

**December
2010**

*Friday,
December 24*

**Christmas
Eve**

**Worship
Schedule**

3:00 PM

8:00 PM

11:00 PM



**HOLIDAY
WORSHIP
SCHEDULE:**

Saturday

Dec. 25 ,

No Service

Sunday

Dec. 26 & Jan. 2

One Service
at 10:00 AM



Confirmation

and

Sunday

Church School
will be off

Dec. 26 & Jan. 2

The Trumpet

Monthly Newsletter of
Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

*May Joy be your gift at Christmas
and may Faith, Hope, and Love
be your treasures in the New Year!*



Pastor Birkholz

Miss Z.

Tim Young

Anne Murphy

Judith Hine

Margaret Hulsey

Pastor G . . .

Erin Chonka

Chas Childers

Gaye Markham

Nicole Winkler

Juanita Jones

Amanda Clark

*Merry Christmas from the staff of
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.*

Advent Conspiracy



What was once a time to celebrate the birth of a Savior has somehow turned into a season of stress, traffic jams, and shopping lists. And when it's all over, many of us are left with presents to return, looming debt that will take months to pay off, and this empty feeling of a missed purpose. Is this what we really want out of Christmas?

Here's what the Advent Conspiracy is all about:

Worship Fully It starts with Jesus. It ends with Jesus. This is the holistic approach God had in mind for Christmas. It's a season where we are called to put down our burdens and lift a song up to our God. Join us in worship weekly.

Spend Less Before you think we're getting all Scrooge on you, let us explain what we mean. We like gifts. Our kids really like gifts. But consider this: America spends an average of \$450 billion a year every Christmas. How often have you spent money on Christmas presents for no other reason than obligation? How many times have you received a gift out of that same obligation? Thanks, but no thanks, right? We're asking people to consider buying ONE LESS GIFT this Christmas. Just one.

Give More God's gift to us was a relationship built on love. So it's no wonder why we're drawn to the idea that Christmas should be a time to love our friends and family in the most memorable ways possible. Time is the real gift Christmas offers us, and no matter how hard we look, it can't be found at the mall. Time to make a gift that turns into the next family heirloom. Time to write mom a letter. Time to take the kids sledding. Time to bake really good cookies and sing really bad Christmas carols. Time to make love visible through relational giving.

Love All When Jesus loved, He loved in ways never imagined. Though rich, he became poor to love the poor, the forgotten, the overlooked and the sick. He played to the margins. By spending less at Christmas we have the opportunity to join Him in giving resources to those who need help the most.

Fill out your Commitment Card and watch the "Giving Well" in the Fellowship Hall to follow our progress. The program will run from November 28th through December 19th.

This year the staff will participate in this program rather than exchange gifts. Please consider joining the Advent Conspiracy too!!

JR & SR Youth Info

December brings some fun activities for the youth:

Trivia Night at Paradise Grill at 7:30pm on the December 21st for Senior youth,

Bowling at U.S. Play for Junior and Senior Youth on the December 28th - 11:00 AM.

We also look forward to our Christmas Parties on the 18th. Regular youth activities will resume in January, please check our online calendar for January Dates.

To view the Youth calendars, please check out their websites at:

<http://tinyurl.com/jryouth>

<http://tinyurl.com/sryouth>

Call or email Erin Chonka if you have any questions. or 770-971-4600 ext. 103
echonka@holylutheranmarietta.org

Christmas Eve Worship Servants

We are looking for volunteers for all three of our Christmas Eve services - 3:00, 8:00 & 11:00 PM.

Please contact the church office if you would like to help so that our visitors on Christmas Eve will be made to feel welcome here at Holy Trinity.

Christmas Angel Tree

The Angel Tree is up!! Please take a moment to check out all the gifts that are needed to help make Christmas special for Cobb County children in foster care. The unwrapped gifts (gift bags are fine) must be returned to the church by Sunday, December 5th for delivery to the Cobb County Department of Family and Children Services. Thank you for your continued support of this program.



You're invited to our Annual
Breakfast with Santa!



