



*The
Newsletter of
Holy Trinity
Lutheran
Church*

Worship Services

Saturday 5:30 pm

Sunday 8:30 am

Sunday 11:00 am

Sunday School 9:45 am



**2922 Sandy Plains Road
Marietta, GA 30066
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**www.HolyTrinityMarietta.com
Churchoffice@holytrinitymarietta.org**



The Trumpet

DECEMBER 2023



*From the pen
of Pastor Mark*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

As we transition now into Advent, thanks again so much for your generosity with all the pledge intents returned so far for 2024 and for the strong, faithful giving in offerings and *Our Christmas Gifts to the Lord* over and above gifts. We are in a *much* better place financially already with our recent giving, and we still have several weeks to go! Here are the weeks remaining for our over and above gifts:

Week 4 (Dec. 10) honors Social Ministry like MUST, Habitat, Redeemer Food Ministries, etc.

Week 5 (Dec. 17) honors our Pastoral and Church Staff Ministry

Week 6 (Dec. 24) honors the one above all we honor every week... our Lord Jesus, Emmanuel!

We often think of Advent as the season leading up to Christmas, and for obvious reasons, since on the calendar Advent directly precedes Christmas. If you have thought of Advent as pointing to Christmas, you're right! But there's more. Advent is not only about the coming of the Christ child. It's also looking forward to the second coming of Christ, in the coming day of the Lord.

One Advent scripture that speaks to Christ coming again is Matthew, in which Jesus says "you will hear of wars, and rumors of wars; see that you are not alarmed; for this must take place, but the end is not yet" (Matthew 24:6). Doesn't that sound like our times, with wars ongoing, and rumors of wars to come? Rumors can get us anxious and worried. Maybe that's one reason Matthew says "see that you are not alarmed." It's always great to check the source. Otherwise how do you know or seek the truth?

Let's look at this again in terms of the end times. After descriptions of earthquakes and various cosmic events as signs and omens, Jesus then gives a sobering truth to anyone seeking certainty in earthly or celestial signs, saying "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father" (Matthew 24:36). No wonder all the predictors of the end times to date have been wrong! In case we haven't fully gotten it yet, Jesus says "Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming" (Matthew 24:42).

So let's keep awake together, looking beyond rumors and portents, looking to the source of the truth together this Advent. And the truth in all of this is coming in a manger soon and very soon, and is seated in heaven at the right hand of the Father and will come again in glory. May the truth transform our fears into faith, our worries into witness, and our anxiousness into adoration of the newborn king.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Mark



A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Loving, Living, Serving, Giving, in God's Name



Dear Friends in Christ:

This is my last Trumpet letter and I want to thank you all for your encouragement and support the last two years. We had just come back from Covid and the challenges were many. The Council was eager to get to work and get our ministries back up and running. Some even continued to meet during Covid. All our committees and ministries are doing a fantastic job at God's work. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you.!

Advent is upon us. Let us prepare our hearts for the coming of our Lord this Advent, both in Christmas and in Christ's coming. We have been planning for a spectacular Christmas season which will include:

Dec. 9th	Breakfast with Santa and the Grinch
Dec. 9th/10th	W-ELCA Cookie and Candy Sale
Dec. 10th	The Children's Christmas Pageant
Dec. 20th	The Longest Night Worship Service (7:30 pm)
Dec. 24th	Christmas Eve Services (Regular Service at 11:00 am and then Christmas Eve Services at 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm, and 11:00 pm)

It is beautiful to witness the decorating, the music, the hand bells and all parts of these special events and services to remind us of the "good news" that solidifies our faith and love of Christ. Please plan to attend as many of the events as you can. A lot of work goes into the planning and practices for especially the Christmas Pageant. Our Christmas Eve services feature glowing candlelight to warm your hearts and spirit as we prepare for new birth and new life.

