

Mission Statement

Guided by Holy Scripture and the Holy Spirit, we the congregation of Holy Trinity pledge our lives to Christ. Through worship, love, and service to one another, we will bring witness and encouragement to the community.

Rector: The Rev. Randy Lockyer 489-6597 (Home) or 489-3002 (Church Office)
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The bulletin is given to the glory of God and in memory of **Stewart & Nellie Lane** by Marguerite Lane.

SERVICE TIMES FOR December 4 – December 11		
<i>Today, December 4</i> <i>Advent 2</i> <i>Food Bank Sunday</i>	Holy Communion (BCP) Sunday School Program Prayer & Healing	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.
<i>Thursday, December 8</i>	Holy Communion (BCP)	9:30 a.m.
<i>Sunday, December 11</i> <i>Advent 3</i>	Holy Communion (BCP) Holy Eucharist (BAS)	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.

Readings: **Isaiah 11:1-10** **Romans 15:4-13** **Matthew 3:1-12**
Readers: Participants of the Sunday School Program

Welcome. Welcome to anyone who is visiting with us this morning. If this is your first time at Holy Trinity, please introduce yourself to our Greeters and Clergy. We do ask that you sign our guest book in the foyer.

Sunday School Program Today. We welcome our Sunday School children and teachers this morning as they lead us in their annual Christmas program. The joy of Christmas is no greater felt then to see the children acting out many parts of the Christmas story, Mary, Joseph, the Shepherds, the Wisemen, the angels, the innkeeper, etc. It really helps to get us excited about the Christmas Season. We hope you enjoy their short presentation this morning titled *A Brand New Star*.

Lighting the Advent Candle. If you or your family is interested in participating in the Advent Candle Lighting liturgy, please speak to Rev. Randy. We need volunteers for the next two weeks of Advent and the lighting of the Christ Candle on Christmas Eve.

Flowers for Christmas. Anyone wishing to place flowers in the church for Christmas in memory of loved ones may place a donation envelope in the Offertory Plate. Please mark the envelope: **Christmas Flowers**. All names must be received by December 18 to be included in the Christmas Bulletin.

Holy Trinity Choir Christmas Service. The Choir will be presenting: *What Child Is This?* at the 10:30 a.m. service on *Sunday, December 18*. Please plan to attend and enjoy the readings, solos and choir anthems.

Dr. Wendy Wilmore's Visit. Dr. Wendy will give a talk/presentation on her work as a missionary doctor/surgeon in Arusha, Tanzania this coming *Thursday, December 8 at 7 p.m.* Wendy will be our guest speaker at the *10:30 a.m. service next Sunday, December 11*. The presentation on Thursday night is open to the general public. There will be opportunity for anyone to make a contribution to the work that Dr Wendy is doing. As you might imagine, working in a hospital in Arusha would have many challenges--one of them would be finding enough income to run the programs and provide medical care to the people. Please tell anyone you know that they are welcome to come on Thursday evening to hear Wendy.

Singing Sidesmen Christmas Sing-Along. There will be a concert on *Tuesday, December 13 at 7:30 p.m.* in the E.M. Bishop Hall. Admission is \$5. Refreshments will be served.

Thank You. Thanks to the ACW for hosting a lovely meal and fellowship this past Wednesday in honor of our refugee family, Emin, Ruyveda, Fehed and Meryem Ebulhayr. Also, thank you for inviting the refugee committee. The family was very happy to be invited and to receive the beautiful gift of homemade quilts. On behalf of the family and the committee, thank you, ladies, for a great evening.

