



# KIDSNEWS

## Winter 2016 - 2017



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### Advent Devotions for Children and Families

November 27 was the first Sunday in Advent and a Devotion Booklet was made available in the Welcome Center and given out at the Advent Adventure event. If you did not get a copy, please pick up one today.

We hope that families will enjoy celebrating together throughout the Advent season.



### Advent Calendar Card

Advent Calendar Cards were sent home through children's Sunday School on November 27. What an exciting and fun way to prepare the heart of every child for Christmas. Behind each of the 24 windows on the front of these cards are important symbols and pictures as well as a Bible references highlighting the true meaning of Christmas. And there is a poem inside.

### Let Heaven & Nature Sing, A Tree that Points to Jesus

A Christmas Tree sticker book and poster are available in the Welcome Center.



903 Forest Avenue,  
Henrico, VA 23229  
[Trinityumc.net](http://Trinityumc.net)  
804-288-6056

Director of Children's Ministries  
Leila Denton, [ldenton@trinityumc.net](mailto:ldenton@trinityumc.net)

### GIVE A GIFT AT CHRISTMAS

The Trinity MISSION KIDS are sponsoring a church-wide Christmas mission project to benefit the children in the community around Central United Methodist Church. Each gift needs to be wrapped and returned (with the age, size & gender sticker and clothes or toy sticker attached to it) by **December 7** to Leila Denton's office.

The Mission Kids thank you for your generous donations to this most important project.





# Advent Offering

Childrens' Sunday School

*By Giving Gifts to Our Neighbors at  
Sherbourne Food Pantry & Tuckahoe Middle School*

► For **November 27** and **December 4**, the first two Sundays in Advent, we would like the children to remember the Sherbourne Food Pantry by donating **kids toys** (\$5 - \$10) that the guests can select to give to their children for Christmas.

Suggestions: Dolls, little girl purses, toy cars, trucks, board games, puzzles, coloring books, crayons, books, nerf things, balls, or action figures.

► For **December 11** and **December 18**, the third and fourth Sundays in Advent, we would like the children to remember some of the kids at Tuckahoe Middle School by donating **individually wrapped food items**.

Suggestions: Instant oatmeal, fruit gummy snacks, mac & cheese (bowl), Ramen noodle soup (bowl), Nutrigrain bar, peanut butter & cracker pack, or trail mix. Please, no glass containers.

**Donations will be collected each Sunday of Advent beginning November 27 and going through December 18.\*  
Children are encouraged to bring something each week.**

As you light your advent wreath, please remember to pray for the people of Sherbourne and Tuckahoe Middle: that they will experience God's HOPE, LOVE, JOY, and PEACE from our simple offerings during the Advent season and throughout the year.

*The Christmas season is about giving rather than receiving.*

If you have any questions, please contact Leila Denton, [ldenton@trinityumc.net](mailto:ldenton@trinityumc.net)

\*Please leave the items in your classroom, and they will be picked up after Sunday School is over for the day.



## Caroling, December 19

For a number of years, Trinity families have gathered to informally sing Christmas Carols.

This year, gather at 6 PM. on Monday, December 19 in Trinity Hall. Everyone will carpool. For questions or concerns, please contact Charles Staples. There is no sign up, but please be on time so you don't get left behind!

## Mission Kids

Mission Kids are kids in 1<sup>st</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> grade who are interested in mission and service.

We have one more meeting for 2016 and plans already in process for 2017.



**December 4** – Noon to 3:30 - Field Trip to the Hermitage

**January 8** – 5:00 -6:30 PM - meeting at church to design, make and hang posters to advertise for our “Souper Bowl” collection.

**January 29** – noon - 3PM Field Trip to Richmond Hill

**February 5** – “Souper Bowl” collection after each worship service.

For questions or concerns contact Leila Denton at 288-6057, ext. 208.

# Christmas Pageant

Children's Christmas Pageant  
December 18, 2016  
4:00 PM, Sanctuary



Come celebrate with us!  
Reception to follow in the Welcome Center

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## Parent's Night Out

Wednesday,  
December 21

4:00 PM to 8:00 PM

\* Crafts \* Games \*  
Christmas Video \*  
Lots of Fun \*

\* Bring-Your-Own  
Bag Dinner with  
child's name on it



ALL AGES WELCOME

**\$10 a child (larger donations are very welcome)**

Drop your kids off for Christmas fun while you take care of some last minute Christmas details. Proceeds go to benefit the Trinity Youth Mission. Parents may receive an email with details prior to the event. If you have questions please call Leila Denton (288-6057, x208).