Some of your friends that have occasionally attended our services might enjoy spending Christmas Eve with you and your family at Holy Trinity. Please consider inviting them to one of our Christmas Eve services. Besides being beautiful, they also focus on the joy of the primary message of Christianity:

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that Whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Praying that you and your loved ones remain safe and well during this Holy Season!

Yours in Christ,

Council President



Mark 13:24-37

Stewardship



Our Christmas Gifts to the Lord

Over and Above Giving for Christmas

We have completed the first three weeks of over and above giving for Christmas, where we honored Youth Ministry, Children and Family Ministry and Music Ministry.

To date our gracious and giving congregation has contributed \$9,105.

Three more weeks to go. Thank you all for you kind and thoughtful giving!



HT Finances	Oct. 2023
MTD Income	\$ 64,833
MTD Expenses	\$ 61,564
MTD Net	\$ 3,269
YTD Income	\$651,096
YTD Expenses	\$675,443
YTD Net	(\$ 24,347)

December Gospel Readings	
Dec 3	Mark 13:24-37
Dec 10	Mark 1:1-8 & Luke 2:8-12
Dec 17	John 1:6-8, 19-28
Dec 24	Luke 1:26-38 & Luke 2:1-20
Dec 31	Luke 1:26-33, Luke 2:1-20



Youth + Children + Family Ministries

"For it is good to be children sometimes, and never better than at Christmas, when its mighty Founder was a child Himself."

– Charles Dickens

From all of us that serve in the Children, Youth & Family Ministries, thank you! Thank you for all your prayers, contributions, and all-around support. We do what we do so much better because we have such a wonderful congregation and leadership team.

Merry Christmas, may it be full of love and light!

-Sal



FREE

Holy Trinity Marietta Presents:
Breakfast with Santa & The Grinch
Saturday, December 9th
10am-12:30pm

A magical experience for your little ones where they can meet Santa and Enjoy a pancake breakfast with family!



2922 Sandy Plains Road



Christmas Pageant
Live on Sunday, 12/10 at 11:00 am
Pre-recorded for Saturday, 12/9 at 5:30 pm and Sunday, 12/10 at 8:30 am



“Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.”

Psalm 100:1

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I am honored and privileged to be your newly appointed director of music. Exciting things are already happening and there is more on the horizon. Our chancel choir meets on Thursday nights from 7:15-8:30 pm. This is a singing group open to all ages high school and up. This group typically participates at the 11:00 am Sunday service. If you're in grades 1-5, I look forward to seeing you during Sunday School for our newly reinstated youth choir. Our first big presentation will be our Christmas pageant. It is my ambition to eventually introduce the group to worship on a regular basis. Keep an eye open for a newly established intergenerational group of hand bell ringers for beginners. Details will be coming soon. If you play an instrument and are interested in participating in worship, we want to know! Whether it be Sunday morning or Saturday night, your talents are our treasure.

The spirit is moving at Holy Trinity, and I am grateful to the many wonderful people that I have met so far. I thank God for your warm welcome, and the many more people that I have yet to meet.

I look forward to journeying together with you in faith and music,

Thomas Eisnor



Christmas Poinsettias



If you would like to purchase a Poinsettia that will be used to decorate our Sanctuary for our Christmas Eve services and honor a loved one at the same time, we have some still remaining. Forms are in the Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$10 per plant. **The deadline for purchasing a plant is Monday, December 17th.**



What Is Scrip?

It is a fundraising program where the companies allow us to sell their gift cards and give us a percentage of the card value. You can use scrip to purchase everyday expenses like food, clothing, and other essentials and gift cards, and with every purchase, you earn revenue for Holy Trinity's programs and ministries.

