Weisner

2019 Christ Council Members

Donna Spear - President
Tonya Wargo - Vice President
Penny Ulmer - Secretary
Rich Handy, Treasurer
Kellie Brouse
Kay Dunn
Don Fisher
Nancy Mensch
Nancy Walters

2019 Trinity Council Members

Jeff Coup, President
Krista Yaiko, Vice President
Lynnette Weisner, Secretary
Kevin Fry
Crystal Gnidovec
Bill Heimbach
Tiffany Heimbach
Seth Reitz
Dawn Russell

Church Staff

Donna Riccio, Parish Office Administrator
Donna Spear, Parish Webmaster
Bob Greenly, Christ Groundskeeper
Rich Handy, Christ Treasurer
Nancy Walters, Christ Church Music Director and Choir Director
Helen Billhime, Christ Custodian
Charles Stahl, Trinity Sexton
John Warfel, Christ Organist & Trinity Organist, Choir and Bell Choir Director
Carol Yost, Trinity Treasurer

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| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|---|--|---|-----------------------------|--------|---|
| 1 1st Sunday of Advent <u>Combined Service</u> 9:30am At Trinity | 2 | 3 | 4 <i>Mid-Week</i> <i>Worship 3pm</i> <u>Bell Choir 6pm</u> <i>Choir 6:30pm</i> | <u>5</u> | 6 | 7 <i>Parish</i> <i>Stewardship</i> <i>10:00am @</i> <i>Christ to</i> <i>pack</i> <i>baskets</i> |
| 8 2nd Sunday of Advent <u>Combined Service</u> 9:30am At Trinity <i>Community Meal</i> <i>5:00pm</i> | 9 <u>Book Group</u> <u>10am</u> <i>ARC 6-8pm</i> <i>Bible Study 7pm</i> | 10 <u>Bible Study</u> <u>9:30am</u> | 11 <i>Mid-Week</i> <i>Worship 3pm</i> <u>Bell Choir 6pm</u> <i>Choir 6:30pm</i> | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 3rd Sunday of Advent <u>Combined Service</u> 9:30am At Trinity <u>Followed by Cookie</u> <u>Bar</u> | 16 <i>ARC 6-8pm</i> | <u>17</u> <u>Council/Staff</u> <u>Christmas Party</u> <u>@ Jeff Coup's</u> <u>6:00pm</u> | 18 <i>Mid-Week</i> <i>Worship 3pm</i> <u>Bell Choir 6pm</u> <i>Choir 6:30pm</i> | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 4th Sunday of Advent Combined Service 9:30am at Trinity | 23 <i>ARC 6-8pm</i> | 24 Christmas Services: 6:00pm- Trinity(C) 7:30pm- Christ 11:00pm- Trinity(C) <i>C = Candlelight</i> | 25 Offices Closed Christmas Day | 26 Offices Closed | 27 | 28 |
| 29 1st Sunday of Christmas Combined Service 9:30am At Trinity | 30 <i>ARC 6-8pm</i> | 31 | | | | |

At Trinity Lutheran Building-Underlined At Christ Lutheran Building-Italics

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