

Blue Ridge Trinity Lutheran Church

5757 Blue Ridge Blvd., Raytown, MO 64133
(816) 353-5446 Fax (816) 356-1213

www.brtraytown.org
brtraytown@gmail.com



Trinity Tidings

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Saints,

Greetings in the name of our crucified, risen and ascended Lord and coming Savior Jesus Christ!

Nearing the end of the year, in anticipation of 2020, we begin to think about resolutions. What shall I decide to do or not to do?

Let's say our goal is self-care. We might resolve to exercise daily, eat healthier, give up soda, drink less alcohol, get at least 8 hours of sleep daily and practice daily meditation toward achieving that goal. These lifestyle changes not only look good on

paper but are doable.

So, a new year brings with it challenges. Chief among them might be self-care goals. Even though we might be highly motivated, the challenge is to keep up. If not, we end up breaking our resolution and might feel defeated rather than refreshed and uplifted. Therefore, do not over-commit or rely on your own strength.

William Penn, the founder of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, was well liked by the Indians. Once they told him he could have as much of their land as he could encompass on foot in a

single day. So, early the next morning he started out and walked until late that night. When he finally went to claim his land, the Indians were greatly surprised, for they did not think he would take them seriously. But they kept their promise and gave him a large area which today is part of the city of Philadelphia.

Mom always said that we should not make promises that we cannot keep. I wished she had given this practical wisdom prior to making promises. We might have been faithful.

cont'd. p. 2

Dec/Jan-2019/2020

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Our Mission:
"Seeing God's
Plan,
Answering God's
Call,
Doing God's
Work"



December

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SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
Sunday Morning Schedule 8:45 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Fellowship						
1 1 st Sun in ADVENT 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Service	2 CHRISTMAS STORE 7:00 p.m. Scouts & Cubs	3 CHRISTMAS STORE	4 CHRISTMAS STORE 10:00 a.m. Al Anon 7:00 p.m. Choir	5 CHRISTMAS STORE 7:00 p.m. Venture Scouts	6 CHRISTMAS STORE OFFICE CLOSED	7 CHRISTMAS STORE
8 2 nd Sun in ADVENT 9:30 a.m. Traditional Service	9 7:00 p.m. Scouts & Cubs	10	11 10:00 a.m. Al Anon 7:00 p.m. Choir	12 7:00 p.m. Venture Scouts	13 OFFICE CLOSED	14 1:00 p.m. Carol Singing 
15 3 rd Sun in ADVENT 9:30 a.m. Blended Service	16 7:00 p.m. Scouts & Cubs	17	18 10:00 a.m. Al Anon 7:00 p.m. Choir	19 7:00 p.m. Venture Scouts	20 OFFICE CLOSED	
22 4 th Sun in ADVENT 9:30 a.m. Festive Service	23 NO SCOUTS & CUBS	24 7:00 p.m. - St. Matthew's 	25 	26 No Venture Scouts	27 OFFICE CLOSED	28
29 9:30 a.m. United Service Lessons and Carols at BRT	30 NO SCOUTS & CUBS	31 ANNUAL REPORTS DUE				

December Birthdays

3 Larry Gonnello, Sr.
 8 Samantha Cummings
 10 Wanda Clemons
 12 Susan Marple
 13 Chris Gannan
 18 Earlene Anderson
 19 Joyce McFadden
 24 Patrick Letzig



2019 Council Officers

Susan Marple
President

Morrie Carlson
Vice President

Kris Riddell
Treasurer

Jackie Harvey
Secretary

Carolyn Tyler
Financial Secretary

Pastor's Article Cont'd

So often we learned from our failures, especially that promises are easily made, but hard to keep. More often than not, it is because they are made in haste. If only we had taken more time to consider carefully what to do or not to do, then surely that which we resolved to do might not have been beyond our ability to achieve.

William Penn believed what the Native Indians promised. Should we do less with God?

As Christians, we do not have to go it alone whatever the task we undertake. We always rely on God for

strength and help for God promised, "Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand" (Isaiah 41:10). Also, we have God's assurance. "I will never leave you or forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5). Further, In the nativity story we are reminded that Emmanuel—God with us—is revealed in Jesus. He is the fulfilment of God's promises. Therefore, we do not give into doubt because we know that nothing is impossible for God.

Prayerfully make your

resolutions in the same manner you pledged on Stewardship Sunday to give of your time, talents and treasure. Then, resolve to keep them with God's help. " [For] God, who got you started in this spiritual adventure, shares with us the life of his Son and our Master Jesus. He will never give up on you. Never forget that" (1 Corinthians 1:9).

A Blessed and Peaceful
 Christmas and New
 Year to you!

Pastor C

January Birthdays

4 Fred Barth
 17 Diane LaForte
 22 Pat Welch



Annual Meeting Part 1

ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING

PART I will be on Sunday, January 19, 2020 following worship with Potluck.

