

# Advent: Time of Peace, Joy, Love

By Mark Lansberry  
Senior Pastor

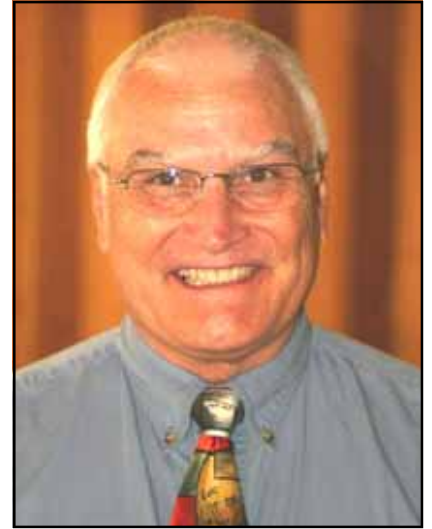
We have just entered the season of Advent. I thought you might like to know a little about what Advent is and what it means. The following was written by Dean McIntyre and posted on the General Board of Discipleship Web site:

Advent marks the beginning of the church year. It begins with the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day. In 2011, Christmas falls on a Sunday, and Christmas Eve on Saturday day night. Thus, in 2011 Advent began Sunday, Nov. 27, and ends at midnight on Saturday, Dec. 24.

Advent comes from the Latin word, *adventus*, meaning "coming." It is a season to prepare for the coming of Christ in various meanings: the promised coming of the Messiah to the Jews, the coming of Jesus being born in Bethlehem, the promised return of the risen Christ in final victory, and the continual coming of Christ into the lives and hearts of believers.

Advent, which marks the beginning of the liturgical year, is part of the cycle of seasons that includes Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, all related in some fashion to the coming of Jesus. That cycle is followed by Lent, Holy Week, Easter, and the long Pentecost season.

Advent began in France in the fourth century. In various times and locations of the church, it has been observed for three, four, and six



Rev. Dr. Mark Lansberry

weeks leading to Christmas. Some churches today are experimenting with incorporating Advent themes and symbols in worship during the weeks prior to the actual start of Advent in the hope that they can avoid the conflict of Advent versus Christmas observance during the immediate weeks prior to Christmas.

The color for Advent has traditionally been purple. Some churches have adopted blue for Advent. In practice, however, as churches increasingly incorporate the symbols and decorations of Christmas during Advent, more and more we see red, green, and gold appearing. The United Methodist Book of Worship upholds the traditional color of purple for Advent, signifying penitence and royalty, but also allows blue, the color of hope.

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### Sunday Worship Schedule

- 8 a.m. Prayer and Communion
- 9 a.m. Traditional Service
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service
- 9 a.m. Bible Studies and Classes
- 10:30 a.m. Bible Study and Young Children's Classes

**Childcare is provided all morning.**

There are a number of historic and traditional themes observed during Advent:

- Preparing to celebrate the coming of Christ:
- The coming of the Messiah to the Jews.
- The coming of Jesus into the world at Bethlehem.
- The second coming of Jesus in final victory.
- The continual coming of Jesus into the hearts and lives of believers.

This has traditionally been a time of penitence and fasting, austerity, seriousness, reading of Scripture, hearing and proclaiming the Word in sermon and song; waiting and longing for the Messiah's coming

The symbols of Advent include: the Chrismon tree with its white monograms, the Jesse tree, Advent calendars, trumpets (for Isaiah), the messianic rose, star of Jacob, and

fleur-de-lis. Modern innovation includes the use of an Advent wreath with four candles and themes around hope-peace-love-joy, John-Elizabeth-Joseph-Mary, or some other pattern.

Our Book of Worship (page 238) calls for the following themes for the Sundays of Advent:

- First Sunday: the final return of Christ in victory; the Second Coming
- Second and Third Sundays: John the Baptist, his role, his words, his teachings
- Fourth Sunday: the events immediately preceding Jesus' birth

Advent is a season rich in tradition, symbolism, art, music, and liturgical practice. It has its own unique themes as well as those that point the way to Christmas. And yet, we annually confront the pres-

ures and questions of "Why can't we put up the Christmas tree in the sanctuary on the first Sunday of Advent?" and "Why can't we sing Christmas carols in early December?"

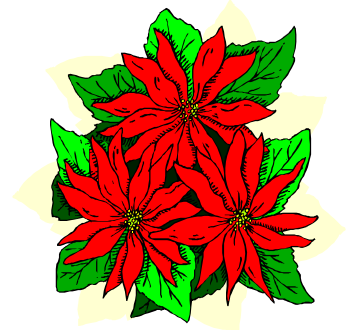
The answer, of course, is that doing so allows Christmas to intrude. It allows the themes, practices, spirituality, history, traditions, symbols, art, and music of one season to displace those of another. We lose the richness and the benefit of experiencing the promise, longing, hope, and expectation of Advent. The world, television, and shopping malls have done all they can to convince us that Advent does not matter; it has no place in our culture and many of us have come to accept that for our church, as well. Our faith teaches us something very different.

