

# Trinity Bells

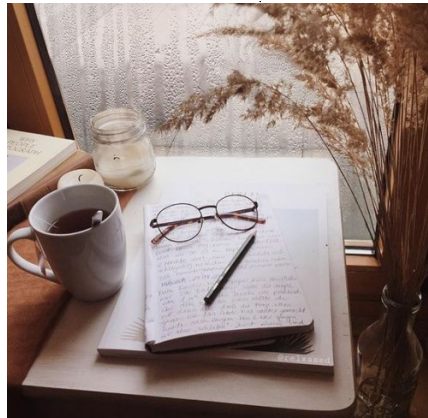
A Publication of Trinity United Church of Christ

December 2018

## Pastor's Thoughts:

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### Stirrings From Susan

Whenever I enter into a new congregational setting, I like to teach several concepts and ideas that I think enliven our life together, widen our perspective and hopefully, deepen our faith, hope and love. I love the Church Year calendar, because it draws us up and out of 'chronos' time – the daily minutes and hours, months and years, and into 'kairos' time, where God is breaking into the midst of the world with a different word, a different perspective, a different path to walk. This church year becomes a way for me to mark time differently, to think about life and death in a cosmic sense, to consider the power of waiting and the practicality of praise. It gives me a chance to step outside the 'world' and into a world where angels enter, and prophets speak, and lives are transformed. I hope that you'll find this a helpful overview of

the Church Year and its seasons.

As November winds to its end, we celebrate in quick succession, the end of the church year, the season of Pentecost, with two services – a service of thanksgiving and the celebration of the Reign of Christ Sunday. Then the church year comes to a close.

In December, we begin a new church year, with the season of Advent. This season is much more than a mere preparation for Christmas; it is a time of waiting, expectation, longing, anticipation, demolition and slow reconstruction. It invites the faithful ones to awake and to be alert to the signs of God's coming Kingdom or Reign. As the day shortens into darkness, so too, does the church acknowledge that there is still much darkness in the world and in us. Our longing prayers are for restoration of creation to the way which God created it; a kind of apocalypse in which in a final way, death and hate and fear are overcome by the Light of Love. Musically, there is a minor key feeling, a sense that things are not yet set right. For those of us weary of the rush to buy and consume, this season, offers a counterpoint and corrective. Many of us are well aware of the darkness that feels so deep around us – the things that are askew and we find a home in this space and Kairos time.

Advent is a period of four weeks – and culminates in the celebration of Christmas. We know that this day in



**An "Open and Affirming" UCC**

**The Church in Review:**

**Trinity United Church of Christ**  
 Church: 4435 North Calhoun Road  
 Brookfield, WI, 53005  
 (262) 781-9378

**Church Email:**

contact@trinitybrookfield.org

**Web Site:** www.trinitybrookfield.org

**Office Hours:**

Monday:- Wednesday  
 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
 Thursday - 8:00 a.m. - noon

**Sunday Worship:** 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship Hour follows service.

**Holy Communion:**

First Sunday of the Month

**Sunday School:**

Every Sunday from the first week of  
 September through first week of June.  
 (exceptions are noted weekly.)

**Interim Pastor:** Rev. Susan Stull Carr

**Director of Music & Organist:**

Mike Hetzel

**Sound Technician:**

Pat Matthews

**Administrative Assistant:**

Carol Capes

**Cleaning Custodian:**

Jodie Gerard

**Maintenance Custodian:**

Eric Dahm

**Ministers of the Church:**

All Members of Trinity  
 United Church of Christ

**Submitting Articles:**

*Trinity Bells* is published monthly. The editorial cut-off deadline is the *twelfth* of each new ensuing month. Please submit all items for publication!

**Stirrings** (con'd from page 1)

history is the unlikely actual birthday of Jesus, but there is something fitting that in the darkest time in the natural world, this light flickers into being, made incarnate, with flesh on, for the world to see. One of my favorite ways to explore 'alternative time' has been to celebrate the 12 days of Christmas which begin on Christmas Day and go until Epiphany. This is typically when I send my Christmas cards, enjoying the time as I listen to the carols of the season and make a few visits to those alone in this time. It is a way for me to savor the gifts of Christmas and to hold on to the light awhile longer!

Epiphany arrives on January 6<sup>th</sup>. We know that Luke and Matthew have two different birth narratives entirely, and that Mark has none and that John's is cosmic rather than embodied. It is Matthew that speaks about the sages, magi that arrive from the east, which makes sense since Matthew is most likely a Jew who is leading a Jewish community. The word Epiphany means 'revelation' and the symbolic truth here is that Jesus has come as a 'light to the nations!' Those with eyes to see will see the revelation, those who cannot see, will miss it and misunderstand it, as did Herod.

Christmas comes to a close and Epiphany opens up to reveal more and more about Jesus. We'll explore more about that season of the Church Year next time.

For those of us who know the whole story, so to speak, Christmas is simply a beginning, for us, it the initiation of the birth of Christ within us. Howard Thurman, an African American theologian writes these words to the Church. We now have work to do.

"When the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds have returned to their flocks, the WORK of Christmas begins.

To find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to teach all nations, to bring Christ to all, to make music in the heart."

Grace and peace,

*Pastor Susan*



## Did You Know...

...that the history of **Christmas** and many of our Christmas traditions were rooted in a time long before Jesus Christ was born? Christmas traditions such as large festive meals, the giving of gifts, greenery displays, hanging ornaments on a tree, candle lighting, the Yule log, singing dancers, and church processions were all celebrated by various cultures at the end of December centuries before the Christ child's birth. That is the time of year, known as the winter solstice, when the sun is at its lowest point at noon in the southern sky in the northern hemisphere. Many northern hemisphere cultures celebrated this time as they looked forward to longer days with extended hours of sunlight and the promise of spring. It was a time when harvested food and fresh meat was plentiful, and most wine and beer was fermented and ready for drinking. In ancient Rome, the winter solstice festival lasted seven days, and it was a time when slaves were temporarily freed, houses were bedecked in greenery, warfare ceased, and gifts were exchanged. Evergreens symbolized the fact that life continues even in the midst of darkness. Candles were lit to celebrate light and birth and the passage of time. In Scandinavia, fathers and sons would bring home large logs, which they would set on fire. Called Yule logs, the people would feast until the log burned out, which could take as many as twelve days.

The exact day of the Christ child's birth has never been pinpointed. In 137 A.D., the Bishop of Rome ordered the birthday of the Christ child celebrated as a solemn feast. In 350 A.D., the Bishop of Rome, Julius I adopted December 25th as the date to celebrate the birth of Jesus, which also was the date that the Romans celebrated the winter solstice. In the late 300's Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire. By the 12th century, Christmas had become the most important religious festival in Europe, and Saint Nicholas was a symbol of gift giving in many European countries. During the Reformation, many Christians began to consider Christmas a pagan celebration

because it included non-religious customs. As a result, during the 1600's, Christmas was outlawed in England and in parts of the Puritan colonies of America. Christmas fell out of favor in the United States after the American Revolution, because it was considered an English custom. It wasn't until the mid-1800's that Americans began to embrace Christmas, and changed it from a raucous carnival holiday into a family-centered festival of generosity, peace, and nostalgia. Christmas wasn't declared a federal holiday until 1870. The traditions that we enjoy at Christmas today are a blend of many different customs from many different countries. Throughout the holiday's history, Christmas has been a subject of both controversy and criticism from a wide variety of different sources. Some of these issues included (1) utilizing pre-Christian pagan and secular traditions, (2) Christianity exclusivity (3) spiritualism vs. commercialism, (4) Christmas displays on public property. In any case, may we all in our hearts know and feel the peace of joy of the Christmas season.

- *Bob Rohrig*

(Sources: <http://www.ucc.org>; <http://en.wikipedia.org>; <http://www.history.com/topics/christmas>; <http://www.thehistoryofchristmas.com>)

## Inclement Weather Cancellation Information



When weather conditions are severe, please note that cancellation of Trinity Events will be posted on local Television stations 12, 6 and WTMJ 4. (Spectrum Cable 2) The traveling safety of members is most important when decisions need to be made regarding worship and events.



## Trinity's Helping Hands "Caught in the Act" For this Last Month:

*[Editor's note: Many people donate their time making Trinity Church a better place. Listed above are but a few — please let the church office know when you see someone "caught in the act" so we can list them, too!]*

**Boy Scout Troop #21** – these young men and the leaders of Troop #21 are always ready to help Trinity with various tasks. We are especially grateful when we need their involvement with presenting the colors during a worship service. Thanks to all of you and we are very happy that Troop #21 is a part of Trinity!

**Trinity's Celebration Singers** – this talented, outstanding group of vocalists bring so very much to the Sunday morning worship service!! The excitement and enthusiasm brought forward each Sunday is so evident to everyone who attends worship service. Thanks, Mike, for your leadership and Thanks to all the wonderful choir members!!!! "And let the people say AMEN!"

