

Trinity Topics

The Newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church in Toledo, Ohio

JANUARY 2009 VOLUME 135, NUMBER 1



Gifts of Light

These are some of the vestments for Christmas and Epiphany that were designed and made by parishioners. Many thanks to Joni Zechman, Rene Salander, Judy Meeks Linda Carter, Courtney Altenburg and Wayne Anthony for their wearable works of art!



Music for Piano and Strings — Friday, January 23 7p

Debussy *Piano Trio*;
 Bridge *Phantasie*
 Anthony *Quartet for Piano and Strings*

Principals Cecilia Johnson, Susan Schreiber and Jim Anderson team up with conductor Wayne Anthony in a program paring two rarely heard early 20th century works with a world premiere . Tickets: \$15 / \$12



Sax 5th Ave.

Friday, Feb. 20 7p

Toledo's premiere saxophone quartet in an interesting and intriguing evening of music for this gifted ensemble.

Tickets: \$15 / \$12



Music of Samuel Barber

Friday, February 27 7p

Barber *Knoxville Summer of 1915*
 Barber *Dover Beach*
 Barber *Adagio for Strings*
 Barber *Cave of Heart (Media)*

Courtney Altenburg, soprano and Charles Kiskaddon, bass join the ensemble for an evening of orchestral songs by this celebrated American composer. Tickets \$15 / \$1

SUNDAY, JAN 18—EPIPHANY 2 B

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20); 1 Cor 6:12-20; John 1:43-51
 9:00a Traditional Eucharist
 10:00a Formation for all ages
 10:45a Festive Eucharist

SUNDAY JAN 25—EPIPHANY 3B

Jonah 3:1-5, 10; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20
 9:00a Traditional Eucharist
 10:00a Formation for all ages
 10:45a Festive Eucharist

SUNDAY, FEB 1—EPIPHANY 4B—ANNUAL MEETING

Deu 18:15-20; 1 Cor 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28
 No early service
 10:45a Festive Eucharist/Annual Meeting

SUNDAY, FEB 8—EPIPHANY 5B

Isaiah 40:21-31; 1 Cor 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39
 9:00a Traditional Eucharist
 10:00a Formation for all ages
 10:45a Festive Eucharist

SUNDAY, FEB 15—EPIPHANY 6B

2 Kings 5:1-14; 1 Cor 9:24-27; Mark 1:40-45
 9:00a Traditional Eucharist
 10:00a Formation for all ages
 10:45a Festive Eucharist

SUNDAY, FEB 22—EPIPHANY 7B

2 Kings 2:1-12; 2 Cor 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9
 9:00a Traditional Eucharist
 10:00a Formation for all ages
 10:45a Festive Eucharist

The Season After the Epiphany

Last weekend's snows kept us at home on Sunday. On a morning when we would have been celebrating the feast of the Epiphany, I sent out an email encouraging you to worship by reveling in the beauty outside. So now we go right into the season after the Epiphany without the feast of the travelers (Magi) to mark the transition.

On the same day, I received an email from a local spiritual director, who had these two thoughts from the theologian and writer Jan Phillips:

“So imagine this: take the word Epiphany out of its religious construct and think of its broader definition, *a moment of sudden intuitive understanding*. Imagine that today you are going to be blessed with one great epiphany. All you need to do is acknowledge what area you'd like an epiphany in and welcome it into your life. Be grateful in advance for the difference it will make and go through your day aware of its coming. *With our minds we create the world*, said the Buddha and Christ both. See what you create today when you ready yourself for an epiphany.

Imagine now that YOU were called to be a Magi. You are one of the wise ones, carrying your precious gift through the long night in the desert. What is it you are bringing to the celebration? What's YOUR unique contribution to the light this time around? How do others feel and change when they receive it?

The last few months have been a season of Epiphany for all of us. We have had that moment of sudden intuitive understanding, and you have responded generously. You have also responded by offering the unique gifts deep within you.

Whether you are good at fixing, creating, caring, or organizing, more and more of you are stepping forward with your unique gifts. The result is light indeed. May that light lead always to the Incarnate One.