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## Consider Christmas Poinsettias

It's that time again for your opportunity to help adorn our Sanctuary for the Advent Season and have a live plant to take home if you wish. Your donation for a Christmas poinsettia should be placed in the flower envelopes which may be found in the pew backs on Sunday morning or Wednesday evenings or in the Narthex.

Should you want your donation made in honor or in memory of someone, please add that information and submit it by Sunday, Dec. 11, and it will be noted in the church worship bulletin. Plants are only \$10 each.



*This newsletter is by you and about you, the family of Trinity. If you have an event planned or if your event has been held, please share it through The WORD. The publishers and editor produce the newsletter ... but it is your articles we want to produce.*

*The deadline for the January newsletter is **NO LATER THAN THURSDAY, DEC. 7** due to holiday schedules. Please observe this deadline with your submissions to ensure the monthly publication reaches the Trinity community in a timely manner. Articles received after the deadline will not be printed. Thank you.*

## ADVENT CALENDAR

- November 27*    *First Sunday of Advent – “Getting Ready”*  
*Mark 13:24-37*
- December 4*    *Second Sunday of Advent – “Road Rage”*  
*Mark 1:1-8*
- December 7*    *Living Nativity Rehearsal*  
*5 P.M. to 7 P.M. – Music Rm.*
- December 11*    *Third Sunday of Advent*  
*Choir Cantata – “Celebrate the Season”*  
*Services at 9 A.M. and 10:30 A.M.*
- December 14*    *Living Nativity Rehearsal*  
*5 P.M. to 7 P.M. – Music Rm.*
- December 16*    *Trinity School Program and Open House*
- December 18*    *Fourth Sunday of Advent – “Mary Did You Know?”*  
*Luke 1:26-38*
- December 21*    *Living Nativity*  
*6 P.M. and 7 P.M. Sanctuary*
- December 24*    *Christmas Eve Candlelight Services*  
*“The Time is Right,” Luke 2:1-20*  
*1 P.M. – Service of Lessons and Carols*  
*4 P.M. – Contemporary Service with Disciples Band*  
*7 P.M. – Traditional Service with Choir and Organ*  
*11 P.M. – Candlelight Service*
- December 25*    ***MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!!***  
*10 A.M. – Worship and Blessing of the toys*  
*“Christmas Now!”, John 1:1-14*  
*Come in your pajamas or jogging suits!*  
  
*5 P.M. – Vietnamese Christmas Worship*
- January 1*        *Services at 9:00 and 10:30 am*

# Trinity School Preparing for Holidays

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By Leslie Chaney  
School Director

Each year our school campus at Trinity United Methodist Church turns into a bustle of activity during the holiday season. Each teacher decorates their classroom with Christmas decorations and a Christmas tree.

The month is filled with activities and projects that revolve around the story of Jesus' birth. The children will be learning about holiday and family traditions.

The children will look forward to a visit from Santa Clause and a Santa's workshop where the children can shop for gifts for their family.

Each class will have a Christmas party in their classroom immediately after the Christmas program on Dec. 16.

## December Winter Break Camp for K-5 Program

The winter break kids will be enjoying two weeks of fun and educational experiences. They will be visiting the Botanical Gardens at the Bellagio, visiting Clark County Museum Heritage House Christmas village, experiencing the Springs Preserves, the Bass Pro Shop winter village and a trip to picturesque Potosí Pines in Nye County.

## December Calendar of Events

- Dec. 2.....Santa Photos
- Dec. 12-23.....Santa's workshop
- Dec. 16.....Christmas Program
- Dec. 16.....Class Christmas Party
- Dec. 19-30.....Winter Break Camp

## Christmas Program, Party & Open House

This year's Christmas Program will be held on Dec. 16 at 6:45 p.m. This year the teachers are planning to present the story of Christmas according to the book of Matthew. Immediately following the Christmas program, there will a Christmas party and an Open House in each classroom. Santa Claus is planning to visit each class to distribute presents and take requests. There will be many holiday treats to eat and drink.

# Keenagers Planning Holiday Event

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.The Keenagers will meet on Wednesday, Dec. 14, at noon in Café Trinity. Tony and Yvonne Gaines will be the host and hostess for this holiday get-together. It will be the final monthly meeting of 2011.

There will be a gift exchange and Maxine Hoselton is planning holiday entertainment for the Trinity social group comprised of members 55 years of age and older.

For more information, call Mary Sue or Maxine.

# Prayers for Our Churches

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The Conference Laity Team and District Superintendents are requesting that the Trinity congregation commit to praying for other churches in our district during the year 2011. Several churches will be listed each month for your prayer concerns.

It is important to know that other churches are praying with

and for each other. Please pray for the pastors, congregation and the community.

### DECEMBER

First UMC, Winslow, AZ

Chaplains & Counselors in North District

UMSM – United Methodist Social Ministries - people served and staff, Las Vegas, NV

# Christmas Cantata Dec. 11

## *Celebrate the Season*

Come One! Come All!  
Come and Listen! Bring Your Friends to this Holiday Celebration!