Finance. With only one month to go in this year, we are very grateful to the members of our parish for their generous offerings throughout the year. We have just a few more weeks to go before we close the books for 2016 and embrace a brand new year. It is our hope and prayer that we will end the year on a very positive financial note. We are blessed to have a beautiful church building in an excellent state of good repair because we have been proactive in taking on projects, while at the same time being debt-free. God has blessed us indeed, and we are very fortunate to have so many dedicated parishioners that help us to do this. The past year saw our province go through a rough economic time, and this has been reflected in the support of many charitable organizations. However, through it all, we manage to hold dear to the things we love, especially our love for our Lord and our church. The role of the church in society is so very important. It may have changed somewhat, but God's call to do the work of the Gospel is the same. Thank you for keeping our church family here at Holy Trinity a strong family. Next year, 2017, will mark 110 years of ministry in this town. What a marvelous celebration that should be. May we continue to be faithful and keep our Parish strong and vibrant for many years to come!

Christmas Tree of Memories--Thursday, December 15. The tree will be lit *at 7 p.m.* The sheets are available for the Tree of Memories. We will gather at the main entrance, read the names of those in whose memory the tree will be lit, prayers will be said, and then the tree will be lit for Christmas. Refreshments and Christmas music will follow in the Olde Parish Hall.

Advent Cards. There are Advent cards available if you prefer to use the quarter cards. There are Advent envelopes in the envelope boxes.

Annual Light-Up Contest. Judging for the Annual Light-Up Contest will take place from *December 12 – 16*. Be sure to have your lights turned on at that time.

Rector's Christmas Discretionary Fund. The fund is a special fund that many contribute to at Christmastime. The monies allow the Rector to help families and individuals who may find it financially difficult during the Christmas season. If you would like to contribute to this cause over the holidays, your help would be greatly appreciated. Please use a plain envelope, mark it *Rector's Christmas Discretionary Fund*, and put it in the Offering Plate.

Families in Need. This Christmas if you know of individuals and/or families in need, please let Rev. Randy know. It is a time when many families struggle to make ends meet. Perhaps we can help with providing some food and gifts to them as an outreach of our parish ministry this Christmas. It doesn't matter what church they belong to or even if they belong to a church. What's important is being able to help. Confidentiality is always of utmost importance--so what we do is always done quietly.

Greeters: Terry Brown, Ed Eastman, Bob Dawe, Roy Goulding, Sandra Knight, Nancy Jackson

Items for the Messenger. Please have your submissions to Linda by Thursday. You may contact her at 489-9801 or e-mail linda.pafford@nl.rogers.com.

Let Go, Let God

I freely let go and let God be God in me.

One of the key words in the phrase "let go, let God" is the word *let*. Allowing myself to let go means stepping out in faith. If I am accustomed to self-reliance, this act of trust may feel more like a leap than a step.

I take that time now. I relax and allow myself to simply be with God. I let go of the need to be in control. I remember that I do not have to know and do everything. I do not have to be in charge; I can relax and just be. What a freeing feeling! What a comfort to know I do not have to do anything alone.

There is a continuous presence at work in my life guiding me on my way, blessing and supporting every step. I let go and let God be God in me.

*Let each of you lead the life that the Lord has assigned,
to which God called you. 1 Corinthians 7:17*

Daily Word Nov/Dec 2015

Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy

Second Sunday in Advent - Peace



Reader: *"In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see--I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people.'" (Luke 2:8-10).*

Reader: Today we remember the shepherds, workers for the common good, steadfast watchmen isolated and alone, far from the warmth of home, doing the job no one wants. And yet God saw them, God valued them, and God declared the greatest news of all to them alone.

People: Today we give thanks for the shepherds among us, back-breaking laborers on whom our economy stands, those we overlook or rarely see, yet rely on for our very survival, the ones who have much to teach us about watching for God in the darkness.

Reader: On this second Sunday in Advent, we light the second candle as a symbol of the shepherds, agents of the gospel and redeemers of the world. As they tended their sheep on that dark night so long ago, we can imagine the peace they felt as God's glory shone around them. May we experience that same peace knowing that God's glory shines in our lives.

(Light two blue candles.)

Hymn: A candle is burning, a candle of peace,
a candle to signal that conflict must cease:
for Jesus is coming to show us the way;
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.