

# THE CHIMES

Trinity Episcopal Church  
815 N. Grant St.  
Bay City, Michigan 48708

June - July 2023

Volume 26 Issue 6



## Dear Trinity Family,

Our annual Parochial reports shows our average Sunday attendance dropping from 199 in 1999 to 47 in 2022. This reduces financial support for worship services and outreach. Our operating costs are growing faster than our attendance losses. We need to find ways to increase our membership and attendance. Sunday average attendance by year:

1999-199, 2000-180, 2005-130, 2010-109,  
2015 - 59, 2020- 69 and in 2022 - 47.

We continue to look for ideas to address this problem. In October and December, 2017, we did brainstorm sessions to find ideas that could be implemented to increase membership. In May of 2019, we attended an "Invite-Welcome-Connect" church growth workshop. We hosted the Faith Alive weekend in 2019 which was well attended.

In follow-up meetings growth ideas were offered.

A few of the ideas that were presented at these sessions have been implemented, many were not because of Covid-19. Rev. Sue and your Vestry are continuing to review many of these ideas.

While we were unable to worship in person, Rev. Sue began using live streaming worship services on Facebook and YouTube. We learned how to conduct Zoom Vestry and committee meetings so that we could worship and serve on committees when we were home or even when we were traveling. We are

learning to use this new technology to invite people to worship with us.

## Current Worship Efforts to Maintain and Build Membership:

- We rebuilt our organ and continued our fantastic Instrumental and Choir music and Evensongs
- We started using our Trinity Band (easy to sing praise music) in some services
- We scheduled a Faith Alive Weekend for October 20-22, 2023. The last Faith Alive weekend was well received and many of the things that we planned to do after that session have never been implemented.
- Your Sr. Warden was active in the healing ministry in Florida and is currently attending classes to become re-certified as a trainer for the Order of St. Luke (OSL) a ministry that teaches us how to confidently "Pray for anyone, anywhere and anytime in the name of Jesus." Rev. Sue is interested in making this ministry available at Trinity.
- Rev. Sue and your vestry are looking at ways to expand Trinity ministries that will allow us to continue to meet our current members needs and attract new members. Under consideration:
  1. Possibly adding an additional Sunday or weekday service.
  2. Additional use of praise music (suggested at all growth sessions)
  3. Beginning the OSL healing prayer ministry at Trinity.

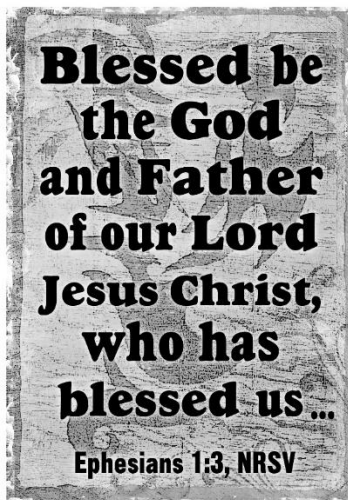
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### Efforts to Make Trinity More Accessible for Worship, Fellowship and Building Use

- Refinished the parish hall floor and painted the room
- Renovated our kitchen to better serve our members and outreach – Food of Faith
- The parish hall bathrooms were renovated
- We built a broadcast booth with new improved sound system and video streaming cameras and equipment to reach members and invite non-members to attend services and events on-line or in-person.
- In the parish hall, we installed a video projector with a 10 ft. screen and a Bose sound system so that we can increase the use for fellowship, social events, meetings, etc.

**If we continue to do only what we have been doing for years we will most likely continue to have the same results . . . a continued declining membership and financial problems. With your prayers, ideas, support, and God’s help we can rebuild a larger Body of Christ at Trinity.**

Yours in Christ,  
*Archie Duncan, Senior Warden*



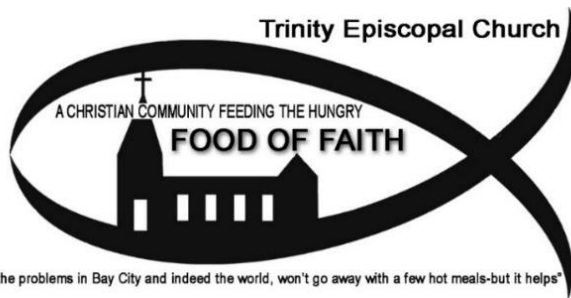
While Rev Sue will be on her Sabbatical, I thought this might be interesting to share.

### Information on Sabbath and Sabbatical

The following is written on Sabbath and Sabbatical and comes from [An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church A User-Friendly Reference for Episcopalians](#) by Don S. Armentrout and Robert Boak Slocum, editors.

