

Trinity Online Calendar

Service Times

Sunday Morning

8:15am Traditional Service
9:30am Formation
10:45am Progressive Service

Wednesday

12:10pm Eucharist

Saturday

Men's Bible Study
2nd Saturday, 9am-Rick's City Diner

Women's Bible Study

3rd Saturday, 9am- Charlie's Maumee

Contact Us

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The Vestry
Gary Franklin, Senior Warden
Keith Burris, Junior Warden
Becky Roth, Clerk
Peggy Heider, Treasurer
Darrell Cousino
Scott Dibling
Karen Johnson-Webb
Tim Reeder
Alice Todd



Trinity Topics

December 6th, 2017

*We don't always pray what we believe;
sometimes we pray what we hope to believe.
In persevering, we learn that our prayers begin to form us.
We learn that if we pray daily, and scatter seeds of justice,
then water them with the tears of compassion,
then weed out all the fear, cynicism, and judgment,
someday our lives will bear the fruit
of faithfully working for people who suffer
under the hand of injustice.*
-Becca Stevens, Episcopal Priest and Founder of [Thistle Farms](#)

Beloved Saints,

This Sunday we light the second candle on our Advent wreath. Last Sunday we began this short and sacred season with an invitation to embrace a time of waiting; waiting not only for the advent of Christ to come again, but also a time of waiting in our own lives with the expectation that slowing down and simply noticing life with greater attention.

This past Sunday we were reminded that this a season of mixed invitations- a time to revel in the joy and anticipation of what it means to anticipate the birth of Christ- through parties, songs, gatherings of family and friends and cherished traditions, as well as a time to embrace the darkness of the season and what it offers us as a time for personal reflection and quiet insight.

I sense this Advent season of waiting is also God's invitation for us to notice how we choose to spend, as poet Mary Oliver describes, "[your one wild and precious life](#)," not only with ourselves but with each other. Each time we reach out with love to connect with someone else (new or known) we take ourselves a bit out of the center of our own worlds and make a kind of holy space inviting God, Immanuel, to come among us.

I find myself praying more this season and hope you are too. Praying is not about piety or perfection, but about embracing a deep intention to be connected with all of life. Prayer helps us reorient every interaction, conversation and intention whether it is with our coworkers, friends or family, elevating an awareness of what we have to offer, rather than what we can acquire. I love the words from Becca Stevens above as they reorient and release us from our doubts and fears and instead point us towards hope and healing in this season of waiting.

Finally, I want to end this note with a deep bow of gratitude and awe for the community we are growing together. During the month of November, we had a very short 3-week Annual Giving Campaign and I want to share the results at a very high level. I asked you all to consider what it means to pledge your financial support for the coming year as a sign and symbol of our desire to move forward together and you did! Both the number of pledges and the overall pledge amount increased by approximately 15%- this is amazing- and YOU are amazing; thank you. May we continue to grow in faith, courage, hope and love. Come home this Sunday as we continue to wait and watch together.

May you never forget you are loved.
Lisa

Upcoming Events

Greening of the Church

Come join us this **Sunday, December 10th, after the 10:45am service** for the Greening of the church! We will be eating a meal together in My Brother's Place and then heading downstairs for decorating in the sanctuary. This will be a great time for fellowship and fun while preparing our spaces for the Advent



season. All are welcome!



Saturday Bible Study

Men's- 9am Saturday December 9th, Rick's City Diner

Women's- 9am Saturday December 16th, Charlie's Maumee

All Trinity members and their guests are invited to attend!



Game Night



Sunday December 19th, 7pm at the Black Cloister Brewing Company (619 Monroe St. at Erie St.) Bring your friends, family, and favorite tabletop games for an evening of fun and fellowship. If you're not a big fan of games, that's fine - come join us for the conversation.

Christmas Poinsettias

This year's red poinsettias will be available through order forms found on the curved wall. There is a \$20 suggested donation for each. The deadline for ordering poinsettias is Friday, December 15th.



Vestry Meeting- Date change to December 19th, 6pm

Vestry meetings are open to all Trinity members. Vestry meets in the Walbridge room.

Annual Meeting

Trinity Annual Meeting- **Sunday January 21st** immediately following one service at 9:30am



Parish News

Advent Quiet Time - 9:30am Sunday December 10th & 17th

Join us on Sunday for some quiet time coloring Advent posters together. All ages, coloring experience, and coloring confidence are welcome! Posters and markers will be provided. We'll be in the Walbridge Room at 9:30 am on December 10 and 17. For more information, contact Jolene Miller





Journey to Generosity

It's not too late to return your pledge cards! We want you to be a part of this commitment to our church and our community as we move forward in this exciting time at Trinity. You are a valuable to us! Contact the office or see the curved wall in the sanctuary if you need a new pledge card.



