



# Plantings

## February 2020

Tree of Life Lutheran Church

1492 Linglestown Rd.

Harrisburg Pa. 17110

717-238-8733

Office Hours: M-Th 8:30am – 1:00pm

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

At our last Stewardship Committee we were challenged to think about the many ways that Tree of Life extends itself to our community. It's easy to think of this in terms of dollars and cents. We send mission support to the Lower Susquehanna Synod and to many local and global ministries- from ELCA World Hunger to Christian Churches United to Hospice of Central Pennsylvania to the Hanna Pantry and many, many others. A look at the back of our monthly financial report shows still more- missionary support, Stephen Ministry, the Hospitality Committee, Feeding the 5000, etc. But so much more is missed in this monthly report ... members supporting Tree4Hope and Tech4Tanzania, the labor of love every Thursday morning in our kitchen for Feeding the 5000 and the volunteers who actually stock the shelves and distribute the food at Hanna Pantry and the Ecumenical Food Pantry, the volunteers who serve meals to the homeless at Helping Hands Ministries or cleanup our portion of Progress Avenue.

But, there is more so easily missed- those who extend a welcome to new visitors or members, those who drop off a casserole or deliver flowers to the aged or sick, the members of our prayer chain and all those who prepare a casserole or dessert for a grieving family following a funeral.

While some congregations have difficulty identifying their mission, I don't have time enough to articulate it. One thing that may escape your notice is that our congregation, for over thirty years, has not only supported Cathy and I in our ministry, but has encouraged us to care for our neighbors and friends beyond our ministry to the congregation. For this we are grateful, as it represents the hope that most pastors have to be set free to be pastors wherever and whenever there is a need.

During this season as light returns to planet earth and the Light of Christ shines in earnest above and among us, we are grateful!

Blessings!

Pastor Richard

### Our Stewardship of Time and Treasure

| Date | Sat 5 PM | Sun 8:30 | SCS Att | Sun 11 | Offering |
|------|----------|----------|---------|--------|----------|
| 1/5  | 80       | 60       | 65      | 139    | \$11,899 |
| 1/12 | 71       | 89       | 76      | 137    | \$12,173 |
| 1/19 | snow!    | 64       | 63      | 200    | \$ 6,812 |

## **Thanks To**

Leslie Longo for encouraging our contributions to Hanna Pantry through her Faith Story!

Lisa Barry for organizing our Faith Stories on behalf of the Stewardship Committee!

Sandy Brandt for preparing End of Year Giving Statements for distribution!

Jacki McElhatten for delivering Altar Flowers!

Dave Miller for installing the new TV monitor in the large Fellowship Hall Classroom!

Luke Grumbine and Dave Miller for preparing the photo show "This is Your Life, Sue Grumbine!"

Jane Seidel and the Fellowship Committee for their hard work preparing and serving the Anniversary Pasta Dinner! Dale Warner for preparing the lasagna and Sandy Wood for preparing the marinara sauce!

Cub Pack 77 for setting up tables and chairs for the Anniversary Dinner!

All our Assisting Ministers!

The members of the Intern Advisory Committee- Teri Henning, Dennis Engle and Renee Smith!

Our Saturday night accompanists!

Jim Sommer for more property repairs!

Bruce Chapin for repairing one of our sanctuary chairs!

Jordan Williams and Kristen Mam for coming to the rescue with the Praise Band during Neil's hospitalization!

## **Thanks to TLC**

Thank you for your recent gift to Bethesda Mission. Your support is a crucial part of what sustains the Mission and impacts the lives of men, women, and children every day. Your gifts and prayers are truly appreciated, and we look forward to your continued support. Blessings, Scott Dunwoody, Executive Director, Bethesda Mission

Thank you for your contributions and hope We can continue to rely on your support in the new year. With gratitude, Vernon Rudy, Director, Silence of Mary Home

Thanks for your donation of gift cards for Carolyn's House. Your gifts help give our patients some of the comforts of home. We greatly appreciate your thoughtfulness. Thanks again for your support of our mission and the patients and families we serve. Sincerely, Elizabeth Mihmet, Chief Development Officer, Hospice of Central PA.

Dog T.A.G.S. would like to thank you for your donation. We can't thank express how much your financial support means to our program and our Veterans. John Salvadia, President Dog T.A.G.S. Program, Veteran Service Dog Training

Thank you for your participating in our Christmas adoption again this year. Our guests felt very blessed receiving all the wonderful gifts. Thanks again for helping us serve others. Bethesda Womens and Children's Mission

Thank you for supporting our Holiday HELP-A-Family program. Our HELP Ministries staff selects families that they have worked with throughout the year. Thank you for loving your neighbor and sharing the spirit of Christmas with these families and their children. Darrel Reinford, Executive Director, Christian Churches United

### **Social Ministry Request**

Do you crochet and have some spare time? If you answered yes, please consider crocheting prayer shawls for our Social Ministry Committee to distribute to anyone in need. Please contact Debbie Clark by email [dmyersclark@gmail.com](mailto:dmyersclark@gmail.com) or by phone 717-608-2847 leave a message or text.

### **Pet Ministry Request**

The Pet Ministry will be collecting items for the "2nd Chance 4 Life" animal rescue for the month of February. This group's mission is to provide loving and safe homes for homeless and abandoned dogs while encouraging responsible dog ownership. Items needed include: Canned food, Squeak toys, Dog beds, Bleach, Ammonia, Laundry pods, Clorox wipes, Amazon gift cards, Giant gift cards. Items can be placed in the designated box in the narthex.

