

Trinity Newsletter



Notes From the Vestry

On Tuesday, the vestry met and approved the 2026 budget. Budget sheets were sent out to various groups in the church and the responses from that information allowed Samantha to build a budget based on accurate figures that represent actual monies spent in 2025 and what the projected needs are for the upcoming year. Included in the budget were distinct lines reflecting the ongoing building and grounds needs for the 2026 year, program commitments, and the preliminary cost for hiring a new rector sometime during next year. We looked at July 1, 2026 as the earliest starting date for a new rector. This is a realistic, fact-based budget that the vestry feels reflects our current financial capabilities. Having said that, the vestry also understands that the 2027 budget will require a significant increase to fully fund the rector position going forward. We thank everyone for their continued support of Trinity and the work that we do both in the parish and the community around us.

The vestry also approved three individuals as nominees for the upcoming vestry class. Those who have been asked to serve are Chas Hill, Jon Morgan, and Joanna Ward. Biographies are included in this newsletter. The Annual Meeting will be held on January 11, 2026 during the Adult Forum time at 9:45 AM in the Parish Hall. At that time, the election of new vestry members will take place. We feel that these three individuals are excellent representatives of our congregation and look forward to the contributions they will make as we move forward in this exciting new chapter about to unfold at Trinity. Carrie Rainoff and I were approved to remain as wardens for another year.

The vestry also approved Thornton Grant requests from Trinity Food Pantry, Altar of Hope, Project Mend-A-House, Northern Virginia Family Services, and Center for the Arts (senior project) totaling \$25,000. The trust was established in 1912 by JB Thornton and its purpose was designed to assist the elderly in the Manassas area. The vestry of Trinity is the trustee of Mr. Thornton's bequest.

We welcome all to one service this Sunday, December 14th at 11:00 AM to celebrate Lessons and Carols with the Rev. Larry Packard. It is a wonderful way to continue our journey through Advent leading up to the celebration of Christmas. We look forward to seeing you on Sunday.

As always, it is a privilege and honor to be your Senior Warden.

Joanne Georg Senior Warden

- "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love".
- -1 Corinthians 13:13

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on Trinity Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

News From Trinity

Trinity Happenings: Upcoming Dates to Know

- 12/14: Youth Focus Group during Sunday School hour
- 12/14: Lessons and Carols at the 11:00 Service (No 8:30 Service on this day)
- 12/14: Small Format Focus Group
- 12/14: Cookies and Cocoa event
- 12/24: 5:00 PM Family Service
- 12/24: 7:30 PM Traditional Service
- 12/25: 11:00 AM Traditional Service
- 1/11: Annual Meeting

Read on for even more!



Chas Hill

I was born in McLean, Virginia, and raised in the Roman Catholic church. I



Jon Morgan

My wife, Sue, and I started attending Trinity Parish in 2009. We moved to Fairfax in



Joanna Ward

My husband and I settled in Virginia in 2006 and currently live in Bristow with our two children, a

attended Virginia Tech receiving a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies, with focuses in Computer Engineering, Music, Psychology, and Film Studies. But it was during my college career that I fell away from the church. In 2019, I realized that I needed God back in my life, and I began "shopping around" for churches, attending services at 5 different churches around Manassas. I walked into Trinity Episcopal Church for the first time, and instantly felt at home. Trinity offers love, support, joy, and fun... and provides a welcoming and warm environment to enrich my faith. Since joining the Trinity Family, I have enjoyed helping with the Food Ministry, Altar of Hope, Audio/Video Team, and reaching anything up high that our shorter members can't reach.

I look forward to serving as part of the Vestry, and helping the church welcome with open arms all those seeking God's love.

In my downtime, I enjoy hiking with my dog Wilfred, flying my small airplane to explore and camp at remote locations (usually with Wilfred), skiing, writing and playing music (jazz saxophone), cooking, driving way too fast around race tracks, and tinkering with electronics (audio/video, computer, solar energy systems).

1999 with our two children and it took us some time to find Trinity, but we are incredibly grateful that we did. I have a PhD in microbiology from Duke and have worked in the biotech industry for most of my career. After that, I took a 'retirement job' teaching high school science; one of the most fulfilling jobs I've ever had. I am what's called a 'cradle Episcopalian', but over the years I have worshiped at Roman Catholic, Congregational, and Unitarian churches. At Trinity I am part of Men's Group, am a lay reader, and have served on a discernment committee. I am verv optimistic about Trinity's future and am excited and honored to be part of the Vestry.

