

Dear People of God:

We are rapidly approaching the third anniversary of the nationwide “Covid shutdown” which forever altered so much of our society, including our parish community here at Trinity. We have just concluded a jam-packed fall activity schedule which featured numerous events sprinkled throughout the weeks between September 6 and December 25. Many of these events and opportunities were things specifically asked for by parishioners in the Parish Hall Conversations conducted last spring, and re-emphasized in feedback the Vestry received to the written survey sent to parishioners last summer.

Here’s what we learned over the course of the fall:

1. Many of us are contending with packed calendars — maybe even more so now than before the pandemic began. It became clear to me as the fall unfolded that people were working hard to squeeze church stuff in, and that sometimes in spite of good intentions, extra stuff at church simply couldn’t be wedged into time-starved calendars.
2. With the notable exception of the Awesome Auction for Outreach, attendance at non-Sunday opportunities, whether in-person or online, was sporadic and/or fairly thin. I believe our stated desire about such things as learning opportunities and fellowship events outside of Sunday mornings is honest, but those desires may be more aspirational than realistic.
3. Our current average Sunday attendance, is holding steady at about 60-65% of our pre-pandemic average — this is about 100-110 people/week. This is fairly consistent for congregations of our pre-pandemic size (regardless of denomination) in the Upper Midwest. At this point, we need to stop trying “to get back” to something, and instead make plans about how to “go forward” from here.
4. If our Sunday morning gatherings are the foundation from which we will grow into the Trinity of the future, then it is imperative for us to exercise wisdom in how we manage our individual and corporate energy. We have to be prepared to put our best foot forward toward guests and each other on Sundays, and I believe a simpler weekly calendar will help us in this regard.

Later in January, the Wardens, Vestry and I will conduct a facilitated mutual ministry review to reflect upon the year just passed. In particular we will be reflecting on how parochial leadership (lay and ordained) need to be functioning during this continuing time of transition. My sense is, the year ahead will prove pivotal in our common life. I am grateful for your continued faithfulness, generosity and flexibility. I am confident that together, and with God’s help, we will meet whatever challenges await us in 2023 with the grace and the determination that are key hallmarks of our parochial ethos.

I bid all of you a Happy New Year!

Faithfully,

The Rev'd Gary B. Manning, *Rector*

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Friday Family Fellowship

The First Friday Family Group will have its first meeting of 2023 on Friday, January 6 (the Feast of the Epiphany), at 6:00 pm. This fellowship opportunity is open to all persons in the parish — in particular parishioners who have children still at home. The meal shared at these gatherings is of the potluck variety so, “Bring food from the East to contribute to an Epiphany feast!” Questions? Contact the First Friday coordinator, Emily Watkins at jimandemily@gmail.com

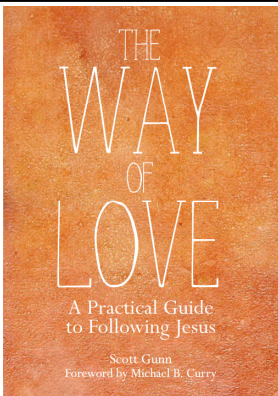


Christian Formation

Students and teachers meet at 9:00 am downstairs in the gathering space and then break up into classes by age. Look for the signs outside each classroom door. The nursery is open at 9:00 am with paid staff member Allison Corn and a second rotating adult volunteer. **The nursery is also open during the 10:00 am Liturgy if you and your child need a break.**

Christian Formation schedule for winter and spring is as follows:

January 8	February 5	March 5	April 2 (Palm Sunday)
January 15	February 12	March 12	April 9 (Easter) No Class
January 22	February 19	March 19	April 16
January 29 (No Class— Parish Annual Meeting)	February 26 (No Class)	March 26 (No Class)	April 23 April 30
May 7			
May 14			
May 21 (Last Day of Christian Formation)			



Epiphany Adult Forum Beginning January 8 at 9:00 am

During the season of Epiphany, Gary Manning will be leading a discussion of the book, “The Way of Love: A

Practical Guide to Following Jesus” by the Rev’d. Scott Gunn, Executive Director of Forward Movement.

As followers of Christ, we are called to live in ways that draw us ever closer to our Savior. To follow Jesus is to make two extraordinary commitments: To love God with our whole being and to love others as Jesus has loved us.

One path to the Way of Love is through seven key actions: Turn. Learn. Pray. Worship. Bless. Go. Rest. Gunn’s book will lead us to more deeply consider what these actions “look like” in everyday life. Gary will have a limited number of books available for purchase (\$11.50 each) on Sunday, January 8. A Kindle version is also available. You do not need to purchase or read the book to participate in the adult forum, but the content of the book will provide the fodder for Gary’s presentations and our discussions.

