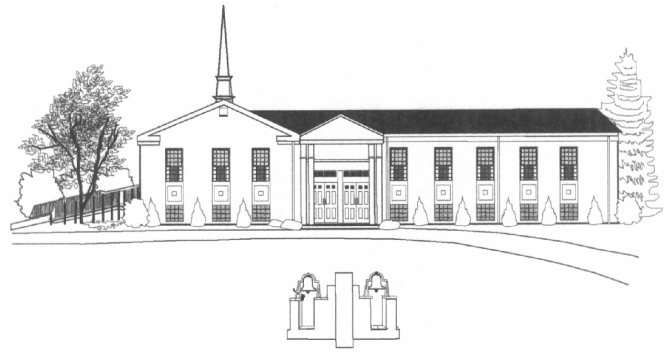


THE LOVELETTER
DECEMBER 2022
TRINITY UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

Rev. Robert E. Stump
Church Office Phone...532-7606
Website...www.trinitywb.org
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rstamp@susumc.org



From the Pastor
In the Name of the One Who Gave His All

What has happened to Christmas?

As I sit down to write this, the stores I shop at, both in person and online, are in full Black Friday mode. I am writing this on the Wednesday *before* Thanksgiving! Every year the Christmas decorations appear earlier and earlier. I am quite sure I walked my first Christmas aisle in a Walmart the week after my birthday, *the second week of August!!!*

God's gift of His Son is not a call to buy something nice, something shiny, something new. It is a call emulate God's self-giving nature. It is a call to become a generous people, a people who trust God to supply all our needs and share with joy the abundance with which God blesses us. Bruce Barton's Tale of Two Seas provides us with an example of this joyful sharing built right into the very geography of the land we call Holy.

A Tale of Two Seas

by Bruce Barton

There are two seas in Palestine. One is fresh and fish are in it. Slashes of green adorn its banks. Trees spread their branches over it and stretch out their roots to sip its healing water. Along its shore the children play.

The River Jordan makes this sea with sparkling water from the hills. So it laughs in the sunshine...and every kind of life is happier because it is there.

The River Jordan flows on south into another sea. There is no splash of fun, no fluttering leaf, no song of birds, no children's laughter. The air hangs heavy about its waters, and neither man nor beast nor fowl will drink.

What makes the difference in these neighboring seas? Not the River Jordan. Not the soil in which they live; not the country round about them.

This is the difference: The Sea of Galilee receives but does not keep the Jordan. For every drop that flows into it, another flows out. The giving and receiving are in equal measure. The other sea is shrewder, hoarding its income jealously. It will not be tempted to any generous impulse. Every drop it gets, it keeps. The Sea of Galilee gives and lives. The other sea gives nothing and dies. It is named The Dead Sea.

There are two kinds of people in the world.

There are two seas in Palestine.

Like the Sea of Galilee, which returns every blessing it receives from the Jordan River, so we are called by our loving God to be channels of blessing to others. Everything we have is a gift from God.

We receive God's gifts thankfully. We use God's gifts to care for our needs and the needs of our family. But the circle of blessing doesn't end there: We use God's gifts to be a blessing to others.

If we withhold, we grow foul and die (like the Dead Sea). If we share our blessings with others, we are filled with life and joy (like the Sea of Galilee).

May you have a blessed Advent and a Christmas filled with joy.

See you on Sunday!

PB

WORSHIP AT TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of WALNUT BOTTOM

December 4, 2022 to January 1, 2023

Advent/Christmas Season

"Those Who Lived in Deep Darkness

On Them Light Has Shined" – Isaiah 9:2b

The asterisk () indicates the focus text for the sermon.*

Sunday, December 4, 2022

The 2nd Sunday of Advent

Altar Color: Blue

Communion Sunday

*Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12

Sermon Title: Something to Believe In

Our world is filled with conflict. We are divided and each has taken a side. (One must remember that I began dreaming up this sermon in October in the run up to the mid-term elections!)

We are divided: Liberal vs. Conservative, Republican vs. Democrat, Rich vs. Poor.

