



# TRINITY CHIMES

## Trinity Episcopal Church

815 North Grant Street, Bay City, MI 48708

Telephone: 989 892-5813

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### *Pennings from your priest . . .*

Not long ago I was driving east on Center Avenue on my way to Kroger. In front of me was a minivan of some kind with a quote emblazoned on the back window. It read, "God says . . . Those who do not work, neither shall they eat.' 2 Thess. 3.10."

My first thought was, here we go again. Someone is taking a verse of scripture out of context and using it to make a political statement.

Some Christians believe that every word of the Bible is literally true. To them context does not matter because a Bible verse means what it says, and says what it means. This way of thinking, of course, does not take into account contradictions in scripture.

As Episcopalians we call Holy Scriptures the Word of God because we believe "God inspired their human authors and because God still speaks to us through the Bible." (*An Outline of the Faith*, BCP 853) We believe that context, culture and history are all valuable tools in opening up scripture to us.

Again, to quote the Catechism, "We understand the meaning of the Bible by the help of the Holy Spirit, who guides the Church in the true interpretation of the Scriptures." (BCP 853-54)

My second thought was, since the quote was from Thessalonians Paul said it, *not* God. That, of course, assumes one believes the Second Letter of

Thessalonians was actually written by Paul. Today, many scholars question that.

My curiosity was piqued. So I decided a little research was in order.

Congressman Stephen Fincher (R-TN) cited 2 Thessalonians 3.10 during a 2013 House Agriculture Committee hearing on the Farm Bill. The committee was debating the food stamp provision of the Bill at the time.

Several media reports on the hearing noted that while Fincher was quoting scripture to justify cutting the food stamp program he had received \$3.5 million in farm subsidies between 1999-2012. In 2012 alone he received \$70,000 in direct payments received by farmers even if they leave their land fallow.

Welfare, it appears, is in the eye of the beholder.

So what did the author of 2 Thessalonians mean when he said, "Anyone unwilling to work should not eat" (NRSV)? The author is likely referring to people who not only will not work when they should but who are busybodies that butt into other peoples' business. Their actions wreak havoc in the community.

# OUTREACH

We have made the poor the enemy. We judge them to be lazy when, in reality, we often have not the foggiest idea what circumstances forced a person to ask others for help.

Too often we hear – maybe we think it ourselves – that a person on assistance should “just get a job.” According to 2012 Census Bureau about one-quarter of households with at least one working adult received mean-tested benefits. About 60 percent of those who were of working age and not on disability were employed while receiving food stamps.<sup>1</sup>

Medicaid comes under scrutiny, too. And suspicion.

Again, many believe that those on Medicaid should not be receiving it. That “just get a job” argument rears its ugly head with medical assistance too. But the fact is, in 2013 more than half of those receiving Medicaid were children; another five percent were over 65.<sup>2</sup> Children are legally prohibited from working; many senior citizens are either retired or physically unable to work.

The Gospels are clear about our responsibility to the least, the last and the lost among us. Those same Gospels tell us that Jesus’ heart was definitely with the vulnerable.

This should be a cautionary tale to our country – and to we who call ourselves Christians – about the rhetoric we employ when talking about the poor and those who depend on social safety nets for their survival.

Blessings,

*Rev. Ann*

*Rev. Ann*

**THE SALVATION ARMY ANGEL TREE...** Again this year, Trinity will be participating in the Salvation Army’s “Angel Tree” project. It provides children in need with clothing and toys for Christmas. Last year, Trinity sponsored eight families consisting of 35 children.

This year, Trinity will sponsor 7 families for a total of 36 children and adults. So watch for the tabletop Christmas tree that will be set up in the Parish Hall again this year. Take one or more ornaments with a child’s name on it and shop away!

Gifts need to be back at Trinity by December 21st.

## **CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS...**

We collected food for 20 Thanksgiving Food Baskets distributed to needy families through the Bay County Emergency Food Pantry Network. Those baskets were picked up at Trinity by the caseworkers involved with those families.