**Sabbath.** The seventh day of the Jewish week, our Saturday. It was marked by a total prohibition of work (Ex 23:12). In Christian liturgical usage, Holy Saturday is called the Great or Holy Sabbath, the day when Christ rested in the tomb. Early Christians rejected the celebration of the Jewish Sabbath and the restrictions on activity associated with it in the OT. It was considered as part of the ceremonial law which was abolished in Christ. Instead they kept the Lord’s Day, the first day of the week, the day of the Resurrection, as their day of worship. Seventh Day Adventists and a few other Christian groups continue to worship on the sabbath. Sabbatarians are those Christians, usually Scottish or English Calvinists, who apply the OT prohibitions against work to Sunday, deeming it the Christian sabbath. This was a point of conflict between Anglicans and Puritans in the seventeenth century. The “blue laws” in many localities forbidding various activities on Sunday are inherited from Puritan sabbath-keeping. Some Christian groups also forbid various forms of recreation on Sunday in order to keep the sabbath.

**Sabbatical.** This term comes from the word “sabbath,” and means seven or seventh. It means a period of rest and an intermission in labor. A sabbatical year is the seventh year. It is a time when persons are relieved from their duties for study and travel. It is now used for a period of leave that is not necessarily every seven years. Sometimes it is called a “sabbatical leave.”



**You will never regret the time you spend helping others.**

If you are at Trinity any Sunday afternoon, you will experience our Food of Faith community. We believe that by feeding those in need in our community, modeling Christian behaviors, and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ we present possibilities to a group of people who may otherwise not have this experience. At the same time, we honor our commitment to God as individuals and the church. We all grow in Christ through this fellowship and service.

Are you feeling a tug on your heart to be more involved with this ministry of Trinity, to become a part of a dynamic group of churches and organizations that are dedicated to making a difference in the lives of others? Are you hearing a call to serve God in your community?

We are looking for Trinity's next ministry leader. This can even be a team of people who organizes the ministry, holds an annual meeting (in October) to set the calendar for the next year, communicates with the FOF board, the organization, and Trinity, and provides supervision and leadership for the ministry.

Contact the Vestry or Pat Maxim for more information about this dynamic ministry of Trinity.



**THANK YOU:**

Rev. Andreas Teich and our Senior Choir for a lovely Ascension Day Evensong.

St. Elizabeth Guild for all their hard work with the card ministry.

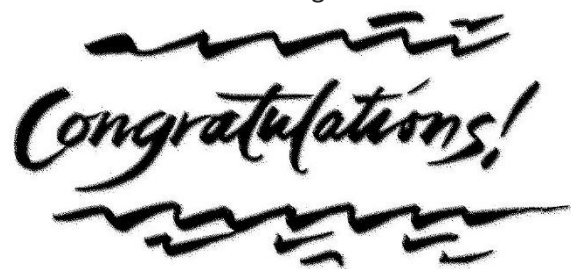
Altar guild for their faithful work week after week.

Trinity's Senior Choir for another wonderful season of singing.

Altar parties for their "faithful attendance unto the Lord".

(In advance) to the Garden Guild and their faithful waterers and weeders.

Terry Oliver, our sexton, for keeping Trinity and its buildings safe and clean and welcoming and for cleaning the snow so we were safe from falling.



**CONGRATUALIONS**

Moria Brady for her graduation from Midland Dow High School

Dawn Brady for her retirement from teaching at Midland Dow High School

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## June Birthdays

Quinnlyn Lang  
 Jean Meisel  
 Craig Hool  
 Katy Iannacchione  
 Sarah Willard  
 Stacie Miller  
 Rita Meilstrup  
 Anne Trahan  
 Jennifer Jones  
 Dawn Brady

## June Anniversaries

Allen & Judy Laskowski  
 Stacie & Chuck Miller  
 Donald & Denise Middleton  
 Michael & Diane Rapson Gabil

## July Birthdays

John Allen  
 Mary Jane Elliot  
 Ed Pawlaczyk  
 Rita Laetz  
 Corbyn Lang  
 Nicole Causley  
 Susan Beckert  
 Bruce Sherbeck  
 Jeanette Luebs  
 Isabella Salazar

## July Anniversaries

Steven & Patti Anderson  
 Jeff & Kristi Pennex  
 John & Debbie Walker  
 Archie & Ann Duncan



## SPECIAL JUNE DATES

- Trinity Sunday, June 4 – Choir’s last day
- Saturday, June 24, 10am – Nan Wells funeral
- Saturday, June 24 – Pridefest booth 11am-6pm
- Sunday, June 25 – Pot Luck cook out

## SPECIAL JULY DATES

- Sunday, July 2 – Trinity serves Food of Faith
- Sunday, July 2 at 4pm – Patriotic Concert returns
- Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup> - spaghetti dinner

## SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, Pot Luck cookout at the Duncan’s. More information to come!

Sunday, August 27, 12-3pm, Friends of Music Fundraiser at Wenona Park

September 10th - Empty can drive

## REMEMBER TRINITY IN YOUR WILL

As a way to offer enduring support ministry here, please consider putting Trinity in your will.



