

*Trinity Church*  
*December 25, 2016*  
*Family Worship 10:30 a.m.*

*Merry Christmas!*

**Prelude** Mary Anne Scherff

**Lighting the Advent Candle**

**First Reader:** Today is Christmas Day, in which we recall the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Today we light again the candles of hope, Christ our way, joy, and peace. *(Each candle will be lit as the reader speaks.)*

First candle: We speak of hope- because God keeps God's promises to us.

Second candle: We follow Christ the way because following Christ leads to an abundant life.

Third candle: We share joy because the Holy Spirit fills our hearts and minds with the presence of God.

Fourth candle: We work for peace because Jesus is the Prince of peace and he calls his children to work for peace in his name.

**Second Reader:** Now we light the Christ candle to remember the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As the prophets promised long ago Christ was born in Bethlehem, and with the shepherds, we are filled with wonder and amazement.

**Third Reader:** "And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks by night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel of the Lord said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you: he is Christ, the Lord." (Luke 2:8-11)

**First Reader:** Heavenly Father, you have brought us again to the glad season when we remember the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord: We ask that his Spirit may be born once again in our hearts and that we may joyfully welcome him to reign over us.

**Invocation** Stephen Starnes

**\*Opening** "O Come All Ye Faithful" p.145, vs 1-3  
 "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" p.133, vs 1-3

**\*Connections** "Go Tell It on the Mountain" p.138, vs. 1

**Morning Prayer** Dr. Marc Putnam

**Welcome** Stephen Starnes

*If you are seated on or near an aisle, please take out the red attendance register, sign it, and pass it on. Children 3yr. – 3<sup>d</sup> grade leave for KidZone*

**Announcements** Dr. Marc Putnam

**Offertory** "O Little Town of Bethlehem"  
 Mary Anne Scherff & Iris O'Daniel

**Offertory Prayer** Kumar Lakhavani

**Anthem** "Gesu Bambino" Liz Doebler, Soloist

**Scripture Lesson** Luke 2:1-20

**Sermon** "Incarnation" Dr. Marc Putnam

**\*Closing Hymn** "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne" p.127, vs. 1,2,5

**\*Benediction**  
*\*Congregation stands*

**Trinity Church Relational Covenant**

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we follow His command to love one another. We seek to know and follow His will in all areas of our lives. We endeavor to turn from evil and do good. We seek peace and pursue it, promoting harmony within the Body of Christ. We desire that our thoughts, words and actions be led by the Holy Spirit, thereby bringing honor and glory to our Lord Jesus Christ. (John 13:34-35; I Peter 3:10-17)

**Love** – 1 John 3:16, 18; 4:11

*Because Christ loved us first, to the point of death, we choose to love one another in like manner: with actions and in truth. By this, all will know we are Jesus' disciples.*

**Trust** – I Thessalonians 5:15; John 15:12-13

*We trust our Trinity brothers and sisters to put the good of each other and our church, Christ's body, before the will of an individual. We commit to walk hand in hand when we don't see eye to eye.*

**Kindness & Compassion** – Ephesians 4:29; Col. 3:12; I Thessalonians 5:12-13

*We treat one another with kindness, encouragement and respect. We honor and support our pastor, staff, and lay leaders, always seeking through peace and unity what is best for our church as a whole.*

**Honesty** – Ephesians 4:15; Colossians 3:12

*We speak truthfully to each other in a clear, direct, honoring and humble way, ever mindful of our own sin and shortcomings.*

**Forgiveness** – Colossians 3:13; I John 1:7, 9-10

*None of us is perfect, and we all need forgiveness. Because the Lord forgave us first, we forgive one another when offended, believing the best in each other.*



On **Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>** we will have our **PULSE Survey**, the next step in our Congregational Vitality. This stage will be an important part of preparing for our strategic plan for 2017.

**Announcements:**

The church office will be closed **Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup>** and **Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>** in observance of the Christmas holiday.

**Attention KidZone children! TODAY** we will enjoy a Happy Birthday Jesus Party together! Come enjoy this special event!

Thank you to those who picked up an **Advent Box!** Your change will be used to kick off our Feed the Hunger Pack-a-Thon on Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>. **Please return your boxes on January 1<sup>st</sup>.**

Trinity Youth Fellowship has your mail! The sorted cards from the **Christmas Mailbox** are out in the Atrium. **Please remember to pick yours up!** They are in alphabetical order by last name. Don't forget to thank a teen for this loving service! **Donations are accepted for this youth project and will be used towards the Trinity Youth Mission Trip in June.**

Start the morning off right at the "**Last Thursday Breakfast**", **Thursday, December 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am** at Oakcrest Restaurant on Battleground Avenue. All are welcome - Come join us for this fellowship!

Mark your calendars - **Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 pm** is our **New Year's Eve Service**. This is a special time to stop and thank God for all His blessings of the past year and commit the coming year into His hands.

Join us for a **combined service at 10:30 am on Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup>**. There will be no early service or Sunday School. All Sunday school classes will resume on Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Financial update:** Of our 4<sup>th</sup> quarter goal of \$144,000, \$115,057 has been received as of 12/25. God and our congregation have always been faithful in providing for our needs and we are confident that the remaining \$28,943 needed to fully fund our ministries will be gifted to Trinity during December. Thank you for the many ways that each of you bless our Church.

**Trinity Church will honor the memory and ministry of former associate pastor, David Bowden on Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, at the 10:30 worship service.** Following the worship service, there will be a reception in the Christian Life Center. At the reception, Pastor Marc will announce the naming of the Gym for David. Please plan to join us and **invite anyone that knew David to attend.**



Start the New Year with **Mary Martha - Tuesday, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 am** in the MPR. Covered dish lunch. Great fellowship, delicious food, beautiful devotions

Trinity's **Mission trip to Nicaragua** will be **June 21-28, 2017**. Approximate cost will be \$1,400 per person. Please pray about joining this trip to see what God is doing in Esteli.

Save the Date: **CBCC Blood Drive at Trinity on Monday, January 23 from 4-8 p.m.** in the CLC. Childcare provided if needed. Sign-up in Atrium or Narthex by January 18. Give the gift of life!! Contact Karen Tripp 336 312 1024 for more information.

# What's Happening

## Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

10:30 a.m. Combined Worship  
1:00 p.m. Slavic Church

## Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>

9:30 a.m. Senior Fitness at A.C.T.

## Wednesday, December 28<sup>th</sup>

There will be NO prayer meeting.

\* **Bulletin announcements due by Noon.**

## Thursday, December 29<sup>th</sup>

8:30 a.m. "Last Thursday" Breakfast at Oakcrest  
9:30 a.m. Senior Fitness at A.C.T.  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

## Saturday, December 31st

5:30 p.m. New Years Eve Service

## Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup>

10:30 a.m. Combined Worship  
1:00 p.m. Slavic Church

*Church office will be closed December 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>.*

*Prayer meetings will resume on Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>.*

*Sunday School will resume the normal schedule on January 8<sup>th</sup>.*

*Youth & Pioneers Club will resume on Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 5pm.*

### Each Sunday: 3 yrs. – grade 3

9:30 – 10:15am Sunday school, Bible stories, crafts, and learning activities  
10:30 – 11:00am Worship experience in sanctuary with parents  
11:00 – 11:15am KidZone: children dismissed for life lessons from the Bible  
11:15 – 11:35am Snacks and guided recreational activities



#### Our Nursery Workers:

December 25<sup>th</sup> – Donna Battaille, Gracie Battaille  
January 1<sup>st</sup> - Mary Grace Thomas, Gracie Battaille



#### Today's Greeters:

Mike Lumley, Jan Stoneman  
Tom & Christa van de Klashorst

*For unto us  
a child is born,  
..... HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED  
Wonderful Counsellor,  
THE MIGHTY GOD  
THE EVERLASTING FATHER,  
The Prince of Peace.*

Isaiah 9:6



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Rev. Dr. Marcus B. Putnam

**Website:** [TrinityChurchgso.org](http://TrinityChurchgso.org)

**Facebook:** Trinity Evangelical Covenant Church