

Trinity Tidings

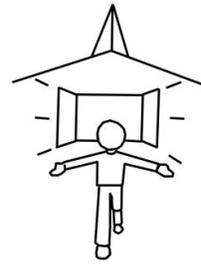
*The Episcopal Church serving
Hancock County, Ohio...and beyond*

Trinity Episcopal Church
128 West Hardin Street
Findlay, Ohio 45840

December



2019



OUTREACH

As always, we have our ongoing collection of non-perishable food and taxable items for local charitable agencies: especially needed are **larger-size diapers, socks, personal hygiene items, toilet paper, laundry detergent, soap, shampoo, and body wash.** Get in the habit of picking something up whenever you're at the grocery store! It's easy!

Because of the many exciting events and activities going on around the parish this month we won't be having an outreach "field trip" for December, but do be ready to participate in another single-day service project in January!

We are now collecting children's and men's sizes of warm mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves for the **Mitten Tree** in the parish hall, and playing cards, puzzle books, DVDs, novels, homemade or store-bought snacks, toiletries, blank stationery, and (filled-out!) Christmas cards for *Motor Vessel Findlay*, the river vessel we sponsor through **Seamen's Church Institute.** And we are adopting three families through **Cancer Patient Services**, for whom we'll shop for gifts. Please give generously, and feel free to volunteer if you'd like to help by donating funds or with the shopping, wrapping, or delivering of the presents for the aforementioned families.

If you have questions about any of those service opportunities or if you want to get involved, contact Annie Stricklin, 870-307-9058, stricklina@gmail.com

CSG

You never know when you might meet...

CSG, along with all Trinity, is so looking forward to the renovated kitchen; work is expected to be complete shortly after this issue of Tidings is published. CSG members, The Kitchenettes (so named by Karen Eubanks) along with willing parishioners will help put the kitchen back together in time for Bishop Williams' visit and Confirmations/Reception (December 8). Please join us in this endeavor on **Thursday, December 5, 1:00 p.m.** On the **8th**, a very special coffee hour will be held, inaugurating the new kitchen and celebrating Bishop and Mrs. Williams and those Confirmed and Received.

It's that time of year again: finals at most universities! Please note the sign-up sheet on the Parish Bulletin Board. Sign up your college student noting name, address, and when exams are to begin. The last column on said sheet will be for volunteers to 'adopt' each student, sending a box of snacks to help them get through the ordeal!

Trinity has a new arrival: Jameson Blevins, son of Zachariah and Kristen, brother of Caroline. CSG is planning a baby shower for Jameson in the new year. More information will follow.

Given the Bishop's visit and a baby shower (not to mention intervening coffee hours), the kitchen will be in use. However, to make it "official" a blessing of the kitchen followed by a party will be held in January. Tentative date: Saturday, January 11. Stay tuned.

Ginny Lee Pilstl, Chair

...Christ in a stranger's guise.

PRAYER FOR DECEMBER

Lord Jesus, in Advent we look forward to your coming as a baby in a manger, but also to your coming again in glory as judge of all. As we prepare to welcome you, help us to live in the light of your coming and give us a longing for your kingdom. Open our eyes to those around us who are in need, especially children and people in our midst but ignored or unseen. Thank you, Lord, that you see them and love them, and encourage all those who seek to help them. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.





THE RECTOR WRITES...

Advent is a peculiar season of the church, not only because it places us on a very different time-line from the prevailing culture (which starts celebrating Christmas even before Advent begins), but because we also seem to be a bit mixed up about it within the church. Take the following reflection from the great Episcopal priest, Fleming Rutledge - arguably our church's best preacher - who published a series of her Advent sermons last year under the title *Advent: The Once and Future Coming of Jesus Christ*:

I have personally been present when new names for the candles of the Four Sundays of Advent have been proposed along the lines of Peace, Joy, Love, and Hope. This presents quite a contrast with the medieval Advent themes of death, judgment, heaven, and hell - in that order!

While many of us have lamented the loss of a fulsome Advent to the ever-encroaching secular celebration of Christmas in the larger culture, perhaps we'd do well to notice the beam in our own eye.

Like Lent, Advent is a penitential season, and perhaps the repentance it calls us to is even greater than those forty days before Easter. It is certainly a more uncomfortable sort of repentance, because while Lent calls us constantly to acknowledge our personal faults, Advent seems to focus more on the degree to which our social order and all of creation is beset by manifold sins. This is because the season places our current world into stark contrast with the Kingdom of God, whose coming we are called to acknowledge over and over again in this season.

