

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
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The GOLDEN NUGGET

Newsletter for the Senior Citizens of Trinity Lutheran Church, Latrobe, PA
You may find "The Nugget" online at: TrinityLatrobe.com > Groups

December, 2019

Santa Claus - The Real Story



I remember when my sister dropped the bomb: "There is no Santa Claus. Even dummies know that!" she jeered. I fled to Grandma's house that day because I knew she would tell me the truth.

"No Santa Claus!" she snorted. "Ridiculous! Don't believe it. That rumor has been going around for years and it makes me mad, plain mad. Now put on your coat, we have somewhere to go." We headed to Kerby's General Store and when we arrived, Grandma handed me ten dollars. That was a bundle in those days. "Take this money," she said, "and buy something for someone who needs it. I'll wait for you in the car." Then she turned and walked out of Kerby's.

I was only 8 years old and while I shopped often with my mother, I had never shopped all by myself. The store was big and crowded and I just stood there confused, wondering what to buy, and thinking about everybody I knew and who on earth I could buy something for. Suddenly I thought of Bobby Decker. He smelled kind of bad, had messy hair, and he didn't have a coat. I knew that because he never went out for recess and his mother sent a note to keep him in school because he had a cough. We all knew he didn't have a cough and he didn't have a coat.

Grandma helped me wrap the coat and we put a tag on it, "To Bobby, From Santa Claus." We drove to his house and hid around the side behind some bushes. "All right, Santa Claus," she whispered, "get going!" I crept up to the porch, rang the bell, and ran back to the side of the house where

Grandma was waiting. I waited breathlessly in the darkness for the front door to open. Finally it did, and there stood Bobby.

Forty years haven't dimmed the thrill of those moments spent shivering, beside Grandma, in Bobby Decker's bushes. That night I realized that those awful rumors about Santa Claus were just what Grandma said they were: Ridiculous! Santa was alive and well and we were on his team.

Based on a story by Chris Cade

Dealing with the Past

Don't get angry. Don't be upset; it only leads to trouble.
Psalm 37:8

Anger. It's easy to define; the noise of the soul. *Anger.* The unseen irritant of the heart. *Anger.* The relentless invader of silence...

The louder it gets the more desperate we become...

Some of you are thinking...*you don't have any idea how hard my life has been.* And you're right, I don't. But I have a very clear idea how miserable your future will be unless you deal with your anger.

X-ray the world of the vengeful and behold the tumor of bitterness; black, menacing, malignant. Carcinoma of the spirit. Its fatal fibers creep around the edge of the heart and ravage it. Yesterday you can't alter, but your reaction to yesterday you can. The past you cannot change, but your response to your past, and the present you can.

From: "Grace for the Moment" by Max Lucado

Quotes To Ponder

"To succeed in life you need three things:
a wishbone, a backbone & a funny bone."
Reba McEntire.

"How people treat you, is their karma; how you react, is yours."
Wayne Dwyer

The Prez says.....

“Then the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.’” Luke 2:10

As we enter the rush and bustle of the Christmas season, it’s oh so easy to forget the nativity angel’s advice. Pause often and call it to mind. Don’t be afraid. Joyous tidings. Be at peace.

Merry Christmas everyone!
Jim Beatty, “The Prez”



The Senior’s November 4th, 2019 Luncheon MINUTES

Due to Veteran’s Day celebration on Nov. 11th, we held our senior gathering on November fourth. Jim Beatty opened the meeting by calling on Nancy Busch to lead us in singing Hymn 342 and reciting Psalm 26 and the Pledge of Allegiance. Nancy also requested prayers for several of our friends. Mary Jo Greenawalt passed away this morning. Helen Swenson’s grandson also passed away. Nancy also recognized the Veterans among us. She welcomed Mark Lawry back after his illness. We extended thanks to Verna who played the piano. The treasurer reported expenses at \$50.50 and a collection income of \$70. Our account balance is now \$3,159.41

We serenaded our birthday friends and extended thanks to the kitchen and decorating crews. Jim reminded us to apply address stickers to the tissue boxes. We will deliver them to the nursing home when we go caroling after our Christmas Party on December 9th. The Christmas dinner will be a catered buffet at the church. The price is \$10 for regular members and \$15 for guests. The SIGN-UP DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 29th!! Call Mark Lawry, see box to the right.

Bill Busch gave an interesting reading about life a century ago in 1919! Then he read a list of one liners comprised of humor, wisdom and commentaries on life. Nancy read Psalm 100 and led us in a prayer of thanksgiving. We extend a chocolaty smooth thanks to JoAnn Bayer and Jane Bisi for the candy demonstration. Y’all come back and visit us again any time. (Bring chocolate.)

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret Conrad, Secretary

Sign of “The End” Times?

Fred and Luke were fishing on the side of the road. They made a sign saying “*The End is Near! Turn yourself around now before it’s too late,*” and showed it to each passing car.

One driver that passed didn’t appreciate the sign and shouted, “Leave us alone you religious nuts!”

All of a sudden they heard a big splash. Fred grinned at Luke. “Do you think we should just put up a sign that says; “*Bridge Out*” instead?”

Trick Questions! Trick Answers!

1. In which battle did Napoleon die? *His last battle.*
2. Where was the Declaration of Independence signed? *At the bottom of the page.*
3. River Ravi flows in which state? *Liquid*
4. What is the main reason for divorce? *Marriage.*
5. What is the main reason for failure? *Exams*
6. What can you never eat for breakfast? *Lunch & Dinner*
7. What looks like half an apple? *The other half.*
8. If you throw a red stone into the blue sea what color will it become? *It will just get wet.*
9. How can a man go eight days without sleeping? *No problem, he sleeps at night?*
10. How can you lift an elephant with one hand? *You will never find an elephant with one hand?*
11. If you had three apples and four oranges in one hand and four apples and three oranges in the other hand, what would you have? *Very large hands.*
12. It took eight men ten hours to build a wall, how long would it take four men to build it? *No time at all since the wall is already built.*
13. How can you drop a raw egg onto a concrete floor without cracking it? *Any way you want, concrete floors are very hard to crack!*

The Next

Trinity Seniors’ Meeting

December 9th, 2019

Where: Trinity Fellowship Hall

Fellowship: 10:30 am

Catered Buffet: 12:00 Noon

Cost: \$10.00 / Person

Program: Pastors Schock & Clement,
and Choir Master, Debbie Morley.

Reservations Are Required:

Call Mark Lawry, 412-477-1926

By **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29th!!!!**