

THE CHIMES

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

January 2016

Volume 21, Issue 1

Pennings from your Priest...

Dear Trinity Family,
We – Ann, your priest, and Chuck, your Senior Warden – have some important news for you. The two of us have chosen this joint letter to relay that news. It begins with some words from Rev. Ann and concludes with some words from Chuck.

From Rev. Ann: I began my ministry with you on Easter Day 2013 for a three- to five-year transition period as your priest in charge. On March 1, I start my fourth year.

The leadership of the parish and I were tasked by the bishop to focus our attention on four areas of concentration – increase transparency, improve relationship with money, enhance internal communication, and develop respect for the office of the bishop. I believe that together we have made progress in all of those areas.

I am particularly proud of the steps we have taken to improve your relationship with money, especially as it relates to outreach, or missions. With your enthusiastic support the food pantry is kept well stocked through regular donations of food, money and special in-gatherings. We now have a personal needs closet to which you also regularly contribute, and 20 children received back to school clothing through the United Way Back to School project.

Those trained in transition ministry are in an ongoing process of discernment and evaluation, in terms of both the parish they are working with and their tenure in that parish. I am no exception.

My own discernment has led me to conclude that I have done as much as I can as your priest.

Upcoming Events

THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

We will celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany with a sung Mass at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 6, 2016.

Friends of Music will host an English Tea in the Guild Room after the service.

JANUARY EVENSONG

The St. Lorenz Middle School Choir from Frankenmuth will sing Evensong on Sunday, January 24, 2016. They will be premiering a new setting of the “Nunc Dimittis” by composer Paul Bouman. This will match a “Magnificat” he wrote over thirty years ago. Bouman is 97 years old and still very active as a composer.

Rev. Chuck Curtis will be the officiant and Robert Sabourin the organist. Please come and support this choir of from Frankenmuth.

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

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, January 31, 2016 immediately following the worship service. Please bring a dish to pass as we will eat while the meeting takes place in the parish hall.

It is time for me to move on to the next adventure God has in mind for me. Therefore, I will be concluding my ministry with you shortly after Easter.

I hope to remain in Bay City, a place that has come to feel like home. I am working with the bishop to ensure that my transition to a next position is as smooth as possible.

The vestry, the bishop and I met on December 2 to discuss next steps. At that meeting the bishop informed the vestry that he is ready to let the parish call a rector.

It has been a privilege to serve as your priest for the last three years. I am deeply grateful for the support you have given me. Thank you.

From Chuck: To prepare for Trinity's next priest your vestry has been working with Bishop Todd and Mike Spencer, Canon to the Ordinary. As Canon Mike works with parishes in transition, as Trinity now is.

Bishop Todd advised the vestry that Trinity is now healthy enough that we no longer need to work with a priest-in-charge, and can call a rector for our next priest.

The Bishop directed the vestry to serve as the search committee and gave them the name of a person to consider. With the vestry elections coming up at the annual meeting in January the three people running for vestry were asked to join the current vestry to participate in the call process.

After conducting an interview and making a parish visit, the vestry voted to approve calling a rector. All parties have agreed to and signed a Letter of Agreement.

The vestry is pleased to announce that Sue Rich has been called as Trinity's next rector beginning May 1, 2016. Sue is currently the priest in charge at Grace, Lapeer and St. John's, Dryden.

We will keep the parish informed as the transition from priest in charge to rector proceeds.

Let us all use the remaining time with Rev. Ann to thank her for her guidance and support that she has given Trinity, and the personal support she has given many of us. We also want to wish her well with her next journey serving Christ and give her any support or help she may

need. A farewell celebration will be announced as plans are developed.

May God's blessing be upon us all.

Rev. Ann, Priest-in-Charge
Chuck Leibrand, Senior
Warden

~MISSIONS~

This is the breakdown for the year for the following events...

- The **Mardi Gras Dinner** took in \$373 in income.
- The **Harvest Dinner** took in \$595 in income.
- The **Rummage Sale** took in \$1500 in income with 10% of it being put into the Missions Fund and 90% going to the General Fund.
- The **Christmas Bazaar** took in \$1085 with 50% going into the Missions Fund and 50% going into the General Fund.

SOUP IN GATHERING

Trinity's Food Pantry is in desperate need of Hearty Style Soup (no condensed please). We will be having an In Gathering on Sunday, January 24, 2016. Please bring your donations to the church on January 3rd, 10th and 17th.



