



## Trinity Episcopal Church

815 N. Grant Street, Bay City, MI 48708

Telephone: 989-892-5813

December 2013

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

I recently ventured into one of Bay City's charming shops. Much to my horror – but not to my surprise – it was already adorned with Christmas decorations, and stocked with Christmas merchandise. Really?

Even before Halloween was over Christmas was being foisted upon us. At least the music playing in the background was from Handel's *Messiah* and not *Frosty the Snowman*.

Black Friday will soon fade into irrelevance as more and more big-box stores opt to be open on Thanksgiving Day itself. Pity the poor minimum-wage-or-less worker who must work that day rather than spend it with family. Clearly, we are once again in the midst of a consumer Christmas season run amok.

But for us Christians this time of the year is about the season of Advent, which this year commences on December 1. It is a time of preparation for the coming of Jesus, for the word made flesh and dwelling among us.

This year on the Sundays in Advent our readings come from Matthew's gospel. And they are all over the place. We get a reading late in the gospel where Jesus refers to himself in the third person.

We hear about John the Baptist two weeks in a row. The Third Sunday in Advent John is in prison and has heard what "The Messiah" has been doing and wonders aloud whether the person doing those things is really he.

The last Sunday in Advent Matthew gives us a generations-long genealogy of Jesus. Rather a strange way to prepare for coming of a Savior. But, maybe not. Especially if we compare it to the preparation frenzy the Christmas of culture seems to require.

Our Advent preparation is so worth it in the end. For with that preparation comes the realization of the incalculable worth of Jesus' presence. *That* is the joy of Christmas.

I am a firm believer that if we take seriously the preparation the Advent season calls us to it can be a balm to the loneliness, the isolation, the pain of estranged or lost relationships that are felt so acutely by many this time of the year.

Let me offer some suggestions for keeping the season of Advent. I hope that in doing so each of us will find respite from the lure and demands of the holiday season placed on us by our culture.

First, let us take some time to examine our lives. Let us look at our priorities and then make changes if we

need to do so. Perhaps we pay it forward in some way.

Second, let us engage in some intentional Advent devotions. They are some of the most beautiful in our Anglican tradition. Prayers, scripture readings and hymns abound.

One way to do this is to join me during the Wednesday's in Advent for a late afternoon book study. We will meet on December 4, 11, and 18 – beginning at 4:30pm and ending no later than 6:00pm – to study the book, *Uncommon Gratitude – Alleluia For All That Is*. This small book contains a series of essays by Joan Chittister and Rowan Williams.

Third, when we observe Advent we are doing something thoroughly counter-cultural. We become more intentional about what we are doing and we are called to think about why we do it. This can only strengthen our faith.

Fourth, Advent can help us detach ourselves from the consumerism that seems to engulf the holidays. Advent can help us keep the Incarnation of God in the person of Jesus front and center.

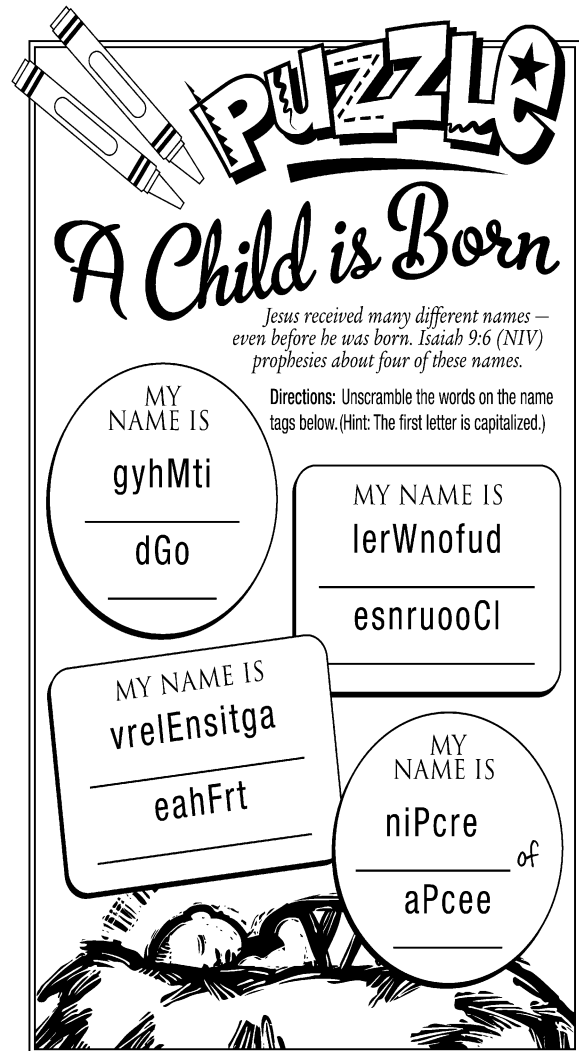
Fifth, when the Christmas of our culture ends on December 25 the Christmas of our faith is just beginning, and continues for twelve days until the Epiphany of our Lord on January 6.