Saturday, December 4th
9am - 11am
Cost \$5.00 per person
\$20.00 per family maximum

You Are Invited

To our 4th Annual Christmas
Pageant and Party



Starring our beautiful children and the
Saturday Night Praise Team

Christmas Update / Children, Adult & Family Ministry

Merry Christmas everyone! You gave the most wonderful Christmas gifts to our Children's Ministry, and you did it in so many special ways. You have given donations, sold pies, bought shirts and volunteered to be here and help in so many ways. It truly was your generous response that has made these two events a reality. I can't begin to thank you enough! You are an amazing church family and I continue to thank the Lord for allowing me to serve Him here at Holy Trinity with you.

We will not have Sunday School December 26th or January 2nd, in order to allow our Sunday School team time to be with their families. There will be announcements of classes for the new year in the January Trumpet. Classes will begin again on Sunday, January 9th, 2011. Hope to see you there!

Love and God's blessings this Christmas and in the New Year,
Gaye





Stephen Ministry

*"Joy to the world,
the Lord is come!"*

But each year some people -the grieving, the lonely, the hopeless - dread the approach of the holiday season. They have no heart for the cheer and the bustle, the anticipation and the excitement. If you, or someone you know, needs help around the holidays, please let us know.

Contact Pastor Birkholz at the church office or Alice Rohrbach at 770-973-7205.



The envelope of the month for

December

is

“Seminary Student Support Fund”

This benefits the members of Holy Trinity attending seminary.

The envelope is for December 4-5, but can be used anytime during the month of December.

Saturday Worship in Advent

Join us at Saturday Praise Worship during Advent. Worship begins at 5:30 PM. Plan to join us after the service for Coffee Fellowship.

While most of the world is celebrating Christmas already, we will be observing the season of Advent, four weeks of preparation and anticipation in preparation of the celebration of Christ's birth. Advent (from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming"). Each week we light an Advent Candle on the Advent Wreath. As another candle is lit on successive weeks, the wreath becomes brighter, a reminder of Christ as the light of the world.

November 27 - Advent 1
Candle of Hope

December 4 - Advent 2
Candle of Peace

December 11 - Advent 3
Candle of Joy
and our Children's Christmas Pageant

December 18 - Advent 4
Candle of Love

December 25 - Saturday - No Service
Please plan to attend one of our three Christmas Eve services or our one service on Sunday, December 26th at 10:00 AM.

Angel Food This Month

The December Angel Food orders will be taken on Sunday, December 5th from 12:30 - 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall

Food pick-up is on Saturday, Dec. 18th, 9:30 - 10:30 AM in the Education Bldg
View menu on HT's website or order directly on the Angel Food website:
www.angelfoodministries.com
You may now order online and pay with a debit card!

The Trumpet . . .

The next Trumpet deadline is *Monday, December 6.*
Please email your articles to: nwinkler@holymarietta.org

We will be assembling the January Trumpet and our Christmas Eve bulletins at 10:00 AM on Mon., Dec. 20th. If you can help us, please contact the church office to let us know.

Memorials & Gifts to Holy Trinity

Gifts in Memory of Mina Olsen (Julie Stoffer's mother) for Saturday music ministry were received from:

- Mr. & Mrs. Bert Blenner
- Mrs. Ada Junge
- Mr. & Mrs. Louie George
- Mr. & Mrs. Jim Schill
- Mr. & Mrs. Sam Miller
- Mr. & Mrs. Bill Vermeer

A gift in Memory of Margaret Witherspoon (Marcia Olson's mother) for Sunday music ministry was received from: Mr. & Mrs. Hans Schwantje

A gift to Holy Trinity in Honor of Doug and Mimi Jones' birthday was received from: Norma Hornack



Christmas Eve at Holy Trinity

Friday,
December 24

3:00 PM
Family Service
with the
Holy Trinity Praise Band
and Communion
Sermon by Pastor Birkholz

8:00 PM
The Nativity of Our Lord
Carols and Communion
Sermon by
Pastor Grunke
Handbell music by the
King's Ringers,
with Percussion

11:00 PM
The Nativity of Our Lord
Carols and Communion
Sermon by
Pastor Grunke
Choral Music by the
Combined Choirs with
String Quartet

*Prelude Carols and
Anthems begin 20
minutes before each service.*

Please Note:
No Nursery Available



~ After Christmas Eve ~

NO Service
on Saturday, Dec. 25th

1st Sunday of Christmas
December 26th
ONE SERVICE - 10:00 AM
Lessons and Carols
for Christmas

2nd Sunday of Christmas
January 2nd
ONE SERVICE - 10:00 AM
Schubert Mass with
Brass Ensemble.

Sunday Worship in December

December 5
Advent 2
ELW Setting 2 with music for
Handbells, Percussion and Choirs
arranged by Hart Morris and
Cathy Moglebust.

December 12
Advent 3
Liturgy for the Family of God with
the *Children's Choir* singing at the
11:00 service. Anthems for Choirs
arranged by Wayne Wold and
Robert Benson.

Worship Matters

Did you know that the weekend of November 27th-28th begins anew the liturgical season cycle with the season of Advent? In the church year this is the beginning of our lectionary readings, listening to the prophets foretell of the birth of Christ. These readings shape our worship themes and guide our music and liturgy selections throughout the year.

Advent is to Christmas as Lent is to Easter and as an engagement is to a marriage. The season of Advent is spent in spiritual preparation as we wait for the birth of the Christ Child. In this season we sing hymns and songs with themes of longing, hope, waiting and prophecy. Our liturgical color is a deep blue, representing hope. Lights are low as we wait in darkness for the coming light of Christ.

Of course we know Christ wasn't born on December 25th. However, one of the earliest references to Christmas being celebrated on December 25th appeared in Antioch in the middle of the second century. At that time, Christians were still persecuted. An official determination was made in the fourth century, when the Roman emperor Constantine embraced Christianity, thereby ensuring the legality of Christmas celebrations. The Council of Tours in 567 established the period of Advent as a time of fasting before Christmas. They also proclaimed the twelve days from Christmas to Epiphany a sacred, festive season. This is the true Christmas Season. This is the season to decorate and to sing all our

December 19
Advent 4
Schubert Mass
with music for
choirs arranged by
Keith Christopher
and William Young.



December 26
First Sunday of Christmas
Lessons and Carols for Christmas.
One service at 10 AM.

beloved Christmas carols with joy and energy.

It's easy to rush ahead and enjoy the festivities of Christmas without holding out and observing Advent. Decorating and gift buying obscures the opportunity for spiritual reflection and growth. Advent is skipped over. We only give a nod to the prophets, and the long years of waiting for the promised one. This "secular" Christmas of Santa, TV specials and commercialism seems to start earlier every year. All of us get so wrapped up in the commercialism of Christmas we lose sight of why we celebrate Christmas.

To help give greater emphasis to the season of Advent, this year Holy Trinity is offering the ADVENT CONSPIRACY. It offers an alternative to Christmas consumerism. Watch for details and attend the intergenerational forum to be held in the Sanctuary November 28th at 9:40 AM. Advent Devotional resources are available on line.

Sign up today at www.luthersem.edu/email to receive your daily e-mail devotion. Commit to attending worship each weekend during the Advent season and prepare yourself to celebrate fully receive the wonderful news of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. See if you can't put off some of the Christmas decorating and carol singing until later in December, and instead embrace the mysteries and wonders of Advent! Invite others to join you in fully celebrating Advent, as well.

Member Milestones

Happy Anniversary

- December 2**
2000 - Matt & Anna Pamperin
10 Years
- December 4**
1971 - Jim & Marcia Watson
- December 6**
1986 - Holly & Pat Ballenger
1975 - Guy & Paulette Gebhardt
35 Years
- December 9**
1978 - George & Fay Navarrete
- December 13**
1975 - Dennis & Marge Boley
35 Years
- December 15**
1991 - Andria & Thomas Zachary
- December 17**
1982 - Ray & Liz Blount
- December 19**
1981 - Carolyn & Steve Klein
- December 21**
1973 - Ron & Ginger Grunke
- December 22**
1961 - Bill & Jan Pomplun
1983 - Joe & Lori Vrtis
- December 27**
1975 - Doug & Margi Johnson
35 Years
- December 28**
1966 - Bob & Martha Manly
1996 - Steve & Michele Provost
- December 30**
1990 - Bill & Charlene Yde
20 Years