Here’s a link to Scott Gunn’s brief introduction to his book: https://youtu.be/FVWrZAr_IVc



The Trinity Men's Group will gather for its monthly meeting in the Parish Hall at **6:30 pm on Monday, January 9**. All men of the parish are invited to this opportunity for fellowship. Please let Gary Manning (tosapriest@gmail.com) know if you are planning to attend so that he can procure the correct amount of food for the evening.

EYC Winter and Spring Schedule

January 15—at Trinity—5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

January 29—at Trinity 5:30pm—7:00 pm

February 12—at Trinity—5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

February 26—Milwaukee Area Youth Gathering 5:00 pm—7:00 pm location TBD

March 12—Bowling 3:00 pm

March 26—Milwaukee Area Youth Gathering 5:00 pm—7:00 pm location TBD

April 23—at Trinity—5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

May 7—Hiking the Ice Age Trail at Lapham Park—3:00 pm

May 21—Milwaukee Area Youth Gathering 5:00 pm—7:00 pm location TBD



REQUESTS — FOR — PRAYER

Each Sunday, during the Prayers of the People, the Intercessor reads a list of names of people who are dealing with various sorts of health/life challenges — from terminal diseases to unemployment and everything in between. These names come to us in a variety of ways, but most of them are submitted to us by parishioners who have promised friends/loved ones that they would make sure Trinity offered prayers on their behalf. The tending of this list for a time was handled by a volunteer who is no longer able to do so, and now managing this task has reverted back to the parish office.

Over the past number of weeks, the list has expanded as people were added, and others were kept on this list for one reason or another, and some names probably remain on the list because we don't know how they got there in the first place. While God knows each need represented by each name, on a practical level, this recitation of first names week by week has begun to sound more like a roll call than prayer, simply because of the number of names present on the list.

To that end, between **now and January 15**, we will be actively seeking information on the names presently on the list, and simultaneously reducing the length of the list itself. We will undertake the same thing with regards to the names printed in the bulletin each week. We are also working to sensitively develop a rubric for how long names are to remain on the Sunday list, and when those names should be commended to parishioners who are part of the Trinity Prayer Chain. Gary and Blair request your cooperation and patience as this process unfolds.

Please send your prayer requests to trinityprayerrequests@trinitywauwatosa.org



Trinity Episcopal Church
Wauwatosa, WI

**VESTRY
CANDIDATE
NOMINATION FORM**

At the Annual Parish Meeting on January 29, 2023 we will be electing new Vestry members. Candidates must be Communicants in Good Standing who are willing to be elected and to serve faithfully in the best interest of Trinity Church.

Please get permission from the candidate you wish to nominate, complete this form, and return it to the parish office.

As a committed and communing member of Trinity Episcopal Church, I hereby nominate

Name of nominee

who is a Communicant in Good Standing, for election to the 2023 Vestry of Trinity Church.

Nominated by:



**136th Annual Parish Meeting
Sunday, January 29, 2023**

**8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

11:30 am Annual Parish Meeting

The meeting will follow a parish pot-luck luncheon which will take place after an abbreviated 10:00 am Liturgy.

While the meeting will be “in-person” for the first time since 2020, we will make every effort to provide an opportunity for those interested in attending via Zoom to do so.

Watch the weekly Trinity E-News for more details.



Chili Cook-off

Saturday, February 4

5:00 pm

The annual Chili Cook-off is back!

Put it in your calendar now!

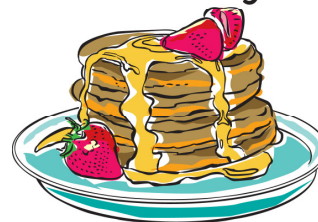
Get ready for some fun competition. Trinity folks like their chili really hot, or really mild and everything in between. They like it with meat and without...so you cannot make the wrong kind. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex. If cooking isn't your thing, you can still sign up to bring some fixin's like onions, cheese, bread, crackers, or even a beverage.



Want to help with setup or the ever-so-exciting cleanup? Call Denise Curran at 414-217-2704 with questions. Come and take a taste and decide who will win your vote.

Hope to see you there.

Shrove Tuesday



It's Back!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Indulge in pancakes at Trinity's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 21!

Enjoy pancakes, sausage and fruit from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. The meal is free. However, a donation is encouraged. All proceeds will benefit the Rector's Discretionary Fund.

Volunteers are needed to help set up, cook and clean up.

If you are interested, please contact Liz Paulsen at liz.paulsen@yahoo.com or 414-367-9750.



Have you seen it??

Trinity Church has a new website!

Would you like to see it??

