



the Vision

December, 2014

Volume 24, Issue 12

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Christmas Cantata

NEIGHBORHOOD CHRISTMAS BLOCK PARTY



Please join us for the 2nd Annual Neighborhood Christmas Block Party on Wednesday, December 17th beginning at 6:30.

The evening will include a chili dinner in the chapel courtyard, service projects for our community, activities and crafts for the kids that tell the Christmas story, Christmas cookie decorating, roasting marshmallows, drinking hot cocoa/cider and singing and ringing Christmas carols with Trinity's bell choir. All the activities will be taking place in the chapel entrance area and spilling out onto the sidewalk on University Blvd. This will be a great way to connect with and meet our "neighbors". We look forward to seeing you there! Please also join us for Bible Study (Library) at 5:00 pm and our meditation service (chapel) at 6:00 pm.



Cantata Sunday

On Sunday, December 21



This year's Advent cantata, "Candles and Carols" by Mark Hayes, is designed to support and enhance the entire Advent season at Trinity. Thus the Trinity Choir will present the first three movements during worship on the first three Sundays of Advent in conjunction with lighting the advent wreath, and then on the 4th Sunday, December 21, the

Choir and orchestra will present the entire cantata with narration. Don't miss this inspiring and insightful combination of glorious music and meaningful texts that are sure to add understanding to everyone's Advent journey.

One Service Only on this Sunday, December 21 and on December 28. 8:00 am worship will resume as usual on January 4.

PASTORAL LETTER

Are We There Yet?

Somewhere, usually around the half-way point of our summer car trips, either Sean or Amy would ask the magic question. “Are we there yet?” My response was, “Here, take the map and tell me where we are. You be the navigators.”

We are on a transitional journey. Our destination is to call a new pastor. I am giving YOU the map now so you can see where we are. There are several key intersections on this trip. Right now the session has a firm grip on the wheel, and pretty soon YOU, the congregation, will be in the driver’s seat. (I’ve got dibs on shotgun! J.) Here is the map, so you can see where we are, and what happens next. Steps that have been accomplished are ‘checked off’.

- √ 1. Minister announces intention to leave
 - √ 2. Commission on Ministry (COM) appoints a liaison to session.
 - √ 3. COM liaison or Presbytery representative meets with Session. An Interim Search Committee is appointed.
 - √ 4. COM exit interview with exiting pastor.
 - √ 5. Congregation meets on pastor’s last day in the pulpit to concur with dissolution of pastoral relationship.
 - √ 6. COM conducts exit interview with Session.
 - √ 7. Session hires Interim/Transitional Pastor with approval of COM.
 - √ 8. Interim/Transitional Pastor trains/engages Session.
 - 9. Session engages the congregation in a “Mission Study.”
 - 10. Session presents the congregation’s “Mission Study” to the COM for approval, and the COM grants the congregation permission to elect a Pastoral Search Committee (PNC).
 - 11. The congregation elects a PNC.
 - 12. The COM convenes the PNC for orientation and training.
 - 13. The PNC writes a resume for the church, a “Ministry Information Form (MIF).”
 - 14. COM approves the MIF, and grants the PNC permission to send in out and to begin considering pastoral candidates.
 - 15. The PNC selects a candidate, who preaches for the congregation prior to election by the congregation.
 - 16. Newly called pastor begins work.
 - 17. Newly called pastor is installed by the Presbytery.
- The PNC is dissolved and thanked.

In step 8 a lot has happened, so that the congregation can engage in a successful Mission Study. Step 9 is foundational for everything that follows. The effective work of the Pastor Nominating Committee hinges on the quality of the congregational mission study. Our mission study process will be contained in a congregation-wide event called “Memories, Hopes and Conversations”, on Sunday, February 15. On page 7 of this Vision you can read a description of this event.

The session has been working hard, training and planning to prepare the congregation for new leadership and a new future. They have carefully considered how they might fully engage the congregation as a whole in that vital task. The session has chosen a proven strategy known as Appreciative Inquiry. They have tried it themselves, (with much enthusiasm and enlightenment), and they have appointed a competent team to lead the congregation through step 9.

We are excited and confident that the results of our congregational discernment on February 15 will provide a solid foundation for an effective pastoral search. For the sake of the future of our church, we encourage all of you to participate in “Memories, Hopes and Conversations” on February 15.

Blessings,
Jerry

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Christmas Eve Services

Casual Christmas Eve

5:00 pm

An informal service led by our youth that includes a children's pageant, carols, readings and candles. *(please call 623-2579 for your child/grandchild to take part)*

Christmas Café

6:00 pm

Enjoy hot apple cider, cocoa, cookies, fellowship with friends old and new, and live Christmas music. Bring a plate of holiday goodies to share.

6:45 pm Carol Sing

Traditional Christmas Eve

7:00 pm Service

A candlelight service with a Christmas message, led by the pastors, the Trinity Choir and the Trinity Ringers.

Bring your family, friends and neighbors as we celebrate our Lord's birth on this holy night!



DECEMBER SCRIPTURE READINGS

Dec 7 - Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-11; *Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13*; II Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

Dec 14 - Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; *Psalm 126*; I Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

Dec 21 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

II Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Luke 1:46b-55 or *Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26*; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

Dec 24 - Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7; *Psalm 96*; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14

Dec 25 - Christmas Day Isaiah 52:7-10; *Psalm 98*; Hebrew 1:1-4; John 1:1-14

Dec 28 - Isaiah 61:10-62:3; *Psalm 148*; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40



ADVENT MINI-CONCERTS 2014

The programs take place in the sanctuary immediately following the 10:30 worship service and last around 20 minutes.

December 7 – Yuletide on the Yamaha

– favorite songs of the season played on Trinity's grand piano by Lynn Moser.

December 14 – Handbell Hallelujahs - the sparkling sounds of bells and chimes presented by the Trinity Ringers, with opportunities for some congregational carol singing.

December 21 – Celebration on the Strings

– featuring the inspiring sounds of the Kingfisher String Quartet.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

WORD OF LIFE

Our Bible Study class study is "**That You May Believe: The Gospel of John**". It's by Carol J. Miller. John's Gospel offers insights into the nature of Jesus and the meaning of faith. Come share your faith and explore the contrasts that John puts before us. We meet in the Upper Room East at 9:00.

THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION CLASS

This Sunday, December 7, we will have a front row seat for THE SALEM WITCH TRIALS at 9:00 am in the Upper Room W. Join Rev. Bill Voigt for this fascinating chapter in American history. Breakfast included!

THEOLOGY FOR TODAY

Our class is taking a break during the Advent Season so all can enjoy the special Advent Concerts which take place right after Worship Service. We will resume classes again on January 4, 2015. We will be using a DVD entitled *Embracing an Alternative Orthodoxy* for the first 5 weeks.

POLO

Parents of Little Ones is now at 9:00 am. on the third Sunday of the month (before worship instead of after). Parents with young children are welcome to join us!

GODLY PLAY

Godly Play is a worship-based learning program that invites exploration of core Biblical stories in an atmosphere of reverence, wonder and prayer.

NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS



January-May 2015

Matt Kreamer here with some exciting news. I will be starting a new Sunday School class in January for youth 4th grade through 8th grade. This class will last from the sermon to

11:30 am and will meet downstairs. We will discuss various New Testament stories and how they apply to our daily lives. I am very excited to start this new fellowship with the youth.

MERCIFUL HEAVENS – BABIES ABOUND!

Certainly you've noticed many new children in our congregation. You've gone to a baby shower or two, or you've heard an infant gurgle during the worship service. Or you've even had to be more observant in the Narthex, as a short person almost takes you out at the knees. We are experiencing a glorious explosion in the nursery!

Some of those little people that have been in the nursery for a few years are ready to move on as they develop their Christian faith. Children from 4 years old through about 9 years old will begin or continue to participate in Godly Play, a program that introduces them to Bible stories within a modified worship service.

And we have older children, basically 4th grade through 8th grade, that are ready to move on to more intensive Bible study with Matt Kreamer. Matt has been educating young students in the Tucson valley for many years, in the Amphitheater Public Schools and now in the Vail District. Although he excels in PE, he has an interest and background in Christian Youth Development.




Both groups of children will continue to attend the 10:30 worship service through the scripture readings, then will leave for their respective classes.

Our congregation needs to remember the promise we made when these children were baptized. We laughed softly as a toddler squirmed when a pastor splashed cool water on her forehead. But when the minister asked us, "Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture these children by word and deed, with love and prayer?"



