

# 'Till We Meet Again!

Week of December 3 & 4, 2022

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## Christmas Eve Worship Schedule:

3:00PM: at St. Peters

6:00PM: at St. John's

8:00PM: at Light of Christ

## Pantry Sunday

Our next Pantry Sunday is December 11 at Light of Christ. The pantry at Calvary Temple is requesting complete pancake mix (no eggs needed), pancake syrup, rice, tuna, instant mashed potatoes, prepared cake icing, and brownie/cookie mix. **Thank you** for supporting the pantry at Calvary

Dear Members,

As we continue to inventory the churches we realize that some items are personal property of members. These are things like kitchen items, supplies, clothing, and others brought in for temporary use and perhaps forgotten. They are not the gifted items given in memory/honor of someone. If you know there are such items of yours either please take them home or let me know that you no longer want them. Personal items in the church **MUST** be removed before **DECEMBER 31, 2022**. Please contact Nancy Kostas, Non-fixed Asset Inventory Sub-Committee at (610) 865-7953.

Weekend Worship

### **December 3**

5 PM at St. Peter's

### **December 4**

9:15 AM at LoC

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This Week's

Worship Ministers:

**Presiding Minister:** Pr. Suzanne

**Organist:** Linda Maule

### **December 3:**

**Assisting Minister:**

Josh Gulotta

### **December 4:**

**Assisting Minister:** Josh Gulotta

**Lector:** TBD

**Communion Assistant:**

Doug Bleier

**Acolyte:** TBD

**Ushers:** Eric Baltz and Michael Horwath

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

St. Peter's will meet for their annual congregational meeting on December 4th following the 9:15 worship at Light of Christ.

Light of Christ will meet for their congregational meeting on December 11<sup>th</sup> following the 9:15 worship at Light of Christ.

### **“The Church Triumphant”**

Honor Fulop, a member of Light of Christ who resided at Sacred Heart, Northampton, entered the Church Triumphant on Friday November 25th. Honor was 98. A private graveside service will be held on Tuesday, November 29th. Please keep Honor’s caregiver and her friends in your prayers

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Next Week's Ministers

**Presiding Minister:**

Pr. Mike

**Organist:** Linda Maule

**December 10:**

**Assisting Minister:**

Michel Lloyd

**December 11:**

**Assisting Minister:**

Steph McGregor

**Lector:** Joe Bleier

**Communion Assistant:**

Harmony Gubich

**Acolyte:** Delynn Gerhard

**Ushers:** Joan Erb and Nancy

Kostas

## Pastor Suzanne Trump Announces Resignation

Dear Members of St. John's Windish, St. Peter's and Light of Christ,

On November 18th I officially announced my resignation as the called pastor to the congregational council of SJW. Sunday, it was announced at the SJW congregational meeting. And now I am announcing it to all members of our expanded community of faith. My last day as your pastor will be January 31, 2023.

I leave with a heavy heart and wish you God's blessings as you move forward in your faith journey. It has been my honor and pleasure to walk with you these past 8 years in ministry and I treasure the relationships that have formed.

In Peace,

Pastor Suzanne.

**We wish Pastor Suzanne well!**

## Christmas Card Project



Please save the Christmas/holiday cards that are now coming in the mail or ones you have leftover from last year. We will need them (approx. 1600) for our 2022 card signing project this December as we share Christmas/holiday joy with our brothers and sisters in local nursing and retirement homes.

Please sign cards at home (your first name), a short personal greeting (Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, Peace and Joy or your own message), and bring them (please do not seal) to the porch of LoC in a plastic Ziploc bag where you will find a collection box.

You are also invited to join our Card Signing Event on Sunday, December 4th, after worship at LoC. We'll enjoy a fellowship luncheon and sign cards together. Final date to collect signed cards is Sunday, December 11.

## Christmas Giving Tree for Headstart Children

On the 1st Sunday of Advent, **November 27th**, tags will be available at STP with an invitation to buy a matching mitten/hat set for either a boy or a girl (age 4-5) and \$4 cash for a book (appropriate books will be purchased for you). The mitten/hat sets and \$4 should be placed in the plastic Ziploc bags provided and returned to LoC **no later than Sunday, December 18**. Worship will move to LoC on December 4th; tags and plastic bags will be available there as well. **Thank you for sharing holiday joy with these Headstart children.**



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## Unity Team Meeting Recap

1. Meet on November 13, 2022
2. Discussed:
  - a. Voting procedures on the Unity Team
  - b. Reviewed Joint Council vote on Unity Team recommendations
    1. All funds from the sale of all locations are to be used for the purchase\renovation for the location of Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church = Approved by Council
    2. The purchase\renovation of the new location of Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church will not exceed the proceeds from the sale of all 4 properties = Approved by Council (added No Mortgage at the end)
    3. Any remaining funds from the sale and purchase\renovations of the new location will remain in the possession of Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church = Approved by Council
    4. We decline both Letters of Intent received from the City of Bethlehem and the developer = Approved by Council
    5. Enter into a contract with Lucy Lennon as our realtor for the sale of all 4 locations and the purchase of new location for Blessed Trinity = Approved by Council for a 6-month contract
    6. The Joint Council decide on the process of marketing and selling all 4 locations by either option 1 of bundling all 4 locations as 1 complete purchase or option 2 of selling each location individually = Bundling all 4 as 1 complete purchase Approved by Council (NOTE: this was voted after a meeting with Bethlehem mayor and Lucy Lennon on Nov 2nd)
  - c. Ask the Joint Council to publish their meeting minutes\highlights by the end of the week. They should share the update at the weekend services, print in the TWMA, publish on both websites, and send an email to all members. Also mentioned that if any Unity Team member receives any questions or concerns of the Joint Council approvals, they should be directed to the Joint Council.
  - d. New Location Search – volunteers
    1. There is currently an unequal representation of each community of faith. The goal is to have 3 members from each community of faith to be represented.
  - e. Sub-committee updates

**Constitution & ByLaws (Mary Mann)** = October's synod meeting was cancelled, we are scheduled on November synod's meeting. Mention to council to discuss

a date for a Joint Congregational meeting to approve the Constitution & ByLaws for Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church.

**New Location Search (Mike Horwath)** = will be working with Lucy for possible new locations. Scheduled to visit a contemporary\modern style church.

1. Recommend to council the following procedure for when Lucy presents a location and the sub-committee believes that it should be considered:
  - The realtor will contact Mike, as Unity Team liaison, who will contact the President, Vice President, and Secretary of each community of faith for their review and action on the offer within 24 to 48 hours. Their task is to decide whether to reject, clarify, counteroffer, or consider the offer and schedule an Emergency Joint Council meeting within 24 to 48 hours for action to be taken by the Joint Council on the Offer.

**Asset Disposition (Kenda Riley)** = started with Lucy to market and list all 4 locations as 1 purchase for \$4.1 million. Lucy has contacted the City of Bethlehem first for them to prepare an offer for all 4 locations.

1. Recommend to council the following procedure for when Lucy receives an offer:
  - The realtor will contact Kenda, as Unity Team liaison, who will contact the President, Vice President, and Secretary of each community of faith for their review and action on the offer within 24 to 48 hours. Their task is to decide whether to reject, clarify, counteroffer, or consider the offer and schedule an Emergency Joint Council meeting within 24 to 48 hours for action to be taken by the Joint Council on the Offer.
  - Any monies needed to move, donate, or discard items that will not be used at Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church will be split evenly among the 3 communities of faith.

**Archive (Kenda Riley)** = continue with assessing and inventorying archives. They may start boxing items if they are able that they want to bring to Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church.

**Non-Fixed Assets (Nancy Kostas)** = continue with inventorying items. Mentioned that if items are in damaged or non-working, that they may discard the items. There is still a need for more volunteers. Discussed possible options for when we have large amount of items that we need to discard.

1. Recommend to council the following:
  - Anyone who wishes to take any books, other than any used for worship, are able to take as they want.

**Attorney (Joe Bleier)** = received invoice for clarification on obtaining a Federal EIN number for Blessed Trinity.

**Mission Statement (Kevin Remaly)** = they have a rough draft, working on a mission statement with a set of core values.

**Fellowship (Linda Toltesi)** = still need volunteers from Light of Christ and St Peters. Bingo at St John's Windish is scheduled.

3. Any questions or concerns regarding the sale of the locations should be addressed only to Kenda Riley as the Unity Team liaison, along with any questions or concerns regarding the purchase of the new location and property for Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church should be addressed only to Mike Horwath. There is no contact to be made to our realtor from the congregation.
4. **Please be aware that we will not be without a church building to worship at any time during this process.** Our realtor is stressing this point in all offers, along with working this into any contract regarding the sale, that we will be able to worship at one of our campuses until we are ready to move into the new building for Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church.
5. Next Steps
  - a. Keep the Unity Team recap in the Til We Meet Again until the next recap, not just for the 1 week as we are currently doing.
  - b. Meeting with Pastor Jean Huber on November 22<sup>nd</sup> to learn Pastor Call process
  - c. Follow up with the Joint Council vote on recommendations
  - d. Follow up with sub-committees with progress
6. Next Meeting on Sunday, January 8, 2023

7. Unity Team Sub-Committees:

**Naming** = Kevin Remaly \ [kevremaly@gmail.com](mailto:kevremaly@gmail.com)

**Constitution & ByLaw** = Mary Mann \ [marsecy@gmail.com](mailto:marsecy@gmail.com)

**New Location Search** = Mike Horwath \ [jr4926@rcn.com](mailto:jr4926@rcn.com)

**Asset Disposition** = Kenda Riley \ [klr3704@hotmail.com](mailto:klr3704@hotmail.com)

**Archive** = Kenda Riley \ [klr3704@hotmail.com](mailto:klr3704@hotmail.com)

**Non-Fixed Asset** = Nancy Kostas \ [nkostas@verizon.net](mailto:nkostas@verizon.net)

**Attorney** = Joe Bleier \ [bleier.joe.amy@gmail.com](mailto:bleier.joe.amy@gmail.com)

**Mission Statement** = Kevin Remaly \ [kevremaly@gmail.com](mailto:kevremaly@gmail.com)

**Fellowship** = Linda Toltesi \ [ltoltesi@rcn.com](mailto:ltoltesi@rcn.com)



Pictured Left to Right:

Gina Brockway, Pastor Mike Button (liaison), Nancy Kostas, Mike Horwath, Kenda Riley, Joe Bleier, Mary Mann, Kevin Remaly, David Kolman, Linda Toltesi, and Pastor Suzanne Trump (liaison)

## Council Actions Concerning Unity Team Recommendations

At the Oct 25<sup>th</sup> Joint Council meeting we addressed the following Unity Team recommendations.

Discussed, Voted, and Passed:

That all fund \ proceeds from the sale of all locations are to be used for the purchase \ renovation of the new location for Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church.

Discussed, Voted, and Passed:

That the purchase of the new location and renovation of location and building for Blessed Trinity will not exceed the net proceeds from the sale of all 4 locations, **in example No Mortgage**

Discussed, Voted, and Passed:

That any remaining funds from the sale and purchase and renovations of the new location and building for Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church will remain in the possession of Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church.

Discussed, Voted, and Passed:

That we decline both Letters of Intent received from the City of Bethlehem and the developer.

Discussed, Voted, and Passed:

That we enter into a contract with Lucy Lennon as our realtor to assist us with sale of all 4 locations and the purchase of the new location for Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church **for contract term of 6-months.**

Discussed and tabled:

Unity Team recommends that the Joint Council decide on the process of marketing \ selling of all 4 locations by either one of 2 options: (option 1) bundle all 4 locations as 1 complete purchase, or (option 2) sell each location individually.

\*A meeting with the Mayor of Bethlehem and our realtor Lucy will be invited to address the Joint Council at a special meeting to assist with our decision.

At the Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> special Joint Council meeting

1. After hearing presentations given from the Mayor Reynolds of Bethlehem, and realtor Lucy Lennon. The Joint Council voted on the Unity Team recommendations that were tabled at the Oct 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Motion was made to reopen the tabled joint council motion to market the 4 properties as 1 bundle.



Discussed, Voted, and Passed

At the Nov 15<sup>th</sup> Joint Council voted on the following Unity Team recommendations.

Discussed, Voted, and Passed:

The process followed for offers on the sale of the properties shall be. The realtor will contact Kenda, as Unity Team liaison, who will contact the President, Vice President, and Secretary of each community of faith for their review and action on the offer within 24 to 48 hours. Their task is to decide whether to reject, clarify, counteroffer, or consider the offer and schedule an Emergency Joint Council meeting within 24 to 48 hours for action to be taken by the Joint Council on the offer.

Discussed, Voted, and Passed:

The process followed to purchase the new location for Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church shall be. The realtor will contact Mike, as Unity Team liaison, who will contact the President, Vice President, and Secretary of each community of faith for their review and action on the offer within 24 to 48 hours. Their task is to decide

whether to reject, clarify, counteroffer, or consider the offer and schedule an Emergency Joint Council meeting within 24 to 48 hours for action to be taken by the Joint Council on the offer.

Discussed, Voted, and Passed:

That any monies needed to move, donate, or discard items that will not be used at Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church will be split evenly among the 3 communities of faith.

Discussed, Voted, and Passed

That anyone who wishes to take any books, other than used for worship, are able to take as they want with a **free will donation**



# Drop a Line

**Light of Christ Lutheran Church:** 610-691-2321, lightofchrist@rcn.com

**St. John's Windish Lutheran Church:** 610-868-3282, office@stjohnswindish.org

**St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church:** 610-867-0519, church@stpetersbethlehem.org

**Pastor Mike:** 832-561-0697, mikebutton52@gmail.com

**Pastor Suzanne:** 610-217-1375, strump@ptd.net

## This Week at Blessed Trinity

**December 3 to December 11**

### **Saturday December 3**

5:00 PM: Worship with Livestream

### **Sunday December 4 – Second Sunday of Advent**

8:00 AM: Worship Video premieres

8:30 AM: Sunday School at LoC

9:15 AM: Worship at LoC

10:30AM: St. Peters Congregational Meeting at LoC

10:30AM: Christmas Card Signing/Light Lunch at LoC

3:00PM: Organ Concert at St. Peter's

### **Monday December 5**

7:00 PM: LoC Dart Baseball at St. Paul's

### **Tuesday December 6**

7:00 PM: Worship and Music Meeting

### **Wednesday December 7**

7:00 AM: Fellowship Group at St. Peter's

9:00 AM: Blessed Trinity Ladies Fellowship at LoC

7:00 PM: Choir Rehearsal at Light of Christ

### **Thursday December 8**

7:00 PM: Tech team

### **Saturday December 10**

5:00PM: Worship with Live Stream

### **Sunday December 11-Third Week of Advent**

#### **Pantry Sunday**

8:00 AM: Worship Video premiers

8:30 AM: Sunday School at Light of Christ

9:15 AM: Worship at Light of Christ

10:30AM: LoC Congregational Meeting

11:00AM: St. John's Windish Congregational Meeting