



# *Trinity Presbyterian*



## *Church*

Volume 68 No. 1

February 2025

Lord, the flow of time has brought us to winter's imposed rest.  
The days are short. Our activity less. Our energy a bit low.

Forgive us when we resent this season  
as just a time to be endured until the coming of spring.

By grace, help us to know that the seeds  
of winter hold summer hay.

There can be no progression in nature,  
nor in our lives, without releasing  
the past with all its memories,  
and giving in to the truth of naked tree limbs  
cleansed by winter's storms.

In prayer, we give ourselves to You, O Christ Jesus.  
By Your mercy, make us as clean and  
as fresh as new-fallen snow.

In Your precious name, we pray. Amen

Prayer of Confession, January 26, 2025

# Gather

## *February Sundays*

### February Monthly Mission Cause—Habitat for Humanity

- February 2~** **Scripture Lesson:** 1 Corinthians 12:1-13; Luke 4:21-30  
Joe Ross preaching the sermon “The Problem with Hometowns”  
Church School and Music Enrichment ~ 10:30am  
Garage Sale Containers Open ~ 10:45am - 12pm
- February 9~** **Communion Sunday**  
**Scripture Lesson:** Luke 5:1-11  
David Aber preaching the sermon “Are We in Agreement?”  
Church School and Music Enrichment ~ 10:30am
- February 16 ~** **Scripture Lesson:** Psalm 1; Luke 6:17-26  
David Aber preaching the sermon “Holiness is a Learned Behavior”  
Church School and Music Enrichment ~ 10:30am
- February 23 ~** **Scripture Lesson:** Luke 6:27-38  
David Aber preaching the sermon “Love Your Enemies! Really?”  
Church School and Music Enrichment ~ 10:30am

## *Celebration of the Lord's Supper in 2025*

**February 9** (date changed from February 2)

**March 5** Ash Wednesday

**March 9** First Sunday in Lent

**April 17** Maundy Thursday

**May 4**

**June 8** Pentecost, with Healing and Wholeness

**August 10**

**October 5** World Communion Sunday, with Healing and Wholeness

**November 2**

**November 30** First Sunday of Advent

**January 4, 2026** First Sunday of New Year with Healing and Wholeness

# Gather

## *PNC Nominating Committee Selected*

With the strong support of Session, the nominating team of Wendy Barba, Kristin Buckmaster, Sue Crump, Paula Henderson, Joyce Hutchison, Betsy Struck and Amy Vitsorek, has recommended a slate of seven members who will represent and serve Trinity well as you search for your next called pastor.

On January 26, at the Special Congregational Meeting, the congregation elected the PNC and now we await the endorsement of New Castle Presbytery. When the endorsement is given, these seven good people will become your Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).

The seven people selected are: **John Balaguer, Leslie Connor, Deanna Dudash, Lee Lewis, Julie Monaghan, Carol Shumway and Debra Waltemyer.**

Thank you to the Nominating Team for their dedication and diligence in selecting the candidates, and to everyone who expressed an interest in serving on the PNC.

Begin praying for the PNC. Pray for those clergy asking God for clarity in their own search for a next call. Pray for the Session, the staff and for me, your Interim Pastor, as we prepare Trinity for the next chapter in your history.

Pastor David Aber

## *Child Protection Training*

As Trinity welcomes children and youth to classes, fellowship and service events, it is also our responsibility to protect them.

In accordance with the Session's Child Protection Policy, there will be a Training Workshop on **Saturday, February 15** from 9:30-12:30 in the Fellowship Hall for all Trinity staff and volunteers responsible for children and youth in Sunday Church school classes, Vacation Bible School, Mission Possible Kids, Youth Fellowship, at ASP, in the Nursery, for Music activities, and as Summer Youth Conference chaperones and Confirmation Mentors.