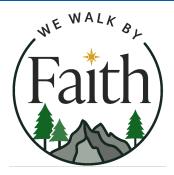
dog and a rabbit. I work at the Lake Ridge branch of Prince William Public Libraries. During my time with Trinity, beginning in 2011, I have served as a Sunday school teacher, singer in the church choir, a reader, and as a member of the vestry where I served as cochair for the Thornton Trust grant committee.



The Nursery at Trinity

The Vestry has set a goal of opening our Nursery twice a month during the 11:00 service beginning in the new year. We hope to allow the parents of small children some respite to focus on their own spiritual needs. To make this happen, we need you!

If you are willing to volunteer as one of a team in the Nursery, please sign up at the sign-up genius linked here or on the paper sign-up sheet on the library door. Our plan is to offer the nursery on the first and third Sundays of each month as long as enough volunteers can be found. Sign up for one shift, or several. You will have a chance to spend time with our adorable youngest members and give a parent a peaceful opportunity to worship.



Pledging

Although our official stewardship drive has ended, pledges may still be made at any time. You may submit your pledge online or by pledge card. Cards are available throughout the building and may be turned in to the office or placed in the plate. Online pledging can be completed at this link:

Pledge Online Here

Every Member Canvass

Our Every Member Canvass is still ongoing. If you have not yet updated your names, addresses, phone numbers, and birthdays for every member of your household associated with our parish, please do so now. In the coming weeks, we will begin making calls to those who have not done so to confirm this information. It is vital to have an accurate Parish Roster as we work to call a new Rector.

Thank you!



Discernment Focus Groups

The Discernment Committee ("Committee") is excited to announce forthcoming engagement opportunities for Trinity parishioners! The format for each opportunity will be a focus group, which will be led by Committee members. Please *see below* for (i) a list of focus group opportunities; *and* (ii) questions to be asked during each focus group.

Focus Group Opportunities

*December 14, 2025: Youth Focus Group During Adult Forum (Begins @ 10:00 AM; Welcome Room)

*December 14, 2025: Small Format Focus Group (Begins @ 9:45 PM; Parish Hall) (Note: All are welcome, but this focus group is designed for people who prefer a small meeting format)

Focus Group Questions for Consideration

- 1. What is going well at Trinity?
- 2. What would you keep about Trinity?
- 3. What would you change about Trinity?
- 4. What top three critical abilities and skills should the next Rector possess?

Things Are Happening In The Narthex!



Stop by our table in the narthex to see all of the things you can take home!

- This is the last weekend to pick up your free Trinity ornaments and calendars.
- Please pick up your giving envelopes at your earliest opportunity.

Let's Light Up Christmas With Love!

Many thanks for all of you who claimed a tag from the giving tree this year. All 75 tags were claimed in record time, despite being our largest number of recipients yet! In the enthusiasm to grab tags, some of you did not sign the tags out on the sign-up sheet. If you have tag numbers 3, 17, 21, 23, 30, 73, or 74, please contact the office and let us know.

So many gifts have already been returned that Samantha's office looks like Santa's workshop - how fun! Please remember, all gifts are due back at Trinity by this Sunday! Many thanks for your generosity and timeliness!



Poinsettias for Memorial and Thanksgiving - Deadline approaching!

This Sunday is the final day to order Poinsettias for the church! Flowers can be purchased in Memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving. Please help us celebrate the Holidays with beauty that represents love. Forms are available in the Narthex and are due in the office by Sunday, December 14th. For your convenience, forms can also be found by clicking here.

The Labyrinth AT TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

will be open for prayer and meditation in the Parish Hall of the church, 9325 West Street, Old Town Manassas

AT THE NEW YEAR: By Candlelight New Year's Eve Wednesday December 31, 2025 From 5:00PM to 10:00PM

New Year's Day
Thursday, January 1, 2026
From 1:00PM to 5:00PM
The public is invited to join us
at the start of the New Year to reflect on
the past, the present, and the future.

All are welcome. Step onto this Sacred Path.



Service Livestream - We are aware of continuing issues with our Sunday Livestream. It is a priority for us to deliver this service to all of you each Sunday. We have discovered equipment issues that are the cause of the service interruptions. New equipment will be installed this week and we hope to be reliably bringing services to you again in short order.

Food Ministry

We fill Advent dinner bags as a way to be the light of Christ for community neighbors in need. The bags with a shopping list and greeting card for the recipient are available in the parish hall. Fill yours individually or with a group. They can be filled in honor of someone on your gift

Trinity Episcopal Church Food Ministry

list or in memory of a special person.



