

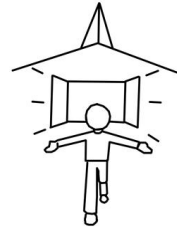
Trinity Tidings

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

Trinity Episcopal Church
128 West Hardin Street
Findlay, Ohio 45840

May 2025





OUTREACH

Our next monthly trip to help serve dinner at the City Mission will be on Saturday, May 24, from 4 - 6:30 p.m. Please consider joining us!

We are also planning a children's activity day (with pizza) at the parish on June 14. More details to follow (it will essentially be like a miniature, one-day Vacation Bible School), but for now we are looking for anyone who might be interested in helping out or in inviting any children in their family or neighborhood to attend: this event will be open to anyone! The activities will probably be geared to kids twelve and under, but older children can come and help run the program if they'd like. Please speak to Annie or Holly if you would like to get involved!

Our on-going collection for non-perishable food and taxable toiletries (toilet paper, diapers, sanitary items, cleaning and sanitizing products, shampoo, and soap) for area charities also continues. Baskets are in the parish hall or contact Annie, stricklina@gmail.com or 870-307-9058.

Don't throw away cards! Bring any greeting cards you've received that you would otherwise discard to Trinity and we will send them to St. Jude's Ranch for repurposing. They accept the fronts of cards (except for Hallmark, American Greetings, and Disney which are copyrighted) Also accepted are new cards (any occasion) with or without envelopes. (Please - no cards promoting other charitable organizations.)

CHRIST IN A STRANGER'S GUISE

For you never know when you might meet...

Holy Week brought our traditional Maundy Thursday repast after services. Nancy Abbey's delicious lentil soup was augmented by goodies from Tiger Bakery in Toledo (hummus, pita, dates, olives, and macaroons). Easter Brunch was again a delightful array of breads and fruit. CSG made the decision to "switch things up" this year and after consulting with Kelly Bryant Pelton the Flower Procession in memory of Tom and Sara Bryant was changed to an Easter egg hunt in their memory. Following the 10 a.m. service, eggs filled with jelly beans were hidden in the church and the library, each child received a bag and off they went. All 36 eggs were found!

On Sunday, April 27, those coming at 10 a.m. were in for a real treat. The Ohio Northern University Gospel Ensemble provided beautiful music throughout the service. Afterwards, Larry and Liz Funke served singers, parishioners and guests a bountiful lunch. Bags were given to the singers and director who was so delighted to also receive the altar flowers. Thank you to Larry for arranging their visit and to him and Liz for the coffee hour and most of all to the singers and their director for the beautiful and uplifting music. We hope this can become an annual affair.

Mark your calendars - on Sunday, June 1, CSG will host a lunch of hot dogs, sloppy joes, and root beer floats to kick off summer. We'll meet briefly on May 18 to make sure all plans are set. Grab a cuppa and a friend and join us!

Ginny Lee Pilstl, Chair

...Christ in a stranger's guise.



I write this month's column on May 1st, the Feast of Saints Philip and James. As among the more obscure of the twelve Apostles, neither of them even gets his own day! In fact, the reason they share a holiday is because their remains were translated together in the Sixth Century from Constantinople to Rome (an early example of the tension between the two Sees who would break fellowship with each other half-a-millennium later), but it is likely that if either had been more famous among the twelve, each may have still been commemorated separately.

I was struck in reading all of the lessons assigned for this day - both for Morning and Evening Prayer and for the Eucharist - that the New Testament lessons nearly exhaust the references to Philip. James, son of Alphaeus is nowhere to be found in the lessons! Indeed, there are many *Jameses* among the Apostles, and he is only mentioned in the lists of their names. He is certainly distinct from James, son of Zebedee and brother of John. Roman Catholics will generally identify the James in question with James "the brother of Our Lord" who went on to become the first bishop of Jerusalem, though I tend to think that this is a spurious claim. For reasons beyond the scope of this article.

In all events, it occurred to me how the relative obscurity of these two Apostles might be "a feature rather than a bug." I take comfort in knowing that even among the most famous group of early Christians we don't have much information beyond their names. The details really matter less than the one fact we do know - namely, that they were faithful to the last, whatever that might have looked like in practice. This isn't to say that the stories of the more famous Saints of church history aren't edifying and inspiring. They are! But the hundreds of millions of Christians whose stories we know nothing about, and whose very names are lost to us, are just as much daughters and sons of God, brothers and sisters of our Lord. Even those names we do not know are known to God, who knows each of us fully and loves each of us completely. So, perhaps we might all be inspired by this fact to be "obscure saints" in our own day, remembering that the only thing that really matters is not how the world may remember us, but how God regards us.