Lidely

YOU CAN HEAR US NOW

Because of a gift from Peggy Van Hagan through her will, we now have a sound system that WORKS. The moveable Bose Speakers and equalizer were installed by West Shore Sound, LLC. If you haven't been to Church lately because you cannot hear, c'mon back! Now you can hear every word. Thank you, West Shore Sound, and Thank you Peggy!



Jake Shumaker,
Grandson of Greg and
Cindy Shumaker, on
Christmas Eve

Two Furniture Banks



In our community there are many families who lack the basic necessities to furnish a home. They may be rehoused in a new home but lack the

resources to provide a bed for each family member, or a table and chairs to sit at, especially if they are struggling to pay the rent and utilities. **If you have used furniture which you would like to donate, there are now two furniture banks which will collect and store furniture and other household items for distribution to people in great need.**

1) **Epworth Furniture Ministry:** In the fall of 2007 Epworth United Methodist Church members discovered that their Habitat for Humanity family had no beds to sleep on. The Epworth community provided good used furniture for this family and for two other families in need. This was the beginning of Epworth Furniture Ministry. The gift of a spacious warehouse in Perrysburg provides storage space and is the new home of the ministry's "Furniture Mart". The Epworth Furniture Ministry accepts basic household items in good condition with all donations tax deductible. The kinds of items accepted are: Bedroom: beds, mattresses, box springs, and frames, headboards, dressers, night stands, bed linen. Kitchen: table, chairs, microwaves and stands, linens, dishes, pots and pans, utensils silverware, small appliances (toasters, coffee makers etc.); Living Room: couches, recliners, chairs, coffee and end tables, lamps, TVs and stands, entertainment centers; For Children: changing tables, booster seats, bath tubs, strollers, high chairs, bedding, crib (must meet the National Safety Council guidelines). Not accepted are clothing, books, pictures, decorative items etc (which can be donated to Next To New!). Volunteers will pick up your items. Please contact Janice Harris (419 829 2789 or 419 308 4356) to request a pick up or speak with Jane Bueche at church.

2) **Banner Furniture Bank.** This is a joint effort of a number of social service agencies serving Greater Toledo and will be located in the former Banner Mattress Warehouse on Monroe Street near Auburn (Life Bridge Building). The bank

should be open in January 2009. The Furniture Bank is not yet ready to pick up donations, so currently donations need to be delivered to the Life Bridge Building on Saturday mornings from 9.00 a.m. to noon (call first). Partner agencies will refer clients to the Furniture bank and they will receive an appointment to come and select furniture for their family. A family of four will receive a bed and dresser for each family member, a dining table and four chairs, a sofa and one or two chairs and end tables plus additional items as available. Each family will need to pay a referral and delivery fee of \$140. For more information, please call Cindy Zawojski at 419 254 3642 (or email czawojski@gmail.com).

Opportunities for Serving Others

Serving a meal or, better yet, sitting and sharing a meal with a homeless or hungry person, is a great opportunity to connect with those who suffer under poverty. All of the following soup kitchens gladly accept volunteer help on a one-time, periodic, or ongoing basis. Warning: if you go once, you probably won't want to stop!



Cherry Street Mission Feeding Center
1919 Madison Ave., Toledo, OH 43604
419-242-5141 (Admin. office)
www.cherrystreetmission.org
rgoodwin@cherrystreetmission.org

Helping Hands of St. Louis Soup Kitchen
459 6th St., Toledo, OH 43605
419-691-0613
www.helpinghandstoledo.org
helpinghands@bex.net

St. Paul's (UMC) Soup Kitchen
230 13th St., Toledo, OH 43604; 419-255-5520

Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission Soup Kitchen
1917 Jefferson Ave., Toledo, OH 43624
419-241-6579
www.tgrm-1.org; or tom@tgrm-1.org

Next-to-New

We have been operating under a new program whereby we do not individually price clothing but have specific prices for all articles of clothing. This saves us a lot of time and does not require as many people to get the clothing into the shop. It has been working very well and we make modifications when necessary.