Happy Birthday

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 1
Becky Lash
Gene Peisel
Debra Serro
Marvin Ziegler December 2
Ryan Holzapfel
Jennifer Langston
Richard Murphy
Michael Turnbeaugh
Emily Zeigler December 3
William Casbon
Margi Johnson
Scott Ranger December 4
Rosemary George
Steve Higgins
Russ Richards
Patti Ritter
Cynthia Tingle December 5
Marja Burney
Laurie Gregory
Karen McCarthy
Matthew Miller
Suzan VanderVeld December 6
Garrison Black
Vickie Crean
Julie Williams December 7
Taryn Radke
Shirley Thompson
Zack Vrtis
Kyleigh Yockers December 8
Dave Lyjak
Larry Robertson
Brooke Stephan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 9
Scott Berkholtz
Erik Hall
Betty Morgans
Lee Witt December 10
Nicholas Bode
Adam Bost
Janet Hedlund
Barbara LoRusso December 11
Erin Belknop
Stacey Harris
Alle Hausfeld
Brad Peisel December 12
Mary Frances Green
Briant Holden
Rachel Jones
Emily Mikkleson
Jessie Pinkham December 13
Wesley Ball
Mary G'Segner
Shirley Gorley
Alex Machen December 14
Shannon Klucsarits
Ronnie Piepmeier December 15
Tyler Hoeckendorf
Kathy Pinkham December 16
Bev Balasubramanian
Heather Bonneville
Stacy Eskew
Judy Hausfeld
Jack Jacoby
Ada Junge
Eric Lange
Jan Robertson | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 17
Megan Benson
Charles Manly
Annette Ranger
Griffin Roush
Roy Talledo
James Whitener December 18
James Brown
Doris Clement
Garrett Moll
Michael Shields December 19
Jeffrey Coe
Frank Guenzerodt
Rudy Ramirez
Taylor Wilson
Andria Zachary December 20
Carole Beck
Matthew Chambers
Matt Fischer
Gerry Gorley
Kyle Manning
Leon Stroup December 21
Michelle Aikala
Christina Landers
Elizabeth RajECKi
Kim Welch December 22
Kathryn Caley
David Fritsch
Nerissa Reddick
Kurt Roenitz
Kathy Seraphine
Scott Stephan
Josh Wayne
Chris Weisbarth | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 23
Tim Collier
Nick DePeder
Amanda Masters
Carolyn Robinson Klein
Kristen Schierle December 24
Victoria Drasher
Chris Hugh Sam
Michele Provost
Daniel Reber
Peyton Stack December 25
Al Hammock
Craig Kearney
Tom Mathis December 26
Doris Frutchey
Kristen Hinkson December 28
Monika Behling
Dalaney Hans December 29
Barb Allison
Cliff Colwell
Alex Houck
Jonah Scholl
Carter Sechrest December 30
George Brown
Jillian Clancy
Christine Kofoed
Grace Mikkelson December 31
Cassie Balasubramanian
Jackson McCaw
Scott Reber |
|---|---|---|--|

New "Designated" Parking Spaces

We have newly designated parking spaces for those with mobility issues. Look for the spaces marked "RESERVED FOR PERSONS WITH LIMITED MOBILITY." There is no age restriction, so that seniors, persons on crutches and even advanced pregnancies can park comfortably. Please park in these spaces FIRST if you don't require the extra width a handicap slot offers. Reserve the marked HANDICAP spaces for those with proper handicap license plates, mirror hangers or vehicles that need the wider slots. Thank You!!

W-ELCA Circles

*Women of Holy Trinity
are invited to visit
& join our circles &
to attend our activities*

EVENING PEACE CIRCLE will meet Thursday, Dec. 2nd at 6:30 pm for a Christmas dinner at Kathy Seraphine's home. In January we will restart our study of other religions and their relationship to Lutheranism on 1/10 at 7PM in the Library. For more information, please call Joy Schill, 770-977-5326.