Registration at <http://bit.ly/TrinityParentsNightOut> .



# What Can I Offer?

## *4:00 PM Christmas Eve*

An Interactive Christmas Eve Service  
for Children of All Ages

Mr. Fred Rogers once wrote, “Everyone wants to feel that he or she has something to offer. The most depressing feeling in the world is that one has nothing to offer... nothing that’s acceptable.”

Our 4PM Christmas Eve service provides a hands-on worship experience for children, families, and *anyone* who wants to join in the fun—because *everyone* has something to offer.

Children can help us build the stable and stock the manger with food for the Holy Family right there in the sanctuary! We’ll provide the building materials, and **we ask every child to bring a can of food to offer in the manger.** After the service, the cans will go to the Sherbourne UMC food pantry.

Come hear the wonderful story, sing the favorite hymns, share the light in the darkness, and live the action: let’s receive God’s gift of Jesus Christ our Lord and offer our own gifts to prepare him room!



## *6:00 PM Christmas Eve* **MODERN CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

## *8:30 & 11:00 PM Christmas Eve* **TRADITIONAL CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICES**



January 1 at 9:30  
a.m.  
Kindergarten - 5th  
Children’s  
Sunday School



The Education Work Area is inviting all N4 – 5th grade Sunday School children to come to room 300 at 9:30 a.m. to celebrate together.

## CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

January 4, 2017

Resume Wednesday evening practice

At 5:15 PM

CELESTIAL  
Room 317

TREBLE  
Choir Room



### Upward Sports Ministry

Upward Season—The teams are organized and practice begins soon! Come watch the games in the new year!! See the kids play and cheer for eight Saturdays starting January 7. Upward Sunday, is January 22. If you are interested in helping, please email [trinityupward@gmail.com](mailto:trinityupward@gmail.com).



The Children's Ministry Team has had a great time greeting families of children and offering them the opportunity to have a few minutes to meet the other parents in their child's age group. This time of fellowship is usually in the child's classroom for 10 to 15 minutes following Sunday School and we provide a special treat.



#### SCRIPTURE

The LORD was truly merciful, so he rescued his people. He took them in his arms and carried them all those years. **Isaiah 63:9b (CEV)**

#### A Prayer for New Year's Eve and Day:

Merciful God, as you protected the infant Jesus, so rescue us and all those in need, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### Mealttime Prayer:

Thank you, Lord, for being with us and guiding the way, for meeting our needs each and every day. Amen.

#### A Blessing to Give:

May God be loving and merciful to you. May God lift you up and carry you all your life. (Isaiah 63:9)

#### CARING CONVERSATION:

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Tell about a time when you experienced pain.
- A time of great sadness came to the town of Bethlehem soon after the visit of the wise men. How have you been comforted in your sadness or pain?
- How does faith in God carry you through times of sadness?

#### DEVOTIONS:

*Read:* Matthew 2:13-15.

While Jesus was still very young, his family fled to Egypt to escape from King Herod. There are many people in our world today who are forced to flee their homes because their countries have become unsafe for them—we call these people refugees. Talk together about what it would be like to be a refugee and leave your friends and possessions behind. Conclude with the following prayer: **Dear God, please comfort and sustain all refugees in our world. Help them through their times of hardship and protect them as you protected the infant Jesus. Amen.**

#### SERVICE:

While a young child, Jesus and his parents were refugees and had to flee to Egypt. The plight of refugees continues to this day. Find a way to support local refugees residing in your community or refugees in your host country by creating care packages or simply making a financial donation to help them.

#### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS:

Psalm 148 calls on all of God's creation to offer praise. Read the psalm and then name aloud different parts of God's creation, and give praise to God. For example, "For Norwegian pine, praise the Lord. For crashing waves, praise the Lord. For beautiful Poinsettias, praise the Lord." Conclude by saying together the Lord's Prayer.



# Bible Learning And Sharing Together



## For 3rd Graders and 4th Graders

Two different events will be held in Trinity Hall during the 9:30 AM Sunday School time for kids and parents. One for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and one for 4<sup>th</sup> grade. **Children and parents** (or other adult) will have fun learning a little more about using the Bible. **Events are designed for an adult and child to work together at their own pace in a learning center environment.** Children will experience practical ways to discover God's Word and make the Bible a part of their everyday life. Parents will learn how to cultivate children's use of the Bible at home.

