

# THE TRINITY TIMES

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH 430 Juliana Street, Parkersburg, WV, 26101  
304-422-3362, [www.trinity-church.org](http://www.trinity-church.org)

*The Mission of Trinity Episcopal Church is to seek and share the love of God made known through Jesus Christ with all people through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.*

## DEC. 2014

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The Rev'd  
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The Rev'd  
Jack Neilson,  
Pastoral Associate  
The Rev'd.  
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Paul Miller

### THE VESTRY

2014

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Kim Couch  
Rob Parrish

2015

Connie Bookman  
Michael Cameron  
Michael Rauh

2016

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Julie Gyongyosi  
Kelli Marteney

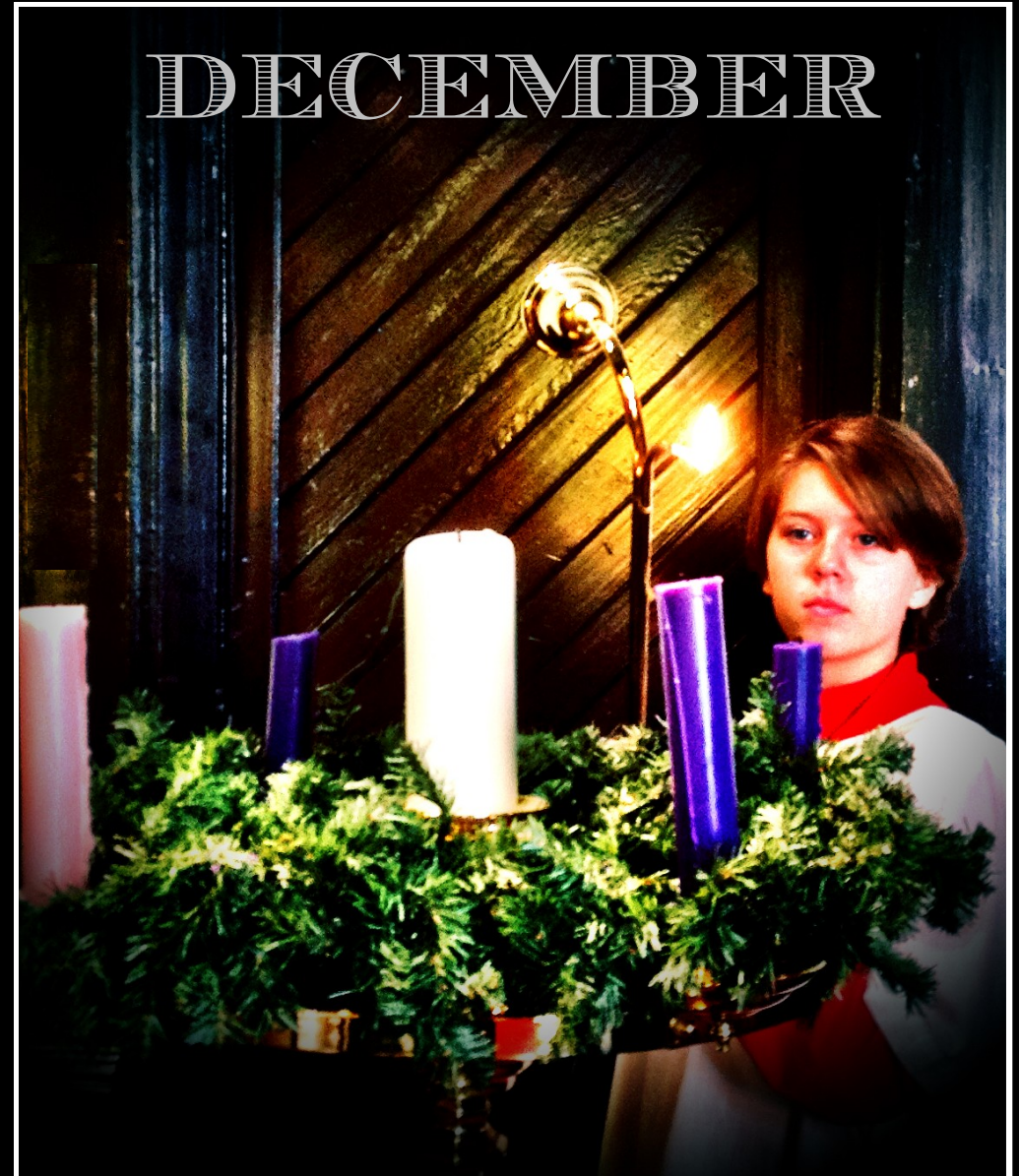
### TRUSTEES

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Larry Tucker

### TIMES EDITOR

Barbara Full

# DECEMBER



# Padre's Ponderings



## ***“ Prepare Ye The Way of the Lord”***

When I hear the above command, I immediately think of the Advent Season in the church. Advent is that special time at the end of the November/first of December when the focus begins to move toward the glorious Christmas season. I have a seminary friend that always referred to the time of the “train wreck”. It took me a while to decipher his meaning but when I got it, I realized how true it was. Let me share!

The “train wreck” which occurs every December involves the collision of two contrasting Ideas: the call to return to God in order to be healed and the desperate longing for just the right gift.

The church loses this battle is accused of being a downer at this most festive of all occasions. Why speak of coming judgment when Santa is about to come down the chimney? Why require people to present themselves to the Lord when under the tree is the perfect present?

Advent is the season that calls the church to prepare for the way of the Lord: both in celebrating the Savior’s birth and life and in celebrating the healing God has provided by Jesus and for His coming in finality to claim His Kingdom for heaven. The Coming of the Lord is easy to celebrate when it comes to having a party time to honor the Christ’s birth. We go to great extremes to have the perfect gift or gifts available for the ones we love. Yet, Advent goes beyond the four weeks prior to Christmas. It continues daily as we are called to respond to the healing God has given us through the sacrifice of the precious gift He first gave us.

Advent continues its call for us to prepare for the coming of the Lord. But because years and years have gone by, we have a tendency to not feel the necessity to be concerned about it as we are with the coming of a birthday celebration. Imagine what it would look like if we exerted as much energy in our daily spiritual walk as we do getting ready for Christmas.

Now that is SOMETHING to ponder!

Now to change gears:

## **ADVENT ACTIVITIES HERE AT TRINITY**

**The Advent Tree** traditionally is placed in the Memorial Library for folks to place gloves, mittens, scarves and socks on its branches for donation to local families in need. Please be generous. Also, adult gloves and scarves can be brought in for our Monday Feeding Program clients. Those can be given to **Pam Parsons**.

**The Christmas Adopted Family** is occurring again this year. We have a family of three children Trinity has adopted through the Salvation Army assistance to provide a blessed Christmas. Funds have been collected all of the month of November to assist with the purchasing of the toys and clothes. If you have not made a donation, feel free to send your contribution in to the office as soon as possible. We are still seeking assistance in workers to see this project is successful. If that interests you contact the office.

**The Greening of the Church** will occur this year on Sunday, **December 21st**. For the past couple of years we have gathered Sunday afternoon for a covered-dish meal followed by the actual decorating of the church. This year, we shall return to the way previously done and be doing it after the 10:30 worship service. Plans are being made to provide a lunch for those who are willing to stay and see that the Greening gets done. Mark your calendars!

Until I “ponder” this way again, in Christ’s Spirit,

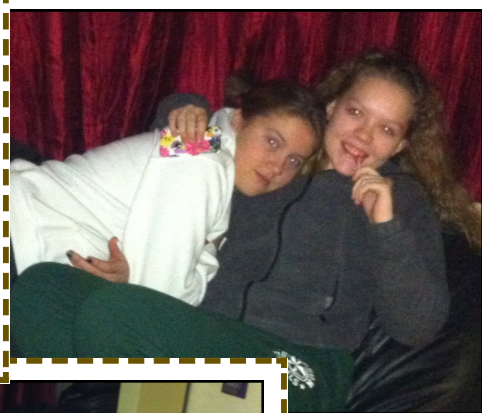
*Fr. Larry+*



# EYF News

By Paul Bennett

We had our third Movie Night on November 16<sup>th</sup>. The turnout was significantly better than last month; in fact we tripled our last month's turnout. We had 3 visitors from Ripley since St. John's doesn't have a youth group. We watched *Captain America 2: The Winter Soldier*, ate pizza, popcorn and candy, played air hockey, and ended with compline led by Kaiden Hayes (from Ripley). Next month's Movie Night will be December 21<sup>st</sup> and we will be watching *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. Just a reminder that Movie Night starts at 5:30 and wraps up at 8:30.



## Trinity by the numbers October

Sunday worship attendance:

8:00-10:30

Oct. 5: 15-70 (total 85)

Oct. 12: 16-70 (total 86)

Oct. 19: 25-75 (total 100)

Oct. 26: 17-68 (total 85)

Average Oct. 2014-89

Average Oct. 2013- 85

Food closet: 14 families, for a

total of 17 people

Rector 's Discretionary Fund:

Assistance with : Pharmacy-7,

Travel 1, JDOK, Misc.-5



Notes from Julie Gyongyosi, Sr. Warden:

To date, our pledge receipts for 2014 stand at 57%. Our faithful treasurer has bills to pay. Please fulfill your pledge commitments so we can keep the lights on. Also, you will receive a pledge card in the mail soon..

Please prayerfully consider your giving for 2015 and return your card to support God's work at Trinity. Thank you for your faithful stewardship.

Outreach numbers:

Thanksgiving Baskets \$830.

Music Scholars \$200.

Monday Feeding Program \$400.

Crisis Intervention \$800.

Rector's Discretionary Fund \$215.



Thank you to  
Marjorie Thomas  
for the beautiful  
Harvest Altar for  
our November 23  
services!

## CHRISTMAS EVE AT TRINITY

5:00 pm

Family service

A Christmas Pageant

written by & starring the youth of Trinity

10:30-pre-service music

11:00 pm

Festival Eucharist

featuring Trinity's Christmas Choir  
with Brass



### CHRISTMAS CHOIR

Do you enjoy singing, but don't want to commit to joining the choir yet? Please consider joining our special choir for the mid-night Christmas Eve service. Since our college singers will be returning home for the holidays, our Choirmaster Dr. Monek wants to invite Trinitarians and friends to join the Trinity 'regulars' to provide choral music for this important service. And, better yet, it won't take a lot of rehearsal! Rehearsals are scheduled for Wednesdays-Dec 3, 10 and 17 from 7:30-9:30, If you're interested, speak to Dan, Cathy or Barbara.



### SMOOT THEATRE CHILDREN'S CHORUS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

At Trinity

Saturday, December 6 at 4:00pm



### CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Please turn in your donations for Christmas flowers to the office by Monday, Dec. 15, along with the form listing names or dedications so that we can be prepared for our Christmas services.



### SUPPER CLUB

December's social event for all adults in the congregation will be held Friday, Dec. 12 at 6:30 at the home of Becky & John Alkire. This event is a great way to get to know others in the congregation: no program, just conversation. Call Becky and John or the church office for more information.



### Christmas Ornament Party Saturday, Dec. 13, 5:00pm

Come and join in the fun at this family event, to be held again this year at the home of Susan and Steve Stanley. We ask that you bring a side dish or dessert to share. But, more importantly, bring a wrapped ornament so you can participate in the fun of the exchange—the more outrageous the

ornament, the better! If you have questions, call the office, or speak with Kim Couch or Susan and Steve.



### Marietta College Music Events

Our Trinity Choral Scholars, also members of the Marietta College Concert Choir, will be participating in these holiday concerts open to the public:

Dec. 7, 7:30pm— 88th Annual Performance of *Handel's Messiah*

Dec. 14, 7:30pm—Christmas with the Concert Choir

Both events at St. Mary Catholic Church, 506 4th St., Marietta



# DECEMBER 2014

## TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 11:00am - Feeding Program	2 7:30am-Men of Trin. Breakfast 4:30pm-Smoot Ch. Rehearsal 6:00pm-Blenn. Stamp Soc.	3 7:30/12:10p-Eucharist 11:00am-Food Closet 7:30pm-Choir Rehearsal 8:30pm-Christmas Choir Reh.	4 10:00am-Bible Study 11:00am-Knitters, Food Closet 4:00pm-Smoot Ch. Rehearsal	5	6 4:00pm-Smoot Theatre Children's Chorus Concert 8:00pm-AA
7 <b>Advent 2</b> 8:00 am—Eucharist 9:15-Adult Ed., Choir Reh. 10:15-Sunday School	8 11:00am - Feeding Program	9 7:30am-Men of Trin. Breakfast	10 7:30/12:10p-Eucharist 11:00am-Food Closet 7:30pm-Christmas Choir Reh.	11 10:00am-Bible Study 11:00am-Food Closet 2:00pm-PEO mtg.-Library	12 6:30pm-Supper Club @ home of Becky & John Alkire	13 5:00pm-Ornament Party@ home of Susan & Steve Stanley 8:00pm-AA
14 <b>Advent 3</b> 8:00 am—Eucharist 9:15-Adult Ed., Choir Reh. 10:15-Sunday School	15 11:00am - Feeding Program 6:00pm-Finance 7:00pm-Vestry	16 7:30am-Men of Trin. Breakfast 12:00--Staff luncheon	17 7:30/12:10p-Eucharist 11:00am-Food Closet 7:30pm-Christmas Choir Reh.	18 10:00am-Bible Study 11:00am-Food Closet 6:00pm-Blenn. Stamp Soc.	19	20 <b>"Times" deadline</b> 8:00pm-AA
21 <b>Advent 4</b> 8:00 am—Eucharist 9:15-Adult Ed., Choir Reh. 10:15-Sunday School <b>Discretionary Sunday</b>	22 11:00am - Feeding Program	23 7:30am-Men of Trin. Breakfast	24 <b>Office closes at noon</b> 11:00am-Food Closet 5:00pm-Family Service, Euch. 10:30pm-Special Music 11:00pm-Midnight Mass	25 <b>Christmas Day</b> <b>←--Office closed--→</b>	26	27 8:00pm-AA
28 <b>Christmas 1</b> 8:00 am—Eucharist 9:15-Adult Ed. 10:15-Sunday School <b>Birthday Sunday</b>	29 11:00am - Feeding Program	30 7:30am-Men of Trin. Breakfast	31 11:00am-Food Closet <b>Office closes at noon</b>			

<b>BIRTHDAYS</b>	4. Susie Fitcher	8. Quentin Oliphant	Bernard Bookman	Vint Rathbone	22. Carty Ramsay	30. Sean Rice	<b>ANNIVERSARIES</b>	23. Betty & Vint Rathbone	27. Stefanie & David Westfall
2. Michael Hensley	7. Isabelle Grace Deem	McKenzie Cameron	16. Dick Bonnet	Susan Shock	23. Larry Nutter		9. Rae & Kevin Oliphant	26. Lynn & Denny Prather	29. Betsy & Craig Curry
3. Jamie Couch Linda Tucker		9. Maya Grace Parrish	Loretta McGregor	18. Nick Curry	Kalee Schmidt				
		12. Paul Marteney	17. Oliver Hess	21. Clint Curry	26. Bob Brantner				



## Computer Christians & Digital Disciples

By Paul Miller

There is no question the Internet is a powerful resource that, although often abused, has improved our lives in many ways. One of the problems of the information explosion, however, is the overwhelming number of sites that we encounter when entering any topic into a search engine. The results can be confusing, inappropriate, and time consuming to wade through. With these problems in mind, it was suggested that the *Times* include a list of web pages that may be of interest or help to Trinitarians in their walk of faith. Below is a list of a number of sites to serve as a starting point for your exploration and study. Readers are encouraged to contribute sites they have come across which may be of interest or help to others which could be shared in a future edition of the *Times*.

- trinity-church.org** We will start with our own web page. Here you can find archived editions of the *Times*, the latest bulletin, *This Week* postings, and links of interest including a few *Facebook* pages.
- wvdiocese.org** This is the home page for the Diocese of West Virginia. Included is information on state-wide programs and ministries plus access to administrative and financial concerns.
- episcopalchurch.org** Regardless of you feeling for the "National Church," this is a website you do not want to miss. You will find a load of interesting information here ranging from doctrine to missions.
- anglicancommunion.org** The official website of the Anglican Communion includes a newsfeed to keep you abreast of world-wide developments in the church.
- lectionarypage.net** Want to find what lessons will be read during Sunday or weekday worship? This is the place to go—just click on the calendar.
- episcopalbookstore.com** One of many online Christian bookstores, but this one carries the *Book of Common Prayer!* (Author's note: Quick service!)
- biblestudytools.com** Remember a Bible verse or story, but can't find where it is located? Just type in a few keywords, and this site will find it and give you over 30 different parallel versions. Also included are favorite verses and daily readings. Contains advertisements.
- biblegateway.com** Similar to the webpage above, but gives 49 English translations plus many foreign language versions.
- missionstclare.com** Online Morning and Evening Prayer for each day of the week. A great place to begin and end your day.
- bcponline.org** Exactly as the name implies, this is an online version of the *Book of Common Prayer* with no frills.
- prayer.forwardmovement.org** This is the online version of the *Forward Day by Day* devotional booklet.
- hymntime.com** Over 10,000 hymns and Gospel songs listed and played via MIDI.

*Please let us know what you think of the web pages listed above and whether or not they have helped to further your spiritual life and knowledge. And be sure to share other sites that you have discovered.*



## Advent Tea for the Women of Trinity

Calling all ladies...  
Please join Fr. Larry for an afternoon of tea.  
December 7th at 3:00 pm  
Don't care for tea?  
Come and join in for fellowship!  
RSVP to the office.



## Adopt-a-Family

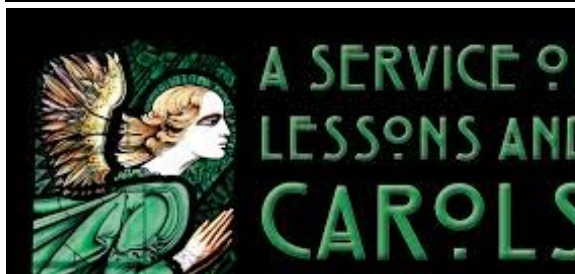
Trinity will once again be sponsoring a family, providing the children with items they've requested, possibly buying things for the parents and providing a Christmas dinner for the family. Jim and Barbara Full are in charge of this ministry this year and welcome all kinds of help—monetary donations, help with shopping for gifts, wrapping and delivering this special gift from the Trinity family.



## Walk-a-Christmas Mile

Sunday, December 28, 2:00—4:30

Artsbridge is once again sponsoring this holiday blend of history, fitness, architecture and music as they invite the public to go on a tour of area churches, beginning at First Presbyterian and ending at Trinity, where we're also providing refreshments.



Come and experience this special traditional Christmas service  
Sunday, December 28  
at 10:30 am

# Book Sale



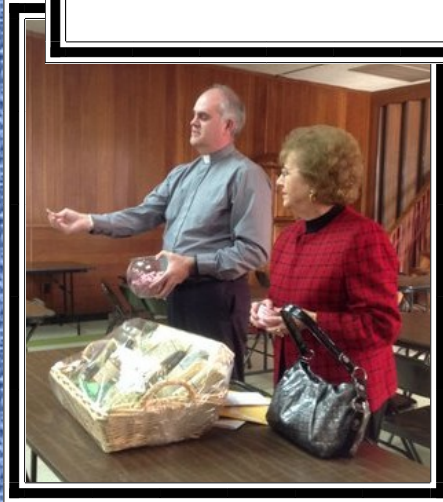
A hearty thank you to all who made the St. Anne's efforts at the Book Sale so successful. Specifically, appreciation goes to Terry Shaw and her helpers at the Christmas Presence Table and to Paula Sellers and her kitchen/luncheon workers—and to all who contributed by donating, buying, and eating.

Terry Cauthorn, St. Anne's Chair

BOOK SALE LUNCHEON - Another successful Book Sale Luncheon for St Anne's Guild!! Many thanks to the wonderful crew – Connie Warren, Pam Parsons, Cara Bowen and our faithful dishwasher, Roger Sellers. We had lots of other help, of course, from our cake and pie bakers, our faithful customers, Becky Alkire filling in for Cara, and as ever Lynette Neilson's split pea soup, plus a wonderful soup from Dianna Quick...Mushroom Couscous, no less. It is always a challenge to put together our little restaurant for four days each year, but we are happy to provide that traditional part of the Book Sale. We realized a nice profit of \$912.50. The money will be used for St Anne's projects including the new church sound system. St Anne's thanks all of these people who made it possible and we look forward to next year.

Paula Sellers, Chairman

Fr. Paul Hicks drew the winner's ticket for the large gift basket, which was used as a fund raiser during the Book Sale. The winner was our own Loretta McGregor!! Congratulations!!





Thank you to everyone who sent cards, well wishes, the altar flowers, and most important the good prayers during my surgery and recovery. I am pleased to report that I am in PT and improving every week, the power of prayer is wonderful. Linda Ingraham

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Please accept my heartfelt thanks for allowing me to represent you at this year's Diocesan Convention. It was a very pleasant experience that provided both learning and worship opportunities.

One experience that later gave me pause for reflection was on an elevator ride to an upper floor. Some of us attending the conference were chatting about what we were experiencing and a lady standing on the side spoke up and said.....I'm not a religious person, but if I were I would be an Episcopalian.

I didn't pick up on what she said at the time but I missed a golden opportunity to invite her to attend one of our services. Sadly, I didn't see her again.

The positive side of the experience was to remind me to listen more closely to what folks are saying. I can't help but wonder how many folks cross our path every day just waiting for us to share our faith?

God Bless, John Brownfield

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**A huge thank you from Zach Drennen and the Elewana committee. The dinner and auction at DaVinci's was a rousing success. The room was filled with enthusiastic donors! The total at the end of the evening was an amazing \$13,000! Zach was touched by all the love and support – thank you all for your prayers and participation!!**

**NOTICE:** A camera bag with names & events on pictures disc is inside. Two of the notations are: "Moriah Senior Prom and graduation 2009" and "For Zieke & Squeak". If anyone knows who this belongs to or can guide us getting it back to the owner, it would be appreciated.

**GET WELL CARDS**

Cards are needed for our card ministry, so please buy a few extra and drop them off at the office. Thank you!!



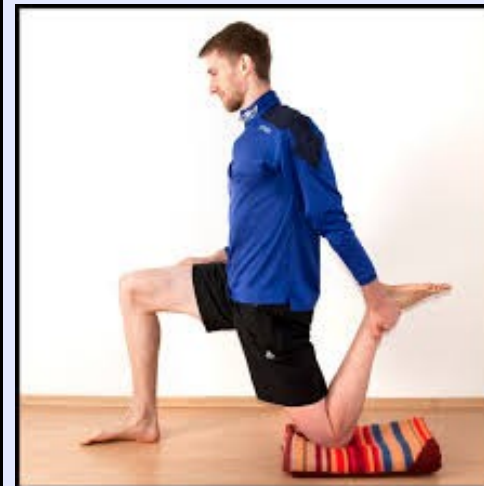
**Happiness Tip of the Month**

- - - Stretch - - -

Stretching can feel so good, and can help keep your body flexible so it can do what you want more easily. Regular stretching can even help you lose weight over time. How? Even slow stretching burns calories by engaging your muscles, which helps increase your metabolism. And stretching can be a great way to decrease pain, release stress and feel happier.

**How many of you remember ROMPER ROOM and the song *BEND AND STRETCH*? Why don't you try it, no matter what age you are. You can sing it to your newborn, toddler, and with an aging parent. Be sure to stretch their arms and legs as you sing. Our older generation folk can also do this from their wheel chairs or beds. Singing also helps with lung expansion as well as putting a smile on our face.**

**Bend and stretch,  
Reach for the stars.  
There goes Jupiter here comes Mars.  
Bend and stretch reach for the stars.  
Stand on tippy toes oh so high!**



Marion Culbertson, 304-615-2119



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Due to holiday travel plans of the editor (which include the location below!), the January Trinity Times will be approximately a week late.

<b>Thurs. Jan. 1</b> <i>Office closed</i>	<b>Fri. Jan. 2</b> <i>Office closed</i>	<b>Sat. Jan. 3</b> 8:00pm-AA
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<b>Sun. Jan. 4</b> Christmas 2 8:00-HC 10:30-HC	<b>Mon. Jan. 5</b> 11:00- Feeding Program	<b>Tues. Jan. 6</b> 7:30am-MOT 6:00pm- Epiphany Ser- vice, Dinner  6:00pm-Blenn. St. Soc.(Conf. room)	<b>Wed. Jan. 7</b> 7:30/12:10p- Eucharist 11:00am-Food Closet	<b>Thurs. Jan. 8</b> 10:00am-Bible Study 11:00am- Knitters, Food Closet	<b>Fri. Jan. 9</b>	<b>Sat. Jan. 10</b> 8:00pm- AA
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