**Kahney Rohrig** – do you know who made those ribbons for the veterans who attended the special worship service honoring the Veterans? Yes! it was indeed Kahney. Thanks for your sewing skill and using it for the wonderful things you create for Trinity!

**To the Sunday School Students** – thank you for creating the "thank you" cards for the Veterans and thanks, also, to Stephanie and Savannah for handing the cards to the veterans on November 11 as we honored the Veterans!! Trinity is so blessed to have a great group of Sunday School boys and girls.



### Birthdays this Month:

Christina Matthews	12/03
Roberta Stanley	12/10
Meghan Dahm	12/14
Lola Krainer	12/22



### Anniversaries this Month:

Kathryn & Dan Dierbeck 12/05/1981

## Guppy Volunteers Needed

We need your help, our number of volunteers has been reduced dramatically and we could use some extra hands. If we can get enough people on the list you would only have to take a Sunday every two to three months. Guppy Room care is quite simple, watching our toddlers during service, so Mom and Dad can attend worship or teach Sunday School. There are plenty of toys and activities to keep the children entertained, they just need a caring person to be with them. If you are willing to help us out, and we need you, please contact a member of the Christian Nurture & Fellowship Committee.

Peg Zahn, Arlene Preston, Kathy Dahm,  
Dawn Faulk & Kathy Haass



**Worship  
Attendance:**



November 4 = 65

November 11 = 75

November 18 = 70

November 25 = 59

This makes for an average worship attendance of 67 for the month.

**Our Special Care Call List**

Your cards, thoughts, and special prayers are requested for these members of Trinity' church family, especially for the weeks of:

- Dec 2** Glenn Siebert  
4665 Meadow View West  
Brookfield, WI 53005
- Dec. 9** Geraldine Masch  
5031 North 126th Street  
Butler, WI 53007
- Dec. 16** Bev Littman  
Harbour Village  
5600 Mockingbird Lane,  
Apt. C104  
Greendale, WI 53129
- Dec. 23** Donna Brill  
N71 W13918 Nicolet Ct.  
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051
- Dec. 30** Marion Wandsneider  
777 Brookfield Regency  
Brookfield, WI 53045

**Trinity Church Council 2018 Members**

- Kathy Immekus**, President,  
Business & Office Chair
- Chris Faulk**, Vice President  
Missions & Social Concerns
- Kathryn Dierbeck**,  
Secretary & Stewardship
- Terri Allen**, Treasurer,  
Finance Chair
- Mark Burbey**, Property Chair
- Robin Gluth**, Business & Office
- Lynne Mielke**, Worship & Arts
- Roberta Stanley**,  
Endowment/Memorial
- Peg Zahn**, Christian Nurture

# *What's happening at Trinity...*

***Sunday, December 2, 2018***

*Book Club* 11:15 a.m.

***Saturday, December 8***

*Christmas Caroling for  
the Homebound* 11:30 a.m.

***Sunday, December 9***

*A German Christmas Tea* 11:00 a.m.

***Sunday, December 16***

*Children's Pageant* 10:00 a.m.

***Sunday, December 23***

*Christmas Choral Program* 10:00 a.m.

***Monday, December 24***

*Christmas Eve Worship* 4:00 p.m.

[www.trinitybrookfield.org](http://www.trinitybrookfield.org)

Remember to "Save these dates!"



***Don't forget — the Next BELLS  
deadline is December 12***

# December 2018

## TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

4435 North Calhoun Road  
Brookfield, WI 53005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 Celebration Singers—8:30 a.m. Worship/Communion Sunday School Business & Office—Cry Room—11:00am Children's Rehearsal—Sanc—11:15 a.m. Boy Scouts —DH&EdW —6:30-8:30 p.m.	3 Quilters—DH & EdW—9am-4pm	4 Christmas by Candlelight—Blessed Savior, New Berlin 6:00 p.m. (meet at church @ 5:00 p.m.	5 Missions—DH—2:00 p.m.	6 Worship & Arts—DH—10:00 p.m.	7	8 Christmas Caroling for the Homebound Meet at church @ 11:30 a.m.
9 Celebration Singers—8:30 a.m. CNF—YR—9:00 A.M. Worship—10:00 a.m. German Christmas Tea—DH—11:00 a.m. Sunday School No Scouts	10 Quilters—DH & EdW—9am-4pm <b>Council—DH—7:00 p.m.</b>	11	12	13 Property—DH—7:00 p.m.	14	15 No scrapbooking
16 Celebration Singers—8:30 a.m. Worship—Children's Christmas Pageant—1000 a.m. No Sunday School Boy Scouts —DH&EdW —6:30-8:30 p.m.	17 Quilters—DH & EdW—9am-4pm Boy Scout Committee—DH & EdW—6:30-8:30 p.m.	18 Growth & Outreach—DH—6:30 p.m.	19	20 Property Committee.	21	22
23 Celebration Singers—8:30 a.m. Worship /Christmas Chorale 10:00 a.m. Sunday School No Scouts 30 Celebration Singers—8:30 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. No Sunday School/No Scouts	24 No Quilters Christmas Eve Worship 4:00 p.m. 31	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26	27	28	29

