



# TRINITY TOPICS

## WEEKLY NEWS

WORSHIP WITH US SUNDAYS AT 10AM

[Sermon](#)

[Give Online](#)

[Pledge Now](#)



### RECTOR'S BLOG

#### Not Like Other Churches



Dear Friends,

One year ago today my family and I were welcomed with open arms into Trinity Episcopal Church. December 1st was my first day on staff, and being here has felt like the culmination of a lifetime of struggle and hard work. Having gone from full time ministry to the private sector and back, I have worked a lot of terrible jobs, and it didn't take long before I had a bad day. When people asked how at Trinity has been for me for most of this year, I'd respond with, "this is the most consecutive good days I've ever had," and that still remains true. I didn't really have a horrible day until July 11th when Priest Lisa announced to the staff that she was leaving.

To share some of my history, this was the fourth time in my professional ministry career a lead pastor/priest resigned within/just after a year into my coming onboard. Of those four churches, two have since then closed their doors.

But Trinity is not like other churches, and I think it is easy for us to forget that at times. When the extraordinary becomes the status quo, it can be hard to see how truly special you all are. I had my "come to Jesus" moment and became a Christian when I was 18 years old. Since then I had joined many other churches, looking and longing for a denominational home. I thought I had found it a few times, but when we joined Trinity it was clear God was saving the answer to my search for the Episcopal Church. It has been such an honor to become an Episcopalian, to

have our son baptized here, to be a part of this wonderful family, and to be welcomed home by you all.

While this year hasn't turned out as expected, I would like to share some incredible numbers with everyone. So far in 2023 we have fed over 800 people through our Food for Thought community partnership, almost 200 people have received NARCAN training since we have partnered with the Health Department's safe syringe exchange program, and of those trained 17 of them have reversed an overdose with NARCAN, saving lives. We have seen our community grow and change in so many ways. I am honored and excited to see what God has in store for 2024.

Grace and peace.

George Benson (he/him)

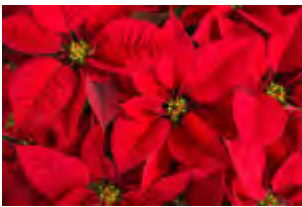
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## TRINITY NEWS

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[Click to Order Poinsettia](#)

### Poinsettia Orders



#### Christmas Memorial Poinsettia Sale

It is that time of year again! Christmas Memorial Poinsettias are on sale – you can order your poinsettia by filling out our online form or you can find order forms at the Welcome Station in the back of the Sanctuary.

When filling out your form, please be sure to include your first and last name, phone number and quantity. If you are requesting a plant in honor or memory of a loved one, please include their first and last name(s) which we will list in our Christmas Eve bulletin.

The poinsettias will be 6 1/2" with multiple blooms, for \$12.00 each. Flowers can be taken home after our 11pm Trinity@316 Christmas Eve service.

Orders are due by Monday, December 18th!

## Multi Faith Coalition – Prayer Walk



Pastor Will Henderson of L.E.A.D. Community Church has invited all of us to a Prayer Walk that is being held on Saturday mornings through December 4th, around the Weiler Homes/Spieker Terrace housing complex in East Toledo. "The purpose of this prayer walk is to push back the spiritual darkness surrounding our eastside community, in the name of Jesus. We are asking the Lord to tear down the spiritual walls of darkness that are keeping people in bondage, and blind to the love and truth of Jesus Christ." All are welcome.

## Wednesday Noon Worship

Starting Wednesday, December 6 at 12:00 noon worship will begin in the chapel. First and Third Wednesdays will be Holy Eucharist, Second and Fourth will be noonday prayers and intercessions. This pattern will continue through Easter with occasional exceptions. All are welcome!

## Men's Bible Study



December 9th– Men's Bible Study the 2nd Saturday of the month @9:00am. We will gather in-person at Rick's City Diner 533 Monroe St. All men in the Trinity community and their guests are welcome!

