



THE EVANGEL

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

Temple Lutheran Church

Winter 2024

Worshippers Fill Temple Lutheran Church for Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Temple Lutheran Church's Christmas Eve service has always been an oasis of sanctity and serenity, and this year's did not disappoint. Starting with a pre-service presentation of instrumental and choir music and ending with a darkened church bursting into the collective candlelight of the packed congregation, the service was a chance to reflect, breathe deeply, and let the nagging thoughts of unfinished Christmas preparations go for a time. If you can't get into the true Christmas spirit in this environment, then you truly are a grinch.



Members of the Handbell Choir ring out a carol during the Christmas Eve musical celebration.

Pastor Tim's sermon focused us on the sacredness of the celebration and yet acknowledged our humanness and tendency to falter. He reminded us, as he often does, of how much God loves us: so much so, that God was willing to "put on human skin" and come to earth in body to be with us.

Thanks to Pastor Tim and the music ministry for all their preparation, talent and hard work.

Director of Music Ministries: Florrie Marks (Music Director, Organist, Pianist, Guitarist)

Handbell Choir: Kyle Barger, Susan Best, Beatrix Lay, Florrie Marks, Darcy Mannion, Maureen O'Ryan, Lynn Santo Domingo

Festival Choir: Susan Best, Sarah Foss, Nikita Johnson, Bridget McCormack, Maureen O'Ryan, Larry Passmore

Cantors: Sarah Foss, Amanda Quillen

Soloist: Amanda Quillen

Videographers: Kyle Barger, Brian Lay, Declan Mannion



The Festival Choir (diminished by illness) sings "The Peace Carol."

Join us for Worship
Sunday School 9 a.m.

In-Person Worship,
Live Streamed
at 10:00 a.m.

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“T’was the Night Before Christmas”: TLC Kids Shine Brightly

By Jeanne Daniels

Temple Lutheran’s recent Christmas pageant was a musical play entitled “T’was the Night Before Christmas,” which included the songs: “Teeny Tiny Town,” “You Are the Lamb of God,” “The Best Present of All,” and “Happy Birthday, Jesus.”

The play began with the first verse of the poem, “and not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.” Just then two mice spun around, dressed in aprons, stirring bowls of Christmas cookie dough and exclaimed that the poem was filled with mistakes. In fact, the mice were stirring most of the night and baking cookies. Looking for a better written account of the night with fewer mistakes, the play then explored the true meaning of Christmas through a poem entitled, “T’was the Night Before Christ’s Birth.” To depict the poem, the children were dressed in nativity costumes and acted out the Christmas story while the poem was read.

After the pageant and worship service, the children enjoyed cookies and juice, and the rest of the congregation joined them, remarking how much they enjoyed the children’s play and feeling in their hearts the true meaning of the season.



TLC kids present “T’was the Night Before Christmas.”

Girl Scouts Serve on MLK Day

On Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in January, Girl Scout Troop 5488 gathered at Temple Lutheran to participate in a day of service in the true spirit of the holiday. Twenty-two second-grade Brownies who attend Chatham Park Elementary School and their families joined together to make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for a local shelter, assemble 25 bags of hope containing toiletries and “feel good” items for Fostering Hope PA /Delco, and create cards for sick children in hospitals.

Many thanks to leaders Amy Mescia and Charlotte McCracken, all the Brownies, and all the helpers. What a testament to the memory of Dr. King and TLC’s mission of living generously!



Girl Scouts and their families prepare sandwiches for a local shelter on Martin Luther King, Jr. day of service.

Lily Walker Shares Her Story

On New Year’s Eve TLC celebrated “Breakfast Church” worship featuring a special speaker, Lily Walker of Havertown. Lily is presently in remission from cancer, and she credits her healing and recovery to the prayers and support of her community. (The green porch lights and lampposts seen throughout Havertown represent this support.) Amid hymns, prayers, liturgical readings and yummy breakfast food, Lily’s story of faith and gratitude fostered hope for the new year ahead.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Temple Lutheran’s January blood drive was the third drive sponsored by Temple within the past year, and it did not disappoint. Fifty-one donors provided 52 units of blood. Six percent of these donors were first-timers.

The Red Cross is experiencing a shortage of volunteers, so Larry Passmore and Kristy Burko, who head up and organize the drive on Temple’s end, will be trained by the Red Cross so that they can fill in at the check-in station if a Red Cross volunteer is not available. Many thanks to both of them for the time and efforts they put into this life-saving event.

The next drive at TLC is on Wednesday, April 24, with slots available from 2:30 to 7:15. Regular donors from the last drive will be eligible to donate. Scan or click the QR code to sign up.



Scan to schedule an appointment.

Welcome, Ky'Heir

Ky'Heir Kaysen Kion Clarke was baptized on Souper Bowl Sunday.



Ky'Heir's parents are Kyche'le Clarke and Michael Smith. God bless you, Ky'Heir!

Annual Meeting

At TLC's recent annual meeting, improvements were voted on, the budget was passed, and council members were approved. Welcome to new council member Phil Earley (shown below with baby James), and many thanks to outgoing council members Tom Gasper and Despina Kontos. Amanda Quillen is stepping



down from president to vice-president, and Dave Nichols will take over as president.

Mardi Gras TL4C Fundraiser

Thank you to all who donated and/or came to the youth group Mardi Gras Fundraiser. It was wonderful to see so many supporters and a good time was had by all! Special thanks to the workers at JD McGillicuddy's! Friendly and helpful all night! \$2,140 was raised! Some of the businesses who generously donated to the raffles are:

Carl's Cards & Collectibles, Bravo Pizza, Havertown Pizza, Headlines by Renee, Little Flower, Cathy's Half Price Books, Erica Deuschle and Co. Real Estate, Learning Express, Centrella's Deli, JD McGillicuddy's, Manoa Beverage, Plant Roots, The St. Jude Shop, Stretch Funeral Home, and Sweets on Darby

TLC Celebrates Scout Sunday

Temple Lutheran Church celebrated its annual Scout Sunday in February with a worship service attended by Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts from TLC and the surrounding community. Pastor Tim, who is a scout leader and an Eagle Scout, compared the scout laws and promises to God's commandments. Scouts led the prayers and shared the ways they are helping to make their communities better for everyone.

After the service s'mores and other goodies were available outside, and scouts along with their families and fellow churchgoers gathered around the campfires (fire pits) to enjoy the delicious treats and catch up with one another.



TLC Scouts lead the prayers during worship on Scout Sunday.

Souper Bowl Sunday Promotes Relief of World Hunger

Each year in February TLC directs its attention to the Souper Bowl. Yes, the SOUPER Bowl, not the SUPER Bowl. (Though many are also focused on the latter.) During worship large pots are set up labeled with the teams who are playing the NFL Super Bowl, and those attending worship are encouraged to place donations to alleviate world hunger into the pot of their chosen team. Missing this year, of course, were the Eagles, so fans had to decide between rooting for the Kansas City Chiefs or the San Francisco 49ers. Ah, but this year a third choice was presented: the ever-popular and much loved Taylor Swift!



Soup lovers enjoy soup and fellowship at TLC on Souper Bowl Sunday.

Following worship, a soup lunch was served in Fellowship Hall. Ten soups, homemade by Pastor Tim and other mission partners filled the room with delicious aromas. Worshippers, including a family with a newly baptized baby, shared a warm, hearty meal and good fellowship. The results of the Souper Bowl competition were announced:

The Chiefs \$336, the 49ers \$70, and Taylor Swift \$252, for a total of \$658 donated to ELCA World Hunger. Thank you to those who made soup, ate soup, and donated to this cause. As for the Eagles, there's always next year!



UPCOMING EVENTS



- Saturday
March 23
1-2:30 PM** **TLC Food Pantry Service Day**
Servants Welcome!
- March 24** **Palm Sunday**
- March 28, 29
7 PM** **Holy Week**
Maundy Thursday and Good
Friday services
- Saturday
March 30
10 AM** **Easter Egg Hunt**
All are welcome! Rain or shine
- Sunday
March 31** **Easter Sunday**
6 AM, 8:30 AM, 10 AM
(10 AM will be livestreamed)



- Saturday
April 6
7:00 PM** **Temple's Taste of Italy**
See announcements below
and flyer on page 3
- Monday
April 8
7:00 PM** **TLC Book Club**
See announcements below
- Saturday
April 27
1-2:30 PM** **TLC Food Pantry**
Servants Welcome!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rachel Held Evans

Book Club Meeting

FAITH
UNRAVELED

FAITH UNRAVELED: How a Girl
Who Knew All the Answers
Learned to Ask Questions

By Rachel Held Evans

Please join us in-person or on zoom on
Monday, April 8 at 7:00 PM for great
discussion and fellowship. Even if you
haven't read the book, you are very
welcome to join!

Easter Flowers

Order your Easter flowers and help to
beautify the sanctuary on Easter! Tulips
and Daffodils \$7, Azaleas \$10, Easter Lilies
\$9. Order [online](#) or by bulletin insert.
Remember to make a note of who they are
in honor, celebration, or memory of.

Lenten Generosity

We will be fortifying our microloan fund to
provide loans to more people in more
countries and territories. See your bulletin
insert for more information or go to [https://
www.templelutheran.org/microloanfund](https://www.templelutheran.org/microloanfund).

Taste of Italy

In memory of Wendy Long, who
spearheaded the dinner for many years.
Saturday, April 6. See flyer on page 3.
Please reach out to Rob Mannix, our
Director of Discipleship, to help.

Music Ministries

Do you like to sing, play handbells, play
instruments? Please contact our Director of
Music Ministries, Florrie Marks at
music@templelutheran.org.

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
www.templelutheran.org