We are divided by race, by gender, by religion, and on and on and on.

Isaiah presents God's plan for a day when conflicted is ended. The series of paintings by Edward Hicks depicts God's Peaceable Kingdom where fear and conflict, even between predator and prey is ended. All is peace.

Isaiah notes, ***"and a little child shall lead them."*** *Isaiah 11:6d*

I am intrigued by this note. Have you ever been led by a child? A child cannot lead with force or wit. A child leads in naïve innocence. A child takes your hand and leads you into her imagined world of joy and peace, wonder and beauty. A child takes your hand and helps you see the world once again through eyes of wonder. "Look, look how Mr. Frog hops! Isn't that silly?!"

This attitude of naïve innocence is the best way to receive the hope in Christ which overcomes the darkness of this world. The better world we dream of is not here yet – not entirely. Like a child, we can see it coming. Like a child, we can take steps to bring into reality the world God has cause us and the prophets before us to imagine.

Sunday, December 11, 2022

The 3rd Sunday of Advent

Altar Color: Blue

*Isaiah 35:1-10; *Psalm 146:5-10; Luke 1:46b-55; James 5:7-10; *Matthew 11:2-11

Sermon Title: Sing for Joy!

Isaiah chapter thirty – five is a transitional point in the Book of Isaiah. Earlier, Isaiah's primary focus is

to warn the people of Israel that the path they are on will lead to their destruction. After this chapter, his primary focus turns to comfort and hope. I say “primary” because the division is not sharp. Our prophet mixes his warning with hope and his comfort with warning – after all – he is speaking the truth of a real, living relationship with God. There is always warning mixed with hope, judgement mixed with forgiveness.

Chapter thirty – five is most hopeful. The people had been living in exile, far from their homeland for years. Several generations have passed. Now they are going home. The way is clear. It is like the desert has blossomed! A highway has appeared! Water flows aplenty! (This is something very important to note in this arid region!) The people are well provisioned! The weak are suddenly strong! The deaf hear! The lame walk! The blind see! Mute tongues are loosened and burst forth into songs of praise.

Why all this rejoicing? God is with them. God will lead them through all the dangers, toils, and snares to the promised land of plenty and fulfilment.

Amid our own deserts of doubt and struggle, Jesus is with us. It might be hard to see him, but he is here with us now. Where Jesus is, there is healing and hope, provision and life everlasting.

Sunday, December 18, 2022 The 4th Sunday of Advent Altar Color: Blue

*Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Romans 1:1-7; *Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon Title: Bystander or Actor

Poor Joseph! When we meet him in today’s text all he is doing is looking forward to his upcoming marriage to Mary.

Now, in his world, what our bible translation called an “engagement” carried much more weight. He was committed to her and she to him. The only way out was a divorce – and that was a rare thing.

But then this talk – she is found to be with child – of the Holy Spirit – so she says.

What is Joseph to do?

His legal options range from a quiet divorce to a public stoning. He was the injured party. Mary was his wife! But – since he really loved her, he would choose the least injurious route and divorce her quietly and move on. Sad for both, but they must move on. Out of love he would do this!

Then there was this dream: An angel appeared and said, “***Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.***” The was enough to him to change his mind. He did as the angel said and became a husband to Mary and an earthly father to Jesus.

Joseph could have chosen to pull himself out of the action. He could have divorced her quietly and been a mere bystander, a spectator in all the drama that was to come. He chose to engage. He chose to become an actor in the drama. He faced ridicule as he married an already expecting wife. He faced rejection from his family as they tried to find room in Bethlehem the night of the birth. He fled Herod’s wrath with his family to Egypt and then settled in Nazareth when the threat was over.

He became an active participant in the story of Jesus’ early life. In doing so, he took his part in bringing the presence of God into the world through his son, Jesus.

When it comes to matters of faith, I hope that you are not content to be mere spectators. Each of us who name Christ as our Savior and claim him as our Lord and King and Sovereign are called to take an active part in bringing his light into our darkened world. We are called to be actors, not bystanders.

Saturday, December 24, 2022 Christmas Eve Altar Color: White

Isaiah 9:5-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; *Luke 2:1-20

Sermon Title: “O Little Town”

This evening’s sermon is going to be my reflections on the Christmas Carol, “O Little Town of Bethlehem.”

Since I was a boy, this Carol has fascinated me! It conveys the silent, unseen mystery of God coming in the flesh, of Christ coming as hope to answer human fear. With the angels, we adore him. As he entered the human realm that glorious night, so, we pray, may he enter our hearts and dwell there.

Sunday, December 25, 2022 Christmas Day Altar Color: White

Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; *Hebrews 1:1-12; *John 1:1-14

Sermon Title: “Break Forth Together into Singing”

A child asks, “Who is Jesus Christ?” What do you tell her?

An unchurched friend asks the same question, how do you approach the answer so he might better understand you faith – and – just perhaps – accept Christ for himself.

How do you explain Jesus Christ to yourself?

People of faith have wrestled with this question ever since messengers first went forth proclaiming Christ as Lord. In answer to the question, “Who is Jesus Christ?” the great Creeds of the Church, the *Apostles’ Creed* and the *Nicene Creed* were written. These Creeds answer this question in terms of Christ’s relationship with the Father, Christ’s relationship with us, how Christ saved us, and became our King of kings and Lord of lords.

Isaiah, foretelling of messengers of the King of kings and Lord of lords waxes poetic about the messengers and their messenger. The author of Hebrews and St. John also are poetic as they take their best shot at describe Christ as “High Priest”, “Son of God”, “the Word”, “God in the flesh”, and “light”.

Certainly, we can see his glory, God’s glory and it causes us to raise our voices in poetry and song. We cannot fully understand it, but we affirm, with the Author of Hebrews, that Christ ***“had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on High ...”*** The phrase, ***“he sat down”*** says that the work is complete. We are saved and that is the end of it!

Sunday, January 1, 2023

The Epiphany of our Lord

Altar Color: White

Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; *Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon Title: “What are You Afraid of, King Herod?”

Let’s notice the verbs, the action words Matthew uses in conjunction with the Wisemen:

“Observed the star at its rising.”

“Have come to pay him homage.”

“Saw the Star.”

“Overwhelmed with joy.”

“Knelt down and paid homage.”

“Offered gifts.”

Contrast that with Herod:

“Frightened.”

“Inquired.”

“Learned.”

“Saying.” And, of course, when we look at what he said versus what he does, we know there is a deceptive tone to what he says.

The Wise Men came to worship and adore the Christ Child.

Herod’s actions were motivated by fear. He was shaking in his boots and all the leaders in Jerusalem were shaking in their boots.

With the birth of this Holy Child, their power in the political and religious realms will be challenged.

With this birth, the world is changing. God’s Kingdom has drawn near because the Lord God Himself has now come among us!

With this birth, the whole world, not just the chosen people, are included in God’s Kingdom. This was the plan all along, the leaders just never got it or chose to ignore it.

Herod and all who resist God’s Kingdom of Love and Light best be afraid.

The rest of us, can rejoice:

Sinners are saved.

Outcasts are welcomed.

All will have enough.

All will live together in peace.

DECEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS...

KEYBOARD...

04 Megan Pipp
11 Kim Holmes
18 Megan Pipp
25 Kim Holmes

LITURGIST...

04 Ron Kunkleman
11 Marylue Durff
18 Mike Wadel
25 Dave Evelhoch

SOUND SYSTEM...

04 Mike Wadel
11 Dave Evelhoch
18 Scott Gleim
25 Mike Wadel

COMPUTER...

04 Cheryl Stevens
11 Cheryl Stevens
18 Al Grove
25 Al Grove

LIVESTREAM...

04 Crystal Paisley
11 Megan Orris
18 Corrie Wadel
25 Charlotte Klingshirn

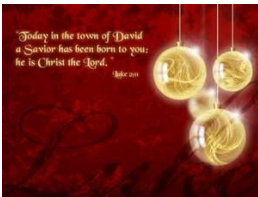
COMMUNION STEWARDS....