**Key to Locations:**  
DH = Dining Hall  
Ed W = Education Wing of Church  
GP = Gathering Place  
YR = Youth Room

## ANNOUNCERS

December 2 Stewardship  
December 9 Property  
December 16 Council President  
December 23 Worship & Art  
December 24 Missions  
December 30 Finance



## COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

December 2 Open to TUCC Members  
December 9 German Christmas Tea  
December 16 Open to TUCC Members  
December 23 Open to TUCC Members

## FIRST RESPONDERS

December 2 Chris Faulk  
December 9 Jean Gichert  
December 16 Jan Glasenapp  
December 23 Joe Halvorson  
December 24 Chris Faulk  
December 30 Mike Hetzel

## GREETERS

December 2 Sharon & Bob Thomas  
December 9 Kathy Leslie  
December 16 Judy Taylor  
December 23 Diane Siebold  
December 24 The Dahm Family  
December 30 Kathy Haass

## GUPPY ROOM

December 2 Kathy Immekus  
December 9 Diane Siebold  
December 16 Children's Christmas Program  
December 23 Kathy Dahm  
December 24 no volunteer  
December 30 no volunteer

## OFFERING COUNTERS

December 2 Dan Rieves & Peg Zahn  
December 9 Jay Preston & Kathy Immekus  
December 16 Ralph Zahn & Sarah Komassa  
December 23 Dan Dierbeck & Dawn Faulk  
December 24 Dan Rieves & Peg Zahn  
December 30 Jay Preston & Peg Zahn

## PROJECTIONISTS

December 2 Christina Matthews  
December 9 Eric Dahm  
December 16 Kathy Immekus  
December 23 Carol Capes  
December 24 Christina Matthews  
December 30 Eric Dahm

## USHERS

December 2 Bob Rohrig, Kahney Rohrig,  
Diane Siebold Eric Dahm  
December 9 Kathy Haass, Joe Halvorson,  
Dawn Faulk, Dan Dierbeck  
December 16 Bob Thomas, Sharon Thomas  
Jan Fredrick, Eric Dahm  
December 23 Ralph Zahn, Peg Zahn,  
Eric Dahm, Dawn Faulk  
December 24 Lou Frank, Jan Frank,  
Jan Fredrick, Dan Dierbeck  
December 30 Bob Rohrig, Kahney Rohrig,  
Diane Siebold, Eric Dahm

## READERS

December 2 Naomi Stewart  
December 9 Kathy Dahm  
December 16 Bob Thomas  
December 23 Lou Frank  
December 24 Edith Heins  
December 30 Sharon Thomas

## WELCOMERS

December 2 Lynne Mielke  
December 9 Jan Schuster  
December 16 Lynne Mielke  
December 23 Lori Krueger  
December 24 Jan Schuster  
December 30 Eric Dahm

## ADVENT FAMILIES/WORSHIP LEADERS

December 2 Komassa Family  
December 9 Faulk Family  
December 16 Corley Family  
December 23 Dahm Family  
December 24 Rohrig Family  
December 30 Edith Heins





The book club will next meet on December 2 and will be reading the book, Good Harbor, by Anita Diamant. We

will meet in the educational wing right after church and all are welcome to join us for a light snack and lively discussion. You can contact Roberta Stanley, 262-781-1172, to obtain a copy of the book.



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### Holding In Our Prayers:

- ✚ Lisa Corley as she discerns her path towards ordination
- ✚ The Search Committee
- ✚ Chris Faulk in his studies for ordination at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities
- ✚ Our Council as it seeks to provide faithful leadership towards the future
- ✚ Kathryn Dierbeck as she begins her ministry of pastoral care within our faith community
- ✚ The Burbey Family as Sharon deals with her illness.

### Missions Notes

For the months of November, December, January, and February the Mission Committee has the Mitten Tree in the Gathering Place. Please consider bringing mittens, scarves, and hats and place them on the tree. What you donate will be taken to HOPE Center in Waukesha, where there is a great need.

On Saturday, Dec. 8 the Mission Committee invites all who wish, to come along and go Christmas caroling with us to those of our members who are home-bound.

