

THE EVANGEL

Evangel - from the Greek euangelos meaning good messenger, or good news.

Temple Lutheran Church

December 2019

Consecration Sunday Brings New Mission Partners and Monetary Blessings

Consecration Sunday is already a big deal at Temple Lutheran, and this year it was an even bigger deal. In addition to thinking and praying about how much of our incomes we are able to share with the church and its missions, we also welcomed 22 new mission partners (including children). The front of the church was filled with the new mission partners and their sponsors as they and the rest of the congregation made their promises to follow Christ, renounce Satan, and help one another in these promises.

During the worship service, Julianna Pierdomenico and Rob Mannix were formally installed in their positions as Children, Youth and Family Minister and Director of Discipleship, respectively. The children of Temple laid "hands" (stickers) on them as a sign of blessing.



Juli and Rob show off the "hands" laid on them in blessing by the children.



Pastor Tim leads the new mission partners and their sponsors in prayer on Consecration Sunday.

A thoughtful and inspiring sermon was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Larry V. Smoose, a retired parish pastor who served 40 years of ministry in Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod and now volunteers as chair of the Synod Stewardship Team.

Worship service was of course followed by ... food. A catered brunch was served in thanks for the generosity of the people of Temple Lutheran. During the brunch Pastor Tim announced that the pledges made for 2020 showed an increase in regular giving of about 12%. This will allow the church to continue to grow and reach out to the community. Thank you, everyone!

The newly installed mission partners are: Traci Antenucci and Chase; Elizabeth Batista; Sarah Foss, Brian Lay, and Beatrix Lay; Amy Fulmele; Lisa and Chris Jennings; Despina Kontos and Eli Kontos; Eversley Maynard; Nadine Newell and Victor and Victoria Morris; and Julia Phillips and Andrew. Welcome to all of you — we are happy to have you here!

*Join us for Worship
Sundays—December 1, 8,
& 15*

*8:30 a.m. Organ Led Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Praise Band Led
Service*

Sundays, December 22 & 29

One service at 9:30 a.m.

*All Services with
Holy Communion*

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 Temple
Lutheran Church

Birthday Celebration on All Saints Sunday Benefits the Luther Family

On the feast of All Saints, the saints of Temple Lutheran (that's us!) gathered together to worship and to remember our loved ones who died during the past year. The names of the deceased were read aloud by Pastor Tim as a bell chimed in remembrance and candles were lit by those honoring family and friends who are now saints in heaven. It was both somber and consoling and a reminder that we are all, living and dead, part of the communion of saints.

Worship soon gave way to a get together in Fellowship Hall, as we joined to celebrate Kai Gamez's first birthday with food and football. This, however, was not your usual birthday party. Lisa and Marcos, Kai's parents, asked that in lieu of bringing gifts for Kai, the guests would make donations to the Luther family. Jason Luther is battling colon cancer and is presently out of work. He, his wife and their four children are Temple mission partners.

As the guests watched the Eagles battle — and beat — the Bears, they enjoyed barbecued meats and homemade sausage and all the trimmings prepared by Marcos and Mike Schneller and enjoyed the company of their Temple friends. Over \$2,000 was raised for the Luthers, who were overwhelmed by the generosity of the Temple community. Though he doesn't realize it now, Kai is being taught valuable lessons by his good-hearted parents. Plus, he had a really good time!



Lisa, Kai and Marcos celebrate Kai's birthday while helping the Luther family.

Coffee Hour Church Wraps Up "Anatomy of Worship" Sermon Series



Despina and Eli are deep in conversation during Coffee Hour Church. (Perhaps choosing the next book club pick?)

Recently we completed a sermon series entitled "The Anatomy of Worship." Over seven weeks Pastor Tim instructed us on and offered inspiration on the seven parts of worship: gathering, confession, word, offering, meal, sending, and — of course — coffee hour! If this last aspect sounds rather added on and not that important, think again. Coffee hour is a vital part of our getting to know our church community, listening to one another's wisdom and needs, and making plans for either church or social meetings.

The previous weeks' sermons and worship services emphasized the above-mentioned aspects of worship, but on Coffee Hour Sunday worship was interspersed with mingling and socializing and was hopefully a chance to meet someone new or get to know someone better. As Pastor Tim pointed out, this could be an introvert's nightmare, but it's not too hard to find a friendly face at Temple and an interested being who truly cares about you and your life situation. Coffee and carbs helped.

We thank Pastor Tim for stretching us and always keeping worship interesting. This is truly a community who likes to be together and is always willing to try new things. We are never on the sidelines watching worship happen. Guided by our pastor, we are a definite part of worship, helping to make it real and relevant.

Two promotional posters for church events. The left poster is for a Christmas pageant titled "THE GOSPEL IN TOY STORY" on December 22 at 9:30. The right poster is for "THE GOSPEL IN TOY STORY" as an Advent Sermon Series beginning December 1. Both posters feature the Toy Story logo and a blue sky background with clouds.

Girl Scouts “Wrap It Up”

at TLC’s Food Pantry

The food pantry at TLC had some extra help in November. Girl Scout Troop 5393 showed up with smiles and wrapping skills to help the food patrons choose gifts for children, grandchildren and other family members. The array of gifts was impressive, donated by generous community members and Five Below. Three hours later the girls were still smiling and no doubt ready for a rest. We thank them for their hard work and Girl Scout spirit. Thanks, too, to all the food pantry volunteers who helped serve thirty families that day.



