

# THE CHIMES Feb 2017

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

Volume 20 Issue 2



Trinity Episcopal Church, Bay City, Michigan  
January 29, 2017 Rector's Report  
Dear Friends in Christ,

My heart is full of gratitude as I reflect on our shared life in 2016. At this time last year we knew I would become your new rector on May 1 but we had to wait four months before meeting one another. During that time Rev. Ann Grady fulfilled her time as Priest-in-Charge. I am grateful for the good work she did throughout her three year tenure.

The week before my arrival three members of our congregation died. Rev. Ann led Bob Reif's funeral on Saturday and I led Mary Jane Borgioli's and then Fred Fletcher's funeral my first week. You were all gracious and helpful as I jumped right in to ministry. A few months later we said "Good-bye" to Michelle Bullis as she moved to Tennessee and "Hello" to Michelle Beckstrom as Office Manager.

The Vestry leadership here is strong and committed to doing their best for Trinity. They are a team that works hard as they seek God's guidance in all they do and in the decisions they make. It has been a pleasure to work alongside such a dedicated group of people. At this time I would especially like to thank the three members whose term is up today. Dale Smith served as Junior Warden this past year and has been on the vestry for a long eight consecutive years. Our Diocesan Canons state that after two consecutive

terms of three years a person must take at least one year off. In Dale's case, he earlier fulfilled a vestry vacancy of two years, hence the eight years. Thank you very much Dale for your faithful

service to God and Trinity. Faith Culler concludes one term on vestry and this past year served as Senior Warden. She is eligible to serve a second term. Thank you Faith for your loyal service these last three years. Cathy LaBerge filled a two-year vacancy and has served as Clerk - even without a computer! She is stepping down from vestry. Thank you Cathy for your dedication these past two years.

I would be remiss if I didn't also thank our Treasurer, Steve Beckert. Steve is detail-oriented, thorough and works exceedingly long and hard to make sure that all our accounts balance properly and in the correct account. If we had to pay him for all his volunteer hours our budget would look quite different. Steve, thank you for your selfless, generous and God-centered ministry as Treasurer. I am deeply grateful.

There is an unsung hero who has given much on our behalf. Susan Beckert, thank you for your sacrifice of time away from Steve - when he's at Trinity or when he's working on the computer in his home office. Please know that I am truly grateful for this generous gift. Your church community thanks you.

Our worship would be greatly lacking without the time, effort, and passion of Bob Sabourin. Bob spends many hours preparing music, practicing the organ, teaching new choir members the basics of music and singing, and coordinating the Evensong services. Bob, thank you for your generosity and gifts in all things musical.

Terry Oliver has served as Sexton for three years and does a good job of keeping our building and grounds in good condition. For being a part-time

employee he accomplishes an awful lot and I am grateful. Thank you Terry. Michelle Beckert has been with us for five months and is beginning to get the hang of things. There is a lot to the position of Office Manager and she continues to work hard. Thank you Michelle.

There are many of you who offer much of your time to Trinity and if I were to thank each one we would be here all afternoon so I'm going to highlight two individuals. Bruce Sherbeck can often be found at the church fixing, cleaning, painting, getting quotes for projects and more. He is passionate about keeping this structure in good working order by offering his time, talent and sweat equity. Bruce, thank you for all you do here - known to us and unknown.

The other person I'd like to thank is Mickie Leibrand who serves tirelessly on Altar Guild and Garden Committee. One of her passions is sharing the beauty of flowers to those not able to worship with us and she heads up that distribution, spending many hours on altar set-up and clean-up, cleaning linens, preparing and distributing flowers and tidying up our gardens. For all you do so selflessly, thank you Mickie.

To each of you who serve on any ministry, I thank you. To the Acolytes, Altar Guild, Building and Grounds, Card Ministry, Choir, Choristers, Emergency Food Closet, Endowment Committee, Eucharistic Ministers, Eucharistic Visitors, Finance Committee, Food of Faith, Friends of Music, Hand Bell Choir, Historical Guild, Hospitality Committee, Garden Guild, Lectors, Membership Committee, Memorial Committee, Organ Committee, Outreach Committee, Personal Needs Closet, Personnel Committee, St. Elizabeth's Guild, Stewardship Committee, Sunday School and Vacation Bible School teachers, Ushers, and all others, thank you. Life here can only continue when we all find the ministries to which we have passion and act accordingly.