We have 35 names for the Christmas Food Baskets, and need to collect food for those baskets as well. The list of food is elsewhere on this page of The Chimes.

Please have your food at the church by Tuesday, December 15.

## **Food items needed are...**

**Stove Top stuffing**  
**Instant potatoes**  
**Canned Yams**  
**Cranberry sauce**  
**Canned Green Beans**  
**Canned Corn**  
**Brownie mix**  
**Muffin Mix**



<sup>1</sup> “Are there more welfare recipients in the U. S. than full-time workers?” By Louis Jacobson. January 28, 2015. Found at [www.politifact.com](http://www.politifact.com).

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

## **NOISY OFFERING FOR JANUARY 2016**

The Noisy Offering for January 2016 will be collected on Sunday, January 3, 2016. Coins (and bills) collected that day will go to Haiti, one of the most economically challenged countries in the world. Eighty percent of Haiti's population lives in poverty. Haiti still endures significant challenges in the aftermath of the January 2010 earthquake, including lack of infrastructure and rising prices.

Money collected for Haiti will be sent to Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD), which has a longstanding relationship with the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti.

According to ERD's website, a "key component of [its] partnership, both prior to the earthquake and currently, has been to support and strengthen the work of the diocese's relief and development arm, known as CEDDISEC (Centre Diocesain de Developpement Integre et de Secours)."

Before the earthquake EDR worked with CEDDISEC to identify local and implement local projects. Since the earthquake ERD has been working with CEDDISEC to meet the immense needs of people in two especially hard-hit areas of the country.

We believe that the holy act of singing together  
heals brokenness  
shapes faith  
transforms lives  
renews peace.

New mission statement for The Hymn Society

## **DECEMBER CHORAL MUSIC**

December is a great month for choral musicians. Here is a list of the music our singers will prepare for worship this month. A reminder that Christmas is a season that begins with our Christmas Eve services and lasts until The Feast of the Epiphany so please come and sing your favorite carols during the entire season.

### **6 Advent 2 C**

People Look East  
Malcolm Archer

### **13 Advent 3 C**

The Peace of God  
John Rutter

Rejoice in the Lord Always  
Richard Gieseke

### **20 Advent 4 C**

Now the Heavens Start to Whisper  
Nicholas Palmer

### **4:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols**

Adam Lay ybounden  
Boris Ord

Angels, from the Realms of Glory  
Malcolm Archer

Away In A Manger  
David Willcocks

Birthday Carol  
David Willcocks

Christmas Lullaby  
John Rutter  
Christmas Night  
John Rutter

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen  
God Rest You Merry,

Good Christian Men Rejoice  
Philip Ledger

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing  
David Willcocks

I Saw Three Ships  
John Rutter

Infant Holy  
David Willcocks

In the Bleak Midwinter  
Harold Darke

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear  
Carol

Of the Father's Love Begotten  
John Carter

Once in Royal David's City  
David Willcocks

Sans Day Carol  
John Rutter

See Amid the Winter's Snow  
David Willcocks

Sing Lullaby  
David Willcocks

Sussex Carol  
David Willcocks

What Child is This  
Greensleeves

**24 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve**

Love Came Down at Christmas  
Eric Thiman

When Christ was Born of Mary  
Rosalie Bonighton

**10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve**

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear  
David Willcocks  
In the Bleak Midwinter  
Gustav Holst

Lo, How arose E'er Blooming  
Michael Praetorius

Sans Day Carol  
John Rutter

Away in a Manger  
Bob Chilcott

**27 Christmas 1 C**  
The Friendly Beasts  
K. Lee Scott

**SYMPATHY...**

to the friends and family of Ric Mulholland.  
to the friends and family of Michael Klemish.  
to the friends and family of Dorothy Kemmer.