Trinity's Adult Choir, HeartStrings, and orchestra  
will present a cantata of hope and love!

The seasons of Advent and Christmas are upon us once again! Christians know it as a period of hope, peace, and joy. From the very beginning, Christmas was a time of "good news of great joy... to all people" (Luke 2:10). God did some unusual and exciting things to celebrate that "good news," and *Celebrate the Season* follows that tradition. The planning, the hectic rehearsal schedule, the Sanctuary beautifully decorated with greenery and Christmas, the joy of the faces of the choir members as they proudly present the results of their hard work to a congregation of family and friends... all combine to create a joyful and meaningful experience that we hope you will always treasure.

Celebrating Christmas is not a spectator sport. Worship is an action verb. The whole Body of Christ is involved in the experience, and *Celebrate the Season* is designed to facilitate that. It's an unbelievably powerful time of the year... Jesus coming to Earth in human form. A time to wait... a time to remember... a time to rejoice... and a time to realize His omnipotent vision as you dedicate your life and your actions to His plans for us at Trinity.

Listen to the songs we sing! Think about Mary's confused, yet determined feelings! Feel the shepherds' astonishment and surprise as the angels sing just for them! Immerse yourself in Christmas remembrances as we light the Advent candle and pray for peace... God's peace! It is, indeed, a wonderful time of the year!

Come... Bring your family and invite your friends!

*Celebrate the Season* with us on Sunday, Dec. 11

at both the 9 and 10:30 a.m. worship service opportunities!

## Attend TUMC's 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Living Nativity

By Gillian Kabat



Cast members from previous Trinity holiday pageant. Adults and youth needed to stage this year's event so don't be shy.

Come and join in celebrating the Living Nativity Pageant which will be performed in the Sanctuary on Wednesday, Dec. 21.

It has been my privilege to direct the Living Nativity for 31 years. During this time, I have worked with many Trinity families who return annually. Over 600 people have taken part in this special presentation.

There are two practices, Wednesday, Dec. 7 and Wednesday, Dec. 14 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Music Room.

Thanks to Steve Goldstein, the entire pageant is available on CD. Costumes and scenery are also available, which will make the telling of the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ even more memorable.

All adults and youth are welcome to join the cast. I need main characters and children over 5 years who can follow directions. Back stage helpers are also needed.

Please plan to attend this traditional Trinity favorite and make this event a part of your holiday enrichment.

Call me or see me after the 9 a.m. service on Sunday for more information or to sign up.

# Your UMSM Outreach Ministry in 2011

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Did you know that United Methodist Social Ministries (UMSM) is an independent 501C(3) nonprofit corporation which is overseen by a volunteer board of directors and achieves unqualified, audited financial statements each year?

As the outreach ministry of the United Methodist Church in the North District of the Desert Southwest Annual Conference, USMC operates the longest running weekend emergency food pantry in southern Nevada and is an accredited agency of the United Way of Southern Nevada. The organization is pleased that the food inventory has improved as a multi-year recipient of the U.S. Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) and as a partner with the state of Nevada USDA distribution program.

While they also appreciate the ongoing "in-kind" donations of churches and other community partners, the organization faces significant service cutbacks as cash contributions and fundraising have declined in contrast to the need for services. Please pray for continued operation in 2011.

In addition to supporting UMSM with monthly food donations, please remember that they are in need of regular weekend volunteers, data entry personnel, fundraising facilitators, and cash donations to support the Weekend Emergency Assistance Program, Fostering in Faith, Hats and Hands, and other UMSM programs.

To lead a monthly volunteer team, become a certified HMIS data entry volunteer, or participate in fundraising activities, please call their office at 733-0053.

## SUGGESTED MONTHLY FOOD DONATIONS:

### DECEMBER

Silent Night! SPAGHETTI Night! (What a nice way to take a break from sweets.)

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## Crafters for Christ Holiday Craft Sale Doubles \$\$\$ Goal!

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The Crafters for Christ ladies would like to thank EVERYONE who gave of their time, talents and labor to make our recent Holiday Craft Sale so successful. Our goal was to make at least \$1,000, and as of Nov. 10, the total reached \$2,036.75, with a few items still for sale for a donation in Café Trinity.

Please know how appreciative we are of everyone's efforts to make this Craft Sale a real blessing to our church. Nancy (the late founder Nancy Walter) would be proud of us all.

We especially want to thank Sherri French for all her work on Saturday, as well as her right-hand man, husband Richard, who is always there to help with clean up and resetting of the Sanctuary. Greta and Doug Medberry really saved our skins on Friday when we had no help moving pews and setting up tables and they stepped in to help.

We were so surprised and delighted with the wonderful sandwiches Frances Ernest so kindly provided for all of us on Saturday. The Centennial High School Junior ROTC cadets really came through on Saturday and manned tables, ran errands, walked the sidewalk with our sign, moved pews and tables and livened up our spirits with their youthful exuberance! Thank you Gail Johnson for your Centennial supporters.