With a slowing of the economy and increasing unemployment, our business has increased and we are in need of increased amounts of previously worn clothing. Our need is great for both men's, women's, and children's clothing.

Please remember that all clothing must be clean, no rips, tears, or buttons off. We especially need warm outer coats, hats, scarves, and gloves. Women's jewelry and cosmetics are always needed.

Please bring clothing to church anytime and place in the NTN container or on the bench outside the office. With Christmas gifts, you may have clothes you no longer need and our needs in the shop are growing. This is a strong Outreach program for which Trinity has always met the need for over 50 years.

Many thanks to all the dedicated volunteers who give of their time to work in the shop!

Thank You

Last week I was in England for my mother's 94th birthday and I took with me the Trinity blanket that you gave me for her. My mother was so touched by this gift and wanted to make sure that I thank you all on her behalf. When I spoke with her recently she said she had the blanket covering her and she loves it because it is so warm. What a lovely ministry this is!

Valerie Garforth

Herb Sandberg Children's Literacy Fund

"Dear Ms. Garforth and Friends at Trinity Church, On behalf of the Judith Herb College of Education at the University of Toledo, I want to thank you for the recent gift of \$100 for the Herb Sandberg Children's Literacy Fund. Your gift renews our faith in our mission to provide quality education for all children. Please call on me if I can do anything for you or for Trinity Church."

Thomas J. Switzer, Dean, Judith Herb College of Education, The University of Toledo.

Feed Your Neighbor

"Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Please accept our thanks and appreciation for your continued support of this ministry by your recent gift of \$250.00. We continue to serve the individuals and families in need because of the prayers and support of our many partners in mission. Thank you again and may the Lord continue to bless the ministries of Trinity".

Sincerely,
Craig M. Bruns, Treasurer.

Harbor House

"I would like to personally thank you for your recent donation. It is caring and concerned individuals such as you that help keep Harbor House going strong. The women who reside here work very hard to reclaim their lives and your support is an acknowledgement of this effort. What would we do without Trinity Church? Your support means the world to us!"

Donna Perras, Executive Director

Great Food For All



A new program is being organized by Toledo Area Ministries (TAM) to provide boxes of food at discounted prices which may also be purchased with food stamps. Boxes of varying sizes and contents may be ordered

at food bank locations (check the website for the nearest location to you - www.greatfoodforall.com). Boxes need to be paid for in advance and are available for collection from TAM, 444 Floyd Street (Collingwood Presbyterian Church) from 9 to 11 a.m. on designated Saturday mornings. Boxes include Basic Food, Empty Nester, Kids, Pasta etc. and Senior Meals will return soon.

St Paul's Community Lunch

We will be serving a hot chili lunch to around 150 hungry people on Sunday January 25, 1.30 — 2.30 pm at St. Paul's Community Center. Mary Gartz will be asking us to sign up to prepare chili for ten people and a dozen brownies. Outreach will provide salad, rolls and butter, bananas and plates. We will also need around six people to serve. This is a very worthwhile ministry, especially at this time of year.

Vestry Elections -- Sunday, February 1 during the Annual Parish Meeting

Leaders do not come into a church as blank slates. We bring with us a broad range of knowledge, skills, and experience. Indeed, it is essential that we utilize these resources in managing our money, caring for our aging facility, working with people, and planning for the future. But more than anything, we must stay focused on the vision and mission of our community.

It would be easy to evaluate our congregational life by how many members we have, how big our facilities are, or how much we collect in pledges. Yet it is possible to grow in all these ways and still fail our basic purpose. More important than counting people and things is the need to measure our progress in accomplishing our mission.

Trinity's vestry is comprised of 9 people who help to discern the vision toward which God is drawing our community, articulate and communicate that vision, hold our community accountable for its realization of that vision, and keeps the mission of the Church and of our individual congregation clearly before our community.

