



Trinity Memorial Church  
444 Pennsylvania Ave W.  
Warren, PA 16365  
814.723.9360  
www.trinitywarren.org

The Rev. Matthew Scott  
Priest-in-Charge  
msrev2007@gmail.com

Paul Crouch  
Organist-Choirmaster  
pdcrouch@atlanticbb.net

Tara Hoffman  
Nursery Care Supervisor

Barbara Winslow  
Secretary  
barb@trinitywarren.org

*Inside:*

<i>Change &amp; Request</i>	2
<i>Youth, Education</i>	3
<i>Christmas Schedule</i>	4
<i>Outreach</i>	5
<i>Treasurer's Report, Miscellaneous</i>	6
<i>Prayers</i>	7

**“Creator of the Stars of night...we pray you hear us when we call” (Hymn 60)**

Advent falls on the darkest days of the year, when the glorious sun spends the least amount of time illuminating our days. At the same time, we liturgically dwell in the spiritual space of waiting and longing for Christ to enter our lives as we prepare for the joyous Nativity season that is coming soon. The natural connection for us to make is to lean on our hope filled faith to get us through the darkness, both physical and spiritual. Is there any better light than the light of Jesus?

These images of darkness and desired light also can be drawn around our parish’s current life together. Trinity parishioners have by in large come to understand that we are being challenged in a variety of ways. As we highlighted during the Annual Meeting in January, we are not in a strong financial state. Our beautiful building is not getting any younger, and it has required extensive work in the past decade and many of us feel it needs more work in order to offer us the space to grow our ministries and stay attuned to the needs of our people. Our loving family of faithful members is getting older demographically, while we lack a stream of new members coming into our community. And the CAT survey that we undertook has revealed many areas that we as a community feel need our attention.

These challenges can be seen as long shadows being cast over us, much like the long nights that fill this Advent and early winter season. Yet much like the Advent hope that sustains us in the darkness of December, there are remarkable pools of light that are filling our community, too. Our fall stewardship drive resulted in an increase in pledging for next year, a sign of renewed commitment and faith by so many members of our community. The CAT survey revealed a remarkable level of spiritual commitment and depth in our community, so much so that the diocesan consultants who have been walking with us through the survey results said that we should lean on our spiritual strength as a source of momentum for the parish. And time and again comments are heard about the exciting atmosphere we are enjoying together in worship, education events, and community gatherings. There are many lights for us to be guided and encouraged by.

The journey then continues with some important work for us as a community. As we did last year, we will spend this month of December discerning who will be a part of our vestry. We have four seats that need to be filled this year to continue our nine person format. As important decisions come up and the work of loving our community through change becomes ever more urgent, raising up leaders for our vestry becomes key. Without a strong and committed vestry comprised of individually committed and spiritually led

*(Continued on page 2)*



disciples, we will not have the power and direction necessary to make progress.

Prayerfully consider how your voice will be heard in helping to form the transformational leadership for Trinity's future. Will it be by speaking up and asking others their opinions so that we can come to greater consensus and courage? Will it be by making the commitment yourself to two or three years of prayerful work as a transformational member of the vestry? Will it be to dedicate more time in your life to praying for Christ's guidance as we, a faith-filled gathering of disciples, make the journey to new birth that lies at the other end of this time of discernment and change? Maybe for you, it will be all of the above.

Our prayer to the creator of the stars above is that he hears us, and sends us his Word, that with his leadership we will find our way out of any shadows and into his glorious light. With our faith as our guide, Trinity's Advent will lead to new life that will have us shouting our heartfelt thanks to God.

*Matthew*

Matthew +  
814-723-9360 (office)  
msrev2007@gmail.com (email)

### **Parish Administrator Changes**

After two months of exploratory conversations and planning, Trinity and St. Francis Episcopal Church in Youngsville have agreed to share a parish administrator. The plan calls for our Parish administrator to spend 10 hours of the week in Youngsville and the remaining 25 hours here in Warren. Barb Winslow, our current Parish Administrator has been involved with the conversations from the beginning and is excited to work in this new partnership.

Some background may be helpful. The parish administrator at Trinity has been a 35 hour per week position since Barb Winslow took the position in 1991. In that time the job description has changed many times, sometimes including Sunday nursery work, parish sexton roles, and vestry support work. By streamlining some of her work and turning to lay volunteers to pick up other roles, Trinity will realize a \$10,000 savings by sharing her with St. Francis.

Opportunities for volunteering in support of various roles and chores that the parish administrator will no longer be responsible for will be discussed at church over the next few weeks as we implement the changes. At the present time the plan is for Barb to spend all day Tuesday along with Thursday afternoon in Youngsville.

### **Exploring Music: Hymn Requests**

One facet the CAT survey highlighted was that music is a core value of Trinity's life, and at present there is a wide diversity of opinions about how music is utilized in our worship and community life. To encourage the growth of a healthy parish conversation around our music, the vestry invites you to suggest hymns for our upcoming services. A suggestion sheet is now in the Narthex for you to make your suggestions for the Christmas and Epiphany seasons. These suggestions will be taken up by a committee, who along with our Priest-in-Charge and our Organist will work to incorporate your suggestions into our worship.

This will be the first step in an ongoing process of conversation and exploration of how we enjoy music together as a parish. The parish's music committee will follow up with other opportunities for conversation and exploration next year.

### Youth Group Plays with Fire on December 4<sup>th</sup>

Last Sunday Youth, having moved their November meeting to the first Sunday of December (December 4<sup>th</sup>), are going to be playing with fire! All teens are invited to join with Father Matthew, Pat Hesch, and Addy Landrio from 5 to 7PM as we explore the many ways fire plays a role in our worship lives, from kindling the first fire at the Easter Vigil, to lighting candles at various times and places, to swinging a thurible and enjoying the smell of incense.

Of course, dinner is also provided. Bring a friend! **One favor please:** let us know by the end of worship on Sunday that you will be coming so we can get enough to eat.

### Bead Making

Join Denise Ely and other parishioners in making Anglican Prayer Beads. Class will be held after worship on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up in the Narthex and indicate a preference on bead color so Denise can arrange for materials.

### Education Hour Activities for December

- Each Sunday after church and coffee hour
- 4th To be announced
  - 11th Making Prayer Beads with Denise Ely
  - 18th Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (youth and children), Adults decorating the church
  - 25th Christmas Day

### Acolytes

Our October winner is —*Lilee Renninger* Lilee who now has the honor of designating \$25 dollars of outreach funding to go to her choice of local community or world charity.

All youth 11 and up, are invited to serve as an acolyte as often as they want, every Sunday if you would like! We ask any interested youth to arrive ten minutes early to dress and receive instructions on their role. Come acolyte, add your unique gifts to our worship of God, and become eligible to donate outreach dollars to a charity of your choice in December.

### Hanging of the Greens

Decorating the church will occur following the service on December 18. Many hands make light and quick work.

Donations for decorations can be made using the form located on the ushers table, or by calling the office.

If you are interested in overseeing the decorating, ordering and un-decorating, please see Father Matthew.

### Church Calendars

2012 Liturgical Calendars are available in the narthex for \$3.00.

### Note!

We will **not** be collecting calendars this year for Seamen's Institute. They have discontinued this project. Thank you for your past support.



*Thanks to all who donated a filled shoe box for Operation Christmas Child.  
30 Boxes were Collected.*



## Christmas Pageant time!

Preparations have begun for this year's Christmas Pageant, the feature of our Christmas Eve Family service. Families who will be here for the service should sign their children and young relatives up to make sure they have a place in the wonderful dramatic retelling of Luke's manger scene. Sign ups are in the Narthex, by calling the office (723-9360), or by contacting Pam Taylor or Nancy Scott. The rehearsal takes place after services on December 18<sup>th</sup>, with a run through before the service on the 24<sup>th</sup>. More details are available at church in the coming weeks.

## Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve (Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup> )	
Family Service	5:00 PM featuring Children's Pageant
Solemn service	10:30 PM Choral Service
Christmas Day (Dec 25 <sup>th</sup> )	
Simple service	9:30AM
Featuring Father Matthew with Guitar	
1 Sunday after Christmas (Jan 1)	9:30 AM
Lessons and Carols featuring our choir	

## DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Wednesday, 14th	6:00 PM	Vestry Meeting
Sunday, 18th	11:00 AM	Pageant Rehearsal Church Decorating
Saturday 24th	5:00 PM 10:30 PM	Children's Pageant/Family Service Choral Christmas Eve Service
Sunday, 25th	8:00AM 9:30 AM	Meal preparation and Delivery Simple Service
Friday & Monday 23rd & 26th		Office Closed



## Outreach at Thanksgiving

On Saturday, November 19, Trinity volunteers distributed 142 Thanksgiving food bags to families feeding 652 people in need. On Thanksgiving Day 316 hot meals were prepared and delivered to elderly and home bound in Warren and Forest counties. We were joined this year by our brothers and sisters from the Lutheran and Presbyterian churches in preparing and delivering the meals and providing pies.

Filling and Greeting; Cooking and Serving; Pie cutting and Preparing for delivery;  
And Cleaning Up.

Thank you to all those who helped in any way in our Thanksgiving outreach meals/baskets ministries.





**Please Turn in your Pledge Cards!**

Even though we blessed the pledge cards on Sunday (November 20th), Trinity would still be honored to receive your pledge to God’s mission here in Warren. Received to date: 40 pledges for \$96, 894. Please turn in your cards during a Sunday offertory or by delivering them to the church office. Every dollar counts as we take on the role of stewards of God’s bounty in putting together our budget for Christ’s mission.

**Treasurer’s Report—Operating Fund  
To October 31, 2011**

	<b>\$21,497</b>		
<b>Beginning Balance</b>			
	<b>Actual to 10/31/11</b>	<b>Budget to 10/31/2011</b>	<b>2011 Budget</b>
<b>Member Pledges</b>	\$85,626	\$100,835	\$121,000
<b>Other Regular Member Contribu- tions</b>	\$5,670	\$7,083	\$8,500
<b>Miscellaneous Other Givers</b>	<u>\$1,530</u>	<u>\$1,250</u>	<u>\$1,500</u>
<b>Total Contribu- tion</b>	<b>\$92,826</b>	<b>\$109,168</b>	<b>\$131,000</b>
<b>Other Income</b>	\$4,624	\$10,000	\$12,000
<b>Plate Income</b>	<u>\$599</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>	<u>\$1,200</u>
<b>Sub Total Income</b>	<b>\$98,049</b>	<b>\$120,168</b>	<b>\$144,200</b>
<b>Endowment</b>	\$108,500	\$108,500	\$130,200
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$206,549</b>	<b>\$228,668</b>	<b>\$274,400</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$215,046</b>	<b>\$235,707</b>	<b>\$275,918</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>(\$8,497)</b>	<b>(\$7,039)</b>	<b>(1,518)</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$13,000</b>		

**Coffee Hour Hosts**

Thanks to *Rose Mary Landon* for hosting in October, and to *Denise Ely, Donna Ball, Chris Mesmer,* and *Siby & Sunny Thomas* for hosting coffee hour in November.

Check out the table in the narthex for open Sundays in December for your opportunity to serve as host and clean up.

**2011  
CONTRIBUTIONS**

For contributions to be credited in 2011, they must be received at the church or postmarked on or before December 31.

.....  
 : The next meeting of the :  
 : Vestry is on :  
 : Thursday, December 14 :  
 : at 6:00 PM. :  
 : .....

Deadline for articles for the next newsletter is **Monday, December 28th.**

The Diocesan newsletter *The Forward* is available in the narthex or online at [www.dionwpa.org](http://www.dionwpa.org).

## Prayer for Trinity

*Almighty and gracious God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayer for the parish of Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church. By the indwelling of your Holy Spirit, enlighten and strengthen us for your service. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to know what is right, and give us courage to pursue it and grace to accomplish it. Renew us in faith, hope and charity. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, make us always thankful for your providence, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind with your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## Prayers

**In nursing/assisted living homes:** Ann Blackman, Mickey Ettinger, Frances Rhodes, (Cambridge), Judy Nobles (Warren Manor), Bill Anderson, Marcia Baker, Jean Gibb, Margaret Gilson, Betty DeLong (Rouse Home), Rhea Waples (Watson Home), Marian Edwards (Warren State Hospital)