### **Bread Schedule**

We are looking for more people to participate in our weekly bread baking. We do this on a rotating basis. You can either bake the bread or purchase it (2 loaves per week). If you are interested in helping us, please sign up on the narthex table or call the office at 717-238-8733 or email at [office@tree-of-life.us](mailto:office@tree-of-life.us).

### **Thank You**

Dear Pastor Geib and Tree of Life congregation:

Thank you for the best wishes and gift cards, pens (to write more checks) and candies to celebrate my service as treasurer of Tree of Life. I was really surprised. The video of my life was a touching tribute. I really enjoyed looking back on the many important points in my life. My family and the Tree of Life Family are very important to me. Thanks so much for everything. Blessing to all, Love, Sue Grumbine.

### **Pastor Geib**

I wanted to send a quick note to let you know that we received the generous check to support camping efforts for Pack 77. We already have several Scouts interested in Summer camp as well as our Spring Family camp, so the funds will undoubtedly be put to good use. As always, we are grateful to you and the Tree of Life staff for all of your assistance through the year. On behalf of Pack 77, thank you. Stephanie B. Teitelbaum

### **Free**

Crib, Changing table and play platform. Tree of Life nursery has a changing table, full size crib and a wooden play platform covered with green felt that need a FREE home. If you could use any of these items please contact Jill McPherson 717-576-4947 to arrange pick up. The items are marked with a tag that says FREE if you want to check them out.

### **Manna Food Pantry**

Manna Food Pantry supplies food, clothing and personal care items to anyone who is low income or in poverty in three areas of Harrisburg. They are in need of canned vegetables and fruits (no glass containers) such as corn, green beans, carrots, sauerkraut, red beets, tomato puree, paste, or sauce, or any type of fruit. Please put the items into the Date Crate box in the Narthex under the bulletin board. Thank you for your generosity.

## **VBS 2020**

VBS 2020 will be here in a flash. June 8-12, 9-noon. We are reprising *Marketplace AD 29*, or if you prefer CE 29! for the first time in 18 years. Nathaniel the Disreputable Camel Trader will be back...and he is sneakier and shiftier than ever! And he's older than dirt. The twelve tribes of Israel will wander the marketplace for games, and crafting, and singing and dancing, storytelling, and of course, feasting on the fare of the Marketplace cooks. There will be a carpenter, maybe basket weavers, claymakers, and sightings of the disciples of Jesus. All of this will happen June 8-12, 9-noon. **WE NEED LOTS OF HELP! LOOK FOR SIGN-up sheets soon. WE NEED ADULT AND YOUTH HELPERS, AND WILL HAVE REGISTRATION FORMS FOR KIDS, age 2- Grade 5. LET THE GAMES BEGIN!!!!!!**

|                     |                    |  |                             |
|---------------------|--------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Council President   | Aimee Brough       | aimbrough@yahoo.com  | 717-580-9226                |
| Vice President      | Ali Deibert        | allisonlcassel@gmail.com   | 717-903-3453                |
| Treasurer           | Sue Grumbine       | segrumbine@comcast.net   | 717-236-4406                |
| Secretary           | Eric Gregerson     | <a href="mailto:ergregerson@verizon.net">ergregerson@verizon.net</a> | 717-448-6180                |
| Arts                | Ellen Miller       | 717-652-4364   | ellen@themillerhome.com     |
| Christian Education | Christie Esworthy  | 717-903-6486   | christie.esworthy@gmail.com |
|                     | Anne Atkinson      | 717-215-1742   | minceylee27@aol.com         |
|                     | Jolene Leisure     | 717-682-2329   | jolegood@hotmail.com        |
| Fellowship          | Matt & Jane Seidel | 717-234-0124   | jshapi5@verizon.net         |
| Finance             | Dale Kirkhoff      | 717-982-3071   | bkirkhoff@aol.com           |
| I.T.                | Dave Miller        | 717-652-4364   | dave@themillerhome.com      |
| Memorial            | Kay Herre          | 717-226-3140   | raff4evr@verizon.net        |
| Mutual Ministry     | Mark Wood          | 717-652-1856   | mrwood060@gmail.com         |
| Property            | Jim Sommer         | 717-514-2561   | jfsommer13@gmail.com        |
|                     | Randy McPherson    | 717-545-1055   | vettesa78@verizon.net       |
| Stewardship         | Marla Hansen       | 717-697-8323   | mjghansen@gmail.com         |
| Social Ministry     | Debbie Clark       | 717-482-8978   | dmyersclark@gmail.com       |
| Worship             | Demetrius Glass    | 717-829-4161   | DeGlass@icloud.com          |
| Youth               | Linda Romanak      | 717-919-7653   | jroma101@comcast.net        |

### *Mission Statement*

Welcome in love to Tree of Life Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America! We Affirm that we are a community called and empowered by God through Word and Sacrament. We Believe that Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, sends us into the world to share God's love through our words and actions. Though we are a community shaped by diverse traditions, we affirm one Lord, who is revealed as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and one Faith, that brings all peoples together. We Commit ourselves to a life of worship, service, fellowship, education and witness in this place, in the world, and to each other. To this purpose we pledge our time, talent, and treasure, and invite all persons to share in the growth of the Christian ministry of Tree of Life Lutheran Church.