Current staff and volunteers have received information about attending the workshop. If you are currently working with children or youth and did not receive this information or if you are looking for opportunities to help in the future in our faith formation programs, please contact Penny Lindell (penny.lindell917@gmail.com).

If you received the information and have not yet returned the response form, please do so right away. Thank you.

# Gather

## *Unto Us a Child is Born!*

Thanks to the generosity of many Trinity members and friends, dozens of diapers, cans of formula, pouches and jars of baby food, boxes of baby cereal, and baby wipes, lotions, shampoos and powder were delivered to the Claymont Food Closet following our baby supply collection.

Special thanks to Kristin Buckmaster, Rad MacFarlane, Mary McDowell and Peg Maguire for their help in organizing, supplying and delivering these gifts to make this winter a little easier for parents and their babies in our Claymont neighborhoods.

The Food Closet welcomes donations of these items all year long, especially diapers and formula. Any donations can be placed on the roll-around cart along with the normal non-perishable items.

## *Christmas Caroling 2024*

December 15 was a chilly but lovely afternoon as 31 children, youth and adults visited six special members of Trinity's family: Joyce and Don Hutchison, who bundled up to sit on their front porch; Billie Carver and her roommate at Foulk Living; Harry Grandel and Marilyn Shaw (and a few aides) who sat together in the Harbor Chase lobby; Joan Gerow and another resident visiting her at Sunrise; and Lucy and David Ganfield on their condo patio!

They all joined in to sing along to favorites like "Silent Night" and "Jingle Bells" and smiled broadly as the group sang, "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" and presented a plate of delicious Christmas cookies.

This annual event is always meaningful and memorable for all who participate. Thanks to all who caroled, to those who welcomed us into their homes, and to those who provided the cookies!

**The 2024 Carolers included :** Pastor David and Gwen Aber; Leslie Connor; Gail Williams; Amy and Maggie Vitsorek; Kay, Harley and Quinn Bowes; Katie, Nathan and Wade Oliver; Chris, Jenna, Ollie and Wynnie Theibault-Dean; Diane, Mike, Beau and Rosa DellaVella; John Smrz; Shannon and Maggie McConnell; Sara, Ellis and Evelyn Ross; Penny Lindell; Mary McDowell; and VBS friends Kim, Jason and Carmella.



# Gather

## *Vacation Bible School*

Mark you calendars for Vacation Bible School (VBS). **July 21 - 25, 2025 from 6pm to 8pm.**

This summer we will embark on an exciting journey with **Road Trip VBS!** Stay tuned for more details.

VBS is for children age 3 to those entering 5th grade. We also need lots of adult and teen volunteers for this fun-filled week. Contact Amy Vitsorek for more information at [jitterbugsmusic@verizon.net](mailto:jitterbugsmusic@verizon.net)

## *Mission Possible Kids*

In December, the Mission Possible Kids (MPK) shopped and purchased Christmas gifts for seven children in need from the Kuumba Academy Charter School.

The MPK also joined in on Trinity's annual caroling event to special members of our congregation.

In January, handmade cards were created to be mailed to Trinity members for Valentines Day.

## *Youth Fellowship*

On December 20th, the middle and high school-aged youth met for a fun-filled Christmas activity. We watched a movie, decorated Christmas cookies and played "Jeopardy!" along with some fun holiday-related games.

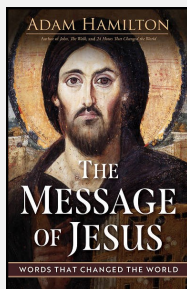


# Grow

## Covenant Group

Covenant Group will continue to meet on **Tuesdays at 12pm in the Fellowship Hall.** The study will be the DVD series “**The Message of Jesus.**”

**How many of us actually know what Jesus taught?** Much of what people think Jesus taught, he never said. In this DVD series, pastor and best-selling author Adam Hamilton explores six of the most important themes in Jesus's teachings, why they matter, and how they speak to us today.



Join Covenant Group at 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall on February 4, 11, 18 and 25.