Please turn in reports on or before, Sunday, December 29. Committees/

Leaders are as follows:

Altar Guild & Treasure

Care, Cards, Call Team

Finance Committee

Learning/Youth Activities

Memorial Committee

Memorial Fund Financial

MLM

Parish Nurse

Pastor

President

Property Committee

Ruth Circle & Treasurer

Service Committee

Stewardship Committee

TLCW & Treasurer

Worship and Music

Scouting



President's Article

Whatever you do in life ... remember ... think higher, and feel deeper. Life is not a fist. Life is an open hand waiting for some other hand to enter it in friendship. Ultimately, the answers are so simple. Not simplistic, but so simple. – Elie Wiesel

As we submerge ourselves into the seasons of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, it's a good time to take stock of what we have that we can share with those around us in friendship and love. Jesus, as a prophet and teacher, aimed this loftiest of goals at humanity in the 22nd Chapter of Matthew's gospel: *'Love the Eternal One your God with all your heart and all your soul and all your mind.'* This is the first and greatest commandment ... and the second is like it, *'you shall love*

your neighbor as yourself.' I find that reaching out to strangers and friends to listen, lend a helping hand, or give a donation is a balm for my soul. Those relationships, human interactions and love connections are what make our faith, and the Word, nourishment to a living, evolutionary, growing Tree of Life. Reach out this season of Christmas and do something nice for yourself in the form of loving your neighbors, friends and humanity...these small actions help our Christian Tree of Life grow and prosper. Merry Christmas and a Prosperous and Happy New Year!

God be with you until we meet again,

Susan Marple
Council President



Upcoming Activities

December Worship Assistants

Assisting Ministers

- Dec. 1 Chris Gannan
- Dec. 8 Bob Harvey
- Dec. 15 Susan Marple
- Dec. 22 Ken Riddell
- Dec. 29 Susan Marple

Readers

- Dec. 1 Eleanor Kramer
- Dec. 8 Fred Barth
- Dec. 15 Bob Jones
- Dec. 22 Larry Gonnello
- Dec. 29 Morrie Carlson,
Chris Gannan &
Fred Barth

Ushers

- Dec. 1 Kris Riddell
- Dec. 8 Diane Babbitt &
Joyce McFadden
- Dec. 15 Jerry Nevans
- Dec. 22 Eleanor Kramer &
Diane Babbitt
- Dec. 29 Kris Riddell &
Joyce McFadden

Acolytes

- Dec. 1 Samuel Cummings
- Dec. 8 Nathanael Cummings
- Dec. 15 Samuel Cummings
- Dec. 22
- Dec. 29



CHRISTMAS CHEER

We will be presenting gifts to three needy families at Christmas. Toward this end, we need your generous contributions (check/cash). Place your gifts with designation Raytown School District in offering plates. We plan to bless these families on **Monday, December 16.**

CAROLING

On **Saturday, December 14, 2019** we will be singing carols to our homebound members. The plan is to meet here at BRT at 1:00 p.m. and leave by 1:15 p.m. Following an afternoon of caroling, we will return to church for soup, chili and desserts. P.S. You don't have to be a choir member to join us! We welcome ALL, young and young at heart.



**United Service
Christmas Eve,
December 24
at St Matthew's
7:00 p.m.**

**United Service
Sunday, December
29 at BRT at 9:30
a.m.**



Reason for the Season

This verse from Luke 2:11 reminds us who is the reason for the season. This verse says, ...”for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” As Christmas is rapidly approaching, we hope that you will take time to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. Christmas is a time to celebrate the birth of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. John 10:10b “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” So amid the presents, cookie decorating, and Christmas parties remember that Jesus is the reason we celebrate this season!



January Worship Assistants

Assisting Ministers

- Jan. 5 Kathy Nevans
- Jan. 12 Jackie Harvey
- Jan. 19 Chris Gannan
- Jan. 26 Ken Riddell

Readers

- Jan. 5 Eleanor Kramer
- Jan. 12 Morrie Carlson
- Jan. 19 Bob Jones
- Jan. 26 Kathy Nevans

Ushers

- Jan. 5 Jerry Nevans
- Jan. 12 Joyce McFadden & Diane Babbitt
- Jan. 19 Eleanor Kramer & Kathy Musson
- Jan. 26 Kris Riddell

Acolytes

- Jan. 5 Nathanael C.
- Jan. 12 Samuel C.
- Jan. 19 Nathanael C.
- Jan. 26 Samuel C.

