

Saint Luke's

United Church of Christ of Trappe

December 2017 Newsletter



Rev. John Hogue
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Worship Schedule

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Blended Service 9:30 AM

3rd Sunday of Mo. Healing Service 9:30 AM

Sunday school 3rd Sunday of the month.

REV. JOHN'S MUSINGS.

While Christmas carols are traditionally sung this time of year, the messages their lyrics convey are timeless. After undergoing a transformation of his heart, the perennial Christmas villain Ebenezer Scrooge, appearing in the aptly named "A Christmas Carol", proclaims: "I will honor Christmas in my heart and try to keep it all the year." And to echo the words of Dickens' narrator as he closes the text: "May that be truly said of us, and all of us!"

The birth of Jesus stands as a symbol of hope for all time. In his ministry he envisioned a new world - the Kingdom of God - where the last would come first and justice would roll down like mighty waters, echoing the words of the Hebrew Prophets.

Our task this Christmas is to offer prayers and sing praises to God for all the gifts we have been given but also to act on the teachings of Jesus to bring hope to people and places left in darkness. We recommit ourselves to the Christian faith at Christmas time and then are called to live out that faith into the world.

Pastor John

Check our St. Luke's website stlukestrapp.org and Facebook - we've updated!!
Share to family and friends all the activities taking place in the life of our Community!.

December Scripture Readings

Date	Old Testament	2nd Lesson	Epistle	Gospel
Dec. 3	Isaiah 64:1-9	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Mark 13:24-37
Dec. 10	Isaiah 40:1-11	Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13	2 Peter 3:8-15a	Mark 1:1-8
Dec. 17	Isaiah 6:1-4, 8-11	Psalm 126	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	John 1:6-8, 19-28
Dec. 24	2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16	Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26	Romans 16:25-27	Luke 1:26-38
Dec. 31	Isaiah 61:10-62:3	Psalm 148	Galatians 4:4-7	Luke 2:22-40
Jan. 7	Genesis 1:1-5	Psalm 29	Acts 19:1-7	Mark 1:4-11



WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Join us on **Wednesday, December 13, 2017.**
 with the book title "The Myth of You and Me" by Leah Stewart.
 Meet us at 6:00 pm in the Parlor
 Our January 10th book will be "The Kommandant's Girl" by Pam Jenoff

SERMON AND SCRIPTURE ADVENT SERIES

Dec. 3	'St. Nicholas Speaks.....'	Hebrews 12:1; Mark 10:13-16
Dec. 10	'Expect a Miracle'	Isaiah 9:2-7
Dec. 17	'Giving up on Perfect'	Luke 1:26-38
Dec. 24	'Scandalous Love'	Hosea 3:1-5 Morning
5:00 Family Service	'Christmas - Extreme Makeover' (optional communion will be available)	2 Cor. 5:17-21; John 3:16-17
11pm Communion,	'Christmas- Extreme Makeover'	2 Cor. 5:17-21; John 3:16-17
Dec. 31	'Jesus Wish List'	Matthew 25:31-48

ANGEL TAGS

St. Luke's is assisting the Salvation Army's Angel Tags program again this Advent. If you picked up a tag with the name and wish list of a deserving child, please bring your unwrapped gift with the tag attached back to St. Luke's **no later than Sunday, December 10th.** Thank you for your kindness!
"The most obvious lesson in Christ's teaching is that there is no happiness in having or getting anything, but only in giving." ~Henry Drummond



AUDUBON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Annual Christmas Concert will be held on Friday, December 8th at 8:00pm in Moyer Hall. Come and enjoy the orchestra and get into the Christmas Spirit as we sing Christmas songs.

December 2 Becky Duncan
 December 6 Melanie Prudom
 December 9 Chase Salerno
 December 12 Dave Carl
 December 14 Josh Gray



December 16 Sarah Brand
 December 22 Carrie Krentz
 December 24 Harry Neiman
 December 26 Veronica Hogue
 December 28 Amy Conrad



WOMEN'S MONTHLY BREAKFAST

Come join us on Thursday, December 14th
at The Spring Ford Diner in Spring City.
Meet us at 9:00 am at the St. Luke's table.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Join the men of the church for a get together breakfast on December 27th, 9 am
at Café 29 in Collegeville.

Come and converse with everyone and find out what is
happening in someone else's world.



LET'S COLOR



Coloring books are no longer just for the kids. In fact, adult coloring books are
seen everywhere these days. Coloring has the potential to reduce stress, create
focus and bring mindfulness. Just like meditation, coloring allows us to switch
off our brains from other thoughts and focus on the moment.

