

The Trinity Times

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH • 430 JULIANA ST., PARKERSBURG, WV 26101 • 304.422.3362 • TRINITY-CHURCH.ORG

MARCH 2024

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2026

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2024

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2026

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*The Mission of Trinity Episcopal Church:
We exist to love God and our neighbors!*





I never formally played baseball. The times of tryout ended with resolute affirmation that it just wasn't my game. Sort of like the relationship I have with math. Math makes me call her and her consort Arithmetic "Ms. & Mr.". So I found other pastimes.

But I was game about it. I assigned status to being put on the mound in neighborhood games. The mound was really the place where I could do the least damage to whatever side I was on. Still, I clung to that status despite my teammate's constant urging to "just lob it over the plate, and we will do the rest". I mean, I was a lefty, didn't they want to see a curve? Nope.

In a perhaps overcompensating manner, I followed the New York Yankees. "Aren't you from Boston?" I get asked whenever I out myself with this demerit. The answer is I did come to the Midwest from Boston. I was raised, though, in Western Mass where, despite Red Sox zealots' zeal, the shades of team colors vary. Boston is nearly two hours from my hometown. New York city is just over three. The New York state capital, Albany, is closer than the home of the Red Sox.

Because of this Western Massachusetts was able to tune into as many New York (state and city) TV and radio stations. So Yankee pinstripe and the blue NY hat (and even, the Mets orange) as well Giant and Jets flair were not unfamiliar pieces of gear to see about. Plus, the Red Sox were just hopeless. So hopeless that the 'Curse of Bambino' (losing Babe Ruth to the Yankees) was invented to help make the hapless sensible.

In the New York media I still follow I've been noticing the regularly increasing stories about baseball. They have been showing up like pigeons at a fountain or park – one, then two, then 45. The message is clear a new season is coming. And teams are coming together and preparing to take the field. Sort of like here.

My only nod to baseball these days is a yearly visit to the Columbus Clippers near my birthday when they play the Yankee farm team. (Yes, like the New York media, I still follow the Yankees). My daughter Via has mostly been my partner. I still know enough of it, despite having no formal training, to see connections of where we are in the new time of this time.

With the announcement of Fr. Mackey's joining the team and readying (no doubt) to take the field, the sense of a new season is becoming a reality. This is exciting. Many of us may feel like Opening Day cannot come too soon.



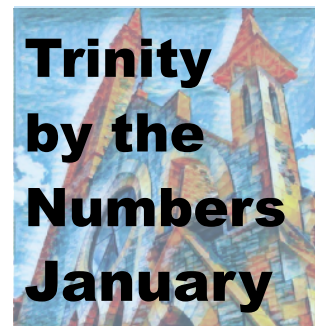
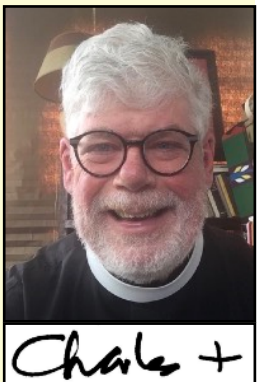
You and I are now, currently, running to third or have already round it heading for home. Either way, we are in the late innings. Something not unlike our movement towards Easter. It is tempting to look ahead and even beyond (a caution I will give as we get close to good Friday) to this new season which is coming fast.

I invite you to remember a few things. One is that you are part of the team, not part of the spectators. Opening Day is the time to play, not watch. Which means there is still time to work on our

fundamentals to get in shape. Another is to stay present in this in between time. It isn't over and it is possible for you to use it for reflection and thinking. It is a free space G-d has given us as sort of a pre-season. To work on that which needs to be worked on. And to think about our moves, our abilities, and our playing time in the season ahead. Write out and sort out thoughts and ideas you've had during this time. The phrase "lets' wait for the new rector to come..." is not as hospitable as you may think. Having been one several times, trust me, it is true.

So, we have come to the end of my storeroom of baseball metaphors and illustrations. I didn't have room to even get to the puns! But I am going to end with telling you I am looking forward to the rest of Lent and especially Easter with you all. End is not end, though, it is also beginning.