Visit it at Trinitywauwatosa.org



The Outreach Committee met on December 4th, 2022 and decided on the following distribution of the funds raised at the Awesome Auction. The consensus was that support should go to organizations in Milwaukee that serve those most in need and help solve problems prevalent to Milwaukee, as well as two long-standing international missions. The fantastic results of the funds raised helps us, as Episcopalians, live out our faith to serve “the least of these.”

• Hunger Task Force	\$2,500
• Haiti Project	4,000
• Our Next Generation	500
• Trinity Christian Mission –Kenya	1,500
• Rector’s Discretionary Fund	1,500
• Sojourner Family Peace Center	1,500
• Wisconsin Anti Violence Effort	500
• Project Return	1,500
• Exploit No More	1,000
• Eras Senior Services	1,000
• The Gathering	500
• Forward Scholars	500
• Street Angels	500
• Carry Over to 2023	1,000
• TOTAL	\$18,000

Thank you and may God bless you
for your generosity in 2023!



Trinity Church produces a weekly E-News letter? We do our best to send only ONE e-mail per week — the notable exceptions being parishioner death announcements, weather updates, etc. The E-News has recently undergone a complete makeover thanks to the dedicated work of Tabitha Manning (thanks Tabitha!). We are hoping to make the E-News THE source for up to the minute information.

But...here’s where we need your help. No one is ever automatically subscribed to the E-News, because Constant Contact, the e-mail service we use for this publication has a strict no spamming policy, thus we are not allowed to add someone to the distribution list without their express permission. If you would like to be added to the E-News list, please contact the church office at churchoffice@trinitywauwatosa.org, and Blair will happily add you to the list.

One final suggestion: if there are two adults in your household who have email addresses, it would be advantageous for both persons to be subscribed to the E-News. Thank you for your consideration of this request.



Outreach Opportunities

Let's start out 2023 with our Outreach Ministries!

Eyeglasses for the Lions: Deposit them in the box at the bottom of the stairs. These are given to those who cannot afford glasses.

Tabs for Ronald McDonald House: Deposit these in the bucket on the welcome center outside of the library. Ronald McDonald House uses them to support some of their activities.

Small bottles of shampoo, conditioner, hand lotion, toothpaste and tooth brushes: Deposit these items in the basket at the bottom of the stairs. We give these to the Cathedral Center for their guests.

Used or new clothes: We give your donations to Father Gene's who appreciates very gently used items and Street Angels who uses mostly men's warm clothing and blankets, sleeping bags and other warm items. We could use help with delivering these items to the sites about once a month.

Sandwiches for The Gathering: We come together on a Friday night to make 100 lunches for The Gathering site on 35th and Lisbon (usually takes under an hour). You can help by joining us on the scheduled Friday, or by purchasing peanut butter (only creamy Jiff and Skippy please), squeezable jelly, drink, or a salty treat (in an individual bag) for each of the lunches. Watch the bulletin and *Tidings* for the next scheduled dates.

Food for Tosa Food Pantry: There is a basket in the narthex at the bottom of the stairs. You can donate anytime and the food is delivered to the Tosa Food Pantry.

Blankets: We give fleece blankets to the Children's Cath lab and Kathy's house. You can help by tying blankets at home or monthly at church, buying fabric for the blankets, or making a donation to purchase the fabric.

Habitat for Humanity: We are part of the Faith House Build. We can use more folks to volunteer for our day of the Faith House Build. Luke Schleif is our contact for this activity lschleif@gmail.com. Let Jill know if you are interested in helping at Restore for Humanity.

SCRIP: This is a program to earn more money for the food pantry, The Rector's discretionary fund and The Gathering. You purchase a gift card (the list is on the column in front of the library) for the face value of the card, and Trinity gets a percentage back to share with these three ministries. The orders are due on the first Sunday of each month. The order usually comes back by the second Sunday. Most of the cards are for places many of us use on a regular basis such as Pick N Save, Sendiks, Meijer, Amazon, Target and many more. We can increase the profits if you order just one card, no order is too small.

Awesome Auction for Outreach: The date for the 2023 Awesome Auction will be November 4. If you would like to help in anyway, please contact Jill Paradowski.

If you have any questions concerning these ministries, please contact Jill Paradowski either at church or via email. Jill can be contacted at Jill.paradowski@gmail.com.

Trinity is blessed with a caring and generous community. Thanks for any help you are able to give.

TIDINGS

Trinity Church
1717 Church Street
Wauwatosa, WI 53213
January 2023



The light that
shines in
darkness!

REMINDER FOR JANUARY

**Annual Parish Meeting
Sunday, January 29**



**8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II**



**Potluck Luncheon
11:30 am Annual Parish Meeting
In-Person and via Zoom**