**You are welcome to join even if you cannot attend every Tuesday.**

## NCP Guatemala Partnership

In December, many Trinity members donated to the NCP Guatemala Chicken Project.

The promotion throughout the presbytery was a huge success, and as a result the Partnership raised funds for 1,800 chickens! This means that 90 indigenous women will each receive a set of 20 chicks, and the feed and training to get started. To read more about this successful campaign follow this link:

<https://mailchi.mp/82ed50511b3c/counting-our-chickens-2024>

## Circles

**Rebecca Circle** will meet on Wednesday, February 12 at 11:30am in the Conference Room. Contact Kay Bowes at [kaybowes14@yahoo.com](mailto:kaybowes14@yahoo.com) for additional information .

**Elizabeth Circle** will meet on **Wednesday, February 19 at 9:30am** in the Library. Contact Sue Crump at [s.crump@comcast.net](mailto:s.crump@comcast.net) for additional information.



## Souper Sale

The popular and delicious homemade soups will be available for "Souper" Bowl Sunday. Sales will be held on Sundays, **February 2 and 9** in the lobby immediately following worship. You will make your purchase in the lobby and pick up your soup the same day in the kitchen. Cash and checks are accepted. **Proceeds will benefit Summer Youth Conferences.**

**Soup varieties include:** Beef Barley, Chicken Rice, Chuck Wagon, Cream of Potato, French Onion, Vegan Garden Vegetable, Hearty Vegan Black-Eyed Pea, Roasted Red Pepper, Scotch Broth, Vegetarian Chili, Winter Harvest and Bolognese Sauce. **Shop early so you don't miss out on your favorite!**



# Grow

## *Appalachia Service Project - - - Our 40th Year of Service!*

**2025 marks Trinity's 40th year of service** to this special organization! We hope to send 4-5 teams to Appalachia from **July 5-12**, with the specific location still pending. Thank you to everyone who has expressed interest in serving this year. We must make our commitment to ASP by March 1, so please be sure to let Katie Oliver know if we can count on you! Reach Katie at [katehar@comcast.net](mailto:katehar@comcast.net)

**ASP fundraising is underway!** We still welcome filled **Quarter Canes**. Please put your name on the cane so we can credit you! The **Golf Outing at Ed Oliver's will be Friday June 13**. Watch for more information to come!

As our youth and adults prepare for another week of service, please keep them, the ASP homeowners and staffers in your prayers. It has been a difficult year in the Appalachia region with Hurricane Helene and other major flooding events.



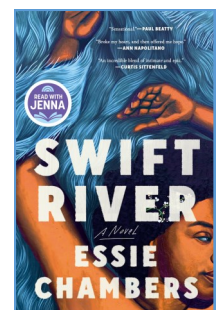
## *Cake/Pie Chance Off!*

**The Cake/Pie Chance-Off returns in March!** This Trinity tradition, a fundraiser for ASP and a favorite for young and old, will take place **on March 16, 2025**. Members and friends of the congregation bake delicious creations and bring them to the Fellowship Hall that Sunday morning. ASP participants set up a beautiful display sure to please your senses and compete for your tickets. Then after the service, Trinity children take turns picking the winning tickets! It's a fun event you won't want to miss. Tickets will be on sale before and after worship: \$2 for 1 ticket; \$5 for 3 tickets; \$10 for 8 tickets.

If you'd like to be part of this great fundraiser by **baking a cake or pie**, please contact Katie Oliver at 302-598-1454 or [katehard@comcast.net](mailto:katehard@comcast.net) to ask questions or sign up.

## *Book Discussion Group*

Trinity's Book Group will meet on **Wednesday evening, February 5 at 7pm** in the church library to discuss **Swift River by Essie Chambers**. This was a "Read with Jenna" *Today Show* Book Club pick and a debut novel for the author. It's 1987 and Diamond Newberry, a teenager whose father disappeared seven years ago, is the only person of color in Swift River, MA. In addition, she's overweight and she and her mother hitchhike everywhere. Learn how Diamond gains a sense of her place in the world and in her family. Join us for tea and talk as we discuss this compelling book.



