



THE WELCOMER

“Welcoming our Neighbors to Jesus Christ and His Church”

The Newsletter of the Trinity Presbyterian Church
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Editor

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

I love Christmas lights. Martin Luther put up the first Christmas tree in his home with candles on the limbs. In the movie “Christmas Vacation” Chevy Chase put so many lights on his house that it used up all the power in the city and caused a blackout. (That was a little extreme.)

During the Candlelight service, the electric lights are turned out leaving a single candle shining its light. That candle represents Jesus who is the light of the world (John 8: 12). He came into this world to give light to every man in order to believe (John 1: 7-9). Each candle is then lit, starting with the ushers who light the candles at the end of each aisle. Then the candles are lit down each row until everyone in the church is holding a shining candle.

What a beautiful example of how we Christians are to light up the whole world with the faith and love that are seen in Jesus. Just as Jesus came shining into the world of darkness, we too are called – after our lights have been lit – to shine into the world.

That reminds me of a simple song with profound meaning. It says,

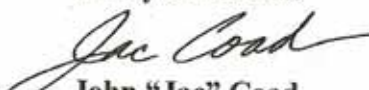
*“This little light of mine; I’m gonna let it shine.
Shine all over Tampa Bay; I’m gonna let it shine.
I won’t let Satan blow it out; I’m gonna let it shine.
Let it shine ‘til Jesus comes; I’m gonna let it shine.
Let it shine; let it shine; let it shine.”*

At Christmas time there is a lot of busyness and stress. Would you take some time to be sure your light has been lit? Check to see if the fire is burning bright. After all, the reason for the season is Jesus. Wise men still seek Him. I hope you do not miss Him. In all the activities I hope you experience a deep burning blaze in the hearth of your heart.

I also hope that you still seek to shine your light into dark areas of the hearts and lives of other people that need to be touched by that light which came into the world in Bethlehem. Just as Jesus touched you, would you seek to enlighten someone about the truth and reality of Jesus, the Light of the world? Another song says, “Pass it on.” I pray that Christmas will be the special season when you pass on to others what you have received.

May the Lord Jesus Christ be praised now and forever. Amen

Merry Christmas


John “Jac” Coad
Pastor

Travel Club
Fri., Dec. 1
11:00 a.m.

Adventurers
Lowry Park Zoo
Sat., Dec. 2

Decorate Church
For Christmas
Sat., Dec. 9
9:00 a.m.

Children’s Christmas
Program
Wed., Dec. 13
7:15 p.m.

Christmas Cantata
Sun., Dec. 17
6:00 p.m.

Combined Christmas
Eve Service With
Chinese Church
11:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
6:00 p.m.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING



DECEMBER 3 - 10:40 AM

This is our annual meeting when we vote on our budget and our new officers. All members are urged to attend.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Welcome



On Nov. 19th we welcomed the Stangers family, Jim and Teri, and their two children-Jimmie and Maylei. Please add to your church directory their address and phone number.

812 Tara deAvila
Tampa, FL 33613
PH. (813) 960-7050

DECORATION DAY

DECEMBER 9

Can you help? These efforts add so much to our services during the Holidays. Thanks.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

DECEMBER 17 - 6:00 P.M.



Our choir under the direction of Cindy Smith always provides us with an inspiring program. This is a good time to invite your neighbors and friends to our church. A reception will follow. Check Faye Wilkinson's list in kitchen for how you can help.

ADVENTURERS' FIELD TRIP

DEC. 2ND

Our Adventurers will be going to Lowry Park Zoo on Dec. 2nd. All costs including lunch and entrance fee are being furnished. See Mike Boyer for time and place to meet.

TRAVEL CLUB

DEC. 1 - 11:00 AM

This is always a special meeting! You do not have to order a sandwich. The fee will be the same but we will be having mini Cuban sandwiches, Greek salad, jello salads and homemade desserts. We have our volunteers assigned.