## Come Sail the 7 C's!



12/10 Immediately following the service

Cookies, Cocoa, Coffee, Carols, Chili, Cards and Camaraderie!

A big, parish-wide multigenerational community event! Come celebrate Christmas with a Cookie Exchange. Bring a Christmas Card, take a Christmas Card. Sing Some Carols! Drink some Cocoa, Sip some coffee and enjoy some camaraderie! Chili (meat and vegan), cornbread and crackers will be at the ready.

Go to this link to sign up: <https://forms.office.com/r/3axyqXvGWB>

## Blue Christmas Service

A Blue Christmas (and it's not about Elvis!)

Holding a Service of Healing & Hope during the Holidays

Trinity will hold a special Blue Christmas service in the newly restored St. Mark's



Chapel on Wednesday, December 20, at 7:00 pm.

For many people, Christmas can be a difficult and heavy time because they are suffering some kind of loss – whether the loss is of a person, a dream, finances, stability, health, or something else. Such services are typically held on or near the longest night of the year and the shortest day – symbolic of the darker times of our lives when we find ourselves grieving, lonely, or longing for something better. So we'll hold the service the day before the Winter Solstice.

During a time that's noisy with celebrations, we'll carve out space for peaceful pastoral care and compassionate community for those who are struggling. Perhaps you are the one who is feeling emotional pain or shedding tears as you anticipate the holidays, or perhaps someone you know is in this situation. If so, we hope you'll come to the Blue Christmas service to be comforted by God's presence and embraced by the love of Jesus.

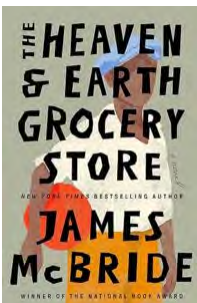
No, the Blue Christmas service has nothing to do with Elvis, but it does have to do with missing someone or something – and it will offer a time of peace and healing..

#### **TSN Lunch Team**



December 21st- On the third Thursday of each month, Trinity prepares and delivers lunch to the vendors of our community partner, Toledo Streets Newspaper (TSN). We will need your help next on Thursday, December 21st when we will gather at 9:00am upstairs in My Brother's Place to prepare the meal! At 10:00, we'll head over to the TSN offices to deliver the meal and spend some time with the vendors. Click the image to join our team!!!

#### **Trinity Book Club**



Join Trinity's amazing book club for their next read, The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store by James McBride. This group meets via zoom. Get your book and spend some time snuggled up over the holidays reading for their next meet up on Sunday, January 21st at 6:30pm. “We all need—we all deserve—this vibrant, love-affirming novel that bounds over any difference that claims to separate us.” — Ron Charles, The Washington Post Sign up by clicking on the image.

**[Do You Feel Called To Serve On Vestry?](#)**

The Vestry of Trinity Church is the lay governing body of the parish. Vestry members are elected for a three-year term by members of the congregation at the Annual Meeting in late January. Three members will be elected this year. If you are interested in being considered, please contact Junior Warden Jeffrey Albright who serves as the chair of the Nominating Committee. If you would like to know more about serving on the Vestry, please contact any of the current Vestry members whose names can be found on the back of the service booklet each Sunday. Contact the Parish Office for help reaching either the Junior Warden or any other member of the Vestry.

### **Advent Collection**

#### **Collecting Personal Care Items: An Advent Request**

In this Advent season of expectation and hope, there's a practical way you can make a difference for our neighbors in recovery.

For the next three Sundays – December 3, 10, and 17 – you are invited to contribute items that clients at Team Recovery are in need of receiving.