This season calls on us to prepare for the coming of the Christ Child but also for the coming of Christ again at the end of time, and it calls us to remember that even that first coming was not a sweet sentiment but an earth-shaking realignment of all creation in preparation for the victory of God over sin and death and the establishment of a new order whose own birth-pangs may be unpleasant but which ultimately results in justice and peace for ever.

This reality is beautifully expressed in the poem "Advent Calendar" by the former Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams with which I will close this month's missive. I encourage you to meditate on its discomfiting beauty and the Good News its sometimes shocking language both obscures and illuminates:

He will come like last leaf's fall.

One night when the November wind
has flayed the trees to bone, and earth
wakes choking on the mould,
the soft shroud's folding.

He will come like frost.

One morning when the shrinking earth
opens on mist, to find itself
arrested in the net
of alien, sword-set beauty.

He will come like dark.

One evening when the bursting red
December sun draws up the sheet
and penny-masks its eye to yield
the star-snowed fields of sky.

He will come, will come,
will come like crying in the night,
like blood, like breaking,
as the earth writhes to toss him free.

He will come like child.

Yours in service to the Gospel,
John†

MUSIC NOTES



The choir is preparing for the season of Christmas. We'd love to have new voices join us. We meet in the choir room each Thursday at 6 p.m.

SECOND SUNDAY SERIES

The collection of worship services and one concert continues. These events include an Advent Evensong service, a January Taizé service, a concert, and a Lenten Evensong. The purpose of the Series is to share God's great gifts of music with the congregation and community for inspiration and renewal of the spirit.

We hope you will all want to be a part of this wonderful new undertaking. The events start at 5:00 p.m. are free and open to the public with refreshments and fellowship following.

If you would like to provide refreshments, please sign up!

SECOND SUNDAY SERIES DATES AND EVENTS

December 8, 2019 - Choral Evensong

January 12, 2020 – Taizé Service

February 9, 2020 – Concert (Susan Barker and Friends)

March 8, 2020 - Choral Evensong

QUILT RAFFLE

A lovely handmade lap quilt has been donated to Trinity. We will hold a raffle for the benefit of the church.

Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20.

The drawing will be held on Sunday, December 22nd – so it may be used as a Christmas gift!

The quilt is on display in the parish hall (and pictured here). If you are interested, just complete the contact information on tickets and place the ticket(s) and money in the envelope provided.



Trinity Tidings

THE NEW TRINITY DIRECTORY in process will include PHOTOS of the Trinity family. Holly Rife and Kim Grove are capturing all the smiles during coffee hours. We hope everyone will spend a moment and get a picture taken and to submit or update your family's information on a directory update form. Dress as you wish and smile!

Also included in this directory is a section for 'Friends of Trinity' and will feature members who have relocated and those who visit often or in some way connect with and support Trinity. Any who would like to be included may submit a photo and up-to-date information for your family.

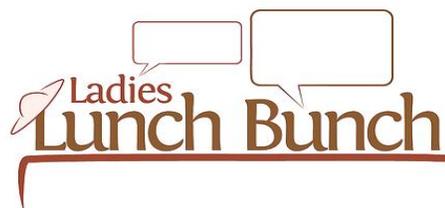
If there are any questions, please contact the office (419-422-3214 or trinfin@att.net). THANKS!!

TRINITY VESTRY 2019

Ginny Lee Pilstl	Sr. Warden
Sue Ann Sandusky	Jr. Warden
Holly Rife	Clerk
Peg Dailey	Treasurer
Nancy Abbey	
Deborah Bartlett	
Julie Boucher	
Mary Brater	
Mel Proctor	
Will Slater	

Worship Reminder

The organ prelude and postlude are acts of prayer through music. Please strive to maintain a holy silence as you enter and exit and consider remaining for the postlude.



Help debunk an ancient superstition. Join Trinity's Lunch Bunch for our joyous Christmas celebration at Mancy's in the Hancock Hotel at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, December 13. Deadline for reservations is Wednesday, December 11 but early reservations would be appreciated. Please contact Ginny Lee Pilstl or Joanne McPherson to attend.

KROGER REWARDS

TWENTY-NINE TRINITY FAMILIES EARNED \$93.40 THROUGH KROGER'S COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM during the past quarter! PLEASE BE SURE TO KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP UP-TO-DATE! OR...if you have not yet signed-up, consider doing so.

This program in no way affects your personal Kroger Rewards – sales, fuel points, etc. If you would like assistance to sign up or renew please contact Deborah. You may go on-line to Kroger.com to enroll.

Trinity Tidings

The next parish breakfast is at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 14th. It is not too early to let us know if you plan to attend!



