

THE CHIMES

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

December 2019

Volume 22 Issue 11



Dear Trinity Community,

The Christ child is, once again, reminding us of the hope we have in our God. The One who is from before time has entered our world as a vulnerable child in a humble setting to an unwed mother.

In Mary's song of praise to God, the *Magnificat* (Luke 1:46-55), she lifts up her voice in gratitude and thanksgiving for the gift of bearing the Holy One of God. It is a radical and profound proclamation.

Throughout his ministry, Jesus turns things upside down. The things of the world that have become the norm in the living out of the Ten Commandments, Jesus teaches, have become skewed.

In Mary's Song she seems to know that this is the case. And she proclaims it in the past tense – as if these things have already taken place. Imagine, with Mary, this new reality. God's strength shown through: *scattering the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; *bringing down the powerful and lifting up those of low stature; *filling the hungry with good things while sending the rich away empty.

From the perspective of the Jews 2,000 years ago, Mary understood God's promise of hope and renewal for them. Through the miracle of God incarnate – God's becoming human – God has remembered the promise of mercy made so long before to Abraham. "I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you,

and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to give to you, and to your offspring after you, the land where you are now an alien, all the land of Canaan, for a perpetual holding; and I will be their God." (Genesis 17:6-8).

This continues to be good news for us today. Jesus came into the world to reconcile all to God, to level out the field the way it was intended so that all may know and experience the amazing and abundant love of God.

God's perfect love casts out fear. Jesus is perfect love. We often hear him say to his followers, "Don't be afraid." When we experience God's perfect love, we are no longer afraid of the people and things we don't understand. There can no longer be hatred for another child of God because the fear that leads to hatred is transformed to love and all are welcome, all are offered grace, all receive mercy and forgiveness.

In this newly described reality, there is peace in the world, a peace that surpasses all human understanding.

And so, we join with Mary, once again, as *our* souls proclaim the greatness of God, rejoicing in Christ our Savior.

May our hearts be ever open to God who is the Christ child, King of kings and Prince of Peace that we may be transformed as we are called back to all God has created us to be.

In Christ's love, *Rev. Sue*

OUR SYMPATHIES

To Jeanne and Sarah Traxler on the death of Bob Traxler who died on October 30.

To Mary Jane Elliot whose niece, Karen Hall, died unexpectedly on November 2.

To Ellie Hartley and family on the death of Bob Hartley who died on November 12.

To Susan Janke whose mother, Helen Jacqueline Siebenaller, died on November 12.

THANK YOUs

Mary K Freel for all the good work to make our Christmas Bazaar such a success.

Hospitality Committee for providing all the food and personnel to sell food at the Christmas Bazaar and for the outstanding work done to provide a lovely reception following Bob Hartley's funeral.

The Rev. Nancy Mayhew for taking on Bob Hartley's funeral during Rev. Sue's vacation.

Altar Guild, Annie Liermann and Terry Oliver who did a great job of providing many details needed for Bob Traxler's and Bob Hartley's funeral.

Taylor Langstaff, Diane Rapson Gabil and the Historical Guild for taking such care these last many years in tending to and caring for the Advent and Christmas trees in our worship space. Thank you to the set-up crew headed up by **Steve Anderson and the Altar Guild** that is now taking on this important ministry.

Mary K Freel for introducing us to the Tolling of the Bells for Peace on Veteran's Day and for tolling the bells.

Monica Borrello, Pat Maxim and Bruce Sherbeck for leading our first Faith Alive music sing-a-long. We had 30 people attend!

HUGE FUNDRAISER SUCCESSES

Our Harvest Dinner netted \$1,603!
Our Christmas Bazaar netted \$1,296!
Thank you to all who helped make these events fun and successful.

DID YOU NOTICE?

Thanks to some generous donors we now have new flooring at the parking lot entrance which is to last for many years.

NOISY OFFERING

Our children collect change (noisy money) along with paper money to go to the ministries they choose on the second Sunday of each month. December's offering will go toward school supplies sent to United Way.

FAITH ALIVE MUSIC

Please join us on the second Sunday of each month in the church from 9:30-9:50am to sing some of the songs learned at our Faith Alive weekend with some songs from Camp Chickagami thrown in! Words will be provided on December 8 and beyond so everyone can sing along.

