



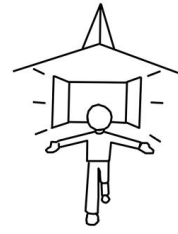
*The Episcopal Church serving  
Hancock County, Ohio...and beyond*

Trinity Episcopal Church  
128 West Hardin Street  
Findlay, Ohio 45840

The word "JANUARY" is rendered in large, white, 3D block letters. It is surrounded by a dense collection of blue snowflakes of various sizes and designs, creating a winter-themed graphic.

JANUARY

*2023*



## OUTREACH

### MANY THANKS!

Due to the generosity of Trinitarians, we were able to provide warm hats, scarves, and gloves and mittens for children and adults with donations to the Mitten Tree and gifts for the MV Findlay mariners through the Seamen's Church Institute for Christmas. We also adopted several families through Cancer Patient Services and filled their Christmas wish lists.



We will continue to collect hats, scarves, and gloves/mittens for all ages on the Mitten Tree during the cold weather.

And our on-going collection of non-perishable food and taxable hygiene products. Add these to your grocery list and bring them with you to church! If you would like to be involved or have questions, please contact Annie at 870-307-9058 or [stricklina@gmail.com](mailto:stricklina@gmail.com).



## CHRIST IN A STRANGER'S GUISE

***For you never know when you might meet...***

In December, CSG provided sustenance (delicious cookies) for those who decorated (and those who watched) the church for Christmas. We'll meet next after the 10 a.m. service on **Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>** with our major agenda item being planning for the upcoming Annual Meeting. Grab a cuppa and a friend and join us!

Ginny Lee Pilstl, Chair

***...Christ in a stranger's guise.***



## THE RECTOR WRITES

*And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless, the cold and the hungry, the abused, the exploited and the oppressed; the sick in body and in mind, and them that mourn; the isolated, the lonely, and the unloved; the elderly and the little children; all who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.*

Dear ones,

The words above, taken from the opening address of the Christmas Festival of Lessons and Carols, struck me as particularly apt this year. Every year in the lead-up to Christmas I am struck again by the generosity of our people. Our knitting guild and others who contribute to our Christmas at Sea ministry, those who give money to buy Christmas gifts for our Cancer Patient Services families, and those who provide warm clothing for our Mitten Tree always go above-and-beyond.

Another ministry which came together rather quickly—you might say “during the eleventh hour”—was opening up our parish hall as Findlay’s warming center to those who needed shelter from the extreme cold during the two days immediately prior to Christmas. Volunteers from the parish and the larger community, assistance from the city mission, and Karen Eubanks’ yeoman’s work in getting it organized meant that seventeen individuals were kept safe and relatively warm amidst some very dangerous conditions. We had a meeting with the director of the City Mission about a week later to debrief, and she said something which I might have considered in the back of my mind, but which had not really become “real” to me until I heard somebody else say it: “Your church literally saved lives.”

One thing of which I’m constantly aware is the fact that for us, as Christians, we do not do these things out of a secular ethic of “supporting human flourishing.” This isn’t to say that those who give of themselves to this end are not to be commended. However, to use some fancy philosophical jargon, a utilitarian or otherwise *consequentialist* approach to ethics is, for us, too prone to compromising principles and to the possibility of “moral luck” to be satisfying.

Neither do we do these things because we think we’re earning our way into heaven by being good. That approach misses the point of Christ’s sacrifice and salvation by grace through faith. This may not seem like a “big deal” so long as we’re doing all the right things, but experience shows that we’ll never be able to keep it up. Our inclination to sin is too strong for us to become perfect in this life, and if that were required, heaven would be a rather lonely place, indeed.

No, we do these things because it rejoices Christ’s heart of love. We do them because we might get a fleeting glimpse of the Kingdom which only he, our Lord, can bring about. We do them because it’s good for our souls, whether or not there are any temporal or eternal consequences of simply doing the right thing.

So, once again, I am grateful to all of you for giving our community and world a good example of Christian love. Perhaps it will bear fruit by encouraging others to do the same; perhaps it won’t, but that’s okay, because we’re not charged with solving all the world’s problems. We are, rather, charged with the obligation to be a light, however humble, illumining the love of God for all those whom He created. Thank you for being those lights, and do keep it up!

Yours in service to the Gospel,  
John†



# Trinity Tidings

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## MUSIC NOTES

Thanks to our Choir members and musicians who worked to bring beautiful music to Trinity on Christmas Eve.



The Altar Guild is welcoming new members. If you have been thinking about getting more involved at Trinity in a way that serves the church and all of its members, it's time to take a look at the Aggies.

Members of the St. Agnes Altar Guild care for the altar linens, set-up for communion and clean-up afterward, polish the silver and brass, change the hanging colors as needed, and

make sure everything is ready for Sunday morning. Wow! Sounds like a lot – but it actually doesn't take a lot of time to participate.