Collection boxes will be placed near the entrances to the church. Please consider donating:

- Shampoo
- Bath towels
- Conditioner
- Toilet paper
- Body wash/bar soap
- Dish Soap
- Deodorant
- All-purpose cleaner
- Lotion
- Toothbrushes
- Razors
- Toothpaste
- Shaving cream

As Jesus said to his followers when he spoke to them about caring for those who were hungry, thirsty, sick, in prison, or naked: “just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”

### **Advent Wreath DIY**

**Advent Wreath DIY DECEMBER 3, 2023**

**AFTER WORSHIP SERVICE** All ages – come upstairs to My Brothers Place to personalize your Advent Wreath. Connect with your Trinity friends while embracing (and learning about!) the spiritual significance of Advent. **SIGN UP** so we can have plenty of materials on hand. Plan for about 30-40 minutes. One wreath per household Date: 12/03/2023 (Sun.) Time: 11:30am –



1:00pm EST

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B084AADAC23A0FD0-46075701-advent>

### Living the Way of Love Through Advent



Curious to learn more about Jesus' Way of Love (though the lens of the Episcopal church)? How can we practice turning, learning, praying, worshipping, blessing, going, and resting during the season of Advent? Join us after church on November 26 and December 3, 10, and 17, to learn more.

On November 26, we'll talk about the Way of Love, then the rest of the sessions will be reflecting on how we can practice the Way of Love during Advent, using an Advent calendar. Sessions will start after church is over and run until about 1:00 pm. We will have a simple soup lunch before discussion.

Please sign up in advance so we can make enough soup. If you have any questions, contact Jolene Miller.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B084AADAC23A0FD0-46053600-living>  
**Greening the Church Party**



Sat. Dec 2 at 9:30am Join in the fun on Saturday morning. The coffee will be brewing and donuts will be plentiful. Sign up to deck the halls. All ages welcome!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B084AADAC23A0FD0-45971366-greening>

### Advent Word

[AdventWord](#) is an inspirational online Advent calendar featuring a daily prompt word selected from the Sunday Lectionary readings. As we await the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, AdventWord inspires followers of Jesus with an accessible and creative daily prayer practice. During this holy, busy season, disciples are invited to find small moments of reflection to stay connected to their personal faith, to others, and to God. Email subscribers and social media followers will receive a daily meditation and visual image inspired by the day's word, and are invited to share their own personal reflections, art, poetry, or other creative expression. Sign up [here](#) to receive daily emailed meditations during Advent, and/or follow AdventWord on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), or X.

The Rev. Rosalind Hughes began compiling monthly lists of Peace & Justice resources in September. Find them all [here](#).



# COMING 2024!



MUSIC and THE ARTS

TRINITY

23

Jan

Trinity Musicians Concert

03

Feb

ACT: The Mountain Top

09

Mar

Joanna Whaley

15

Mar

TAPA Candlelight Concert

05

Apr

The Big in the Smallness of God

12

Apr

ACT: Wakey, Wakey

18

May

ACT: Tiny Beautiful Things

11

June

Trinity Musicians Concert



16

June

Masterworks Chorale

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TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# ADVENT EVENTS!



12.02

GREENING  
THE CHURCH

HELP THE CHURCH GET "ADVENT READY!" 10:00 AM IN TRINITY SANCTUARY



12.03

MAKE YOUR  
ADVENT WREATH

A SPIRITUAL TIME TOGETHER CELEBRATING OUR TRADITION AFTER SERVICE



12.10

COME SAIL  
THE 7 C'S!



CHRISTMAS. COOKIES. COCOA. COFFEE.  
CAROLS. CARDS AND CAMARADERIE!

COMMUNITY WIDE CHRISTMAS PARTY! ALL ARE WELCOME AND WANTED!  
RIGHT AFTER THE SERVICE IN MY BROTHER'S PLACE





# ADVENT

## SOUP & CONVERSATION



**After Church**  
November 26,  
December 3, 10, and 17

**THE WAY OF LOVE**  
*Practices for Jesus-Centered Life*

Episcopal News Service

[Church of England Pensions Board publishes inaugural climate action plan](#)

[Church of England] The Church of England Pensions Board has published its inaugural Climate Action Plan, demonstrating its continued ambition on...

[Episcopal delegates represent presiding bishop, church at UN climate change conference](#)

[Episcopal News Service] Eight years after nearly 200 countries agreed to voluntarily reduce greenhouse gas emissions to limit the rise of the...