BE THE FIRST to host breakfast in the new kitchen. December 14th is the scheduled meal – which is still available to host. The sign-up sheet for 2020 breakfast hosts/cooks is on the bulletin board. No one need do it alone – a group or several families may share!



ITEMS FOR THE JANUARY TIDINGS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20TH. THANK YOU!

Trinity is in need of help – from mid-January through March, you have the opportunity to share your skills by keeping the church in good order. If you are willing to take on custodial duties for a week or more, (doesn't have to be consecutive – you create your own schedule), please sign up! THANK YOU!

LOOKING FOR A GIFT OR A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR YOURSELF? Handmade purses have been donated and are available in the parish hall. They make great gifts and stocking stuffers. All are fully lined, washable, with zipper closure and come in a wide variety of colors and patterns for \$10 each. All proceeds benefit Trinity.



WHERE DO YOU FIT??

Everyone has special gifts – share yours with your church! Please consider lending your talents to a committee in an area of interest or skill. Just contact a committee or vestry member to join.



COFFEE CORNER



December
1st - Sue Ann Sandusky
8th - Lisa Robeson/Vestry (Reception)
15th -
22nd - Annie Stricklin
29th - Jan Taylor

THERE ARE OPENINGS FOR HOSTS!

Please consider adding your name to the 2020 sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. You don't have to do it alone – several families or a group may host together and it may be as simple as making the coffee and bringing packaged cookies!

THANK YOU for the donations of coffee and decaf!

WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

We all need a little prayer and Trinity provides a prayer list each week in the bulletin for those who could use some extra. Would you please take a moment to review that prayer list and help us keep it up-to-date?

If there are names which should be removed, let Deborah know. If there is someone on your heart, we can add that person. Thank you!

Trinity Tidings

KEEPING IN TOUCH

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

02 – Elijah Parkins
 04 – Peg Dailey
 06 – Neil Bartlett, Sam Boucher
 10 – Diane Ellerbe
 14 – Rita Roberts, Sarah Leroy
 17 – Holly Rife
 23 – Rhett Grant, Marilyn Russell
 27 – Kristen Blevins, Ruth Bryant



PERSONAL NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR AND ABOUT THE TRINITY FAMILY. IF YOU HAVE ITEMS OF INTEREST TO SHARE, (BIRTHS, ENGAGEMENTS, GRADUATIONS, HONORS, AWARDS, WEDDINGS, PERFORMANCES, ACHIEVEMENTS, ACTIVITIES, ETC.) PLEASE SUBMIT THEM BY THE 3rd WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH FOR THE NEXT PUBLICATION. Thanks

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

15 – Ardie & Joe Shea
 30 – Joe & Julie Boucher
 31 – Karen & Dave Eubanks



If ever there is a name omitted from one of these lists, or if a date is incorrect, please contact the church office with the information. Thanks!

The 2020 sign-up sheet for Sunday flowers is on the bulletin board in the parish hall.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Jameson Lon-Charles joined parents Zachariah and Kristen and big sister Caroline Blevins in November (a little early but doing fine!).



SUNDAY FLOWERS

Please let Deborah know by noon on Wednesday of that week what you would like printed in the bulletin for your gift of flowers. E-mail to trinfin@att.net or call 419-422-3214. When providing flowers from a florist they should be delivered to the church between 9 a.m. and noon on Friday. Thanks!



ADVENT EVENSONG

As part of our new Second Sunday Series, the first Evensong will take place on Sunday, December 8th. Please join us at 5:00 p.m. for the choral service followed by food and fellowship.

Since the late middle ages "evensong" has been the popular name for vespers (from the Latin vesperis, "evening"), the Evening Office of the western church. Cranmer used it in the 1549 BCP. Although in 1552 he replaced it with "Evening Prayer," the common name remains "evensong." In many Anglican cathedrals and other large churches, especially in England, evensong is sung by clergy and choir as a choral liturgy.

If you have been with us in the past, we encourage you to come again; if you have never attended Evensong, come on December 8th and give it a try - we hope you will find the experience most worthwhile.

Capital Campaign Projects Update KITCHEN REMODEL UPDATE

We will have a gorgeous new kitchen in time for Advent and the Bishop's visit! On Thursday, December 5th at 1 p.m. we will meet to clean and restore the kitchen to usable condition. Dishes, silverware, and kitchenware will be washed and put away and finishing touches added. Please join us!



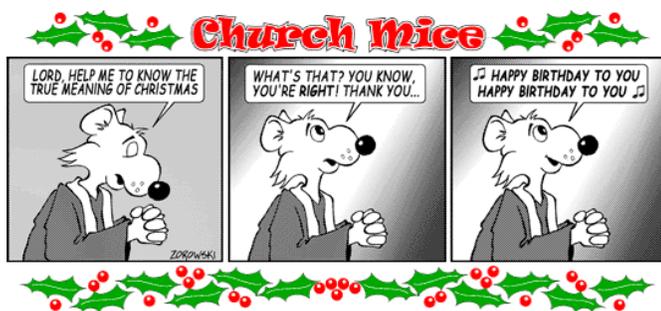
CHRISTMAS WEEK SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday, December 22 - 8:30 & 9:30 Holy Eucharist,
Hanging of the Greens

Tuesday, December 24 - 7 p.m. Traditional Carols
7:30 Holy Eucharist w/ Candlelight service

Wednesday, December 25 - 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sunday, December 29 - 8:30 Holy Eucharist
9:30 Lessons and Carols



SERVERS

If you would like to become an usher, gift bearer, greeter, acolyte/server, reader, commentator, and/or chalice bearer for services at Trinity, please let Fr. John or Deborah know. Thank you!

TRULY KEEPING IN TOUCH...

Some parishioners not able to attend services, or attend regularly, would enjoy calls or cards from the rest of us, and visits especially from people who know them. Others have moved – so this is an update on their contact information:

- Marilyn Russell - P.O. Box 061600, Palm Bay, FL 32906-1600
- Romelle Aldrich - 83 Harwood Road, Monroe, NJ 08831
- John and Paula Wolper - 2248 Dominion Drive, Fort Mitchell, KY 41017
- Dave & Peg Bell – 779 Tupper Street, Brockville, Ontario, Canada K6V6A1
- Leah Richardson – 2510 Locksley Street, Sun City Center, FL 33573
- Mary Parks – 750 W. Eisenhower Parkway, Apt. A5, Ann Arbor, MI 48103
- Catherine Albrecht & Michael Romary - PO Box 161, Grand Marais, MI 49839
- Mark & Kathy Creighton - 7829 Wilton Crescent Circle, University Park, FL 34201
- Keli Trudeau – 63319 1710 E. 15th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97403-2264
- Richard Willson – 8580 TR 237, Apt. 132, Primrose Village, Findlay, OH 45840
- Chris's information is posted on the bulletin board in the parish hall.



EVENT CALENDAR



DECEMBER 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
DEC 1 1 st Sunday of Advent 8:30 Holy Eucharist 9:30 Holy Eucharist Coffee hour 11:15 Christian Ed.	DEC 2 8 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:15 Bible study	DEC 3 8 a.m. Morning Prayer	DEC 4 8 a.m. Morning Prayer Noon Eucharist	DEC 5 8 a.m. Morning Prayer 1 p.m. Kitchen restore 6 p.m. Choir	DEC 6	DEC 7
DEC 8 2 nd Sunday of Advent Bishop's visit 9:30 combined Holy Eucharist w/ Confirmations/Reception Celebration coffee hour 5 p.m. Evensong	DEC 9 8 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:15 Bible study	DEC 10 8 a.m. Morning Prayer	DEC 11 8 a.m. Morning Prayer Noon Eucharist Lunch Bunch reservations due	DEC 12 8 a.m. Morning Prayer 6 p.m. Choir	DEC 13  11:30 Lunch Bunch @ Mancy's	DEC 14 8:30 a.m. Parish Breakfast 
DEC 15 3 rd Sunday of Advent 8:30 Holy Eucharist 9:30 Holy Eucharist Coffee hour 11:15 Christian Ed. 4 p.m. Birchaven	DEC 16 8 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:15 Bible study	DEC 17 8 a.m. Morning Prayer	DEC 18 8 a.m. Morning Prayer Noon Eucharist	DEC 19 8 a.m. Morning Prayer 6 p.m. Choir	DEC 20	DEC 21
DEC 22 4 th Sunday of Advent 8:30 Holy Eucharist 9:30 Holy Eucharist Coffee hour Hanging of the Greens Quilt raffle drawing	DEC 23 8 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:15 Bible study	DEC 24 8 a.m. Morning Prayer 7 p.m. Carols 7:30 Holy Eucharist w/Candlelight service	DEC 25 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist Merry Christmas! 	DEC 26 8 a.m. Morning Prayer NO Choir	DEC 27	DEC 28
DEC 29 8:30 Holy Eucharist 9:30 Lessons & Carols Coffee hour	DEC 30 NO Morning Prayer NO Bible study	DEC 31 NO Morning Prayer 				

December flower - Narcissus

December birthstone - Turquoise