04 Marylue Durff
and
Kathy Engel

USHERS...

the Gleim Family



				01	02 06:00 pm Hanging of the Greens	03 09 am/12 pm Clothing Bank @ TFC
04 09 am Holy Communion 10:15 am Ssc Children's Bell Choir	05	06	07 12:30 pm Fellowship Luncheon @ Greenvillage 07 pm Choir	08	09	10 09 am/12 pm Clothing Bank @ TFC
11 09 am Worship 10:15 am Ssc	12	13	14 09 am/12 pm Clothing Bank @ TFC 07 pm Choir	15	16	17 09 am/12 pm Clothing Bank @ TFC
18 09 am Worship 10:15 am Ssc – Children's Sharing Tree Jan. Loveletter Deadline	19 07 pm Church Council mtg.	20	21	22	23	24 07 pm Christmas Eve Service 
25 09 am Worship 	26	27	28 09 am/12 pm Clothing Bank @ TFC	29	30	31 

The JANUARY LOVELETTER DEADLINE is SUNDAY, DECEMBER

hallway.

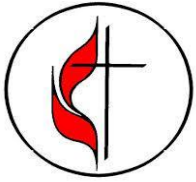
FOOD BANK NEWS...It's that time again...the Holidays are quickly approaching! The Food Bank is gearing up for food basket season and needs your help. Many people have fallen on hard times and are trying to work their way through it. We will be taking names of families from our congregation and the local area that could benefit from a little Christian love and support. If you know of anyone, please inform Corrie Wadel or the Church Office.

- Canned Vegetables & Yams
- Canned Potatoes & Jars of Gravy
- Canned Tuna and Chicken
- Pasta & Rice mixes, Mac & Cheese
- Canned Fruits & Cranberry Sauce
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Misc. Soups & Creamed Soups
- Spaghetti Sauce & Noodles
- Pancake Mix, Syrup, Oatmeal & Cereal
- Baking Mixes, Pie Filling & Pie Crusts

Thank you and God Bless to everyone for your continued support of our Mission!



Saturday, December 24th @ 07:00 p.m.



TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**learning, loving, and seeking to live like
Christ.**

Please join us

every Sunday:

9 AM – worship service

10:15 AM – Sunday school for all ages

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12/2 - Hanging of the Greens at 6 PM
12/17 – Wreaths Across America – noon at pavilion
12/18 - Children's Sharing Tree in SS at 10:15 AM
12/24 - Christmas Eve service at 7 PM
12/25 - Christmas service at 9 AM
January 1, 2023 – Happy New Year!

*Check the Sunday bulletins for additional activities
and for further details*

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Trinity's Clothing Closet

OPEN from 9 AM until noon

- Every Saturday
- AND the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays

ACCEPTED - Gently used or new clothing, children's toys, books, & small household items will be accepted when Clothing Closet is open.

FREE - There is also a table in the hallway that is filled with free items such as books, magazines, children's items, and small decorative items. Take what you can use or share with others!



PLEASE save your unwanted Christmas and Easter decorations for Trinity's Clothing Bank. See Nancy Dobbs if you have any questions.

Thank you to everyone who donated items that were sold at Country Christmas Craft Show! It was the best day ever for sales.

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*Come to Sunday School
at 10:15 AM each Sunday!*

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**Be alert for ways you can help
serve our community by**



□ □

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For all **immediate personal pastoral needs**, please call
Pastor Bob directly at 717-532-7606 or
814-414-8632 or email rstump@susumc.org or
trinitywb@embarqmail.com



Isaiah 9:6-7 New International Version

A CHILD HAS BEEN
BORN FOR US,
A SON IS GIVEN
TO US;
AUTHORITY RESTS
UPON HIM; AND
HE IS NAMED
JESUS.

ISAIAH 9:6, MATTHEW 1:25

055 FISH



Remember **Trinity's Clothing Bank** when you are



deciding which Christmas decorations to keep or share with others. Nancy Dobbs would appreciate donations of your unwanted Christmas decorations. She also asks for Easter decorations as well. See Nancy for more information.