**[North American Episcopal, Anglican, Lutheran leaders call for peace in Holy Land in Advent prayer resource](#)**

[Evangelical Lutheran Church in America] The leaders of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, the...

**[The Ecumenical Review marks 75th anniversary of the World Council of Churches](#)**

[World Council of Churches] The latest issue of The Ecumenical Review, the quarterly journal of the World Council of Churches, marks the 75th...

Trinity Episcopal Church, 316 Adams St, Toledo, OH 43604, United States



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### RECTOR'S BLOG

#### Happy 32nd anniversary, A.A.



Dear Friends,

Today, the Alcoholic Anonymous group that meets at Trinity celebrates its thirty-second anniversary of gathering here. This church, like many other churches, has opened its doors to A.A., recognizing that the way A.A. helps alcoholics recover – built on the simple idea of one alcoholic sharing with another – has made it possible for thousands of people to gain and maintain sobriety.

The A.A. group at Trinity meets Monday – Friday at noon. Like every other A.A. group, the one that meets here welcomes anyone who has a desire to stop drinking, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, income or profession. Participation is free.

A.A.'s program begins with the first step: "We admitted that we were powerless over alcohol – that our lives had become unmanageable" and continues through the twelfth step – the Twelve Steps, as they are known. Combined with the Twelve Traditions, they provide a path to personal recovery and the basis for the organization of the group.

Bill W. and Dr. Bob are recognized as A.A.'s founders. Both had initially been members of the Oxford Group, a non-denominational movement modeled after first-century Christianity. The tenets and practices of an American Oxford Group greatly influenced the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous.

An Episcopal priest also had a significant role in A.A.'s founding. Sam Shoemaker was rector of Calvary Episcopal Church in New York City which was the United States headquarters of the Oxford Group. Bill W. attended Oxford Group meetings there and became close friends with Shoemaker. Shoemaker helped start other Oxford Group chapters including one in Akron, Ohio, where Dr. Bob, a surgeon, became involved. Bill W. met Dr. Bob during a business trip to Akron. He worked with Dr. Bob, who had been unable to stay sober, for 30 days – one alcoholic helping another – the model that has continued throughout the organization's history. Dr. Bob drank his last drink on June 10, 1935, marked by A.A. as the date of its founding.

How significant was Shoemaker in A.A.'s founding? Bill W. once wrote that "Sam Shoemaker was one of A.A.'s indispensables. Had it not been for his ministry to us in our early time, our Fellowship would not be in existence today." In another place, he wrote: "The early A.A. got its ideas of self-examination, acknowledgment of character defects, restitution for harm done, and working with others straight from the Oxford Groups and directly from Sam Shoemaker, their former leader in America, and from nowhere else."

For people who have a problem with alcohol, A.A. has a simple program that works. How blessed Trinity is to have them as one of our building partners! Happy 32nd anniversary.

Blessings,  
Stephen Applegate

## AN ADVENT REQUEST

### Advent Collection

#### Collecting Personal Care Items: An Advent Request

This coming Sunday, December 17 – is the last Sunday to contribute items that clients at Team Recovery are in need of receiving.

A collection box is placed near the entrance to the church. Please consider donating:

Shampoo, Bath towels, Conditioner, Toilet paper, Body wash/bar soap, Dish Soap, Deodorant, All-purpose cleaner, Lotion, Toothbrushes, Razors, Toothpaste, Shaving cream

As Jesus said to his followers when he spoke to them about caring for those who were hungry, thirsty, sick, in prison, or naked: "just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members

of my family, you did it to me.”

