



Voice of Trinity

Proclaiming Jesus Christ to the World

Trinity Lutheran Church, E.L.C.A.
1415 South McDuff Avenue
Jacksonville, Florida 32205

December
2019

Church Office: (904) 389-5341
FAX: (904) 381-1381
tlcjax@trinity4jax.org
Website: trinity4jax.org

Children's Christmas Program

December 18th

Potluck Supper at 5:30
followed by Children's
Program



Christmas Worship Times

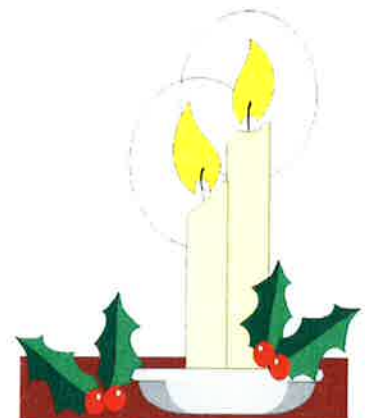
December 24th

Family Worship 5:00pm

Joyful music by the Trinity Praise Team Plus Traditional Hymns
and Candlelight carols.

Traditional Worship 10:00pm

Featuring Guest Musicians from the Jacksonville Symphony
Pre-service music begins at 9:30pm





The holiday season is a time filled with preparations and hurrying around to get ready for family visits and the events of Thanksgiving and Christmas. This was certainly true for Pastor Janis and me the Monday before Thanksgiving as we were getting the house and yard ready for children and grandchildren visit over Thanksgiving.

I have always considered myself a fairly patient person but there are times when I get anxious about things or get into a hurry when fixing something that has broken or putting together something. There are the sayings "*Haste makes waste*" and "*Measure twice and cut once*". (I have learned and am reminded the hard way that hurrying the golf swing will lead to bad shots and more trouble!) In the midst of life's hurrying and preparations, life's expectations and worries life requires patience and perspective that comes with prayer.

In the Old Testament book of Lamentations there is a passage: "*The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him.*" (Lamentations 3:25)
St. Augustine said that "*Patience is the companion of wisdom.*"

Advent is a time of waiting and to have patience in the midst of all our preparations for the celebration of our Lord's birth in Jesus Christ and in waiting for the time he will come again. May this Advent and Christmas our lives be filled with patience in our hurriedness and preparations. And may we not forget or lose perspective of God's presence with us each day in the blessing of the day. God's blessings and peace to you this Advent and Christmas season!

In Christ's service,

P.S. – Some of you have asked whatever happened to our "backflow preventer" issue at our house. I am thankful to say that with a "little" patience and perseverance with the installer and irrigation specialist it seems to be working as it should. Thanks be to God!

CHURCH STAFF	
Pastor	Robert Kinley
Office Administrator	Gini Strasser
Organist/Choir Director	Kim Bloomer
Director of reSource Ministry	Jerry Johnson
Hostess	Rae Ettmyer
Nursery Attendants	
CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS	
President	Dwane Tyson
Vice President	Casey Steel
Secretary	Mary Bollingberg
Treasurer	Jerry Johnson
COUNCIL MEMBERS	
Virginia Rice	Mary Bollingberg
Don Howard	Ruth Johnson
Judy Hassler	Gene Harvey
Joe Molenda	Casey Steel
Dwane Tyson	

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR January VOT ARTICLES

is,

Friday, December 20, 2019

Editor's Note:


Please provide the church office with your articles by the 20th of the month unless another date is specified.

Please meet the deadline so that the VOT can be distributed on time. Bring your items to the office or email to:

g.strasser@trinity4jax.org

or

tlcjax@trinity4jax.org



Church Office Hours

M-Th 8:00AM - 2:30PM
F 8:00AM - Noon



“FROM THIS FOUNDATION OUR MINISTRY GROWS” CAPITAL CAMPAIGN (FTF-OMG)

After one year into the “*From This Foundation, Our Ministry Grows*” capital campaign, here is a summary of the campaign and of the work progress:

- Through October 31, 2019 - \$167,887 has been given toward the \$400,745 pledged for the three year campaign;
- To date, \$29,733 has been expended for project costs: \$15,192 for Sanctuary re-wiring, \$13,242 for the campaign expense, \$449 for Sanctuary gutter removal, and \$850 for MIF loan fee;
- A roofing contractor (Register Roofing) has been selected to do the roof work, along with a stone and masonry contractor. A pre-construction meeting was held on October 30th to lay out the construction timeline. Work is to begin in early January 2020.

