



TRINITY TIMES

DECEMBER 2018

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Trinity Episcopal Church
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Office Hours:
Wed.– Sat.
9 am –noon

The Reverend Heidi Truax
Rector

The Rev. John F. Carter
Missioner

Carol M. Taylor
Senior Warden

Pari Forood
Junior Warden

Allen Berrien
Clerk

Bev Becker
Treasurer

Martha Nesbitt
Assistant Treasurer

Christine Gevert
Organist/Choir Director

Terri Brennan
Youth Ministry

Geoff Brown
Verger

Melissa Adam, *Bookkeeper*
Jeff Silvernale, *Grounds*
Esperanza Nuñez, *Sexton*
Alexis Dorf, *Trinity Times*

FROM THE RECTOR'S DESK:



Welcome to Advent! We begin a new church year on Sunday, December 2 and can properly begin to be in the season of hopeful anticipation (and for some of us, anxious preparation.)

Right now as I sit and write this Advent message, I'm worried about getting the Christmas lights up on the tree here at Trinity for our Christmas Tree Lighting. I have no idea how this will get done, but as you read this, it's either been accomplished, or we've come up with an alternative plan. Jeff Silvernale has been working on this for us for weeks. Something will come together!

There are a lot of unknown things in our lives. We don't know what will happen with our parents, or our children, or our friends. Will everyone stay healthy in the coming year? We pray that it will be so. Will we have enough money for the year or decade ahead? Will our apartment or house need repairs that we can't foresee? Will the car keep working?

It makes one anxious just thinking about all these unknowns. But what we do know is that Trinity Church will still be here, God will still be caring for us, and we will still be loving and compassionate people in this season of Advent and in every season.



But there is spiritual work to do in the Season of Advent. G.K. Chesterton (Anglican author, artist and apologist)

once cynically said, **“Christianity is not an idea that has been tried and found wanting. It is an idea wanted, but never tried.”**

I don't think he would feel that way if he were a member of Trinity Church in Lime Rock! And yet, we are imperfect human beings, and we all too easily see the imperfections of people around us; people who claim to be Christians and yet do not love their neighbor as themselves, and do not love God with all their heart, all their soul, and all their mind.

What will Christ find working in us when the Holy One returns to the earth? God help us in this Season of Advent to cultivate an attitude of trust and quiet preparation for the celebration of the birth of Christ.

Blessings of the Season,

Pastor Heidi Truax

We wait for your loving kindness, dear and precious Lord, and we praise you for the time which you have given us to prepare for your coming. Help us to use that time wisely and well in our hearts, in our homes, in our communities, and in our world. Come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen.

-The Rev. Peter Gomes

JUMPSTARTING ADVENT!

Although Advent does not officially start until Dec. 2, Trinity is giving it a jumpstart on **Saturday, Dec. 1!**



From **2-6 PM** we will have the **Trinity Bazaar and Bake Sale**—a great place to stock up with artisanal gifts for Christmas and to stockpile your freezer with delectable cookies, pies, cakes, candy and other delights. And don't forget to buy a ticket or more for a chance to win an extraordinary **Gift Basket!**



The Chili Dinner (with cornbread and salad!) will be open from **4-6 PM**. Chef Tom Schindler and the kitchen elves will be preparing bowls of a variety of chili recipes—pick your fave and eat up!



Need a wreath for the front door, back door, garage door, barn door or the grill of your car? Our wreath elves can help you choose the exact right one!

At **5 PM** We will be lighting the **Lime Rock Christmas tree** and singing carols, led by Christine and the choir. Too cold for you? How about some hot chocolate to warm you up?



PRESTO CHANGE-O!

2018 is one of those years where we move from the Fourth Sunday of Advent to the Christmas Season in a snap of the fingers! (well, almost...)

On Sunday, Dec. 23, immediately following the 10:30 service (and pageant!) grab a cup of coffee and couple of cookies and “make haste” (just like the Magi!) into the church!

