



Trinity Lutheran Church

2221 North Oak Lane  
 State College, PA 16803  
 814-238-2024 www.TrinityStateCollege.org



The flowers are given by  
 Erik and Megan Orient  
 in honor of their 18th wedding anniversary.

PRAYER LIST

TLC DISCIPLES

Doug Perkins, Jerry Wion, Sally Adams, Don Leslie (breathing difficulties), Barb Trout, Kris Glad (military), Ray Petersen (military)

TLC FRIENDS

George (cancer), Jake Petersen (military), Jan Dykhuis (cancer), Lauren, Julie Buechner, Melanie Harris, Ginny Criswell, Colleen Wisniewski (cancer), Ed and Evelyn Connor Family (daughters Amy and Judy, cancer), Michael Hamilton and Family

December 27

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26  
 Psalm 148  
 Colossians 3:12-17  
 Luke 2:41-52



January 3

Jeremiah 31:7-14  
 Psalm 147:12-20  
 Ephesians 1:3-14  
 John 1:1-18

FOOD DRIVE UPDATE

As of Tuesday, December 22, 988 food items and \$110.00 of grocery gift cards have been collected for our Annual Food Drive. Thank you to all who have donated. The Food Drive continues, so please keep the food items coming.

- Soups
- Cereal or Oatmeal
- Spaghetti/Pasta Sauce
- Dry pasta (spaghetti, elbow, egg noodles, etc.)
- Rice/Rice sides
- Tomato Product (diced, stewed, paste, sauce, etc.)
- Canned meats (chicken, Spam, tuna, etc.)
- Canned Pasta
- Protein Beans
- Mac n' Cheese
- Condiments (mayonnaise, ketchup, mustard, barbecue sauce, etc.)
- Juice (100%)
- Salad Dressing (Ranch, Italian, etc.)
- Sugar, Flour
- Oil
- Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate
- Shampoo, Conditioner
- Toothpaste and Toothbrushes
- Deodorant
- Laundry Detergent
- Soap (bars/liquid)

TRINITY EVENTS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

5:00 pm Family Worship with  
 Candle Lighting and Communion  
 7:30 pm Gathering Music  
 8:00 pm Festive Worship with  
 Candle Lighting and Communion

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

10:00 am Christmas Day Worship  
 with Communion

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26

5:00 pm Worship with Communion

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27

8:15 am Worship with Communion  
 10:45 am Worship with Communion  
 11:45 am All-Congregation Coffee Hour

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2

5:00 pm Worship with Communion

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

8:15 am Worship with Communion  
 10:45 am Worship with Communion  
 11:45 am Coffee Hour

MONDAY, JANUARY 4

10:00 am Foxdale Bible Study

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5

5:45 pm Zumba

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6

7:00 pm Yoga

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

5:45 pm Zumba  
 7:00 pm Bell Choir

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9

10:00 am Zumba  
 5:00 pm Worship with Communion

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

8:15 am Worship with Communion  
 9:30 am Sunday School  
 9:30 am Joyful Voices  
 10:45 am Worship with Communion  
 11:45 am Coffee Hour



## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM BISHOP MICHAEL

Merry Christmas to you as you gather to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I pray that in this Christmas season you may be united and re-united with family and friends, that you may know the peace of Christ, and that you may have find rest at end of this busy year.

This past year we have seen much anxiety and strife in the world. There are wars against ISIS in the Middle East and continued fighting in Israel between the Israelis and Palestinians. We have seen people protesting injustice that has lead, in some cases, to rioting. There have been shootings in Charleston, SC, Roseburg, OR, and most recently San Bernadino, CA. On top of this, we worry about the environment, the political situation in our country, and the way we care for our veterans. There is much that could cause anxiety and worry.

It is into such a world as this that our Lord Jesus was born. It may be hard to believe, but life was not any easier 2000 years ago. There were wars, a fear of famine and drought, and no medical care. It was into this world, into the anxieties of our lives, that God became flesh and lived among us in Jesus Christ.

Jesus is our hope, our life, and our peace—because in Jesus we see that God has not and will not leave us alone. In Jesus we see that God came to be with us.

Why would God do this? Because God loves us. On the cross Jesus defeated the evils of this world and gave us the promise of eternal life. No matter how bad life gets, God is here, and God is bringing the Kingdom and the restoration and salvation of the entire world in Christ Jesus.

That is the good news of Christmas: God is here. The baby who was laid in a manger is the Lord of all who will not abandon us but who stands with us when we are feeling anxious or afraid.

Jesus is the Lord of peace who brings hope, life, and healing to the world—and to us.

May you be comforted by the peace of Christ this season.

+Bishop Michael Rhyné  
Allegheny Synod, ELCA

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**Interfaith  
Human  
Services**

*Communities of faith collaborating to help neighbors in need.*

251 Easterly Parkway, Suite 200  
State College, PA 16801  
Phone: 814-234-7731  
FAX: 814-234-7411  
[ihs-centrecounty.org](http://ihs-centrecounty.org)

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Dear Friends,

Thank you for your donation of \$1981.86 to Interfaith Human Services. Your tax deductible donation will impact the lives of individuals and families throughout Centre County through our caring programs. Your contribution to the general fund is especially helpful because it provides the greatest flexibility to our organization as we work toward solutions to low-income household's needs.

We greatly appreciate your generosity. We strive to be excellent stewards of your gift(s) and will do our best each day to be a positive presence in our County. Please let us know if you have any questions about Interfaith Human Services and the work that we do to serve others.

Sincerely,  
*Sylvia*  
Sylvia Neely  
Interim Director

*We thank you once again for your devotion to IHS. We truly appreciate all you do to make our work possible.*

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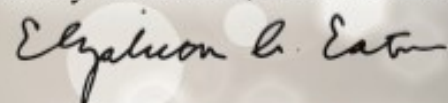
*It is nearly Christmas. The evidence is all around – Christmas carols, decorations and preparations in our homes, in our churches and in the mall. That is not a bad thing. But we are also still in Advent. I want us to consider the deep and holy longing that is a part of this season. It is significant that the words of the prophets and the yearning of Israel in exile are so prominent in the lessons appointed for this season. The people longed for the Lord to come, to act, to redeem them, to take them home. They lived in Babylon, but their hearts were not there.*

*I think Advent is that way for us. As Lutherans, we do not withdraw from the world but engage it believing that it is a gift. But we also know that it is not quite right, that there is brokenness and pain – the pain we experience, the pain others cause, the pain we cause others.*

*In some ways Advent creates a certain restlessness. It may be one of the few seasons of the year when we become more aware of our longing for wholeness and more alert to the signs that something is approaching. This Advent longing is an awareness that apart from God we are not whole. We find ourselves in the unsettled and restless time between the ending of the old year and the beginning of the new. A thin place where heaven and earth seem to touch, where we draw near to God realizing, as St. Augustine wrote, “You have formed us for Yourself, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in You.”*

*We can't get there by ourselves, and here is the promise and hope of Christmas – the one for whom we long is not content to draw us but fulfills this promise by coming to us as Emmanuel, God with us. In the incarnate Christ, God comes to us, finds us and gives our restless hearts rest.*

*Merry Christmas, dear church.*



*The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.