

The monthly newsletter of
Trinity Episcopal Church
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**Christmas
 Worship
 at
 Trinity
 Church**



Christmas Eve, 12/24

Church office closed
 4:00 Eucharist & Pageant
 10:00 Eucharist

Christmas Day, 12/25

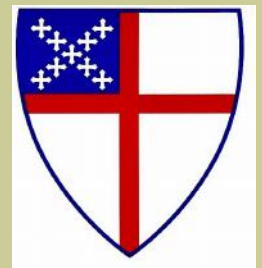
8:00 a.m. Eucharist
 10:00 a.m. Eucharist

*December 26-Holiday
 Office, Shop & TECC closed*

January 1

8:00 a.m. Eucharist
 10:00 a.m. Eucharist

The Trinity Times



December, 2011

Evangelism—Stewardship—Outreach

by the Rev. Kenneth H. Saunders III, Rector

As promised, the reflection word for December is **Outreach**. One of the greatest misconceptions that exists in our church today is, "outreach begins at home." That's just another way of saying "we are



more important than they are." If we truly "reached out" beyond our walls to help others as much as we think we need to help ourselves, then we would be engaging the "action" of the Gospel. Jesus said, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me" (Matthew 25:34b-36, NRSV). I know of a congregation in Virginia that takes this scripture to heart. Every Saturday this tiny mission church has over a hundred people show up to work a food distribution center set up in the church. People bring food and food is given out to those in need. Those who have, give... and those who need, take. Sometimes those who have become those who need and those who need become those who have. And every Saturday they give it ALL away! They go completely broke, to start all over again the next week. It is an amazing exercise of faith and trust in divine hospitality and provision. Part of the practice of "divine hospitality" is to consider all human beings equal before the eyes of the Lord. If we envisioned everyone we met as Christ, like the Gospel suggests, then "truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:40b, NRSV). Reaching out shows respect, love, and value in the eyes of God. Reaching out to others shows that you have something going on within yourself... That you have that Christ-light with-in you that is burning bright. It is a formational and transformational experience. And in that experience, God provides to us more than we could ever hope for. At the end of Dickens' famous story, A Christmas Carol, Ebenezer Scrooge finally reached out to others and let them bless his life instead of hiding in his reclusive shell, hoarding all that he had. He gave away most of his money, and welcomed others with true hospitality. Then, he was happier and more fulfilled than he ever had been in his entire life! Showing others the Kingdom of God breeds others (and us) Seeing more clearly the Kingdom of God!

The three all work together, as well as independently. Good Stewardship breeds Good Outreach and Good Evangelism!! AND Good Evangelism breeds Good Stewardship and Good Outreach!! AND Good Outreach breeds Good Evangelism and Good Stewardship!! No matter how you look at it, the three need each other to be our catalysts for spiritual health. (Kind of like fire needing fuel, heat, and oxygen. Without one, the others can't produce a flame!) This triangle (or Trinity) of Evangelism – Stewardship – Outreach is a mighty force that takes its direction from our Worship, Prayer and Study (January, Feb, and March reflections). If we, in worship, prayer, and study (the "other" work of the church), discern the vision and move in a direction, God will be with us in provision (providing for us what we need to do the will of God!). If we focus our efforts on evangelism, stewardship and outreach as discerned from worship, prayer, and study, then and only then is our worry relaxed and the work of the Gospel begun. Be Blessed!: Welcome others as Christ, give generously, and show the Christ within you to others! - And together we will do greater things than we can either ask for or imagine!!

Ken+

December Birthdays

- 1 Kenneth Eder, Matthew Steele
- 2 Damian Stifter
- 5 Victoria Stith
- 8 Nevillia Cole, Gregory Gabell, Pauline Kummer, Howard Miskimon
- 11 Jordan Clark, Ava Dreiband
- 12 Stephanie Foy, Betty Malashuk
- 13 Clara Bryant, Rachel Bryant, Thomas Bryant
- 14 Alison Klein, Delaney Klein
- 15 Helen Baumiller
- 16 Carmen Howard
- 17 Nancy Cayce, Lindsay Parker
- 18 Sue Calder, Loraine Lewis
- 19 Hadley Emerson Gertz, Hannah Jenkins
- 20 Guy Bias
- 21 Marion Liles
- 23 Wilma Bias, Anna Hjortsberg, Virginia Patterson
- 24 Nancy Robertson
- 25 Kylie Marziale
- 26 Gregory Belcher, Isabelle Grable
- 27 Mark Cottrell
- 28 Patricia Gemmell, Barbara Wunderer
- 29 Merrell Hambleton
- 30 Ryan Carter
- 31 Scott McPherson



December Anniversaries

- 4 Samuel & Blair Taylor
- 7 Christopher & Kelly Krupinski
- 26 Thomas & Sue Calder
- 27 John & Lauren Manzoni
- 28 James & Amy Thierer
- 29 Reginald & Virginia Cole



Poinsettias in Memory & Thanks

Poinsettias for the nave and sanctuary at Christmas may be offered as memorials or thank offerings, at a cost of \$10 per plant. To be sure your memorial or thanksgiving is included in the Christmas service bulletin, please send to the church office via e-mail, note or phone, *by December 13:*

- the names of those to be memorialized,
- the wording for your thanksgiving
- AND
- a \$10 check made out to Trinity



Surprise Shop News

The Surprise Shop is in the spirit of giving. We have sponsored four baskets for ACTC for the Thanksgiving Basket Program. We served a full hot turkey dinner to the men and women of Prologue on Thursday November 17th. The dinner for Prologue could not have happened without the contributions from our volunteers and Trinity church members. THANK YOU ALL FOR ENABLING THIS TO HAPPEN!

The Surprise Shop has been happy to be working with Port Recovery Inc. We have donated numerous household items for their new homes for recovering addicts as they start a new life. For more information on the program, check their web site, www.portrecovery.com.

Our holiday inventory is huge and delightful! Please come and shop at our Exclusive Open House for Trinity Members on Sunday, December 4th from 9:00 till 2:00. We will be serving delicious food and beverages and do hope you will come over for holiday shopping!



We will close for the season at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 17th and re-open Monday, January 2nd. Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

THE SURPRISE SHOP



GIFTS, BOOKS, JEWELRY, WOMEN, MEN'S & CHILDREN'S CLOTHING AND A WHOLE LOT MORE! COME AND SHOP!

410-828-9343/WWW.SURPRISESHOP.ORG

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Christian Formation

Christian Education is a lifelong learning process at Trinity Church. In addition to weekday Bible study classes for adults, Sunday morning classes for people of all ages are offered at 10:00 a.m. in the parish hall and environs.

Sunday Programs for Children in December

It will soon be time to get ready for the annual Trinity Christmas Pageant. Your child's participation can be an important part of their adult Christmas memories. Rehearsals will be minimal and will primarily take place during December Sunday school time from 10:00-11:00 a.m. The rehearsal schedule follows:

- December 4: Telling and reviewing the Christmas story
Painting the background for the pageant
- December 11: Pageant music rehearsal (after breakfast)
Decorate stars for the pageant
- December 18: Pageant rehearsal for everyone (church)
(*Angel Tree gifts are due (details next page)*)
- December 25 and January 1: 8:00 and 10:00 services only
No Sunday school or adult education



Sign your children up for this year's award-winning pageant during Sunday school. Your child's teacher will approach you with a sign-up form. Don't let your angels and shepherds miss participating in this heart-warming performance on Christmas Eve. If you would like to volunteer to lead or help with the Christmas Pageant this year please contact Kathleen Capcara at 410-963-3773 or Kathleen.capcara@gmail.com.

Sunday Morning Adult Formation in Advent, 10:00 in Memorial Hall



- December 4** Surprise Shop open house—find great gifts; enjoy Surprise Shop hospitality!
no adult formation programming (children's programs will go on as usual)
- December 11** 2nd Sunday breakfast; presentation by youth group on their July 2011 Colorado pilgrimage
- December 18** Cider and carol sing-along— favorite Advent and Christmas carols
- December 25 and January 1** (*Christmas worship schedule: 8:00 and 10:00 services— no education hour*)



Keep Trinity's Teens in Your Prayers; Keep 1/15 on Your Calendar

We often take it for granted that our teens feel accepted and appreciated at Trinity Church, but during these years of adolescence, this time of change and uncertainty, our young people need to hear from us that they are extraordinary. We want to affirm the unique and wonderful gifts of each teenager involved. To that end, we use a special rite of passage called "Rite 13." A Rite 13 Ceremony will take place as part of a 9:00 service planned and led by our youth in the church on January 15, with a very special rehearsal dinner the Saturday evening before (January 14). Please keep these Rite 13 "celebrities" in your prayers as they prepare for this special event: Charlie Bouloukos, Jordan Clark, Tommy King, Annie Lacher, Daniel Morthole, Mikki Rodgers, and Annie Swindell.



Trinity Episcopal Children's Center Shops for ACTC

The children at TECC have been working hard the past two weeks at being helpful, kind, and respectful to one another and their teachers! With every act of kindness, they earned their class \$1. Each class was tasked with earning \$25 so they could come to the TECC Grocery Store to assemble a special bag of food to give to the volunteers at ACTC. The children learned what it means to "donate" and what a "volunteer" does. The children were all very proud of themselves for helping others and they all took the time to thank the ACTC volunteers (especially Pat Shaw, Leesa Sipe and Mark Stokes) for helping so many families in need.

Advent and Christmas at Trinity

Angel Tree to Benefit the Assistance Center of Towson Churches

Be an Angel for ACTC!

- The Assistance Center of Towson Churches (ACTC) provides emergency assistance to poor and needy families in our area.
- The center is run by a director and a team of trained volunteers who interview each applicant to determine their specific needs.
- People are referred to ACTC from 48 churches in Baltimore County.

You can help a needy family provide a better Christmas for their loved ones:

- Look for the Angel Trees in the back of church or in the entryway to Memorial Hall.
- Remove a card, and buy the item listed on the card.
- If you prefer, purchase a \$10 gift card from Target or Walmart.

Bring your gift to Trinity Church office by December 18.



Sing, Eat and Benefit Rite 13!

Rite 13 "C.A.S.H." Fundraiser

Christmas

And

Spaghetti

Hootenanny

At Trinity Church

Friday, December 16, 2010

Time: 6:00–8:30 p.m. Pasta bar supper
Carol singing for all ages

Cost: \$7/person (Maximum \$25/family)

Place: Memorial Hall @ Trinity Episcopal Church

How to sign up:

Call the church office (410.823.3588);

Sign the list on the bulletin board in the hall; **OR**

RSVP directly to Kathleen Capcara

(kathleen.capcara@gmail.com or 410-963-3773)

Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Schedule

*The annual pageant is during
the 4:00 p.m. service
on Christmas Eve
Saturday, December 24*



- **10:00 December 4 and 11—**
brief music rehearsals in TECC Activity room
- **10:00 December 18—**
full rehearsal for all participants in the church
- **2:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve—**
participants arrive for final rehearsal and costume fitting. *Last minute walk-ins are welcome for angel, shepherd and sheep roles— costumes are available.*

Contact Kathleen Capcara, Director of Evangelism & Formation, to ask questions or offer help.

(kathleen.capcara@gmail.com or 410-963-3773)




December 11— Regional Youth Event

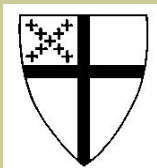
Youth from 6 congregations in the Diocese of Maryland will gather at the Cathedral of the Incarnation for a regional event from 3:00-8:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 11. They will have supper, see a movie, and take a walking tour of the famous Christmas lights on 34th street in Hampden.

RSVP to Kathleen Capcara (kathleen.capcara@gmail.com or 410-963-3773) by Sunday, **December 4** to let us know that you're coming!

***Our group will leave Trinity at 2:30 p.m.
and return around 8:30 p.m.***

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 <i>TECC Book Fair (MH)</i> 8:00 Eucharist 9:00 Eucharist 9:15 Choir rehearsal 10:00 Education hour 11:00 Eucharist 9:00-2 <i>S. Shop Open House</i>	5 <i>TECC Book Fair (MH)</i> 	6 <i>TECC Book Fair (MH)</i> 10:30 Bible Class 6:00 Music Team 7:00 AA 7:00 Evangelism/Hospitality	7 7:00 Financial Peace Univ.	8 12:00 Eucharist 6:30 EFM	9 6-8 Fall Festival Thank You event	10
11 8:00 Eucharist 9:00 Eucharist 9:15 Choir rehearsal 10:00 2nd Sun. Breakfast 11:00 Eucharist	12	13 10:30 Bible Class 6:00 Music Team 7:00 AA 7:00 Finances Committee	14 7:00 Financial Peace Univ.	15 12:00 Eucharist 6:30 EFM	16 11:00 TECC Xmas Program 6:00— Hootenanny/Dinner	17
18 8:00 Eucharist 9:00 Eucharist 9:15 Choir rehearsal 10:00 Education hour 11:00 Eucharist	19 <i>Surprise Shop closed</i> 7:00 Vestry	20 <i>Surprise Shop closed</i> 10:30 Bible Class 6:00 Music Team 7:00 AA 7:00 Formation Committee	21 <i>Surprise Shop closed</i> 7:00 Financial Peace Univ.	22 <i>TECC & S. Shop closed</i> 12:00 Eucharist 6:30 EFM	23 <i>TECC & S. Shop closed</i>	24 <i>TECC & S. Shop closed</i> 4:00 Eucharist with Pageant 10:00 Eucharist
25 8:00 Eucharist 10:00 Eucharist	26 Holiday— Church office, TECC and Surprise Shop closed	27 <i>TECC & S. Shop closed</i> 10:30 Bible Class 7:00 AA	28 <i>TECC & S. Shop closed</i>	29 <i>TECC & S. Shop closed</i> 12:00 Eucharist	30 <i>TECC & S. Shop closed</i>	31 <i>TECC & S. Shop closed</i>



Sunday Schedule:

**8:00 a.m. Eucharist
Coffee Hour**

**9:00 a.m. Eucharist
Coffee Hour**

10:00 a.m. Education Hour
Programs for all ages

**11:00 a.m. Eucharist
Coffee Hour**

Thursday:

12:00 noon Eucharist

Trinity's Mission

Trinity Episcopal Church is an inclusive and caring Christ-centered community nurtured by our worship and tradition. We ask God to strengthen and guide us as we live out our mission to welcome and celebrate the diversity of all people through spiritual education, growth in faith, and service in Christ's Name.

**The Trinity Times
January, 2012
newsletter deadline
will be
December 10**

Share the good news about Trinity people, programs and events. Leave news in the church office or e-mail articles to Jan Schroeder at trinityepiscopal@comcast.net

Trinity Episcopal Children's Center



TECC is a Preschool offering full time child-care for children ages 2 through Pre-K. We are open from 7:30am till 5:30 pm Monday through Friday, year round.

**Science, Movement, Art, and Bible
Summer Camp Programs**

You can visit us on the web at www.tecckids.org
or contact the office for more information

tecckids@tecckids.org (410) 823-3589



Trinity Church

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