Wednesday ~~Nite~~ *is* Alive! - December 2014



| Date | 5:00pm Bible Study {Library} | 6:00pm Meditation Service {Chapel} | 6:30pm Supper | 7:15pm Discussion Group {Upper Room-West} | 7:15pm Helping Hands (serving) {Fellowship Hall} |
|-------------|--|--|---|---|---|
| Dec 3 | Mark 1:1-8 <i>The Beginning of the Good News</i> Bill Voigt | Embracing God’s Future: <i>Do we believe God has a plan and purpose for us?</i> Bill Voigt | Supper in Fellowship Hall | Holiday Blues <i>Laura Benchik,</i> <i>Behavioral Health Specialist</i> | Sandwich-making for Casa Maria Soup Kitchen <i>Kathy Moser</i> |
| Dec 10 | John 1:6-8, 19-28 <i>Putting God first</i> Jerry Foust | Embracing God’s Future: <i>Are we open to the Spirit of God</i> Jerry Foust | | Christmas Around the World  <i>Bill Voigt and Lynn Moser</i> | Preparing Christmas cards for Trinity’s homebound & Christmas Fun Packs for the Diamond Children’s Center (UMC) <i>Kathy Moser</i> |
| Dec 17 | Luke 1:26-38 <i>What God does with yielded lives</i> Jerry Foust | Embracing God’s Future: <i>What is our sense of Call?</i> Jerry Foust | NEIGHBORHOOD CHRISTMAS BLOCK PARTY (food, music, fellowship and fun projects for children and | | |
| Dec 24 & 31 |  CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY BREAK  | | | | |

(Continued from page 4)

Will you encourage them to know, trust, and follow Christ, and to be faithful members of his church?" most of us answered gladly, "We do and we will." So now – find a way to act on that declaration. Right now parents are assisting our wonderful nursery attendant, DeDe, when we have lots of active toddlers. Could you volunteer one Sunday a month, so that those parents can be free to worship? Vade Henderson, Liz Barlow and Matt Kreamer are meeting the needs of the older children. Is there some way you could help them? Ask one of them and find out.

Let us rejoice in this new growth! And let's be ready to encourage a new generation of Christian disciples!



CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Through the Christmas Joy Offering, Presbyterian congregations have long expressed their compassion for others, especially for those who serve the Church. This Offering is received for the equal benefit of the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, which distributes financial assistance to eligible church workers and their families, and racial ethnic schools and colleges of the PC(USA).



Congregational News

LONG RANGE DEV. TEAM UPDATE

The Long Range Development Team is alive and well. It has been some time since my last report in the Vision, because the LRDT has been waiting for the Developers to procure a tenant(s) for the new building. With today's economic conditions, no one is going to build a building on "spec" and then hope to fill it with tenants.

The Developers are working hard to find companies that will move into the building. They are talking with Real Estate Brokers, people from the U of A, Fletcher McCusker from Rio Nuevo, Michael Keith from Downtown Tucson Partnership and Steve Rosenberg from Biz Tucson to get the project out in the public.

They are also talking with representatives from CESL on possible leasing options. This would be wonderful as CESL is currently leasing space in the Ed Wing.

During this search the Developers continue to meet with representatives from WUNA and the City, so that when a tenant is found they can begin the process to construct the building.

The LRDT continues to meet and review any updates the Developers bring to us. Our next meeting is scheduled for January 2015.



FELIZ NAVIDAD!

OUR SPECIAL CHRISTMAS CANTINA will be held on Sunday, December 6 at 11:50 am. in Fellowship Hall, following wor-

ship and the wonderful mini-concert in the Sanctuary. A delicious *Mexican lunch* will be served, along with lots of other festive activities. We will be making *one hundred sandwiches* for Casa Maria at one end of the room, while at another, the children will be working on a *Christmas craft* followed by the breaking of *piñatas*. About *50 socks* filled with toiletries will be put together for homeless shelters here in Tucson. Opportunities will be available to buy specific *gift items* for a village in Cameroon, a farm in Agua Prieta, and a children's center in Nogales, Sonora. If you follow the traditions of our brothers and sisters of Spain and Mexico, a long time ago, a procession called Las Posadas began. For nine nights, the expectant Mother Mary would ride on a burro from house to house with her husband Joseph, along with angels, shepherds and pilgrims. For each of nine nights, the procession would seek shelter and sing carols (villancicos) until finally, on the last night, the procession would arrive at their final destination,



which could be either a home or a church. Eventually the children would break star shaped piñatas, filled with candy, fruit and other goodies (who knows what might be packed in a piñata). The music of the season, originating from Mexico, will complete this truly fun and joyous NEW EVENT!!!



ANGELS PHOTO DISPLAY

"The angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people.'"
--Luke 2:9-10

Angels in art (statues, carvings, stained glass), Christmas decorations, cherubs, little "angels" in the Trinity Christmas Pageant, angels of mercy (people showing mercy---Red Cross, disaster, emergency, soup kitchen workers). Be sure to view the newest photo display in the narthex. Thanks to our Trinity photographers.

TRINITY BOOK CLUB

On December 29, the Trinity Book Club will meet in the library at 7:00 pm to discuss *Soldier Girls* by Helen Thorpe. Join us.

Congregational News

ORDER YOUR POINSETTIA

A cherished tradition at Trinity, poinsettias adorn the sanctuary and chapel and enrich our worship during Advent. The cost is \$10 each and you may order as many as you like.

Take your poinsettia(s) home following the Christmas Eve Worship or leave them to be distributed by the Deacons to members unable to attend. Order your poinsettias by calling the church office or using the enclosed order form.

The deadline to order is December 15.

PAULS' SOCKS

For a number of years, Paul Parker purchased the socks at the swap meet and Paul Smith purchased and collected the toiletry items that go in the sock. Eileen Scott furnished fruit (oranges or apples) and Leone Mohny furnished small candy canes. The socks were assembled as a part of the Advent Workshops on the first Sunday of Advent and delivered to homeless shelters. As the project grew into 600 pairs, it was decided to name it for the two Pauls who initiated it and carried it through for so many years. We will be filling the last 50 pairs of Pauls' socks with toiletries at the Christmas Cantina on December 6.

CHRISTMAS EVE FELLOWSHIP

Dust off your favorite Christmas cookie recipe and bring your cookies to this year's fellowship time on Christmas Eve. There will be cider, hot chocolate, sandwiches, and strolling minstrels to enliven our

holiday festivities. Meet in Fellowship Hall between the two Christmas Eve worship services.

Come with joy!



SAVE
THE
DATE!

February 15, 2015

*Memories, Hopes
and*

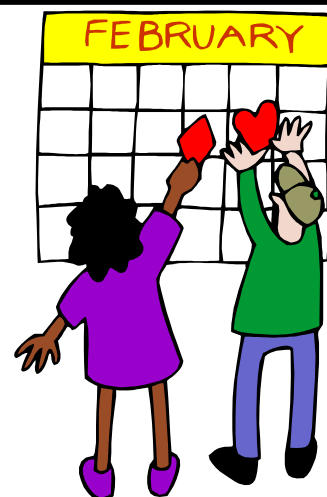
Conversations

**Your Opportunity to
Help Shape the Future
of Trinity Church!**

Sunday, February 15

10:30 am till 12:30 pm including worship.

Fellowship at 10:00 – Lunch at 12:30



February 15, 2015 will be an extraordinarily important day in the life of our congregation! It is the day that we will come together as the Body of Christ for a time of shared discernment and vision, using a proven and well-thought-out approach known as Appreciative Inquiry. In an atmosphere of appreciation to God and thankfulness for each other, everyone will have an opportunity to share their upbeat memories and to voice their creative hopes. As a result, relationships and energy build as a shared vision unfolds. The results of our conversations will then be used to guide the Pastor Search Committee and help the Session plan for the future.

All events of the morning, including worship, will center around Trinity Hall. Some of the conversation groups will meet in other rooms near Trinity Hall that are more conducive to being able to hear each other well.

In this pivotal time in the life of this part of God's Church called Trinity, your participation in this event is among the most important things that you can do for this congregation in this decade! The Session's goal is to have 100% participation of members, and anyone who is interested in the life of this congregation is highly encouraged to participate. **Please mark February 15 on your calendar** and look for an RSVP form in the January Vision!

SESSION NOTES

Session Notes for November 2014

The Trinity PC Session had a most productive stated meeting in November. The following are the highlights of actions and communications undertaken by Session:

- Learned about the emotional side of a congregation or a family from a power-point presentation by Jerry Foust. The source of this information is "The Eight Concepts of Bowen Theory" by Roberta Gilbert, MD.
- Removed 26 persons from Trinity's Inactive Roll. This leaves 25 persons on the Inactive Roll.
- Approved the appointment of Sheila Sievert to the counting team after the resignation of Jan Bond.
- Approved the dates for Communion in 2015.
- Approved not having an 8:00 AM service on December 21st because of the Cantata and December 28th because of the holiday week.
- Signed up for the annual potluck Christmas dinner with the Deacons on December 15, 2014 – a Monday evening. Our Deacons "rock" and the elders love to hear about their activities during the past year.
- Authorized the expenditure up to \$4,000 from Capital Maintenance Fund for new entrance doors east of the Narthex. Have you noticed that the current ones are falling apart?
- Approved contracting with the Food Bank of Southern Arizona to be a distribution site to give out The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) food bags during 2015. Volunteer needed in 2015!
- Approved Anne McConnell trading with Billie Holbrook to restore Billie as the chair of Christian Education committee. Thank you to Anne for being a wonderful chair for the past 11 months.
- Received a preview from Jerry about the upcoming December 6th Elder/Deacon Training from 9 to Noon.
- Learned that the records review on November 15th at Church of the Master in Mesa proved Trinity's records are in good and decent order.
- Praised the Nominating Committee for the completion of their work. Four congregants – Liz Barlow, Bill Goodhue, Elliott Koeppen and Jean-

nette Ryan – have agreed to serve on the 2015 Nominating Committee. These persons will be elected at the January Annual Congregational Meeting.