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Pastor Harold & Dianne Bolyard

Sadly, the Bolyards lost their home and all its contents to a devastating fire in Sarasota, FL during Hurricane Ian. Fortunately, they are safe because they had gone to stay in a nearby hotel prior to the arrival of the storm. Doug Goodhart has been in communication with them. They are staying at a friend's home in their same development for a month. Then they hope to move into their daughter's home if the renovations are finished by then. They figure their new home will take from 6-12 months to be ready.

Some ways you can help Pastor Harold and Dianne:

1. Write out a check payable to TUMC with the word *Bolyards* in the memo line. (
2. Put money into the Mission Can throughout December.
3. Support a Chicken BBQ 2/5/2023.

Thanks to those who gave at the craft show and to those who have already given.

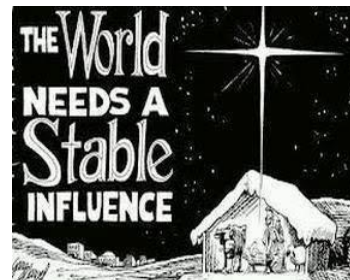
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PRAYER

P – Praise
R – Remember
A – Ask
Y – Yield
E – Expect
R – Receive



XX



If you look for me at Christmas, you won't need a special star. I'm no longer just in Bethlehem, I'm right there where you are. You may not be aware of me, amid the celebrations. You'll have to look beyond the stores, and all the decorations. But if you take a moment from your list of things to do, and listen to your heart, you'll find I'm waiting there for you. You're the one I want to be with. You're the reason that I came. And you'll find me in the stillness as I'm whispering your name. Love, Jesus

CHRISTmas – The most important part?
The 1st 6 letters!

Being a responsible steward of God's blessings is important. Here are some ways you can become a better steward:



Trinity's Clothing Closet – Please donate your unwanted new or gently used clothing of all sizes, children's toys & books, small household items, & decorative items.

Note – There is also a FREE table where you can place assorted unwanted items, such as magazines, household items, books, and other odds & ends. One person's trash is another's treasure!

Jacksonville Lion's Club – Our local Lions Club collects eyeglasses & cases, hearing aids, used printer cartridges, medical equipment, assistive devices (wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, shower/tub seats, bedside potty chairs, etc.) If in doubt, ask.

Smaller items can be placed in boxes in the church and TFC foyers. Call Dave at 422-8907 for more donation information or to borrow medical aids on a temporary basis.

Mission Central – This busy United Methodist facility in Mechanicsburg is home to MANY missions within the warehouse and around the world. They accept old cell phones, electronics, large household items, and almost anything else that could possibly be used by others (except TVs).

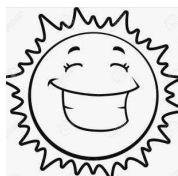
Shoes – One ongoing project is collecting shoes. If you have usable but unwanted shoes or footwear to donate, they can be placed in the short hallway in TFC (the one that leads to the pavilion), or take your donations directly to Mission Central. Give Mission Central a call at 766-1533 for specific inquiries.

Changing Hands – This equipment exchange & reuse program is run by the United Cerebral Palsy of Central PA. Call 1-800-996-4827 to donate hover lifts, scooters, communication devices, vision aids, and many other items.

[illegible]

*Thank you for being a good
steward of our resources!*

□ □



Share a smile!
Help others!
A happy heart makes a face

MISSION CENTRAL

“Connecting God’s Resources with Human Need”



Mission warehouse affiliate of the Susquehanna Conference of the United Methodist Church that is partnered with other denominations &

nondenominational programs in over 80 ministries throughout PA & around the world.

Goals: disaster response, mission outreach, and mission education

Contact info – 5 Pleasant View Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050 Phone – 717-766-1533

www.missioncentral.org

Hours for making donations – M-F (9AM – 3:30PM); Sat (9AM – 1PM); Sun. (closed)

Warehouse location – just off Rt. 114 (Hogestown Rd./North York Rd.) between Rt. 11 at Hogestown and Mechanicsburg’s West Main Street (Trindle Rd.)

How can you help them help others?