Video for the month will be "THE STORY BEGINS"

See you there!



DECEMBER 24TH

Will be a very special day of worship--We will worship with our Chinese Church at 11:00 A.M.

There will be no Sunday School

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COMMUNION & CANDLE-LIGHT SERVICE

SUNDAY EVENING @ 6:00 P.M.

MON. MORNING WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

DEC? 11 - 10:30 AM @ CHURCH

Mary Howell will continue leading the study of Luke. She will be using chapter 9 & 10 in the Bible. Hostesses for the month will be Marilyn Salenko & Faye Wilkinson.

* * *

SEEKERS BIBLE STUDY

Meets each Monday morning with the exception of the 2nd Monday.

MEET AT 10:30 AM @ CHURCH

* * *

CHRISTMAS SOCKS
FOR SALVATION ARMY

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 3RD IS THE TIME FOR THESE TO BE TURNED IN!

* * *

REPORT ON WOMEN OF FAITH
CONFERENCE IN ORLANDO

We had 18 of our women to carpool to this conference. All enjoyed the speakers, music and came back inspired. Please note that this conference will be in Tampa next year so even more of our women may be able to attend.

* * *

PLEASE NOTE: our Christmas Tea has been postponed due to so many activities. Watch your bulletins for the date and time of this occasion.

NEW BIBLE STUDY

Thought you would like to know Dale Borders has been leading a Bible study of Luke in her home. Next meeting will be

DECEMBER 14th

* * *

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

This group meets in various homes. Watch your bulletins on Sundays for dates and places. They meet every other Thursday but there will only be one in December. At present they are reviewing the book In the Presence of My Enemies. All women invited to attend.

* * *

HAVE YOU NOTICED THE WOMEN'S

DREAM BOARD?

On the outside wall of our dining area we have a "DREAM BOARD" for news of interest to our women. Now you will find pictures of items available (maybe for Christmas presents) with prices listed. The money received will go toward our "DISH WASHER FUND".

JESUS
THE REASON
FOR THE SEASON



Merry Christmas



When "the Tent" goes up, good things happen

To the homeless, our Holiday Center is a place where struggling parents can brighten the holidays for their kids. To the city of Tampa, it's a place where the community comes together to help those in need. And to volunteers and

those who drop off food, toys and cash, it's a place where you can feel good about giving. No matter how you look at it, each year "the Tent" (as it's affectionately called) is a place where help is offered, and hope is born.

YOU SHOWED YOU CARED!!! We filled two barrels for Thanksgiving plus Doris Parsons furnished two turkeys. NOW - we have two more to fill for Christmas - Metropolitan Ministries will pick these up on the 18th. Special note: if you prefer bringing Christmas toys, toiletries instead of food (or both) feel free to do so.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

NOVEMBER 3 Patricia Vaughn
4 Janet Wells
8 Merri Kay Nelson
12 Troy Carter
15 Timothy Carrow
Lisa Smith
17 Mae Jones
20 Michael Boyer
Bob Brown
22 Bella Francisco
23 Dale Boyer
24 Elzy Pritchett
Joshua Borders
26 Edna Hope
27 Chuck Marie
28 Keith Hague
30 James Bradford



NEW ARRIVAL



Betty & Wallace have added to their great grandchildren with the arrival of Elijah Gideon Elliot, born Oct. 27th. The proud parents are Scott and Susan Elliot. Elijah spent a few days in ICU before coming home with mom but he is doing well now.

IN SYMPATHY

Our love and sympathy go out to Helen and J.V. Horne on the loss of their son-in-law, Ernest Leonard Gentry Nov. 2nd. "Len" is the husband of their daughter, Judy in Cleveland, TN.

DEACONS KORNER

Deacons serving for the month of December will be J. V. Horne and Scott Mercer.

PLEASE NOTE: NO WORKDAY

NO MEN'S FELLOWSHIP