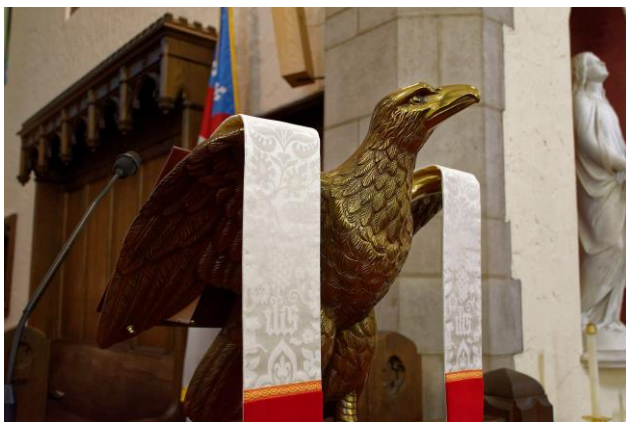




# Trinity Tidings

# January 2025

## Parish Meeting: January 26, 2024



### *Important dates in January:*

#### **Sundays:**

8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rt. I.  
1030 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rt. II.

**Vestry Meeting:** Tuesday, Jan. 21, at 5:30 p.m.

**Parish Meeting and Luncheon:** Sunday, Jan 26.  
**No 8 o'clock service is scheduled.**

### **Greetings to Everyone, and Merry Christmas!**

**Our annual parish meeting** is scheduled for Sunday, January 26, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service. There is no 8 o'clock service scheduled on this date. Committee reports are due to the office by Sunday, Jan. 12. Thank you!

**A Potluck Luncheon** will also take place during our annual meeting. Everyone is invited to bring their favorite dish to share! A sign-up form will be posted in Garland Hall. Please note what you will bring to the luncheon, as well as number of persons attending with you.

**Holiday Wishes:** A big Thank You to everyone (including the SUNY students) who helped decorate the church for the Christmas season on Sunday, Dec. 15. And for those who helped with flowers the following Sunday! Our Christmas Eve service was wonderful. May everyone have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

*Peace during this season,  
James+*

### **Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe's Christmas Message**

Posted: December 23, 2024  
[www.episcopalnewsservice.org](http://www.episcopalnewsservice.org)

Dear People of God in The Episcopal Church:  
Among the Christmas Gospels, Luke is surely the crowd pleaser. Nearly our entire visual vocabulary of Christmas—the manger, the shepherds, the angels—comes from the second chapter of Luke. Thanks to Luke, we all know the answer to the trivia question, “Who was Quirinius?”

But if you go to church on Christmas morning, or if your congregation's custom is to read a last Gospel on Christmas Eve, you will hear the beginning of [the Gospel of John](#), which includes other words we all know: “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us...” Christmas does not truly begin for me until I hear those words.

While Luke paints us a picture of a noisy and chaotic birth, in John we encounter the powerfully quiet mystery of the Incarnation. John brings us the astonishing truth that God lived among us as a person, “full of grace and truth,” ready to share the pain and sorrow of being human.

Especially this year, our hurting and divided world is desperate for the Incarnation. We live, as have many generations before us, in a time of fear, division, and instability. The Enemy has turned us against one another, sometimes in our own families and communities. The land of Jesus’ birth is torn apart by violence and tremendous suffering, and across the globe, we have hardened our hearts against the strangers among us. All too often, we hear voices that claim the mantle of Christianity calling most loudly for exclusion and conquest.

As Episcopalians, we must resist the urge to retreat from this broken world. Instead, we have been called to model our life together on a different vision of God’s kingdom. Contrary to the world’s expectations, we have bound ourselves together in a global community, following the Risen Christ together despite our differences. We know that death, suffering, and enmity are not the last word, and we proclaim it every time we gather at God’s table.

At Christmas, we can make our unity a witness to the world. Every day, in congregations and communities across our church, you are feeding the hungry, binding up the brokenhearted, caring for the vulnerable, and transforming lives through the power of the gospel. We can also proclaim God’s presence by giving to our church’s historic ministries that are working to alleviate suffering at home and abroad:

- [Episcopal Migration Ministries](#), which is working to resettle refugees and create welcoming communities for migrants in the face of fear.
- [American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem](#), which brings hope and healing to vulnerable families across the Holy Land.
- [Episcopal Relief & Development](#), which advances lasting change in communities affected by injustice, poverty, disaster, and climate change.

Most of all, we can commit our lives to creating a world that is more just and more loving, in which the grace and truth that came down to us at Christmas is kindled all year long. Especially this year, as we begin our ministry together, I am grateful to be working toward this vision with you.

May God bless you and all those you love this Christmas and always.

The Rt. Rev. Sean W. Rowe  
Presiding Bishop

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Trinity Episcopal Church  
Vestry Minutes  
November 19, 2024

**As approved at the December Meeting**

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

**Call to Order:** Fr. Clement called the meeting to order at 5:36p.m.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Jenn Wilkins, seconded by Jake Wilkins to approve the October 15, 2024 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

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

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

- General Fund: All regular monthly bills were paid as well as piano tuning invoice.
- Building Fund: The balance at the end of October was \$5,611.64.
- Memorial Fund: The balance remains \$3,072.28.
- Music Fund: The cash balance at the end of October was \$711.36.