And so this is for you, too: PLAY BALL!



Weekend Worship Attend.:
5:30/8:00/10:30
Jan. 7: 14/56 (70)
Jan. 13,14: 19/14/57 (90)
Jan. 20,21: 10/5/53 (68)
Jan. 27,28: 10/10/40 (60)

Wed. Healing: 16
Community Resources/Thrive:
Number served - 67
Utility Assistance -6 families

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER





Winter ECW Meeting

17 people shared food and fellowship for the Winter ECW meeting. Bree Fleming presented a program on stained glass in church history.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 LENT 3 8:00 am — Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 am — Sunday Sch. 9:30 am — Choir Rhrl. 10:30 am — HE, Rite II	4 11:00 am — Feeding Ministry	5 8:00 am — Men's breakfast @Corner Cafe 12:15 — Life Group 5:00 pm — Smoot Girls Ensemble (Choir rm.)	6 12:15 — HE & Healing 5:30 pm — Life Group (Conf. Rm)	7 10:00 am — Bible Study (hybrid)	1 5:30 pm — Stations of the Cross (Nave) 8 5:30 pm — Stations of the Cross (Nave)	2 5:30 pm — Saturday Evening Eucharist 7:00 pm — AA 9 9:00 am - 2:00 pm — Smoot Children's Chorus (T. Hall, Conf. Rm, Choir room) 5:30 pm — Saturday Evening Eucharist 8:00 pm — AA
10 LENT 4 8:00 am — Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 am — Sunday Sch. 9:30 am — Choir Rhrl. 10:30 am — HE, Rite II 5:30 pm — Movie Night <i>Daylight Saving Time Begins</i>	11 11:00 am — Feeding Ministry	12 8:30 am — Men's breakfast, Trinity Hall 12:15 — Life Group 5:00 pm — Smoot Girls Ensemble (Choir rm.)	13 12:15 — HE & Healing 5:30 pm — Life Group (Conf. Rm)	14 10:00 am — Bible Study (hybrid) 11:00 am — Knitters	15 5:30 pm — Stations of the Cross (Nave) - - - Diocesan Event@Trinity: Grow Church - -	16 5:30 pm — Saturday Evening Eucharist 7:00 pm — AA
17 LENT 5 8:00 am — Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 am — Sunday Sch. 9:30 am — Choir Rhrl. 10:30 am — HE, Rite II Discretionary Sunday	18 11:00 am — Feeding Ministry 6:30 pm — Vestry	19 8:00 am — Men's breakfast @Corner Cafe 12:15 — Life Group 5:00 pm — Smoot Girls Ensemble (Choir rm.)	20 12:15 — HE & Healing 5:30 pm — Life Group (Conf. Rm) Trinity Times Deadline	21 10:00 am — Bible Study (hybrid) 6:00 pm — Blenn. Stamp Soc. (T.Hall)	22 5:30 pm — Stations of the Cross (Nave)	23 5:30 pm — Saturday Evening Eucharist 7:00 pm — AA
24 PALM SUNDAY 8:00 am — Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 am — Sunday Sch. 9:30 am — Choir Rhrl. 10:30 am — HE, Rite II 5:30 pm — Game Night + + + +	25 11:00 am — Feeding Ministry + + + + + + + +	26 8:00 am — Men's breakfast @Corner Cafe 12:15 — Life Group 5:00 pm — Smoot Girls Ensemble (Choir rm.) + + + + +	27 12:15 — HE & Healing 5:30 pm — Life Group (Conf. Rm) + + + + +	28 MAUNDY THURSDAY 10:00 am — Bible Study (hybrid) 6:00 pm — Holy Comm., Stripping of the Altar, Vigil begins + + + + +	29 GOOD FRIDAY Vigil continues Noon — Good Friday service + + + + +	30 7:00 pm — Combined Great Vigil Service @ 1st Lutheran 7:00 pm — AA + + + +
31 EASTER DAY FIFTH SUNDAY, ONE SERVICE 9:00 am — Sunday Sch. 9:30 am — Choir Rhrl. 10:30 am — Festival Eucharist, Rite II	11:00 am — Feeding Ministry Office closed		BIRTHDAYS 1. Ted Foster 5. Connie Bookman 6. Paula Oliphant 11. Kerry Hensley 12. Jim Dauphin 15. Randy Francis	16. Megan G.Traver Joe Handlan 18. Steve Turner 19. Brian Deputy Sarah Patrick 20. Henry Dailey Becky Mathis-Stump	20. Frank Northrup 21. Midge Simpers Gage Staats 22. Anne Deputy Mary Schisler 24. Erica Parrish 26. Kim Couch	27. Eric Yi 31. Harper Cameron Conner Hughes Samantha McGee Denny Prather Dan Thomas ANNIVERSARIES 12. Paula & Kevin Oliphant 18. Julie & Tom Gyongyosi 20. Stephanie & Charles Yates 25. Olivia & Roland Mezick 29. Abby & Richard Hayhurst

Marie's Music Report:

Music ministry is humming along here at Trinity these days, thanks to the dedication of parishioners who are called to this multi-faceted ministry. We sing, we play instruments, we offer hospitality and comfort, and we enhance the word of God through the medium of music-making.

Lori Clark leads the music at Saturday night services, with the help of a few dedicated and talented musicians. I'll let her say more about that service in her own words.

Quessa Brown came on board this fall, as our Choir Intern/Mentee. We made this position for her, as she is a professional working musician and teacher, looking to expand her skills into the church music realm, and she has jumped in with both feet, not just by singing in the choir, but helping to sort out our choral library and keeping the choir's music binders up to date each week. Her responsibilities will keep expanding as time goes on.

Besides Quessa, we have welcomed four or five new choir members, depending on how you count them. Holly Martin has traditionally joined us for holidays, but now she is here on a regular Sunday basis, which is fabulous! Noah Griffith came to Trinity last winter, and became part of the choir almost immediately. We met Katharin and Ted Foster last year, as well, and we were delighted when they joined us in the fall. Nathan Thornton was our final new member of 2023, and underneath his quiet exterior is an absolutely gorgeous voice that helps complete our bass section.

The choir currently rehearses on Sunday mornings, but to prepare for Christmas and Easter, we add extra weekly rehearsals. Anthems and hymns are chosen to reflect readings, and I pull music from our Episcopal hymnals, as well as those of the United Methodist and Catholic traditions.



In the classic loaf-and-fish scenario, our choir of twelve (ish) members grew to nearly thirty singers for Christmas Eve's Lessons and Carols service, which was an incredible experience for all of us.

We also had a children's choir, recruited and lead by Bree and Quessa, and we hope to continue and expand children's music ministry throughout the year.

Trinity's support of music ministry means that we also take the best possible care of our instruments. The organ is tuned twice a year by Muller Pipe Organs of Columbus – if you'd like to know how this is done, I'll let you know the next time it's happening, and you're welcome to stop in for a listen – and piano tech Don Prior maintains the Steinway.

I'm grateful to Trinity's vestry, trustees and congregation for all of their support of music here. All of you are generous with praise and appreciation, which is kind and humbling. I'm happy to hear your thoughts about music at Trinity any time. Suggestions over the last six years have been plentiful, and while I can't make everything happen, I value your thoughts and perspectives. And of course, if you feel that you'd like to participate in either the Saturday night or Sunday morning 10:30 service, as a singer or instrumentalist, just come find me. Peace.

Why We Don't Sing The Lord's Prayer (Marie's version)

I made the decision to stop singing The Lord's Prayer because it is meant to be communal and inclusive. It's a prayer that is likely to be known by all Christians. When I think of people in worship who might be visiting Trinity, or who don't feel comfortable singing, or who might be new to the Episcopal liturgy (which can be overwhelming, if you come from a non-liturgical background), I want the Lord's Prayer to be prayed by everyone, out loud.



Lori Clark

"It's hard to believe we began our Saturday Service almost six years ago. It has been my pleasure to have been here from the beginning. I've been involved in Music Ministry for over 40 years as a drummer in a contemporary gospel band, guitarist, cantor and music director in a variety of settings and multiple churches including Baptist, Catholic and Episcopal in Florida and West Virginia. Thank you to the loyal group who play and sing and sing each week, Bob Harris, Mark Miller and Connie Bookman."

Quessa Brown is a soprano, originally from the small town of Elmira Heights, New York. She recently obtained her Master of Music in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy from Ohio University in 2023, and she received her Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Mansfield University of Pennsylvania in 2019. She has experience performing in both opera and musical theater, and some of her more recent performing credits include roles such as the Dewfairy in *Hansel and Gretel*, Papagena in *Die Zauberflöte*, Celeste #2 in *Sunday in the Park with George*, and Marcellina in *Le nozze di Figaro*. She also has performed in many opera and musical theater scenes, roles including Zerlina (*Don Giovanni*), Amy (*Little Women* by Mark Adamo), Carlotta (*Phantom of the Opera*), The Bakers Wife (*Into the Woods*) and Dorine (*Tartuffe*). She also has had the opportunity to perform in the chorus of Tri-Cities Opera's production of *Tosca* in 2019. In 2018, she was a part of the Mansfield University Concert Choir when they were invited to sing the chorus for the Carnegie Hall 2018 Gala Concert under the direction of Mr. Rob Fisher. In addition to operas and musicals, Miss. Brown's concert works include performing as Mary Todd Lincoln in a staged version of Jake Heggie's song cycle *Iconic Legacies*, selections from Scarlatti's 7 Arie for soprano and Trumpet, and she has been the soprano soloist for Handel's *Messiah*. She started her journey in music ministry at Trinity as the Choir Director Mentee in September of 2023, learning the ropes of what is to be an Episcopalian, how to lead the church choir, and working as Marie's "right hand woman." She is so excited to be part of this team and is so happy with the community she has found here at Trinity!



Trinity's New Rector!!!

The Rev. Geoffrey Mackey, a New York native, comes to us from western Pennsylvania where he has lived for almost 18 years. A third generation clergyman, he has served as a parish priest since 2019. He was ordained in the Eastern Catholic tradition, having studied in evangelical, Catholic, and Episcopal seminaries. In addition, Fr. Geoff has over two decades of experience in Christian college and seminary work in administration, teaching, and pastoral care. Taking 2 Corinthians 5:18-20 as a



starting point, his ministry has been marked by preaching and teaching of the Gospel of Christ, the proclamation of God's forgiveness for sinners, attentiveness to the outsider, spiritual formation, a love for the traditions of the Church, and a passion for Christian unity. In addition to his pastoral and theological work, Fr. Geoff enjoys good music (of many sorts), art museums (and artists' biographies), local history, poetry, travel and playing his ukulele. Fr. Geoff and his wife, Erin, have been married for nearly 22 years and have three children: Gabriel, Alexandra, and Josephine.

Resurrection? Re-incarnation, Reanimation, and Regeneration, Too.

On March 3, 10, and 17th between the services in the conference room, Father Charles will look at Resurrection by exploring what it is not.

Daylight Saving Time begins
Sunday, March 10
Don't forget to Spring Forward!!



FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP

Openings are available for several Sundays on our Flower Chart:

- Mar. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
- June 2
- July 28
- August 18
- Sept. 15, 22, 29
- Nov. 17

Please contact Julie in the office to reserve one of these dates and help make our services more beautiful.



MOVIE NIGHT

Sunday, March 10,
at 5:30 pm in
Conference Room
Pizza, other snacks
provided

MONTHLY

GAME

NIGHT

Sunday, Mar. 24,
at 5:30 pm in
Conference Room
Pizza, other snacks
provided



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The Parkersburg News and Sentinel

Dust and ashes

Father Charles Wilson, interim rector at Trinity Episcopal Church distributes ashes to Jeanne Greathouse of Parkersburg Wednesday afternoon. The church had a drive-up area in their Juliana Street parking lot for Ash Wednesday.

Photo by Art Smith



Trinity in the news: