



# Trinity Tidings

# December 2024



## Holiday Decorating

All are invited to join together for the decorating of the church for the Christmas season on Sunday, December 15, immediately following the 10:30 service!

### **Please note:**

We will decorate with the flowers, the potted poinsettias and arrangements, on the following Sunday, December 22.

## ***Important dates in December***

### **Sundays during December:**

8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rt. I;  
10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rt. II.

### **Tuesday, Dec. 24:**

*Eve of the Nativity: Christmas Eve*  
5:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rt. II.

### **TECW Holiday Coffee:**

Saturday, Dec. 7, at 9:45 a.m.

### **Vestry Meeting:**

Tuesday, Dec. 17, at 5:30 p.m.

We will begin a new Church Year on the First Sunday of December, along with the start of Lectionary Year C. The season of Advent welcomes us into a new journey. Derived from the Latin word “to come to” Advent is a time for our preparation and anticipation.

Throughout the centuries this season marks the time for us to be “on watch”, as we set our hearts and minds for Christ’s second coming, as we celebrate and give our thanks for our Lord’s first coming at Christmas.

During this time, the use of the liturgical color Sarum blue (or violet) reminds us that this is a period of repentance, forgiveness, and hope so that we may clean house spiritually and prepare to receive Christ as our guest.

The start of this new liturgical year also offers us the opportunity of new beginnings, as individuals and as a parish family. I invite you to take part in the various opportunities offered for parish gatherings together.

During the next few weeks of this season, may we open ourselves up to receive the Spirit of God to direct our minds and hearts – with joyous expectation - as we recall the event of the Incarnation and look forward to that time when Christ will usher in the life of the world to come.

--- Peace, James+

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## Trinity Episcopal Church Vestry Minutes

October 15, 2024

### As approved at the November Meeting

**Present:** Sally Ludlum, Warden; Jake Wilkins; Jenn Wilkins; Melisa Eichmann; Cathy Berner; Ann Sullivan; Virginia Becker, Treasurer; The Reverend James Clement, Rector.

**Excused:**

**Call to Order:** Fr. Clement called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

**Meeting Agenda:** Agenda approved with a motion made by Cathy Berner, seconded by Melissa Eichmann.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Jake Wilkins, seconded by Cathy Berner to approve the September 17, 2024 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

### Committee Reports: Finance / Building and Grounds:

**Finance:** Report prepared by Ginny Becker and presented. Ann Sullivan made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, which was seconded by Melisa Eichmann. Motion carried.

- **General Fund:** All regular monthly bills were paid along with Forward Movement, the Village of Fredonia for water/sewer and building inspection, Amherst Exterminators, and the quarterly Church Insurance.
- **Building Fund:** The balance at the end of September was \$5,611.54.
- **Memorial Fund:** The balance remains \$3,072.28.
- **Music Fund:** The September cash balance was \$461.37.

**Buildings & Grounds:** Fr. Clement reported.

- Bought a replacement filter for the dehumidifier.
- The choir room piano was tuned.
- Gugino Heating and Plumbing will service the furnace soon, as the unit is shut down. It is hoped that this work will allow some time

before extensive work, as discussed at previous meetings, will be conducted.

### Congregational Ministries

**Flower Guild:** Melisa Eichmann reported.

- **Current balance:** \$636.62. The Fresh & Fancy Florist bill was \$360, reducing the balance of the fund to \$276.62. However, an additional \$60 was recently deposited.

**Rector's Report:** Fr. Clement reported.

- We welcome a community knitting group which will begin meeting at the parish, possibly in November. They will meet each week on Thursday mornings, 9:15 until 11:30. The greater community is invited to join with them. The knitting group is well known in the community and they have been in operation for several years, working on their own projects and also items for donation.
- The final grant award check was received for parish The College Kitchen project.
- Attended the recent diocesan convention with the parish delegates: Jenn Wilkins, Jake Wilkins, and Lisa Sedlmayer. A fact sheet was presented to vestry, which shows preliminary results from the on-going evaluation of The Partnership diocese. The final report will be presented to the Standings Committees of each diocese early next year, followed by a special convention to be called in May.
- Thank you to Tonya Piede who recently filled-in a few times as organist for Sunday worship.
- Sad to report the death of parishioner, Robbie Mancuso, after long illness. The funeral is scheduled for October 19.
- Several transfers into the parish have recently been made received.
- Fr. Clement will take vacation time in November. A service of Morning Prayer will be held on Sundays, November 17 and 24, officiated by the Warden.

### **Old Business**

- The Autumn Harvest Potluck Sign-up form is available on the bulletin board.
- We've enjoyed fellowship with the college students during coffee hour, and for their involvement in the life of the parish.

## New Business

- Stewardship Committee: Ginny Becker reminded vestry that now is the time to form this committee. Vestry approves of Jenn Wilkins and Melisa Eichmann with the task of helping her with this important stewardship process. A proposed budget for next year will need to be presented to vestry at its December meeting.
- It was noted that Jinny Kopp has expressed interest in hosting a gathering to play dominoes at the church during the week. More information forthcoming.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:43p.m. with a motion made by Jake Wilkins, seconded by Cathy Berner. Carried.

Vestry concluded its time together with prayer. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 19 @ 5:30pm (A Zoom link will be sent for those persons who will be out-of-town).

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Jennifer Wilkins, Clerk.

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## Parish Notes



### Christmas Flowers

The sign-up form for Poinsettias and various Floral arrangements for the Christmas season is located in Garland Hall.

Potted Poinsettia plants are \$10.00 each. The deadline to reserve flowers and for payment is Sunday, Dec. 1. Please contact Melisa Eichmann if you have any questions.

### Annual Parish Meeting

The annual parish meeting will take place next month immediately following our 10:30 a.m. Sunday worship service. More information will be provided in the January newsletter.

Committee reports are due in to the office by Sunday, Jan. 12.

## Honduras Health Horizons

### Mission Trip



Dear Parish Community,

In Honduras, a person's access to healthcare is often determined by two critical factors: financial resources and proximity to urban centers. The unfortunate reality is that those with means receive care, while those without are left to suffer without options. The country's lack of basic infrastructure—like paved roads—makes it even harder for rural communities to access the care they desperately need.

One of the initiatives we've undertaken to help address this gap is supporting expectant mothers in these underserved areas. Through pregnancy screenings, the donation of prenatal vitamins, and providing essential baby supplies like clothes and diaper rash ointment, we aim to make a tangible difference in the lives of mothers and their newborns.

In 2023, I had the privilege of traveling to Honduras with faculty member Dr. Ted Lee, a group of pre-health students from SUNY Fredonia, and a dedicated medical team to provide primary care in remote villages. My time there remains one of the most cherished experiences of my nursing career. We worked alongside American and Honduran physicians, pharmacists, nurses, and interpreters to provide care to over 500 people in need. While our resources were limited, the beauty of the work was undeniable: when a patient came to the clinic with a problem, and we had a solution, they walked away with that solution—no insurance red tape, no financial barriers, just care. This is what makes nursing so profoundly rewarding.

In a little under two months, I'll be returning to Honduras with another group, and I am reaching out to ask for your support. I serve on the board of Honduras Health Horizons (H3), the organization that coordinates these missions. H3 relies heavily on donations to fund medication, medical supplies, and scholarships for students in our program. Without donations, the students pay out of pocket to attend, which is often not feasible.

If you would like to help, we are accepting donations of the following items for our maternity kits for expectant mothers:

- Unisex baby clothes (neutral colors preferred for easier distribution)
- Picture books, especially those that tie colors, animals, and objects to their written word (Spanish language preferred)
- Cloth diapers, plastic pants, diaper pins, onesies, socks, sun hats, bibs, and receiving blankets
- Non-battery-operated toys
- Lightweight tote bags (as these are more practical and less bulky than diaper bags)

Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated and will go directly to purchasing essential medical supplies and medications for the mission.

Thank you so much for considering a donation. Your generosity will directly impact the lives of those who need it most. Together, we can help bring hope and healing to the people of Honduras. A collection box will be placed in the foyer of Garland Hall until **December 22nd, 2024**.

With deep gratitude,  
 Jake,  
 Nurse and Board Member,  
 Honduras Health Horizons.



## TECW

All Trinity Episcopal Women  
 are invited to our Annual Holiday Coffee  
Saturday, December 7, 2024  
Garland Hall 9:45 AM

Please bring your Christmas Stocking  
 Savings containers with you if complete.

### THANK YOU - THANK YOU

To all of you who donated items or money to this year's Thanksgiving Baskets for the Rural Ministry.

With your generous support we donated :

- 20 turkeys
- 30 cans veggies
- 12 cans fruit
- 12 boxes stuffing
- 7 graham cracker crusts and pudding fillings
- 8 complete pumpkin pie, crust, milk
- 6 fruit pie fillings and crust mix
- 4 boxes instant potatoes
- 24 lbs sweet potatoes
- 55 lbs white potatoes
- 5 bags cranberries
- 19 cans cranberry
- 10 gravy
- 5 bottles juice
- 9 large boxes jello
- 1 complete cake mix
- 1 box brownie mix

They were most grateful as their need is ever increasing.



## **Birthdays in December**

- 15 Laurie Weatherlow
- 15 Tyler Roberts
- 20 Jeff Kennedy
- 24 Carol Johnson
- 27 Bill Roberts
- 30 Marilyn Maytum

## **Wedding Anniversaries**

(None)

## **In Memoriam**

- 6 Clara Wallace
- 19 Clint Kennedy
- 24 Alfred, Nellie, and Audrey Turner

## **Trinity Tidings**

### **Trinity Episcopal Church**

11 Day Street; P.O. Box 467  
Fredonia, NY 14063  
[www.trinitychurchwny.org](http://www.trinitychurchwny.org)

### **Parish Clergy and Staff**

The Revd. James Clement, Rector  
[rector@trinitychurchwny.org](mailto:rector@trinitychurchwny.org)  
Donald Fellows, *Organist*  
Sara Jagoda, *Custodian*

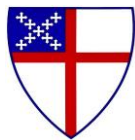
### **The Vestry of the Parish**

Sally Ludlum, Warden  
Jake Wilkins  
Melisa Eichmann  
Jenn Wilkins  
Ann Sullivan  
Cathy Berner  
Virginia Becker, Treasurer



Trinity Episcopal Church  
11 Day Street; P.O. Box 467  
Fredonia, New York 14063

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*The newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church*

*“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ”  
Ephesians 1:2*