### Sunday, January 22

For 3rd grader and parent - At 9:30 AM meet in Trinity Hall - Remember to bring your Bible

### Sunday, February 12

For 4th grader and parent - At 9:30 AM meet in Trinity Hall - Remember to bring your Bible

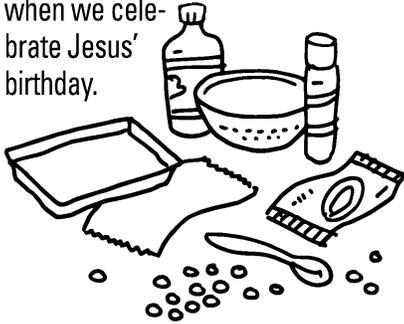


### Lessons from a snowman

- It's okay to wear white well after Labor Day.
- Simply hanging out in your front yard can be fun.
- Accessories don't have to be fancy or expensive.
- We're all made mostly of water.
- You know you've "arrived" when a song is written about you.
- So what if you're a little bottom-heavy?
- Don't get too much sun.
- 6 • Sweating too much can be disastrous!

# birthday bark

Make this yummy treat to give to family and friends at Christmas, when we celebrate Jesus' birthday.



## What you need:

- Nonstick cooking spray
- 3 cups chocolate chips
- Microwave-safe bowl
- Spoon or spatula
- 2 Tbsp. shortening
- Baking tray lined with wax paper
- Red and green M&M's (or sprinkles)

## What you do:

1. Lightly spray bowl and wax paper.
2. Microwave chocolate chips in bowl for one-minute intervals until chocolate is melted. (Stir after each minute.)
3. Stir in shortening. Heat in 10-second intervals, stirring until smooth.
4. Pour chocolate onto tray and firmly press in M&M's or sprinkles.
5. Refrigerate until firm. Remove bark and break into pieces.

# MASON JAR nightLIGHT

Because Jesus is the light of the world, his followers don't need to fear darkness or life's dark times. Make this nightlight to remind you of Jesus' light and presence.



## What you need:

- Work area with good ventilation
- Mason jar
- Clear glue that works on glass
- Paintbrush
- Glass stones
- Tealight candle
- Lighter
- Adult supervision

## What you do:

1. Starting at the top of the jar, brush glue on a small section.
2. Press glass stones onto the glue in rows. Let dry.
3. Continue gluing stones, in small sections, until the entire jar is covered.
4. When dry, place a candle inside. Light with adult help.

# FRIENDSHIP CARDS



This month, don't just *send* valentines; *be* a valentine! Create these Friendship Cards to express love through kind acts for your loved ones — all month long.



## What you need:

- 29 index cards
- A small box or container
- Colored pens or glitter pens
- Stickers

## What you do:

1. On each card, write something nice you can do for other people. Ideas include "Give someone a hug," "Clean someone's room," "Read to someone" and so on. You can use colored pens to draw a picture.
2. Decorate the box or container. Place the cards inside.
3. Each day in February, select a card and do that nice thing for someone!



# The greatest gift

Gift-giving is a fun Christmas tradition. What very special gift has God given to you?

**Directions:** Write the words from each puzzle piece on the matching blank piece of the gift-striped puzzle.

Romans 6:23, NIV

life in

but the

our Lord.

gift of God

of sin is

death,

wages

is

eternal

Christ Jesus

For the

Answer: For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23, NIV



# Light OF THE World

In a world full of sin and darkness, how can we find our way? Discover Jesus' answer in John 8:12, NIV.

**Directions:** Use the key to fill in the missing vowels. Then read the completed Bible verse.

**KEY:** A E I O

" I \_ \_ M \_ \_ T H \_ \_ L \_ \_ G H T \_ \_ F \_ \_

TH \_ \_ W \_ \_ R L D . W H \_ \_ \_ V \_ \_ R

F \_ \_ L L \_ \_ W S M \_ \_ W \_ \_ L L N \_ \_ V \_ \_ R

W \_ \_ L K \_ \_ N \_ \_ D \_ \_ R K N \_ \_ S S . "

J \_ \_ H N 8 : 1 2 , N I V

Answer: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness." John 8:12, NIV



# True Friendship

What makes someone a good friend? The Bible offers lots of advice about true friendship.

**Directions:** Starting at the \*, connect the dots clockwise and complete the words using the word bank. Then fill in Proverbs 27:9, NIV.

**WORD BANK:** heart prings ir verbs vice ness end

27:9, NIV

pleasant

\* The

of

ad

• a

• Pri

• s

the

• from

27:9, NIV

Answer: The pleasantness of a friend springs from their heartfelt advice. Proverbs 27:9, NIV