**THANK YOU...**

to Joe McGivern and The Hunsberger family for  
hosting coffee hour in November.  
to Shelley Whitehead, Michelle Bullis and all of  
their volunteers for the Christmas Bazaar.

to everyone who donated baked goods for the  
Christmas Bazaar.

to Sue Clements, Jack Esseltine, Susan Harris,  
Bob and Emilee Sabourin who donated to  
Friends of Music in October.

to Dee Mulholland and her entire crew for the  
terrific Harvest Dinner.

to Tod Meisel for modifying the new pedestal signs.  
to Chuck and Mickie Leibrand for donating a grass  
sidewalk edger.

to Victor Kolka for painting the bathrooms.

**CONGRATULATIONS...**

to Bob Sabourin for becoming a licensed  
worship leader. The next class for people  
interested in this ministry is on January 9,  
2016 at the Diocesan Office in Saginaw. Talk  
to one of our worship leaders for more  
information.



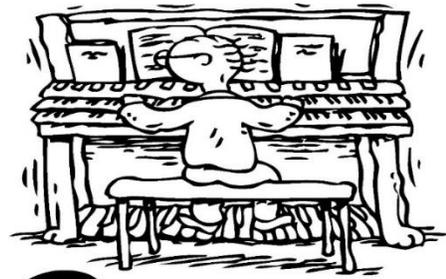
So far, 53 pledge cards for Trinity's 2016 Annual  
Giving Campaign have been received. Thanks to  
these who have already pledged.

A second letter and pledge card were mailed just  
before Thanksgiving. If you have not yet pledged  
please make every effort to return your pledge  
card before Christmas.

Thank You,  
Your Stewardship Team



The Family of **Ric Mulholland** would like to thank everyone who contributed their time and efforts for Ric's funeral and the reception that followed. It was beautifully done and we know that many of you were from the Hospitality group but also from the Choir who pitched in to help. It was greatly appreciated. **Thank you very much!**



# Organ Fund

## THE ORGANS OF TRINITY

Did you realize that Trinity has had four organs in its 161 years? When Trinity was first formed the members met in their homes. In 1860 Trinity had its first church built on Washington about where Allan's Shoes is. The first inkling of an organ that we have is the hand written receipt from 1867 for a portable organ. In 1874, after the original church had been enlarged several times, the church purchased a bigger organ from a company in Massachusetts. This organ was used in the church on Washington until the Stone Chapel was built on Grant. Apparently they got an offer for the church building in 1882 that they accepted so they moved the services to the chapel and put the organ in storage until the new church was completed. In 1914 that organ was replaced again by a Casavant organ. That organ was used until 1963 when our present organ—made by Moeller—was purchased.

Apparently the Casavant organ had its problems and had been repaired several times in the 1950s. Ruthe Hahn, Trinity's organist at the time, spoke to the vestry in September of 1961 about the problems with the organ. She told them that over 100 pipes had been discontinued to keep the organ in repair. She felt that trying to repair that organ was throwing away good money.

The vestry agreed and tasked the Music Committee to begin exploring the possibility of purchasing a new organ.



## LESSONS AND CAROLS...

Friends of Music will again host A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 20, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. This is one of our most popular services. Last year over 240 people attended. Please join us for this special service of scripture and Christmas music and celebrate the season with your friends and family.

## CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

- 5:00 p.m.** Rite II Holy Communion with Children's Pageant and Choristers
- 10:00 a.m.** Rite I Holy Communion with sermon, candle lighting and special music from the Senior Choir
- Music begins at 9:30 p.m.**

## THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY – January 6, 2016

We will celebrate the feast with a sung communion service at 11:30 a.m. A reception in the Guild Room will be hosted by Friends of Music at the Mass.

They worked throughout 1961 and into 1962 travelling to other churches to hear their organs, talking with other organists about different brands of organs, and finally determined that a new organ would cost about \$60,000. Several experts came to Bay City and played the organ. They examined its innards and determined that replacement was the way to go.