My brothers and sisters, let us keep a holy Advent. Let us strive during this beautiful but difficult season to live in the self-examination, the devotional discipline and the preparation that are a part of Advent.

If we do that we will truly be able to celebrate the birth of a Savior and bask in a joy that we have not known.

A blessed and holy Advent to each of you.

*Rev. Ann*



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

## MEMBERSHIP

Current membership of Trinity Episcopal Church is 245 members. 53 of those are no longer attending which means we are at around 192 active members.

Two new faces at Trinity are Kurt Carlstrom and Benjamin Harris. Please take the time to speak to them and to introduce yourself.

Thank you to Mary K Freel who sends cards or notes of welcome to all visitors who sign our guest book.

The next membership committee meeting is scheduled for November 26, 2013. Please speak to Bob Sabourin for more information.



## CHORISTERS

The choristers sing two times in December and two times in January. They will sing an Introit and Anthem on December 8, 2013, and be the choral leadership for the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

## SENIOR CHOIR

This is a great time to be a church choir singer. The seasons of Advent and Christmas will be full of some of the world's most familiar and most beloved

choral music.

Music for the 10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service will begin at 9:30 p.m. Please come early to enjoy the sounds of the season.

## CHORAL REPERTOIRE IN ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

December

1 Advent I  
Pray that Jerusalem  
C. V. Stanford

8 Advent II  
Prepare the Way of the Lord  
Michael Burkhardt

Sing and Rejoice Sam Batt Owens

How Lovely are the Messengers  
Felix Mendelssohn  
A Song of Peace  
C. V. Stanford

15 Advent III People Look East  
Malcolm Archer

O Rest In the Lord  
Felix Mendelssohn

22 Advent IV  
Lift up Your Head  
Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

24 5:00 p.m.  
Ding, Dong! Ding, Dong!  
Michael Bedford

How Far is it to Bethlehem  
William Schoenfeld

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child  
Sandra Tucker

10:00 p.m.  
Break Forth into Joy  
Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear  
Arthur Sullivan

Myn Liking  
R. R. Terry

Gesu Bambino  
Pietro Yon

What is this Lovely Fragrance  
Healey Willan

29 Christmas 1 A  
Hosanna to the Living Lord  
Healey Willan

January

5 Christmas 2 A  
In the Bleak Midwinter Gustav Holst

6 The Feast of the Epiphany 6:30  
p.m. Holy Communion Three Kings  
Michael Bedford

From the rising of the Sun  
F. G. Ouseley

LESSONS AND CAROLS 2013 - PRESS  
RELEASE

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols will take place at Trinity Episcopal Church in Bay City on Sunday, December 22, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. with Ann Grady as officiate. The Exultate Deo chamber choir, under the direction of Trinity's organist-choir director, Robert Sabourin, will sing the service. The ecumenical choir includes singers from

Bay City, Sanford, Midland, Freeland and Saginaw. The choir specializes in singing sacred choral works and has participated in worship services and concerts of sacred music throughout the Tri-Cities area.