The vestry is not a board of directors, nor is it a senior management team, though there are some similarities. A vestry is different because the church is different. God creates the church, and invites us to participate in the process. A congregation's leaders are the stewards of that creation and hold it in trust. We believe we have been given the resources needed to do the job God has called us to. Our leaders identify and allocate those resources, enabling the parish to carry out its mission.

Vestry members must be baptized, attend worship with great regularity, and be financial contributors (pledgers) of record. It is highly desirable that vestry members have the following spiritual qualities:

Visibly grounded spiritual life.

Visibly balanced emotional life.

Demonstrated discernment skills.

Commitment to the vision, mission and life of the parish.

Ability to think strategically about the vision and mission.

Appreciation for the diversity within the Anglican traditions.

The vestry members who will retire this year are Bud Gartz, Chuck Kiskaddon and Becky Roth.

Two members, Karen Wabeke and Jim Zechman, are fulfilling the terms of others, and are now seeking to be re-elected to full three-year terms. Solveig Barnes is the nominee for the open vestry position. Please prayerfully consider the slate of nominees presented in this edition of Topics.

Member Matters

Helen Eyster entered new life on Saturday, January 3. A memorial service for Helen will be held as part of the service on Sunday, February 8. **Joanne Nitz** entered new life on January 11.

Bread Baking Day

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend a bread-baking day at Trinity on Saturday, Jan. 24, at 10 am. We will gather in My Brother's Place to share recipes and baking tips and bake bread together.

Lenten Reminders

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 25, noon and 7pm.

LENTEN COMMUNITY LIFE

"Soup, Sharing and a Service"

Sunday evenings during Lent, 5:30 pm
beginning March 1

COMPLINE

Sunday evenings during Lent, 7pm
beginning March 1.

MultiFaith Council "Tables of Eight" project

During January, February and March, the MultiFaith Council will be organizing "Tables of Eight" a diverse get acquainted potluck dinner and conversation program which enables people from different faith backgrounds to meet and form friendships. Each group (couples and singles) will come together at least twice on Fridays, Saturdays or Sundays during the first quarter of 2009. For more information or to sign up please visit the website info@multifaithcouncil.org or phone Woody Trautman at 419 475 6535.

Solveig Barnes



How long have you been attending Trinity?

It will be two years this summer. Having moved from Maumee to Sylvania, we had been attending services at different churches looking for a new church home.

Wayne invited us to join the choir at Trinity. Although the choir year was not starting for a few more months, we decided to visit and immediately felt "at home". We returned the next Sunday and have been attending ever since.

What do you love about the Trinity community?

The liturgical service with its mixture of traditional and contemporary is very meaningful to our worship experience. The sermons that bring "life" and understanding to the scripture. The music (of course!) and the caring, hospitality and "outreach" that is demonstrated by all the members we have had the pleasure to get to know. I see it as an active community willing to share God's love beyond the walls of the building itself.

What skills/talents/gifts/passions/convictions to you bring to the work of the Vestry and Trinity?

I have been actively involved in church life my whole life. (child and adult). I bring adult experience of Sunday School teacher, Vacation Bible School teacher, Worship Board member, choir member, small group Bible study leader (along with my husband Don) and volunteer for "this-that-and the other". I strongly believe that "church" is not just a place one goes on a Sunday morning. It is a living body - and each of us is a part of that body seven days a week.



Karen Wabeke

How long have you been attending Trinity?

Most of twenty years.

What do you love about the Trinity community?

The people, the music, the outreach, and the resilience and perseverance of the congregation.

What skills/talents/gifts/passions/convictions do you bring to the work of the Vestry and Trinity?

I bring a different perspective to Vestry, having attended Episcopal churches elsewhere (in Wellesley MA, Boston MA, and Ann Arbor MI) and serving on the vestry in Ann Arbor. But I've also attended Trinity since the mid 1980's and have a strong sense of where we've been and how far we've come. I'm excited to be back at Trinity and to help shape where we're going in the future.

Jim Zechman



How long have you been attending Trinity?