To all the ladies, and even some great gentlemen, who crafted, knitted, crocheted, sewed, canned, baked, manned their tables, made welcomed donations, **thank you most sincerely**, and God bless you and your efforts for Trinity Church.

Blessings,  
June and Elta



# Society of St. Stephen Community Outreach

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Society of St. Stephen, an outreach ministry of Trinity United Methodist Church, was selected as Three Square's November Agency of the Month. Recognition by Three Square is especially welcome at a time when Society of St. Stephen is struggling to assist a growing population of homeless, underemployed or unemployed Las Vegas residents.

Growth in community need has been reflected by an increase of requests for food and/or other assistance from St. Stephen. By 2010, the number of meals for which groceries were provided exceeded that of 2007 by 89 percent.

Founded in 2003 as a small outreach ministry, St. Stephen expanded in 2004 with a construction trailer to house a food pantry. In 2008, St. Stephen at TUMC became an "agency partner" of Three Square. St. Stephen also is a distributing pantry for the Nevada Food Distribution Program.

However, in the past six months, food available from that program has been reduced dramatically. In fact, due to a depletion of the food supply, it has been necessary to close the pantry five service days in recent months. Currently, holiday food drives to supplement the pantry are underway.

The Society of St. Stephen **Food Pantry** provides groceries for three meals/three days, up to three times per 12 months, to individuals and families in households. Homeless persons receive a nutritional zip-bagged lunch each visit. The pantry is open 10 hours per week (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday).

A **Helping Hand Up** program offers additional assistance to clients who may benefit from information about area resources and possible support toward one bill that may prevent homelessness.

The **mission** of Society of St. Stephen is to respond to social concerns of the community by engaging individuals and families at their time of need and providing a helping hand up.

For more information, visit the organization's web site at <http://www.societyofststephen.org/>.



Your Trinity United Methodist Church volunteers.

## Filling the Box

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The Society of St. Stephen Pantry, a ministry of Trinity UMC, and the Weekend Emergency Assistance Program (WEAP), a ministry of United Methodist Social Ministries, are both in dire need of food contributions, especially during the holiday season. The assistance they receive from government agencies and others is not keeping up with the demand for help from the displaced in Southern Nevada.

As a result, the St. Stephen Pantry has had to be closed too frequently at a time when the homeless need even more additional help. Trinity is undertaking a "Filling the Box" campaign to fill the large donation box placed in the breezeway of the church on Sunday mornings as well as being available during the week.

Please contribute foodstuff and fill up the box as often as possible. Food placed in the box during the month of December will be contributed both to the St. Stephen and WEAP ministries.

Suggestions include: cereal; peanut butter; spaghetti or any other pasta; canned soups; Ramen soups; canned vegetables; canned white, pinto or baked beans.

# December 20

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<p>North District Newsletter - <a href="http://desertsouthwestconference.org/churchmembers/districtschurches/northdistrict/newsnotes/">desertsouthwestconference.org/churchmembers/districtschurches/northdistrict/newsnotes/</a>            The Desert Southwest Conference Calendar and Journal  <a href="http://desertsouthwestconference.org">desertsouthwestconference.org</a></p>			
<p>4 <b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>            Sermon Series: "Road Rage"            10 am UMW Exec. Brd., Rm. 6            12 pm SPRC, Rm. 6            1 pm TUMC Volunteers for WEAP, UUMC            6 pm Vietnamese Language Ministry, Sanctuary, Café            Worship Schedule see page 1</p>	<p>5            4 pm Staff Grp, Sanct.            5 pm Nurses, Café T            6:30 pm, O.A., Café T            6:30 pm Friends LTP, Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p>	<p>6            10 am "Tuesday Morning Transformers", Library            1 pm Staff Meeting, Lib.            7 pm Trustees, Café T            7 pm Cantata Rehearsal, Music Rm.</p>	<p>7 5 pm Living Nativity Rehearsal, Music Rm.            5:45 pm Heart and Soul Potluck, Café Trinity            6:45 pm Worship, Sanctuary, All invited            7:30 pm Hay Una Solucion Estudio Biblico, R 6            7:30 pm Bible Stdy. - Gospel of John, Rm. 5</p>
<p>11 <b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>            8 am service resumes Dec. 18            9 &amp; 10:30 Choir Cantata: "Celebrate the Season"            10:30 am Youth Group, Rm. 5            6 pm Vietnamese Language Ministry, Sanctuary, Café</p>	<p>12            4 pm Staff Grp, Sanct.            5 pm Nurses, Café T            6 pm Education Team, Rm. 6            6:30 pm, O.A., Café T            6:30 pm Friends LTP, Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p>	<p>13            10 am "Tuesday Morning Transformers", Library            1 pm Staff Meeting, Lib.            4 pm School Brd., Rm. 6            6:30 pm Lydia Fellowship, Member Home            7 pm Rachel Fellowship, Café Trinity</p>	<p>14 12 N Keenagers, C            5 pm Living Nativity Rehearsal, Music Rm.            5:45 pm Heart and Soul Potluck, Café Trinity            6:45 pm Worship, Sanctuary, All invited            7:30 pm Hay Una Solucion Estudio Biblico, R 6            7:30 pm Bible Stdy. - Gospel of John, Rm. 5</p>
<p>18 <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>            Sermon Series: "Mary Did You Know?"            1 pm Church Council, Café T            6 pm Vietnamese Language Ministry, Sanctuary, Café</p>	<p>19            3:30 pm Staff Grp, Snct.            5 pm Finance Team, Lib            5 pm Nurses, Café T            6:30 pm, O.A., Café T            6:30 pm Friends LTP, Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p>	<p>20            10 am "Tuesday Morning Transformers", Library            1 pm Staff Meeting, Lib</p>	<p>21            6 &amp; 7 pm Living Nativity Sanctuary; all are invited            7:30 pm Hay Una Solucion Estudio Biblico, # 6            7:30 pm Bible Stdy. - Gospel of John, Rm. 5</p>
<p>25  <b>MERRY CHRISTMAS</b>            Sermon: "Christmas Now!"            10 am One Family Worlship Service &amp; Blessing of toys            Come in P.J.'s or Jogging Suits!            10:30 am Youth, Rm. 5            6 pm Vietnamese Language Ministry, Sanctuary, Café</p>	<p>26            Trinity Office Closed            5 pm, Nurses, Café T            6:30 pm, O.A., Café T            6:30 pm Friends LTP, Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p>	<p>27            Trinity Office Closed            10 am "Tuesday Morning Transformers", Library</p>	<p>28 Trinity Office Closed            5:45 pm Heart and Soul Potluck, Café            6:45 pm Worship, S            7:30 pm Hay Una Solucion Estudio Biblico, # 6            7:30 pm Bible Stdy. - Gospel of John, Rm. 5</p>

