

THE CHIMES

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

January 2021

Volume 24 Issue 1



Dear Trinity Community,
The year 2020 was been quite a year of challenges and blessings, losses and joys, difficulties and comforts. And only God knows what 2021 will bring. In the uncertainty of it all, we trust in the unchanging love of God for us and for the whole world.

We just celebrated the birth of Jesus – God coming to humanity with all its frailties and experiences. The light of God through Christ broke into the world over 2,000 years ago and continues to do so today.

When Mary proclaimed the greatness of the Lord and when her spirit rejoiced in God her Savior, she was aware that God was doing something remarkable. She knew that all generations would call her blessed and that the Almighty had done great things for her, that God's name is holy, and in every generation, God has mercy on those who revere God. Mary continues, in what we call the Magnificat, to state that what God was doing is the opposite of what she and many others experienced in the world. In the face of the opposite realities, the strength of God's arm was shown in scattering the proud in their conceit, those on mighty thrones were cast down and the lowly were lifted up. Those who were hungry, God was filling with good things and the rich were sent away empty.

And keeping in mind God's promise to the chosen people Israel, she praised God for remembering God's promise of mercy that God made to Abraham and his children forever. A lot was going on in Israel that wasn't good, that caused the most vulnerable to suffer unnecessarily. And in the midst of the pain and suffering God came to them in the form of a vulnerable child of humble beginnings.

A lot is going on in our world today that isn't good, that cause the most vulnerable to suffer unnecessarily. And in the midst of the pain and suffering God comes to us in the form of a vulnerable child of humble beginnings. God also comes to us in the form of kind words, a thoughtful phone call, a letter, a crisis averted, people working together for good, offerings of food and shelter and clothing. What has been called the Christmas or Bethlehem star was in our sky the brightest on December 21st. The conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn brightened the sky on the darkest day of the year and won't be this close again for another 800 years!

Although Bay City was in cloud cover that night the pictures are remarkable and awe-inspiring. On January 6, we will celebrate The Epiphany when the wise men, or magi, arrived at the place of the holy family having followed the star in the East to see this child born King of the Jews and to worship him.

The magi were blessed to have been in the presence of God. Mary and Joseph were blessed to have these easterners seek out their son and worship him. They were also blessed by the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, gifts which probably supported them in their unexpected exodus to Egypt to escape Herod's effort to kill the Christ child.

Life wasn't always easy for the holy family, but all their efforts made a difference in the world forever. Life isn't always easy for us, but all our efforts to love one another and serve the common good make a difference in the world and spread the Light of Christ. May it be so with us this Epiphanytide.

In Christ's love, *Rev. Sue*

THANK YOU

To all those who made our Christmas Eve and Lessons & Carols services so lovely. To Rayechel Berger and Patrick Winningham for their musicianship, planning, and recording. To musicians: the St. Lorenz Brass Ensemble, the Keeler and Middleton families, and instrumentalists Carter Davis and Ryan Winningham. To Anne Trahan for assembling the "O Holy Night" and "Silent Night" videos. To readers Monica Borrello, Moria Brady, Michelle Hunsberger, Mickie Leibrand, Corinne Salazar, Izzy Salazar and Matt Smith. To the Altar Guild: Mary Allen, Shelley Anderson, Sue Hoyle, Michelle Hunsberger, Mickie Leibrand, Denise Middleton, Ann Shea, and Sarah Willard. To Archie Duncan and Rev. Sue Rich for handling the technology. To Ann Shea for putting the bulletins and PowerPoints together.

Katharine Freel and Janice Waldman for gathering & preparing items and assembling and distributing the Christmas baskets and to all who so generously gave to provide items to fill them.

Generous donors to the Discretionary Fund.

THANK YOU NANCY MOULTHROP

Our deepest gratitude goes out to Nancy Moulthrop's immense generosity. Through the Nancy Moulthrop Trust, Trinity is the beneficiary of monies to refurbish our organ! We are indebted to her daughter/Executor of the Trust, Dawn Brady, for her commitment to fulfill her mother's desires.

We are excited about the wonderful opportunity this provides Trinity to ensure exceptional organ music will continue for many years to come. Senior Warden, Archie Duncan, and Rev. Sue Rich are in the process of assembling an organ committee that will make recommendations to the Vestry as we consult experts in the field.

Our hearts are full. Thank you Nancy and Dawn.

THANK YOU ROSIE ALVAREZ

We want to thank Rosie Alvarez for her faithful years of service to Trinity as our Bookkeeper. Rosie tendered her resignation citing the new role of homeschooling her grandson. We are grateful to Rosie for her time and dedication to Trinity. We will miss you, Rosie, and we send you with our blessings.