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# BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

THE DARKEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR

DECEMBER 20TH 2023  
TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ST. MARK'S CHAPEL



## CHRISTMAS EVE

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

4:00 PM IN-PERSON  
MULTIGENERATIONAL SERVICE

7:00 PM T@HOME CHRISTMAS EVE  
SERVICE

10:30 PM MUSICAL PRELUDE

11:00 PM IN-PERSON CHRISTMAS EVE  
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

TSN LUNCH TEAM





On the third Thursday of each month, Trinity prepares and delivers lunch to the vendors of our community partner, Toledo Streets Newspaper (TSN). We will need your help next on **Thursday, December 21st** when we will gather at 9:00a upstairs in My Brother's Place to prepare the meal! At 10:00a, we'll head over to the TSN offices to deliver the meal and spend some time with the vendors.

TRINITY BOOK CLUB



Join Trinity's amazing book club for their next read, *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride. This group meets via zoom. Get your book and spend some time snuggled up over the holidays reading for their next meet up on **Sunday, January 21 at 6:30pm.**



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ACT: Tiny Beautiful Things

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June

Trinity Musicians Concert

## Episcopal News Service

### **WCC general secretary says 'we, as people of faith, must continue to nurture hope' as COP28 ends**

[World Council of Churches] Though COP28 failed to produce a credible plan to phase out fossil fuels, there is still reason for hope that the world...

### **World Council of Churches Christmas message: 'What Is This Light?'**

[World Council of Churches] The World Council of Churches has shared its Christmas message with the whole world, a world in which mounting challenges...

### **Los Angeles diocese's institution seeks families for foster children**

[Diocese of Los Angeles] Christmas can't come fast enough for young brothers Jimmy, 7, and 5-year-old Mark. The family tree's been decorated, they've...

### **Church in Charleston, South Carolina, sponsors historical marker detailing 1919 anti-Black riot**

[Episcopal News Service] A 1919 riot in which white sailors in Charleston, South Carolina, attacked Black businesses and residents, killing two, was...



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### RECTOR'S BLOG

#### O Little Town of Bethlehem



Dear Friends,

In the early 1980's. I served on the staff of St. Paul's Cathedral in Buffalo, NY. Priests who serve at cathedrals are called Canons, so I was known as Canon Applegate. (And yes, there were a lot of jokes made about my being a "big gun.")

The cathedral in Buffalo had a long-standing tradition of musical excellence based on the English model of having a choir of men and boys and a separate girls choir. Both choirs toured regularly in England and the United States. In return, choirs on tour frequently made a stop at the cathedral.

One Advent, St. Paul's hosted the famous choir of King's College, Cambridge, the choir known for the annual broadcast of the Service of Nine Lessons & Carols. Needless to say, the event drew a huge crowd; the church was packed.

Toward the end of their program, the choristers and gentlemen of the choir sang seasonal favorites – many of them carols well-known to aficionados of the English choral tradition. As many times as I had listened to recordings or tuned in to the Service of Lessons and Carols on Christmas Day, nothing prepared me for hearing the choir sing live in a beautiful space with wonderful acoustics.

The last piece Kings College choir sang was “O Little Town of Bethlehem” to the English tune Forest Green rather than the tune that’s more familiar to Americans, St. Louis. The words to the hymn were written by Phillips Brooks, who served as rector of another Trinity Episcopal Church – this one in Boston. The last stanza of the hymn is a prayer, and it is my prayer for all of us here at Trinity Toledo as we celebrate Christmas 2023:

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Merry Christmas on behalf of the Wardens & Vestry and Staff of Trinity!

Blessings,  
Stephen Applegate



## CHRISTMAS EVE

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

4:00 PM IN-PERSON  
MULTIGENERATIONAL SERVICE

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11:00 PM IN-PERSON CHRISTMAS EVE  
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

## CHRISTMAS EVE SECURITY

Silent night, holy night, all is calm . . .

So begins what is perhaps the most beloved of all Christmas carols. Who knows whether that first Christmas in Bethlehem was calm. It likely was not peaceful because so many had been required to register by Caesar Augustus in the city of David.

At Trinity, the later service on Christmas Eve begins with a choral prelude starting at 10:30 pm. It will be after midnight by the time we sing the last stanza of our closing hymn, “Joy to

the World.”

Given the lateness of the hour and the fact that we are located in the heart of downtown Toledo, we have decided to hire security for the service. The security officer will be stationed near the entrance to the church, will walk through the building during service, and will ensure that the facilities are empty before setting the alarm.

Frankly, we wish that we didn't have to take such precautions, but the recent incident with the white supremacist in our space and his subsequent postings on social media have been a reminder that houses of worship of all faiths and denominations have experienced threats.

We hope those who attend the late service on Christmas Eve will feel reassured by the presence of security and that all will indeed be calm.

## OFFICES CLOSED



Trinity's offices will be closed between Christmas and New Year's Day to allow Stephen and staff to enjoy time with family and a well-earned rest.

**Wednesday Noon Service will resume on January 3, 2024.**

AA Meetings will continue 12-1pm during non-holiday weekdays.

## TRINITY BOOK CLUB



Join Trinity's amazing book club for their next read, *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride. This group meets via zoom. Get your book and spend some time snuggled up over the holidays reading for their next meet up on **Sunday, January 21 at 6:30pm**.





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Masterworks Chorale

## Episcopal News Service

### **Priest moderates forum involving diplomats, church leaders on Christian presence in Jerusalem**

[Anglican Communion News Service] This week, the Rev. Donald Binder, chaplain to the Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem and canon pastor of the...

### **Faith in action: a Methodist leader's quest to transform Korean history**

[World Council of Churches] In the heart of a divided land, where the echoes of history reverberate, the Rev. Hee-Soo Jung is weaving together an...

### **WCC general secretary at University of Havana: 'Christians, cry out for peace!'**

[World Council of Churches] World Council of Churches general secretary the Rev. Jerry Pillay offered a lecture at University of Havana in Cuba on...

### **Christmas at Sea knitting ministry has brought warm clothes and cheer to seafarers for 125 years**

[Episcopal News Service] On Christmas Day, thousands of crew members on oceangoing cargo ships and boats on U.S. waterways will receive gifts of...



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### RECTOR'S BLOG

#### New Year's Resolutions



Dear Friends,

Have you made your New Year's resolutions yet? You know the ones I'm talking about – the ones about getting more exercise, spending less time on social media, or finally getting organized. You haven't? Me neither. It's not because I have nothing to work on (the list is long!) It's because I would be setting myself up to fail at keeping any of my resolutions past Groundhog Day.

The practice of making New Year's resolutions is an ancient one. Archeologists believe that the first recorded people to make them were the Babylonians some 4,000 years ago. For them, the New Year began in March when crops were planted. Kings were crowned during the festival, or subjects renewed their loyalty to the reigning king. Commitments were made to pay any debts owed to the gods, and promises were made to returned anything that had been borrowed. Keeping promises meant that the gods would bestow favor on you. Failing to keep promises. . . well, that was no something one dared do in the ancient world where the gods could be capricious and the consequences dire.

The early Christians picked up on the religious aspect of making resolutions, and the first day of the year became a time when one thought about past mistakes and committed to doing better in the future. John Wesley, the Anglican priest (and co-founder of the Methodist Church) pioneered what we now know as "watch night" services. He intended the services to be an

alternative to the boisterous celebrations. It was, he thought, much better to be singing hymns and reading scripture than to have people partake of the alcohol-soaked parties common at the time (and, of course, afterwards.)

Resolution-making these days is mostly a secular thing, with people making promises to themselves rather than to a deity. And what we typically resolve involves some kind of self-improvement. If we are honest, it's hard for most of us to change patterns and habits even when we want to.

Here's my alternative proposal – and *quelle surprise*, it is a throwback to the time when people's resolutions were religious in nature:

***Set a pattern of when you will attend church in person and follow it.*** (Note that I didn't say, attend church more often – although I could get on board with that. No, what I am saying is set a pattern and ***stick with it.***)

When I was a first-year seminarian my advisor, Dick Norris, gathered his new advisees and told us to create a matrix of when we would attend services in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd. If I remember correctly, there were 19 services each week while school was in session (it was seminary after all, where clergy are formed for their lives of prayer.) Dr. Norris said, pick the ones you will attend and then go to those services whether you feel like it or not. Don't go to the services that aren't on your matrix even if you feel like it. Sounds strange, I suspect.

