



# *The Belfry*

**TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

ORGANIZED 1863  
640 Berwyn Avenue

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January 2010    Next Deadline: January 19, 2010

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## **From the Pastor**



### **CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP**

**Thursday, December 24**

**5:00 P.M.** family service of lessons, carols, &  
candles with children's choir singing &  
Divine Dance Ensemble

**11:00 P.M.** candlelight communion service

### **“Keeping Christmas” by Henry van Dyke**

Are you willing to forget what you have done for other people and remember what other people have done for you; to ignore what the world owes you and to think what you owe the world; to put your rights in the background and your duties in the middle distance and your chances to do a little more than your duty in the foreground?

Do you see that others are just as real as you are and try to look behind their faces to the hearts, hungry for joy; to own not what you are going to get out of life but what you are going to give to life; to close your book of complaints against the management of the universe and look around for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness – are you willing to do these things even for a day? Then you can keep Christmas.



## Music & Worship Notes



- December 27 . . . the Rev. Tim Pretz preaching  
Adult Choir sings "The King Shall Come"
- January 3 . . . Elder Ann Hatfield preaching  
Helen Hartigan & Paul Vanderslice sing a duet
- January 9 . . . 10AM - Un-decorate the church
- January 10 . . . Celebration of the Lord's Supper  
Adult Choir sings "Meditation for Communion"
- January 17 . . . the Children's Choir sings "Give Thanks"  
Adult Choir sings "The Lord is Our Refuge"



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### ***Sacred Dance Ministry***

The "Divine Dance Ensemble" is open to dancers who may wish to participate in this ministry. They welcome others who feel led by God to share their gifts. For more information, contact Tracy Flanagan at [tracy.flanagan@yahoo.com](mailto:tracy.flanagan@yahoo.com).

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### **USHERS NEEDED!!**

Ushers are needed to insure having four members on each of six teams. Having six teams rotate means each usher volunteers every six weeks. There is also a substitute list that we need to maintain for usher volunteers to call when they will be out of town or on vacation on their scheduled Sunday. Being an usher is an important function of the worship service and your assistance will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Gary Horn at the church office to volunteer.



**ADULT  
EDUCATION**

**9:00 A.M. Sunday mornings in the Parlor**

**January 3 & 10 & 17 – continue with DVD series “First Light”**

*as we learn about the Kingdom of God in Jesus’ teachings*

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**TUESDAY MORNING GROUP**

*On Jan. 5, we continue studying*

*“The Moral Teaching of Paul”*



**TUESDAY MORNING  
BIBLE STUDY**

**9:30 A.M. in the Parlor**



**THURSDAY MORNING MEN'S STUDY**

*7:00 A.M. in the Church Library*

*join us on our journey through Exodus*

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A special opportunity for spiritual growth . . .

**PRAYING THE PSALMS**

*with Catherine*

*Friday, January 8 & 22, 2010*

*at 11:00 AM in the Sacristy*

## HELP US CELEBRATE 150 YEARS



Trinity Presbyterian Church is preparing to celebrate being part of the Berwyn community for 150 years. The site we now worship on was dedicated on December 30, 1862 and the Church was organized on January 4, 1863 and in a little over 3 years we will celebrate 150 years of Trinity giving and serving our community here in Berwyn.

We ask for everyone's help and involvement, in planning and carry out many fun and exciting events to get us ready to celebrate this tremendous achievement and to hopefully set the stage for the next 150 years at Trinity.

We want to celebrate what Trinity has accomplished, and what Trinity can still achieve as the Church on the Corner in Berwyn with our whole community. A steering committee is asking for volunteers for this committee and also for volunteers for subcommittees to work on specific events that may be of interest to you.

Please sign up to be part of the steering committee, sub-committee or submit your ideas by seeing: Steve Fenwick; Gary Horn; Bill Morgart; Hugh Chekemian; Denny Leeper; Julie O'Leary or Jim Hatfield.