Yours in service to the Gospel,

John†

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MUSIC NOTES

Thank you to the choir for providing special music for the Easter Sunday service. Your hard work and dedication is appreciated. Thank you to Holly for accompanying us on Sunday and during rehearsals.

Thank you also to the children for their Easter music and to Holly for preparing and accompanying them and Liz for coaching them during their song. Barb Masterson

(And much appreciation to Barb Masterson for her leadership of the choir during the Easter season!)



LUNCH BUNCH

A small but hungry group enjoyed an April brunch at Toasted Yolk. While there, the conversation turned to Italian food and the decision was made to go to Preteroti's in May. Their Italian is authentic and the portions, generous.

Please join us and come hungry! Let Nancy O'Sullivan or Ginny Lee know by Wednesday, May 7th if you can come.

WHEN: Friday, May 9, 11:30 a.m. WHERE: Preteroti's Spaghetti House, 1331 N. Main, Findlay

Ginny Lee Pilstl

Nancy O'Sullivan

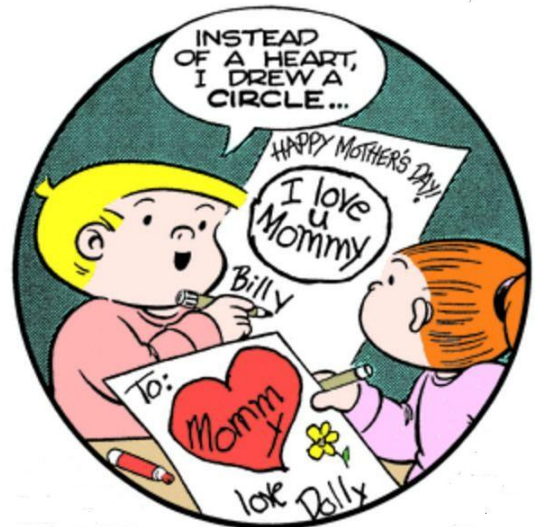


CHURCHMAN'S ORDO —CHURCH YEAR GUIDE—

2025 Kalendars are available in the parish hall for \$7 each with the proceeds going to the Altar Guild. Please place money in the envelope provided.



Sign-up sheets for 2025 Altar Flowers and Coffee Hours are on the bulletin board.



"A heart can be broken, but a circle goes on forever."

OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you didn't order offering envelopes and would like to have them, contact Deborah for numbered sets.

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, leave a note in the mailbox in the yellow room, e-mail (trinf128@gmail.com), or just stop in!

You may still complete your 2025 pledge card. If you need one, there are extras in the parish hall.

A Prayer for May

May you be happy.
May you stay healthy.
May you feel safe.
May you find comfort.
May you sense peace.
May you give love.
May you possess courage.
May you have faith.
May you spread joy.
May you be kind.



First quarter financial statements will soon be available. The figures are not yet final due to flux at the Diocesan level.

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SERVERS

OUR GREETERS ARE BACK! The liturgical schedule now includes Lectors, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, and Greeters – and they are greatly appreciated! Especially needed are lectors for 8:30 a.m. and LEMs for 10 a.m. If you would like to take part in future services at Trinity, please let Fr. John or Deborah know.

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



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!

ITEMS FOR JUNE *TIDINGS* SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY FRIDAY, MAY 23RD. THANKS!

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

Romelle Aldrich - 83 Harwood Road, Monroe, NJ 08831

Paula Wolper - 2248 Dominion Drive, Fort Mitchell, KY 41017

Dave & Peg Bell - 779 Tupper Street, Brockville, Ontario, Canada K6V6A1

Bob & Mary Brater - 300 Woodhaven Drive, #2309, Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

Marjorie Weaver - 4931 Nettleton, #7105, Medina, OH 44256

James Marquart - 116 Colle Manuel Domenech #2116, San Juan, PR 00918 USA



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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 3rd WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH FOR THE NEXT PUBLICATION.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

05 – Bob Brater, Ashley Kempher
 14 – Pat Hall
 15 – Cecilia Funke
 18 – Mary Joe McFarlane
 23 – Joanne McPherson
 28 – Darin Boyles
 29 – Jim Walter
 30 – Katie Boucher



NO MAY ANNIVERSARIES

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 info.