WELCOME BACK MICHELLE BULLIS

We welcome Michelle Bullis back into the Trinity fold as she will begin as our Bookkeeper on January 11th. Michelle was Trinity's Office Manager/Bookkeeper for several years and we are very pleased to have her back as our Bookkeeper.

OUR SYMPATHIES

To Archie Duncan on the death of his brother, Randall Duncan, who died December 14.

To Sue Hoyle on the death of her sister, Kathy Spreadbury, who died on December 24.

PLANNING FOR 2021

If you have not turned in your 2021 Financial Commitment Card, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you.

EPIPHANY SERVICE

On Wednesday, January 6, at 7:00 pm we will offer an online Epiphany Service. Please join us!

EPIPHANY HOME BLESSINGS

Epiphany is traditionally the time to bless our homes for the year. Last year we provided a home blessing prayer, some blessed chalk and instructions on marking each doorway into your home. If you would like to do this for 2021, please email revsuerich@gmail.com or call 989-326-0469.

EXPANDING THE COLUMBARIUM

We will be expanding our columbarium as all the niches in our current columbarium are in use or reserved. The expansion will be in the Memorial Chapel between the columbarium

and the front door. All memorial plaques will be lovingly and respectfully honored.

To date, we have received advance payment for one of the 55 new niches. If you would like to reserve a niche to assist in covering the cost to build this addition, please contact Rev. Sue at revsuerich@gmail.com or 989-326-0469. The fee is \$800. Payment plans are available.

WORSHIP ONLINE



Facebook and YouTube live stream: Trinity Episcopal Church Bay City
Sunday 10:00am Holy Spiritual Communion
Wednesday 11:30am Morning Prayer
Daily 9:00pm Compline

PRAYER LIST UPDATES

If you have someone you would like to add to one of our prayer lists, please email trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com or call 989-326-0469 (cell).

ANNUAL MINISTRY REPORTS DUE JANUARY 13

Annual ministry reports are due by January 13. Please send your electronic submissions to trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com. If an electronic submission is not possible, call 989-326-0469 (cell).

ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 31 ONLINE

This year our Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 31 at 1:00pm. Our annual business meeting will be held via Zoom and all voting members may join by computer or telephone. We need at least 40 people to reach a quorum. In order to provide a secure

meeting **each person must RSVP** to trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com or 989-326-0469. The login information will be sent to you. If there is more than one person in your house eligible to vote (members 16 years of age or older), each will need to register and have their own device (computer, tablet, phone).

VIDEO MEETING RESOURCE AVAILABLE

Can't gather together with your family? You may use Trinity's Zoom account to do so, just let Rev. Sue know! revsuerich@gmail.com or trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com or 989-326-0469.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Your continued financial support of Trinity is greatly appreciated. Your Finance Committee and Vestry continue to work diligently to utilize all resources available to us during this unprecedented time.

Ways to provide us with your contributions:

- Write and mail a check to Trinity
- IRA contribution
- Go to www.trinityepiscopalbaycity.org, click on the online giving link which will take you to the diocesan webpage.

RESOURCES FROM THE STATE OF MICHIGAN

- Mental Health Hotline 10am-2pm daily. 888-733-7753
- Disaster Distress Hotline. 800-985-5990
- Free mindfulness meditation website. www.headspace.com/mi
- Free digital lessons focused on developing social, emotional and well-being skills, especially in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis. www.michiganvirtual.org/michigancares
- Michigan Sexual Assault Hotline (talk/text/chat). 855-VOICES4
- Domestic Violence Hotline. 800-799-SAFE



Birthdays

Diane Rapson Gabil
Paulette Royer
Rob Salazar
Jean Traxler
Jack Esseltine
Gregory Marciniak
Lauren McCullen
Gregory Scharich
Sharon Scharich
Susan Harris
Faith Culler

Anniversaries

Gregory & Heidi Marciniak
Nathan & Rayechel Berger
Robert & Emilee Sabourin

Food Pantry Holiday Baskets

For Thanksgiving and Christmas, Trinity's food Pantry provided the ingredients for a delicious meal to 19 homes (27 people). The Bay County Emergency Food Pantry Network provided gift certificates for meat or additional preferred foods.

Sixteen of our homes were referrals from Bay County Department on Aging. To add joy to our Thanksgiving Baskets, Diane Rapson Gabil donated an assortment of beautiful Christmas cards and Katharine Freel donated Cookie/Brownie serving plates. As we have in years past, we included place mats with prayers of thankfulness for various religions. And a grateful thank you to Patrick Winningham & Thrivent, for the \$250.00 gift card for our holiday baskets. And thank you to Katharine Freel for her amazing shopping expertise.

