

## **TRINITY TOPICS**

## WEEKLY NEWS

WORSHIP WITH US SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Trinity@Home

**Give Online** 

**Pledge Now** 







## PREPARE THE WAY



Trinity is asking for a pledge.



### How much should I commit to give for 2025?

The first – and most important – answer to the question is to consider prayerfully what you are able to give. No one knows your personal circumstances better than you do, nor does anyone comprehend what your relationship is with Jesus and his church.

We also want to acknowledge that people often have other important philanthropic interests. Every household has some idea what their total giving to charity could be on an annual basis – to the church, their alma mater, Heart Association, Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy, NPR.

Having said this, some people find it helpful to think of their pledge as a percentage of their income. (And if you wonder whether we mean your net or your gross income – you get to choose!) The fact is that everyone who gives money to the church already gives a proportion of their income – they just aren't aware of it. We think it's better to know the percentage so you can actively think in such terms.

Let's say that you earned \$50,000 in 2024 and gave \$1,000 to Trinity. Your pledge would be 2% of your income. Let's take it a step further and say you received a healthy \$10,000 raise, so your income for 2025 will be \$60,000. If you sustained your giving at 2% of your income, your pledge will be \$1,200. Of course, if your income decreases, proportional giving means that your pledge will decrease.

Here's a handy chart that provides the information you need to determine what percentage of your income you are now pledging to Trinity. Can you sustain your gift at the same proportional level in 2025 – or, consider increasing your pledge by 1% of your income. Just find your income, and the block of your weekly gift, and move one block to the right!

Annual Income	Weekly Income	1% of Weekly Income	2% of Weekly Income	3% of Weekly Income	4% of Weekly Income	5% of Weekly Income	6% of Weekly Income	7% of Weekly Income	8% of Weekly Income	9% of Weekly Income	10% of Weekly Income
\$15,000.00	\$288.46	\$2.88	\$5.76	\$8.65	\$11.52	\$14.42	\$17.30	\$20.16	\$23.04	\$25.92	\$28.85
\$20,000.00	\$384.62	\$3.85	\$7.70	\$11.54	\$15.40	\$19.23	\$23.08	\$26.95	\$30.80	\$34.65	\$38.46
\$25,000.00	\$480.77	\$4.81	\$9.62	\$14.42	\$19.24	\$24.04	\$28.84	\$33.67	\$38.48	\$43.29	\$48.08
\$30,000.00	\$576.92	\$5.77	\$11.54	\$17.31	\$23.08	\$28.85	\$34.62	\$40.39	\$46.16	\$51.93	\$57.69
\$35,000.00	\$673.08	\$6.73	\$13.46	\$20.19	\$26.92	\$33.65	\$40.38	\$47.11	\$53.84	\$60.57	\$67.31
\$40,000.00	\$769.23	\$7.69	\$15.38	\$23.08	\$30.76	\$38.46	\$46.16	\$53.83	\$61.52	\$69.21	\$76.92
\$45,000.00	\$865.38	\$8.65	\$17.30	\$25.96	\$34.60	\$43.27	\$51.92	\$60.55	\$69.20	\$77.85	\$86.54
\$50,000.00	\$961.54	\$9.62	\$19.24	\$28.85	\$38.48	\$48.08	\$57.70	\$67.34	\$76.96	\$86.58	\$96.15
\$55,000.00	\$1,057.69	\$10.58	\$21.16	\$31.73	\$42.32	\$52.88	\$63.46	\$74.06	\$84.64	\$95.22	\$105.77
\$60,000.00	\$1,153.85	\$11.54	\$23.08	\$34.62	\$46.16	\$57.69	\$69.24	\$80.78	\$92.32	\$103.86	\$115.38
\$65,000.00	\$1,250.00	\$12.50	\$25.00	\$37.50	\$50.00	\$62.50	\$75.00	\$87.50	\$100.00	\$112.50	\$125.00
\$70,000.00	\$1,346.15	\$13.46	\$26.92	\$40.38	\$53.84	\$67.31	\$80.76	\$94.22	\$107.68	\$121.14	\$134.62
\$75,000.00	\$1,442.31	\$14.42	\$28.84	\$43.27	\$57.68	\$72.12	\$86.54	\$100.94	\$115.36	\$129.78	\$144.23
\$80,000.00	\$1,538.46	\$15.38	\$30.76	\$46.15	\$61.52	\$76.92	\$92.30	\$107.66	\$123.04	\$138.42	\$153.85
\$85,000.00	\$1,634.62	\$16.35	\$32.70	\$49.04	\$65.40	\$81.73	\$98.08	\$114.45	\$130.80	\$147.15	\$163.46
\$90,000.00	\$1,730.77	\$17.31	\$34.62	\$51.92	\$69.24	\$86.54	\$103.84	\$121.17	\$138.48	\$155.79	\$173.08
\$95,000.00	\$1,826.92	\$18.27	\$36.54	\$54.81	\$73.08	\$91.35	\$109.62	\$127.89	\$146.16	\$164.43	\$182.70
\$100,000.00	\$1,923.08	\$19.23	\$38.46	\$57.69	\$76.92	\$96.15	\$115.38	\$134.61	\$153.84	\$173.07	\$192.30

