

THE CHIMES

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

December 2021

Volume 24 Issue 11



Dear Trinity Community,

As we embark on Advent and Christmas, I'm reminded of how different our lives were at this time last year as we prepared for the Holy One to enter into the world.

The pandemic was raging, precious little felt normal, and we were not able to meet together for worship or much else.

Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's celebrations were, for most of us, quiet times in our homes. Many of us hadn't seen loved ones for nine months except on the occasional Zoom session. For those in a senior care facility, nursing home, assisted living, rehab or hospital, no one but staff was allowed in the building.

It was a time of solitude and loneliness.

During Advent we reflect on the coming of God into the world in the vulnerability and humbleness of a newborn. We may also reflect on the past year with grief and gratitude for all that it revealed.

Jesus came into the world in the form of a newborn and the world was changed forever. His parents had to travel a far distance, couldn't find a place to stay, and were offered the humble means of a manger with the animals.

In a time of worldly turmoil, God came to humanity. In a time of distress, the marginalized shepherds were the ones to whom the angels told "Go check this out!" It

was to a simple young woman that God sought to usher in a new way of life for the whole world.

In our own time of turmoil with the pandemic's variants moving throughout the country and world, we take time to allow Jesus to come into our lives and into our world...once again.

On Friday, December 24, Christmas Eve at 5pm our children will lead our worship of this precious newborn king. They will acolyte, read, chant the psalm, sing, and provide the message of hope. As it says, "And a little child will lead them", we will allow the innocence of these children God has put in our midst to remind us of what the baby Jesus means to us.

Then at 11pm our Senior Choir will join us as we gloriously worship God in our Festive Eucharist. We will begin with the Grand Procession and end with Silent Night, as is our tradition.

You are cordially invited to join us for Christmas in the way you feel safest and most comfortable either in person or online. We will continue using health safety precautions and are grateful for such a large worship space in which to be together as closely or as spread out as we each like.

Even as we stay safe through distancing, we open our hearts to let the Christ child into the depths of our lives.

Merry Christmas to all.

In Christ's love, *Rev. Sue*

THANK YOU

Mary K Freel and Ann Shea's leadership in heading up the Holiday Bazaar and for the many volunteers who made it such a success.

OUR SYMPATHIES TO

Mickie Leibrand on the death of her friend, Robyn Goyett, who died November 14, 2021.

The loved ones of Lynda Dresser who died November 26, 2021.

CONGRATULATIONS

Pat Maxim on receiving the NSDAR (National Society Daughters of the American Revolution) Community Service Award.

CHRISTMAS SING-A-LONG

We are having an encore Christmas Sing-A-Long on Tuesday, December 14 at 7:00pm. The choir from St. John Episcopal Church in Midland will be joining in the fun. Please join us!

SPECIAL DECEMBER DATES

- Sunday, December 5 at 10AM, we will pray over our 2022 financial commitments to Trinity
- Sunday, December 12 after church, decorate the church for Christmas followed by homemade soup and bread.
- Tuesday, December 14 at 7PM, Christmas Sing-A-Long
- Friday, December 24 at 5PM, Christmas Eve with children and Bell Choir
- Friday, December 24 at 9:30PM, Christmas Music
- Friday, December 24 at 10PM, Christmas Eve with Senior Choir
- Sunday, December 26 at 10AM, Christmas Lessons & Carols

PREPARING FOR OFFICE HOURS

As we await the COVID case numbers to decrease in the new year, we are making preparations to have office hours two days a week for two hours. These will be staffed by volunteers. Please call the office or speak with Rev. Sue if you would offer your time on occasion to answer the phones, greet people, receive payments, and other assorted tasks.

DID YOU NOTICE?

Our big speaker in the church has been put back in its place and the sound during worship is crisp, clear and loud!

SEEKING A MICROWAVE

Do you have a counter microwave that's in good condition that could use a new home? The microwave in Trinity's kitchen is no more. If interested, please call the office or see Rev. Sue.

REMEMBER TRINITY IN YOUR WILL

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

VESTRY INFORMATION

- Vestry meetings are open to all parishioners and are held on the third Monday at 6:15pm. The next meeting is Monday, December 20, if you would like to attend this Zoom meeting contact Rev. Sue and she will send you the link.
- Last year we voted for the Vestry to have 6-9 members, which means 2-3 people are elected each year for a 3-year term. If you are interested in finding out information on what this responsibility entails, please speak with a Vestry member (see list on page 9) or Rev. Sue.

RE-ENTRY CONTINUED – Phase 3

Those in the position of monitoring the COVID situation in Michigan continue to do so with diligence. As of July 1, 2021 we entered into Phase 3 of the PLAN FOR RE-ENTRY FOR GREAT LAKES EPISCOPALIANS which can be found at www.eastmich.org/coronavirus. This means that at this time:

- Masks are recommended but not required except when receiving communion
- Check in with name and contact info
- The offering plate is placed at the entrance to the worship space and not passed
- Passing of the Peace will be done at a distance
- Masks are required when receiving communion
- Hand sanitizer continues to be used before receiving communion
- Communion station is on the floor
- Communion will be bread only
- Online worship continues
- Coffee hour resumes with food served by gloved servers

WORSHIP AT TRINITY

It is understood that when out in public there is the risk of exposure to COVID-19 and we trust that each household will make the best decision for themselves as to attend worship in-person or online. Trinity's space is quite large and we have implemented safety measures above the diocesan requirements.

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.

PRAYER LIST UPDATES

If you have someone you would like to add to one of our prayer lists, please email trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com or call the office or our church's cell phone 989-326-0469.

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

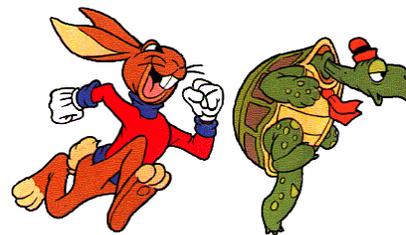
Have you changed your address, phone number or other information lately? If so, please make sure that information gets to us! Thank you.

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, click on the online giving link which will take you to the diocesan webpage.



Have you fallen behind on your pledge payment? If you have fallen behind on your pledge payments, please try to catch up before the end of the year. Thank you.



Birth Days:

Perrien Hayhurst
Isabella Moulthrop
Marc Mulholland
June Swanson
Debra Walker
Shelley Anderson
Christopher Shannon
Jeri Anker
Guy C. Moulthrop
Carol Fowler
Heidi Marciniak
Dee Mulholland
Archie Duncan
Denise Middleton
Karen Schmidt
Thomas Hiss Tabor
Donald Freel
Jane Willard
Olivia Moulthrop

Anniversary:

Mike and Cathy LaBerge
James and Susan Hoyle
Tod and Barbara Meisel
Dean and Jeri Anker
Marc and Dee Mulholland

**Bazaar Report for 6 November 2021
From Mary K Freel (Head Elf)**

We had 16 vendors of all kinds. They reported to me that they were very successful with their sales.

Many thanks to the Hospitality committee for the delicious food!! Patti Anderson, Paulette Royer, Pat Middleton, Dee Mulholland, Pat Maxim, and Shelley Whitehead.

Many thanks to the cleanup crew: Terry Oliver, John Allen, Shelley Anderson, Katharine Freel, Dave Maxim, Archie Duncan, and Rayechel Berger. Many, many, thanks to my assistant elf Ann Shea. Big thanks to Reverend Sue.

We sold out of all the food and some of the vendors sold out of a lot of their goods. Thanks to all of you for spreading the word. There were around 400 people coming through the doors.