Coloring enthusiasts claim that coloring makes them feel calmer, mentally clearer, happier and more
relaxed. We will be gathering on **Saturday, December 2, 2017 at 9:30.**

Coffee and snacks will be available. Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

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HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR IN HISTORIC TRAPPE

December 3rd from noon to 4 p.m. with reception to follow. Get in the holiday spirit with a tour of eight
private homes, historic houses, and churches along the Main Street corridor. Stops include: Grange Hall,
with a display of Swedish Christmas decorations; Speaker's House, where the new corner fireplaces will
be lit for the first time; Henry Muhlenberg House, featuring early Pennsylvania German Christmas
traditions; Northern Star Farm, home of Matthew Wismer; Dewees Tavern, decorated with German
Erzgebirge woodcarvings; the private home of Mayor Connie and Bob Peck, a former blacksmith shop
and general store; Trappe Borough Hall, where local artist Julie Longacre is exhibiting her work and will
be selling paintings, prints, and greeting cards; and Augustus Lutheran Church, built in 1743. There will
also be a special pop-up display and shop of homemade gingerbread and clear toy candy from Shane's
Confectionery in Philadelphia.

SCRIP CARDS

Remember to order your scrip cards for Christmas gifts and birthday gifts.
Please let our Coordinators know if you are interested in ordering from a retailer.
(We have a current list of retailers we can email to you or pick up at church.)

HOW SCRIP FUNDRAISING WORKS

Starting a fundraiser can seem like a big chore. But unlike other fundraising ideas, scrip is simple to get started, and it's easy to raise money!

Here's how it works:

Your members buy retail gift cards through your scrip program at face value.
Your organization buys the gift cards at 3-15% less than face value depending on the retailer.
The difference between face value and what your organization pays is your organization's earnings.
Members use that gift card on their shopping and your fundraiser has begun!



Why Scrip is Better for Organizations

You're not spending time and energy trying to organize a fundraiser and sell overpriced products.
Scrip isn't burdensome. You aren't asking families to go out of their way to raise money.
Instead, their everyday family purchases become immediate earnings for your organization.
The earnings add up fast! One family can generate \$600 to \$1000 or more per year just by paying with scrip.
There are no upfront costs and there's no middleman taking a cut. Your organization receives every penny you earn.
You can share earnings with members, which they can put toward individual fees or expenses.

Why Scrip is Better for Families

There are over 700 brands to choose from, so they can use scrip on practically every purchase.
Scrip is a great budgeting tool since families can use scrip for gas, groceries, and other household expenses.
Families can shop in-store or online at participating retailers.
They could place their own orders online, which will maximize their earnings.
Paying with gift cards keeps families safe from credit card fraud.
And the biggest benefit of all: everyone can participate in a scrip fundraiser because everyone makes monthly purchases.

COPIES OF RETAILERS ARE IN THE NARTHEX.

SPONSOR A LIGHT

We will be lighting up the front of St. Luke's Church.
Colors must be approved by church staff.
A contribution of \$20 towards the colored lighting is made out to St. Luke's UCC.
Sponsor sign up sheet is on bulletin board by the front entrance.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 2 and 3 Candlelight Tours, Henry Muhlenberg House
Saturday, 3 - 9pm. and Sunday, Noon to 4pm.
- December 3 St. Nicholas Will Visit St. Luke's on Dec.3 in worship and children are to look for the hidden pickle on the Christmas Tree.
-  Hogue OPEN HOUSE after Church Dec. 3rd during Coffee-hour
A gift to the church family – enjoy food and fellowship
- Holiday House Tour in Historic Trappe. Noon to 4pm with reception to follow from 4 - 6pm at the Community Music School. Tickets \$30.00 at HistoricTrape.org or in person at Trappe True Value.
- December 3 Hanging of the Greens, Part II and decorating our Christmas trees.
- December 6 Trappe Tree Lighting 6:30pm at The Speakers House along with caroling and Santa. Bring a nonperishable food item, pet food or new unwrapped toy to donate.
- December 8 Audubon Symphony Orchestra Concert in Moyer Hall at 8:00pm
- December 10 Steinway Grand Piano Dedication.
- December 17 Christmas Caroling for Shut-Ins, meet at 1:00pm in Parking Lot.
- December 21 Blue Christmas Service at 7:00pm
- December 24 Christmas Eve Day Service at 9:30am
- Family Christmas Eve Service at 5:00pm
(Refreshments after Services - Glogg and Christstollen from Pastor John)
- Candlelight Christmas Service at 11:00pm
(Refreshments after Services - Glogg and Christstollen from Pastor John)
- December 25 Christmas Day

NOISY OFFERING

Beginning in January we will begin accepting a "Noisy Offering" of loose coins and pocket change during Healing Service. Missions will designate a different charity or UCC church program throughout the year. Look for more details soon.