Thank you to all who have committed and contributed to the campaign and to Jerry Johnson and Rusty White who have dedicated their time and energy to making the construction projects happen.



Children's Christmas Program

The Children of Trinity Lutheran Church will be performing “The Christmas Story” on Wednesday, December 18th after a potluck dinner. Practices will be in the Hall of Memories on Sundays, November 17th and 24th, December 1st, 8th and 15th from 9:00 - 10:00am to rehearse music, lines and blocking for the program.

We encourage all children from the ages of 4 to 16 to participate. If your child/children would like to be a part of this tradition, please see Berni Tomaszewski, Maureen Onstott or Gini Strasser to sign up.

There will be a potluck dinner before the Program at 5:30pm. The church will provide ham, rolls and drinks. Bring a dish or two to share and enjoy the fellowship and our children's performance! See you there!



**Christmas Eve Traditional
Candlelight Service
December 24th -10:00pm**

Trinity would like to invite you on Tuesday, December 24th at 10:00pm to celebrate our Lord's birth and to be treated to a supreme musical worship event sponsored by Dr. Roy Schnauss and family. We cannot express enough our sincere gratitude to the Schnauss family for this special treat!

Outstanding Opera Artist, Neal Harrelson as well as Symphony players in the Jorge Pena Quartet will be on hand for this special evening of worship and music.

Neal Harrelson

Neal is a special guest to Trinity as he and our Choir Director have been close friends for many years. Neal has performed in opera companies including Opera Orchestra of New York, the New York City National Opera, Sarasota Opera, Virginia Opera, Mississippi Opera, San Antonio Opera, Sacramento Opera, Tulsa Opera, Arizona Opera, Anchorage Opera, just to name a few throughout the US.

Neal has extensive work in England, France, Italy, Holland, as well as in Australia. Neal is professor for Integrated Vocal Training for singers, New York City. Neal works with stage screen and television actors as well.

It is such a joy to welcome both Neal and the Jorge Pena Quartet back to Trinity on December 24th at 10:00pm.



*December's
Love Offering
Jacksonville
Campus Ministry*

Our December "Love Offering" being received on Sunday, December 1st, will benefit Jacksonville Campus Ministry.

Please make checks payable to Trinity with a notation "Love Offering".



BLOOD DRIVE

December 8th

9:00am - 2:00pm

LifeSouth Community

Blood Centers is holding a blood drive at Trinity on December 8th from 9:00am - 2:00pm. There will be a special promotion of a \$10.00 visa gift card as well as a special recognition mug given to each donor. Come and make a real difference in our community.

Women

CIRCLE MEETINGS:

Martha Circle:

Thursday, December 5, 2019 at 11:00 for lunch at the Cool Moose, members and spouses are invited.

Hannah Circle:

No meeting in December

Lydia Circle:

No meeting in December

**Trinity's Lunch Bunch
Tuesday, December 17th
at 11:30am**

The Trinity Lunch Bunch will meet on Tuesday, December 17th at the following location:

**Kaika
(Teppanyaki/Asian
Fusion) Restaurant**

**1012-1 Margaret Street
Jacksonville, FL 32204
904-731-2898**

Please sign up on the list in the Hall of Memories if you wish to join us. All are welcome!



Young Adults

Trinity's Young Adults group meets at the home of Kyle and Sarah Knight Lind, (654-5931).

Upcoming events:

December 4th at 6:30pm

We'd love for you to join us!



Senior Youth Group

Trinity's Youth Group will be meeting at the church on -

Dates: December 10th

Time: 6:00 - 7:30pm

Looking forward to seeing you!



Donate a Poinsettia

You may request that a poinsettia in memory of or in honor of a loved one be placed in the sanctuary for the Christmas Eve services.

Please complete the form in the bulletin and place it either in the offering plate with your donation of \$9.00 per plant or bring it to the church office.



December's

Mid-week Movie:

"God's Not Dead 2"

When high school history teacher Grace Wesley is asked a question about Jesus in class, her reasoned response lands her in deep trouble. The ensuing court case could expel God from the classroom - and the public square - once and for all. This movie is a powerful call to action. Where will you stand?

Come and enjoy this month's movie with your family and friends on Wednesday, December 4th at 6:00pm. Popcorn and drinks provided.



We extend our sympathy to the family of Dean Wilson on his passing away on October 13th.

Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.



Congregational Meeting

On Sunday, December 8th Trinity will hold its Congregational Meeting to approve the budget for 2020 and to elect Council members and member(s) of the Permanent Endowment Fund team.

On this Sunday there will be only 1 service at 10:00am followed by the Congregational Meeting. Please plan to attend as your input is always needed.



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Maddie (Vearil) and Tommy Tuttle upon the birth of a boy, Renton James Tuttle on Wednesday, October 23rd.

Proud grandparents are Jim and Beth Vearil.

Food Pantry News



During October 2019 we served the following numbers of people in the food pantry:

<u>MONTH</u>	<u># PERSONS</u>	<u># HOUSEHOLDS</u>
OCTOBER	4,093	1,073

We distributed 28,834 lbs. of food in October, and we spent \$439.26 on food. Our average cost per pound of food was about 4 cents per pound. So far in 2019 we have served 16,623 households, consisting of 36,376 persons. We have distributed 366,273 pounds at a cost of \$6,428.78.

We are asking once again that you save your egg cartons and bring them into the church when you can. We have begun receiving eggs again and need all the cartons we can get.

We continue to struggle with a small amount of financial donations each month. We have a balance at Feeding Northeast Florida to pay for the route end deliveries, but when that money is expended we have no more funds to send to FNEF, which means the route end deliveries will end. We are getting very little food from the retail pickups and the amount of USDA food we are receiving is very small.

The Lord continues to give us everything we need to keep his food pantry operating, but we could use some more volunteer help. We also need to pray for the Lord to give us a solution to our financial shortages.

With blessings,

Tom Culverwell
Director

WANTED: EXPERIENCED GRANT WRITER

Tom Culverwell is in need of an experienced grant writer to assist him with submitting grant applications. If you have experience in grant writing, please contact Tom at (904)254-0063 or by email at

tculvrwl@comcast.net.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

We need at least four volunteers to work in the food pantry each Wednesday evening from 5:30 to 7 p.m. If you can help with this please let Tom Culverwell know.

E m a i l: FP2006@trinity4jax.org. Cell: (904)254-0063.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
<p>1</p> <p>9:00 AM -10:00 AM Play Practice</p> <p>9:00 AM reSource worship</p> <p>9:30 AM Adult Sunday Sch</p> <p>10:05 AM Takeaway</p> <p>11:00 AM Traditional worship</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3:15 PM CEW-Yoga</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>3:15 PM CEW-Bsktball</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>																																																																																																		
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<p>8</p> <p>9:00 AM -2:00 PM Blood Drive</p> <p>10:00 AM One Service Followed by a Congregational Meeting</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>3:15 PM CEW-Yoga</p> <p>6:00 PM -7:30 PM Youth Group</p> <p>6:30 PM Church Council</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:00 PM Movie Night</p>	<p>12</p> <p>3:15 PM CEW-Bsktball</p>	<p>13</p> <p>11:30 AM NFAN</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:00 PM -9:00 PM Square Dance</p>																																																																																																		
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Flowers (2 needed)

- 01 Billy/Molenda
- 08 Holden/Guillebeau
- 15 Ettmyer/Hiers
- 22 Ronan/
- 29

Traditional Worship

Service



Lectors

- 01 Bitsy Marske
- 08 Gini Strasser
- 15 Joe Molenda
- 22 Michael Philips
- 29 Don Howard

Communion Assistants

Assisting Minister

Dwane Tyson



Date 11:00 AM Coffee Servers

- 01 Mary Bollingberg
- 08 P.Piersall/S.Knight
- 15 K.Hiers/L.York
- 22 L.Culverwell
- 29 Men of Trinity