Nicholas Schmelter, Director of Music Ministries at First Congregational Church in Saginaw will accompany the choir.

Treble, Kristopher Mercy, will sing the solo verse of the opening hymn and will also be featured in two anthems that require a treble solo (boy soprano). "Manger Carol" by American composer Leo Sowerby and "Lullay my Liking" by English composer Gustav Holst are both well known settings for an unchanged boy's voice. Kristopher is the son of Susan and Paul Mercy of Sanford.

The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols is associated most closely with the Chapel of King's College in Cambridge, England. Each year on Christmas Eve the service is broadcast by radio live from the College and is heard by millions of people throughout the world. The service originated in England in 1880 when E.W. Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury, put together a service for Christmas Eve in Truro. The service consisted of nine lessons from Scripture, read by various officers of the church, and nine carols. This model was used by Eric Milner-White, Dean of King's College Chapel, in 1918. Some minor revisions in 1919 resulted in the order of service that has remained the same to this day. The service always begins with the carol, "Once in Royal David's City." The Bidding Prayer that follows this carol invites worshippers to "hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind go even unto Bethlehem and see

this thing which has come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.” The nine lessons follow God’s loving purposes toward the human race beginning with

Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden and ending with God’s redemptive act in the birth of Jesus. Between the lessons, carols are sung by the choir and hymns are sung by the congregation.

The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols was first broadcast on the radio in 1928, and with the exception of 1930, it has been broadcast every year since then. In the United States, the live broadcast from King’s College can be heard on public radio on Christmas Eve morning at 10:00 a.m. Many churches have adapted the service for their own use, and the basic format of the service is widely used today.

The service is open to the public free of charge. Friends of Music will host a reception in the Guild Room following the service. Trinity Episcopal Church is located at 815 N. Grant St. Barrier free access is on the west side of the building off of the church parking lot. For more information please call 989-892-5813.

#### Soprano

Allison Dakos, Saginaw Valerie Fargo, Midland Sarah Haskett, Midland Diane Gladstone, Saginaw Lynne King, Freeland Dorothy Marinan, Midland Susan Mercy, Sanford Deanna Pattonk, Saginaw Nancy Proskow, Midland

#### Atlo

Tina Aukerman, Midland Patti Bowen, Midland Jan Egger, Saginaw

Pam Hart, Midland Peggy Knutson, Saginaw Jennifer Pollock, Bay City Emily Wollner, Midland

#### Tenor

Carol Angelo, Saginaw David Aukerman, Midland David Hammond, Saginaw Michael Huntress, South Lyons Keith Kidder, Saginaw Ted Knapp, Midland

#### Bass

Barry George, Midland Jim Gladstone, Saginaw Jim Hemeyer, Midland David King, Freeland Andreas Teich, Bay City Seth Von Wald, Saginaw Brad Wiechelman, Saginaw

#### EPIPHANY CELEBRATION

We will celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany on Monday, January 6, 2013, with Sung Communion at 6:30 p.m. Epiphany is one of the seven major feasts in the Book of Common Prayer. Please come to worship and enjoy this special day in the liturgical calendar.

The Senior Choir and Choristers will be providing the choral leadership. Ann Grady will be the officiant and Nicholas Schmelter will be the organist.



## **Name Change: Trinity Historical Guild**

Trinity Historical Committee is changing its name to Trinity Historical Guild. The group had discussed the change in the spring 2013, with the feeling being that a Committee is a short term group and a Guild is long term. The Senior Warden, Chuck Leibrand, was contacted for his follow through on the topic and opinion. The Senior Warden responded that he found nothing officially that said the group could not become a Guild. Therefore, as of October 22, 2013, Trinity's Historical Committee voted unanimously to become Trinity's Historical Guild.