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>10:30 am "Sisters in Christ", Library 6 pm "Gifted for Life", Members Homes 7 pm Choir &amp; Cantata Rehearsal, Music Rm.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Trinity Church Office closed on Fridays</p> <p>1 pm Crafters for Christ Potter's Place 6:30 pm Emmaus Gathering, Holy Spirit Lutheran C 7 pm HeartStrings Cantata Rehearsal, Music Rm.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>TBD "Worship Space Design" Sml. Grp., Sanct 7:30 am Sat. Morning Prayer Service, Sanct 8 am Hispanic ESL &amp; Computer Classes, Rms. 6 and 3 4:30 pm Disciples Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p>
<p>8</p> <p>10:30 am "Sisters in Christ", Library 6 pm "Gifted for Life", Members Homes 7 pm Choir &amp; Cantata Rehearsal, Music Rm.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>1 pm Crafters for Christ Potter's Place 7 pm HeartStrings Cantata Rehearsal, Music Rm. Cantata Set-Up, Sanct.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8 am Choir Dress Rehearsal, Sanctuary 8 am Hispanic ESL &amp; Computer Classes, Rms. 6 and 3 6 pm Young Adults, Blessley Home</p>
<p>15</p> <p>10:30 am "Sisters in Christ", Library 6 pm "Gifted for Life", Members Homes 7 pm Choir Rehearsal, S</p>	<p>16</p> <p>1 pm Crafters for Christ Potter's Place 6:30 pm Trinity School Program, Campus</p>	<p>17</p> <p>TBD "Worship Space Design" Sml. Grp., Sanct. 7:30 am Sat. Morning Prayer Service, Sanct 8 am Hispanic ESL &amp; Computer Classes, Rms. 6 and 3 4:30 pm Disciples Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p>
<p>22</p> <p>10:30 am "Sisters in Christ", Library 6 pm "Gifted for Life", Members Homes 7 pm Choir Rehearsal, S</p>	<p>23</p> <p>1 pm Crafters for Christ Potter's Place Trinity School Closed Society of St. Stephen Closed TBD Disciples Rehearse</p>	<p>24 Christmas Eve</p> <p>"The Time is Right"</p> <p>1pm Service of Lessons &amp; Carols, Sanctuary 4 pm Contemporary Service with Disciples Band 7 pm Traditional Service with Choir &amp; Organ 11 pm Candlelight Service</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Trinity Office Closed 10:30 am "Sisters in Christ", Library 7 pm Choir Rehearsal, S</p>	<p>30</p> <p>1 pm Crafters for Christ Potter's Place</p>	<p>31 NEW YEAR'S EVE</p>

DECEMBER SPECIAL  
EVENTS

CHRISTMAS CANTATA:  
*"CELEBRATE THE SEASON"*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 AT  
9:00 AND 10:30 AM

PRESENTED BY: TRINITY CHOIRS  
WITH ORCHESTRA  
CAROL BUMGARNER, DIRECTING

ALL ARE INVITED!  
BRING YOUR FRIENDS.  
IT'S A CELEBRATION  
OF THE SEASON.