Communion Elements

- 01 Leah & Tison Kelly
- 08 Kim Bloomer
- 15 Glory of God
- 22 Glory of God
- 29 Leah & Tison Kelly

Takeaway Bible Leaders

- 01 K.Koob/Judy Hassler
- 08 Congregational Meeting
- 15 Pastor Janis
- 22 J.Johnson/Lise York
- 29

Adult Sunday School

Leaders

- Joe Molenda
- Joanne Martin

Councilperson of the Month

- 1 Dwane Tyson
- 8 Judy Hassler
- 15 Casey Steel
- 22 Don Howard
- 29 Mary Bollingberg



Sunday Visitor

- 01 G.Strasser
- 08 Bloomer/Valentine
- 15 J & C Molenda
- 22 L.York
- 29 L.Culverwell

Trinity Lutheran Church - Treasurer's Report – October 2019

Here's a summary of our contributions and expenses against the budget. Let me know if you have any questions. Don't Forget! Please remember to have your check request approved by Pastor Robert before you submit it. Remember: Lise York who inputs contributions is at the church Monday mornings if you should have any questions about your Financial Statement.

Thank you for your cooperation! Gini

1/1/18 to 10/31/19 - ACTUAL VERSUS BUDGET

Contributions

\$208,686.00	-	Actual General Fund Income
\$213,265.00	-	Budgeted General Fund Income
\$ 4,579.00	-	Actual Income is Less than Budgeted Income

Expenses

\$208,264.00	-	Actual General Fund Expenses
\$214,288.00	-	Budgeted General Fund Expenses
(\$ 6,024.00)	-	Actual Expenses are Less than Budgeted Expenses



October's Love Offering 2019

Benefitting Prisoner's of Christ raised \$556.00.

November's Love Offering 2019

Benefitting Debbie's Climbers - American Lung Association raised \$ 385.00



Christmas Concert at St. Mark's Lutheran Church on December 9th at 7:30pm



St. Mark's Lutheran Church is hosting Peter Mayer's "Stars and Promises: Echoes of the Seasons" Christmas Concert on Monday, December 9th at 7:30pm (doors open at 6:30pm). Peter Mayer is the guitarist and singer-songwriter of Jimmy Buffet's Band. "Echoes of the Seasons" is the 20th anniversary celebration of Peter's Christmas Tour. General Admission is \$30.00 per person and \$15.00 for children 12 and under. Tickets may be purchased online at <http://bit.deIMayer>. Half of all proceeds will go to benefit Lutheran Social Services of NE Florida. (St. Mark's is located at 3976 Hendricks Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32207).



Medical {MISSIONS}

Honduras Mission

2020 Team

Our 2020 Honduras Mission Team will be going to Honduras in February 2020. The following items are needed to be taken with them when they travel to Honduras.

If everyone remembers to buy one or more of these items when they do their shopping, there will be plenty to help our mission team distribute to the less fortunate folks of Honduras. Thanks!

Items Needed for Honduras

- *Acetaminophen (Tylenol); Extra Strength (500 mg) and PM
- *Aspirin (81 mg)
- *Naproxen (Aleve 220 mg)
- *Hydrocortisone, Benadryl cream
- *Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin) (200 mg)
- *Bengay cream
- *Adult Vitamins; Vitamin A and E
- *Prenatal Vitamins
- *Lice Killing Shampoo (8 oz bottles)
- *Small and Travel size toothpaste
- *Girls' hair "pretties" (baretttes, flowers, scrunchies, etc.)
- *Toothbrushes (children and adult)
- *Children's Chewable Vitamins (NOT Gummy!)
- *Medical exam gloves (especially small)
- *Omeprazole or Lansoprazole (small)



Seniors in Transition

January 5, 2020

*"For Everything there is a Season,
and a Time for Every Matter under Heaven"*
Ecclesiastes 3:1

We all agree that life brings changes. Luckily, most changes are gradual, so as we age we adapt to them without much trouble. Reading glasses, hearing aids, forgetfulness, arthritic joints... anyone considered to be a "senior citizen" has probably had to deal with at least one or two of these natural age progressions.