GOD'S GRACE CIRCLE will not meet in December. In January, they will get together for an Epiphany Brunch, date to be determined. Their next circle meeting is on Wednesday, Jan. 19th at 7PM in EB 7-8. For more information contact Jan Pomplun, 404-422-5635.

TENDER LOVING CARE CIRCLE will meet on Tuesday, Dec. 14th at 6:30 Kathy Seraphine's home for a Christmas dinner. For more information please call Judy Blackwell, 770-971-9079.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY will meet on Wednesday, December 15th at 10:00 AM in the Library. This will be a Salad Luncheon hosted by Annette Rhadans, Julia Wiley and Marilyn Reardon. For more information please call Faye Martin at, 770-427-1011.

RAINBOW QUILTERS will meet once in December, Tuesday, December 14th from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM in Room 7-8 of the Education building.

THE W-ELCA BOARD will meet next on Tuesday, January 4 at 7PM in EB6.

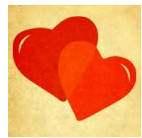
*Please contact
President, Sherrill McGraw,
(770-971-4929), or
Nicole Winkler, Vice-president,
(770-565-6635)
with any questions.*

W-ELCA News

W-ELCA Donated \$1000.00!

W-ELCA donated \$750 to Holy Trinity - \$500 for the Christian Education Christmas programs and \$250 for kitchen supplies. We also donated \$250 to the Georgia Tech Campus Ministry for their building campaign.

W-ELCA 2011 Theme "Renew Your Heart"



Some of the W - E L C A events scheduled and organizations we are going to support during 2011: scrapbooking event; Support Youth Valentine's Day dinner through our attendance; Ash Wednes-

day Soup Supper; Hunger Walk by supporting the Social Ministry committee; Spring Cluster meeting; Georgia Tech Campus Ministry - thank offering; MUST, by supporting the Social Ministry committee through backpack collections; Triennial Convention in Washington State; Synod Convention in Alabama; women's college scholarships; Christ Child Shower; Oktoberfest; and our annual Cookie/Candy sale. If you have any suggestions on how to make these events more successful, please contact one of the board members.



Annual Cookie/Candy Sale

The event we have all been waiting for: the ANNUAL COOKIE/CANDY SALE: **December 4th and 5th after each service.** \$10.00/box. All baked cookies should be delivered to the church by Saturday, December 4th at 10:00 a.m. Each cookie/candy donation should be marked with a note saying "with nuts" or "without nuts".

Please get the details of W-ELCA's upcoming Christ Child Shower on page 8 of The Trumpet

Lunch Bunch

Soup, salad and dessert . . . a perfect meal for the Lunch Bunchers . . . all accompanied by stories and laughter shared at Cullene's home. And now we look forward to a Christmas Lunch Bunch gathering at the home of Bonnie and Betty Stricker on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9th at 11:30AM So ... why don't you join us that day for delicious food, and some contagious and joyfully shared Holiday spirit?! Just CALL BETTY or BONNIE AT 770-971-4991 BY DECEMBER 7th ... and if you call early enough, they may save you a seat next to SANTA!!

(Dine with the Lunch Bunch the second Thursday of every month, mark your calendars now so you won't miss any of the giggles!!!)



Meals to Go

*During a difficult time,
we can all use extra help!*

We have a list of volunteers who are willing to contribute meals. In order to avoid duplicating meals, Marilyn and Doris will coordinate the appropriate dates.

Please do not hesitate to call either Marilyn Reardon at 678-445-0157 or Doris Clement at 770-973-4402 if you need help with a meal or two.

If anyone wishes to be added to this list of volunteers, please call either Marilyn or Doris.

Thank you so very much!!

American Legion Scholarship

Poise, Confidence, Leadership and Over \$20,000 in Scholarship Money to the Winner!