THE LIVING NATIVITY

THE 31ST EDITION OF THE  
PAGEANT WILL BE PERFORMED  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, AT  
6 AND 7 PM IN THE SANCTUARY.  
ALL ARE WELCOME!

ADVENT SERMON SERIES


GETTING READY, MARK 13:24-37  
ROAD RAGE, MARK 1:1-8  
CANTATA: "CELEBRATE THE SEASON"  
MARY DID YOU KNOW?, LUKE 1:26-38

CHRISTMAS EVE

THE TIME IS RIGHT, LUKE 2:1-20

CHRISTMAS DAY

CHRISTMAS NOW!, JOHN 1:1-14



# Baptisms



In photograph at left, Sammy and Amaiya Griffin were baptized on Sunday, Sept. 4 at 10:30 a.m. They are the children of Amber Ingwell and Sam Griffin and grandchildren of Karelle Larsen.

In photograph at right, Trinity Senior Pastor Dr. Mark Lansberry leads the reading in baptism of Elleisah Haleigh Purnell on Wednesday, Sept. 14 during the evening worship service. She is the daughter of Michael and Gemma Purnell.



In photograph at left, Noa Pu'u was baptized on Sunday, Oct. 23. Noa is the son of Franklin Pu'u and Brittany Sikorak. The John Sikorak family were members of Trinity a number of years ago.

*Staff photographs by Ann Copeland*

# Welcome Your New Church Members

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Trinity United Methodist Church has welcomed new members into the congregation during recent worship services. Make sure you extend the right hand of friendship and welcome your brothers and sisters in Christian love.

Your new members are:

**Dodie Rutledge**, originally from New Hampshire, joined Trinity on Oct. 16. Dodie is a Surgical Technician at United Medical Center hospital and her hobbies include salt water aquariums and traveling.

In the past, Dodie has taught Sunday school. One of her spiritual gifts is teaching and she looks forward to assisting in a Children's Sunday school class at Trinity. Dodie is also interested in Mission Outreach and wants to volunteer at United Methodist Social Ministries and Habitat for Humanity, utilizing her spiritual gift of helping.

**Mary Munroe**, daughter of Carol Munroe, is originally

from New Hampshire and new to Las Vegas She joined Trinity on Oct. 16. Mary is a nurse, currently working nights at Summerlin Hospital. Her hobbies include baking and traveling.

In her previous church Mary enjoyed the music program and participated as a helper in the Nursery and Sunday school programs. Mary plans to use her spiritual gift of helping as a volunteer in TUMC's Nursery.

**Sophi Murphy**, Mary's daughter, is in third Grade at Sally Thompson Elementary School in the Northwest part of Las Vegas. She attends Wednesday night worship and 10:30 Sunday school.

**Penny (Myra) Eiker**, originally from Frederick, Md., has been living in Las Vegas for five years and also joined Trinity on Oct. 16, transferring from Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church, Frederick, Md.

Penny is an active participant in Trinity's Sisters in Christ small group. Penny's spiritual gifts in-

clude faith, giving and mercy. She enjoys cooking and one of her specialties is turkey pot pie!

**Susan Holden**, a former member of Trinity, was welcomed back into our congregation on Oct. 16. Susan was a member of Daybreak United Methodist Fellowship and left Trinity to assist with that new church start.

Susan is a recent candidate for the ministry. She has led worship at the 10:30 a.m. service when worship leader Ginnie Barnson is absent. In addition, Sue is also a L.I.F.E. Group co-leader with her husband, Joe. Susan is an advocate for Christian Education, small groups and family ministry. We are blessed that Susan has returned!

If you're interested in joining Trinity, please call the church office during regular hours at 870-4747 to find out when the next new membership class is being offered.



(from left) Mary Munroe, Sophie Murphy, and Dodie Rutledge.



Penny (Myra) Eiker



Susan Holden

## Happy 100th Birthday!

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Nina Martin

Longtime Trinity member Nina Martin celebrated her 100th birthday on Sept. 21 and a reception was held for her in Café Trinity on Sunday, Sept. 24. She was surrounded by friends and the Trinity congregation in love to celebrate this historic milestone in life.

## Thank You!

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We would like to thank the congregation for helping us celebrate our 64<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on Sunday, Oct. 16. The cake and coffee in Café Trinity were delicious, and being with all of our friends was wonderful. Trinity is a wonderful church and God is good.

Sincerely,

Arthur & Maxine Hoselton



Maxine and Art Hoselton



## Creating Excellent Hospitality

By Dr. Don Nations, DNA Coaching

Hospitality is the art of welcoming and treasuring people. It is the process by which guests are welcomed, fears are allayed, relationships are built, and people are encouraged to return. Hospitality is both an attitude and a specific set of procedures. It is extending the grace and welcome of God to all people.