Members are usually scheduled one or two times per month, depending on the number of Altar Guild members. When you join, you'll be teamed with a current member for several months to learn what you need to by working side-by-side with that member on setting-up and clearing. Altar Guild members are always ready to help each other.

What does the Altar Guild do?

- Set-up for Sunday services on Friday or Saturday
- On Sundays at 9:30, clear from the 8:30 service and reset for the 10:00 service
- Candles are refilled and the small linens from the service are washed
- Two all-member cleaning mornings get the sanctuary ready for Easter and Christmas

The monthly schedule is flexible so we can accommodate members' preferences for when to serve and when they'll be away. If you'd like to learn more about the St. Agnes Altar Guild, please talk to Father John, Jan Taylor or Debbie Grove.

## VASES FOR FLOWERS

If you are signed up to do Sunday flowers but don't have the right kind of vase, check with the Altar Guild to borrow one. The Aggies maintain a collection of vases (various sizes) that are great for Sunday flower arrangements.

## LIBRARY

Did you know that Trinity has a lending and reference library in the parlor? We do! Take a look sometime. Here is a sampling of titles:

- Beyond Our Selves by Catherine Marshall
- The City of God by St. Augustine
- Tutu: Voice of the Voiceless by Du Boulay
- Sparks Among the Stubble: 7 Anglican Saints by Cropper
- Glorious Companions: Five Centuries of Anglican Spirituality by Schmidt
- Everyday Life in Old Testament Times by Heaton
- Living the Lord's Prayer by Simcox
- The Wisdom of the Desert by Merton
- A Book of Comfort by Goudge

## 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:

Michael McCoy - 350 E 1st Ave, Ajo, AZ 85321 (winter address)

Catherine Albrecht & Michael Romary - 1229 Turner Meadow Drive, Raleigh, NC 27603

Leah Richardson – Primrose Apartments, 3500 W. Elm, Apt. 234, Lima, OH 45807

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

Mary Parks – 750 W. Eisenhower Parkway, Apt. A5, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Beverly McCoy – 2911 West High Street, Lima, OH 45807



YOU MAY request to receive *Tidings* by e-mail. Just let Deborah know you would prefer this method rather than picking up your copy or having it sent to you in the mail. Please include your up-to-date e-mail address! You may call, e-mail (trinf@att.net), leave a note in the mailbox in the yellow room, or just stop in!

## SERVERS

At present, the liturgical schedule includes Lectors and Lay Eucharistic Ministers only – and they are greatly appreciated! As we 'normalize', all others in the services will be needed. If you would like to become an usher, gift bearer, greeter, acolyte/server, reader, and/or lay Eucharistic ministers for future services at Trinity, please let Fr. John or Deborah know.

Trinity is in need of help. 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!  
THANKS!



A gathering that was truly celebratory! That is how one of the attendees described December's lunch at The Empire in Tiffin. Delicious food and lively conversation was enjoyed by all. The group decided to stay closer to home in January and chose **Cheddars** as the restaurant. We'll meet there on Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. Please let Ginny Lee or Nancy O'Sullivan know by Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> if you can come. All are welcome!  
Ginny Lee Pilstl, Nancy O'Sullivan

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



## COFFEE CORNER



### January

1<sup>st</sup> – Potluck  
8<sup>th</sup> – Annie Stricklin  
15<sup>th</sup> –  
22<sup>nd</sup> – Annual Meeting  
29<sup>th</sup> –

### THERE ARE OPENINGS FOR HOSTS!

Please consider adding your name to the 2023 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

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## KEEPING IN TOUCH

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 3<sup>rd</sup> WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH FOR THE NEXT PUBLICATION.

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

06 – Gloria Wolph  
12 – Fr. John Drymon  
13 – Nancy Woodruff  
17 – John Masterson  
20 – Seth Richardson, Sue Ann Sandusky  
21 – Ginny Lee Pilstl  
23 – Jim Ellerbe  
30 – Megan & Brian Dailey



## JANUARY ANNIVERSARY

30 – Thomas & Deborah Brumley



THE OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED  
ON MONDAY, JANUARY 16<sup>th</sup> for  
MLK Jr. Day.

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

“For you know I have plans  
for you” says the Lord. “They  
are plans for good and not for  
disaster, to give you a future  
and a hope.”

Jeremiah 29:11

Dear Lord, I look forward to  
the good plans you have for  
my life this year. No  
matter what each day  
holds, I know all will  
be well because you  
are always with me.



## ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY *TIDINGS* SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY JANUARY 25<sup>th</sup>. THANKS!

### 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 your interest or skill. Just contact a committee or vestry member or attend a meeting to join.



## 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](mailto: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. **If you bring flowers in a vase and would like it returned, please** tape your name to the bottom so it doesn't find its way to Trinity's collection and eventual donation. Thanks.



CHURCHMAN'S  
ORDO  
—CHURCH YEAR GUIDE—

2023 CALENDARS ARE AVAILABLE IN  
THE PARISH HALL FOR \$7.  
PROCEEDS GO TO THE ALTAR GUILD.

### 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.*