FURNACE TEMPERATURE IN CHURCH

We have a new process in place to regulate the temperature in our worship space for the comfort of our people and so the organ has time to adjust to any temperature change (an hour for every degree) prior to a service. Please do not change the thermostats in the worship space as we will have them set the day or two before Sunday worship and after worship. Depending on other activities, this schedule may be adjusted. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with co-Junior Wardens Amy Salazar/Don Middleton or Bruce Sherbeck or Rev. Sue. Thank you.

Community Christmas Hymn Sing will be on December 17th at 7:00pm. Patrick Winningham will be playing the organ and the choir will be singing as well.



December 24th at 5:00pm will be Festive Holy Communion with the children.

December 24th at 10:00pm will be Festive Holy Communion with the Senior Choir.

If you haven't seen one of the videos from "**Chuck Knows Church**", you are in for a real treat and an early Christmas present too from our friend, "Chuck". He'll introduce you to "The Advent Wreath", "Christmas", "Blue Christmas", "The Wise Men" and lots of other themes in our Christian calendar. You will have lots of fun learning about these things. Treat yourself to that early Christmas present and tell your friends; just tell them that Chuck sent you. Go to chuckknowschurch.com and enjoy.

COUPLES & SINGLES

We are forming fellowship dinner groups at Trinity to get to know each other better. The groups will consist of a combination of couples and singles of 6 to 8 members. These groups will meet for dinner at one another's homes three to four times a year. New groups will be formed each quarter. The first quarter will be January through March. Please sign up by calling Ann Shea (318-780-7332). Once we have everyone signed up, groups will be formed and we will begin in January. Please feel free to call with any questions or more info.



Birthdays:

- 02 Perrien Hayhurst
- 02 Marnie Syring
- 04 Isabella Moulthrop
- 07 Marc Mulholland
- 07 June Swanson
- 09 Shelley Anderson
- 11 Christopher Shannon
- 12 Jeri Anker
- 13 Guy C. Moulthrop
- 15 Heidi Marciniak
- 17 Dee Mulholland
- 19 Denise Middleton
- 19 Karen Schmidt
- 21 Thomas Hiss Tabor
- 22 Donald Freel
- 29 Olivia Moulthrop

Anniversary:

- 08 Cathy and Francis LaBerge
- 20 James and Susan Hoyle
- 20 Tod and Barbara Meisel
- 21 Jeri and Dean Anker
- 28 Marc and Dee Mulholland

REQUEST FROM ST. PAUL'S, SAGINAW

St. Paul's, Episcopal Church in Saginaw feeds the hungry each Sunday. Trinity members used to participate in this program up to four times a year in addition to our four times a year serving Food of Faith at Trinity. We have been asked by St. Paul's to consider providing a meal one Sunday in 2020. Please speak with Rev. Sue if you are interested.