Please return your filled bag on December 14 or 21 and they will be distributed on Christmas Eve. Thank you for sharing Christ's light!

Some caring parishioners have asked us to create an Amazon wish list to aid in their shopping for our ministry. Jennifer Smith created the list, which features items given

in our weekly bags for the unhoused. Please <u>click here</u> to view the list and consider making a purchase to help feed our neighbors. All purchases will be delivered directly to Trinity.

Cookies and Cocoa

All are welcome to join the Senior Class for Cookies and Cocoa in the parish hall after the Service of Lessons and Carols December 14. Bring a tray of your favorite holiday goodies to share, take home boxes will be available.







Ongoing Events

- Ken's Hens eggs are still available. Donations benefit the Food Ministry
- Our online directory is available on Realm. Contact the office if you need help accessing your account.
- The Trinity Ladies continue to meet for Lunch at the Jukebox Diner on the second Friday of each month. Contact Terri Anderson (mmetee@msn.com) for details or to RSVP
- We continue to collect the following items to benefit various ministries: gently
 used tennis shoes, pop tabs, used factory reset phones and tablets, clothing
 for Boxes of Basics, Food for our Food Ministry, Winter Coats.



Parish Prayer List

Please pray this list at home: Max, Vickie Sharp, Patricia Banks, Juliana Babicz, Lidia Rivera, Ann Nelson, Francine Wister, Kevin Scott, Marilyn Scott, Andrew Wright, Becky Cobb, Lillian Hicks, Dave Kelly, Al Osborne, Larry Cifranic, Maureen and Jack Danelli, Cheryl Macias, Craig Stanton, Carol Linton, Mark Yow, Dave Critchley, Ervie Anne Edgerly, Joseph Frye, Christina Harrigan & Family, Sharyn Henderson & Family, Mary Hicks, Patti Johnston, Richard Morin, Melissa Neviaser,

Gretchen Schneider.

We kindly invite individuals to submit their prayer requests for the parish prayer list. Names will be added to the list with the most recent addition listed first so we can be aware of new members in need. Each request remains active for a period of two months.

Please email <u>info@trinityepiscopalchurch.org</u> or visit <u>trinityepiscopalchurch.org</u> to add someone to our prayer list.

Publication Deadlines for Trinity

Do you have something to share in the weekly email or Sunday Bulletin? We are happy to include church related notices (as space permits.)

Please note that bulletin and newsletter notices must be submitted to the office no later than <u>noon on Wednesdays</u> for inclusion. Thank you!

News From Our Community Partners:



Boxes of Basics

Our Boxes of Basics collection box is back out in the Florida Room. Children's clothing is badly needed with special need for:

BOYS - Long & Short Sleeve Tees in sizes 8/10/12/14/16
BOYS - SPORT SHORTS in sizes 8/10/12/14/16

Also: We are in desperate need of NEW UNDERWEAR in the following sizes for Boys and

Mens:

BOYS - 10/12 & 12/14 & 14/16

MENS - SMALL

Worship Leaders for Sundays in December

Click <u>here</u> for the latest copy of the Worship Leader schedule for December. Thank you to all who are serving.

Weekly Schedule of Events: December 14 - December 20

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:45 am Launch Pad & Youth Forum		10:00 am Bible Study	10:00 am - 2:00 pm Pastoral Care Hours	10:00 am Greek Class 11:30 am	10:00 am Quilters	8:00 am Men's Group

			Yoga	
11:00 am		12:00 pm		
Service		Healing		
		Service		
12:15 pm				
Cooke				
Exchange				
and Small				
Format				
Forum				

Online Giving

You can give online through our website: trinityepiscopalchurch.org.

You can also use bill pay from your bank to contribute.

Your prayerful generosity is appreciated.

Sunday Service on YouTube

We love seeing you in person during our Sunday worship, but we also understand that it is not always possible to attend. At those times, we invite you to join us through our live-streamed 11:00 service at

https://www.youtube.com/@trinitychurchmanassas5745

Service Leaflet

Are you watching our service online and want to follow along at home? Do you want an early look at this week's readings? Click <u>here</u> to access the Trinity Happenings page on our website where you will find the current Service Leaflet and more.

Contact Us

If you have a need, the church office wants to help. Contact us by phone or email Monday-Friday from 9am-4pm or drop by during open hours Monday-Friday from 9am-1pm.

Phone: 703-368-4231

Email: info@trinityepiscopalchurch.org

For general information, please visit our website at www.trinityepiscopalchurch.org.







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