Accepted donations – They can find a “home” for almost anything, but this is a list of **accepted** things: computers & all electronic equipment (**NO** TVs); medical equipment – from Band-Aids to hospital beds; gently used toys & stuffed animals & clothing; books; VBS materials; furniture; houseware items from kitchen items to mattresses; nutrition drinks.

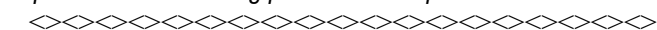
UMCOR (*United Methodist Committee on Relief*) Relief Kit supplies, Cleaning Buckets (Specific lists for kits are found on-line or by calling 717-766-1533.) Volunteers are also needed. Call ahead. Cash donations are always appreciated.

Special notes:

1. Food donations for Bethesda Mission can also be dropped off at Mission Central’s donation station.
2. Christmas decorations are only accepted in November.
3. **CANNOT** be accepted: TVs; pharmaceuticals; knickknacks; baby equipment; SS materials; used construction materials
4. If in doubt, call 766-1533 and ask.

5. If you are interested in the ministries partnered with Mission Central, in addition to the Computer Ministry, UMCOR, Bethesda Mission, New Digs Ministry, and Project C.U.R.E., you’ll find a long list of 80+ at

<http://missioncentral.org/partners/other-partners/>

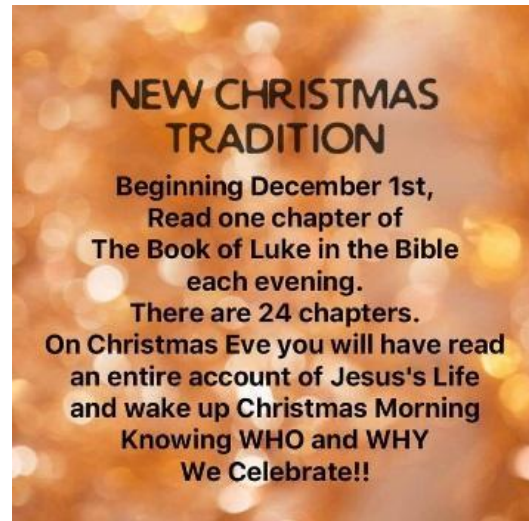


NOTE ---- SHOES – all sizes! – are now collected all year round at Mission Central. As long as there is “soul in the soles,” they are good to donate! See Dave or Betty Evelhoch if you have footwear to donate to Mission Central, or you can deliver them yourself to Mechanicsburg. Donations of footwear can be placed in the short hallway in TFC (the door that leads to the pavilion).



While you may feel stressed, do not forget that you are blessed.

NEW Christmas Traditions



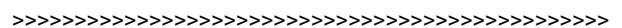
Journey to Bethlehem – Instead of using Elf on the Shelf, try this idea: Find small figurines of Mary & Joseph. Move them through your house on their “journey to Bethlehem” and end up at your Nativity scene on Christmas Eve. Then read the Nativity story together as a family activity.



We will never change the world by going TO church. We will only change the world by B*I*N*G the church.



**Be kind!
Make a difference!**



Events at TFC? – When we have activities at TFC for the public, please be courteous and park by the kitchen OR on the front yard grass OR close to the

church building. Leave the “prime parking spaces” for our guests. Thank you!

Using TFC or Pavilion?

Book ASAP in writing.

Reservations must be **in writing** for everyone – individuals AND church groups AND any other groups.

Church group needing paper goods? Simple! Just make those needs known in advance & reimburse TFC Building Fund, or buy your own supplies.

See Dave Evelhoch or put a note in his church mailbox or call him at 422-8907, or call the church secretary for more information.

Honor God with your presence and your presents!