Change is inevitable, and natural life changes are challenging enough. But what happens when something catastrophic hits us out of the blue? Starting January 5, 2020 we will be exploring what it might look like to already have a "Plan B" just in case. We can make our own choices while we are still physically and cognitively able to decide for ourselves. We can take that responsibility upon ourselves and not leave it for some family member who may not know our wishes.

If this interests you, please let Pastor Robert or Leah Kelly know. Some of you have received letters with postcards to return. We hope to see you in January.

TRINITY'S



2020 Schedule

- January 22, 2020 -**
GiGi's Restaurant
(Ramada Inn)
- February 26, 2020 -**
Crabby Ben's
Seafood Restau
rant
- March 26, 2020 -**
Joseph's Pizza
Restaurant
- April 23, 2020 - Silver**
Star Chinese
Restaurant
- May 28, 2020 -**
LongHorn Steak
House Restaurant
- June 25, 2020 - Cross**
Creek Steak
House Restaurant
- July 23, 2020 - What's**
Cookin' Restau
rant
- August 27, 2020 -**
Okinawa Restau
rant
- September 24, 2020 -**
Crystal River Sea
food Restaurant
- October 22, 2020 -**
Mediterrania Res
taurant
- November 26, 2020 -**
Willard's BBQ
Junction Restau
rant
- December 17, 2020 -**
Kaika (Teppanyakil
Asian Fusion) Res
taurant



Dear Trinity Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$828.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response.

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good"
(1 Corinthians 12:4-7).

With your Spirit-filled generosity you bring help and hope to families and communities reeling from disasters here in the United States and around the world. No matter the variety of disaster, no matter the variety of need, your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response make possible short- and long-term recovery and rebuilding of lives and livelihoods.

Thank you for sharing the gifts God has activated in you!

In Christ,
The Rev. Robin Brown
Mission Funding Director, Congregations



Pastor Robert and a group of University of North Carolina Tar Heel Alumni gathered on Saturday morning, October 12th to clean-up Trinity's Food Pantry as part of an annual Tar Heel Service Day.

Thank you for their hard work and monetary support to assist Trinity's mission to help those in need in our community!



Many thanks to Rae Ettmyer for the hard work that went into making and coordinating the food for the annual Thanksgiving pot-luck dinner on Sunday, November 24th. Also, thank you to the ladies of WELCA for the lovely table decorations. Special thanks to all who helped with clean-up; Judy Hassler, Geri Buchanan, Kara Martin, Jennifer Darby and any who may have been inadvertently omitted. All your efforts make for a lovely evening!



Thank You

Dear Rev. Kinley,

Please convey our gratitude to your congregation and Donna & James White for the generous donation to Prisoners of Christ. This gift helps people experience a true second chance. We are blessed by your generosity.

Please contact me if we can ever help with understanding more about our program.

Reverend Jeff Witt
President



Thank you to the wonderful people at Southeast Orthopedic Specialists for their recent Food Drive that benefitted Trinity's Food Pantry. Dan Widener delivered numerous dry goods for our pantry. With thoughtful and generous people in our community, Trinity's Food Pantry continues to strive to help the needy of our community. Thank you!

Trinity Lutheran Church
1415 South McDuff Avenue
Jacksonville, Florida 32205

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL - DO NOT DELAY

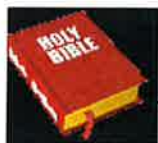
Children's Christmas Program Practice



Children's Christmas Program practice is at 9:00am in Hall of Memories and Discipleship Training will not meet again until January 2020.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Led by Joe Molenda and Joanne Martin
9:30am in the Cecil Poole Room



Sunday Morning "Takeaway"

Sunday Morning "Takeaway" Bible Study
10:05am in the Children's Sunday School area.



Sunday Morning Schedule

reSource Worship

9:00am

Adult Sunday School

9:30am

**Children's Christmas
Program Practice at 9:00am**

Discipleship Training

10:10am

The Takeaway

Bible Study

10:05

Traditional Worship

11:00 a.m.