Prayer Chain

Brielle {Eleanor Kramer’s great granddaughter}, Fred Hellman, Jan Felzien, Dale Setzer, Walter Hokenson {father of Jon and Michael Hokenson}, Sue Marsten {friend of Cummings’ family}, Louis Metcalf, Walter Ferguson {Nancy Ferguson’s son}, Kathy Musson, Mary Burge, Michael Woodcock {grandson of Bob and Chris Jones}, Chris Jones, Evan Burnham {grandson of Louis Metcalf and nephew of Kathy Nevans}, Carol Lutz {Diane Babbitt’s sister}, Darlene Metcalf {Kathy Nevans’ mother}, Aspen Deke {friend of Mary Burge}, Megan Walsh, Charles Owens {son-in-law of Mamie Robinson}, Martha Mitchel {Raymond Jones’ sister}, Les Tebbenkamp {Mary Burge’s brother}, Larry and Deb Gonnello, Cera Hawkins {Inge Howard’s granddaughter}, Doris Merrick, Vivian Moffitt, LeRoy Felzien, Norma Phillips, Vitula Zimmerschied {Joyce McFadden’s mother}, Frances Smith, Hollis Mundhenke, Eunice Lynn, Louise Latta {Linda Gippner’s aunt}, Angela Beaman {Gonnello’s daughter} and Roy Javner {friend of Jerry Nevans}.



First, I would like to congratulate Samuel Cummings on his Confirmation and membership to BRT! The holidays are upon us (I'm still enjoying my Thanksgiving and looking forward to Christmas and the New Year. Decorating the sanctuary is always such a pleasant experience. A big shout out to those who are helping with gift and monetary donations for our various causes. Our candy ladies sold all their candy this year and look forward to next year. One of our scouters, Lucas Mayo was just in the winter play at Raytown High School. The scouts also had two fundraisers as well as selling pancakes, etc. at the Run for Excellence. The cubs participated in Pumpkins on Parade and both scouts and cubs helped with our recent Saturday breakfast for MLM. Thank you to all, " especially" the folks I left out. You are appreciated.

Health Observances in December include Safe Toys and Celebrations Month, National Influenza Vaccine week 1-7 and National Handwashing Awareness Week 2-8--- December 1st is World Aids Day Awareness. January is National Blood Donor Month, Glaucoma Awareness Month, and Healthy Weight Week 19-31. It starts the third Sunday in January. I can't wait to put that on my calendar. Ha. Also January 20 is World Braille Day; then last is January 27 World Leprosy Day(also known as Hansen's Disease) It is observed on the last Sunday in January. This disease targets the nervous system, especially the cooler parts of the body (hands, feet, and face) Love, peace and prayers to those who have lost loved ones. The next Lunch and Learn at Ascension Lutheran Church will be held the second Saturday in December. The subject is Hospice Care. I will bring back the information that I learn.

Upcoming events:

MLM ingathering for Christmas Store Dec 1

Christmas Store Dec 2-7

REAP Christmas Store

Outreach to Fleetridge families

Lunch and Learn

Caroling

Scouts Trip to Bowen

"God of mercy, let me hear your voice of forgiveness that frees me to live, for the sake of Christ, my Lord. Amen"

Linda Hokenson



Trinity Tidings

This is a monthly publication of Blue Ridge Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. Articles or information pertinent to the life and mission of the congregation may be submitted to the Church Office **by the 20th** of each month. Space limitations may require editing of material.

Church Schedule

Sundays:

Worship - 9:30 a.m.

URGENT NEED OF PASTORAL CARE CALL:

Office:

816-353-5446

Pastor:

816-785-4006

Church Staff

Orin W. Cummings
Pastor

Jackie Harvey
Choir Director

Mary Burge
Organist

Bob Harvey
Contemporary Worship






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JANUARY

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SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
Sunday Morning Schedule 8:45 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Fellowship						
			1  HAPPY NEW YEAR	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4
5 2nd Sun of CHRISTMAS 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Service	6 7:00 p.m. Scouts & Cubs	7 6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting	8 10:00 a.m. Al Anon 7:00 p.m. Choir	9 7:00 p.m. Venture Scouts	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11
12 BAPTISM OF OUR LORD 9:30 a.m. Traditional Service	13 7:00 p.m. Scouts & Cubs	14 10:00 a.m. Care Team 	15 10:00 a.m. Al Anon 7:00 p.m. Choir	16 7:00 p.m. Venture Scouts	17 OFFICE CLOSED	18 Flying Solo – St Matthew's
19 2nd Sun after EPIPHANY 9:30 a.m. Blended Service Annual Mtg. Pt. I	20 	21	22 10:00 a.m. Al Anon 7:00 p.m. Choir	23 7:00 p.m. Venture Scouts	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 3rd Sun after EPIPHANY 9:30 a.m. Brief Liturgical Service	27 7:00 p.m. Scouts & Cubs	28 11:00 a.m. Ruth Circle Luncheon 	29 10:00 a.m. Al Anon 7:00 p.m. Choir	30 7:00 p.m. Venture Scouts	31 OFFICE CLOSED	