God is Making All Things New

The Christian calendar is on a slightly different schedule than our everyday Gregorian calendar. Instead of starting the year on January 1, Christians begin our year on the first Sunday of Advent. This year, the first Sunday in Advent is December 1. We begin our year simultaneously remembering the events that led to Jesus’ birth in Bethlehem in the 1st century and awaiting God’s promise of a reborn world, where people will live in harmony, and wars and fighting will be no more.

As we prepare for the new Christian year, perhaps we can all set aside time to make some resolutions. This is our opportunity to delve deeper into our practice of our faith. Perhaps we would like to set some goals for the New Year: Would we like to read the Bible more frequently? Would we like to build a more consistent prayer practice into our lives? Would we like to commit to participating in more activities at church? Could we consider inviting more people to join us at Trinity?

Although the world tells us the days leading up to Christmas are about making cookies and shopping for presents, we often put so much pressure on ourselves that we are exhausted when we finally make it to Christmas Eve. Instead of spending time contemplating the miracles that surround the story of the first Christmas and all of the good things God is doing in the world, we frantically try to decorate and bake and shop and wrap. Let’s give ourselves a break this year. Let’s focus on Jesus instead of succumbing to the pressure of trying to do “everything” right.

This season, we are having several special events at Trinity. Each Sunday, we will celebrate Advent in our morning services. On December 1, our worship will be followed by our Advent Family Workshop. Everyone is invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall for treats and crafts for all ages. On the 8th, our Choir will share their Christmas Cantata with us: One Small Child. On the 15th, we will worship in our Fellowship Hall and our children and teenagers will share their Christmas program, Ewe Said It, with us. We will have an anticipatory Advent Worship on the 22nd. In addition to our Sunday morning services, we will Christmas Carol on December 6th and 13th – on the 6th in the Fort Bevon and Olde Village neighborhoods, and on the 13th on Main Street in Skippack. Once again, we will gather for a Blue Christmas service on the 20th at 7 pm. This service is intended for people who are feeling “blue” as they experience the Advent and Christmas season—people who are grieving, people who are sad, people who are
Thanksgiving Eve Service
7:00 PM     Wednesday, November 27
We will gather for a contemplative candlelight service of giving thanks to God.

I pray we will all join together to celebrate the new Christian year. May we rejoice in the many ways God is making all things new around us. And, may we also give ourselves a break and allow ourselves some peace in the midst of this busy season.

Pastor Amelie

“See, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy.”

Isaiah 65:17-18

Greening of the Church
We will be decorating the church for the Advent/Christmas season immediately following the worship service on Sunday, November 24th. Everyone is invited to help. Many hands make quick work!

It’s Time to Order Poinsettias!
If you would like to purchase a plant in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out one of the envelopes on the table in the Narthex and place it in the offering plate, or give it directly to Harry Crossgrove. Plants are $7.00 each. Orders are due no later than Sunday, Dec. 8th. You will be able to take your plants home after the Christmas Eve Service.
For a number of years, the Human Services Committee has provided a Christmas gift for the seniors that rely on the Daily Bread Community Food Pantry. Once again, we will do a gift bag filled with body lotion, chapstick, Kleenex, decks of cards, jigsaw puzzles, peanut butter crackers, chocolates, plus a few additional items. This gift bag has been very popular with the seniors. To keep everything uniform, the committee will purchase the items. If you would like to contribute a monetary donation, please contact Nancy Gallagher (610-584-1468).

To keep with tradition, we would also like to provide a dozen homemade cookies to each senior. If you are able to bake, please bag three to four cookies (depending on size) by flavor in a zip lock bag. **We need all cookies no later than December 5th by 10:00 AM.** We will be packing the tins that morning.

This is an important and worthwhile outreach to our neighbors in need. For many of them, this gift bag and cookies will be their only Christmas gifts. Thank you for your generous support!
CHRISTMAS CAROLING - TWO DATES!!
Friday, December 6th—6:00 PM (Neighborhood)
Friday, December 13th—6:00 PM (Skippack Village)
Young & Old, Singers & Non-Singers
Please join us for some fun and Christmas spirit!
Any questions, contact Nancy Gallagher at 610-584-1468.

A Taste of Julia Child Dinner
with Kids’ Dessert Challenge
Saturday, December 7
6:00 PM
This is a family event. The children will have a
dessert decorating contest during the dinner.
Look for sign-up sheets in the Narthex.

The Christmas Cantata, “One Small Child”
will be performed on Sunday, December 8th,
during the 10:15 AM service. Please invite your
friends and family members! Refreshments will
be served after the service.

The children will present a Christmas Pageant
entitled “Ewe Said It!” during the 10:15 AM
worship service on December 15th. The service
will be held in the Education Building. Refresh-
ments will be served. You won’t want to miss it!

Christmas Eve Services:
Tuesday, December 24
Family Worship Service 5:00 PM
Candlelight & Holy Communion Service 7:00 PM
Both services will be held in the Church.

Worship will follow bringing the beauty of the season alive once again
as we celebrate the Christ Child in our midst through communion and
singing our praises by candlelight.
Blue Christmas Service  
December 20 - 7:00 pm

Sometimes Christmas is not the “happiest time of the year” for us. We recall past Christmas Seasons. We miss people who celebrated with us. We regret words we said and things we should have done. We recall seasons that did not work out the way we expected. And, we are sad.

In this season when we are supposed to feel joyful and triumphant, it is disconcerting and disheartening to feel unhappy. Instead of shouting from the rooftops, we want to hide under our covers.

Friday, December 20th, is the darkest day of the year. On this day of darkness, we are gathering for our Blue Christmas service. This gathering is for anyone who feels not-so-jolly. We will gather in our Education Building’s Fellowship Hall for a service of remembrance and Holy Communion. We will sing, pray and light candles and give ourselves permission to admit this season sometimes feels less than merry for us.

Our gathering will be at 7 pm. Please join us.

Men’s Conference - February 1, 2020  
“No Regrets”

Cornerstone Church of Skippack  
1326 Stump Hall Road (at Route 73), Skippack, PA  
8:30 AM - 5:00 PM  
$25 per ticket ($35 at the door)  
Includes breakfast and lunch.

Live Stream Event - Join over 100 churches and 10,000 men from across the country!
DAILY BREAD COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

Support us by shopping on Amazon Smile!

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon donates. Click the link below to start supporting the Food Pantry!

https://smile.amazon.com/ch/47-1481813

What is Amazon Smile?
Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you’ll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization.

Do I need a separate account for Amazon Smile from my current Amazon account?

No, you use the same account for both amazon.com and smile.amazon.com! Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

You may want to bookmark smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at Amazon Smile.

Thank you for your continued support! Please share this with your friends and neighbors!

UPCOMING EVENTS!!

Hoagie Sale - Saturday, January 11
Social Dinner - Saturday February 8

Mark your calendars!
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Trinity Christian UCC
P.O. Box 538
2009 Church Road
Skippack, Pa 19474

Adult Sunday School: 9:00 AM
Children's Sunday School and Worship Service: 10:15 AM
Website: www.trinityskippack.org
Pastor: Amelie Sell
PastorAmelieSell@gmail.com