I am going to share with you some things that have begun and goals I've set for 2017. Since I began in May the Vestry has created an Emergency Call List. Each vestry member has a list of parishioners to call in the event of an emergency, such as the cancellation of church due to weather or some other news of a critical nature. This is updated with each vestry.

In August I led a one-day Vestry retreat in the Guild Room. One of the desires of the Vestry is to better learn how to be Vestry. One way we've engaged in this exploration is by reading The Vestry Handbook. We discussed chapter 10 on the Vestry Member's Spiritual Life and will continue the book discussion in 2017. A fun and informative exercise we did on the retreat was take a Spiritual Gifts Analysis. The top five gifts of the 2016 vestry (treasurer and rector included) are, in order beginning with the highest: Faith, Helps/Service, Wisdom, Mercy and Giving. One of my goals for 2017 is to continue to learn more about each of you and to find ways to assist you in getting plugged in to ministries that best fit your gifts. One way to do this is for everyone in the congregation to take this Spiritual Gifts Analysis...stay tuned!

A second goal is to increase communication and transparency. One of the ways we're doing this is the through the creation of Vestry Liaisons, which we began three months ago. Each vestry member is the liaison to a minimum of two ministries of which they are to communicate monthly to the leader of said ministries. The updated 2017 list will be posted once it is set.

One of the good ideas that stemmed from our Vestry discussions is to create a Ministry Notebook to be kept in the office, the purpose of which is to provide the congregation with a centralized location to reference the varied active groups at Trinity. Each Ministry / Committee / Guild will have a customary (section of group norms) which will include: Name of group, Statement of purpose, How they do what

they do (procedures as appropriate), How often and when they meet. Once the 2017 Vestry Liaisons are set the process of creating this Ministry Notebook will commence.

Another way to improve communication is to have one or more members of the different Outreach Ministries make a presentation with an update on their ministry. This will also aid in the Vestry's ability to be supportive of these vital ministries.

At Diocesan Convention in November, The Rev. Dr. Gray Lesesne, spoke on his experience in starting Good Samaritan Episcopal Church, near Indianapolis, which is a church with no walls. They meet in places where they can serve and be with their neighbors. Although his congregation is very "out of the box" he recommended a resource to traditional churches that offers congregations ways to analyze, assess and adapt in changing communities. Gray provided a handout that highlighted several ways traditional churches can engage in their community. This is a great opportunity for the Vestry to provide strong forward-moving leadership as we explore our neighborhood in varied ways, share our findings and take action.

We are currently working on updating our pictorial parish directory. Anne Trahan has graciously agreed to take photographs for free. Session times will be set up in advance. If you want copies of your photograph Anne will have packages and pricing available. At the time of your photo session you will receive and fill out a questionnaire to update your information. Hard copies of this directory will be available as well as a password-protected webpage that will contain up-to-date information.

A third goal is to create a new Worship Committee that will meet monthly to plan and implement worship that is inspiring. As with other groups that affect the whole congregation I am being intentional in providing a wide representation of church members. Once the

team is assembled we will provide updates. Your suggestions are welcome.

A fourth goal is to make the office run more smoothly and efficiently. One way I'm doing this is by creating what I'm calling Quiet Tuesdays. In an effort to provide Michelle with uninterrupted time to focus on worship bulletins, financial input and other necessary items Tuesday will be a quiet day for her. We will be enlisting volunteers to answer the phone and greet anyone coming to the church. The volunteers will be provided with a wireless telephone, message book and writing implement and will be located in the comfort of the Guild Room. If this is something you would like to assist with, please let Michelle know.

As I conclude this report I realize that it is, by far, the longest I've ever given. Clearly much has occurred, many things were not mentioned and there is much to come. With all that said, I look forward to the ways God will challenge and walk alongside us as, together, we continue to travel this exciting journey of faith.

Respectfully submitted, The Rev. Susan C. Rich

#### **WELCOME**

back to Paulette and Mike Royer who have returned to Trinity

#### **THANK YOU**

to the redecoration crew who included, Mary K Freel, Mickie Leibrand, Jane Moulthrop, Bobbie Hunter and Pat Maxim

to Dee Mulholland and Mickie Leibrand for the wonderful tea after our Epiphany Celebration

to Sharon Voelker and Valerie Fargo for loaning us icons for our Contemplative Evensongs in January and February

to Diane Rapson Gabil for the gifts for adults receiving Christmas Food Baskets. We had the children covered but adding something for the adults was very much appreciated.