- Approved having a Congregational Discernment Event on Sunday, February 15, 2015 as a part of worship with a revised schedule of classes, fellowship time and lunch. The committee planning this event will be promoting the event and informing the congregation. Watch for details!
- Received reports from each committee that illustrate hard work and dedication.

Prayed for those in need of pastoral care and for discernment about God's leading. Session also prayed expressing gratitude for God's gifts for Trinity.

Janet D. Hooper, Clerk of Session

NEW ELDERS AND DEACONS

New ruling elders and deacons were elected in November. They will be trained in December, and will begin serving in February 2015. Thank you, friends, for your willingness to serve the church.

| | |
|-------------|--|
| ELDERS | (Class of 2015) Sheila Sievert |
| 1-year term | (Class of 2015) Daniel Seddo (Class of 2016) Matthew Creamer (Class of 2017) Billie Holbrook Bobbie Whipple Janet Jones Doug Holland Leone Mohny |
| DEACONS | (Class of 2016) Karen Wilkison, Holly Clark (Class of 2017) Rosalie Goll Ruth Myers Kathy Moser Sally Barlow-Miller Emalie Wilka |



Mission News



SANDWICH MAKING for the Casa Maria Soup Kitchen will be on the second Sunday, December 14. Please join us after worship to make 600 sandwiches for the homeless. Many thanks to all who help!



4TH AVE STREET FAIR

Look for sign-ups in the narthex to help with Cup of Water, the Deacons' Burger Stand, and Parking. What a way to serve God in the Heart of the City! Everyone pray for nice weather!

Just a reminder that we will be collecting non-perishable food items at the 4th Ave Street Fair Cup of Water table on December 12, 13, and 14.



TRINITY FOOD PANTRY

THANK YOU to all the people providing food items for our food pantry during the months of October and November. October's donations started out slowly but by the end of the month our congregants increased their donations and that continued through November. The **CHALLENGE** of food products pound for pound during the month of October totaled **157 lbs.** The church member who made the challenge will be meeting with me to work out the details for delivery of the food items. Your donations are greatly appreciated because this year the Community Food Bank will not be proving hams or turkeys. Our volunteers are putting together bags containing the food items you provided and these will be given to our clients along with the regular food box. To volunteer, contact me by calling the church at (520) 623-2579.

Alice Smedley, Community Ministries Coordinator



SUNDAYS
Just Coffee
in Fellowship Hall



Trinity had 27 walkers & many supporters. Donations to the walk include (cash) \$3967.96, (checks) \$12,185.66. (on line) \$2,640. The total to date for the walk is \$18,793.62.
Thanks Trinity (\$2,255)!

Many, many thanks to the Trinity CROP Walkers who walked the West University Route, the many more who contributed and sponsored them, as well as those who helped direct Walkers and provide refreshing drinks at our water station. These funds will be transformed into food for hungry families, help for refugees and assistance to the poor around the world who are working to develop self-sustaining livelihoods. It will also provide food here in Tucson through the Community Food Bank and Casa Maria Kitchen. We owe additional thanks to Eegee's for Party Paks, and to the UA Kappa Delta Chi service sorority for their assistance on the day of the Walk. By the way, it is not too late to contribute online (Tucson 2014 Crop Hunger Walk) or through a check made out to CWS/ CROP. Thanks again to all!

CHRISTMAS CONNECTION

with the

PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE



For some years, we have been buying gifts for the Angel Tree Program. This year, 2014, launches a new connection between Trinity and the Pascua Yaqui Head Start program for children. We will be collecting donations for new shoes and warm/regular clothing for children in need. Be watching for this exciting opportunity.

Christ really is the reason for the season!

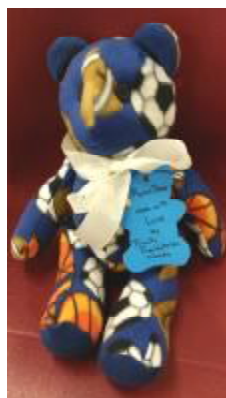


Trinity Women



RYAN'S BEARS

40 Ryan's Bears will be blessed at the 10:30 service on December 7. Then, they will be distributed to Primavera, Our Family Social Services and Arizona Children's Association Foster Children for their Christmas giving. Thank you to the many who participated in cutting, stitching and stuffing the bears.



Photos by Kathy Moser



AN EVENING WITH C. S. LEWIS

Friday, December 5 at 7:00 pm

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

7650 N. Paseo del Norte 297-7201

The year is 1963 and C. S. Lewis, the famous British author, is hosting a group of American writers at his home, just outside of Oxford. They have come to hear a man whose writings have already established him as one of the most influential authors of his day. *An Evening with C. S. Lewis* has proved to be an enthralling theatrical experience for many thousands who have attended its performances and is a fascinating and riveting insight into the life of a man whose collected works made him one of the literary giants of the 20th century. We are delighted to bring acclaimed actor, David Paine to St Andrew's for one performance that will thrill C.S. Lewis fans! Go to myflr.org and click on the "Events" tab for ticket information.



NEW YEARS EVE BRUNCH

Join Rev. Bill Voigt and the office staff for brunch in the church office on December 31 at 10 am. Lots of good cheer to end the year!

HOLIDAY BLUES HOTLINES

WORRY HOTLINE..... 1 PETER 5:7
FEAR HOTLINE..... ISAIAH 41:10
TEMPTATION HOTLINE. .1 CORINTHIANS 10:13
SICKNESS HOTLINE. JAMES 5:14
DEPRESSION HOTLINE. PSALM 34:18
LONELINESS HOTLINE . . DEUTERONOMY 31:8

LINE ARE OPEN 24/7



Trinity Website
www.trinitytucson.org

Email Addresses
office@trinitytucson.org



(Just in time for Christmas!)

ART SALE

Sunday, Dec. 7, 1:00-4:00 pm

Featuring original
oil paintings
and framed prints of
award-winning artist
Aggie Landel!



(all proceeds benefit Trinity
Presbyterian Church)

Also featuring authentic
American Indian Art

Also for sale are dozens of
gorgeous artistic photographs from
the Trinity Narthex

Photo Gallery archives.
(Sizes 8x10, 11x14 and 13x19)

Printed with professional
quality ink and photo paper.

(all proceeds benefit Trinity
Presbyterian Church)

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Noon on December 24th

December 25th

Noon on December 31



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| 9. Session engages the congregation in a “Mission Study.” | The PNC is dissolved and thanked. |
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In step 8 a lot has happened, so that the congregation can engage in a successful Mission Study. Step 9 is foundational for everything that follows. The effective work of the Pastor Nominating Committee hinges on the quality of the congregational mission study. Our mission study process will be contained in a congregation-wide event called “Memories, Hopes and Conversations”, on Sunday, February 15. On page 7 of this Vision you can read a description of this event.

The session has been working hard, training and planning to prepare the congregation for new leadership and a new future. They have carefully considered how they might fully engage the congregation as a whole in that vital task. The session has chosen a proven strategy known as Appreciative Inquiry. They have tried it themselves, (with much enthusiasm and enlightenment), and they have appointed a competent team to lead the congregation through step 9.

We are excited and confident that the results of our congregational discernment on February 15 will provide a solid foundation for an effective pastoral search. For the sake of the future of our church, we encourage all of you to participate in “Memories, Hopes and Conversations” on February 15.

Blessings,
Jerry

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Christmas Eve Services

Casual Christmas Eve

5:00 pm

An informal service led by our youth that includes a children's pageant, carols, readings and candles. *(please call 623-2579 for your child/grandchild to take part)*

Christmas Café

6:00 pm

Enjoy hot apple cider, cocoa, cookies, fellowship with friends old and new, and live Christmas music. Bring a plate of holiday goodies to share.

6:45 pm Carol Sing

Traditional Christmas Eve

7:00 pm Service

A candlelight service with a Christmas message, led by the pastors, the Trinity Choir and the Trinity Ringers.

Bring your family, friends and neighbors as we celebrate our Lord's birth on this holy night!



DECEMBER SCRIPTURE READINGS

Dec 7 - Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-11; *Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13*; II Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

Dec 14 - Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; *Psalm 126*; I Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

Dec 21 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

II Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Luke 1:46b-55 or *Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26*; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

Dec 24 - Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7; *Psalm 96*; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14

Dec 25 - Christmas Day Isaiah 52:7-10; *Psalm 98*; Hebrew 1:1-4; John 1:1-14

Dec 28 - Isaiah 61:10-62:3; *Psalm 148*; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40



ADVENT MINI-CONCERTS 2014

The programs take place in the sanctuary immediately following the 10:30 worship service and last around 20 minutes.

December 7 – Yuletide on the Yamaha

– favorite songs of the season played on Trinity's grand piano by Lynn Moser.

December 14 – Handbell Hallelujahs - the sparkling sounds of bells and chimes presented by the Trinity Ringers, with opportunities for some congregational carol singing.

December 21 – Celebration on the Strings

– featuring the inspiring sounds of the Kingfisher String Quartet.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

WORD OF LIFE

Our Bible Study class study is "**That You May Believe: The Gospel of John**". It's by Carol J. Miller. John's Gospel offers insights into the nature of Jesus and the meaning of faith. Come share your faith and explore the contrasts that John puts before us. We meet in the Upper Room East at 9:00.

THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION CLASS

This Sunday, December 7, we will have a front row seat for THE SALEM WITCH TRIALS at 9:00 am in the Upper Room W. Join Rev. Bill Voigt for this fascinating chapter in American history. Breakfast included!

THEOLOGY FOR TODAY

Our class is taking a break during the Advent Season so all can enjoy the special Advent Concerts which take place right after Worship Service. We will resume classes again on January 4, 2015. We will be using a DVD entitled *Embracing an Alternative Orthodoxy* for the first 5 weeks.

POLO

Parents of Little Ones is now at 9:00 am. on the third Sunday of the month (before worship instead of after). Parents with young children are welcome to join us!

GODLY PLAY

Godly Play is a worship-based learning program that invites exploration of core Biblical stories in an atmosphere of reverence, wonder and prayer.

NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS



January-May 2015

Matt Kreamer here with some exciting news. I will be starting a new Sunday School class in January for youth 4th grade through 8th grade. This class will last from the sermon to

11:30 am and will meet downstairs. We will discuss various New Testament stories and how they apply to our daily lives. I am very excited to start this new fellowship with the youth.

MERCIFUL HEAVENS – BABIES ABOUND!

Certainly you've noticed many new children in our congregation. You've gone to a baby shower or two, or you've heard an infant gurgle during the worship service. Or you've even had to be more observant in the Narthex, as a short person almost takes you out at the knees. We are experiencing a glorious explosion in the nursery!

Some of those little people that have been in the nursery for a few years are ready to move on as they develop their Christian faith. Children from 4 years old through about 9 years old will begin or continue to participate in Godly Play, a program that introduces them to Bible stories within a modified worship service.

And we have older children, basically 4th grade through 8th grade, that are ready to move on to more intensive Bible study with Matt Kreamer. Matt has been educating young students in the Tucson valley for many years, in the Amphitheater Public Schools and now in the Vail District. Although he excels in PE, he has an interest and background in Christian Youth Development.




Both groups of children will continue to attend the 10:30 worship service through the scripture readings, then will leave for their respective classes.

Our congregation needs to remember the promise we made when these children were baptized. We laughed softly as a toddler squirmed when a pastor splashed cool water on her forehead. But when the minister asked us, "Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture these children by word and deed, with love and prayer?"



Wednesday ~~Nite~~ *is* Alive! - December 2014



| Date | 5:00pm Bible Study {Library} | 6:00pm Meditation Service {Chapel} | 6:30pm Supper | 7:15pm Discussion Group {Upper Room-West} | 7:15pm Helping Hands (serving) {Fellowship Hall} |
|-------------|--|--|---|---|---|
| Dec 3 | Mark 1:1-8 <i>The Beginning of the Good News</i> Bill Voigt | Embracing God’s Future: <i>Do we believe God has a plan and purpose for us?</i> Bill Voigt | Supper in Fellowship Hall | Holiday Blues <i>Laura Benchik,</i> <i>Behavioral Health Specialist</i> | Sandwich-making for Casa Maria Soup Kitchen <i>Kathy Moser</i> |
| Dec 10 | John 1:6-8, 19-28 <i>Putting God first</i> Jerry Foust | Embracing God’s Future: <i>Are we open to the Spirit of God</i> Jerry Foust | | Christmas Around the World  <i>Bill Voigt and Lynn Moser</i> | Preparing Christmas cards for Trinity’s homebound & Christmas Fun Packs for the Diamond Children’s Center (UMC) <i>Kathy Moser</i> |
| Dec 17 | Luke 1:26-38 <i>What God does with yielded lives</i> Jerry Foust | Embracing God’s Future: <i>What is our sense of Call?</i> Jerry Foust | NEIGHBORHOOD CHRISTMAS BLOCK PARTY (food, music, fellowship and fun projects for children and | | |
| Dec 24 & 31 |  CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY BREAK  | | | | |

(Continued from page 4)

Will you encourage them to know, trust, and follow Christ, and to be faithful members of his church?" most of us answered gladly, "We do and we will." So now – find a way to act on that declaration. Right now parents are assisting our wonderful nursery attendant, DeDe, when we have lots of active toddlers. Could you volunteer one Sunday a month, so that those parents can be free to worship? Vade Henderson, Liz Barlow and Matt Kreamer are meeting the needs of the older children. Is there some way you could help them? Ask one of them and find out.

Let us rejoice in this new growth! And let's be ready to encourage a new generation of Christian disciples!



CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Through the Christmas Joy Offering, Presbyterian congregations have long expressed their compassion for others, especially for those who serve the Church. This Offering is received for the equal benefit of the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, which distributes financial assistance to eligible church workers and their families, and racial ethnic schools and colleges of the PC(USA).



Congregational News

LONG RANGE DEV. TEAM UPDATE

The Long Range Development Team is alive and well. It has been some time since my last report in the Vision, because the LRDT has been waiting for the Developers to procure a tenant(s) for the new building. With today's economic conditions, no one is going to build a building on "spec" and then hope to fill it with tenants.

The Developers are working hard to find companies that will move into the building. They are talking with Real Estate Brokers, people from the U of A, Fletcher McCusker from Rio Nuevo, Michael Keith from Downtown Tucson Partnership and Steve Rosenberg from Biz Tucson to get the project out in the public.

They are also talking with representatives from CESL on possible leasing options. This would be wonderful as CESL is currently leasing space in the Ed Wing.

During this search the Developers continue to meet with representatives from WUNA and the City, so that when a tenant is found they can begin the process to construct the building.

The LRDT continues to meet and review any updates the Developers bring to us. Our next meeting is scheduled for January 2015.



FELIZ NAVIDAD!

OUR SPECIAL CHRISTMAS CANTINA will be held on Sunday, December 6 at 11:50 am. in Fellowship Hall, following wor-

ship and the wonderful mini-concert in the Sanctuary. A delicious *Mexican lunch* will be served, along with lots of other festive activities. We will be making *one hundred sandwiches* for Casa Maria at one end of the room, while at another, the children will be working on a *Christmas craft* followed by the breaking of *piñatas*. About *50 socks* filled with toiletries will be put together for homeless shelters here in Tucson. Opportunities will be available to buy specific *gift items* for a village in Cameroon, a farm in Agua Prieta, and a children's center in Nogales, Sonora. If you follow the traditions of our brothers and sisters of Spain and Mexico, a long time ago, a procession called Las Posadas began. For nine nights, the expectant Mother Mary would ride on a burro from house to house with her husband Joseph, along with angels, shepherds and pilgrims. For each of nine nights, the procession would seek shelter and sing carols (villancicos) until finally, on the last night, the procession would arrive at their final destination,



which could be either a home or a church. Eventually the children would break star shaped piñatas, filled with candy, fruit and other goodies (who knows what might be packed in a piñata). The music of the season, originating from Mexico, will complete this truly fun and joyous NEW EVENT!!!



ANGELS PHOTO DISPLAY

"The angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people.'"
--Luke 2:9-10

Angels in art (statues, carvings, stained glass), Christmas decorations, cherubs, little "angels" in the Trinity Christmas Pageant, angels of mercy (people showing mercy---Red Cross, disaster, emergency, soup kitchen workers). Be sure to view the newest photo display in the narthex. Thanks to our Trinity photographers.

TRINITY BOOK CLUB

On December 29, the Trinity Book Club will meet in the library at 7:00 pm to discuss *Soldier Girls* by Helen Thorpe. Join us.

Congregational News

ORDER YOUR POINSETTIA

A cherished tradition at Trinity, poinsettias adorn the sanctuary and chapel and enrich our worship during Advent. The cost is \$10 each and you may order as many as you like.

Take your poinsettia(s) home following the Christmas Eve Worship or leave them to be distributed by the Deacons to members unable to attend. Order your poinsettias by calling the church office or using the enclosed order form.

The deadline to order is December 15.

PAULS' SOCKS

For a number of years, Paul Parker purchased the socks at the swap meet and Paul Smith purchased and collected the toiletry items that go in the sock. Eileen Scott furnished fruit (oranges or apples) and Leone Mohny furnished small candy canes. The socks were assembled as a part of the Advent Workshops on the first Sunday of Advent and delivered to homeless shelters. As the project grew into 600 pairs, it was decided to name it for the two Pauls who initiated it and carried it through for so many years. We will be filling the last 50 pairs of Pauls' socks with toiletries at the Christmas Cantina on December 6.

CHRISTMAS EVE FELLOWSHIP

Dust off your favorite Christmas cookie recipe and bring your cookies to this year's fellowship time on Christmas Eve. There will be cider, hot chocolate, sandwiches, and strolling minstrels to enliven our

holiday festivities. Meet in Fellowship Hall between the two Christmas Eve worship services.

Come with joy!



SAVE
THE
DATE!

February 15, 2015

*Memories, Hopes
and*

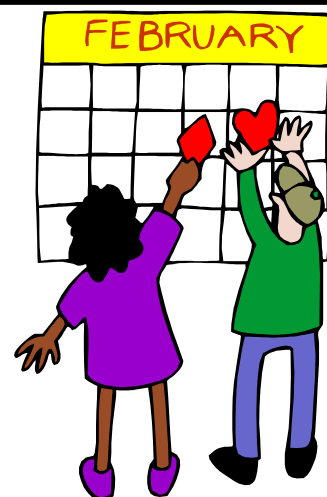
Conversations

**Your Opportunity to
Help Shape the Future
of Trinity Church!**

Sunday, February 15

10:30 am till 12:30 pm including worship.

Fellowship at 10:00 – Lunch at 12:30



February 15, 2015 will be an extraordinarily important day in the life of our congregation! It is the day that we will come together as the Body of Christ for a time of shared discernment and vision, using a proven and well-thought-out approach known as Appreciative Inquiry. In an atmosphere of appreciation to God and thankfulness for each other, everyone will have an opportunity to share their upbeat memories and to voice their creative hopes. As a result, relationships and energy build as a shared vision unfolds. The results of our conversations will then be used to guide the Pastor Search Committee and help the Session plan for the future.

All events of the morning, including worship, will center around Trinity Hall. Some of the conversation groups will meet in other rooms near Trinity Hall that are more conducive to being able to hear each other well.

In this pivotal time in the life of this part of God's Church called Trinity, your participation in this event is among the most important things that you can do for this congregation in this decade! The Session's goal is to have 100% participation of members, and anyone who is interested in the life of this congregation is highly encouraged to participate. **Please mark February 15 on your calendar** and look for an RSVP form in the January Vision!

SESSION NOTES

Session Notes for November 2014

The Trinity PC Session had a most productive stated meeting in November. The following are the highlights of actions and communications undertaken by Session:

- Learned about the emotional side of a congregation or a family from a power-point presentation by Jerry Foust. The source of this information is "The Eight Concepts of Bowen Theory" by Roberta Gilbert, MD.
- Removed 26 persons from Trinity's Inactive Roll. This leaves 25 persons on the Inactive Roll.
- Approved the appointment of Sheila Sievert to the counting team after the resignation of Jan Bond.
- Approved the dates for Communion in 2015.
- Approved not having an 8:00 AM service on December 21st because of the Cantata and December 28th because of the holiday week.
- Signed up for the annual potluck Christmas dinner with the Deacons on December 15, 2014 – a Monday evening. Our Deacons "rock" and the elders love to hear about their activities during the past year.
- Authorized the expenditure up to \$4,000 from Capital Maintenance Fund for new entrance doors east of the Narthex. Have you noticed that the current ones are falling apart?
- Approved contracting with the Food Bank of Southern Arizona to be a distribution site to give out The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) food bags during 2015. Volunteer needed in 2015!
- Approved Anne McConnell trading with Billie Holbrook to restore Billie as the chair of Christian Education committee. Thank you to Anne for being a wonderful chair for the past 11 months.
- Received a preview from Jerry about the upcoming December 6th Elder/Deacon Training from 9 to Noon.
- Learned that the records review on November 15th at Church of the Master in Mesa proved Trinity's records are in good and decent order.
- Praised the Nominating Committee for the completion of their work. Four congregants – Liz Barlow, Bill Goodhue, Elliott Koeppen and Jean-

nette Ryan – have agreed to serve on the 2015 Nominating Committee. These persons will be elected at the January Annual Congregational Meeting.

- Approved having a Congregational Discernment Event on Sunday, February 15, 2015 as a part of worship with a revised schedule of classes, fellowship time and lunch. The committee planning this event will be promoting the event and informing the congregation. Watch for details!
- Received reports from each committee that illustrate hard work and dedication.

Prayed for those in need of pastoral care and for discernment about God's leading. Session also prayed expressing gratitude for God's gifts for Trinity.

Janet D. Hooper, Clerk of Session

NEW ELDERS AND DEACONS

New ruling elders and deacons were elected in November. They will be trained in December, and will begin serving in February 2015. Thank you, friends, for your willingness to serve the church.

| | |
|-------------|--|
| ELDERS | (Class of 2015) Sheila Sievert |
| 1-year term | (Class of 2015) Daniel Seddo (Class of 2016) Matthew Creamer (Class of 2017) Billie Holbrook Bobbie Whipple Janet Jones Doug Holland Leone Mohny |
| DEACONS | (Class of 2016) Karen Wilkison, Holly Clark (Class of 2017) Rosalie Goll Ruth Myers Kathy Moser Sally Barlow-Miller Emalie Wilka |



Mission News



SANDWICH MAKING for the Casa Maria Soup Kitchen will be on the second Sunday, December 14. Please join us after worship to make 600 sandwiches for the homeless. Many thanks to all who help!



4TH AVE STREET FAIR

Look for sign-ups in the narthex to help with Cup of Water, the Deacons' Burger Stand, and Parking. What a way to serve God in the Heart of the City! Everyone pray for nice weather!

Just a reminder that we will be collecting non-perishable food items at the 4th Ave Street Fair Cup of Water table on December 12, 13, and 14.



TRINITY FOOD PANTRY

THANK YOU to all the people providing food items for our food pantry during the months of October and November. October's donations started out slowly but by the end of the month our congregants increased their donations and that continued through November. The **CHALLENGE** of food products pound for pound during the month of October totaled **157 lbs.** The church member who made the challenge will be meeting with me to work out the details for delivery of the food items. Your donations are greatly appreciated because this year the Community Food Bank will not be proving hams or turkeys. Our volunteers are putting together bags containing the food items you provided and these will be given to our clients along with the regular food box. To volunteer, contact me by calling the church at (520) 623-2579.

Alice Smedley, Community Ministries Coordinator



SUNDAYS
Just Coffee
in Fellowship Hall



Trinity had 27 walkers & many supporters. Donations to the walk include (cash) \$3967.96, (checks) \$12,185.66. (on line) \$2,640. The total to date for the walk is \$18,793.62.
Thanks Trinity (\$2,255)!

Many, many thanks to the Trinity CROP Walkers who walked the West University Route, the many more who contributed and sponsored them, as well as those who helped direct Walkers and provide refreshing drinks at our water station. These funds will be transformed into food for hungry families, help for refugees and assistance to the poor around the world who are working to develop self-sustaining livelihoods. It will also provide food here in Tucson through the Community Food Bank and Casa Maria Kitchen. We owe additional thanks to Eegee's for Party Paks, and to the UA Kappa Delta Chi service sorority for their assistance on the day of the Walk. By the way, it is not too late to contribute online (Tucson 2014 Crop Hunger Walk) or through a check made out to CWS/ CROP. Thanks again to all!

CHRISTMAS CONNECTION

with the

PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE



For some years, we have been buying gifts for the Angel Tree Program. This year, 2014, launches a new connection between Trinity and the Pascua Yaqui Head Start program for children. We will be collecting donations for new shoes and warm/regular clothing for children in need. Be watching for this exciting opportunity.

Christ really is the reason for the season!

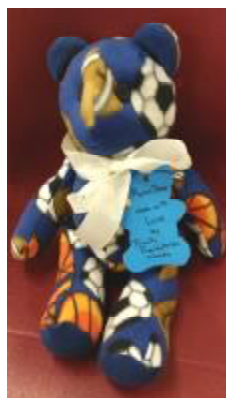


Trinity Women



RYAN'S BEARS

40 Ryan's Bears will be blessed at the 10:30 service on December 7. Then, they will be distributed to Primavera, Our Family Social Services and Arizona Children's Association Foster Children for their Christmas giving. Thank you to the many who participated in cutting, stitching and stuffing the bears.



Photos by Kathy Moser



AN EVENING WITH C. S. LEWIS

Friday, December 5 at 7:00 pm

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

7650 N. Paseo del Norte 297-7201

The year is 1963 and C. S. Lewis, the famous British author, is hosting a group of American writers at his home, just outside of Oxford. They have come to hear a man whose writings have already established him as one of the most influential authors of his day. *An Evening with C. S. Lewis* has proved to be an enthralling theatrical experience for many thousands who have attended its performances and is a fascinating and riveting insight into the life of a man whose collected works made him one of the literary giants of the 20th century. We are delighted to bring acclaimed actor, David Paine to St Andrew's for one performance that will thrill C.S. Lewis fans! Go to myflr.org and click on the "Events" tab for ticket information.



NEW YEARS EVE BRUNCH

Join Rev. Bill Voigt and the office staff for brunch in the church office on December 31 at 10 am. Lots of good cheer to end the year!

HOLIDAY BLUES HOTLINES

WORRY HOTLINE..... 1 PETER 5:7
FEAR HOTLINE..... ISAIAH 41:10
TEMPTATION HOTLINE. .1 CORINTHIANS 10:13
SICKNESS HOTLINE. JAMES 5:14
DEPRESSION HOTLINE. PSALM 34:18
LONELINESS HOTLINE . . DEUTERONOMY 31:8

LINE ARE OPEN 24/7



(Just in time for Christmas!)

ART SALE

Sunday, Dec. 7, 1:00-4:00 pm

Featuring original
oil paintings
and framed prints of
award-winning artist
Aggie Landel!



(all proceeds benefit Trinity
Presbyterian Church)

Also featuring authentic
American Indian Art

Also for sale are dozens of
gorgeous artistic photographs from
the Trinity Narthex

Photo Gallery archives.
(Sizes 8x10, 11x14 and 13x19)

Printed with professional
quality ink and photo paper.

(all proceeds benefit Trinity
Presbyterian Church)

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Noon on December 24th

December 25th

Noon on December 31



the Vision

December, 2014

Volume 24, Issue 12

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Christmas Cantata

NEIGHBORHOOD CHRISTMAS BLOCK PARTY



Please join us for the 2nd Annual Neighborhood Christmas Block Party on Wednesday, December 17th beginning at 6:30.

The evening will include a chili dinner in the chapel courtyard, service projects for our community, activities and crafts for the kids that tell the Christmas story, Christmas cookie decorating, roasting marshmallows, drinking hot cocoa/cider and singing and ringing Christmas carols with Trinity's bell choir. All the activities will be taking place in the chapel entrance area and spilling out onto the sidewalk on University Blvd. This will be a great way to connect with and meet our "neighbors". We look forward to seeing you there! Please also join us for Bible Study (Library) at 5:00 pm and our meditation service (chapel) at 6:00 pm.



Cantata Sunday

On Sunday, December 21



This year's Advent cantata, "Candles and Carols" by Mark Hayes, is designed to support and enhance the entire Advent season at Trinity. Thus the Trinity Choir will present the first three movements during worship on the first three Sundays of Advent in conjunction with lighting the advent wreath, and then on the 4th Sunday, December 21, the

Choir and orchestra will present the entire cantata with narration. Don't miss this inspiring and insightful combination of glorious music and meaningful texts that are sure to add understanding to everyone's Advent journey.

One Service Only on this Sunday, December 21 and on December 28. 8:00 am worship will resume as usual on January 4.

PASTORAL LETTER

Are We There Yet?

Somewhere, usually around the half-way point of our summer car trips, either Sean or Amy would ask the magic question. “Are we there yet?” My response was, “Here, take the map and tell me where we are. You be the navigators.”

We are on a transitional journey. Our destination is to call a new pastor. I am giving YOU the map now so you can see where we are. There are several key intersections on this trip. Right now the session has a firm grip on the wheel, and pretty soon YOU, the congregation, will be in the driver’s seat. (I’ve got dibs on shotgun! J.) Here is the map, so you can see where we are, and what happens next. Steps that have been accomplished are ‘checked off’.

- √ 1. Minister announces intention to leave
 - √ 2. Commission on Ministry (COM) appoints a liaison to session.
 - √ 3. COM liaison or Presbytery representative meets with Session. An Interim Search Committee is appointed.
 - √ 4. COM exit interview with exiting pastor.
 - √ 5. Congregation meets on pastor’s last day in the pulpit to concur with dissolution of pastoral relationship.
 - √ 6. COM conducts exit interview with Session.
 - √ 7. Session hires Interim/Transitional Pastor with approval of COM.
 - √ 8. Interim/Transitional Pastor trains/engages Session.
 - 9. Session engages the congregation in a “Mission Study.”
 - 10. Session presents the congregation’s “Mission Study” to the COM for approval, and the COM grants the congregation permission to elect a Pastoral Search Committee (PNC).
 - 11. The congregation elects a PNC.
 - 12. The COM convenes the PNC for orientation and training.
 - 13. The PNC writes a resume for the church, a “Ministry Information Form (MIF).”
 - 14. COM approves the MIF, and grants the PNC permission to send in out and to begin considering pastoral candidates.
 - 15. The PNC selects a candidate, who preaches for the congregation prior to election by the congregation.
 - 16. Newly called pastor begins work.
 - 17. Newly called pastor is installed by the Presbytery.
- The PNC is dissolved and thanked.

In step 8 a lot has happened, so that the congregation can engage in a successful Mission Study. Step 9 is foundational for everything that follows. The effective work of the Pastor Nominating Committee hinges on the quality of the congregational mission study. Our mission study process will be contained in a congregation-wide event called “Memories, Hopes and Conversations”, on Sunday, February 15. On page 7 of this Vision you can read a description of this event.

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We are excited and confident that the results of our congregational discernment on February 15 will provide a solid foundation for an effective pastoral search. For the sake of the future of our church, we encourage all of you to participate in “Memories, Hopes and Conversations” on February 15.

Blessings,
Jerry

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Casual Christmas Eve

5:00 pm

An informal service led by our youth that includes a children's pageant, carols, readings and candles. *(please call 623-2579 for your child/grandchild to take part)*

Christmas Café

6:00 pm

Enjoy hot apple cider, cocoa, cookies, fellowship with friends old and new, and live Christmas music. Bring a plate of holiday goodies to share.

6:45 pm Carol Sing

Traditional Christmas Eve

7:00 pm Service

A candlelight service with a Christmas message, led by the pastors, the Trinity Choir and the Trinity Ringers.

Bring your family, friends and neighbors as we celebrate our Lord's birth on this holy night!



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Isaiah 40:1-11; *Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13*; II Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

Dec 14 - Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; *Psalm 126*; I Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

Dec 21 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

II Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Luke 1:46b-55 or *Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26*; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

Dec 24 - Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7; *Psalm 96*; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14

Dec 25 - Christmas Day Isaiah 52:7-10; *Psalm 98*; Hebrew 1:1-4; John 1:1-14

Dec 28 - Isaiah 61:10-62:3; *Psalm 148*; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40



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The programs take place in the sanctuary immediately following the 10:30 worship service and last around 20 minutes.

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– favorite songs of the season played on Trinity's grand piano by Lynn Moser.

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– featuring the inspiring sounds of the Kingfisher String Quartet.

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WORD OF LIFE

Our Bible Study class study is "**That You May Believe: The Gospel of John**". It's by Carol J. Miller. John's Gospel offers insights into the nature of Jesus and the meaning of faith. Come share your faith and explore the contrasts that John puts before us. We meet in the Upper Room East at 9:00.

THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION CLASS

This Sunday, December 7, we will have a front row seat for THE SALEM WITCH TRIALS at 9:00 am in the Upper Room W. Join Rev. Bill Voigt for this fascinating chapter in American history. Breakfast included!

THEOLOGY FOR TODAY

Our class is taking a break during the Advent Season so all can enjoy the special Advent Concerts which take place right after Worship Service. We will resume classes again on January 4, 2015. We will be using a DVD entitled *Embracing an Alternative Orthodoxy* for the first 5 weeks.

POLO

Parents of Little Ones is now at 9:00 am. on the third Sunday of the month (before worship instead of after). Parents with young children are welcome to join us!

GODLY PLAY

Godly Play is a worship-based learning program that invites exploration of core Biblical stories in an atmosphere of reverence, wonder and prayer.

NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS



January-May 2015

Matt Kreamer here with some exciting news. I will be starting a new Sunday School class in January for youth 4th grade through 8th grade. This class will last from the sermon to

11:30 am and will meet downstairs. We will discuss various New Testament stories and how they apply to our daily lives. I am very excited to start this new fellowship with the youth.

MERCIFUL HEAVENS – BABIES ABOUND!

Certainly you've noticed many new children in our congregation. You've gone to a baby shower or two, or you've heard an infant gurgle during the worship service. Or you've even had to be more observant in the Narthex, as a short person almost takes you out at the knees. We are experiencing a glorious explosion in the nursery!

Some of those little people that have been in the nursery for a few years are ready to move on as they develop their Christian faith. Children from 4 years old through about 9 years old will begin or continue to participate in Godly Play, a program that introduces them to Bible stories within a modified worship service.




And we have older children, basically 4th grade through 8th grade, that are ready to move on to more intensive Bible study with Matt Kreamer. Matt has been educating young students in the Tucson valley for many years, in the Amphitheater Public Schools and now in the Vail District. Although he excels in PE, he has an interest and background in Christian Youth Development.

Both groups of children will continue to attend the 10:30 worship service through the scripture readings, then will leave for their respective classes.

Our congregation needs to remember the promise we made when these children were baptized. We laughed softly as a toddler squirmed when a pastor splashed cool water on her forehead. But when the minister asked us, "Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture these children by word and deed, with love and prayer?"



Wednesday ~~Nite~~ *is* Alive! - December 2014

| Date | 5:00pm Bible Study {Library} | 6:00pm Meditation Service {Chapel} | 6:30pm Supper | 7:15pm Discussion Group {Upper Room-West} | 7:15pm Helping Hands (serving) {Fellowship Hall} |
|-------------|---|---|---------------------------|---|---|
| Dec 3 | Mark 1:1-8 <i>The Beginning of the Good News</i> <i>Bill Voigt</i> | Embracing God’s Future: <i>Do we believe God has a plan and purpose for us?</i> <i>Bill Voigt</i> | Supper in Fellowship Hall | Holiday Blues <i>Laura Benchik,</i> <i>Behavioral Health Specialist</i> | Sandwich-making for Casa Maria Soup Kitchen <i>Kathy Moser</i> |
| Dec 10 | John 1:6-8, 19-28 <i>Putting God first</i> <i>Jerry Foust</i> | Embracing God’s Future: <i>Are we open to the Spirit of God</i> <i>Jerry Foust</i> | | Christmas Around the World  <i>Bill Voigt and Lynn Moser</i> | Preparing Christmas cards for Trinity’s homebound & Christmas Fun Packs for the Diamond Children’s Center (UMC) <i>Kathy Moser</i> |
| Dec 17 | Luke 1:26-38 <i>What God does with yielded lives</i> <i>Jerry Foust</i> | Embracing God’s Future: <i>What is our sense of Call?</i> <i>Jerry Foust</i> | | NEIGHBORHOOD CHRISTMAS BLOCK PARTY (food, music, fellowship and fun projects for children and | |
| Dec 24 & 31 | <div></div> <div>CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY BREAK</div> <div></div> | | | | |

(Continued from page 4)

Will you encourage them to know, trust, and follow Christ, and to be faithful members of his church?" most of us answered gladly, "We do and we will." So now – find a way to act on that declaration. Right now parents are assisting our wonderful nursery attendant, DeDe, when we have lots of active toddlers. Could you volunteer one Sunday a month, so that those parents can be free to worship? Vade Henderson, Liz Barlow and Matt Kreamer are meeting the needs of the older children. Is there some way you could help them? Ask one of them and find out.

Let us rejoice in this new growth! And let's be ready to encourage a new generation of Christian disciples!



CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Through the Christmas Joy Offering, Presbyterian congregations have long expressed their compassion for others, especially for those who serve the Church. This Offering is received for the equal benefit of the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, which distributes financial assistance to eligible church workers and their families, and racial ethnic schools and colleges of the PC(USA).



Congregational News

LONG RANGE DEV. TEAM UPDATE

The Long Range Development Team is alive and well. It has been some time since my last report in the Vision, because the LRDT has been waiting for the Developers to procure a tenant(s) for the new building. With today's economic conditions, no one is going to build a building on "spec" and then hope to fill it with tenants.

The Developers are working hard to find companies that will move into the building. They are talking with Real Estate Brokers, people from the U of A, Fletcher McCusker from Rio Nuevo, Michael Keith from Downtown Tucson Partnership and Steve Rosenberg from Biz Tucson to get the project out in the public.

They are also talking with representatives from CESL on possible leasing options. This would be wonderful as CESL is currently leasing space in the Ed Wing.

During this search the Developers continue to meet with representatives from WUNA and the City, so that when a tenant is found they can begin the process to construct the building.

The LRDT continues to meet and review any updates the Developers bring to us. Our next meeting is scheduled for January 2015.



FELIZ NAVIDAD!

OUR SPECIAL CHRISTMAS CANTINA will be held on Sunday, December 6 at 11:50 am. in Fellowship Hall, following wor-

ship and the wonderful mini-concert in the Sanctuary. A delicious *Mexican lunch* will be served, along with lots of other festive activities. We will be making *one hundred sandwiches* for Casa Maria at one end of the room, while at another, the children will be working on a *Christmas craft* followed by the breaking of *piñatas*. About *50 socks* filled with toiletries will be put together for homeless shelters here in Tucson. Opportunities will be available to buy specific *gift items* for a village in Cameroon, a farm in Agua Prieta, and a children's center in Nogales, Sonora. If you follow the traditions of our brothers and sisters of Spain and Mexico, a long time ago, a procession called Las Posadas began. For nine nights, the expectant Mother Mary would ride on a burro from house to house with her husband Joseph, along with angels, shepherds and pilgrims. For each of nine nights, the procession would seek shelter and sing carols (villancicos) until finally, on the last night, the procession would arrive at their final destination,



which could be either a home or a church. Eventually the children would break star shaped piñatas, filled with candy, fruit and other goodies (who knows what might be packed in a piñata). The music of the season, originating from Mexico, will complete this truly fun and joyous NEW EVENT!!!



TRINITY BOOK CLUB

On December 29, the Trinity Book Club will meet in the library at 7:00 pm to discuss *Soldier Girls* by Helen Thorpe. Join us.



ANGELS PHOTO DISPLAY

"The angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people.'"
--Luke 2:9-10

Angels in art (statues, carvings, stained glass), Christmas decorations, cherubs, little "angels" in the Trinity Christmas Pageant, angels of mercy (people showing mercy---Red Cross, disaster, emergency, soup kitchen workers). Be sure to view the newest photo display in the narthex. Thanks to our Trinity photographers.

Congregational News

ORDER YOUR POINSETTIA

A cherished tradition at Trinity, poinsettias adorn the sanctuary and chapel and enrich our worship during Advent. The cost is \$10 each and you may order as many as you like.

Take your poinsettia(s) home following the Christmas Eve Worship or leave them to be distributed by the Deacons to members unable to attend. Order your poinsettias by calling the church office or using the enclosed order form.

The deadline to order is December 15.

PAULS' SOCKS

For a number of years, Paul Parker purchased the socks at the swap meet and Paul Smith purchased and collected the toiletry items that go in the sock. Eileen Scott furnished fruit (oranges or apples) and Leone Mohny furnished small candy canes. The socks were assembled as a part of the Advent Workshops on the first Sunday of Advent and delivered to homeless shelters. As the project grew into 600 pairs, it was decided to name it for the two Pauls who initiated it and carried it through for so many years. We will be filling the last 50 pairs of Pauls' socks with toiletries at the Christmas Cantina on December 6.

CHRISTMAS EVE FELLOWSHIP

Dust off your favorite Christmas cookie recipe and bring your cookies to this year's fellowship time on Christmas Eve. There will be cider, hot chocolate, sandwiches, and strolling minstrels to enliven our

holiday festivities. Meet in Fellowship Hall between the two Christmas Eve worship services.

Come with joy!



SAVE
THE
DATE!

February 15, 2015

*Memories, Hopes
and*

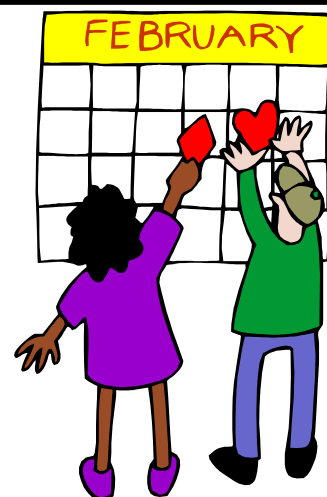
Conversations

**Your Opportunity to
Help Shape the Future
of Trinity Church!**

Sunday, February 15

10:30 am till 12:30 pm including worship.

Fellowship at 10:00 – Lunch at 12:30



February 15, 2015 will be an extraordinarily important day in the life of our congregation! It is the day that we will come together as the Body of Christ for a time of shared discernment and vision, using a proven and well-thought-out approach known as Appreciative Inquiry. In an atmosphere of appreciation to God and thankfulness for each other, everyone will have an opportunity to share their upbeat memories and to voice their creative hopes. As a result, relationships and energy build as a shared vision unfolds. The results of our conversations will then be used to guide the Pastor Search Committee and help the Session plan for the future.