Trinity's Historical Committee was formed by the Vestry in the fall of 2002 to prepare for Trinity's Sesquicentennial to be celebrated throughout 2004, the 150th year of the formation of Trinity Episcopal Church. The Historical Committee oversaw several events during the yearlong celebration - wine & cheese evening with the Community, new photo membership book published, Trinity's Sesquicentennial Scrapbook was completed and presented to Church, Outreach to Community with a series of newspaper articles and television coverage, special Services and Coffee Hours held, Trinity's 'Blue Light' trees at Christmas, etc. The Vestry asked that the Historical Committee continue on to do the sorting/organizing of the materials that had been attained through the years and to continue to educate/inform Trinity's members and the Community as to Trinity's impact in the past, present, and into the future.

Mission Statement of Trinity Historical Guild: The mission of the Historical

Guild of Trinity Episcopal Church is the preservation, organization, and dissemination of information including memorials, all materials and items of Trinity in reference to her people and building. The goal is to educate and involve Trinity's members and the Community of the impact Trinity has made to the Community through indexing/organizing of the ALL the materials that are currently owned and attaining new materials into the future.

The Historical Guild continues to urge people of all ages to help with individual projects or ongoing historical activities. Historical Guild meets from 9 to 11:30 AM the third and fourth Tuesdays of all months except December, June, July, and August. Drop in and join in the fun, history, and education that's Trinity Historical Guild!

Diane Rapson Gabil  
Trinity Historical Guild, Chairperson

### **RADA Knives & Dips Sale**

Trinity's Historical Guild is selling RADA (brand) Knives plus Fruit and Vegetables Dip Mixes, from now through May of 2014. The two goals of the sale are to provide Trinity's Kitchen with additional needed knives and to have additional moneys for Historical Guild's expenses.

On hand for sale are tomato slicer knives, knife sharpeners, vegetable peelers, and super paring knives, plus fruit and vegetable dips. Available for ordering from the catalogs are LOTS of more knives, spatulas, spreaders, etc. Items are priced from \$4. Items ordered are available about 10 days from the time of the order.

Purchase items during Coffee Hours on Sunday or contact Trinity Historical Guild members or call Diane (989-892-3105).

Here's a thought: purchase one knife for yourself and one for Trinity's kitchen!

Diane Rapson Gabil  
Trinity Historical Guild, Chairperson

**Acolyte/Crucifer Schedule**

December 2013  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. services  
Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. services

December 1: Leo Yacks

December 8: Madden Brady

December 15: Katie Hunsberger

December 22: Leo Yacks

December 24: (Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m.): Don Middleton

December 24: (Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m.): Adam Culler

December 29: Craig Hool

**Lector Schedule**

**December 2013**

Sunday 10:00 a.m. services  
Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. services

December 1: Bob Hayhurst

December 8: Jett Whitehead

December 15: Michelle Hunsberger

December 22: Mickie Leibrand

December 24: (Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m.): Sunday School Children

December 24: (Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m.): Nancy Mayhew

December 29: Jett Whitehead

**Eucharistic Visitor Schedule**

December 2013

December 1:  
EV:

December 8:  
EVs:

December 15: Bob/Dorothy Kemmer,  
Marge Klehn  
EVs: Nancy Mayhew, Mickie Leibrand

December 22:  
EVs:

December 29:  
EV

**EM Schedule**

	Sun	Sun	Sun	Sun	Tue Christmas Eve	Tue Christmas Eve	Sun
EM Assignments	1 10:00 AM	8 10:00 AM	15 10:00 AM	22 10:00 AM	24 5:00 PM	24 10:00 PM	29 10:00 AM
Steve Beckert			May be available to sub				
Monica Borrello					1		
Bob Hayhurst	1						
Tony Hunsberger			1				
Mickie Leibrand				1			
Nancy Mayhew						1	
Denise Middleton					2		
Jett Whitehead		1					1
Leo Yacks	2	2	2	2		2	2

### Harvest Dinner

Thank you to all who contributed to the Harvest Dinner, whether you worked, baked, cooked, played in the band or just attended and brought your friends. It was appreciated very much. We cleared over \$800 in profit and it was a huge success. THANK YOU !!