They are all available to participants in the American Legion National High School Oratorical Competition! Since 1938 the American Legion has awarded over \$3 million in college scholarships and cash awards. Holy Trinity member Roy Lantz is the American Legion 5th District Oratorical Chairman and encourages all Holy Trinity youth, grades 9 through 12, to consider competing in the 2011 contest. Roy will be delighted to explain the contest to you and you may also get additional information at www.legion.org, then click on Children & Youth, then click on Oratorical Contest. The initial contest will be held on February 5th. Roy can be reached at roy@roylantz.com or 678-560-1082.

“Monday School”

Monday School is taking a break in December. They will start up in the New Year on Monday, January, 10th at their regular time of 9:30 a.m., in the Upper Room of the Education Building. The book that they will start reading in 2011 has yet to be determined.

Why not consider joining them for this great way to start the week. We learn, share, and enjoy the fellowship. See you in January!!

For more information please call: Alice Rohrbach at 770-973-7205 or JoAnn Moore at 770-509-1967.

Worship Enhancement Team

The Worship Enhancement Team seeks new members.

Do you enjoy decorating, flower arranging, sewing, or other artistic hobbies? Do you appreciate the special beauty that Christmas decorations or Easter lilies bring to our worship space? Do you love our worship space? If you've said "yes" to anything so far, we need to talk!

We're currently in need of helping hands, skilled or not, to assist with enhancing our worship space. We need folk willing to give an hour or so a couple of times over the next 10 months to help install banners, place flowers, enhance the altar area and help clean up after seasonal services. We'll help guide you if you've no skills, and honestly, most of the work takes little previous experience.

We're also looking for creative individuals to help plan and create new ideas for our worship experiences. Seasonal enhancements can go beyond Christmas and Easter. We offer seasonal displays, enhance liturgical services for other seasonal and festival days like All Saints, the Baptism of Christ, Lent and Pentecost but we'd like to do more. We can even plan learning classes to explore exactly what liturgical art is supposed to be. All it will take is men and women interested in giving us a hand.

Please speak to Tim Young, Denise Wise or call the church office if you're interested.

Young at Hearts - December Event

Monday, December 13th
at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall

Come listen to Jeni Michelson who can “tickle the keys” and provide us with a wonderful piano program in “touch with the Christmas Season.” Following, we will enjoy a Publix “Turkey Dinner with trimmings and pies.”

Join us as we get in the Christmas Spirit!!
This event will be held in the Upper Room.
An elevator is available.

Cost is \$10

Contact Gene & Barb Bench
@ 770-640-0078



Christ Child Shower

The December 7th Christ Child Shower this year will support the **MUST MINISTRY TOY SHOP**. The **MUST Toyshop** will be of assistance to over 2,600 children ages 1-18 from Cobb and Cherokee county who would otherwise not have gifts to open! Items most needed are: boys & girls hats and gloves for all ages, boys toys / gifts, batteries for toys, and wrapping paper. **MUST** is a faith-based charitable organization dedicated to providing services to persons and families in crisis while maintaining their dignity. They “recognize the Christian faith as an integral part of the organization and a legitimate source of information, inspiration, and transformation, which provides guidance for our decisions and behavior.” Please look on their website to find out more about this important ministry in our neighborhood. (www.mustministry.org)

What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. James 2:14-17

Financial Status Report

Effective October 31, 2010

	Budgeted	Received	Spent
October 2010	\$79,912.00	\$88,483.00	\$95,335.00
Year-to-Date	\$810,995.00	\$797,518.00	\$825,243.00

General Fund Balance as of October 31, 2010: \$ - 32,485.00

Council President Update

“May God’s Peace Always Be With You

For the past three years I have taken up this space in *The Trumpet* for the purpose of keeping you briefed on council proceedings along with key events happening at Holy Trinity. Hopefully, you have found it informative and helpful. My two terms on Council have come to an end and as I write my final *President’s Update* I would like to personally thank all of you for your continued support, dedication and commitment to Holy Trinity. I can’t help but reflect on what we have accomplished over the past four years. We implemented “Today’s Vision – Tomorrow’s Mission” capital campaign, and thanks to you, we now have a wonderful Sanctuary, new front sign and donated over \$85,000 for the Holy Trinity House at Lutheranch. Additionally, we staffed our church for the future by calling Pastor Birkholz as our Associate Minister and Gaye Markham as our full-time Director of Children, Family and now Adult Ministries. Since we still have a very sizeable mortgage, our church buildings and facilities need to be maintained so we

added Tim Young as our part time Sexton. Moreover, we added Chas Childers as our Saturday Service Worship Leader. We launched Oktoberfest, which has now become an annual HT institution, serving both our members and outreaching to the community. There are dozens of other ministry programs and events we perform here to serve God and help our members and the community and we thank you for your ongoing efforts and involvement.

In our final meeting together, I addressed the Church Council and told them if I were shipwrecked on a deserted island, I would want it to be with this group. We have been blessed with very dedicated servants who all brought different and powerful skills and perspectives to the Council table to allow us to grow and become the third largest church in the Southeastern Synod of the ELCA. We dealt with some very tough issues over the past three years including budgets, personnel, giving, which programs we want and our recent financial crisis this year, when we could have

gone bankrupt if we continued on the same course. This council all worked together as a team to solve issues and grow our ministries. To this end we always looked at all sides of an issue and determined:

- 1) *What would God want us to do?*
- 2) *How can we best serve the worship, ministry and program offerings of our current members and attract new worshippers to Holy Trinity?*

It was a blessing to be part of this team and I will always be indebted to their commitment to doing what was right for Holy Trinity.

I want to very much thank the Pastors and staff for their support and wanting to make this church the best it can be. I thank Margaret Hulseley, Nicole Winkler and Juanita Jones for all their administrative assistance during my tenure. We had a council retreat earlier this year focused on what we needed to do to go from “*Good to Great*”. I am confident that the new 2011 council will continue on that journey headed by Jeff Plumley as your new

Council President and Eric Mikkelson as Vice-President. Their experience, passion and dedication will continue our momentum and we congratulate and wish them the support of the Holy Spirit in their efforts.

Normally at this point I would ride off into the sunset and be able to just sit back in the pew each week and enjoy worship. However, Pastor Grunke has now asked me to take on another journey at Holy Trinity as Chair of the Church Personnel Committee. I guess he didn’t want me to get bored, so I have accepted this as my next calling.

On behalf of both the 2010 and 2011 Church Councils, I would like to extend our greetings and warmest wishes for a very joyous Advent season, rejoicing at the birth of the Christ Child and a very Happy and Healthy New Year. May God bless us all!

In His service,
Bill Van Buskirk
Council President

Worship Attendance through November 13-14, 2010



	5:30	8:15	11:00	LOUD Svc	Total	SCS
10/30 - 10/31	85	134	253		472	103
11/6 - 11/7	89	118	219	16	442	130
11/13 - 11/14	76	138	217		431	101

Year-End Contributions



Charitable contributions must be claimed as a deduction in the year in which they are delivered, according to the IRS. One exception is a check that is mailed to the church - it is claimed for the year it is postmarked. Placing a check in the offering plate the first Sunday of 2011 predated 2010, does not qualify as a deduction for 2010. Checks dated and postmarked 2010, but delivered via U.S. Mail in 2011, can be claimed as a deduction in 2010.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

We will be closing the financial books on January 15. Giving statements will be mailed the first week of January. Please check your giving statement for any errors and notify Mary Stuetzer at 770-928-1311 before January 15th, 2011.

2011 Congregational Council Members

At the Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, October 17, 2010, the following were elected to serve on the Congregational Council, beginning January 1, 2011:

Erick Mikkelson – Two-year term	Ann Nizzi – Two-year term
Dave Tester – Two-year term	Mike Cicero – Two-year term
Krista Brown – Re-elected to a two-year term	Ellyn Mikkelson – One-year Youth Term
Marcie Hoffman – Two-year term	Caitlin Plumley – One-year Youth Term

They join those Council Members already serving:

Dee Boudreaux, Vickie Crean, Bill Hetherington, Mike Lind, Jeff Plumley, Kevin Schwartz, Roy Talledo, Sheila Zeigler.

Thank you to the following whose term will be completed on December 31, 2010:

Bill Van Buskirk, Mimi Jones, Mark Ritter, Evan Stack.