NOISY OFFERING

The Children's Noisy offering collected \$114.93 in December. This offering was forwarded to Doctors Without Borders. **The next Noisy Offering will be on Sunday, January 10th and will be forwarded to Haiti.**

SALVATION ARMY GIVING TREE

This year Trinity again participated in the Salvation Army's Giving Tree Campaign. We sponsored seven families for a total of 36 children and adults! A huge THANK YOU to everyone to took one or more individuals.

CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS

Trinity collected food for and distributed baskets to 35 needy families through The Bay County Emergency Food Pantry Network. Again, a huge THANK YOU to everyone who donated food this year!

*Thank
You*

to **Mary K Freel** for all of the communication work she does for us including notes to visitors and baptismal anniversary cards.

to **Victor Kolka** for painting the men's restroom and the unisex bathroom in the basement.

to **Chuck Leibrand** for making additional business cards and cross packets to give to visitors.

to outgoing Vestry members **Kyline Gray, Chuck Leibrand** and **Cathy Leibrand** for their service.

to the **Choristers, Senior Choir, The Exultate Deo Chamber Choir** under the direction of **Robert Sabourin**; and the **Handbell Choir**, under the direction of **Tracey Kryzsiak**, for the beautiful music during the Advent and Christmas seasons.

to **Ed Benisz** for helping coordinate the ambulatory work by Tyler.

to **Michelle Hunsberger, Cathie and Mickie Leibrand, Elisabeth Campbell** and **Susan Hoyle** for hosting coffee hours recently.

to **Mickie Leibrand** for all of her help behind the scenes to make our Christmas services so special.

to **Mary K Freel** for the Nativity displays and all of

her work decorating the church for Christmas.

to **Jan Waldman** for her faithful work for the Food Pantry and the special Holiday Baskets.

to **Lauren McCullen** for her help every week with the Choristers and to **Mary K Freel** for her help with our young singers on Christmas Eve.



BIRTHDAYS...

- 01 Diane Rapson-Gabil
- 04 Noel Hart
- 10 Rob Salazar
- 11 Nancy Mayhew
- 14 Jack Esseltine
- 17 Gregory Marciniak
- 20 Gregory Scharich
- 21 Sharon Scharich
- 23 Peter Frantz
- 25 The Rev. Ann Grady
- 27 Susan Harris
- 30 Faith Culler

ANNIVERSARIES...

- 01 Robert & Jeannie Traxler
- 02 May Falvey
- 05 George & Pat Middleton
- 07 Greg & Heidi Marciniak
- 10 Nate & Rayechel Berger
- 14 Rodney Adams
- 15 Robert & Emilee Sabourin
- 21 Fred & Margot Fletcher

OUR CONDOLENCES...

to the family of Val Syring.

to the family of Greg
Marciniak.

to the family of Frank
Serresseque.

ST. ELIZABETH'S GUILD

Will meet on **Tuesday,**
January 12, 2016 at 12:30 p.m.
at Latitude 43 located at
1013 N. Henry St.

ANNUAL MEETING

The 2015 Annual Meeting will
be held on **Sunday, January**
31, 2016 immediately
following the worship service.
Please bring a dish to pass!
Note: If you are chair of any
particular committee Michelle
will need your 2015 report for
the Annual Meeting booklet
no later than January 14th.

JANUARY CHORAL MUSIC

3 Christmas 2 C

The Bell Carol
Philip Ledger

A New Year Carol
Benjamin Britten

Rocking Carol
Michael Burkhardt

6 The Feast of the Epiphany

From the Rising of the Sun
F. A. Gore Ouseley

**10 The First Sunday After
the Epiphany**
The Baptism of Christ
Christ, When You Came to
Jordan
Hal Hopson

Come to the Water
John Foley

**17 The Second Sunday After
the Epiphany**
Draw us in the Spirit's
Tether
Harold Friedell

**24 The Third Sunday After
the Epiphany**
Teach me O Lord
William Bryd

**31 The Fourth Sunday After
the Epiphany**
The Gift of Love
Hal Hopson

CHOIR CHRISTMAS PARTY

Trinity's Choir met for a
Christmas Party on December
19th. Looks like they all had
some great food and a good
time!