Our March selection is **The River We Remember by William Kent Krueger**. We'll meet on **March 12** so mark your calendars!

# GO!

## Garage Sale Containers

The Deacons collect all year for the annual Trinity Garage Sale so remember to save your gently used items. Acceptable items include household goods, books, electronics, towels and linens, pictures and frames, toys and sporting goods. No clothing, please.

**Items can be donated on the first Sunday of each month.** Donations are accepted at the large green containers located in the back of the church parking lot.

The Garage Sale Containers will be open from 10:45am – 12pm on the following Sundays:

**February 2**  
**March 2**  
**April 6**

**Stay tuned for additional weekend donations dates in April.**

**Garage Sale Dates:**  
**May 2 & 3, 2025**



## Plastic Recycling Program

Did you know that you can **drop off your recyclables at ANYTIME?** There is a **collection container just to the right of the Garage Sale containers** ready to accept your donations. Place your approved plastics in the container at your convenience.

Since plastics melt at different temperatures, only certain plastics are acceptable for this recycling project. **Donated plastics must be loose, empty, clean, and dry!**

**ACCEPTED:** Sheet plastics like plastic bags, along with #2, #4, and #5's marked in the recycle triangle on the bottom. Some examples of these are washing machine detergent bottles, the tops (ONLY) to plastic water and soda bottles, pill bottles, plastic milk jugs, and some food containers.

**NOT ACCEPTED:** #1's (water bottles, PEET), #6's or #7's.

## Stewards of the Earth

Stewards of the Earth (SOTE) will meet in the library at **8:30am on Sunday, February 9.** Contact Carol or Bruce Shumway at [twoshums@aol.com](mailto:twoshums@aol.com) for more information.



## Third Thursday Work Group

Do you have some skills you would like to use to help improve our facilities? The Third Thursday work group is open to all.

Our next work day is **Thursday, February 20, 2025.** We meet in the conference room at **9:15am for assignments, and are usually finished before noon.** Please contact Tom Tarloski at [tom.tarloski@gmail.com](mailto:tom.tarloski@gmail.com) with any questions.



## Adopt-a-Highway

Adopt-a-Highway **clean up dates for 2025** are: **April 12, June 21 and September 20.** Contact Grace Nasseh at [graceneh@msn.com](mailto:graceneh@msn.com) for more information. We'd love your help!



**GO!**

***EMMANUEL DINING ROOM REPORT 2024***

**Trinity Presbyterian Church worked hard to take care of its community** by serving lunch one day each month, except December, at the Emmanuel Dining Room. EDR helps to alleviate the immediate needs of Delaware’s hungry with nutritious meals served at no cost. We are very proud of our EDR team.

The EDR captains would like to thank all of the very generous cooks and bakers and shoppers for serving 1435 hungry folks in 2024. We offered a nourishing lunch of hot dogs, baked beans, fruit cup, and cookies to those folks who need it most. Without this leadership those who need this assistance could have had a really dismal year.

For many years, Trinity has had very dedicated EDR **team captains**. We thank **Brad Martin, Linda Stapleford, Kim Robbins and Rad MacFarlane, Bob LeComte, Grace Nasseh and Tom Tarloski, and Bruce and Carol Shumway**. Added thanks go to **shoppers Julie Monaghan, Brad Martin, Tom Tarloski, and Peg Maguire**.

Thanks also to those folks who stepped up to be **cooks** in 2024. The team captains appreciate the dedication of these people: **Joe Euculano, Corey Fischer, Sharon Gaudino, Maryann Venturena, Pat Greager, Linda Jobson, Flo MacFarlane, Peg Maguire, Julie Monaghan, Connor Monaghan, Megan Shumway, Katherine Roter and Betsy Struck**.

Our Cookie Organizer **Pam Bentley** has done a marvelous job of rounding up bakers to contribute 600 cookies and/or brownies each month. These goodies are very important to those whom we serve, so thanks to all of the bakers, some of whom bake almost every month: **Dee Fillingame, Corey Fischer, Sharon Gaudino, Pat Greager, Penny Lindell, Leslie McGuigan, Carol Shumway and Trinity’s Mission Possible Kids**.

**This mission supports our local community. Please ask yourself how you can help in 2025.** This is a once-a-month mission but no one has to volunteer every month. Please sign up to help as you can. Many hands make light work. **We hope you consider joining this meaningful mission. Sign up to serve on the lobby bulletin board or by calling the office at 302-475-5495.** Thanks for a good year with this important local mission, Trinity!

EDR Coordinator, Kay Bowes

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The **January 2025 EDR Team** captain was **Joe Euculano** who was joined by cooks **Peg Maguire** and **Ken Allmond**. Cookies were baked by **Pat Greager** and **Tom Tarloski** did the shopping.

**New volunteers are welcome and needed!** **The 2025 sign up sheet is posted in the lobby.** The group meets at Trinity at 9:15am on the 25th of the month, takes the food to EDR and prepares the meal there. We welcome you to come enjoy the fellowship while serving others. You can also **contribute to this mission from home by baking cookies** in advance. Please sign up on the board in the lobby or email Pam Bentley (pag20@comcast.net).

**GO!**

### *Deacons Sunday Fellowship Hour*

**Are you or a family member celebrating a milestone event** like a birthday, anniversary or graduation? Why not **celebrate with your Trinity family** by signing up to bring snacks during fellowship hour?

There is **no cost to you** for providing snacks. Just submit your receipts to the church office for reimbursement.

**Use this link to sign up:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080B4AADA92FA7FB6-52457041-2025#/>

or contact Deanna Dudash at [deannaddudash@gmail.com](mailto:deannaddudash@gmail.com)

### *Bazaar Workshop*

**Bazaar 2025 planning and crafting has already begun!** You are invited to join the Bazaar Workshop on the 3rd Wednesday of every month to craft and create the many ornaments and gifts that will be sold. No creative skills are needed. The **next Workshop is February 19 at 10am in Darley 1 Classroom.**

### *Trinity News*

#### *Sympathy and Prayers are with*

Nick Waller and family on the passing of Nick's mother, Mavis, on November 26 in Marlow-on-Thames in Buckinghamshire, England.

Randy Perey and family on the passing of his wife, member Jennifer Perey, on December 17 at WillowBrooke Court at County House.

The family of member Ann Morris who passed away on December 27 at Cadia Rehabilitation.

Greg and Sue Crump, Lauren Crump and Jenna Wetzel on the passing of Greg's father, Roger S. Crump, Sr. on December 16 and on the passing of Sue's mother, member Nancy Copple on January 14 at Riddle Hospital. A memorial service for Nancy will be held at Trinity on Saturday, February 8 at 11am.

The family of Trinity member, John Dorsey, who passed away on January 1 at Christiana Hospital.

Rich and Kajsa Haracz, and Jane, Lukas and Maja on the passing of Rich's mother, Trudy Haracz on January 18.

# Reminders and Requests!

## Lobby Donation Cart

Thank you for your continued donations to our local missions. In addition to Friendship House and the Claymont Food Closet, Trinity also collects: eyeglasses, soda can tabs, and used cell phones. Items can be left on the roll-away cart in the lobby.

### Current Needs for Claymont Food Closet:

Stuffing mix; canned sweet potatoes; soups; instant mashed potatoes; canned vegetables; gravy; cranberry sauce; peanut butter & jelly; canned tuna; cereal; and oatmeal.

