



TRINITY

TIDINGS

A Congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

January 2023

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For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.
Ecclesiastes 3:1

Dear Members of the Trinity Family,

I am both nervous and excited about the opportunity to be on sabbatical during the month of January. I am not exactly sure what this time and space apart from the daily demands and joys of ministry will look like for me and my family, but I am grateful for this gift of time to rest and heal. It is no secret that I am not good at resting, not good at being still. I am much more comfortable pressing time, hurrying, creating massive to-do lists, leaving very little free space in the schedule.

My biggest hope for January is to live a month in God's time. In seminary I was taught that I had to work harder and longer than my male colleagues in order to have a chance of being treated as an equal. I have done this now for 28 years. While this advice might have been true, it has not led to healthy, sustainable practices in ministry. During this month, I look forward to beginning a day with nothing on the schedule, to deciding what I want to do, to being free from the demands and expectations of others, to resting in the knowledge that my value and worth does not depend on my productivity or efficiency.

While I will greatly miss you, especially our worship life together on Sunday mornings, I know that you will be well cared for by my colleagues. During this time away I will not be responding to emails and hope to spend lots of time away from my cell phone. When you have a pastoral need, please reach out to my pastoral colleague, Jim Parham, or to Trinity's Office Manager, Kay Cook, who will be taking care of many things during my time away. I am grateful to each of you for giving me this space and time. I am already looking forward to February and to beginning again (with renewed passion and energy!) all the beautiful ministry that God is calling us to do. I will keep you all close in my prayers and would cherish your prayers for me as well.

Love and Epiphany blessings to all of you,

Pastor Susan Crowell

COUNCIL NOTES

At their December meeting, the Congregation Council...

---welcomed newly elected members Lane Lewis, Kerry Sease, Chris Sorenson, Chris Wannemacher, Lani Wise, and Peyton Roth;

---received an annual report from the Foundation Committee (report is included in this issue of the Tidings);

---received a report from the Treasurer noting that expenses for November were \$6,917 more than projected;

---due to significant issues related to liability and insurance coverage and knowledge that some community partners were not supportive, the council voted not to move forward with the partnership with the United Housing Connection to host a Housing Resource Center at Trinity;

---designated housing allowances for both Pastor Parham and Pastor Crowell;

---authorized the Executive Committee and staff to appoint 2023 Committees and Lay Assistants;

---appointed Richard Moose to serve as the Treasurer, elected Melissa Kolb to serve as the Vice-President, and elected Lani Wise to serve as the Secretary;

---noted that the next council meeting will take place on Sunday, January 8 at 1:30 pm;

---learned that council members will be installed during the 10:00 am worship service on Sunday, February 5; and

---expressed gratitude to outgoing council members for their faithful service and leadership to include Tom DiAntonio, Heather Kleckley, Terry Morgan, Donna Potts, and Roger Brown.

GIVING TO TRINITY



Trinity is grateful for all the prayers, contributions, and displays of support from members, friends, and guests. Financial contributions can be placed in the offering plates during worship, mailed to the church, or given electronically by going to trinitylutheran.ws, by scanning the QR code, or texting TLCGIVE to 73256.



JANUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

January 1

Worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary
The Rev. Mary Peters preaching and presiding
Kay Cook serving as the Assisting Minister
Refreshments and fellowship to follow on the front lawn

January 8

Worship at 10:00 am in the Gym
The Rev. James C. Parham preaching
Patrick Preacher serving as the Assisting Minister
Refreshments and fellowship to follow in the back of the Gym

January 15

Worship at 10:00 am in the Gym
The Rev. David Coffman preaching and presiding
Penny Bostain serving as the Assisting Minister
Refreshments and fellowship to follow in the back of the Gym

January 22

Worship at 10:00 am in the Gym
Patrick Preacher preaching
The Rev. Jim Blalock serving as the Presiding Minister
Refreshments and fellowship to follow in the back of the Gym

January 29

Worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary
The Rev. Kendra Plating preaching
The Rev. David Hill serving as the Presiding Minister
Refreshments and fellowship to follow on the front lawn

NURSERY FOR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

A nursery is available during the 10:00 am worship service on Sunday morning. Practices and protocols follow all DHEC recommendations for daycare centers. All staff and volunteers must be fully vaccinated and wear masks at all times. A copy of the updated guidelines can be obtained through the Church Office. The age requirements for children in the nursery are flexible and fluid during this time of transition.