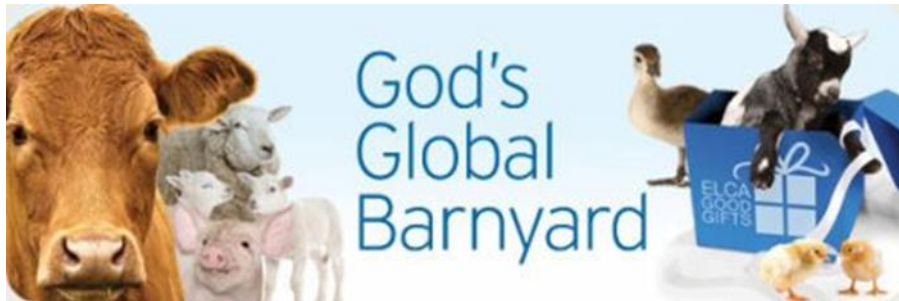
How scrip generates revenue for Holy Trinity Social Ministry & Modern Worship Service

The Raise Right acts on behalf of churches, schools and other non-profit organizations to purchase large amounts of scrip from grocery stores, department stores, and other retailers. Because the scrip is purchased with cash up front, the participating retailers offer a substantial discount. Holy Trinity buys the scrip from Raise Right at a discount, and re-sells the certificates to families like yours for full face value.

The discount - from two to fifteen percent or more – is Holy Trinity's revenue.

The last date to order the cards is 12/9 with delivery on 12/16.

We accept cash, checks or credit card payments.



December 1st – December 31st

During December, we invite our members and friends to consider giving to God's Global Barnyard through the ELCA Good Gifts Program. Each animal we purchase is given to a family in need around the world to help them become self-sufficient.

Instructions for purchase are at the Ministry Station in the Fellowship Hall.

Questions? Contact trinahinkson54@gmail.com





Angel Tree

Christmas Angel Tree



Once again, Holy Trinity came through for the foster children and youth in Cobb County.

Thank you so much for all the gifts you contributed to this project! Special thanks to the Monday School Sisters, BOT, and Thrivent for helping us complete the last-minute gifts needed to finish.

What a special congregation this is!

Pictures from our fabulous Friendsgiving Potluck.
Many thanks to all who participated.





HT Men's Ministry Bible on Tap

*Called to love, serve
and give through faith.*

Come join us twice a month for devotion, food, fellowship and planning the 2nd Saturday at noon and 4th Tuesday at 6:00 pm. In between we are doing projects as service to others as God calls us to do.

SUBSCRIBE to:
BOT.HolyTrinityMarietta@gmail.com

For additional information about this ministry, please email the above address or call:
Dave Tester 678-410-9224 or Chris Winkler 770-565-6635.



Women, Wine and Word

Look for an email regarding future events.
If you are not on our mailing list, please email
swimmomblack@yahoo.com.

Thanks, Sabra and Leigh

The Envelope of the Month for December



Seminary Student Support Fund/Lutheran College Scholarship Fund

*which benefits a member of Holy Trinity attending
seminary or attending a Lutheran College.*



*This is the day that
the Lord has made...
and we are grateful
for it!*



Monday School is in the Upper Room at 9:30 am. All are welcome and our morning begins with hugs, coffee, goodies, and then on to our lesson. Please join us...a hug awaits you.

Questions? Call Marcia Heinzer (404-405-1853), Patti Ritter (770-597-5520), or Alice Rohrbach (770-973-7205).

Sanctuary Flowers



If you would like to provide flowers for the Sanctuary in memory of someone special or in honor of a special event, you can find the sign-up sheets in the binder located in the Fellowship Hall. Please fill out form and submit payment to the Church Office.

**NOTE: FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS COST \$65 AND THE PAYMENT
MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE ORDER CAN BE PROCESSED.**

Prayer Requests



Just a reminder that prayer request submissions should be received in the Church Office by 3:00 pm on Monday in order to make Tuesday's E-News. Before requesting someone be added to the prayer list, make sure you have their permission. Names will be listed in E-News and bulletins in the same way they are listed in the request - if full name is provided it will be listed; if only the first name is provided, then only the first name will be listed. Due to privacy concerns, we will not be able to provide the reason for prayer requests. In addition to submitting prayer requests on the blue cards handed out with the service bulletins, you can also email a request to churchoffice@holymarietta.org.