We meet in the dining hall and leave church at 11:30 am and car pool to the various homes that we sing at. Please wear something Christmasy.



Merry Christmas to All!

### Dartball Team News

Through mid-November, the Dartball League schedule is 40% completed, and Trinity's Dartball Team finds itself in first place. Trinity's team is two games ahead of Greendale, 3-1/2 games ahead of Christ UCC, and 6-1/2 games ahead of Calvary UCC. Half games are a result of ties, since we only play a maximum of twelve innings. Trinity has 13 players on its team and is being led by Eric Dahm (.431 batting average), Mark Burbey (.379), and Dave Mielke (.377). Rookie Jim Singleten has been a welcome addition to our team and is batting .286. No league games are scheduled in the month of December, so that we all have enough time to shop and enjoy the Christmas holidays.



## Veteran's Day - Thank you!

Each year we look forward to honoring the many veterans who interact with Trinity's Family of Faith. A list of members, friends, and family members has been established by the Worship and Arts Committee. These veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States are invited to attend this special celebration at Trinity. Please feel free to add someone's name to this list by contacting Lynne Mielke or Marlene Helinski.

This year we sent out 28 invitations. Below is an e-mail that we received from Richard Masch who is retired from the Navy and lives in the state of Washington.

Thank you very much for having a special program, at the church, on Veterans Day, for Veterans. It is a great day to recognize the servicemen and women, who are serving or have served, this great country.

I grew up with this church, played Dart Ball with Uncle Walter, and in 1977 was married by Reverend Grams.

I served in the US Navy, for 22 years. Being stationed on the east and west coast. When I went to sea, I was on carriers, like my brother Kenneth. I was on the USS Abraham Lincoln, that was commissioned on November 11, 1989. For most of my career I was a Torpedomen's Mate. Making and testing torpedoes. My last duty was the Self Defense Officer, on the USS Nimitz.

I live now with my family in Bremerton, Washington. 3 of my 4 daughters live close by with 6 of my 8 grand kids.

Again, thank you very much for this special program.

*Sincerely,  
Richard J Masch  
3390 Arrowhead Dr. NW  
Bremerton, WA 98311*



Growth and Outreach will be sponsoring another Game Night in the new year. Watch for more information in the worship bulletin and a mail chimp announcement later. Should you have a suggestion as to day/date, please see Chris Faulk, Dawn Faulk, Kathy Leslie, Naomi Stewart or Marlene Helinski.



Remember – Trinity will be celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary on November 3, 2019. Be sure to mark your calendars and pass the word to all. The organizational team welcomes suggestions/thoughts/ideas from the Trinity community as we continue to move forward in this wonderful upcoming event!

### TEAM MEMBERS:

Janice Garens	jsgarens@gmail.com
Marlene Helinski	mhelinski1@wi.rr.com
Lee Lannan	natalielannan@wi.rr.com
Lynne Mielke	mlkywy44@gmail.com
Diane Siebold	billanddianes@yahoo.com
Judy Taylor	judat1@att.net
Jan Wolff	jwolff40@yahoo.com



**NAME OF VET**

**NAME OF VET**

Allen, Mitchell, Navy

Stanley, Bob, Army

Alles, Paul, Marine Corps

Stanley, Richard, Navy

Brzezinski, Dan, Army

Taylor, Richard, Army

Dahm, Arnold, Army

Taylor, Robert, Air Force

Faulk, Dawn, Air Force

Theilacker, Fred, Navy

Fredrick, Bob, Army

Wedel, Don, Army

Gerds, Roger, Army

Zuverink, Travis, Petty Officer

Glasenapp, Gavin, Army

**DECEASED VETERANS**

Glasenapp, Jarrad, Army

Allen, Kent

Glasenapp, Jill, Army

Deitze, Max

Glasenapp, Suzanne, Army

Friedrich, Elroy

Glasenapp, Will, Air Force

Gunther, John

Helinski, Mary, Navy

Helinski, Jerry

Krainer, Jerry, Air Force

House, Murrell

Lannan, Bob, Army

Korslin, Harold

Lowther, Tom, Air Force

Kurtz, Gloria

Masch, Ken, Navy

Kurtz, Harry

Masch, Richard, Navy

Lang, John

Perschon, Roland, Special Forces

Schlei, LeRoy

Schuster, Jean, Navy

Shue, Don

Siebert, Glenn, Navy

Wakeland, Joe

Wild, Richard

Trinity United Church of Christ  
4435 N. Calhoun Road (church)  
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Phone: 262-781-9378

Return Service Requested  
DATED MATERIAL