FAITH FORMATION

For children: Faith Formation at 9:00 am, beginning on Sunday, January 29
Beginning on Sunday, January 29, two Sunday School classes will be offered for children. The BEGINNERS class will be for children ages 4 through Grade 1. The MIDDLELERS class will be for children in Grades 3 through 5. Classes will be held on the first floor of the Pence Education Building. A nursery for younger children will be available.

For youth: Faith Formation at 9:00 am, beginning on Sunday, January 29
Beginning on Sunday, January 29, youth in Grades 6 through 12 are invited to meet at the Parlor near the Red Canopy door to walk downtown for fellowship, devotions, and relationship building at Starbucks. The group will return in time for 10:00 am worship.

For adults: *Christ and Culture Hand in Hand: American Indian Spirituality in the Lutheran Church*, 9:00 am on Sunday mornings in the Multipurpose Room
Adults are invited to come together for coffee, fellowship, and Bible Study at 9:00 am, beginning on Sunday morning, January 8. Pastor David Hill will lead the group in exploring native American culture and spirituality. Pastor Hill is a tribal Elder of the Lumbee Indian Tribe of North Carolina. He was the Pastor Developer for Living Waters Lutheran Church in Cherokee, NC as well as serving as pastor for other NC congregations. Recently retired, he is a spiritual director and works with the ELCA in directing, planning, and supporting Native American ministries.

For adults: Adult Faith Forum on Zoom, at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings
Adult Faith Forum is a group that meets on Zoom on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am, beginning on January 8. All adults are welcome to participate. This group discusses current events in light of our faith as Christians. The Zoom link and discussion topic is emailed out on Fridays to those interested by Deacon Amy Brown. Email or text Deacon Amy at arbrown@trinitylutheran.ws or 864-421-3404 to be included on the Friday email list to receive the lessons ahead of time.

MUSIC MINISTRY

ADULT CHOIR rehearses Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in the Choir Room on the second floor of the Pence Building. If interested in singing with the group, please e-mail Pastor Parham at the address below.

HANDBELL CHOIR rehearses on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm in the Handbell Room on the second floor of the Pence Building.

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MUSIC

This month will include communicating with parents of young Trinity members to explore interest and options for a new choir program.

TRINITY'S INSTRUMENTALIST COMMUNITY

If interested in sharing your instrumental skills in worship, please contact Pastor Parham at jcparham@trinitylutheran.ws or 864-242-5702.

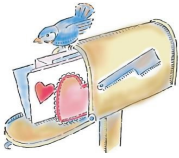
FOUNDATION GRANTS

The Trinity Lutheran Church Foundation Committee met in December to consider grant applications for 2022. Ten grants totaling \$80,000 were awarded to the following recipients:

- Generation Group Homes
\$12,905 to remodel two bathrooms in one of the residences for sexually abused boys
- Greenville Organized For Accountable Leadersip (GOAL)
\$10,000 to help build a justice organization comprised of congregations that work together to tackle community problems
- Pendleton Place
\$4,000 to help support Emergency Youth Shelter
- Rebuild Upstate
\$4,595 to help complete home repair projects for low-income homeowners in Greenville
- Trinity Lutheran Church
\$9,000 to provide funding for sabbaticals for Trinity's three rostered leaders
- Trinity Lutheran Church
\$7,500 to provide scholarship assistance to Patrick Preacher for his second year of seminary
- The Homeless Period Project
\$10,000 to support the startup for a new SC Menstrual Equity Coalition which will work to advance statewide affordable solutions to period poverty
- United Ministries
\$8,000 to help provide interim housing for homeless families in Greenville
- 864Pride
\$7,000 to assist with Queer Wellness Center building updates and supplies for the resource closet
- PrideLink
\$7,000 to support LGBTQIA+ Youth Empowerment mission

With this grant cycle, The Trinity Lutheran Church Foundation has given away in excess of \$2,000,000 since 1997.

TLC4TLC



TLC4TLC is for anyone who would like to write notes and cards for members who are ill, grieving, or unable to attend worship, as well as for those who are celebrating joys. If you would like to participate in this group please contact Debbie Farstad at debvars@att.net.