His point was our prayer lives should not be dependent on our feelings – that we ought to pray because God wants to be in relationship with us no matter what's going on with us or how we are feeling – good days and bad days, happy times and sad times, times when we weren't “feeling it” and times when we were. The point wasn't our feelings. The point was responding to God's deep desire to connect with us.

You may not be preparing for ordination, but Dick Norris' counsel still pertains. At Trinity, we don't have 19 services a week, we have (mostly) 8 each month. Pick some and show up.

How many should I pick, you ask? To give you a baseline, the Pew Research Center reports that 62% of Christians attend church once or twice a month. You know your current pattern. Maybe you want to continue it in 2024. If you attend Trinity once a month – to put it in percentages – if you attend one service a month, you are here for 12.5% of the services offered. No matter how many services you commit to attending in a month, stick with it.

By the way, what I've been talking about is not some kind of self-improvement program. The resolution is about you, to be sure, but it's about your relationship with God through Jesus Christ and your relationship with your fellow members here at Trinity.

A lot will happen at Trinity in the next twelve months, and you get to decide how much you want to be part of it – anywhere from 0% to 100%. Have fun thinking and praying about it. Whatever you decide, Happy New Year!

## DE-GREENING THE CHURCH



**Saturday, January 6, 9:30 am**

While we can't promise as much fun and camaraderie as we had Greening the Church in early December, we contend that there's something immensely satisfying about taking down seasonal decorations and *carefully* storing them for next year.

And besides, January 6 is the Feast of the Epiphany – the traditional day when the magi arrived at the cradle having followed the star in the East. For Latin American and Spanish-speaking countries, the day is known as *El Día de los Reyes Magos*, when special food is prepared especially *Rosca de Reyes* (Kings Cake). We can't promise there'll be a Kings Cake for those who come to help de-decorate, but there'll be something sweet and, of course, hot coffee!!

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Trinity's offices will be closed between Christmas and New Year's Day to allow Stephen and staff to enjoy time with family and a well-earned rest.

**Wednesday Noon Service will resume on January 3, 2024.**

AA Meetings will continue 12-1pm during non-holiday weekdays.

**TRINITY BOOK CLUB**



Join Trinity's amazing book club for their next read, *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride. This group meets via zoom. Get your book and spend some time snuggled up over the holidays reading for their next meet up on **Sunday, January 21 at 6:30pm**.



# COMING 2024!



MUSIC and THE ARTS

TRINITY

23

Jan

Trinity Musicians Concert

03

Feb

ACT: The Mountain Top

09

Mar

Joanna Whaley

15

Mar

TAPA Candlelight Concert

05

Apr

The Big in the Smallness of God

12

Apr

ACT: Wakey, Wakey

18

May

ACT: Tiny Beautiful Things

11

June

Trinity Musicians Concert



16

June

Masterworks Chorale

## Episcopal News Service

### **Priest moderates forum involving diplomats, church leaders on Christian presence in Jerusalem**

[Anglican Communion News Service] This week, the Rev. Donald Binder, chaplain to the Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem and canon pastor of the...

### **Faith in action: a Methodist leader's quest to transform Korean history**

[World Council of Churches] In the heart of a divided land, where the echoes of history reverberate, the Rev. Hee-Soo Jung is weaving together an...

### **WCC general secretary at University of Havana: 'Christians, cry out for peace!'**

[World Council of Churches] World Council of Churches general secretary the Rev. Jerry Pillay offered a lecture at University of Havana in Cuba on...

### **Christmas at Sea knitting ministry has brought warm clothes and cheer to seafarers for 125 years**

[Episcopal News Service] On Christmas Day, thousands of crew members on oceangoing cargo ships and boats on U.S. waterways will receive gifts of...