### Services

Sunday – 10:00AM Sung Worship  
Food of Faith 2:30 – 4:00

### Priest in charge

The Reverend Ann Grady

### Office Hours

Mon, Tues, Wed & Thurs 8:30 – 4:30  
Friday closed  
Telephone: 989 892-5813  
Web Site: [www.trinityepiscopalbaycity.org](http://www.trinityepiscopalbaycity.org)  
e-mail: [trinityepiscopaloffice@gmail.com](mailto:trinityepiscopaloffice@gmail.com)

### Vestry:

Chuck Leibrand	(989) 686-7663
Kyline Gray	(989) 686-6469
Catherine Leibrand	(989) 906-3554
Val Syring	(989) 684-4566
Leo Borello	(989) 892-6090
Nancy Mayhew	(989) 895-9055
Dale Smith	(989) 895-8238
Faith Culler	(989) 892-3119

Senior Warden:	Charles Leibrand
Junior Warden:	Leo Borello
Treasurer:	Steve Beckert
Assistant Treasurer:	Greg Marciniak
Assistant Treasurer:	Shelley Whitehead
Clerk:	Kyline Gray
Office Manager:	Michelle Giffel
Trinity Chimes Editor:	Dee Mulholland
Web Master:	Pat Maxim
Children's Choir Director:	Cathy LaBerge
Sunday School Director:	Faith Culler
Organist/Choir Director:	Robert Sabourin
Hand Bell Choir Director:	Robert Reif Sexton



# Trinity Episcopal Church

## December 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 10:00 am Worship, Sunday School, Nursery	<b>2</b> 10:00 am Over-Eaters Anonymous Bell Choir Practice N. A. Meeting Parish Hall 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	<b>3</b> 4:30 pm Choristers	<b>4</b> 9:00 am Goal Seekers Weight Loss	<b>5</b> 5:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm Choristers Choir Practice Over-Eaters Anonymous	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 1:30 pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal
<b>8</b> <b>Immaculate Conception</b> 10:00 am Worship, Sunday School, Nursery 11:00 am Blood Pressure Screening 3:00 pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal	<b>9</b> 10:00 am Over-Eaters Anonymous Bell Choir Practice N. A. Meeting Parish Hall 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	<b>10</b> 4:30 pm Choristers	<b>11</b> 9:00 am Goal Seekers Weight Loss	<b>12</b> 5:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm Choristers Choir Practice Over-Eaters Anonymous	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 10:00 am Noisy Offering 10AM 10:00 am Worship, Sunday School, Nursery	<b>16</b> 10:00 am Over-Eaters Anonymous Bell Choir Practice N. A. Meeting Parish Hall 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	<b>17</b> 4:30 pm Choristers	<b>18</b> 9:00 am Goal Seekers Weight Loss	<b>19</b> 5:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm Choristers Choir Practice Over-Eaters Anonymous	<b>20</b> 7:15 pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal	<b>21</b> 1:30 pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal 4:00 pm Saginaw River Marine
<b>22</b> 10:00 am Worship, Sunday School, Nursery 4:00 pm Lessons and Carols	<b>23</b> 10:00 am Over-Eaters Anonymous Bell Choir Practice N. A. Meeting Parish Hall Senior Choir Rehearsal 7 PM 6:30 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	<b>24</b> <b>Christmas Eve</b> 4:30 pm 5:00 pm 10:00 pm Choristers Children's Service Christmas Eve Service	<b>25</b> <b>Christmas</b> 9:00 am 12:30 pm Goal Seekers Weight Loss Altar Guild Meeting	<b>26</b> 5:00 pm 7:00 pm Choristers Over-Eaters Anonymous	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Childermas</b> 10:00 am Senior Choir Rehearsal
<b>29</b> 10:00 am Worship, Sunday School, Nursery	<b>30</b> 10:00 am Over-Eaters Anonymous Bell Choir Practice N. A. Meeting Parish Hall 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	<b>31</b> <b>New Year's Eve</b> 4:30 pm Choristers				