**The Vestry:** Vivien Boger, Kathy Bowley, Barry Cunningham, Pat Hesch, Keith Hinsdale, Addy Landrio, Jim McCollough, Elaine Rhodes, Ellen Scalise

**Transition Committee:** Diane Brant, Denise Ely, Clare Glarner, Pat Hesch, Tom Jensen, Dick Klancher

**Illness/Surgery/Other Needs:** Mickey Conroy, Palmer Davis Jr., Denny Brown, Jon Ettinger, Jerry Davis, Billy Moriarity, Janet Ely, Kurt Glarner, Terry Brant, Ed Brant, Michael Brant, Amy Hindman, Pam, Phyllis, Penny, Lori Brusso, Helen Chrise, Max Sorensen, Tom & Stacy Sorensen, Tom Schuschu, Cody Stalder, Bud McCollough, Gar & Beth Spicher, Jen Spicher, Scott Mitchell, Morgan, Jeff Washburn, Brian Knisley, Ash & Jean Brant, Susan Bennett, Emma Campbell, Dave Taylor, Logan, Patrick Nuhfer, Kara Donaldson, Scott Brown, Sandy Lewis, Margaret Suttor, Denise Fink, Wendy Suder, Patty Johnson, Carrie, Matt, Peg Ploof, Bobbie Long & family, the O'Connor family, Susan Wolfe, Mabel Brown, Ron Goltz, Kathy McLaughlin, Reiner Peters, Ted, Towlesey Castles, Denny Williams, Peggy Skinner, David Powell, Julie Eberly & family, Nathan & Kristen Stewart, Don Luff, Jean, Doug, Cathy Swanson, Lacy Brant, Susan J., Jeff & family - Debbie, Jeff and Jessica, all abused children, Veryl Riley, Marie Sales, Peggy Skinner, Evertt & Nadine Shultz, Frank Jakes, Marie, Mary King, a mother's sons to help them make good decisions

**Thanksgivings:** For all the volunteers who helped with distribution of the Thanksgiving Food Bags & Delivered Meals, Payton & Mike's visit, Matthew, Our wonderful choir, Blessings of friendship

**Serving in the Armed Services:** Adam Pontious, Lenny Johnson, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division serving in Iraq; Jake Glenn serving in Afghanistan; Peter Landrio, Curtis Delattre, Grant Brown, Parker Hahn, Michael Miller, Marc Miller, Cody, Toby, & Jeremy Williams, Matthew Hammond, Jackie Shaw, José Sepulveda

**The Clergy:** Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop; Sean Rowe, our Bishop; Martha Ishman, Canon to the Ordinary; Matthew Scott, our Priest-in-Charge

**Serving justice and peace:** Christian Peacemaker Teams; House of Hope, Birds of the Sky, and Good Samaritan House in India; Center Fabio, Ivory Coast; Asociacion Rescate -Rio Dulce, Guatemala

## Prayer for the Diocese

*O God, by your grace you have called us in this diocese to a goodly fellowship of faith. Bless our Bishop, Sean, and other clergy, and all our people. Grant that your Word may be truly preached and truly heard, your Sacraments faithfully administered and faithfully received. By your Spirit, fashion our lives according to the example of your Son, and grant that we may show the power of your love to all among whom we live; through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Amen.*



**Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church**  
444 Pennsylvania Avenue West  
Warren, PA 16365  
(814)723-9360  
E-mail: [trinity@trinitywarren.org](mailto:trinity@trinitywarren.org)  
Website: [www.trinitywarren.org](http://www.trinitywarren.org)

**Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Warren, PA 16365  
Permit No. 13**

---

Volume XX Published Monthly

December 2011

Number 12

---

### **Sunday Schedule**

*Coffee & fellowship before & after the service.*

9:00 AM Healing Prayer in the Chapel

9:30 AM Holy Eucharist.  
Children's Chapel

11:00 AM Education Hour

#### **Monday**

7:00 PM Bible Study

#### **Wednesday**

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist

#### **Thursday**

4:30 PM - Warren Area Children's  
6:00PM Sacred Choir

#### **Office Hours**

8:30AM – 4:30 PM Monday— Friday