

# TRINITY TREASURES

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**Trinity's Annual Congregational Meeting** will be held on Sunday, November 14, immediately following the 10:30 A.M. worship service. The meeting will be held downstairs in the Fellowship Hall with a light lunch of sandwiches and salads. The 2022 Proposed Budget will be voted on and new council members need to be elected. It is important that all church members attend this meeting.

**A Night At Blue Ridge - A Fun And Fellowship Event** will be held at the Blue Ridge Winery on Friday evening, November 5 at 6:00 P.M. A sign-up sheet is downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.

**BIBLE STUDY** - What Is the St. John's Bible? It is the first handwritten Bible made in the last 500 years, and is filled with amazing artwork called illuminations. We will be studying a select group of these illuminations and using them as an entry point into the corresponding Bible verses. This will be a totally different way to learn about the Bible, and everyone is welcome to join the classes. We will be meeting Saturday mornings, from 9:00 to 11:00, starting on November 20 and continuing on November 27 and December 4. There might possibly be a fourth class on December 11 if there is sufficient interest. Please contact Cheryl Statham at 610-588-6713 if you plan on attending.

**A Family Thanksgiving Dinner** is being planned for Sunday, November 21 at 4:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is asked to bring a Covered Dish.

## November Birthday Greetings

James DeLaBar

James DelaBar III

Braie Haycock

Jordan Kmetz

Haakon Mathewson

Janet Miller

Nadine Miller

William Smith

Joseph Kmetz

## Where is the Hope?

How will it end? Will we finally achieve herd immunity? Will it just go away? Or will we just live with it, accepting the grim reality that many more will die from this pandemic? If that be the case, then we will live with the hope that it is not us, but them? How Christian is that? How will all of this affect our body of believers? Questions! Where is the hope?

I have been reading the story of the death of Lazarus and the response of the people. (John 11:32-44) Mary, the brother of Lazarus, was clearly angry with Jesus for not coming sooner. Mary was deeply hurt and cast blame on Jesus. “This would not have happened if you would have arrived earlier.” That is not an uncommon sentiment when someone you love and care about deeply is gone. The fact is that some people will continue to live out their lives stuck in the anger they feel and express.

As for the pandemic, some of us will live in the anger of others not being vaccinated. We know that vaccination is the best answer to the pandemic, although it is not full proof. And we will live with that anger until some form of herd immunity is achieved. Or we will resign ourselves to whatever fate awaits.

Mary, casting blame and instilling guilt on Jesus, for he was “greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved,” did not want the outcome she was experiencing. Her question was pointed and laser focused, “Couldn’t you have kept him from dying? Where were you, Jesus? Why didn’t you come sooner?” Where is the hope?

Where is the hope for us in this community of believers? The pandemic has taken its toll on our gathering and worshipping together. Do we blame others? Do we demand their presence? What do we do and how will it affect our life together? Those are and will probably remain as unanswered questions for some time. Perhaps the answer will come at Easter, when we will experience the resurrection. Or perhaps it will come when Lazarus is brought back to life. Or perhaps it will come when Jesus arrives to heal and restore the broken-hearted, the lonely, the outcasts and those who have died in innocence or anger or simply accepting fate.

The story of Lazarus is our story. It is a story of never giving up to anger and fate, never giving blame or guilt, never giving up hope. As grim as the stench may be, as painful as the waiting and wake may be, as uncertain as the future might seem, we should never give up hope. We will worship again together. The pandemic will end in some way, some day. Hope is the positive and affirming faith we profess as believers in this Jesus, the Son of God, who will come, some day.

*Peace and blessings – Pastor Laine*

## Advent Dinners Being Planned

**Two Advent Dinners** are being planned for Wednesday evening, December 1 at 6:00 P.M. AND Wednesday evening, December 15 at 6:00 P.M.



## Youth Group News November 2021

Our youth group is doing amazing things! We are impacting individuals and our community in positive ways and I truly believe we (the church) are impacting the youth in positive ways as well!

The youth group visited Donald Jones in September to sing “Happy birthday” to him – he shared his wisdom on how to live your life and all of us were blessed by this event. One youth even said that he had never met someone that age and that Donald’s words has inspired him to change his ways!

In October we carved pumpkins for Octoberfest at Bangor Park. Every Footlong Friday event we have been blessed to have at least 12 youth helping us out – wow! Jackie will begin a girls youth Bible study beginning in November.

The success of this ministry has led us to partially outgrow our indoor space....so I and others are praying for possible solutions – so if you have any thoughts, please let me know! A big thanks goes out to Jackie Reddick and Larry Bakay – who make this all happen!

*Christina Hagan*

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS – 2021

A listing will be inserted in the Christmas Eve Bulletin with Memorial/or Honors. Please fill out the form with your donation and send it to the church office. The deadline for the insert is Monday, December 19.

IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR OF: \_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR OF: \_\_\_\_\_

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: TRINITY EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN**