



# TRINITY NEWS

For Family & Friends of Trinity Moravian Church

DECEMBER 2022

## Proper Christmas Is Back!

### *From the Pastor:*

We all remember how the Grinch stole Christmas - but Christmas kept coming "without boxes or bags." Well, COVID-19 did its best to steal our beloved Moravian Christmas, but we kept celebrating virtually with take-home lovefeast kits. And now we can say that proper Moravian Christmas is back at Trinity as we are planning the traditional in-person services, with the "Lovefeast in a Bag" as a continued option for those who still can't come out to be in large groups. We will not be able to seat as many as in the past, particularly at the 4pm service, but we will have overflow in the Reich Fellowship Hall with livestreamed video on the big screen. Plan now to come to one of the services on Christmas Eve—or our community service on December 18! If you live too far away to attend, or are one whose medical status means you shouldn't risk being in large groups, you can order your "Lovefeast-in-a-Bag" starting on December 1.

We look forward to celebrating Christmas together this year for the first time since 2019!

**- Pastor John**



### Community Christmas Lovefeast

Our Community Christmas Lovefeast will be held on **Sunday, December 18 at 7:30 pm**. This is a great time to invite friends and neighbors who may have conflicts Christmas Eve. There are invitation cards available at the rear of the sanctuary (at the Usher's Station) that you can give to friends and neighbors - it's an easy and friendly way to reach out! This service will also be webcast live for those who cannot attend in person.

# Special Christmas Music Services

There will be a lot of very special music this December at Trinity! Sunday, December 11 the Trinity Ringers will present a special arrangement of *Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming* as the anthem.

We will hold a special Christmas music service with guest musicians on Sunday, December 18 at 11 am. **Cellist Jennifer Alexandra Johnson** will play a solo and will accompany the choir in a special arrangement of *O Come, Emmanuel* by Elaine Hagenberg. **Sara and Michael Wood** will present special music on the marimba.

Of course, the choir is preparing some wonderful anthems for Christmas Eve, and the LOGOS choir will sing as well. We are

especially excited about the wonderful group of kids we have in LOGOS this year!

This year, Christmas Day falls on Sunday, and we will have the traditional Moravian Christmas Day Reading Service, with a special solo by **Dr. Cristy Brown**.

And what happens to the **Christmas hymns that aren't in our liturgy or sung in the Lovefeast?** We'll sing them together on January 1, when our service will be a congregational Hymn Sing featuring some top favorite hymns and the ones we never sing — so if you miss singing *God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen* or *Ding Dong Merrily on High*, be sure to join us New Year's Day!



*Jennifer Alexandra Johnson, cellist with the Winston-Salem Symphony will play on December 18th.*



The annual neighborhood observance of **Las Posadas** will be held on **Sunday, December 11** right after sunset. A reenactment of Mary and Joseph seeking housing for the night, a procession of musicians and children will process around the neighborhood, asking for shelter at different “inns” (*posada*) until they finally find the innkeeper who will welcome them into his stable. The procession ends at the Reich Fellowship Hall with a wonderful dinner and party for all to celebrate. If you have never been to Las Posadas, make this the year that you join the children of the neighborhood in this wonderful experience!

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## UNITY PRAYER WATCH

The Unity Prayer Watch, which continues around the clock and around the world, will come to Trinity Moravian Church on **Sunday, January 7 from midnight to 8:00 am**. There will be an online signup sheet on our website, and in the sanctuary, as well as a prayer guide with suggested topics for the worldwide Unity. This continuation of the Prayer Watch that went on for over a hundred years in Herrnhut was taken up again in 1957, and has continued unbroken since then – sixty-five years!

## *Christmas Eve Lovefeasts*

The Christmas Eve Candle Lovefeasts will be held **Saturday, December 24** at 4:00 pm and 7:30 pm. The 4:00 pm service is typically quite full, we recommend arriving early! Overflow will be seated in the Reich Fellowship Hall, with livestreamed video and sound on the big screen. Dieners will serve the overflow. There is generally space and good seats available at the 7:30 service, so that might be the better one to invite people to. ***The evening service will be held jointly with St Philips Moravian Church. We are excited to share the service with our sister congregation!***

Thanks to all the hard working members who make these services happen: the choir, the band, the dieners, the coffee makers, the ushers, and many others!

***We plan to have an off-duty police officer in our parking lot during the evening services to ensure safety.***

*For those who cannot attend in person, either due to medical issues or distance, we will again offer the Lovefeast-in-a-Bag. These are free for local pickup, for those that must be shipped we ask for you to pay the cost of shipping. You and your family can then participate virtually by watching the live streamed service on our website. See order details to the right.*



## Order Lovefeast-in-a-Bag

For those who cannot attend in person for whatever reason, we will again supply the “Lovefeast-in-a-Bag” for you and your family to participate remotely via our live webcast. Each bag includes a wrapped beeswax candle, a lovefeast bun, a lovefeast ode, and a recipe to make your own lovefeast coffee. Simply go to:

<https://christmaslovefeast.org/>

## Advent Family Workshop

Our annual **Advent Workshop** will be held Sunday, **December 6 starting at 5:00 pm**. At 5:30, a hot dog and soup supper will be provided followed by craft making, carol singing, puppet show, and — if we are all very good — a visit from Santa himself. Hope to see you all there for a time of food, fun, and fellowship. *This is a great event to invite families with younger children!*



# A Decade of Puppet Magic!

For the last ten years, the *Trinity Puppeteers* have brought enjoyment and entertainment to our congregation, as well as a transforming experience for middle-school age kids.



The dynamic duo behind the magic is **Tripp & Jeannie May**, who have spent many years learning the art—and particularly how to pass it on to others, and use it as a means of ministry.

Tripp and Jeannie are a ministry couple—both attended seminary, Jeannie with an emphasis on Christian Education. Tripp has served as a pastor at many congregations, most recently including Advent Moravian Church and Bethabara Moravian Church. After the couple retired from full-time ministry, they joined Trinity Moravian Church, where their ministry has continued with this artistic outreach.

But they are not alone! Oure resident hymnwriter **June Edwards** quickly got involved, with her tech-savvy husband **Richard Edwards** working on the video recording; **Jacob Shouse** learned how to run sound and the complicated lighting board; and most recently **Julie Rig-gins** has become a puppet-wrangler. We were blessed when **Lissa Troemel**, who is studying animatronics and puppetry at UNCSA, brought her unique talent and personality to the group.



The latest magic that the puppeteers are weaving will be presented as part of the Advent Family Night on Sunday, December 4 at 5:00 pm. *Camel City TV* will present a local-news-eye-view of the Christmas story, particularly from the view of the camels involved, including commercials from the local used-camel dealer, and featuring some desert music doo-wop!



The presentation will be a part of our **Advent Family Night**, which also includes a supper, crafts, caroling, and a visit from Santa! That's such a roll-up of kid-friendly excitement, you need to make sure you bring the children or grandkids.

*LEFT: the Puppeteers practice with the muppet-style characters.*

Advent Zoom Group:

# The Christmas Stories

Last Lent, we had a group that took in person and through Zoom) to dispart in an odd, entertaining, and cuss the presentation. The local challenging Zoom series led by theologians Dr. Tripp Fuller and Diana Butler Bass. Now, Dr. Fuller is hosting an Advent series with biblical scholar Dr. John Dominic Crossan on "The Christmas Stories: Celebrating, Questioning, & Explaining the Biblical Narratives." While this will be a very academic approach, both Fuller and Crossan are interesting and entertaining presenters, so the material will not be "dry lecture." Each week of Advent, there will be a Zoom presentation which each participant will watch on their own, and then the group will meet (both