**** Requests remain on list for 2 weeks.****



MUST Lunches



We served 108 hungry members of our community in November at the MUST lunch at the Hope House. Many second helpings were also served! This is the most we have ever served.

We always need more volunteers to provide food and to join our team! If you would like to pay for a casserole, purchase peaches, salad fixings or cookies, please let me know.

Laurie Johnson
laurasiebertjohnson@gmail.com



Ronald McDonald House Charities Pop Tab

We dropped off 14.5 pounds of can tabs at the Ronald McDonald house on Peachtree Dunwoody Road on November 7th. Thank you to all those collecting, and if you haven't started saving those can pop tops yet, please start now. **There may be even more tabs to save throughout your holiday celebrations!** Try to make sure you are saving only the aluminum tabs. The tabs from steel cans are not acceptable. A quick way to check is if the tab is attracted to a magnet, it is NOT aluminum.

Please drop off your tabs in the Women of the ELCA brown collection container on the bookshelf in the HT library!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year ahead!



Nicole Winkler

Thanksgiving Must Collection

Thank You, Thank You and Thank you!!!



Your generosity was outstanding. 15 families had a great Thanksgiving.

We collected 15 gift cards for the Turkey's and a trunk load of side dishes for Must. Must has a significant need for food right now. They need 4 tons of food each week which is a significant increase from the Pre-Covid amounts.

The Annual WELCA Cookie and Candy Sale



The ANNUAL COOKIE & CANDY SALE will be December 9th and 10th after each service. We invite the congregation to bring items as well.

All cookies and candy should be delivered to the Fellowship Hall kitchen by 12:00 noon on Saturday, December 9th. If you bake anything with nuts, please include a note saying "with nuts" for those with allergies or sensitivities.



Circle of Women Committee

Contacts

SHERRILL MCGRAW SL.MCG71@YAHOO.COM 770-597-1480
 NICOLE WINKLER NNWINKLER@COMCAST.NET 770-565-6635



Women of the ELCA Circles . . .

If you would like to join one of these groups, Circle Leaders are listed below.

<p>CIRCLE OF PEACE will meet on Tuesday, December 12th at 12:30 pm in EB Room 7/8. Bring your sack lunch and Bibles. For more information call Joy Schill at 770-639-7209.</p>	<p>GOD'S GRACE CIRCLE will not meet in November or December due to the holidays. Any questions, call Sherrill at 770-597-1480.</p>	<p>TENDER LOVING CARE CIRCLE Join us on December 19th from 10:00 am to 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall. Any questions, call or text Annette Rhadans at 404-493-4449.</p>
<p>RAINBOW QUILTERS will met on Tuesday, December 12th from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon in EB room 7/8. Please join as we continue our quilt ministry for LWR. Call Joy Schill at 770-639-7209 for more information.</p>	<p>PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY will meet on Tuesday, December 12th at 6:30 pm in EB Room 7/8. For more information, call Pam Stack at 770-975-8675.</p>	

Holy Trinity Staff

The Rev. Mark Beatty
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 Director - Children & Youth Ministry
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Thomas Eisnor
 Minister of Music/Organist
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 Ext. 114

Chas Childers
 Worship Minister
 chazsongs@gmail.com

Office: 770-971-4600 churchoffice@holymarietta.org

From your 2023 and 2024 Congregational Council:

Greetings and peace from your Council as we enter the season of Advent together. This is the first of what we plan as periodic touchpoints of communication with the congregation as we move forward in ministry together. We are committed to sharing our plans openly and intentionally to ensure a healthy church and ministry together. Mutual communication is key, and we will have multiple avenues to obtain input and feedback. As part of this, we as a Council strive to faithfully address any concerns. One recent question is that of availability of dates and times for memorial services. The leadership team has been in conversation over this; Pastor Mark, the staff, and Council all agree in order to best support the congregation, memorials, weddings, and other life events need to be given the opportunity to be held on weekday afternoons as well as weekends, while scheduled services and preplanned events remain unchanged.