The critical shift to make in the discussion of hospitality is this: viewing new people who attend as guests and not as visitors. Churches most often treat new people as visitors. Visitors are unexpected people who intrude on our lives. They are people who show up, occupy some of our time, and then go away. We are not emotionally involved with visitors. Visitors are like movie extras in most churches; they are part of the landscape and background but easy to miss.

Guests are different. A guest is someone we invite to our home. We prepare for them. We clean up the house in anticipation of their arrival. They are a welcome part of our lives and often we don't want them to leave. We have an emotional connection with guests. Instead of being movie extras, they are leading men and women and children.

Creating excellent hospitality requires intentionality and attention to detail. The following list provides a framework for creating an excellent system of hospitality.

### TEN STEPS TO GREAT ON-SITE HOSPITALITY

1. Have superior signage.
2. Pay attention to what your campus says about you.
3. Have a team of parking lot hosts.
4. Have hosts located just outside of the main entrance areas.
5. Provide an information station just inside the main entrance(s).
6. Provide refreshments before and after the service.
7. Train attenders to get to know people, not just to shake hands.
8. Watch your assumptions about guests.
9. Think through how you recognize guests and obtain contact information.
10. Don't forget guests after the service.

Dr. Don Nations is a pastor, planter, consultant and coach. He is the founder and Lead Coach of DNA Coaching. He will be working with about 40 churches, including Trinity United Methodist Church, over the next three years to improve revitalization of United Methodist churches.

To contact him or to review additional materials, visit the organization's web site at [www.dnacoaching.com](http://www.dnacoaching.com) or e-mail him at [don@dnacoaching.com](mailto:don@dnacoaching.com).

# North District Upcoming Event

## North District Leadership Training Conference

*FEBRUARY 4, 2012*

Trinity United Methodist Church, 6151 W. Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89146

Register by mail to: North District, 1785 E. Sahara Ave. #175, Las Vegas, Nevada 89104, (702) 369-7055

(Contact your church for Registration Forms)

Registration Deadline: January 20, 2012

**Registration \$12.00 per person (includes lunch)**

*Child Care will be provided (Bring brown bag lunch with child)*

### Guest Speaker: Delia Halverson



Delia Halverson worked in Christian education in large and small churches, both on staff and in volunteer positions. She held positions in discipleship on district and conference levels. She served on four teams from the United Methodist General Board of Discipleship, training pastors and lay leaders in Annual conferences in the Dominican Republic of the Congo and Mozambique.

Delia has written curriculum, articles, and more than 24 books. Many of her books are of particular interest to churches that wish to lead their people in discipleship. Delia and Karen Appleby (a deacon in the Desert Southwest Conference) have completed a book on worship visuals, centered on the scriptures of the lectionary.

Currently, as a consultant, Delia leads workshops and retreats across the country. You may learn more about the various books she has written and her ministry at [www.deliahalverson.com](http://www.deliahalverson.com)

### Conference Schedule

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM - Registration  
8:30 AM - 10:05 AM - Worship/Conference  
10:15 AM - 11:45 AM - Plenary  
11:45 AM - 12:30 PM - Lunch  
12:35 PM - 2:05 PM Workshop I  
2:10 PM - 3:40 PM - Workshop II

### Workshop Schedule

#### Workshop I

Staff Parish Relations Committee - Rev. Candace Lansberry  
Trustees - Randy Bowman  
Hospital Visitation - Pastor Katherine Tang  
Personal Holiness a Building Block to Social Holiness - Rev. Buzz Stevens  
Church Lay Leaders - Allie Lakey  
Couples & Marriage Ministry - Pastor John Phipps  
The What, When, Where and How of Discipleship in Your Church - Delia Halverson  
Developing Parent Involvement in Children's Ministry - Pastor Teresa Adams  
Nurturing Spirituality in Children - Rev. Karol Brecheisen  
Nurturing Spirituality in Youth - Rev. Ann and Tim Thomas  
Children's Ministry and Mission - Valorie Eddy

#### Workshop II

Finance - Randy Bowman  
Personal Holiness a Building Block to Social Holiness - Rev. Buzz Stevens  
Prison Ministry (English) - Irene Hunt  
Prison Ministry (Spanish) - Felipe Umana  
Living Your Christian Faith in a Casino World - Flor Hernandez  
Homeless Ministry — John Fogal of the Las Vegas Rescue Mission  
The What, When, Where and How of Discipleship in Your Church - Delia Halverson  
Developing Parent Involvement in Children's Ministry - Pastor Teresa Adams  
Nurturing Spirituality in Children - Rev. Karol Brecheisen  
Nurturing Spirituality in Youth - Rev. Ann and Tim Thomas  
Children's Ministry and Mission - Valorie Eddy