### FOOD OF FAITH

A big thank you to Pat Maxim, Shelley Anderson, Paulette Royer, Mary K Freel, Katherine Freel, Janet Hool, and Michelle Hunsberger or being Food of Faith volunteers. And for everyone who supplies desserts of our servings.

### REV. SUE ON SABBATICAL

Rev. Sue will return from her 3-month sabbatical on August 1<sup>st</sup>. During this time The Rev. Don Davidson led Sunday worship through the month of May. And what a wonderful job he did. A big **THANK YOU** to Rev. Don! When I said to him, "You are wonderful up there." His answer to me was "I love what I do! This is the best there is!" And we all could see that, couldn't we? During this time substitute ministers will lead services and Pastor Andreas Teich continues to provide any pastoral care and emergencies including any funerals needed. Senior Warden, Archie Duncan, is handling all other church matters.


# Social COMMITTEE

### THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE OF TRINITY

has planned a Potluck Barbeque on Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, immediately following church. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be supplied – and grilled – as well as buns and condiments. There will be a sign-up sheet for everything else – potato salad, beans, dessert, etc.! We will eat in the Parish Hall for some fellowship! Funday Sunday is taking the summer off - look for it again in the fall! Other events will be the 2nd annual cookout at the Duncans in August. If you would like to see other events, please contact Ann Shea.

# Puzzle!

Use the code to find out what these biblical people may have taken on a picnic.



|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J  | K  | L  | M  | N  | O  | P  | Q  | R  | S  | T  | U  | V  | W  | X  | Y  | Z  |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |

*(Genesis 3:6)*  
Adam and Eve                                         
  6   18   21   9   20

*(Genesis 25:28)*  
Isaac                                                           
  23   9   12   4        7   1   13   5

*(Genesis 25:34)*  
Esau                                         
  19   20   5   23

*(Numbers 11:5)*  
Israelites in Egypt                                                                    
  3   21   3   21   13   2   5   18   19

*(Ruth 2:1-4)*  
Ruth                                                           
  7   18   1   9   14

*(1 Samuel 14:2)*  
Saul                                                                                               
  16   15   13   5   7   18   1   14   1   20   5   19

*(1 Samuel 14:29)*  
Jonathan                                                           
  8   15   14   5   25

*(Daniel 1:12-16)*  
Daniel and friends                                                                             
  22   5   7   5   20   1   2   12   5   19

*(Matthew 3:4)*  
John the Baptist                                                                    
  12   15   3   21   19   20   19

*(Matthew 14:17)*  
The 5,000 people                                                 &                                               
  2   18   5   1   4    6   9   19   8

Answer: fruit, wild game, stew, cucumbers, grain, pomegranates, honey, vegetables, locusts, bread & fish

### THE HISTORICAL GUILD

The Historical Guild would like to invite you to check out the new Showcase in the Historical Guild corner of the Parish Hall. It is all about the Senior Wardens - Past & Present. There is also a timeline dating from 1854 to now - it is under glass on the table in that corner. It contains some interesting facts about Trinity!

Also, the Historical Guild invites you to Coffee Hour on June 18th - Father's Day. We will honor fathers with an Ice Cream Social and a small gift. See you there!





### **CONFIRMATION, RECEPTION, REAFFIRMATION CLASSES**

We will be having a class for those who would like to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church or reaffirm their baptismal covenant and expect to start in August. The date of the confirmation is November 11 at St. Timothy's in Richland. This will be a combined class with the good people of St. Alban's. Please send an email to [revsuerich@gmail.com](mailto:revsuerich@gmail.com) or place a note in her mailbox across from the men's bathroom and she will get back to you upon her return.

### **ST. ELIZABETH'S GUILD**

June 13. 11am at Trinity to write cards.  
12:30pm lunch at Zef's. All are invited!

July 11. 11am at Trinity to write cards.  
12:30pm lunch following. Location will be announced at a later date. All are invited!



### **FRIENDS OF MUSIC PRESENTS**

"Food, Families and Fun in the (Sun)day"  
Food trucks will be present on Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup> to help raise money for the Friends of Music program's 2023-24 season. Please join us after church from 12-3pm for lunch, your favorite outdoor family games like cornhole, Yardzee and ladder ball, and (hopefully) sunshine. Confirmed food trucks will be Fatt Matt's BBQ and Kona Ice. (Official location TBD). This event is free to the public. A portion of all proceeds will go to support Friends of Music along with any donations received. Please see a FoM committee member if you'd like to volunteer or have any questions!



### **THE PATRIOTIC CONCERT RETURNS!**

Sunday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4pm the Chamber choir, Exultate Deo will present some of your favorite Patriotic music as well as a few pieces by American composers and familiar music from the various branches of service. The event will be sponsored by the Anne Frisby Fitzhugh-Saginaw Chapter NSDAR with various patriotic readings incorporated. We hope you will join us for the return of this favorite summer event.

### **FRIENDS OF MUSIC**

The Friends of Music can drive is on hold until the choir returns on September 10th. Please save your cans!

### **CONTRIBUTIONS**

Your continued financial support of Trinity is greatly appreciated. Your Finance Committee and Vestry continue to work diligently to utilize all resources available to us during this unprecedented time.

Ways to provide us with your contributions:

- Write and mail a check to Trinity
- IRA contribution

Go to [www.trinityepiscopalbaycity.org](http://www.trinityepiscopalbaycity.org), click on the online giving link which will take you to the diocesan webpage

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Have you changed your address, phone number or other information lately? If so, please make sure that information gets to us! Thank you.

**PUZZLE** 

*Seeking the story*

Angels joyfully announced a special arrival in Bethlehem at Christmas.

*Directions: Find the words listed below. Then unscramble the intersecting letters to complete Luke 2:11, NIV.*



**WORD BANK**

- Shepherds
- Child
- Nazareth
- Census
- Baby
- David
- Mary
- Travel
- Town
- Register
- Born
- Night

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | B | W | Y | A | Z | K | E | S | H | N | G | D | J | K |
| Q | O | Y | A | P | R | A | L | B | F | P | I | C | Q | L |
| N | R | W | X | B | E | Y | R | M | B | D | M | O | E | E |
| S | N | O | N | W | G | A | I | B | A | C | D | O | T | D |
| R | G | X | J | F | I | W | M | V | B | R | R | C | E | O |
| P | S | C | E | N | S | U | S | H | Y | U | Y | F | P | N |
| O | T | P | I | G | T | Q | C | N | T | G | M | U | S | T |
| O | A | N | D | B | E | C | H | I | L | D | N | Z | F | A |
| A | T | B | A | U | R | W | H | G | F | V | A | B | U | M |
| T | R | A | V | E | L | J | C | H | V | O | Z | G | N | H |
| F | B | Q | I | W | D | X | P | T | E | N | A | O | L | Q |
| Z | C | R | D | Q | S | H | E | P | H | E | R | D | S | V |
| R | U | V | Y | K | N | I | R | T | K | G | E | Y | I | R |
| K | V | A | Z | X | L | S | H | Y | T | P | T | J | S | K |
| L | L | E | S | M | J | Z | L | Q | R | U | H | V | W | X |

"Today in the town of David a \_\_\_\_\_  
has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord."  
LUKE 2:11, NIV

Answers: Savior

**NAN WELLS**

As you may have remembered, Nan Wells passed away in March. Her Celebration of Life (or Service) will be on June 24th at 10:00 am.

**WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**

Sundays:

- Worship @ 10am
- FOF doors open 1:30, meal served 2:30

Mondays: Overeaters Anonymous 10am

Tuesdays: Compline online 9pm

Wednesdays:

- Morning Prayer online 11:30am

Thursdays:

- Fun & Games 1pm
- Senior Choir rehearsal June 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm –
- Overeaters Anonymous 7pm
- Compline online 9pm

Fridays: Narcotics Anonymous 7:30pm

**UPDATE ON TRINITY'S COVID PROTOCOLS**

All protocols have been lifted. The pandemic is over. Continue wearing masks if you would like, but any mandates are now over.

**LIST UPDATES**

If you have someone you would like to add to, or delete from, one of our prayer lists, please email [trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com](mailto:trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com) or call 989-892-5813 or 989-326-0469 (cell).

**FACEBOOK AND YOUTUBE**

Please make sure to like our Facebook page and YouTube channel and then share them on Facebook. We get lots of views when you share our posts and services!