Next to New

We were glad to have so many visitors this past Sunday after each service! Also many thanks to all of you that bring items for Next to New. Every single thing in our shop is donated and that is quite amazing! We look at this process as recycling. NtN helps to fund Outreach programs.

Our needs include: *infant & children's clothes, pillows, irons, perfume, and LARGE plastic/paper bags*

We are open Monday and Thursday 9:30am-3:00pm. Come shop or come volunteer and be a part of one of Trinity's most vital ministries.



Advent Sunday Schedule

12/10

- 8:15 (chapel) & 10:45 (sanctuary) Worship
- 9:30 Advent quiet coloring activity in the Walbridge Room
- 9:30 Outreach wrapping of towels for Renaissance residents in My Brother's Place
- 12:00 Parish Lunch and Greening of the Church

12/17

- 8:15 (chapel) & 10:45 (sanctuary) Worship
- 9:30 Advent quiet coloring activity in the Walbridge Room

12/24

- 9:30 Combined Service
- 5:00 Early Christmas Eve Service
- 10:00 Musical Prelude, 11:00 Late Christmas Eve Service



Outreach

Gift Wrapping for Renaissance

Sunday December 10th at 9:30am Outreach will be gathering in My Brother's Place to wrap gifts for our neighbors across the street at Renaissance Apartments. All are invited to help with this project!

A Thank You from Outreach:



Thank you, everyone, for bringing in your wonderful, colorfully wrapped, Christmas Angels gifts to church yesterday. We sorted them this morning and every gift was present! This is a first and made our job so easy! All the gifts have been transported over to the Leading Families Home office waiting now to be collected by the families. Thank you, thank you!

Pat Crawford and Valerie Garforth

Arts & Music

Performing Artist Series Events:

Moises Salazar, Voice Recital
Saturday December 9th, 3pm

Join Moises Salazar and pianist Heidi Clausius for an early evening concert featuring various art songs, and concluding with Robert Schumann's "Dichterliebe." Salazar currently studies voice at the University of Toledo and is one of Trinity's Choral Scholars. He recently placed as one of three singers to advance to regionals for the Metropolitan Council Competition in Detroit, MI. He also took first place in the National Association for Teachers of Singing (NATS) competition this October. This is a free event open to the public and one that you won't want to miss!



Toledo School for the Arts Chorus Concert: "Past & Present" Tuesday, December 12th, 2017 7:00pm

This holiday season brings the past and the present together with an evening of beautiful music presented by the current TSA Choruses and a debut performance of the TSA Alumni Choir. These forces will join their talents in an unforgettable performance you won't want to miss! For more information on their concert, visit their website at www.ts4arts.org or call their box office 419-246-8732 x226. Tickets will be sold at the door.



Wider Church

Winter Convocation - February 2-3, 2018

2018 Winter Convocation - Becoming Beloved Community
February 2-3, 2018 at Kalahari Conference Center - Sandusky

Our Keynote Speaker - Heidi Kim

Heidi Kim is Director of "Becoming Beloved Community," the Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice. Becoming Beloved Community represents not so much a set of programs as a journey, a set of interrelated commitments around which we as Episcopalians may organize our many efforts to respond to racial injustice and grow a community of reconcilers, justice-makers, and healers. It builds around four long-term commitments: 1) Telling the Truth, 2) Proclaiming the Dream, 3) Repairing the Breach, and 4) Practicing the Way of Love.

Our Music Leader - Ana Hernandez

Well known throughout The Episcopal Church, Ana writes of herself, "I am a composer/arranger, workshop facilitator, author, and mischief maker. I work with people to create beautiful liturgies in many different styles; from early music to contemplative, to drummy and participatory." Ana's focus these days is in leading and teaching music that brings people together through singing.

[Register online: https://2018dwc.eventbrite.com](https://2018dwc.eventbrite.com)

Convention Sermons by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry

For those who did not attend the Diocesan Convention the sermons of Bishop Michael Curry are below.
His words to us are not to be missed!



Episcopal Diocese Convention Nov 11 Sermon



Bishop Michael B. Curry
Bellwether Farm Dedication

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Trinity Topics

December 20th, 2017

Beloved Friends,

As we approach the fourth and final Sunday of Advent (also the same day as Christmas Eve this year), we will have turned the corner on our metaphorical journey to Bethlehem and be right at the threshold of the stable. We can almost hear the angels singing and see the shepherds as they make their way to a smelly and out of the way place where they will find the most unlikely of kings. But we are not quite there yet, so we will gather in the morning to fully anticipate the joy just ahead.