My dear precious Jesus, I did not mean to take your place.
I only bring toys and things, and you bring Love and Grace.
People give me lists of wishes and hope that they came true,
But you hear prayers of the heart and promise your will to do.
Children try to be good & not to cry when I am coming to town,
But you love them unconditionally and that love will abound.
I leave only a bag of toys and temporary joy for a season,
But you leave a heart of love, full of purpose and reasons.
I have a lot of believers and what one might call fame,
But I never healed the blind or tried to help the lame.
I have rosy cheeks and a voice full of laughter,
But no nail-scarred hands or a promise of the hereafter.
You may find several of me in town or at a mall,
But there is only one omnipotent You, to answer a sinner's call.
And so, my dear precious Jesus, I kneel here to pray,
To worship and adore you on this, Your Holy Birthday. *Santa*

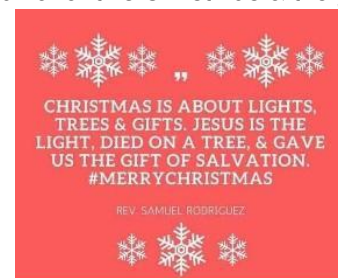
Author Unknown

FAITH makes all things possible.

HOPE makes all things work.

LOVE makes all things beautiful.

May you have all 3 for this Christmas & the year ahead!



"Remember, God is Three in One."

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA
Saturday, December 17, 2022
Noon at Trinity's pavilion
Everyone is welcome!

**WREATHS ACROSS
AMERICA**

For the first time, Wreaths
Across America will come to
Walnut Bottom! Both the



Jacksonville and Rehoboth Cemeteries will have balsam
wreaths placed on all veterans' graves on December 17.

This national program serves to remember the fallen,
honor those that serve and their families, and teach our
children to value freedom.

Wreaths for Walnut Bottom have been completely paid for
by the Cumberland County 4-H Horse Club, the
Jacksonville Lions Club, and private individuals.

If you would like to volunteer to place wreaths or just
show your support, the opening ceremony takes place at
noon at Trinity's pavilion and will continue as people who
would like to place wreaths carpool to the two cemeteries
to place the wreaths. Talk to Dave Evelhoch for further
information.

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THE TRINITY SNOWMAN

When you see a snowman

Three snowballs round,

He is reminding you

That "in God, Three in One are found."

The bottom reminds us of God, the Father,

Our strong rock & foundation,

The Creator of all living things,

People, tribes, and nations.

The middle shows us God. The Son

With his arms open wide,

Who died on the cross for each of us.

Our sins Jesus' blood did hide.

The head reminds us of God, the Holy Spirit

Who is our Counselor and Friend.

He speaks to our hearts and minds,

Transforming us in the likeness of Him.

So when you see a snowman

In the midst of all the wintertime fun,

Listen carefully, and He'll tell you

THANK YOU to everyone who helped in any way to make our 23rd annual Country Christmas Craft Show successful! The sunny, spring-like day brought many new and returning people to TFC. The extended community enjoys the craft show and the food as well as the opportunity to get those one-of-a-kind bargains or free items from Trinity's Clothing Bank.

Many thanks go to the faithful volunteers who helped with the preparations ahead of time – cleaning & decorating the building, set-up of the spaces for crafters, food preparations, putting up signs, greeting & helping the night before the craft show, and the many prayers.

Much appreciation goes to the dedicated workers from 5 AM Saturday until after 4 PM the day of the event. Thanks to the well-organized kitchen crew, the vehicle parking help, the inside workers from one end of the building to the other, and to the clean-up crew who set up the classrooms for Sunday school the next day. Thanks are extended to the crafters who helped with publicity & set up their crafts.

It is not possible to name all the helpers, but special thanks to Al Grove who has made and posted the many signs around TFC property for the day of the craft shows. He has now resigned from sign duty, so we need a volunteer to step up and do that. Any volunteers?

The craft show takes a LOT of work from a lot of people!

Trinity Craft Shows Info

Spring Bloom Craft Show is always held two Saturdays before Easter weekend. March 25, 2023 will be the next Spring Bloom Craft Show because Easter will be April 9, 2023.

Country Christmas Craft Show is always the second Saturday in November. The 2023 Country Christmas Craft Show will be November 11.

Applications are available *after January 1* for Spring Bloom and *after July 1* for Country Christmas. Go to Trinity Craft Shows on Facebook for more information or contact Betty B. Evelhoch. Preference for space assignments goes to crafters.