**Buildings & Ground:** reported by Fr. Clement.

- Gugino recently serviced the furnace. This work, however, will only provide some time before more extensive work is anticipated in the future. We are hopeful that the furnace will continue to function fully throughout the winter months.

**Congregational Ministries:**

Flower Guild: Melisa Eichmann reported.

- Two invoices were received from Fresh-&-Fancy Florists (for \$180 and \$60), which were recently paid. A deposit of \$160 was made. Current balance is: \$256.62.

Outreach:

- The December Outreach will be in support of maternity kits for expectant mothers in Honduras, in preparation for Jake Wilkins medical brigade in January 2025. Items can be dropped off in Garland Hall, or donations submitted before the Christmas Eve service. Honduras Health Horizons (H3) is the non-profit organization collecting funds and organizing items for transportation to Honduras.
- TECW - Please submit your Christmas Stocking Savings containers at the next meeting, scheduled for December 7 at 9:45am.

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

- Fr. Clement reported the death of longtime parishioner and former vestry member, Judy Reynolds. As he is out of town, he has contacted persons to act as service participants for the funeral service. Fr. Robert Arnold will officiate. Certain vestry persons will prepare the church building for that day, once the service is scheduled.
- The Knitting Group has begun meeting together in Garland Hall.
- Persons are asked to submit parish newsletter articles by the end of day, Nov. 23.

**Old Business**

- Further conversation was held by vestry with regard to the elevator lift.

**New Business**

- The decorating of the church for the Christmas season will take place on Sunday, Dec. 15, immediately following the 10:30 service. The flowers for the season –

poinsettias and arrangements – will be placed after the 10:30 service the following Sunday, Dec. 22. The congregation and our guests are invited to join together for these events as we prepare for the season.

- The Sunshine Committee – Doreen Gould offered to update the list, and redistribute. This group is activated by request of the parishioner or family member to provide greeting cards and support of meals delivered.
- Conversation was held about upcoming needed snow removal and contract with Roger Gloss. Melisa Eichmann mentioned recently visiting with Rick Mekus, who continues to provide our lawn care and mowing free of charge.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:23 p.m. with a motion made by Cathy Berner, seconded by Melisa Eichmann. Carried. Vestry concluded its time together with prayer. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 17 @ 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Jennifer Wilkins

**A Message from the Treasurer**

**Final 2024 Giving Statements**

Thank you for your pledges and faithful giving! Fourth quarter statements will go out in early January. If you are behind in your pledge and able to, now is a good time to catch up to help with the cash flow needed to meet financial obligations.

2025 Pledge Confirmation Cards will accompany the final 2024 statement. Please note your **new** pledge number and place it on your check when submitting.

If you haven't taken the opportunity to pledge for 2025, it's not too late. Pledge cards are located in Garland Hall and the narthex.

Feel free to contact the treasurer with any questions. Be well, parish family, and have a Happy, Healthy New Year!

## Parish Register

### Burial

Judith T. Reynolds  
November 20, 2024

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## **Lectionary Readings for Sundays in January:** [www.lectionarypage.net](http://www.lectionarypage.net)

### Sunday, Jan. 5

*The Epiphany*

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Ephesians 3:1-12

Matthew 2:1-12

### Sunday, Jan. 12

*First Sunday after the Epiphany:*

*The Baptism of Our Lord*

Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalm 29

Acts 8:14-17

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

### Sunday, Jan. 19

*Second Sunday after the Epiphany*

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm 36:5-10

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

John 2:1-11

### Sunday, Jan. 26

*Third Sunday after the Epiphany*

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21

## **Birthdays in January**

- 1 Patricia Arnold
- 2 Diego Rey
- 5 Melisa Eichmann
- 5 Bryon Rexford
- 5 Chloe Chin
- 6 Andrew Liener
- 6 Kaylee Adamczak
- 17 Diane Sercu
- 17 Jacqueline Branch
- 18 Tessa Chin
- 20 John Berner
- 21 Ginny Becker

## **Wedding Anniversaries**

(None in January)

## **In Memoriam**

- 9 David Vercant
- 21 Sam Mancuso
- 29 Patricia Wheelock

### Trinity Tidings

#### **Trinity Episcopal Church**

11 Day Street; P.O. Box 467

Fredonia, NY 14063

Office: 716-679-7901

Website: [www.trinitychurchwny.org](http://www.trinitychurchwny.org)

#### **Parish Clergy and Staff**

The Revd. James Clement, Rector

Donald Fellows, Organist

Sara Jagoda, Custodian

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

Sally Ludlum, Warden

Jenn Wilkins

Ann Sullivan

Jake Wilkins

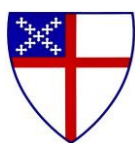
Melisa Eichmann

Cathy Berner

Virginia Becker, Treasurer

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Fredonia, New York 14063

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# *Trinity Tidings*



*The newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church*

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