At Christmas, we served the same homes. Again, the Bay County Emergency Food Pantry Network provided gift certificates for meat or additional preferred foods and Trinity provided all the side dishes. We brightened our Christmas baskets with gifts of hand knitted pot holders and face cloths from Pat Middleton. The different colors of yarn Pat used produced the most beautiful pot holders and cloths. Thank you Pat. Again, as we have in years past, we included Christmas packages of individual personal care products. Thank you to everyone who donated hotel care products from trips.

Trinity's family has always been amazing in your support of our Food Pantry. And every year at holiday time, "elves" donate special gifts to brighten the lives of our fellow Bay County residents. We do not know of any other pantry that goes beyond food. So, thank you all. We are blessed by your generosity.

Katharine Freel
Janice Waldman

Donation of flowers are needed for January 31st for the altar. Please call the office or call Elisabeth Campbell if you are interested in this. Many thanks in advance.

December 3, 2020

Dear Reverend Sue & fellow parishioners:

On behalf of our mother, Marnie Syring, my family would like to thank everyone who has inquired about her, and extended prayers for her. My mother was very active in volunteering in her earlier years, and continued to actively attend as possible, after my father passed. We especially want to thank those who have sent her cards and a warm message- Dawn Brady, Gail McPeak, Anne & Patrick Trahan, and Cathy Serafini. We read the messages aloud to her, and her facial expressions seemed to reflect both loss and joy.

Thank you also to Reverend Sue, Mickie Leibrand, and Kylene, along with any others who have visited her or taken her communion prior to this Pandemic. Many blessings to you all.

Janet Hool, Tracey Krzysik, Judy Laskowski, Val Syring and families

Trinity Church Her People, Her Building Then and Now

The Organ

The organ is a keyboard musical instrument and often called “The King of Instruments.” There are two chief kinds of organs, pipe organs and electronic organs. Most pipe organs are found in churches, concert halls, and theaters. The history of the pipe organ can be traced back more than 2,000 years.

In the 200’s B.C., Ctesibius of Alexandria, a Greek engineer, built an organ called a hydraulis, or hydraulos, that used water power to force air into the pipes. The hydraulos was probably not used for musical purposes but rather as a scientific demonstration of the use of water to produce power. By the 1st century A.D. and continuing until the 5th, the hydraulos was played in Rome and the provinces at feasts and gladiatorial combats. Nothing is known of the actual musical effect it produced except that it had a powerful sound, perhaps to merely emit loud notes to draw attention to happenings in the Roman amphitheater.

Organs that used a bellows first appeared in Byzantium (now Istanbul, Turkey) during the A.D. 100’s and 200’s. By the 6th century A.D., the building of organs shifted from the Western Roman Empire to the Eastern (Byzantine). The Byzantine organs were winded by bellows and featured sound effects such as the rumbling of thunder and the tinkling of cymbals. The major features of the modern

organ were developed from the 200’s to the 1500’s. The pedalboard was introduced in the Netherlands and Germany after 1300 but did not become part of the organs in other countries until much later. The keyboard was developed by the end of the 1400’s.

With their unsavory association with the arena, the introduction of organs to Christian churches is somewhat of a mystery. However it happened, by the 10th century the instrument found its place in monastic churches and cathedrals where it was used on feast days. The size and type, function, and instruments location are unknown. From the 11th century on, organs became more common in churches and cathedrals across Europe, played on “high” occasions such as Easter, All Saints’ Day and Pentecost. Though not the only instrument used in worship today, we are grateful that the organ usually is used to lead us in worship and adoration of Almighty God.

“Join the great throng,
Psaltery, organ and song,
Sounding in glad adoration.”

(Praise to the Lord; Joachim Neander, The Hymnal 1982; #390, vs 1).



The Console with 3 manuals

The M.P. Möller Pipe Organ; Opus 9764, 1963. Cost \$60,000. Trinity Church; Bay City, MI.

Faithfully submitted by the Historical Guild

Puzzle!

Complete each saying below. Then place the words from those blanks in the correct order to complete Proverbs 23:4.

1. When the going gets tough, the tough _____ going.
2. People who live in glass houses should _____ throw stones.
3. If the shoe fits, _____ it.
4. "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is _____ to enter the kingdom of God."
5. Good things come _____ those who wait.
6. When in Rome, _____ as the Romans do.
7. Don't wear _____ your welcome.
8. If you want something done right, do it _____ .

Write the unscrambled proverb here:

_____ PROVERBS 23:4

Answer: Do not wear yourself out to get rich. Proverbs 23:4