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## December Birthdays

Chris Sumpter	12/02	Aspen Seifert	12/18
Kisa Kindsvogel	12/03	Avis Morgan	12/19
Sammy Griffin	12/03	Kenneth Hildreth	12/19
Joseph Hoselton	12/03	Scott Craney	12/21
Steve Goldstein	12/04	Ginnie Barnson	12/21
Gabriel Kimenker	12/04	Olivia Murphy	12/21
Ed Billingham	12/06	James Wood	12/22
Nicole French	12/07	Kristen Bourne	12/23
Serena Perez	12/07	Crystal Hildreth	12/23
John Eccles	12/07	Suk Yong-Olive Huehl	12/23
Danielle Hesse	12/07	Eric Muus	12/24
Dodie Rutledge	12/09	Rachel Campbell	12/25
Florene Jones	12/10	Gloisa-Faye Garcia-Lai	12/28
Zul Dunlap	12/11	Bill Helmke	12/29
Larry Schultz	12/12	Bruce Bacon	12/30
Doris Cerrone	12/17	Hailey Churchill	12/31

## December Anniversaries



Andrew & Wendy Neave	12/03/1999
Steve & Darlene Goldstein	12/05/1980
Ed & Donna McConnel	12/06/1985
Harry & Denyse Royer	12/06/2003
John & Kathleen Love	12/08/1973
John & Jennifer Eccles	12/17/2005
Isagani & Gloria Garcia	12/18/1977
Julian & Suk Yong-Olive Huehl	12/20/2005

## ***A New Year With The Lord***

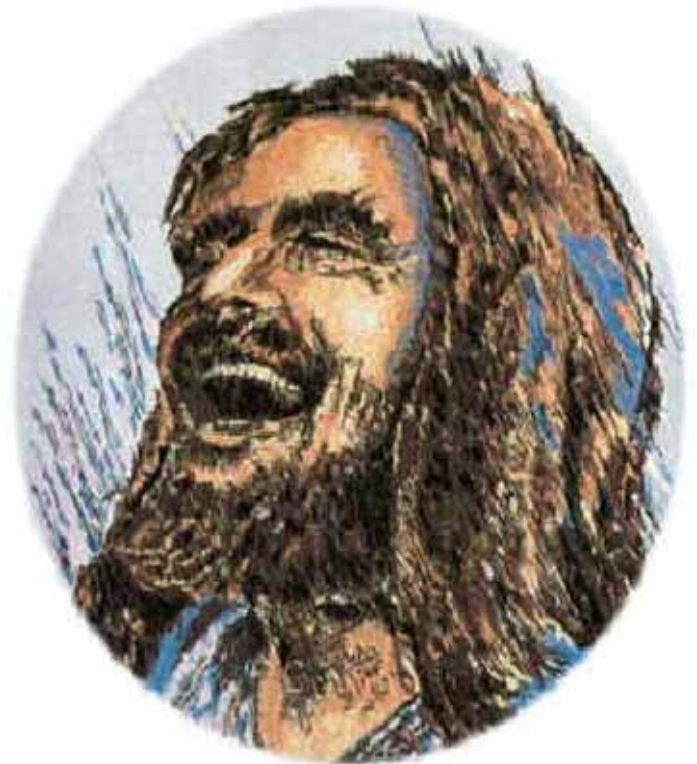
*A new year is about to unfold  
With new opportunities to explore  
Doors will open for new experiences  
New adventures with the Lord*

*Remember not the former things  
The things of this past year  
The Lord will do new things in us  
Much more than we are aware*

*For He will make a way for us  
As we put our trust in Him  
And He will guide our every step  
By His presence we have within*

*What God has placed within our hearts  
We find we'll be able to do  
If we look for the opportunities  
We'll see the door to go through*

*We mustn't let anything hold us back  
But rise up and take our place  
And be all that God wants us to be  
With a fresh touch of His grace*



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702 / 870-8919

School Office  
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Fax:  
702/822-1694

View past issues of The Word at: <a href="http://www.tumclv.org">www.tumclv.org</a>	<p>Trinity UMC Society of St. Stephen Ministry</p>  <p><a href="http://www.societyofststephen.org">www.societyofststephen.org</a></p>
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**THE WORD STAFF**

The publication *The Word* is published monthly by Trinity United Methodist Church for its congregation, families and neighbors. Submissions are welcome and can be submitted to the church office or electronically at [newsletter@tumclv.org](mailto:newsletter@tumclv.org) by the **10<sup>th</sup> of the month**. We reserve the right to use all or part of all submissions

Staff members and volunteers:

Rev. Mark Lansberry – [pastormark@tumclv.org](mailto:pastormark@tumclv.org)  
Dan Sahagun, Editor – [newsletter@tumclv.org](mailto:newsletter@tumclv.org)  
Barbara Momeyer, Publisher – [barbara@tumclv.org](mailto:barbara@tumclv.org)  
Marj Bertagnolli, Desktop Publisher  
Linda Petty, Staff – [linda@tumclv.org](mailto:linda@tumclv.org)  
Ann Copeland, Photographer –

Bruce Bacon, Mailing

*More volunteers are welcome to be involved in and are necessary for writing and producing this publication which is delivered as non-profit standard mail; please call the office to volunteer.*

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Church (TUMC) ...  
where our mission  
is to make disciples  
of Jesus Christ  
for the transformation  
of the world.