QUILTING GROUP



The Quilting Group typically meets in the Activities Building on Mondays at 9:30 am to make quilts which are distributed by Lutheran World Relief. Participants do not need to know how to sew in order to assemble quilts. Willing volunteers who can cut fabric, iron, thread a needle, or tie knots are welcome. Work is usually finished around noon. Participants can work as little or as long as they would like. There are also at-home sewing opportunities for those who cannot make it to the gatherings. The group will meet every Monday except on days when the Church Office is closed. In January the group will meet January 9, 23, and 30. If you have any questions contact Sarah Weeks at sweeks14@charter.net or 864-787-1160.

PRAYER GROUP

The Trinity Prayer Group will be praying from home during the month of January. If you have a prayer request please complete a prayer card during Sunday worship or email a request to Terry Morgan at tfmorgan101@gmail.com or Merry Mulcahy at marmulcahy@icloud.com. The group is currently reviewing Trinity's prayer ministry with hopes to increase its support of all the ministries of Trinity as well as individual prayer requests from our congregation. Please check for updates on the prayer ministry here in the Tidings.



Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>6:00 HANDBELL CHOIR 7:00 ADULT CHOIR</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p>6:30 QUEER-LED WORSHIP IN THE GYM</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">6</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">7</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>6:30 AM MEN'S REFLECTION GROUP</p> <p>6:00 HANDBELL CHOIR 7:00 ADULT CHOIR</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>6:30 LOVE WINS</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">13</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">14</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>5:00 OUTREACH COMMITTEE</p> <p>6:00 HANDBELL CHOIR 7:00 ADULT CHOIR</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">19</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">20</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">21</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>12:30 NOURISHING NEIGHBORS</p> <p>6:00 HANDBELL CHOIR 7:00 ADULT CHOIR</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p>

YOUTH MINISTRY EVENT



Youth Ministry at Trinity is for youth in grades 6 through 12. On Sunday, January 22, youth will meet immediately after worship to board the bus for an afternoon trip to Black Bear Snow Tubing in Hendersonville, NC. Participants should plan to bring a lunch and beverage to enjoy on the bus. Cost per person is \$25 for tubing. Registration and payment is due in the Church Office by Wednesday, January 14. More detailed information, as well as release forms, will be emailed out in January. Contact Deacon Amy Brown at the Church Office with questions.

SECOND SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE

Trinity's monthly Nourishing Neighbors events continue to be an important source of fresh produce, pantry items, and toilet paper for our neighbors at Towers East. The Trinity Food Pantry is being depleted each month as we are serving more neighbors. In an effort to keep the pantry full, Trinity will host a food drive on the second Sunday of each month throughout 2023. Please consider making regular contributions. You are encouraged to bring your donations to worship. A volunteer will be stationed at the Red Canopy Door from 9:30-10:00 am on the second Sunday of each month to assist in unloading donations. Sunday, January 8 will be our first drive. The following items are most needed: dried beans (16 oz), peanut butter (16 oz), cereal, canned fruit, rice (2 lb bag), pasta, pasta sauce, canned meat, canned vegetables, individually packaged snack items, and toilet paper.



THEOLOGY ROUNDTABLE

The Theology Roundtable group discusses articles, podcasts and other items of interest. If you like to talk about “deep stuff”, this group is for you. This group meets in person at the church once or twice a month, and new participants are always welcome. In January the group will meet January 8 and January 22 from 4:00 to 5:00 pm, in the Parlor. Contact Joe Rice at 864-704-4616 or saluda171@yahoo.com to receive information.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

A traditional Ash Wednesday Service with the celebration of Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes will take place on Wednesday, February 22 at 6:15 pm in the Sanctuary.

PLANS FOR LENT 2023

The Trinity family will enjoy worship and table fellowship each Wednesday during the Lenten Season at 6:15 pm in the Multipurpose Room. Participants will share a meal together and also worship at table. The evening will conclude by 7:30 pm. Dinner will include a simple soup and sandwich meal. Vegetarian and low sodium soups will be provided. Volunteers will be needed to provide crock pots of soup and sandwiches on each of these Wednesdays. Anyone interested in volunteering to provide soup or sandwiches may reach out to Karine Lawrence, chair of the Parish Life Committee, at 864-363-4248 or Kay Cook in the Church Office. These worship and fellowship opportunities will take place on Wednesdays, March 1, March 8, March 15, March 22, and March 29.

BOOK GROUP

The Trinity Book Group, is open to all readers and meets on the third Thursday evening in the Church Parlor every other month to discuss books of all genres. The next meeting will be on Thursday, February 16, at 7:00 pm when the group will discuss *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig. Other upcoming selections include;

- April 20, 7:00 pm - *Becoming Nicole* by Amy Ellis Nutt
- June 15, 7:00 pm - *The Rose Code* by Kate Quinn
- August 17, 7:00 pm - *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus
- October 19, 7:00 pm - *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict
- December 21, 7:00 pm - *These Precious Days* by Ann Patchett



This is a very casual group, and new participants are welcome at any time. Email Deacon Amy Brown at arbrown@trinitylutheran.ws for more information.

JANUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<p>FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS 1</p> <p>9:00 ADULT FAITH FORMATION VIA ZOOM 9:00 ADULT FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY AND LIVE-STREAM WITH REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW</p>	<p>2</p> <p>CHURH OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>BAPTISM OF OUR LORD 8</p> <p>9:00 ADULT FAITH FORMATION VIA ZOOM 9:00 ADULT FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE GYM AND LIVE-STREAM WITH REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW</p> <p>4:00 THEOLOGY ROUNDTABLE</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:30 QUILTING GROUP</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:30 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY</p>
<p>SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY 15</p> <p>9:00 ADULT FAITH FORMATION VIA ZOOM 9:00 ADULT FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE GYM AND LIVE-STREAM WITH REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW</p>	<p>16</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY 22</p> <p>9:00 ADULT FAITH FORMATION VIA ZOOM 9:00 ADULT FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE GYM AND LIVE-STREAM WITH REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW</p> <p>11:30 YOUTH SNOW TUBING TRIP 11:30 TLC KIDS EPIPHANY PARTY</p> <p>4:00 THEOLOGY ROUNDTABLE</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:30 QUILTING GROUP</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY 29</p> <p>9:00 ADULT FAITH FORMATION VIA ZOOM 9:00 ADULT FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY AND LIVE-STREAM WITH REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:30 QUILTING GROUP</p>	<p>31</p>

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

In an effort to stay connected, please consider extending birthday greetings to the following members. If you would like the church to know your birthdate please contact the Church Office to submit this information through Realm.

Gregg Alley - January 12
Craig Anderson - January 8
Danny Baker - January 19
John Beckford - January 21
Maggie Boliek - January 10
Roger Brown - January 17
Rowan Brown - January 2
Joe Campbell - January 9
Hillari Cantrell - January 13
Mary Cantrell - January 5
Pastor Susan Crowell - January 19
Richard Delap - January 10
Paul Dillon - January 16
Brad Fanning - January 1
Della Finnern - January 29
Fiona Forde - January 18
Liam Forde - January 12
Anne Harmon - January 27
Ray Huber - January 8

Ashley Johnson - January 28
Jackie Jowers - January 23
Leila James Kolb - January 23
Bob Kressler - January 26
Lewis Larson - January 20
Lani Ludian - January 27
Ann Malphrus - January 16
Kylee Mast - January 17
Adaline McCormack - January 7
Ben McCormack - January 7
Ava McNeice - January 9
Norris Morgan - January 13
Samantha Mosher - January 31
Genna Pringle - January 23
Missy Roberts - January 5
Jeff Roth - January 25
Peyton Roth - January 24
David Troutman - January 4
Delaney Wannemacher - January 17



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Women's Bible Study



and Fellowship Group

The Women's Bible Study Group meets monthly for fellowship and Bible Study on the first Tuesday of each month. Because of the New Year holiday the group will meet on the second Tuesday, January 10 at 10:30 am in rooms 12 and 13. The group will continue the study of women in the Bible utilizing the book *Fierce* by Alice Connor. All women of the church are invited to attend. If anyone needs a copy of the book or have any other questions, please contact Terry Morgan at tfmorgan101@gmail.com for additional information.

MEN'S REFLECTION AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Men's Fellowship

A Reflection and Fellowship Group for men is meeting on the second Wednesday of the month from 6:30 am to 7:30 am in the Church Parlor. Calvin Harmon is leading and facilitating this group with the intent of providing a brave, safe space for mutual sharing and encouragement. The morning includes a light breakfast as well as time for devotions and prayer. Meeting dates include January 11 and February 8.

TLC KIDS



TLC Kids is our group for preschool and elementary children and their families. The group meets once a month after worship for learning, music, and fun activities. On Sunday, January 22 the group will meet after worship for lunch and an Epiphany Party. The event will include music and activities. Children should be accompanied by a parent/parents or a significant adult. The next meeting date is February 12. Contact Deacon Amy Brown or the Church Office to register.

New Member Class and Reception of New Members



In February, Pastor Crowell will be teaching a new member class via Zoom for anyone interested in exploring the possibility of joining Trinity. These classes will take place from 6:30 to 7:30 pm on Wednesdays, February 8 and 15. Please call the Church Office if you would like to attend these classes that will be taught remotely. New Members will be received on Sunday, February 26 at the 10:00 am worship service.

NOURISHING NEIGHBORS

Trinity will host our neighbors at Towers East for Nourishing Neighbors, a monthly event held on the front lawn that includes a bagged lunch, fresh produce, pantry staples, and fellowship on Wednesday, January 25 from 12:30 to 1:30 pm. This is an opportunity to build relationships with our neighbors, make friends, and get to know each other in a relaxed and fun environment. Volunteers pack produce bags, prepare lunches, or serve on the front lawn. Questions may be directed to Anne Harmon at annerharmon1956@gmail.com or Patrick Preacher at pdpreacher@trinitylutheran.ws.

OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH

Out to Lunch Bunch is open to all Trinity adults who want to enjoy fellowship and eat lunch together after worship once a month. On Sunday, January 15, the group will meet at The Vista, 2017 Augusta Street, Greenville, 29605 at 11:45 am. Contact Deacon Amy Brown at arbrown@trinitylutheran.ws to receive email reminders for this group.



QUEER AND JUSTICE MINISTRY



Queer-led Worship will continue on the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Gym. Upcoming dates include January 5 and February 2. These services will be live-streamed. Please email Patrick Preacher at pdp preacher@trinitylutheran.ws if you are interested. New leaders who identify as LGBTQIA+ are always welcome.

LOVE WINS FELLOWSHIP GROUP

In January the Love Wins Group will have 2 events. On Thursday, January 12 the group will have a Social gathering. On Thursday, January 26 the group will have a Book Discussion. Details to follow. For more information contact Angie McCormack at 864-630-4016.

GREENVILLE ORGANIZED FOR ACCOUNTABLE LEADERSHIP

All GOAL network members and anyone passionate about justice work in the community should make plans to attend a gathering at Trinity on Monday, February 13 from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm in the Multipurpose Room. This event will help prepare Trinity's network members for the Nehemiah Action event on Tuesday, March 28 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at First Baptist, Greenville.

WITHIN THE TRINITY FAMILY . . .

DEATHS

the sister of Sally Boliek
the sister of Vicki Charlotte
Emile Labrousse on December 17

HOSPITAL PATIENTS

Bud Mosley - 303, St Francis Downtown
Connie Stieghan - discharged

MEMBERSHIPS CHANGES

Steve and Mary Long to St. Michael Lutheran Church, Greenville, SC
Amy Milionis and her son Ian to St. Michael Lutheran Church, Greenville, SC
Lynn Parsons to St. Michael Lutheran Church, Greenville, SC

	ATTENDANCE FOR DECEMBER			
Sundays	12/4	12/11	12/18	12/25
Online devices	200	200	205	167
In Person	<u>179</u>	<u>156</u>	<u>194</u>	<u>66</u>
Total	379	356	399	233

Queer-led service 12/1 - 46 in person, 170 online devices

Christmas Eve 3:00 pm 125 in person, 204 online devices
5:00 pm 210 in person, 422 online devices

OFFERING SUMMARY FOR DECEMBER

	<u>DECEMBER</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Needed for Budget	\$ 89,210	\$ 1,070,516
Given to Budget	<u>\$ 77,573</u>	<u>\$ 995,205</u>
Difference	\$ (11,637)	\$ (75,311)
Given to World Hunger	\$ 2,985	\$ 22,427

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
421 North Main Street
Greenville, SC 29601-2090

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