## FEBRUARY EVENSONG

Evensong this month will again be contemplative in nature. It is being sung by the women of the choir assisted by several choristers. The music will include The Preces, Phos Hilaron, Magnificat, Nunc Dimittis, the Lord's Prayer and the Suffrages all written for Trinity by composer Robert J. Powell. It is wonderful music and fits our singers well. Rev. Sue will be the officiant, Madden Brady the acolyte and Dawn Moulthrop-Brady will be the lector.

Friends of Music will host a reception in the Guild Room after the service.

## FEBRUARY CHORAL MUSIC

- 5 Epiphany 5 A  
O Send Out Thy Light and Thy Truth  
Christian Latrobe
- 12 Epiphany 6 A  
If Ye Love Me  
Peter Aston
- 19 Epiphany 7 A  
Direct Us O Lord  
Thomas Matthews
- O Lord Most Holy  
H. R. Evans
- 26 Transfiguration  
Christ Whos Glory Fills the Skies  
Healey Willan
- Jesus Take Me to the Mountain  
Carl Schalk
- 26 4:00 p.m. Evensong  
Mag and Nunc  
Robert J. Powell
- The Lord Wild Bird  
Dan Locklair

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choristers. The music will include The Preces, Phos Hilaron, Magnificat, Nunc Dimittis, the Lord's Prayer and the Suffrages all written for Trinity by composer Robert J. Powell. It is wonderful music and fits our singers well. Rev. Sue will be the officiant, Madden Brady the acolyte and Dawn Moulthrop-Brady will be the lector.

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## Birthdays

- 01 Judy Laskowski  
02 Bob Hayhurst  
06 Janice Waldman  
07 Victor Kolka  
08 Elise Shannon  
11 Shannon Lang  
11 Cindy Sherbeck  
18 Mary Katharine Freel  
19 Martin Foss  
23 Sydney Shannon  
25 Kylene Gray  
27 Susan Hoyle  
28 Maureen Alvarez  
28 Mildred Owen

## Anniversaries

- 11 Guy and Jane Moulthrop  
14 Sean & Dawn Brady  
16 Ray & Jeanette Luebs  
19 Guy & Stephanie Moulthrop

**St Elizabeth's Guild** will meet for lunch on February 14<sup>th</sup> at Latitude 43 on Henry Street at 12:30. All are welcome to attend!

## God in Man Made Manifest



Trinity's windows share many of the ways Jesus was manifested – from the visit of the Magi, His baptism in the Jordan, His being tempted in the wilderness, to His agony in the Garden of Gethsemane. Here we see Christ manifested by having compassion and healing the multitudes:

“And great multitudes came unto Him and He healed them.”  
(Matthew 4:24-25)

Cranage Memorial Window. Heaton, Butler & Bayne; 1927. London, England.

With the word “epiphany” coming from the Greek word meaning “to appear” or “to manifest oneself,” the holy season of Epiphany is a wonderful time to look at the many manifestations of Jesus.

May Jesus, the “God in man made manifest,” be manifested in us, His children and servants.

Perhaps the most succinctly written words about Christ's manifestations come from 19<sup>th</sup> century Anglican Bishop, Christopher Wordsworth. Here, we let his prayerful and powerful phrasing speak to our hearts and minds:

“Songs of thankfulness and praise,  
Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise,  
Manifested by the star  
To the sages from afar;  
Branch of royal David's stem  
In thy birth at Bethlehem;  
Anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream,  
Prophet, Priest and King supreme;  
And at Cana wedding guest,  
In thy Godhead manifest;  
Manifest in power divine,  
Changing water into wine;  
Anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in man made manifest.

Manifest in making whole  
Palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
Manifest in valiant fight,  
Quelling all the devil's might;  
Manifest in gracious will,  
Ever bringing good from ill;  
Anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in man made manifest.”

Words: Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885).

Music: Salzburg.

The Hymnal 1982; # 135, vv.1-3.

Faithfully submitted by the Historical Guild

**The Historical Guild Showcase** Display features information on the Feast of the Epiphany and on Mary, Mother of our Lord. The display and table top information will be up through the end of February.