To help with open and intentional communication with the congregation and staff, both our Council President Al Nordin and Pastor Mark have been in conversation with the bishop.

Another recent question brought to Council was that of staff turnover at Holy Trinity. It's true that we have had a number of staff departures. This has come from a variety of reasons that range from life changes such as moving, health, needing more hours, needing more money, other employment opportunities, and even retirements. The Personnel Committee and Pastor Mark have worked with all of them through the process and to make the transition as easy as possible. There have been several occasions where the staff member made the decision but did not want it immediately announced. On those occasions, the Personnel Committee started the process of gathering applicants prior to the announcement to the congregation so that the positions would not be vacant long.

In other news, **Shyla Files** is settling well into the role of Church Administrator and is excited to be part of a caring staff team and congregation. **Thomas Eisnor** has just begun as our new Director of Music Ministry and has already worked to ensure the music ministry programs are running smoothly. He has asked that we not fill the part-time Associate Director of Music Ministry position until he determines the gaps he needs to fill. It was wonderful seeing **Dr. Won-Hee An** return to help with the recent "Friendsgiving Paws Concert" and for helping lead music and worship for a recent memorial service just prior to Thomas Eisnor's first day. **Teresa Hodges** is doing better, and we are pleased to welcome her back on a part-time contract basis to help us update the website. It was also an unexpected treat having her join us in worship on Sunday. We are actively in the process of filling the Facilities Manager position. For all our hiring, we bring in additional hiring panel members from the congregation interested in and associated with that specific ministry. It is a team effort. Thanks again to our Personnel Committee for your faithful work with our staff behind the scenes. Our current Personnel Committee members are Donna Formato, Jim Wood, Matt Miller, Stella Blenner and Victoria Crean.

We affirm Pastor Mark and staff and appreciate the love, effort, leadership and dedication that they show to Holy Trinity. We also want to acknowledge our appreciation to all volunteers who help with our ministry.

We wish our congregational family a safe and happy Advent and Christmas season.



Holy Trinity Member Milestones - December

Anniversaries

Birthdays

December 3rd

2010 Erin & Jarrod Brown

December 4th

1971 Jim & Marcia Wilson

December 6th

1975 Guy & Paulette Gebhardt

December 13th

1975 Dennis & Marge Boley

December 17th

1982 Ray & Liz Blount

December 19th

1981 Carolyn Robinson Klein & Steve Klein

December 20th

2012 Richard Hoeckendorf & Lilas Pratt

December 22nd

1983 Joe & Lori Vrtis

** 40 Years**

December 28th

1966 Robert & Martha Manly

December 1st

Gene Peisel

Debbie Serro

December 2nd

Richard Murphy

December 4th

Steve Higgins

Jim Meadows

Patti Ritter

December 5th

Stephen Kuhn

Matt Miller

December 6th

Garrison Black

Vickie Crean

Julie Williams

December 10th

Carol Altgilbers

Janet Hedlund

December 11th

Annsley Berkland

Lenda Geiger

December 12th

Mary Frances Green

Briant Holden

December 13th

Wesley Ball

December 16th

Beverly Balasubramanian

Jake Greening

Judy Hausfeld

Ada Junge

December 17th

Allen Baker

December 18th

Jamie Brown

Heidi Stidham

December 19th

Rudy Ramirez

December 20th

Jerry Gorley

Kyra Ramirez

December 21st

Kim Dixon

Alaina Nottage

December 22nd

Nerissa Dyess

David Fritsch

Kathy Seraphine

Scott Stephan

December 23rd

Nick DePeder

Amanda Masters

Carolyn Robinson Klein

December 24th

Bob Anderson

December 25th

Tom Mathis

Frank Pellizzi

December 26th

Ken Kindel

Christine Poarch

December 28th

Sophia Martin

December 29th

Barbara Jean Allison

Marilyn Patoprsty

December 30th

Cassady-James Foran

Stacy Peery

December 31st

Scott Reber



**LET'S
CELEBRATE!**