In April of 1962 a fund-raising committee was formed with Stanley See as chairman and its purpose was to raise the money to purchase the new organ. Meanwhile the Music Committee continued to search for the best organ to purchase within the budget of \$60,000. A contract with Moeller Company was signed in May 1962.

The organ was delivered and installed during the summer of 1963. Frank Serresseque loaned an electronic organ for use while the organ was being installed. The chancel space had to be remodeled in order to accept all the pipes and new console before the installation. Dr. Pete McGee, chairman of the Music Committee, reported on September 9<sup>th</sup> that the organ was installed and was being tuned. On September 22<sup>nd</sup> it was dedicated to the Glory of God and the use in holy services at Trinity. Ruthe Hahn gave the first organ recital followed by the organist of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris and Dr. F. T. Meisel. The total cost of the organ was \$52,485.

PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS

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

*The Annunciation*

*"The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;  
'All hail,' said he 'thou lowly maiden Mary,  
most highly favored lady,' Gloria!"*

*Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould.  
Gabriel's Message; The Hymnal 1982, # 265, v. 1.*

The Annunciation is the announcement to the Virgin Mary that she was to be the mother of the promised Savior, Jesus Christ. Gabriel is the archangel who was sent from heaven to give Mary this news. St. Luke's Gospel (1:26-38) tells us that this was to be no ordinary conception - God's Holy Spirit would overshadow Mary and the child to be born would be the Son of God. Because of Mary's yes to the angel's message, salvation came to the world in what is known as the Incarnation - God becoming flesh in Christ Jesus.

Trinity's portrayal of the Annunciation is found in the round medallion to the far left at the bottom of the Children's Window above the High Altar. Though the primary depiction of the 1886 London-made window is worship of the Holy Trinity in heaven, two of the three bottom medallions deal with the childhood of Our Lord, starting with the Annunciation to the left and then the Holy Family - Mary, Joseph, the infant Christ in the middle - with Elisabeth and John the Baptist standing alongside. Because of the penny offerings the Sunday school children had collected to purchase this window, it seemed appropriate to have some details of the childhood of Christ.

In the Annunciation, Gabriel tells Mary that she has found favor with God. God's grace has met human freedom. Because of Mary's yes to the angel's message and later the saving acts of her Beloved Son's life, death and resurrection, we too have found favor with God. Though not a heavenly messenger, we have a different and higher 'announcement' to make - for only humans can tell of redemption. May we in word and deed bring the Good News that God in Christ has brought salvation to the world. Deo Gracias!

Faithfully submitted by Trinity's Historical Guild





**BIRTHDAYS...**

- 02 Perrien Hayhurst
- 02 Marnie Syring
- 04 Isabella Moulthrop
- 07 Marc Mulholland
- 07 June Swanson
- 09 Shelley Anderson
- 11 Christopher Shannon
- 13 Guy C. Moulthrop
- 15 Heidi Marciniak
- 17 Dee Mulholland
- 19 Denise Middleton
- 19 Karen Schmidt
- 20 Ray Luebs
- 21 Thomas Hiss Tabor
- 22 Donald Freel
- 23 Priscilla Reitler
- 24 Frederick Fletcher
- 26 Jane Willard
- 29 Olivia Moulthrop

**ANNIVERSARIES...**

- 08 Cathy LaBerge
- 20 James and Susan Hoyle
- 20 Tod and Barbara Meisel
- 26 Gerald and Sharon Jehnsen
- 28 Marc and Dee Mulholland

**St. Elizabeth's Guild** will meet at the DoubleTree Hotel on December 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. for their Christmas lunch. We hope you will all be able to come.