## **DEACONS' UPDATE**

*Dart (Drug and Alcohol Recovery Team)* at Berwyn United Methodist Church (BUMC) will be sponsoring a series of open forum parent sessions in 2010. The discussions will be held the last Tuesday of the month through April 2010.

Dates: 1-26-2010, 2-23-2010, 3-23-2010 and 4-27-2010

Time: 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Topics: Healthy communications with your children

Setting boundaries with your children

Technology safety: internet, cell phones, texting, social networks

Dealing with transition

A. Michael Blanche, MSS, LCSW from Comprehensive Counseling will be leading the sessions. Questions?: Call BUMC at 610/644-5555, or e-mail [officebumc@comcast.net](mailto:officebumc@comcast.net).

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This Christmas Season the Deacons will continue the tradition of delivering poinsettias to their special care people. If you have someone you would like to add to the special care list, please contact one of the Deacons.



## **AID IN THE FIGHT AGAINST PEDIATRIC CANCER**

Hello everyone! My name is Elizabeth Hartigan, and I am a junior at Penn State University. During my three years of college, I have been an active member of Penn State's show choir as well as the Penn State Dance Marathon. The Singing Lions is one of over 400 student organizations that participate in the Dance Marathon every year. If you are not aware of the Penn State IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon, it is the largest student run philanthropy in the world, raising money for kids battling cancer. Last year we raised \$7.49 million dollars (over \$61 million total since 1973) to go to The Four Diamonds Fund located at Hershey Medical Center! This year, the 46-hour marathon will take place February 19-21. If you would like to donate to a worthy cause, please send cash or checks payable to Penn State Dance Marathon (Org # 152, Penn State Singing Lions in the memo) to Elizabeth Hartigan 616 E. College Ave, Apt 401, State College, PA 16801. Thank you so much for your donation, every little bit helps! ☺



## TRINITY REMEMBERS

Few will quibble with the statement that one of the most significant cultural changes in our lifetime is from reading the news of the day in newspapers to the seeing and hearing the news explained to us on television or the internet. Coping with this change has visited upon us and the church itself a significant problem of understanding the importance of some long held moral values which come off second best in the world of glitzy media hype.

A local newspaper has been available in Berwyn (if you class West Chester as local) from the day Trinity was founded. Early member Frank Stauffer was a journalist. A chip off the block, his son Marshall published a "neat little monthly amateur paper" in Berwyn from March 1878 to February 1879.

Less than a decade later, the Berwyn Record, followed by the Berwyn Herald, published here. The first issue of the latter paper appeared July 27, 1889, editor and publisher, Edward Baumgard. It was published on Wednesday and Saturday. Apparently reorganized or revived in 1923 as The Weekly Herald and Public Spirit, it was published each Friday at Berwyn by W. W. Pinkerton, Jr., editor. Its March 6, 1931 issue turned up recently. It carried the story of the organization of the Berwyn Men's Business Association.

A monthly newspaper called the Berwyn Post was put out for the local service men of World War II from April 1943 to May 1946, 38 issues in all. It was edited by a group of patriotic volunteers, headed by Robert F. Goebel, who was confined to his bed by a lingering physical handicap. He died June 13, 1945, age 29, at Chester County Hospital, but publication was continued by his co-workers for almost another year.

Vol. 1, No. 1 of the Upper Main Line News appeared March 27, 1947. Its offices were in Paoli, but its founder and editor-publisher was W. W. Pinkerton Jr., of Wayne. Pinkerton's father, W. W. Pinkerton Sr., had long been associated with the Suburban and Wayne Times. The Upper Main Line News closed in 1970 after six changes of ownership and a dozen editors.

Last, but not least, however, Trinity's newsletter The Belfry has carried church news since January 1955, and with this issue completes its 54th year of publication.

[For January 2010 Belfry; submitted by Herb Fry for History Committee.