Ann Toth gives Girl Scout Troop 5393 and its leaders guidance on the logistics of food pantry Christmas shopping.

Temple’s Sani-Tree Christmas Project

No one likes getting their period. You get cramps and mood swings and you sometimes ruin your good underwear. But that’s nothing compared to what it’s like to get your period if you’re homeless or struggling financially. Imagine going through your period without showering, without changing your underwear or without sanitary products. Because if you can’t scrape together enough money for food or shelter, it is unlikely you’ll be able to afford tampons or pads.

This group of women is particularly vulnerable to mental illness, drug and alcohol dependencies and sexual abuse. Women are also disproportionately affected by welfare cuts because they rely more on social security, due to greater caring responsibilities, lower earnings and relative economic inequality.

Options for women in need of sanitary products are very limited. It’s sometimes possible to access tampons and towels at homeless shelters and hostels but they don’t always have them in stock as they don’t have many women residents. And if the hostel is full you can’t get in.

Donation drives for the homeless typically focus on clothing and food, but specialty items like sanitary products and feminine hygiene products are often overlooked. That’s why we are asking you to donate sanitary products this Christmas to make the lives of women in need in Delaware county a little bit easier.



Red Cross Blood Drive is Successful

Temple Lutheran’s November Red Cross Blood Drive was a success. As Sue Cook, the blood drive chairperson, said, “Twenty mission partners signed up, and twenty mission partners showed up on time ready to donate.” There were also some “walk-ins.” Forty-six pints of blood were donated, which may save up to 146 patients’ lives in the Philadelphia area. Thank you to all those who donated, to those who helped out, and to Bill and Joe who manned the doors.

The next TLC blood drive is on April 1, 2020. Please consider being a part of this great cause. If you have any questions see Sue Cook or call her at 610-608-2528.

Pictured to the right is Lynn Santo Domingo giving blood for the first time, with moral support from Spencer.



Community Dine Around December 9, 2019 - Christmas Celebration at Union UMC

Union’s volunteers will be preparing a delicious lunch at the bargain price of \$7. There will be wonderful, lively entertainment to follow the meal. So come on out, bring your friends and neighbors, and have a really great time.

Reservations/rides call Sue Cook
All ages invited

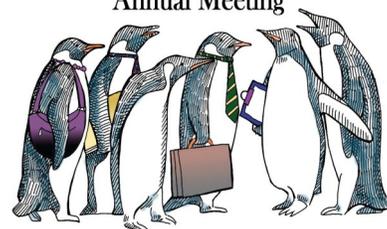


Temple Lutheran Church CHRISTMAS EVE



4:00 p.m. Children’s Service
7:00 p.m. Musical Celebration of Christmas
7:30 p.m. Candlelit Worship

Annual Meeting



Sunday, January 26
9:30 a.m. Worship
Potluck Brunch and meeting to follow

UPCOMING EVENTS



- Monday**
December 9
Noon
Community Dine Around Christmas Party
Union United Methodist Church
\$7 for food, fun and fellowship
- Saturday**
Dec. 21
4:00 PM
Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
followed by Cookies and Cocktails
at 6:00 PM
- Sunday**
Dec. 22
9:30 AM
Christmas Pageant
One Service, Fellowship to Follow
Temple Lutheran Church
- Christmas Eve!**
Tuesday
Dec 24
4:00 Children's Service
7:00 Musical Celebration
7:30 Candlelit Worship
- Saturday**
Dec 28
1-3 PM
TLC Food Pantry Service Day
Christmas Meal
Volunteers Needed!
- Sunday**
December 29
9:30 AM
Lessons and Carols
One Service at 9:30



- Tuesday**
January 14
6:00 PM
Life Center Meal
Meet at Temple
- Saturday**
January 25
1-3 PM
TLC Food Pantry
Open—Volunteers Welcome!
- Sunday**
January 26
9:30 AM
Annual Meeting
One Service, Brunch to follow
Temple Lutheran Church



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Dine Around

A holiday party will be held on Monday, December 9 at noon at Union United Methodist Church. Union's volunteers will be preparing a delicious lunch at the bargain price of \$7. There will be wonderful, lively entertainment to follow the meal. So come on out, bring your friends and neighbors and have a really great time. All ages are invited. For reservations/rides call Sue Cook.

Cookies and Cocktails

Join us on Saturday, December 21 at 6 PM for a free, family-friendly event, open to the whole community! Activities for the children include cookie making and decorating. Refreshments will be available.

Christmas Pageant

Don't miss Temple's Christmas pageant, *The Toy Story Pageant*, on Sunday, December 22 at 9:30 AM (one service). Catch the true spirit of the season!

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26 following the worship service at 9:30 AM (one service). Potluck brunch to follow.

Sani-Tree Christmas Project

Temple's Sani-Tree Christmas project runs until January 12. For each \$5 donation an ornament will be hung on the tree in memory or in honor of a loved one. Proceeds will provide personal hygiene products to women in need.

Contact Us

If you have any questions, or if you have suggestions or submissions for the upcoming Evangel:

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Visit us on the web at
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