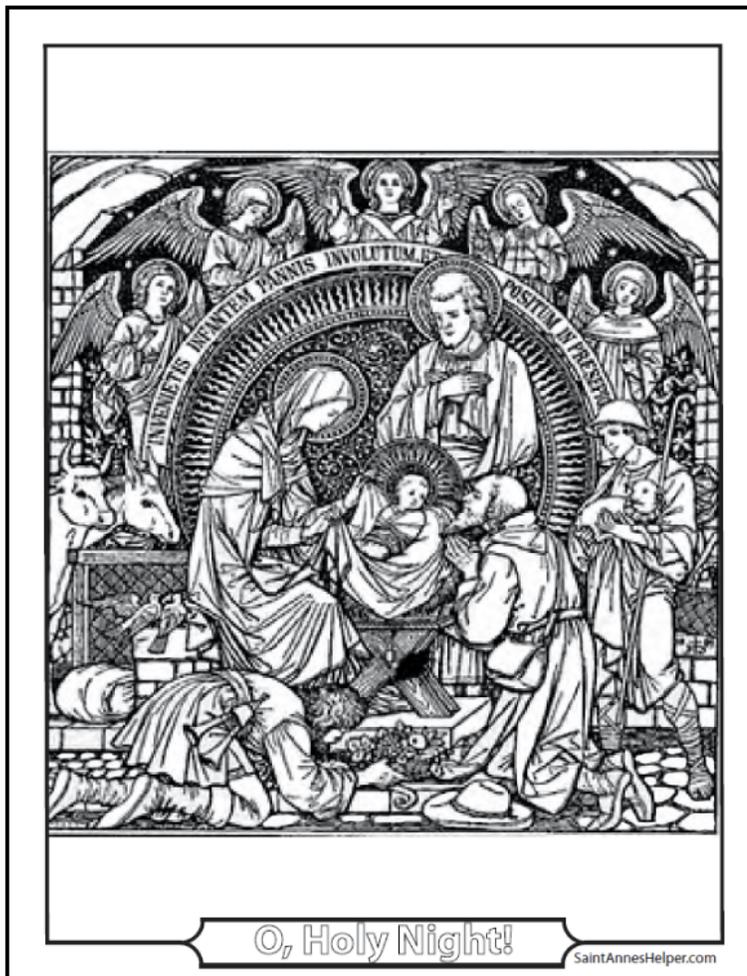
HISTORICAL GUILD

Almost every Sunday Taylor Langstaff is tending the Historical Guild's gift table selling Rada cutlery, aprons, bookmarks, notecards, cookbooks, etc. Proceeds from the sale of these items help to fund projects that the Guild does around our beloved Trinity church. We also donate yearly to our Food Pantry feeding

program.

Help support us by purchasing some gift items for your family, friends or even yourself.

St. Elizabeth's Guild will meet for their Christmas luncheon at the Double Tree on December 10 at 12:30. Reservations are recommended for this luncheon so call the church if you are able to come. All are invited and welcome.



PUZZLE

Symbols of the season

Many traditional decorations convey the meaning of Christmas.

Directions: Use the picture clues to the right to complete the words. Then write the boxed letters in order to complete 2 Corinthians 9:15, NIV.

shepherd's staff _ □ □ _ _ _ □

tree that keeps its leaves _ _ _ □ _ _ _

shines to lead the way _ _ □

green for eternal life,
red for Jesus' blood □ _ _ _ & _ _ □ □ _

sounds to announce
good news □ _ _

has no beginning or end _ _ _ □ _

Th □ □ ks b □ to □ od fo □ □ is
indesc □ □ ba □ le gif □ !

2 CORINTHIANS 9:15, NIV

Answer: candy cane, evergreen, star, holly & berries, bell, wreath. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:15, NIV

December, 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:00 am Worship 2:30 Food of Faith 3:00pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal	2 10 am O.A. 7pm N. A.	3 meijer Food Pantry Double Match Day at Meijer in Essesville. 6pm Sunday School Tree Tim Party for all.	4 10 am A Course in Miracles 11:30am Worship 6 pm Bell Choir	5 7pm O. A. 7pm Senior Choir	6 8pm N.A.	7
8 9:30- 9:45am Contemporary Music Sing-a-Long 10 am Worship & Noisy Offering 11 am Blood Press. Clinic 2:30 Food of Faith	9 10 am O.A. 7pm N. A.	10 1pm Finance Committee 6pm Altar Guild Meeting	11 10 am A Course in Miracles 11:30am Worship 6 pm Bell Choir	12 7pm O. A. 7pm Senior Choir Christmas Food Basket items DUE!	13 meijer Food Pantry Double Match Day at Meijer in Essesville. 8pm N.A.	14 10am-3pm Vestry M.M.R.
15 10 am Worship & Sunday School goes to Rachel Sovereign 2:30 Food of Faith 3:00pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal	16 10 am O.A. 7pm N. A.	17 7pm Community Christmas Hymn Sing	18 10 am A Course in Miracles 11:30am Worship 6 pm Bell Choir 6pm Vestry	19 7pm O. A. 7pm Senior Choir	20 7pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal 8pm N.A.	21 10am Chamber Choir Rehearsal 5pm - Saginaw River Marine 6pm Perceptions
22 10 am Worship 2:30 Food of Faith	23 10 am O.A. 7pm N. A.	24 5pm Christmas Eve Service 10pm Christmas Eve Service	25 	26 7pm O. A.	27 8pm N.A.	28
29 10 am Worship 2:30 Food of Faith	30 10 am O.A. 7pm N. A.	31 <div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">OFFICE CLOSED!</div>		* Denotes building rental for private event. O.A. - Over Eaters Anonymous N. A. - Narcotics Anonymous TBD - To Be Determined		

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.

DUE DECEMBER 15, 2019

Your name(s):

Contact #:

I would like to contribute \$ _____ to Trinity's 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 the offering plate at worship 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\$ _____

Christmas Poinsettias

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



DUE DECEMBER 15, 2019

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 the offering plate at worship 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\$ _____



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