## CLERK'S CORNER

At the November session meeting:

- Don Tokash, treasurer, reported on improvements in Trinity's finances. Receipts were ahead of budget due to extra-month giving and pledge catch-ups. The deficit has been reduced by \$13,000.
- Steve Fenwick, stewardship chair, reported that 75% of the pledges for 2010 have been received showing an increase of 8%. He expressed amazement and gratitude for the huge response to the request for the 13-month pledge payment for 2009 and the increase in percentage giving in the 2010.
- Elders approved:
  - The communion dates for 2010
  - Vacation time for Rev. Wilkins from December 25, 2009 through January 3, 2010
  - The date of January 31, 2010 for the Congregational and Corporation meetings.

A special session meeting will be held on Monday, December 21, 2009 to work on the budget and to review the results of the pastoral assessments.

Sally Bovais, Clerk of Session



**Annual Meeting of the Congregation  
& the Corporation**

**Sunday, January 31, 2010  
following worship**

**Annual Report to be available**

**Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**



**Annual Meeting**



### **Pageant Thank-You**

Thanks to all the children and parents who participated in Trinity's Christmas pageant on December 13th. Over 20 kids joined together to share the Christmas story during the worship service. Special thanks to our directors, Wendy Mauchly and Renny Hutton, who planned and organized the rehearsals and final performance. Also, thanks to Sally McKay and her helpers who served two rehearsal dinners, as well as thanks to everyone who contributed and assisted with the Christmas luncheon. Thanks to all from the Christian Education Committee.

### **Donut Sunday on January 3rd - Bring Your Bible**

The first Donut Sunday for 2010 will be on January 3rd. We will be learning more about the Bible. If you have already received your second grade Bible, bring it with you. We will be playing games and having fun with Bible activities (and eating donuts, too!). So, BYB - "Bring Your Bible" to church with you on Jan. 3. Hope to see you then!

### **C.E.F. . . . Come Eat Fellowship . . . a note from Taylor**

A few months ago I started talking to some people about having a monthly meal at the church. I wasn't sure what to expect when I was preparing the first meal on Wednesday, September 16, 2009. I made a simple meal of baked ziti, salad, and a dessert assortment. As it neared five o'clock I began to wonder if I had gotten in over my head to do something that may turn out to be a lost cause. But with the help of some youth and other members and staff of the church, the meal started as scheduled and we fed 25 people. This was the beginning of CEF (Come, Eat Fellowship).

Since our first meal, the numbers have increased. We are now feeding between 35 and 40 people on the third Thursdays of every month. It has been such a blessing to see an idea that I had become a success here at Trinity. I am so thankful for all of you that come out to the meals. I hope that the time spent eating and talking with one another is a joy in your life. The purpose of the meal is to nourish the community that we already have here at our church. It is truly a wonderful experience to be part of the community in this church.

If CEF is something you would like to see continue to grow, talk to me about becoming part of a group that helps make and serve the meals. This is not an overly strenuous commitment. So if you are interested or have any ideas to improve CEF talk to me on a Sunday before or after church. Thank you all for your involvement in CEF!

In Him, Taylor Kiser

## MONTHLY FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

### Monthly Budget Update as of November 30, 2009

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>2009 Actual</u>	<u>2009 Budget</u>	<u>%</u>
Pledged Offerings	\$ 198,879	\$ 200,700	99%
Non-Pledge Offerings	\$ 18,226	\$ 21,921	83%
Other Receipts	\$ 25,276	\$ 24,110	105%
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 242,381</b>	<b>\$ 246,731</b>	<b>98%</b>
 <u>Expenses</u>			
Property & Finance	\$ 91,050	\$ 84,400	108%
Personnel	\$ 152,561	\$ 157,701	95%
Worship & Sacraments	\$ 2,658	\$ 4,303	62%
Christian Education	\$ 2,238	\$ 2,620	85%
Membership	\$ 156	\$ 200	78%
Board of Deacons	\$ 0	\$ 0	100%
Outreach	\$ 8,153	\$ 9,000	91%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 256,816</b>	<b>\$ 258,224</b>	<b>99%</b>
 <b>General Fund-YTD Net Nov 30</b>	 <b>\$ (14,435)</b>	 <b>\$ (11,493)</b>	 <b>(126)%</b>
<b>General Fund Balance - Nov 30</b>	<b>\$ (31,687)</b>		
 <u>Balances As Of:</u>			
	<u>30-Nov-09</u>		
Fixed Rate Loan	\$ 84,276		
Variable Rate Loan	\$ 42,150		
Trinity Fund (Book Value)	\$ 321,656		
Trinity Fund (Market Value)	\$ 291,125		

**Comments:** Pledge payments improved from 13th month program. Property & Finance expenses over budget (but improved from October) from higher utility and insurance costs.

Market value of Trinity Fund account on Nov 30, 2009 remains under "book value". Still need to reduce GF negative balance which improved to (\$31,687).



## MISSION HONDURAS

Please keep the Honduras mission team in your prayers. **The next mission trip is Jan 9-16, 2010.** Trinity's Dick Kurtz will be joined by doctors and dentists and other dedicated volunteers in Puerto Grande and Moropocay are in the mountains above Pespire, Honduras. For more info, check out the website at [http://www.khish.org/Next\\_Trip.htm](http://www.khish.org/Next_Trip.htm).



### Presbyterian Foundation Offers Innovative Gift Program

The Presbyterian Foundation has recognized that the gift plan that has been around since 1843 was ready for an update. Historically, the donor who selects a Charitable Gift Annuity makes a gift and receives lifetime income and upon their passing, the charitable beneficiary receives the charitable remainder. The innovative, new Charitable Gift Annuity program offered by the Presbyterian Foundation will still provide the donor with an attractive lifetime income, but now, in most cases, the gift portion will be made available to the charity named by the donor immediately. This approach allows the donor to witness the impact of their giving during their lifetime, and the charity receives an immediate gift which is always welcome.

“This innovative program will provide a powerful tool for every ministry within the Presbyterian Church to immediately impact its mission funding,” stated Paul H. Grier, acting vice president of development for the Presbyterian Foundation. He added, “The average length of time that a ministry traditionally waits for funds from a Charitable Gift Annuity is about 12 years. Imagine how many lives could be impacted during those years if the gift portion was available now!”

The new Charitable Gift Annuity program became effective August 1, 2009. The program adopted the rates recommended by the American Council on Gift Annuities. Gifts are accepted at \$10,000 and above and can be for one or two lives.



***December 6, 2009***

Update from your Stewardship Committee

We are truly blessed!

As you know, the Stewardship Committee challenged the Trinity family to increase their 2010 pledge by 10% in order to balance our budget and avoid cutting expenses (including salaries) by 10%. Trinity's response to the challenge has been incredible!

2010 pledges have been received from approximately 80% of the eligible pledging units who pledged in 2009. The total of those pledges represent an increase of 11% over the amount of their 2009 pledges. Thank you!

The job, however, is not yet done. Our church needs everyone's participation. So, we would like to remind all who have not yet pledged to please submit their 2010 pledges as soon as possible. We need pledges from everyone in order for Session to finalize and approve Trinity's 2010 budget.

The Committee also asked for those who are able to pledge an additional month in 2009 to offset the current deficit. Response to this has also been tremendous. Our goal was to raise an additional \$16,000. To date, \$10,000 has been pledged. If you are able to participate with a little extra each week, your contribution will be welcome, and you will make a difference.

The Lord is clearly working at Trinity, and Trinity is clearly working for the Lord. If you have any questions or need a pledge card, please don't hesitate to contact a Committee member directly or through the church office.

God bless you all!

The Stewardship Committee  
Steve Fenwick, Chair  
Hugh Chekemian  
Bill Morgart

**TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**640 Berwyn Avenue**  
**Berwyn, Pennsylvania 19312**  
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