### Current Needs for Friendship House:

Ground coffee; powdered creamer; paper products; cleaning supplies; disinfectant wipes and spray; Swiffer wet wipes; dish soap; dishwasher detergent; laundry detergent; dryer sheets; Windex; and dish towels.

## Help Wanted

Are you or someone you know a **LEGO Master builder**? Would you be interested in helping to build a LEGO creation that will be used for an upcoming **Word for Children lesson series**?

For details Contact Penny Lindell at penny.lindell917@gmail.com or 302-824-1216.

## Sanctuary Flowers

Would you like to **donate flowers** to be used in the Sanctuary during Sunday worship? Flowers can be donated in memory of loved ones or in honor of a person to celebrate a special occasion like an anniversary, birthday or graduation.

**Sign up for a flower donation** in the notebook in the lobby.

Arrangements are **\$45 each**, billed to you by Belak Flowers.

Questions, contact Pat Greager at 610-543-2152.



## Online Giving

On-line giving can be arranged by visiting **www.trinitypresby.org** and clicking on "Donate." Under "Give Online" use the "click here to give" button to set up a one-time gift or a recurring donation.

Monthly Mission Causes along with special programs like the Choral Scholars can also be designated through on-line giving.

## Snow Team Volunteers Needed

**Are you able to help keep our congregation safe in the winter months?** We're looking for volunteers for the **Snow Removal Team**.

**What you'll be doing:** Shoveling snow from the front entrance and the sidewalk leading to the Narthex door, and applying salt or ice melt at the doorways.

**When you'll be doing it: Only a few times per winter season** -- each member of the team handles snow and/or ice for a designated time each winter, so you are only responsible if weather conditions require it during your agreed upon weeks.

Contact Tom Tarloski at 267-236-6532 for more details and to help.

## Bear Ministry

**Trinity's Bear Ministry is still going strong!** Since its inception in 2007, **over 650 bears have found homes after hearing the words of Scripture, hymns, prayers and sermons.**



There are more bears ready to go out and provide comfort for those needing special care. If you would like to take a bear, please sign the book on the lobby table. Any questions can be directed to Tom Cook at [cookt1420@gmail.com](mailto:cookt1420@gmail.com).

## Trinity Presbyterian Church

1120 Darley Road Wilmington, DE 19810 302.475.5495  
www.trinitypresby.org Email: office@trinitypresby.org

The Rev. David R. Aber, Interim Pastor  
Penny Lindell, Associate for Ministry  
Alexis Ward, Director of Music Ministry  
Suzanne LeComte, Children's Church Coordinator  
Amy Vitsorek, Church School Coordinator and VBS Director  
Peg Maguire, Office Administrator  
Jenna Theibault Dean, Associate for Young Mom's Ministry  
Mary McDowell, Associate for Ministry  
Kim Robbins, Associate for Ministry  
Lindsay O'Brien, Nursery Coordinator  
Christy Lewis, Associate for Arts/Drama/Technology  
Katie Oliver, ASP Coordinator  
Joe Ross, Associate for Ministry  
Greg Buckmaster, Technology Coordinator  
Gayleen Carmichael, Parish Nurse

### SESSION

#### CLASS OF 2025

John Balaguer  
Wendy Barba  
Laurie Morente  
Debbie Schrass

#### CLASS OF 2026

Ron Bowes  
Katrina Harris  
Rad MacFarlane  
Julie Monaghan

#### CLASS OF 2027

Debra Balliet  
Sue Crump  
Joe Euculano  
Joyce Hutchison

Clerk of Session: Leslie Connor

### DEACONS

#### CLASS OF 2025

Tom Cook  
Susan Fuhs  
Dave Horn  
Barb Lilley  
Kim Robbins

#### CLASS OF 2026

Carol Eucalano  
Anne Hardesty  
Lee Lewis  
Carol Shumway  
Betsy Struck

#### CLASS OF 2027

Deanna Dudash  
Courtney Kledaras  
George Kofron  
Carolyn Marzo  
Bruce Shumway