Congratulations to our officers chosen to serve for the 2011 year:

Jeff Plumley.....President	Erick Mikkelson.....Vice-President
Nancy Stoeppelwerth....Secretary	Pam Stack.....Treasurer
TBA.....Financial Secretary	Charley Walker.....Memorial Fund Treasurer

- Thank You - - Merci - - Gracias - - Dankeschön - - Grazie - - Thank You -

Dear Holy Trinity Congregation,

I want to thank you on behalf of those we serve for your donation in the amount of \$968.00 which we recently received. It is a privilege to provide service and programs to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and to know there are dedicated supporters such as you committed to helping the *YWCA of Northwest Georgia*.

On a daily basis, we are able to assist women and children through our domestic violence shelter, sexual assault programs, counseling center, and transitional housing programs. They are finding a new and better way of life . . . one free of violence and despair. We are the safe haven for them in a time where there is nowhere else for them to turn. Thank you for your generosity and never forget you are impacting lives because of your gift.

Holly L. Comer, CEO & Executive Director

I would like to send a great big thank you to all who have purchased a t-shirt and/or gave donations to help fund our Christmas programs this year. It is so obvious to me how much our congregation loves and supports our children.

Also a great, great big thank you to the Women of the ELCA for their very generous donation too! Thank you ladies, we love you!!

One more great big GIANT thank you to Sandra Williams who has donated all the proceeds from her pie sales to our ministry. Talk about labor of love!!! You ROCK, Sandra Williams!!

Dee Boudreaux
Committee Chair,
Children's Ministry

Holy Trinity Staff

The Rev. Ronald C. Grunke,
Senior Pastor - ext. 106

The Rev. Beth Birkholz,
Associate Pastor - ext. 107

Margaret Hulsey,
Church Administrator - ext. 105

Anne H. Murphy,
Director, Music Ministry - ext. 114

Timothy A. Young,
Assoc. Director, Music Ministry; Organist - ext. 113

Chas Childers,
Saturday Praise Service Leader - ext. 140

Gaye Markham, Director,
Children, Adult & Family Ministry - ext. 104

Erin Chonka, Director of Youth
and Family Ministry - ext. 103

Nicole Winkler,
Office Manager - ext. 101

Juanita Jones,
Bookkeeper/Secretary - ext. 102

2010 Council Officers & Leaders

Council Officers

President: Bill Van Buskirk
Phone: 770-794-9394
E-mail: bill.vanbuskirk@ipaper.com

Vice President: Jeff Plumley
Phone: 678-921-5277
Email: fr8texec@yahoo.com or

Secretary: Carole Anderson
Phone: 770-590-8580
E-mail: carole.anderson@cobbk12.org

Treasurer: Pam Stack
Phone: 770-975-8695
E-mail: pamstack@bellsouth.net

Financial Secretary: Mary Stuetzer
Phone: 770-928-1311
E-mail: marystuetzer@comcast.net

Memorial Fund Treasurer: Charley Walker
Phone: 770-552-9224
E-mail: cmwalker@alum.mit.edu

Council & Committee Leaders

Children & Family Ministry Committee

Chair Dee Boudreaux
Phone: 770-693-7164
E-mail: deeboud@me.com
Recorder Krista Brown
Phone: 770-579-1578
E-mail: kgb5@bellsouth.net

Communication - Church Council

Evangelism/Participation Committee

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E-mail: mimi@dajones.com

Financial Management Committee

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E-mail: mark.ritter@gt.com
Recorder Mike Lind
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Chair Phil Torchio
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E-mail: ptorchio@weoga.com

Property Management Committee

Chair Bill Hetherington
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Stewardship Committee

Chair Sheila Zeigler
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Technology Committee

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Roy Talledo
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Stella Blenner
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Youth and Family Ministry Committee

Chair Jeff Plumley
Phone: 678-921-5277
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Recorder - Kevin Schwartz
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E-mail: kevinmschwartz@gmail.com

Youth Representatives

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803-461-3263 // Tiffany Pieters at tpieters@ltss.edu

A REMINDER FROM SANTA!

Scrip Gift Card Program

Christmas will be here before we know it.

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