COFFEE CORNER



MAY

4th – Barb Masterson
 11th – Annie Stricklin
 18th –
 25th –

THERE ARE OPENINGS FOR HOSTS!

Please consider adding your name to the 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!

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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 trinfin128@gmail.com 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 into Trinity's collection and eventual donation. Thanks.



HELP WANTED

CSG in general (Nancy and Ginny Lee in particular) are looking to fill the open position of Assistant Setter Upper. Person hired would help with setting up any and all special coffee hours, funeral meals and any other occasion involving the use of Trinity's kitchen and Parish Hall.

SPECIFICATIONS:

Wears regular or large size clothing (no petites)

Is under the age of 75

Is a minimum of 5'10"

COMPENSATION:

Salary: 0

Benefits: Eternal

START DATE: June 1 (or sooner, should need arise)

Please submit resumes to Ginny Lee, Nancy Abbey, or the Church Office.



What's the Best Way to Help People Living in Poverty? Helping to Build Bridges

On March 22, Habitat for Humanity brought a great training seminar to Findlay: 'Bridges out of Poverty'. The trainers were from the Lucas County 'Getting Ahead Bridges Out of Poverty Initiative'. This seminar used to be offered in Findlay years ago and several of us from Trinity attended then. The program has expanded and strengthened its tools for outreach since then and is having an impact all over the state where it is offered. The Bridges Out of Poverty program offers resources and training for both people in poverty who want to escape it and people in the community who want to help.

Habitat hopes to be offering this training again in the future and I highly recommend attending the day to everyone at Trinity who is interested in understanding poverty and the best strategies for helping people to develop financial, social, and personal stability for themselves and their families.

The day included information to help all of us understand why poverty happens and how we can really make a difference. Topics during the workshop included:

- Resources: The tools by which you survive, create stability, and solve problems

- The causes of poverty

- Mental models and hidden rules of poverty, middle class, and wealth

- Negotiating environments

- Family, support systems, and social capital for survival and stability

- Building relationships, bonding and bridging capital, and 'disposable ties'

- Bridges constructs, theory of change, bridges model

The Bridges Out of Poverty program was developed by Dr. Ruby Payne, Philip DeVol, and Terri Dreussi Smith.

If you'd like to know more about the Bridges program, the book from the training is available in the Trinity library: Bridges Out of Poverty, Strategies for Professionals and Communities. The book is also available through Amazon.

Jan Taylor



SIGN UP FOR KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Money is donated to Trinity for use to support the community. Kroger Community Rewards program makes fundraising easy by donating to local organizations based on the shopping you do every day. Once you link your card to an organization, all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Shopper's Card.

Here's how it works: Create a digital account. If you already have a digital account, simply link your Shopper's Card to your account so that all transactions apply toward the organization you choose. Sign into your digital account, select the organization you wish to support, enter the name of the organization, select the organization and click 'save'. (Go to [Kroger Community Rewards.com](http://KrogerCommunityRewards.com) and follow the instructions.)

Trinity earned \$90.87 in the last quarter from a total of 25 households.

TRINITY VESTRY 2005

Senior Warden – Lisa Robeson

Clerk – Gail Beebe

Asst. Treasurer – Larry Funke

Karen Eubanks

Barb Masterson

Rick Walter

Junior Warden – Jorgé Rosario-Paris

Treasurer – Peg Dailey

Jude Davidson

Liz Funke

Ginny Lee Pilstl

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Filled eggs were hidden throughout the parish hall and library and baskets were given to the kids. Off they went and all of the eggs were found!

The Easter bunny
came to Trinity!

Following worship on April 20th, there was a memorial Easter egg hunt for the children in honor of Tom and Sara Bryant.



Contributions in memory of departed loved ones can be a great gift to the church. We are grateful to have received generous offerings recently in memory of Sue Bowman, Warren Khan, Anna Miller, Sue Ann Sandusky, and Nick Solomon - some restricted to particular purposes and some with no restrictions. So, also, do we encourage considering the church in one's will. If you are interested in how planned giving and memorial contributions work and how such offerings might best be directed you are encouraged to reach out to the Rector.