## FAITH & CIVIC LIFE CONTINUES THIS SUNDAY

### Topic: How Can We Disagree Without Being Disagreeable?

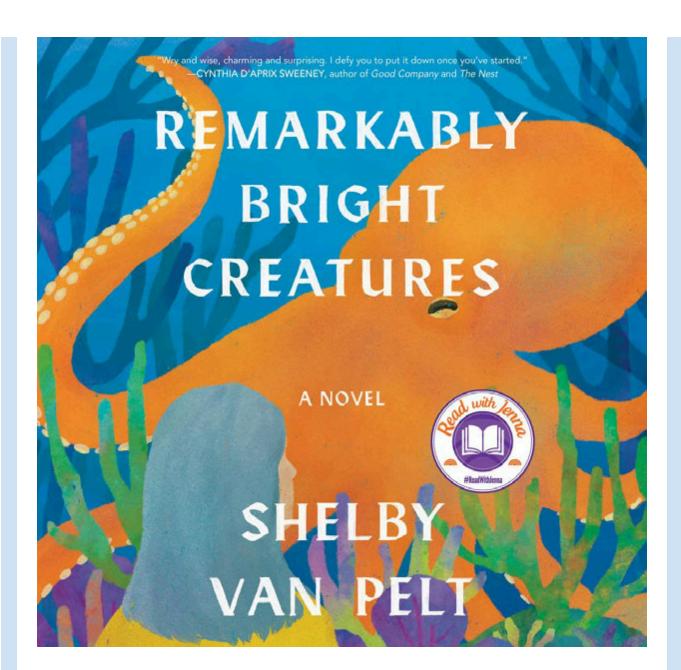
The President of the United States is often considered the most powerful individual on the planet and the leader of the free world. Therefore, it's no surprise that the election of this leader, which occurs every four years, occasionally results in soaring political tensions, allegations of fraud, and even provokes violence.

Not surprisingly, several presidential elections among the fifty-nine we've had so far have been especially bitter and contentious. This year's election will likely go down in history as one of the most divisive in U.S. history. Much of the harsh rhetoric is taking place at a national or regional level. However, some of it is taking place among friends and families.

Join Trinity's Director of Community Engagement, George Benson, this week as our series about faith and civic life continues. We'll be wrestling with questions such as "How can we disagree without being disagreeable?" and "What do we do when we disagree with family members or with friends with whom we thought we shared values?" George will share thoughts from his own training with the College for Congregational Development, from the Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations' Civil Discourse Curriculum, and from John Inazu's 2024 book, *Learning to Disagree*. Adult Formation meets in the sanctuary shortly after the 10:00 am service.



**BOOK CLUB** 



November 10 - Sign Up!



Trinity's First Annual Family Friendly Trick-or-Treating Musical Extravaganza! There will be trick-or-treating, a costume parade, food, fun, crafts, and best of all, a musical sing-along! Families and Kids of all ages are welcome and wanted! October 15th 2024 7:00 pm. Interested in volunteering for this event? Want to help pass out candy, find food, and decorate? Email chelsie@trinitytoledo.org to sign up!

## ARE YOU CALLED TO SERVE ON TRINITY'S VESTRY?

#### Nominating Committee formed & receiving names

Trinity's Nominating Committee has now been formed with the responsibility for presenting a list of three persons who are willing to stand for election to the Vestry at the Annual Meeting of the parish in late January.

The members of the Nominating Committee are Donna Steppe (Senior Warden,) Karen Johnson-Webb, and Kelly Termin. They are eager to speak to any communicant member in good standing of Trinity who might be interested in serving on Trinity's vestry.

In the Episcopal Church, a vestry is a group of people who, with the rector, govern the parish. Vestry responsibilities include:

- Leadership: Overseeing the parish's mission and ministry, and sharing leadership with the rector
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- 1. Gary Franklin (second term)
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All three members of the Nominating Committee may be contacted in-person on Sunday mornings or you may email <u>trinity@trinitytoledo.org</u> to express your interest in being considered.

### **BAPTISMS SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 3**

The Book of Common Prayer of the Episcopal Church lists four days during the church year when having baptisms is especially appropriate. The next one of those days is coming soon – All Saints' Sunday: November 3.

Trinity's tradition – and the norm throughout the church – is to hold baptisms during regularly-scheduled Sunday services.

In the Episcopal Church, we baptize persons only once, since baptism is the rite of initiation – the starting point for Christian discipleship.

If you have a child you would like to present for baptism, or if you yourself would like to be baptized, please contact the Parish Office right away – <a href="mailto:trinity@trinitytoledo.org">trinity@trinitytoledo.org</a> or (419) 243–1231. Our interim rector, Stephen Applegate, will be in touch to schedule a time to prepare for this sacrament. – one of two instituted by Jesus himself.



Head on over to the website or sign up here for one Autumn pop-up dinner of your choosing! Remember, just one-make sure we keep room for everyone at the tables!!:)

https://www.signupgenius.com/tabs/63273D807A5C3EEC60-autumn#/

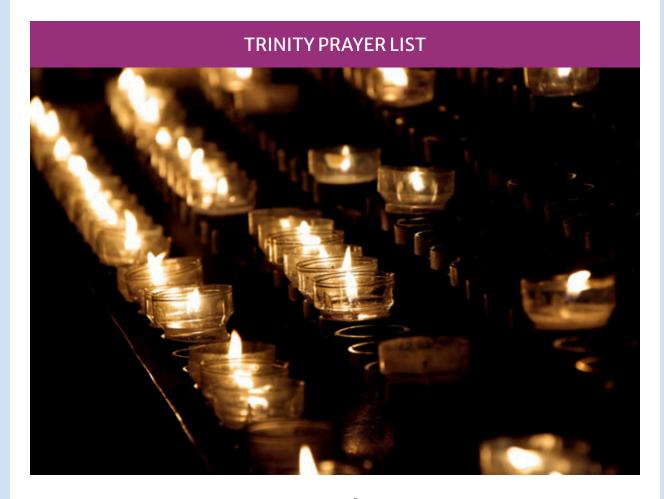
### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

Volunteer for 10/22

#### TSN VENDOR LUNCHES

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## Volunteer for 10/17



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### www.trinitytoledo.org/live

#### **EPISCOPAL NEWS SERVICE**

## Michigan Episcopalians learn from author on rise of Christian nationalism as part of education series

[Episcopal Diocese of Michigan] A best-selling author on the rise of Christian nationalism urged Michigan church leaders to prepare their congregations to navigate what is likely to be political and [...]

Wyoming tribe to celebrate return of cultural items kept by Episcopal diocese nearly 80 vears

[Episcopal News Service – Casper, Wyoming] Lyle Valdez is junior warden at Our Father's House, a congregation of Northern Arapaho Episcopalians on the Wind River Reservation just southeast of Yellowstone National [...]