Troy Bergman & Mike Huntress



Mickie Leibrand & Mike Huntress



Lynne King & Rayechel Berger



Tod & Barb Meisel

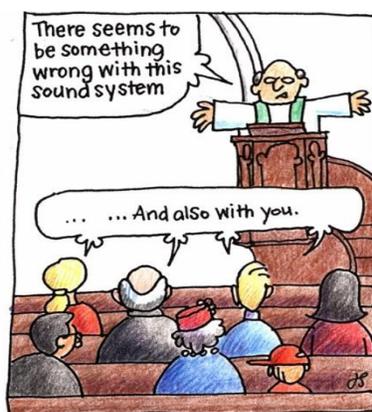
ARE YOU 70 1/2 OR OLDER AND HAVE AN IRA?

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, 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.

FOOD OF FAITH

Trinity is serving Food of Faith on Sunday, January 3, 2016. As always, we are in need of help with both the cooking of the meal and during the serving. We are also in need of donated desserts for the meal. If you would like to help please contact Pat Maxim or Michelle in the Office.



TRINITY CHURCH HER PEOPLE, HER BUILDING THEN & NOW

The Epiphany

"As they offered gifts most rare at that manger rude and bare; so may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy, All our costliest treasures bring, Christ! to thee, our heavenly king."

Music: William Chatterton
Dix (1837-1898)

The Hymnal 1982; # 119, v. 3.

Epiphany is a Christian festival remembering the

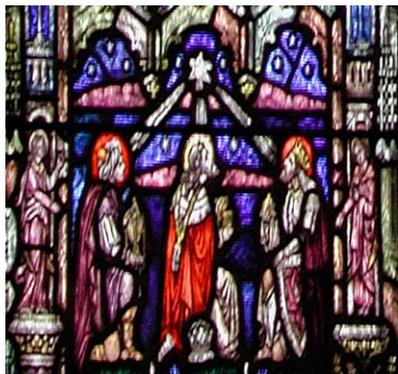
adoration of the infant Jesus by the Three Wise Men who had come from the East. Its meaning comes from the Greek word meaning to appear or to show oneself. Originating in the Eastern Church, probably as early as the 3rd century, the feast of the Epiphany came to be celebrated in the West in the 4th century. By the 5th century the early church established the number of wise men at three; at that time the church was aware of only three continents – Asia, Africa and Europe – and so the three continents were matched to the three gifts recorded in Matthew's Gospel (2:11) symbolizing the whole then-known world making its procession of faith to God fully revealed in Christ Jesus. The visit of the Magi also fulfilled the prophecy from Isaiah 60:3 – "The Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." By the 8th century, the wise men were given names: Caspar, Balthasar, Melchior. Trinity's depiction of the visit of the Magi is at the bottom of the Christmas/Epiphany Window on the western nave wall.

Looking closely, we also see three ages of mankind represented – young, middle aged and old. The five-pointed star of Bethlehem radiates its beams; its light has led them and now leads us to Christ, the “Light of the World.” Nourished by Word and Sacrament may we reflect His brightness.

The Wise Men bring their gifts: Gold, frankincense, myrrh.

Detail: The Christmas/ Epiphany Window. Willet Studios; Philadelphia, PA., 1951.

Faithfully submitted by Trinity’s Historical Guild



See the February issue of The Chimes to learn more about The Rev. Sue Rich!

2016 Hardy Award runner-up: Patricia Maxim feeds the needy every Sunday



Congratulations to Pat, below is a link to the full article from the Sunday, January 3rd edition of The Bay City Times.

http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2016/01/2016_hardy_award_runner-up_pat.html

SAVE THE DATE...

The **Ushers Dinner** will be on Wednesday, February 17, 2016. Hors D'oeuvres will be served at 5:30 p.m. and dinner will begin at 6:00 p.m.



Altar Flowers

OPEN ALTAR FLOWERS January 17th and 31st. If you would like flowers for either of these dates please contact Elisabeth Campbell or Michelle in the office.

LET THERE BE LIGHT

In a world of darkness, God guides us so we can walk in his ways.

Directions: Write the name of each picture, subtracting and adding letters as indicated. Then fill in the blanks to complete 2 Samuel 22:29, NIV.

“YOU, _____, ARE
 _____; THE
 _____ MY

 INTO _____.”

2 SAMUEL 22:29, NIV

Answer: "You, LORD, are my lamp; the LORD turns my darkness into light." 2 Samuel 22:29, NIV



The office will be closed on Monday, January 18, 2016 in Observance of Martin Luther King Day.

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

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