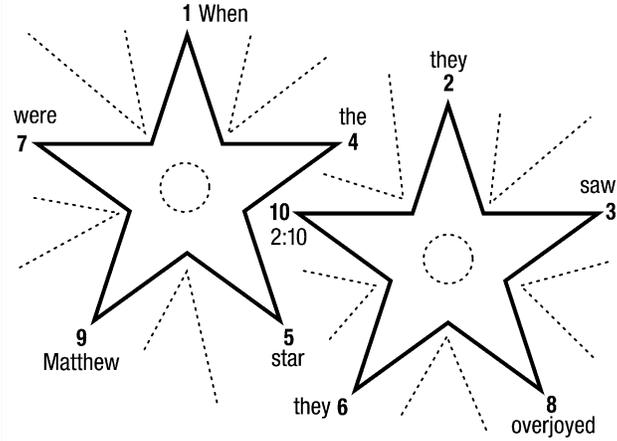


# PUZZLE

## The star of Christmas

When Jesus was born, a star led the wise men to him.

*Directions: Place the words in order, by their numbers, on the blanks below to complete Matthew 2:10, NIV.*



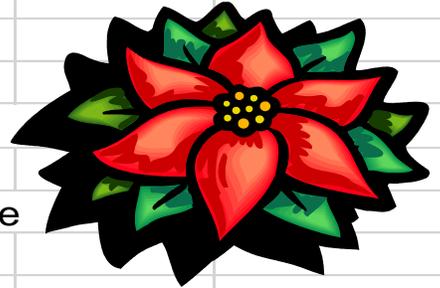
“ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ”  
 \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ , NIV

Answer: "When they saw the star, they were overjoyed." Matthew 2:10, NIV



CHRISTMAS POINTSETTIAS and  
FRIENDS OF MUSIC FUND

Donations to Trinity's Christmas Flower & Music Fund provide the flower arrangements, decorations, and guest musicians that we enjoy during the Christmas season. For the Christmas flowers please give a minimum gift of \$15.00.



I would like to contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the  
Trinity Christmas Flower Fund.

I would like to contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the  
Friends of Music Fund.

Please make checks to **Trinity Episcopal Church**. Indicate on the check "Christmas Flowers" or " Friends of Music Fund". Please seal your check and a copy of this form in an envelope and place it in the offering plate or return it to the parish office.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

This contribution is given: (check one)

\_\_\_\_\_ In grateful thanksgiving for (e.g. blessings received,  
an important person in your life, an anniversary,  
or birthday)

\_\_\_\_\_ In loving memory of:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate by the name if it is in Memory or Thanksgiving.

**WORSHIP**

Sunday – 10:00 A.M. - With Music  
 Wednesday – 11:30 A.M. - Without Music  
 Food of Faith 2:30 P.M.

**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday – Thursday 8:30AM – 3:00PM  
 Friday – Closed

**CONTACT US**

Telephone: (989) 892-5813  
 e-mail: [trinityepiscopaloffice@gmail.com](mailto:trinityepiscopaloffice@gmail.com)  
 Web Site: [www.trinityepiscopalbaycity.org](http://www.trinityepiscopalbaycity.org)

**AFTER HOURS CONTACT INFORMATION**

Rev. Ann [revanntrinity@gmail.com](mailto:revanntrinity@gmail.com)  
 Phone: (989) 892-5813  
 Michelle Bullis (810) 513-0663  
[mbullis0502@gmail.com](mailto:mbullis0502@gmail.com)

**VESTRY**

Chuck Leibrand	(989) 686-7663
Kyline Gray	(989) 415-3393
Catherine Leibrand	(989) 906-3554
Amy Salazar	(989) 272-5900
Faith Culler	(989) 892-3119
Cathy LaBerge	(989) 662-4611
Dale Smith	(989) 471-4114
Tod Meisel	(989) 894-2818

**STAFF**

The Reverend Ann Grady	Priest in Charge
Robert Sabourin	Organist/Choir Master
Michelle Bullis	Office Manager
Terry Oliver	Sexton

Dee Mulholland	Chimes Editor
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