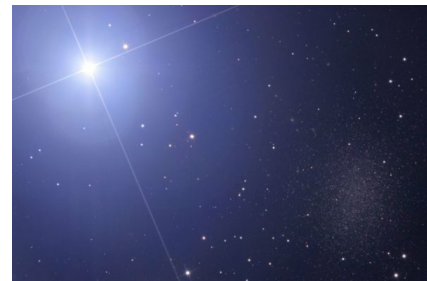
"Joy"- it is a word, a state of being I have spent a lot of time thinking, reading and teaching about this past year, particularly in my faculty role for CREDO- a national clergy wellness program offered and sponsored by the Church Pension Fund. I facilitate a session titled, "Rekindling Joy" and during that time explore how clergy may have lost or forgotten what it is that brings them deep peace, gladness and energy in their vocation. I find it helpful for all, regardless of our calling, to ask ourselves the question that emerges from the Quaker tradition: Is the life I am living the same as the life that wants to live in me? For it is perhaps in the answer to that question we can source our deepest joy -our most authentic connection to what is waiting to be born inside of us as we approach this most Holy Night.

What does the gift of joy look like to you today? Where are the places that you need to receive that gift in your life, even amidst the challenging circumstances that may be present in your life? There is a profound shift we are invited to take this Sunday as we gather in the morning to proclaim the Good News and the imminent birth of Jesus, and then return later in the day to stand in awe and wonder at the birth of a child, a refugee; one who relegated to enter the world on a cold and dark night, so that one day we would be able to tell the story in order to rekindle a story of love and light for all the world to see.

Come home this Sunday for what will surely be a full day of awesome moments culminating in the telling of our version of what "Joy to the World" looks and feels like in our lives!

May you never forget that you are loved.

Lisa



Upcoming Events

Sunday Schedule

December 24th

9:30am One Service, Combined Worship Advent IV

5:00 Progressive Christmas Eve Eucharist with Christmas Carols & a "Pop Up Christmas Pageant"
This service will be about 50 minutes designed specially for those who may enjoy a slightly shorter service and a more contemporary style of music. All are welcome.

10:00 Musical Prelude: Handel's Messiah will be offered by full choir and a double string quartet

11:00 Traditional Christmas Eve Eucharist
This service will include special music, our full traditional liturgy

Both services will end with the beautiful traditions of a candle light setting for the singing of Silent Night before being sent out with a rousing chorus of



December 31st

9:30am One Service, Lessons and Carols

Budget Presentation/Conversation

On **Sunday, January 14th 9:30am** in My Brother's Place, the vestry will be hosting an all-parish meeting to present the 2018 approved budget in order to have conversation and engage in a Q&A. This is one week prior to the Annual Meeting. Please join us!

Annual Meeting

Trinity Annual Meeting- **Sunday January 21st** immediately following one service at 9:30am. Please come to here what has gone on in the life of the church and to look forward into 2018.



YWCA I Rise Unity March

Sunday January 21st, 3:30pm. The March will be starting at the Toledo Loves Love wall and ending at Trinity Episcopal. Stay tuned for more detailed information after January 1st!



Parish News

Parish Administrator Update

The vestry, personnel committee, parish interview team and your rector have all been working hard to move the search process for our next Parish Administrator forward and have made marvelous progress in the past 4 weeks. We had an outstanding number of excellent and qualified candidates apply and after a thorough vetting, screening, phone interviews and on-site interview process we are starting the final steps of interviewing the finalists, conducting background checks and, once a job offer has been made and accepted, we will be prepared to make an announcement. We would be grateful for your continued prayers as we do our faithful best of listening, watching and waiting on God at every turn.

Journey to Generosity Update

There is exciting energy at Trinity this year! We are happy to report many positive numbers from our annual giving campaign. To date:

For 2018 total pledges: 58 (Last year we had 50 pledges)
total dollar amount pledged: \$155,209 (Last year \$132,908)

Eleven new pledges
Average pledge \$2676.02

Pledges are still accepted so please consider making a pledge of support to Trinity today.

Weekly envelopes are available, please call the office or see Peggy if you want offering envelopes. If you have already requested offering envelopes they are on the greeter's table this week.

Holiday Closures:

The office will be closed the week of December 25th through January 1st.

There will not be noon Eucharist on December 27th. Noon Eucharist will resume on January 3rd.



Next To New will be closed December 25th-January 4th. They will reopen Monday January 8th.

Outreach

Hot Chili lunch at St. Paul's - Sunday, January 14th

On Sunday, January 14th, we will be serving a hot lunch for the residents of St. Paul's Community Center in downtown Toledo after the 10:45am service. This will be a smaller event than in previous years since we will be serving only the residents. We will still need four or five batches of chili, plus cookies or brownies, four dozen hard boiled (shelled) eggs, fruit drinks and milk. In addition we will need to have four to six volunteers come with us to St. Paul's to serve food and visit with the residents. Sign-up sheets will be available starting this Sunday on the curved wall in the sanctuary. Any questions please contact Valerie Garforth. Please consider helping with this very rewarding ministry!

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