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

It is wonderful to hear Trinity's organ sing again! The major restoration and updating of Trinity's organ continued as the workers from Berghaus Organ Builders took a few weeks in October and early November to clean the organ chamber, reinstall the refurbished console, and begin the process of reinstalling the organ pipes.

At this point, the organ is about 80% complete. There are still a number of pipes that are in the Berghaus shop in Illinois being cleaned and restored. During Trinity's worship services in November, December, and January - you may notice that the organ does not sound like it used to. All the reeds (Oboes, Trumpets etc.) and mixtures (the stops that add 'brilliance') are not installed yet.

The organ project will be completed in late January when the workers from Berghaus will return for three weeks to finish installing the rest of the pipes and to voice the organ. The 'voicing' phase is very labor-intensive as it involves going through each individual pipe to make sure that it has a pleasant tonal quality for the worship space. In other words, the organ voicing process ensures that the pipe organ is specifically adjusted for optimal sound in Trinity's worship space.

Trinity Church
Her People, Her Building
Then and Now

Gleanings from the 1869 Trinity Record

The following comes from the December 1869 Trinity Church Record, the church's earliest newsletter, and is reprinted exactly as it appeared in the third bi-monthly issue. The Advent poem was written by M.A.G.

“In this number of the Record we welcome several readable articles from our friends. The labor of gathering up material for our paper is lessened and greater variety is presented by these contributions. We trust there may be more of them in the future. Short, Pithy contributions and especially those of a local nature are most acceptable. Suggestions concerning our own parish, or the general interests of religion, might be made through this medium. The ladies, among others, with their good taste and discretion, could render us service in this way. Who will write for the Record?”

Advent

Soft, and sweet, and still the night
Earth is bathed in silvery light;
Light of stars and moon serene,
Pour'd on valley, plain and stream.

All is hushed to perfect rest,
On the green earth's peaceful breast,
Shepherds guard their flocks that lie
Gleaming white beneath the sky.

Shepherds lift your eyes -- behold!
Wondrous scenes the heavens unfold;
Angels come on wings of light,
Beauteous, glorious, dazzling bright!

List! In raptures strains they sing,
Glory to the new born King.
Peace on Earth, good will to men,
Christ, the Lord has come to reign!

Not to royal palace bright
Comes your Heaven-crowned King to-night.
Not to live in regal state,
Where admiring vassals wait.

Not in regal robe array'd,
Not on downy pillow laid,
Fondly nurs'd by faithful slave,
Guarded by the great and brave.

Go to Bethlehem, and there
Ye the spotless lamb and fair
Shall behold, the babe from Heaven,
For a lost world's ransom given.

Dwells within a lowly shed,
Is within a manger laid,
'Neath his virgin mother's eye,
Guarded very tenderly.

Shepherds, now your offerings bring,
Bow before your Prince and King.
Him confess for he is Lord,
By the Heavenly hosts ador'd.

With the angels join to raise
Notes of gladness, songs of praise,
All the world shall Him adore,
Praise Him, praise Him evermore.

M.A.G.

Faithfully submitted by the Historical Guild



A measure of love

Jesus says one golden rule sums up the law.

Directions: Match the word parts from the ruler to the incomplete words in the first three Bible verses. Then add the bolded letters (in order) to Matthew 7:12 to complete that verse.

Do not seek **re**_____ or bear a grudge against anyone among your _____ople, but **love** your **neig**_____ as yourself.

LEVITICUS 19:18, NIV

Learn to do **right**; seek jus____. **Defend** the _____pressed. Take up the cause of the _____less; plead the _____e of the widow.

ISAIAH 1:17, NIV

He has shown **you**, O mortal, what is go____. ...

To act **justly** and to **love** me____ and to walk _____ly with your God.

MICAH 6:8, NIV

So in _____ything, do to ot _____ what you would _____ve them d _____ to you, for this s _____ms up the _____w and the Proph _____s.

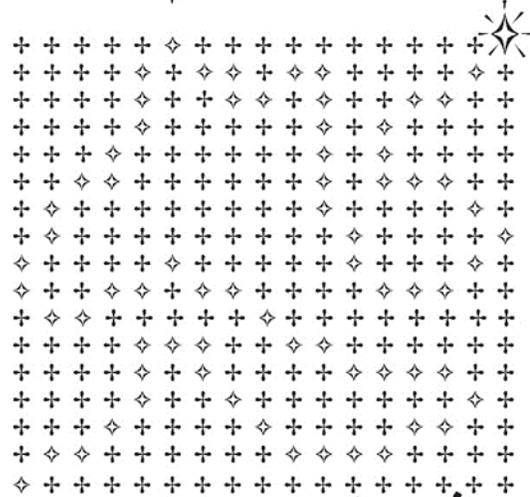
MATTHEW 7:12, NIV

- father_____
- pe_____
- _____venge
- _____od
- _____rcy
- op_____
- _____hbor
- humb_____
- cas_____
- _____tice

Answer: revenge, people, neighbor, justice, oppressed, fatherless, case, good, mercy, humbly, everything, others, have, do, sums, Law, Prophets

Puzzle!

Starting in the lower-left corner, help the wise men follow the ✦ path that leads to baby Jesus.



START



Now unscramble these words to discover what gifts the wise men brought Jesus.

LD OG NCAKNRIENFSE RYHMR

Answer: gold, frankincense, myrrh

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Donations to Trinity's Christmas Poinsettia fund provides the flower arrangements we enjoy during the Christmas Season. Please give a minimum gift of \$15.00.



DUE DECEMBER 12, 2020

Your name(s):

Contact #:

I would like to contribute \$ _____ to the Trinity Episcopal Christmas Poinsettia Fund.
_____ **In grateful thanksgiving for:**

And/Or _____ **In loving memory of:**

Please make checks to Trinity Episcopal Church. Mark on the check "Christmas Poinsettias." Please seal your check and a copy of this form in an envelope and place it in Trinity's mailbox outside the office door or mail it to 815 N. Grant St., Bay City, 48706.

PLEASE USE OTHER SIDE OF FORM FOR FRIENDS OF MUSIC DONATION.

Office Use:

Date donation was received:

Cash \$ _____

Check \$ _____ # _____

Total Donation \$ _____

FRIENDS OF MUSIC

Donations to Trinity's Friends of Music fund help to support the fine music we enjoy at Christmas and throughout the year. Please give generously.



DUE DECEMBER 12, 2020

Your name(s):

Contact #:

I would like to contribute \$ _____ to Trinity Episcopal Church Friends of Music.
_____ **In grateful thanksgiving for:**

And/Or _____ **In loving memory of:**

Please make checks to Trinity Episcopal Church. Mark on the check "Friends of Music." Please seal your check and a copy of this form in an envelope and place it in Trinity's mailbox outside the office door or mail it to 815 N. Grant St., Bay City, 48706.

PLEASE USE OTHER SIDE OF FORM FOR POINSETTIA DONATION.

Office Use:

Date donation was received:

Cash \$ _____

Check \$ _____ # _____

Total Donation \$ _____

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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 2:30 P.M. on Sundays

OFFICE HOURS

Currently by appointment

CONTACT US

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trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com

Web Site:

www.trinityepiscopalbaycity.org

Facebook:

Trinity-Episcopal-Church-Bay-City

YouTube:

Trinity Episcopal Church Bay City

VESTRY

Senior Warden – Archie Duncan

Junior Warden – Don Middleton

Clerk/Secretary – Dawn Moulthrop-Brady

Tony Hunsberger

Dan Keeler

Mickie Leibrand

Marc Mulholland

Patrick Gray

Treasurer

Shelley Whitehead

Assistant Treasurer

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The Rt. Rev. Prince Singh

Bishop Provisional

CLERGY

The Rev. Susan C. Rich

Rector

STAFF

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Pat Maxim

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