We’ll be moving from the purple of Advent to the white of the Christmas season, from the greens on the altar to poinsettias all around, candles in the windows and pews, and the unpacking of the Christmas crèche. Many hands make light work as we transform our church to welcome the Christ child on the morrow.

The Altar Guild will have newly polished candle sticks and vessels to place, and the Flower Committee will need help with the pine garlands on the pews— and *you* are just the person to help them!



MEMORIAL FLOWERS

At Christmas and Easter we decorate our church with flowers far beyond the altar!

If you would like to honor friends and family members who have passed, please write -LEGIBLY!! -their names on



the Flower Chart in the Guild Room. If your handwriting is the proverbial chicken scratch, email the names (along with yours!) to Pastor Heidi no later than

Wednesday, Dec. 19. (One of the aforementioned “anxieties” in the office at Christmas is that the copier will go on strike just as we are ready to run off 4 different sets of bulletins!)

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Logistics this year, along with family vacations and other activities, have dictated that the **Annual Pageant** will take place on Sunday, **Dec. 23** at the 10:30 service. Rehearsal will be **Saturday the 22nd** at 11:00 AM.

If a young person—or you yourself! - would like to participate this year, please notify Terri Brennan or Geoff Brown ASAP. Trinity has held pageants since 1942!



Photo : Geoff Brown

Christmas at Trinity

This year's Christmas Service schedules are slightly different from past years' practice. With the earlier Christmas prelude, those who attend either service may enjoy the special music our choir will be offering to celebrate the season!

Monday, Dec. 24

3:00 PM Family Service with homily and Holy Eucharist

3:45 PM Christmas Service Prelude:
Purcell's "Te Deum & Jubilate"

4:00 Festive Christmas Eve Service with Holy Eucharist

7:00 PM Misa de Nochebuena

Tuesday, Dec. 25

10:00 AM A Quiet (!!) Christmas morning service

Saturday, Dec. 29

3:00 PM Crescendo Holiday Concert
"Love Sublime"

Sunday, Dec. 30

No 8:00 AM Service

10:30 Lessons and Carols



ANNUAL GIVING UPDATE

As of the end of November, parishioners have pledged a total of over \$120,000 towards Trinity's Mission and Ministry in 2019. That's a great start!

If you have not yet returned your pledge card, please do so as soon as possible so our Vestry can determine what financial support will be available this coming year as we offer *Companionship Along the Way*.

Lost your card? We have more! Or email alexisdorf@sbcglobal.net to have your email serve as your pledge.

New this year!

You may now donate to Trinity on line!

The First step is to download the app from Google Play (Android phones) or from the App Store (for iPhones). Simply search for "GivePlus Church" to find the app. Once the app opens, look for "Trinity Lime Rock".

Then, follow the prompts to establish an account. We have options available for different "buckets" that you may choose for your gift, such as flower donations, music program, outreach, youth, capital improvements.

If you choose to donate with your app during the Sunday service, cards saying "I donated on line" will be available to put in the alms basin.



Are you one of the gazillions of shoppers who use Amazon? If so, please consider using Amazon Smile and selecting Trinity Church as the beneficiary. Trinity thus gets “free money” (always the best kind!) in our checking account which then goes into supporting our parish. What a great deal!

SECRET SANTA 2018

Most years Trinity’s Christmas Outreach Ministry provides Secret Santa gifts to local school children.

This year the committee has elected to help a family in Amenia - parents and four children - restart their lives after a disastrous fire at their residence.

We will be collecting gift cards for local stores as well as household items after the family determines what items are needed. Gift cards may be given to Alexis, who will pass them on to Padre Juan Carter to deliver them. Checks made out to **Vecinos Seguros** are also welcomed.

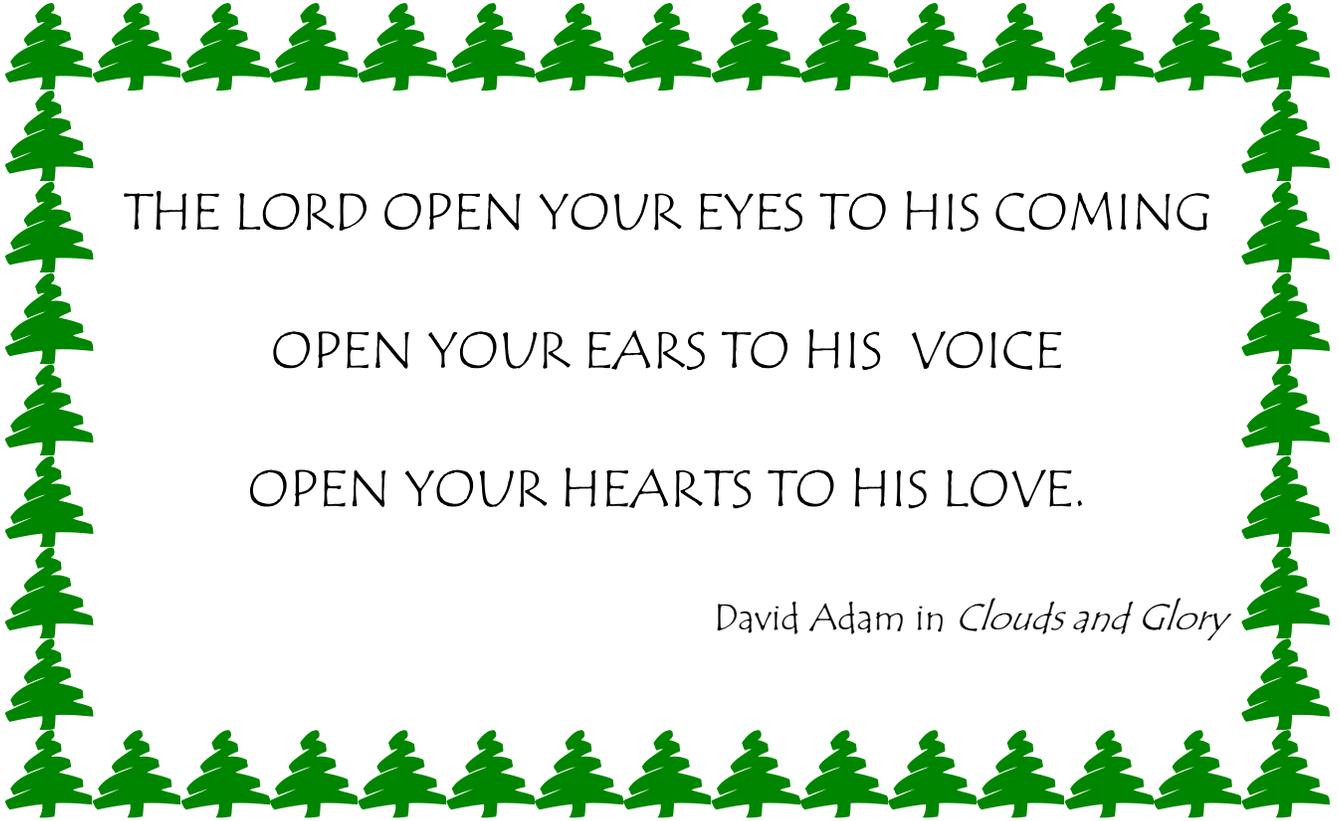
Although we cannot directly help victims of the California fires, we **can** help the this particular family, and as followers of the teachings of Rabbi Jesus, it is our call and our privilege to do so.

“For what you have done for the least of my brothers and sisters, you have done for me.” Matt. 25:40

THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people,
to make music in the heart.

Howard Thurman (1899-1981) was an African-American theologian, educator, and civil rights leader.



THE LORD OPEN YOUR EYES TO HIS COMING

OPEN YOUR EARS TO HIS VOICE

OPEN YOUR HEARTS TO HIS LOVE.

David Adam in *Clouds and Glory*

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Address correction requested

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