Calls for release of Armenian hostages held by Azerbaijan growing in lead-up to COP29 [World Council of Churches] The fate of Armenian detainees in Azerbaijan was the focus of an Oct. 1 side event at the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva featuring [...]

Grant will help Pennsylvania church do its part to clean up Chesapeake Bay

[Episcopal News Service] Hope Episcopal Church in Manheim, Pennsylvania, has received a \$46,000 grant that will help it clean up water runoff on its property that eventually feeds into Chesapeake [...]

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



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What are some ways to satisfy my pledge?



Trinity is asking for a pledge. What are some ways to satisfy my pledge?

Pledge, how do I satisfy thee? Let me count the ways (with apologies to the Bard of Avon):

### Some of the typical ways

- 1. Write a check and put it in the offering plate when you attend a Sunday service. For some people, the traditional approach is deeply satisfying and has lots of history behind it.
- 2. Write a check, put it in a stamped envelope and send it to Trinity Episcopal Church, 316 Adams Street, Toledo, OH 43604. If you can't get to church or will be away on vacation, let the US Postal Service take care of delivering your gift.

## Some slightly less typical ways

- 3. Set up an automatic transfer from your a) bank account (ACH transfer), b) credit card, c) debit card, d) PayPal. Call the parish office (419) 243-1231 or email heather@trinitytoledo.org if you need help.
- 4. Go to the kiosk in the rear of the church & enter the information about how much you want to give and from what source
- 5. Click on the QR code that appears in each Sunday service leaflet
- 6. Text to give (419) OMG-GIVE

## Some unusual, but tax-advantaged ways

- 1. Take a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) for your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). (Important disclaimer: talk to your financial advisor or accountant before deciding to give this way! And remember, the gift must be transferred directly from your account to Trinity or other charity.)
  - Your QCD counts towards satisfying your RMD once you reach RMD age.
  - Up to a maximum of \$105,000 of your RMD can be donated to a qualified charity.
  - If you have the RMD service, be sure to factor in these donations to avoid distributing more than your annual RMD.
  - Qualified charitable distributions are counted for the tax year in which they're taken.
  - You may be able to avoid taxes on otherwise taxable distributions if you're drawing from a traditional IRA.
- 2. Transfer appreciated stock to Trinity. Here are four reasons:
  - You can give more. By donating stock that has appreciated for more than a year, you are actually giving 20 percent more than if you sold the stock and then made a cash donation.
  - You can potentially reduce future capital gains. Any appreciation of the value of a stock that you love and want to hold for the long term confirms your belief in it, but it can also set the stage for substantial gains when you sell.

- You can give your portfolio a health check. Any investment portfolio can get out of balance. If a review of your investments' gains and losses shows that it's time to rebalance your portfolio to maximize its performance and optimize for risk, donating stock can give your portfolio the health check it needs.
- You can donate stocks without headaches. Some people think it will require a lot of paperwork and phone calls to donate stock, or that their chosen charity may not be able to easily accept a stock donation. Trinity can help make such a transfer simple and easy. Just contact the parish office for more information.

At Trinity, we are grateful for every donation and have developed a number of convenient ways to give in support of God's mission and ministry. We hope one of the ways listed above helps you give regularly and generously.

### FAITH & CIVIC LIFE CONTINUES THIS SUNDAY

### **Topic: Spiritual Disciplines for Public Life**

This Sunday, October 13, after the 10:00 am service, we continue our series on Faith & Civic Life when we look at spiritual resources for this election season. Sheila Otto will lead the session this week. It's not hard to experience a range of emotions during election season: fear, hope, anger, frustration, excitement, anxiety, happiness. Some days it's possible to experience all of them in the same 24-hour period!

How can we stay grounded? What spiritual disciplines or practices help when we are discouraged and exhausted by the bitterness and rage in our politics? Is it possible for us to become part of a better way of being in this time? Is there an approach to politics that results in healing rather than division, kindness rather than hatred, and hope rather than despair?

Sheila draws from a wide range of spiritual traditions in her teaching and her life. She frequently offers courses at Lourdes University's Lifelong Learning program. This past summer she led a class called, "Broken Made Beautiful," where participants experienced the ancient Japanese art of repairing broken pottery with lacquer and gold called, Kintsugi ("golden joinery"). Sheila's spiritual direction and counseling experience make her the perfect person to share ideas about spiritual disciplines during this season. Sheila is the author of a photo/story book, *All Stories Are True*, *Some Actually Happened* (Amazon).



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The Bee-Attitudes need your help gathering the honey. Two more spelling bee spots need to be filled for October 17 Spelling Bee. This is going to be un-bee-lievably fun!

TRINITY PLAZA AWARDED SACRED GROUNDS SITE



# Sacred Grounds Toledo Celebration & Networking Event

Join local Sacred Grounds faith communities for an early evening celebration! A tour of The Farmhouse grounds will be followed by a potluck dinner, program updates and new habitat certifications.

Sunday, October 20th, 4:30 to 6:30 pm The Farmhouse 3188 OH-120, Metamora, OH 43540

Visit bit.ly/SGTCelebrate or call (419) 936-3954 to RSVP

Thanks to so many of you who have worked hard to plant gardens on the plaza, Trinity has been certified as a Sacred Grounds site by the National Wildlife Federation! You are invited to represent Trinity as we receive our certification at the Sacred Grounds Toledo Celebration & Networking Event on Sunday, October 20 at The Farmhouse, 3188 OH-120, Metamora from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. The Sacred Grounds Toledo Celebration & Networking Event is the Sacred Grounds Toledo annual meeting and includes a potluck dinner, highlights of the past year, Sacred Grounds program updates, networking around challenges and successes, and celebration of Sacred Grounds Toledo faith communities who have completed their certifications. There will also be an optional tour of The Farmhouse's beautiful property. All Trinity members are invited to attend and contribute to the potluck by registering at <a href="https://bit.ly/SGTCelebrate">https://bit.ly/SGTCelebrate</a>.