After being a life long Lutheran, about three years ago it became time for a church change. In 30 plus years of marriage, Joni and

I have attended several Lutheran congregations in the Toledo area. We have changed congregations because of location, because size and because one had a better youth program than another. This time we changed because the fit with Trinity seemed just right, not as a parent, not as a choir member, not as a part of the immediate neighborhood, but as an adult member of a caring congregation.

What do you love about the Trinity community?

The music program brought me to Trinity. The radical hospitality hooked me. The inclusiveness and social programs made me want to stay. There are just so many neat things about Trinity, the music and worship style to start with. How can you not love the people at Trinity, both the congregation and the Vestry? The inclusiveness of Trinity is active and real; the hospitality is practiced with much enthusiasm.

What skills/talents/gifts/passions/convictions do you bring to the work of the Vestry and Trinity?

My past experience in congregational church council and committees makes me feel that I have something to offer to Trinity and the Vestry. I think past experience is the asset I bring to vestry. In other congregations I have been, at different times, a member of the council, a committee member, a Sunday school board member. Sometimes a little different background gives an added dimension to problem solving. Even though Trinity is doing a lot of great things, my experience shows there are always some little problem areas that could be worked out with a fresh look.

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL — PLEASE HANDLE PROMPTLY



Trinity Episcopal Church

One Trinity Plaza ■ Toledo, Ohio 43604-1585

Phone: 419-243-1231

Fax: 419-243-0920

Email: trinity@trinitytoledo.org

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U. S. POSTAGE

PAID

Toledo, Ohio

Permit Number 529

We're on the web
www.trinitytoledo.org

Serving Downtown Toledo since 1842.

Check here and return this page
if you no longer wish to be on Trinity's mailing list.

Parish Staff

Elizabeth M. Hoster, Rector

Wayne F. Anthony, Associate for Music and the Arts

Susan Lowrey, Associate for Community Life

Marie Harkey, Associate for Digital Ministries

Virginia Shafer, Executive Secretary

Jane A. Bueche, Parish Accountant

Bridget Blanchard, Organist

Parish Vestry

Becky Roth, Senior Warden

Jeff Albright, Junior Warden

Charles Kiskaddon, Treasurer

Jason Rahe, Clerk

Lucia Cooper, Bud Gartz, Jane Gomersall-Zohn,

Jennifer Siebold, Sherre Owens Smith, Karen

Wabeke, Jim Zechman.

Parish Offices

Mon thru Fri, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Phone 419.243.1231 Fax 419.243.0920

Email: trinity@trinitytoledo.org

Episcopal Diocese of Ohio

2230 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44115-2499

800.551.4815 216.771.4815

The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr., Bishop Ordinary

Next-to-New Thrift Shop

Mon & Thurs, 9:30 am – 3 pm;

Jeanne Mitchell, Manager

Building Services

Johnson's Cleaning Services, Housekeeping

services

SUNDAYS 9 & 10:45 am, Holy Eucharist (unless otherwise noted)
10 am Adult Formation

Holy Days as announced

prayers

Remember those for whom our prayers have been requested: David Nelson, Cathy Labash, Theresa Blowers, Linda Carter, Barbara Clarke, Herb Landis, Jack Kaufman, Esther Lewis, Sandy Sheperd, Ruth Archer, the children and staff of Emanuel Children's Home, those on death row, all victims of war and violence; Marie Harkey and David S. Nelson in their continuing vocational discernment.

For those who have died: *In the parish:* , Helen Eyster, Joanne Nitz (Chris Nitz). *In the world:* Helen Suzman (politician/anti-apartheid activist), Pat Hingle (actor), Cheryl Holdridge (actress), Don Galloway (actor).

vision & mission

Trinity is called to be a progressive, inclusive and creative urban community.

- We will practice radical hospitality.
- We will be engaged in the life of our city.
- We will stand with those in need: the poor, the sick, the friendless, the marginalized.
- We will actively invite all to experience and celebrate God's living presence.
- We will journey together toward a Christ-centered life, pursuing personal ministries that connect us to God, to one another, and to the world around us.