A **Note of Thanks** from a friend regarding the singers for the Lessons & Carols concert. “Thanks for inviting me to your church's Christmas Concert. Wow! And just imagine, they are from our communities. I think I know what an angel choir sounds like”

### Quiet Tuesdays

In an effort to provide Michelle with uninterrupted time to focus on worship bulletins, financial input and other necessary items Tuesday will be a quiet day for her. We will be enlisting volunteers to answer the phone and greet anyone coming to the church. The volunteers will be provided with a wireless telephone, message book and writing implement and will be in the comfort of the Guild Room.



On February 28<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday evening, we will have our Annual **Mardi Gras dinner** on Mardi Gras and Shrove Tuesday. The dinner will again be Jambalaya on Rice, Salad, Home Baked Bread and a special dessert. The Trinity Band/Reivers will be entertaining us. The price for adults will be \$10.00 and children 8 through age 4 will be \$5.00 and younger ones will be free.

We do not make this as spicy as in New Orleans but we will have extra spices if you like yours more zippy. The Jambalaya is made with shrimp, chicken and andouille sausage but we will have one batch with just chicken for those with seafood allergies.

Please come and support this fund raiser and enjoy both the meal and the music. Invite your family and friends as it is open to the public.

**Are you 70 ½ or older and have an IRA?**

If you are 70 ½ or older and have an IRA, then you know that the tax laws require you to take a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) each year from your IRA or else pay a large penalty. In December 2015, Congress made permanent a provision in the tax code that allows persons who are 70 ½ or older to transfer money from their IRA directly to a qualified charitable organization and have that money count as part of their RMD. In addition, that money can be excluded from gross income on the person's tax return. This is a great way to pay your pledge to Trinity and not pay tax on the amount contributed even if you do not itemize deductions on your tax return.

Trinity's treasurer, Steve Beckert, will be available to discuss this provision with you, either in a group setting or individually if you desire. Just let Steve know if you would like further information or to meet with him.



Two of our parishioners in their **Stormy Kromer** hats.

**Confirmation / Lenten / Inquirer's Class**

Are you interested in being confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church or renewing your Baptismal Vows? Are you looking for a way to engage your spiritual life throughout Lent? Are you interested in The Episcopal Church and some of what we believe?

If so, have we got the place for you!! During the season of Lent we will be joining St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Bay City for a six-week exploration of the Apostles' Creed: What Christians Believe and Why.

We will meet the Wednesday evenings during Lent from 6:00-8:00pm for Soup/Supper, a 15-minute video followed by discussion. The hosting church will provide the soup (Pat Maxim will be handling this) and those attending may bring something to share. Set-up will be at 5:45pm, 6:00pm we will have a brief gathering liturgy followed by enjoying our meal while viewing the video and then discussion.

- March 8 - St. Alban's      March 15 – Trinity
  - March 22 - St. Alban's    March 29 – Trinity
  - April 5 - St. Alban's      April 12 - Trinity
- Please call or email the office to sign up.

St. Alban's is located at 101 S. Erie Street. Parking lot is at the corner of Midland and Wenona. If you need transportation, please call the office.

**WORSHIP**

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

**NEW OFFICE HOURS**

Monday - Thursday 9:00AM– 4:45 PM  
CLOSED FOR LUNCH 12:30 – 1:15 PM  
Friday - Closed

**CONTACT US**

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**AFTER HOURS CONTACT INFORMATION**

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**Cell :** (810) 706-0654  
**Church Phone:** (989) 892-5813

**VESTRY**

Faith Culler - Sr. Warden (989) 892-3119  
Dale Smith – Jr. Warden (989) 471-4114  
Cathy LaBerge - Clerk (989) 662-4611  
Catherine Leibrand (989) 906-3554  
Amy Salazar (989) 272-5900  
Tod Meisel (989) 894-2818  
Jett Whitehead (989) 892-0719  
Pat Maxim (989) 892-5949  
Adam Culler (989) 892-3119

Steve Beckert Treasurer

**CLERGY**

The Rt. Rev. Todd Ousley  
Bishop, Diocese of Eastern Michigan  
The Rev. Susan C. Rich

**STAFF**

Mr. Robert C. Sabourin Organist/Choir Master  
Ms. Michelle K. Beckstrom Office Manager  
Mr. Terry J. Oliver Sexton

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Dawn Moulthrop-Brady  
Sean Brady  
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