LOVE was born at Christmas.
A silent night, a star above.
A blessed gift of HOPE and LOVE.

Jesus is the reason for the season!

FOUR GIFTS TO BUY YOUR CHILDREN

A good rule that helps keep gift giving in check, and is practical, is to buy your children –

- ☐ Something they want
- ☐ Something they need
- ☐ Something to wear
- ☐ Something to read.

ADVENT OF KINDNESS



Spread kindness each day in Advent. Use these suggestions and add more of your own! Kindness is contagious, so spread it around!

Give someone a hug or compliment. Let someone in front of you in line. Buy a friend or colleague coffee. Hold the door open for someone. Give a friend or love done your full attention. Donate a Christmas present to a charity. Tell a joke to make someone smile. Hide a happy note for someone to find. Donate unwanted books to charity. Tape some money on a vending machine. Smile at a stranger ... or 2 ... or 15! Get in touch with an old friend or relative. Let a car in front of you in traffic. Write or send a thank you note to someone. Smile & thank someone who serves you. Tell someone you love them. Pay for a stranger's coffee. Offer to help someone. Feed animals (birds, deer, etc.). Donate unwanted usable clothing to charity. Do something unexpected for someone. Give a treat to your postal carrier. Do something kind for yourself. Reflect & record how much joy the season brought you.

'Tis
The
Season



'Tis
The
Reason



*Be blessed
at Christmas
and all year
round.*

GOD-GIVEN GIFTS

God is using the details of your life to develop your gifts. That's why we should:

1. **Learn from every experience.** Both mistakes and successes are good teachers. *Philippians 3:12-13*
2. **Humbly listen to correction.** Listening to more mature/experienced people keeps us from learning everything the hard way. *Proverbs 19:20; Proverbs 1:8*
3. **Never stop learning.** Don't ever retire from God's work. *Psalm 92:12-15*

God designs each of us uniquely.
Let's never stop learning & serving.

"God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another."
1 Peter 4:10 NLT

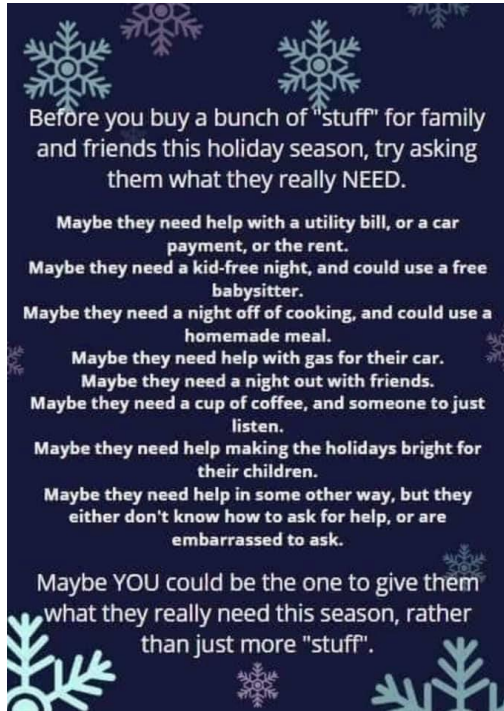
Gail Burton Purath, BibleLoveNotes.com

She will give **birth** to a son, and you are to give Him the name **Jesus**, because He will save His people from their sins.” Matthew 1:21 NIV (New International Version)

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May your Christmas
be wrapped in the blessings
of His love.

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Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable Gift.
2 Corinthians 9:15

CHRISTMAS PRAYERS

FAITH – Father God, it is by Your grace we have been saved, and through our faith; this is not from ourselves, but a gift from you – not by our works. *Ephesians 2:8-9*

HOPE – May the God of Hope fill you with all joy & peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in Hope. *Romans 15:4*

LOVE – Help us to love because You first loved us.
1 John 4:19

KINDNESS – Let us be kind & compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as through Jesus, You forgave us.
Ephesians 4:32

SALVATION – Thank You for providing Jesus who is the way, the truth, the life and the only way to You. *John 14:6*