**WORSHIP AT TRINITY**

Please note: Our virtual services are live streamed or recorded/preserved to be available to others by way of our website, social media, or other on-line platforms. Even though there is no deliberate attempt to include the congregation in the broadcast or publication, you are hereby notified there is the possibility of your image being shown and your presence and participation constitutes your permission for that to occur.

**Trinity Church**  
**Her People, Her Building**  
**Then and Now**

**Incense**

Incense is an aromatic compound of sweet gums and spices that is burned to produce a fragrance. It has been used since ancient times, at first for secular purposes and eventually in the religious worship by pagans and the Israelites. The Ancient Egyptians burned incense in religious ceremonies. The Greeks and Romans and later the early Christians adopted this practice.

From earliest times the ritual significance of incense centered around its fragrance and the smoke it produced. The fragrance was thought to please the gods and to drive off evil spirits.

In early Old Testament times the use of incense was frequently condemned because of its association with pagan offerings to Baal and to the sun, moon and stars (Jeremiah 19:3-4, 13). But there was a difference between ordinary or “*profane*” incense (Ex. 30:9) and “*sacred*” incense that was used solely in Israelite worship. Leviticus 16:12 and Exodus 30:34-38 tell us that proper incense for worship was a finely ground powder made of a special blend. In time incense was made part of the Temple ritual where it was offered in special censers, as on the Day of Atonement, or for the purification of meat offerings. In the Book of Psalms prayer was also compared to incense – “let my prayer be counted as incense before you” (Ps 141:2). Today, incense is still used in some Jewish worship.

In the New Testament, the burning of incense is mentioned in Luke 1:8-12 where during Temple worship Zachariah offered incense at

the “*altar of incense.*” In Revelation 5:8 “golden balls full of incense” symbolize “the prayers of the saints.”

In Christianity, incense has been regarded as symbolic of prayer, contrition and the promulgation of the faith. The use of incense in the Christian church began in the late 4<sup>th</sup> century. There is mention of the use of incense in the East (Antioch) in 594 and in Rome in the 8<sup>th</sup> century. However, its use at elevation and benediction rites began only in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Today it remains part of the ritual of Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches, and since the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century it has been used by High Churchmen of the Anglican communion and some Lutheran churches.



The stand holding the *censer* or *thurible* (lower left), and the “*boat*” or container to hold incense (upper right). At Trinity Church incense is occasionally used before Evensong to provide fragrance and an atmosphere of mystery and God’s presence. In “High” Church parishes, a *thurifer* often leads the procession swinging the censer. In some Christian circles incense is sometimes affectionately called “*holy smoke.*”

Faithfully submitted by the Historical Guild



**WORSHIP ON FACEBOOK & YOUTUBE**

In-person and Online:

Sunday-10:00 AM – Holy Communion

Online only:

Wednesday-11:30 AM – Morning Prayer

Tues & Thurs-9:00 PM – Compline

**FOOD OF FAITH**

Sundays: 1:30 PM – Doors open

2:30PM – Meal served

**OFFICE HOURS**

Currently by appointment

**CONTACT US**

**Office Telephone:** (989) 892-5813

**Cell Phone:** (989) 326-0469

**E-mail:**

[trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com](mailto:trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com)

**Web Site:**

[www.trinityepiscopalbaycity.org](http://www.trinityepiscopalbaycity.org)

**Facebook:**

Trinity-Episcopal-Church-Bay-City

**YouTube:**

Trinity Episcopal Church Bay City

**MISSION STATEMENT**

To encourage growth through fellowship, follow the teachings of Jesus, and reach out to our community through prayer and service.

**VISION STATEMENT**

We strive to grow the body of Christ by being a welcoming, vibrant, service-based faith community that actively lives our values, especially the commandment to “love God and our neighbor.”

**VESTRY**

Senior Warden – Archie Duncan

Junior Warden – Don Middleton

Clerk/Secretary – Dan Keeler

Michelle Hunsberger

Mickie Leibrand

Carolyn Pawlaczyk

Patrick Gray

Treasurer

**DIOCESE**

The Rt. Rev. Prince Singh

Bishop Provisional

**CLERGY**

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Rector

**STAFF**

Mrs. Rayechel Berger

Choir Director

Mr. Terry J. Oliver

Sexton

Mrs. Brenda Weaver

Bookkeeper

Mr. Patrick Winningham

Congregational  
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Michelle Hunsberger

Bruce Sherbeck

Carolyn Pawlaczyk

Chimes Editor

Pat Maxim

Web Site Manager

Trinity Episcopal Church  
815 North Grant Street  
Bay City, Michigan 48708