## BISHOP BURKETTE TO VISIT

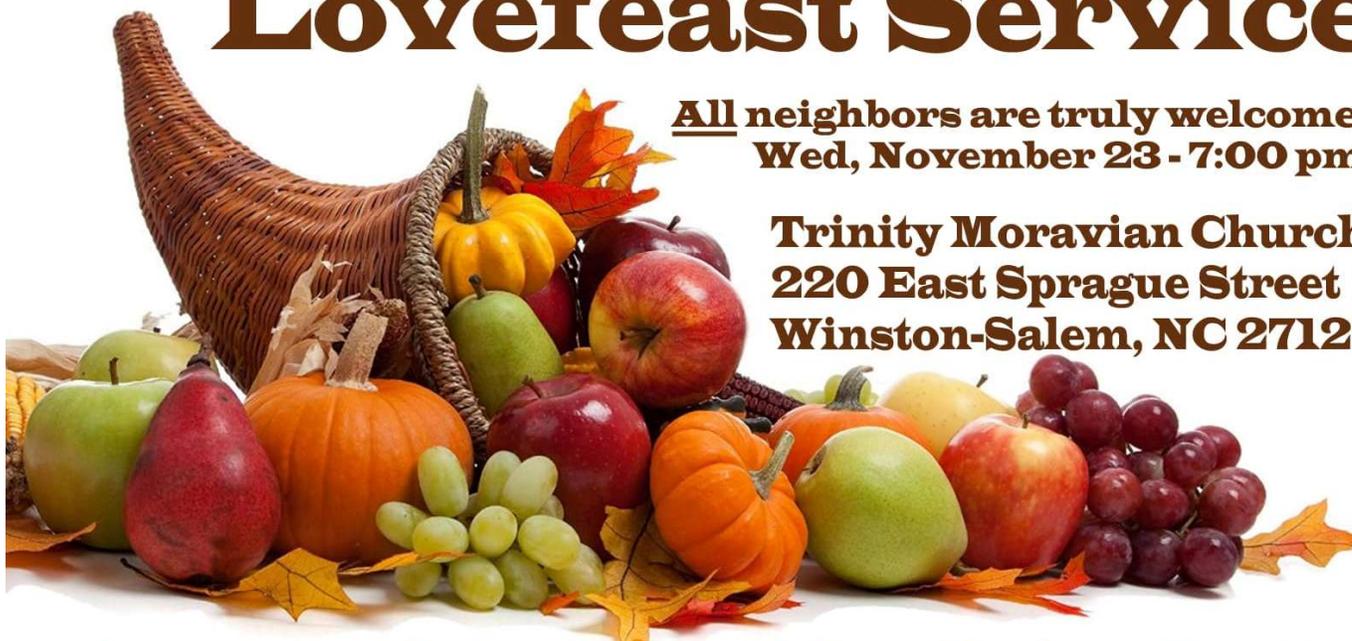
Pastor John will be working to complete the long-delayed documentary *John Hus* January 15- February 12. During those weeks, we will have the Right Rev. Wayne Burkette as supply pastor.

**Sunnyside - Washington Park - Central Terrace - Waughtown**

# Community Thanksgiving Eve Lovefeast Service

**All neighbors are truly welcome!**  
**Wed, November 23 - 7:00 pm**

**Trinity Moravian Church**  
**220 East Sprague Street**  
**Winston-Salem, NC 27127**



**Please Bring Contributions of Non-Perishable Food for Sunnyside Ministry!**

### Worship Schedule

December 4 "The Coming King"  
Matthew 24:36-44

December 11 "John the Baptist"  
Matthew 3:1-12

December 18 11 am "Good News is Here!"  
Matthew 11:2-11  
7:30 pm Community Lovefeast

December 24 4:00 pm Christmas Candle Lovefeast  
7:30 pm Christmas Candle Lovefeast

December 25 Christmas Reading Service

### Worship Schedule

January 1 Hymn Sing

January 12 Epiphany Communion  
Watchwords for the Year

January 15 John 1:29-42  
Rt Rev Burkette Preaches

January 22 Matthew 4:12-23  
Rt Rev Burkette Preaches

January 29 Rt Rev Burkette Preaches

*In all things love.*  
*In non-essentials liberty,*  
*In essentials unity,*



Return Service Requested



Trinity Moravian Church  
220 E. Sprague Street  
Winston-Salem, NC 27127