

Trinity Grand Ledger

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Rev. Dr. Gail Shafer

Happy New Year!

The Christian year begins with Advent 1, and here we are! It seems like the past year has passed in a blink of an eye. I will celebrate five years of ministry as a priest, ordained in the Episcopal Church. Again, that time has passed in a blink of an eye. I feel it touches on the eternal when our years pass so quickly. My ministry here at Trinity is expected to draw to a close as I plan to retire next year. We are in discernment for a settled pastor for the church. We will continue to work with our diocese and the national church to seek the right person.

Its time again for our annual carol sing at the Grand Ledge City light parade and tree lighting! Bring your flashlights and come to participate with the Trinity “pick up caroling choir” December 2 at 6 pm. We are in the midst of Advent and preparation for Christmas. We will “green” the church after the 10 am service December 18. Bible study based on the book of Matthew begins December 4 – 18 after the 10 am service and may continue in January if there is interest. Please let Tudy know if you would like to join the Christmas Eve choir, or participate as torch bearer, crucifer or reader for the 7 pm Christmas eve service. Because Christmas is on Sunday, there will be a 10 am service.

Compline is offered on Wednesday night. We will be using the Celtic service beginning the week after Christmas. As always, this is posted to our Facebook page. We post the 10 am service to our website and Facebook.

Trinity has accomplished so much in the past year. The Memorial Garden fence is completed, thanks to the artistry and efforts of John and Ellen Bunday. It looks as though it has been there forever, and truly completed that side of the church. And then there is the red door! And our sign announcing our service times. These are signs of evangelism to the community.

Our congregation is reaching out to the community in many other ways. Thanks to our participation in the Faith Leaders meeting with the superintendent of Grand Ledge Schools, we “adopted” Wacousta elementary school staff – with treats and small tokens of appreciation. Watch for a Christmas card to sign for them! We have provided waterproof mittens, socks, and sweatpants for the children. The outpouring of appreciation from the staff has been so meaningful.

Siren Shelter residents will be receiving items for their Christmas shopping as a result of our donations from the Christmas tree in the Trinity Room. Our GLEAP family will enjoy Christmas dinner and gifts for all of their family of five. Our designated shoppers will take monetary donations to purchase specific requests for the parents and three children. We are also collecting for the Grand Ledge shopping trip. There is a not-for-profit group that takes at least 100 children shopping for school clothes and gifts for their families.

Plans for the new year include continued support of GLEAP and the Food Bank, and support of the staff of Wacousta elementary. There will be several opportunities for adult formation, including the lay led Bible study, book discussion groups, and community book readings with Grand Ledge United (a community based racial justice group). We plan to upgrade our website, continue several building projects to repair and upgrade our building. There is an organ fund that will fund a major refurbishment of our beautiful organ.

But more than anything, we will continue to be the hands and feet of our savior Jesus the Christ in the world.

Poinsettia Donations

The envelopes for donations to help cover the cost for the poinsettia on Christmas are on the table in the narthex. Be sure to add if your donation is in memory or honor of someone. Place your donation envelope in the offering plate.

Stewardship Sunday

Trinity’s Stewardship Sunday will take place on Sunday, December 4, 2022. There will only be one combined service that morning at 10 am.

Envelopes with your Stewardship letter and estimate of giving card in it will be available that morning. After you have picked up your envelope and the service is over, take your time and fill out your estimate of giving card. There will be a basket for you to put your card in at the back of the church. If you are not present that morning at church, your letter will be mailed to you.

A celebration luncheon, provided by your vestry members, will be served after the service.

Indoor Clean-up

On Saturday December 17, 2022, at 9 am, Trinity members will gather at the church to do a couple of hours of cleaning on the inside of the church.

The more hands at work the faster it will go. Our junior warden, Lori, will have a list of items that need to be done. Bring your dust clothes and swiffers and anything else that you think you may need to freshen up our church before Christmas.

Things to Remember

Christmas Eve service will begin at 6:30 pm with a half hour of carol singing, then the Eucharist service will begin at 7 pm. On Christmas morning there will be one combined service at 10 am.

Compline continues every Wednesday night at 9 pm via Zoom. The Zoom invitation goes out during the day on Wednesday.

The new 2023 altar flower chart and coffee hour sign-up sheet will be out soon, so don't forget to sign up on them both.

2023 Episcopal calendars have arrived. Fill free to take one home, donations accepted.

If you decide you no longer wish to receive the information about Trinity either by mail or email, just let us know by mail or email at secretary@trinitypeople.org.

Priest in Charge

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