## Join the Churchwide Virtual Celebration





## SAVE THE DATE!

Celebration of New Ministry and Investiture of

the Right Reverend Sean Rowe

as Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal Church

## WATCH PARTY!

Trinity Cathedral

Trinity Toledo

St. James Wooster

St. John's Youngstown

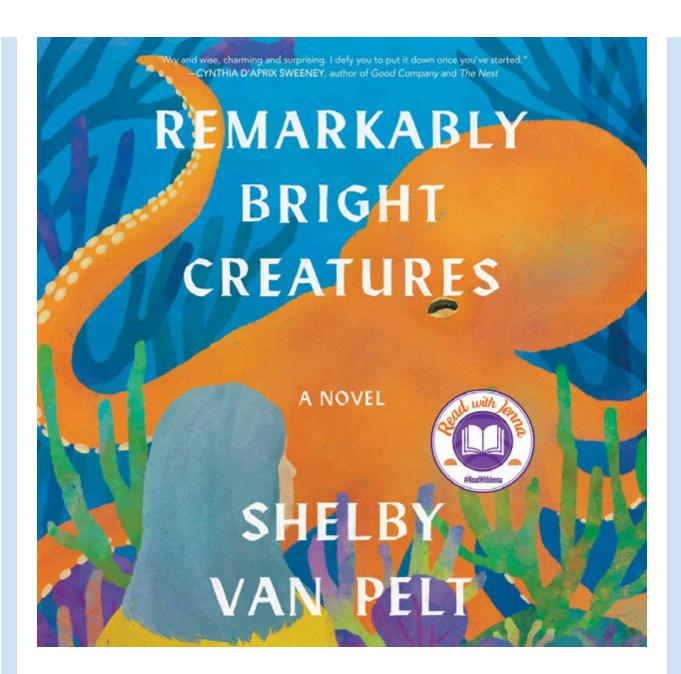
Saturday, November 2, 2024

#RoweTogether #DOhio #PB28 www.iam.ec/investiture

Save the date - Saturday, November 2 beginning at 10am we will be one of four watch party locations in our Diocese. Look for RSVP link in next week's Topics.



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November 10 - Sign Up!

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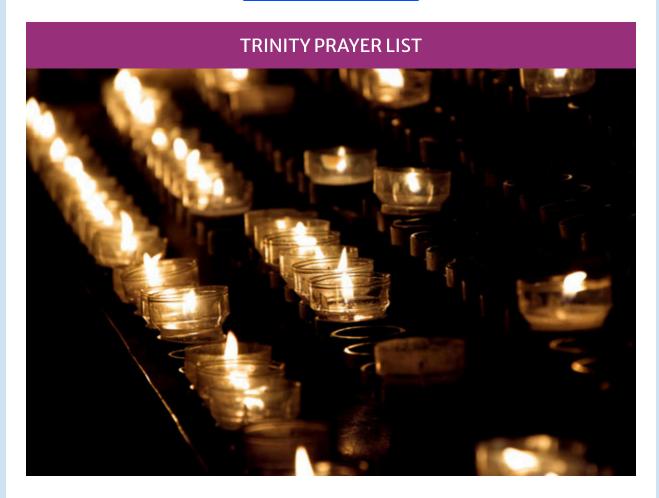
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#### **EPISCOPAL NEWS SERVICE**

### WCC releases 2025 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity resources

[World Council of Churches] At least once a year, Christians are reminded of Jesus' prayer for his disciples that "they may be one so that the world may believe" (see [...]

Episcopal Church, Washington National Cathedral plan election-related services to pray for peace, unity

[Episcopal News Service] Washington National Cathedral announced Oct. 10 that it is planning a full-day prayer vigil on Election Day, followed by a second day of prayers for peace and [...]

Episcopal churches and dioceses to mark Oct. 14 as Indigenous Peoples Day with a variety of services and events

[Episcopal News Service] Indigenous Peoples Day this year is Oct. 14, and a number of states, cities and other entities – including The Episcopal Church – celebrate it instead of [...]

Q&A: Presiding Bishop Michael Curry reflects on an eventful nine years as churchwide leader

[Episcopal News Service] Presiding Bishop Michael Curry was elected and confirmed in June 2015 at the 78th General Convention, and on Nov. 1 that year, he was installed as presiding [...]

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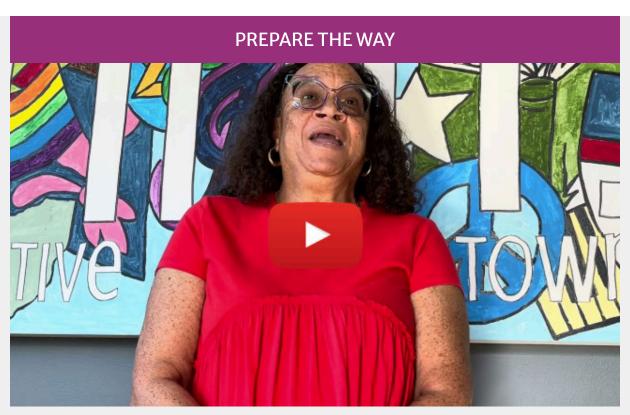
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Pledge Now

How does my pledge help "prepare the way"?

Trinity is asking for a pledge.

How does my pledge help "prepare the way"?



When this year's Annual Stewardship Drive began, Trinity was a little bit more than a year into its transition from one rector to the next. Since last October, the Search Committee has been working steadily and faithfully to accomplish the tasks needed to find the right priest to join

us as we share Christ's light in downtown Toledo and beyond.

The Committee of eight parishioners – Karen Keune (Chair), Gail Abood, Mary Beroske, Angie Carriker, Mark Dubielak, LaVonda Jossett, Allen Santiago, and Sue Smitley – have put in more time, energy, and prayer into "preparing the way" than anyone else here at Trinity. However, that doesn't mean that we don't have a part to play. Every Sunday (and, hopefully, throughout the week) we pray for the transition – for God to send us a faithful priest who will love us and joyfully serve here. An increasing number of people have accepted a ministry beyond attending church services regularly. Folks are teaching Sunday School, planting the Plaza gardens, serving our neighbors at our weekly Community Breakfast, singing in the Choir, handling Altar Guild duties, planning Adult Formation, welcoming visitors, overseeing our buildings and grounds – the list goes on and on. Trinity is alive, active, and growing!

These are good things, because when a priest and parish come together, it's the result of mutual discernment. The members of the Search Committee aren't the only ones evaluating; candidates are also evaluating Trinity, asking questions like: how strong and active is the lay leadership? Are the buildings and grounds well-cared for, what's the worship like? And does Trinity have the resources to do the ministry God is calling them to do?

It's the answer to this last question that connects your pledge to the theme of this year's pledge drive: "prepare the way." A prospective rector wants to know if they'll have to scratch hard to find the money to pay for ministry. A robust response to the 2025 pledge drive will let them know that the parish will have the resources needed in the new year. So, just as you have helped prepare the way by all that you are already doing, take one more step and make a pledge for 2025. When you do, you'll do so knowing that the next rector is paying attention and will see that Trinity's donors have "prepared the way" for an exciting new beginning.

Pledge Now

FAITH & CIVIC LIFE CONTINUES THIS SUNDAY

**Topic: Christian Nationalism** 

This week, our Interim Rector, Stephen Applegate, returns from his vacation to lead the next session of our adult formation series about Faith & Civic Life. This week's topic is Christian Nationalism. With two weeks to go before the election, we'll look at one of the key influences on a large part of the American electorate.

The American journalist and music critic, Kelefa Sanneh, opened a March 2023 article in *The New Yorker*, with the following: "Seven years ago, during the Republican Presidential primary, Donald Trump appeared onstage at Dordt University, a Christian institution in Iowa, and made a confession of faith. 'I'm a true believer,' he said, and he conducted an impromptu poll. 'Is everybody a true believer, in this room?' He was scarcely the first Presidential candidate to make a religious appeal, but he might have been the first one to address Christian voters so explicitly as a special interest."

The relationship between President Trump and white evangelical Christianity deepened over the time he was in office until, on January 6, the events of that day indicated that the alliance between Trump and his Christian supporters had become something more like a movement, a pro-Trump uprising with a distinctive ideology. This ideology is sometimes called "Christian Nationalism."

This week, we address these questions: "What is Christian Nationalism? And how is it different from American Civil Religion? How Christian is Christian Nationalism?"

Understanding the movement – its history, belief system, and appeal – is essential to understanding the relationship between this year's Republican nominee and his voter base. Adult formation meets in the sanctuary right after the 10:00 am service.

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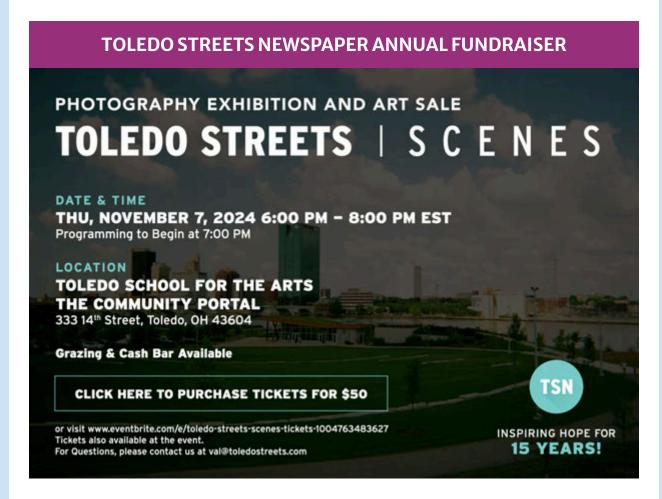
On Saturday, November 2, Episcopalians in northwest Ohio will be gathering at Trinity to watch the investiture of Presiding Bishop-Elect Sean Rowe, who was elected by his fellow bishops and confirmed by deputies to General Convention this summer.

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What's a Presiding Bishop (PB)? Officially, the PB is the "Chief Pastor and Primate of the Episcopal Church." The PB is "charged with initiating and developing church policy and strategy, speaking God's Word to the church and the world" and "invested with executive responsibility for all departments of the church's work." In short, providing both spiritual and organizational leadership. The PB is elected from and by the bishops of the Episcopal Church at General Convention. This summer, Bishop Sean Rowe was elected by his fellow bishops and confirmed by the House of Deputies.

What is the Investiture of the Presiding Bishop-Elect? This is the service in which Presiding Bishop-Election Sean Rowe officially becomes Presiding Bishop. In the past, investitures have taken place at Washington National Cathedral. Presiding Bishop-Elect Sean decided that his investiture be a simpler, scaled-down event with a view toward reducing carbon footprint and increasing virtual engagement and participation.



Our community partners and newer building partners, Toledo Streets, invite us all to their Toledo Streets Scenes annual calendar fundraiser on Thursday, November 7 from 6-8 pm. The celebration will be held at Toledo School for the Arts Community Portal. Link for tickets <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/toledo-streets-scenes-tickets-1004763483627">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/toledo-streets-scenes-tickets-1004763483627</a>

## LAYER UP ON SUNDAY MORNING



We've reached that time of year when you've got the heat churning in the morning, only to have all the windows open by noon. It is much the same way in our old stone fortress at 316 Adams. Until our boiler system is fired up the last week of October, bring a sweater, jacket or your favorite blanket (we won't judge) to worship the next few weeks.

**SPOOKTACULAR SUCCESS** 



On Tuesday night, we welcomed in around 70 friends for a rousing spooktacular good time. We are so grateful for all the volunteers, musicians and friends who came to celebrate. Planning has already begun for 2025. Well done!

TRINITY PLAZA AWARDED SACRED GROUNDS SITE



# Sacred Grounds Toledo Celebration & Networking Event

Join local Sacred Grounds faith communities for an early evening celebration! A tour of The Farmhouse grounds will be followed by a potluck dinner, program updates and new habitat certifications.

Sunday, October 20th, 4:30 to 6:30 pm The Farmhouse 3188 OH-120, Metamora, OH 43540

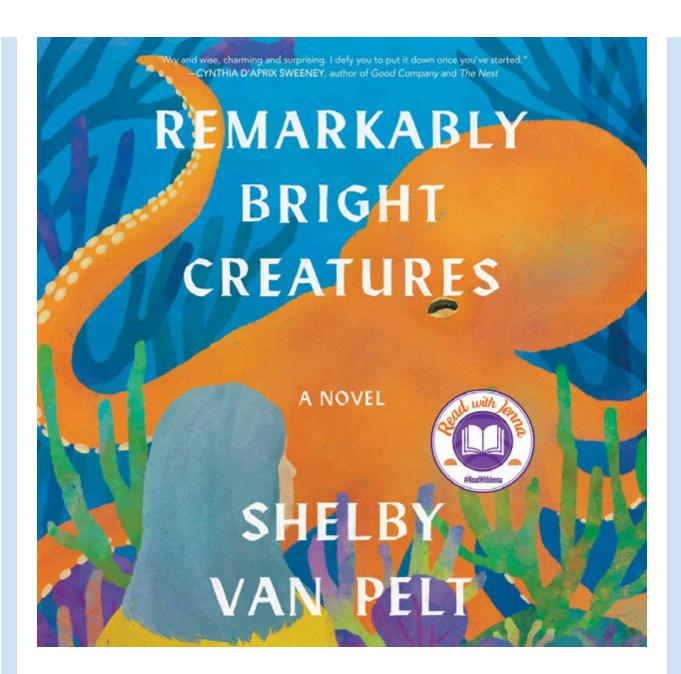
Visit bit.ly/SGTCelebrate or call (419) 936-3954 to RSVP

Thanks to so many of you who have worked hard to plant gardens on the plaza, Trinity has been certified as a Sacred Grounds site by the National Wildlife Federation! You are invited to represent Trinity as we receive our certification at the Sacred Grounds Toledo Celebration & Networking Event on Sunday, October 20 at The Farmhouse, 3188 OH-120, Metamora from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. The Sacred Grounds Toledo Celebration & Networking Event is the Sacred Grounds Toledo annual meeting and includes a potluck dinner, highlights of the past year, Sacred Grounds program updates, networking around challenges and successes, and celebration of Sacred Grounds Toledo faith communities who have completed their certifications. There will also be an optional tour of The Farmhouse's beautiful property. All Trinity members are invited to attend and contribute to the potluck by registering at <a href="https://bit.ly/SGTCelebrate">https://bit.ly/SGTCelebrate</a>.

WEDNESDAY SERVICE RETURNS



**BOOK CLUB** 



November 10 - Sign Up!

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All three members of the Nominating Committee may be contacted in-person on Sunday mornings or you may email <a href="mailto:trinity@trinitytoledo.org">trinity@trinitytoledo.org</a> to express your interest in being considered.

### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

Volunteer for 10/22

#### TRINITY PRAYER LIST



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At the moment, all prayer requests are shared only with a small intercessory prayer group who, along with parish clergy, offer recurring prayers for each request. This is not a closed group. If you want to join Trinity parishioners who've committed to the practice of regularly praying for others, ask Stephen about joining the prayer team.

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## TRINITY@HOME LIVE-STREAM

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www.trinitytoledo.org/live

**EPISCOPAL NEWS SERVICE** 

## Episcopalians join faith-based environmental groups to take on fossil fuels as 'a sacred duty'

[Religion News Service] In mid-September, Val Smith, chief sustainability officer at Citigroup, one of the United States' Big Four of banking, met with four religious environmental activists to discuss the company's [...]

 $Historic\, society\, launches\, app\, for\, self-guided\, tours\, of\, Pennsylvania's\, oldest\, graveyard$ 

[Episcopal News Service] Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Episcopal Church in Philadelphia's Queen Village neighborhood is both Pennsylvania's oldest surviving brick building and oldest church. Established in 1646 as a Swedish [...]

Council welcomes Nobel Peace Prize award to nuclear bomb survivors

[World Council of Churches] The World Council of Churches welcomed the news that the 2024 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Nihon Hidankyo, the Japanese organization of survivors of the [...]

Church in Wales to host national summit to address rivers' crisis

[The Church in Wales] The crisis facing the nation's rivers is the focus of a national summit hosted by the Church in Wales Nov. 7-8. More than 70 people from across [...]

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



## **TRINITY TOPICS**

## WEEKLY NEWS

WORSHIP WITH US SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Trinity@Home

**Give Online** 

**Pledge Now** 







## PREPARE THE WAY



Pledge Now

**DEAR FRIENDS** 

**Election Day** 



Dear Friends,

Election Day is November 5, a week from Tuesday. I suppose a few people are unaware of this, but one would have to wonder under what rock they've been hiding.

Hyperbolic declarations of catastrophe around presidential elections are nothing new. The first bitterly contested election in US history was between John Adams – then Vice President – representing the Federalist Party and Thomas Jefferson – then Secretary of State – of what was called the Republican Party. The campaign quickly descended into mudslinging between the candidates' supporters.

On October 1796, a mysterious editorial appeared in the Gazette of the United States, a popular Federalist newspaper in Philadelphia. The editorial said, in terms understood by most readers, that presidential candidate Jefferson was having an affair with one of his female slaves. Not to be outdone, Jefferson's folks had been using their own strong campaign tactics in the fight against Adams. Adams was accused of wanting to be a king and starting a dynasty by having his son succeed him as President. He was also accused of being overweight and given the nickname "His Rotundity."

So, if you are disturbed by the cataclysmic prospect that your candidate won't be the one elected, or that one or the other candidate's election means calamity for the United States, you have plenty of good company throughout the history of our republic. None of what I have written excuses you from voting, however (assuming you haven't already cast your ballot). Our votes – every single one of them a privilege – represent our hopes and dreams for America.

Even though our votes are important – why else would candidates and parties spend so much money trying to garner them? – Americans are inconsistent voters. Only 37% of citizens 18 years and older voted in 2018, 2020, and 2022. Why the percentage is that low mystifies me.

The country's votes are not the only ballots being cast this time of year. Trinity is also holding an election in early November – an election called the Annual Stewardship Drive – with pledge cards serving as ballots. Our pledges represent our hopes and dreams for this parish church. How we vote in the stewardship drive "election" determines the reach of our ministries in the coming year.

Ingathering Sunday is November 3. Please join me in making a generous pledge for 2025 – yes, I've pledged for 2025 in support of Trinity's bright future under the leadership of your next rector. So many have worked tirelessly to strengthen the parish during the past year. Now it's time to ensure that you all have the resources you need to continue the ministries to which God has called Trinity. Vote by returning your pledge by November 3 as we "prepare the way."

Blessings,

Pledge Now

#### FAITH & CIVIC LIFE CONTINUES THIS SUNDAY

### **Topic: Vote Faithfully Sunday**

During the last several election cycles, The Episcopal Church has offered resources for what it has called "Vote Faithfully Sunday." Typically "Vote Faithfully Sunday" has been observed on the Sunday right before Election Day. And many Episcopal parishes will, indeed, maintain that tradition.

At Trinity – ever creative Trinity – we will move our observance forward by one Sunday to this coming one, October 27. We will do this for two reasons:

The first is the topic for our last Faith & Civic Life series session: "Vote Your Values." We'll spend some time at the beginning of the session helping each participant clarify their key values – the values that are most important to you. Then, with those values in hand, we'll invite participants to apply those values to the major issues of the 2024 presidential election as determined by Pew Research. It's not hard to imagine what they are: the economy, health care, appointments to the Supreme Court, and foreign policy, just to name a few.

If participants haven't cast their ballots yet, we hope the exercise will prove illuminating and helpful. For those who have already voted, the exercise may shed some light on why you voted as you did.

The second reason is that this Sunday, Trinity will begin nine days of prayer for the election. Some many know of nine-day prayer cycles as "novenas." Whatever you prefer to call this time, we'll provide resources for you to take time each day to pray for a concern whether the concern is about those who influence public opinion or for guidance or for the nation.

This final session of Faith & Civic Life will meet in My Brother's Place right after the 10:00 am service. So, grab a cup of coffee and a sweet treat, and join your fellow parishioners upstairs for a thoughtful inquiry into how our values intersect with the issues.

#### PRESIDING BISHOP - ELECT WATCH PARTY

On Saturday, November 2, Episcopalians in northwest Ohio will be gathering at Trinity to watch the investiture of Presiding Bishop-Elect Sean Rowe, who was elected by his fellow bishops and confirmed by deputies to General Convention this summer. Trinity is one of four sites in the diocese hosting watch parties for the livestream of the service. We are blessed to

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Why attend the watch party? This is an important transition for the Episcopal Church and us in the diocese and at Trinity — and not just for church nerds! Over his 9-year term, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry introduced us to Jesus' Way of Love and reminded us repeatedly, "If it's not about love, it's not about God." Participating in Presiding Bishop-Elect Sean's investiture — through the miracle of live streaming — lets us prayerfully support and welcome him and his leadership. Just as important, it's a time that lets us gather and connect with other Episcopalians in our area.

**Curious to learn more about Presiding Bishop-Elect Sean?** Episcopal News Service published an <u>article talking about his journey</u> to the Episcopal Church, ordination, and the joys and challenges of being bishop.



Thanks to so many of you who have worked hard to plant gardens on the plaza this year, Trinity has been certified as a Sacred Grounds site by the National Wildlife Federation. This past Sunday, Bruce and Meribah Mansfield, Heather Meyer and Tom Schoen attended a celebration to receive our designation sign. You can learn all about the NWF Sacred Grounds

work <u>here</u> Be sure to SAVE THE DATE for our last work day on the Plaza: **Saturday, November 16 9:30am.** We will put the beds to bed and take a collective rest from this important work.



Trinity was declared first place winner of The Blade 36th annual Corporate and Community Spelling Bee held this past Thursday. Thanks to Merwin Siu, Hugh and Kyle Grefe and Heather Meyer for bringing home the gold!



#### November 3, 10, & 17

Perhaps you are new here at Trinity. Or maybe you have been coming for a while but still have lots of questions about what this "Episcopal" church is all about. If you'd like a deeper understanding of who we are and why we do what we do, then Episcopal 101 is for you! Our Interim Rector, Stephen Applegate, will hold Episcopal 101 sessions on three consecutive Sundays in the Walbridge Room on the 1st floor of the Parish House following the 10:00 am service.

Bishop Anne is holding a regional confirmation service on Saturday, November 23 in St. Timothy's, Perrysburg. Participation in Episcopal 101 is required if people want to be confirmed. However, being confirmed is not required if you take the class!

The class begins next Sunday, November 3.



Organ Recital: Ken Stoops November 12, 2024 @ 7:00 pm Treasured Trinity organist, Ken Stoops, is giving a concert Nov. 12, 2024. With over 40 years of parish organ music ministry, Ken is a wealth of knowledge and undeniable talent sure to dazzle and delight organ enthusiasts of all levels. FREE EVENT.

## **DIOCESAN CONVENTION**

It's Time for Diocesan Convention – And You're Invited!!

The 206<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Diocese of Ohio is coming to the Toledo area. On Friday and Saturday, November 8 & 9, the convention will be meeting at the Hilton Garden Inn in Perrysburg. Clergy and lay delegates from parishes across the northern half of the state will be in town to celebrate the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement and conduct the business of the church – and Convention is for everyone!

In addition to the meaningful and essential work of the delegates regarding diocesan business and elections, the entire diocese is participating in creating a joyful space for engaging in collective worship, fostering congregational development, and creating and strengthening relationships and camaraderie in our diocese.

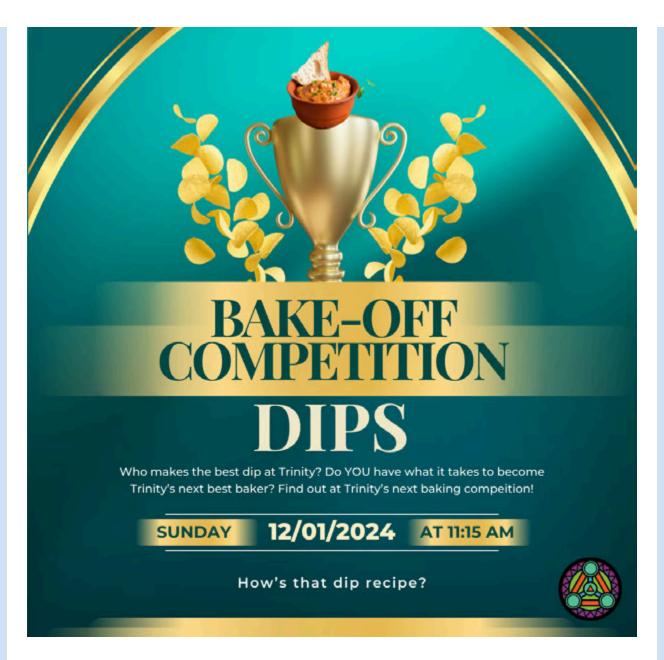
#### Here are the details:

Friday Evening, November 8: Convention Eucharist (free) and Banquet after the Eucharist (Cost: \$30). Both will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, Perrysburg.

Saturday, November 9: The Bishop's Address and all convention business will be at the Hilton Garden Inn, Perrysburg; (Cost: \$40)

Trinity parishioners are welcome to attend the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and can also purchase a spot at the Banquet that follows. These two events are typically more celebratory and joy-filled than the business meeting held the next day. But "church nerds" (yes, we said that!) might enjoy hearing Bishop Anne Jolly's address about the state of the Diocese and plans for helping every congregation be more effective witnesses of God's love through Jesus.

Have we sparked your interest? Then contact the Parish Office – <a href="mailto:trinity@trinitytoledo.org">trinity@trinitytoledo.org</a> – for more information!

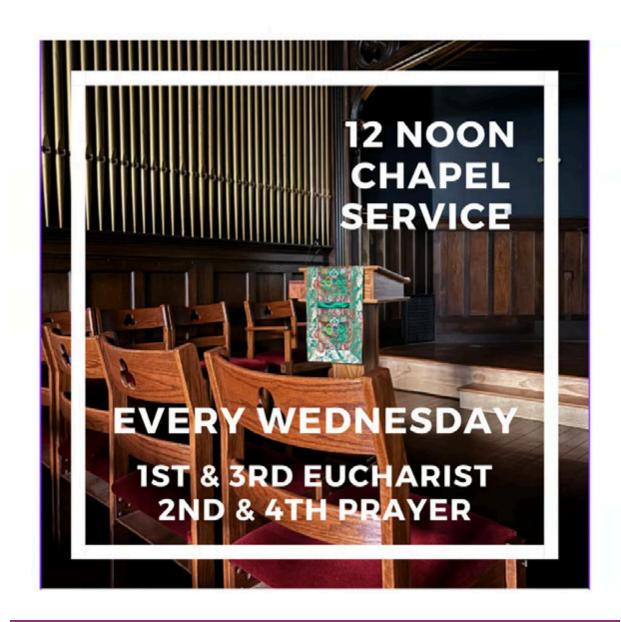


Our next bake-off competition is slated for December 1, 2024. Start planning and signup now!

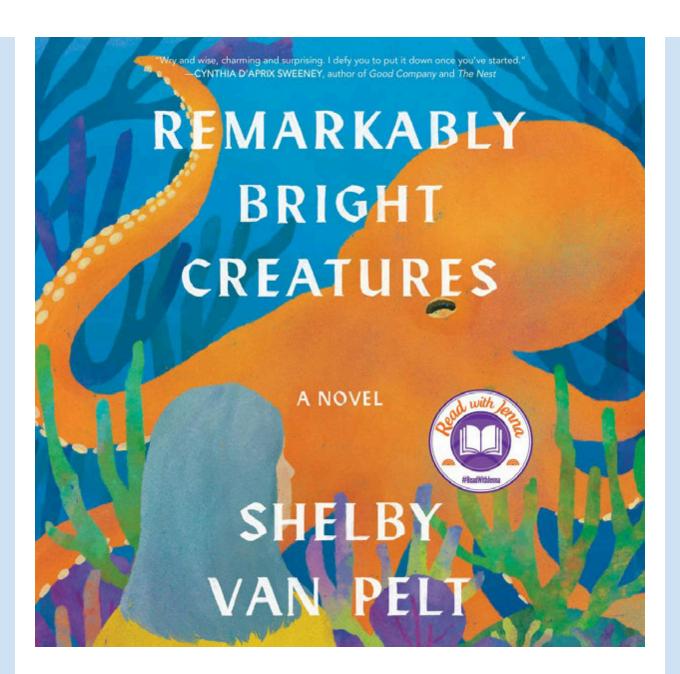


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**EPISCOPAL NEWS SERVICE** 

# Sewanee's School of Theology hosts webinar on how churches can address climate change post-Hurricane Helene

[Episcopal News Service] Hurricane Helene's unprecedented destruction upon inland communities throughout the Southeastern United States that were previously considered safely outside hurricane zones has renewed calls to research and mitigate [...]

National affordable housing developer names Los Angeles diocese 'Community Partner of the Year'

[Diocese of Los Angeles] National CORE, a nonprofit affordable housing developer, honored the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles as "Community Partner of the Year" last week for its commitment to [...]

Episcopal delegation attends UN biodiversity conference as observer for first time

[Episcopal News Service] The United Nations is three days into its annual biodiversity conference, and The Episcopal Church is participating for the first time as an observer organization. Three Episcopalians [...]

Florida priest hospitalized after stabbing attack; suspect in custody

[Episcopal News Service] The rector of an Episcopal church in St. Augustine, Florida, was the victim of a stabbing attack Oct. 23 that has left him hospitalized, the Diocese of [...]

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