December Sunday Leader Schedule



Church Access Volunteers - Volunteers are needed to open and close the church on Sundays. Please see **Beverly Spaid** to schedule and review tasks. If you wish to be an usher/greeter please see **Janet Kimmich** or sign the sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

9:30 Blended Service

	<u>Lay Reader</u>	<u>Children's Time</u>	<u>Nursery</u>
Dec. 3	Scott Koehler	Becci Richardson	Kim Gray
Dec. 10	Veronica Hogue	Pastor John	Carrie Krentz
Dec. 17	Sue Kelly	Pastor John	Leah Keyser
Dec. 24	Becci Richardson	Pastor John	Nancy Leneweaver
Dec. 31	Kathy Narrigan	Pastor John	Kim Gray
Jan. 7	Tom Lloyd	Pastor John	Carrie Krentz

Sunday Leader Scheduling Note

If you are unable to serve on your assigned day, **please find a replacement** by switching dates with someone on the schedule and contact the church office as soon as possible so we may make note of the change. **If you are unable to find a replacement, please contact the church office and we will be happy to do so.**

Articles for the Sunday bulletin are due in the church office by Wednesday. Newsletter deadline for the January Newsletter is December 22nd and mailing is December 27th .




PRAYER LIST

People in need of prayers: Al S., Alfred Kurtz, Anne White, Don Ashenfelter, Harry N., Linda Miller, Lynn Bloomberg, Maura K., Maureen T., Megan Orza, Michele Basare, Nick Iacorinno, Randy and Sue Davidson, Russell and Nancy Morris.

People with on-going conditions and prayer needs: Barbara and Mark Nieweg, Betty Murphy, Debbie Parker, Eli and Ella Vivian, Elsa and Victor Thomas, Fred Litchert, Greg Kimmich, Jack Murphy, Judy Claycomb, Mike Richardson, Mitzie Oxenham, Nancy Lewis, Rod Bowers, Tim Heiser and Tricia White Heiser, Tom Hairston.



DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
CHRISTMAS CARDS  Don't forget our Christmas Card Mail Boxes					1 10:00 LMM	2 9:30 Retreat Coloring 3-9pm Candlelight Tours Muhlenberg House
3 HANGING OF THE GREENS COMMUNION 9:30 Blended Service 11:00 Open House 12-4pm Candlelight House Tours  <small>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</small>	4 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Messiah Chorus Rehearsal	5 10:00 LMM 5:30 Drama Kids	6 6:30 Trappe Tree Lighting 7:00 Confirmands 7:00 Endowment 7:00 Choir 7:00 Orchestra	7 12:30 Games 7:00 Finance 7:30 Gamblers	8 10:00 LMM 8:00 Audubon Symphony Orchestra Concert	9
10 9:30 Blended Service Steinway Grand Piano Dedication  <small>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</small>	11 10:00 LMM 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Church Life	12 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Drama Kids 6:30 Church and Ministry 7:30 Council	13 6:00 Book Club 7:00 Choir 7:00 Orchestra	14 7:00 Toastmasters 7:30 Gamblers	15 10:00 LMM 3:00 Church Night Out	16
17 9:30 Blended Healing Service  1:00pm Christmas Caroling  <small>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</small>	18 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:30 Property	19 5:30 Drama Kids	20 7:00 Confirmands 7:00 Green bar 7:00 College Woods 7:00 Toastmasters 7:00 Choir	21 Bright Spot Christmas Party 7:30 Gamblers 7:00 Blue Christmas  <i>Blue Christmas</i>	22 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	23
24 9:30 Blended Service  5:00 Family Service 11:00 Candlelit Serv.  <small>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</small>	25  Merry Christmas CHRISTMAS DAY OFFICE CLOSED	26 5:30 Drama Kids	27 9:00 Men's Breakfast 7:00 Choir 7:00 Orchestra NEWSLETTER MAILING	28	29	30 11:00 Boy Scout Eagle Ceremony
31 9:30 Blended Service NEW YEARS EVE						

**ST. LUKE'S U.C.C. OF TRAPPE
200 WEST MAIN STREET
COLLEGEVILLE PA 19426-2007**

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**Dated Material-
Deliver Promptly**



St. Luke's Mission Statement

**Centered in God,
guided by His Word,
we share Christ's love with all.**