All events of the morning, including worship, will center around Trinity Hall. Some of the conversation groups will meet in other rooms near Trinity Hall that are more conducive to being able to hear each other well.

In this pivotal time in the life of this part of God's Church called Trinity, your participation in this event is among the most important things that you can do for this congregation in this decade! The Session's goal is to have 100% participation of members, and anyone who is interested in the life of this congregation is highly encouraged to participate. **Please mark February 15 on your calendar** and look for an RSVP form in the January Vision!

SESSION NOTES

Session Notes for November 2014

The Trinity PC Session had a most productive stated meeting in November. The following are the highlights of actions and communications undertaken by Session:

- Learned about the emotional side of a congregation or a family from a power-point presentation by Jerry Foust. The source of this information is "The Eight Concepts of Bowen Theory" by Roberta Gilbert, MD.
- Removed 26 persons from Trinity's Inactive Roll. This leaves 25 persons on the Inactive Roll.
- Approved the appointment of Sheila Sievert to the counting team after the resignation of Jan Bond.
- Approved the dates for Communion in 2015.
- Approved not having an 8:00 AM service on December 21st because of the Cantata and December 28th because of the holiday week.
- Signed up for the annual potluck Christmas dinner with the Deacons on December 15, 2014 – a Monday evening. Our Deacons "rock" and the elders love to hear about their activities during the past year.
- Authorized the expenditure up to \$4,000 from Capital Maintenance Fund for new entrance doors east of the Narthex. Have you noticed that the current ones are falling apart?
- Approved contracting with the Food Bank of Southern Arizona to be a distribution site to give out The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) food bags during 2015. Volunteer needed in 2015!
- Approved Anne McConnell trading with Billie Holbrook to restore Billie as the chair of Christian Education committee. Thank you to Anne for being a wonderful chair for the past 11 months.
- Received a preview from Jerry about the upcoming December 6th Elder/Deacon Training from 9 to Noon.
- Learned that the records review on November 15th at Church of the Master in Mesa proved Trinity's records are in good and decent order.
- Praised the Nominating Committee for the completion of their work. Four congregants – Liz Barlow, Bill Goodhue, Elliott Koeppen and Jean-

nette Ryan – have agreed to serve on the 2015 Nominating Committee. These persons will be elected at the January Annual Congregational Meeting.

- Approved having a Congregational Discernment Event on Sunday, February 15, 2015 as a part of worship with a revised schedule of classes, fellowship time and lunch. The committee planning this event will be promoting the event and informing the congregation. Watch for details!
- Received reports from each committee that illustrate hard work and dedication.

Prayed for those in need of pastoral care and for discernment about God's leading. Session also prayed expressing gratitude for God's gifts for Trinity.

Janet D. Hooper, Clerk of Session

NEW ELDERS AND DEACONS

New ruling elders and deacons were elected in November. They will be trained in December, and will begin serving in February 2015. Thank you, friends, for your willingness to serve the church.

| | |
|-------------|--|
| ELDERS | (Class of 2015) Sheila Sievert |
| 1-year term | (Class of 2015) Daniel Seddo (Class of 2016) Matthew Creamer (Class of 2017) Billie Holbrook Bobbie Whipple Janet Jones Doug Holland Leone Mohny |
| DEACONS | (Class of 2016) Karen Wilkison, Holly Clark (Class of 2017) Rosalie Goll Ruth Myers Kathy Moser Sally Barlow-Miller Emalie Wilka |



Mission News



SANDWICH MAKING for the Casa Maria Soup Kitchen will be on the second Sunday, December 14. Please join us after worship to make 600 sandwiches for the homeless. Many thanks to all who help!



4TH AVE STREET FAIR

Look for sign-ups in the narthex to help with Cup of Water, the Deacons' Burger Stand, and Parking. What a way to serve God in the Heart of the City! Everyone pray for nice weather!

Just a reminder that we will be collecting non-perishable food items at the 4th Ave Street Fair Cup of Water table on December 12, 13, and 14.



TRINITY FOOD PANTRY

THANK YOU to all the people providing food items for our food pantry during the months of October and November. October's donations started out slowly but by the end of the month our congregants increased their donations and that continued through November. The **CHALLENGE** of food products pound for pound during the month of October totaled **157 lbs.** The church member who made the challenge will be meeting with me to work out the details for delivery of the food items. Your donations are greatly appreciated because this year the Community Food Bank will not be proving hams or turkeys. Our volunteers are putting together bags containing the food items you provided and these will be given to our clients along with the regular food box. To volunteer, contact me by calling the church at (520) 623-2579.

Alice Smedley, Community Ministries Coordinator



SUNDAYS
Just Coffee
in Fellowship Hall



Trinity had 27 walkers & many supporters. Donations to the walk include (cash) \$3967.96, (checks) \$12,185.66. (on line) \$2,640. The total to date for the walk is \$18,793.62.
Thanks Trinity (\$2,255)!

Many, many thanks to the Trinity CROP Walkers who walked the West University Route, the many more who contributed and sponsored them, as well as those who helped direct Walkers and provide refreshing drinks at our water station. These funds will be transformed into food for hungry families, help for refugees and assistance to the poor around the world who are working to develop self-sustaining livelihoods. It will also provide food here in Tucson through the Community Food Bank and Casa Maria Kitchen. We owe additional thanks to Eegee's for Party Paks, and to the UA Kappa Delta Chi service sorority for their assistance on the day of the Walk. By the way, it is not too late to contribute online (Tucson 2014 Crop Hunger Walk) or through a check made out to CWS/CROP. Thanks again to all!

CHRISTMAS CONNECTION

with the

PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE



For some years, we have been buying gifts for the Angel Tree Program. This year, 2014, launches a new connection between Trinity and the Pascua Yaqui Head Start program for children. We will be collecting donations for new shoes and warm/regular clothing for children in need. Be watching for this exciting opportunity.

Christ really is the reason for the season!

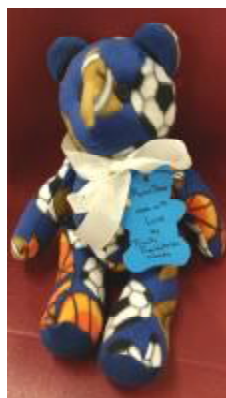


Trinity Women



RYAN'S BEARS

40 Ryan's Bears will be blessed at the 10:30 service on December 7. Then, they will be distributed to Primavera, Our Family Social Services and Arizona Children's Association Foster Children for their Christmas giving. Thank you to the many who participated in cutting, stitching and stuffing the bears.



Photos by Kathy Moser



AN EVENING WITH C. S. LEWIS

Friday, December 5 at 7:00 pm

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

7650 N. Paseo del Norte 297-7201

The year is 1963 and C. S. Lewis, the famous British author, is hosting a group of American writers at his home, just outside of Oxford. They have come to hear a man whose writings have already established him as one of the most influential authors of his day. An *Evening with C. S. Lewis* has proved to be an enthralling theatrical experience for many thousands who have attended its performances and is a fascinating and riveting insight into the life of a man whose collected works made him one of the literary giants of the 20th century. We are delighted to bring acclaimed actor, David Paine to St Andrew's for one performance that will thrill C.S. Lewis fans! Go to myflr.org and click on the "Events" tab for ticket information.



NEW YEARS EVE BRUNCH

Join Rev. Bill Voigt and the office staff for brunch in the church office on December 31 at 10 am. Lots of good cheer to end the year!

HOLIDAY BLUES HOTLINES

WORRY HOTLINE..... 1 PETER 5:7
FEAR HOTLINE..... ISAIAH 41:10
TEMPTATION HOTLINE. .1 CORINTHIANS 10:13
SICKNESS HOTLINE. JAMES 5:14
DEPRESSION HOTLINE. PSALM 34:18
LONELINESS HOTLINE . . DEUTERONOMY 31:8

LINE ARE OPEN 24/7



Trinity Website
www.trinitytucson.org

Email Addresses
office@trinitytucson.org



(Just in time for Christmas!)

ART SALE

Sunday, Dec. 7, 1:00-4:00 pm

Featuring original
oil paintings
and framed prints of
award-winning artist
Aggie Landel!



(all proceeds benefit Trinity
Presbyterian Church)

Also featuring authentic
American Indian Art

Also for sale are dozens of
gorgeous artistic photographs from
the Trinity Narthex

Photo Gallery archives.
(Sizes 8x10, 11x14 and 13x19)

Printed with professional
quality ink and photo paper.

(all proceeds benefit Trinity
Presbyterian Church)

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Noon on December 24th

December 25th

Noon on December 31