



Announcements

Christian Education

Next Sunday, December 18, we will not have Sunday School because of the Christmas Pageant at 11:00 a.m.

J2A – This Sunday, December 11, come to Sunday School to enjoy some food, music, and to help wrap our foster care gifts. Also, on December 18, join us from **5:00pm to 8:00** for our **J2A Progressive Dinner!** Kable Rizzo has volunteered to host an appetizer course.

Thank you! We need a salad course as well as someone to host a dessert course in McCracken Hall. Dinner will be at the Laser's house. If you would like to help out, please let me know! Stephanie Otteni [sotteni@comcast.net].

Adult Sunday School We will conclude a three-session series on the *Anglican Communion and Covenant*. The Archbishop of Canterbury has proposed an Anglican Covenant that would clarify relationships and responsibilities between the 38 Provinces of the Anglican Communion. What is in this document? Where has it come from? What might it mean for us? This class will meet in the Foster Room. *Gospel du Jour* will continue in McCracken Hall.

Novel Theology continues Tuesday, December 13 at 7 p.m. *A Death in the Family* by James Agee. Published in 1957, two years after its author's death at the age of forty-five, *A Death in the Family* remains a near-perfect work of art, an autobiographical novel that contains one of the most evocative depictions of loss and grief ever written. As Jay Follet hurries back to his home in Knoxville, Tennessee, he is killed in a car accident – a tragedy that destroys not only a life, but also the domestic happiness and contentment of a young family. A novel of great courage, lyric force, and powerful emotion, a masterpiece of American literature. Led by James Dungan.

Science and the Sacred Book Group continues Wednesday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the Foster Room. The next book is *The Sacred Universe: Earth, Spirituality, and Religion in the Twenty-First Century* by Thomas Berry. These erudite and keenly sympathetic essays represent Berry's best work, covering such issues as human beings' modern alienation from nature and the possibilities of future, regenerative forms of religious experience. Asking that we create a new story of the universe and the emergence of the Earth within it, Berry resituates the human spirit within a sacred totality. Contact Sacred Circle 540-213-3881 for more info.

Parish Life

Shenandoah Valley Children's Choir Monday, December 12, 2011 7:00 pm a one-hour program of music for the holidays right here at Trinity Church! Parishioner Sophie Wellington is a long-time member of SVCC, and we hope all Trinity members will take advantage of this unique opportunity to hear this magnificent ensemble. Parents please note: children and youth in our own choirs will receive FREE admission to the SVCC program. Please see Randall Swanson for more details. Tickets for everyone else will be available at the door: \$10.00 for adults, \$8.00 for seniors and students through age 16, and \$5.00 for children.

Newsletter Articles due this Thursday, December 15!

Next Practice for Christmas Pageant will take place on Saturday, December 17th from 10:00 - 11:30am in the Church. This practice is for the entire cast of the show. Pre-School and Kindergarten children will be the stable animals. First grade through fifth grade girls will be angels. First grade through fifth grade boys will be shepherds. You will receive your costumes at this practice. If you have any questions please call Muffie Newell at 885-4479.

The Grief Support Group will have its first meeting on Monday, **December 12 at 7 p.m.** Meet in the senior high classroom on the second floor.

Christmas Eve Outreach Dinner & Giving Tree: (Please take a tag TODAY!) The sign up sheets for the Christmas Eve Outreach Dinner are now posted at the back of the church. It takes the participation of many to provide this Christmas celebration for our guests from the Noon Lunch Program and Ritenour Rest Home. Please look over the lists and sign up to provide food, money, and/or labor. Please note that all food should be brought to the church kitchen by noon on **Friday, December 23rd**. Sign up early, sign up often!

The Giving Tree is decorated with ornamental tags listing the gift requests of each guest attending the dinner. The option of receiving a gift card was provided this year with many guests choosing this option. Other tags list a variety of clothing or personal items. In order to make the gifts more equitable than has sometimes been the case in the past, a suggested value for the gift cards or gifts is \$35.00. If you take a tag with multiple items, you do not necessarily need to purchase every item listed. Once you choose a tag, please write your name and phone number on the list beside the number that corresponds with the number on the tag. All gifts (including gift cards) should be wrapped and brought to the church by **Sunday, December 18th**. Please fasten the ornamental tag to the wrapped package. Thank you for your participation in this ministry.

Car Drivers are needed to transport guests to and from the Outreach Christmas Eve Dinner. Please call Eleanor Bird (337-0669) to sign up for this important ministry.

Altar Guild members are asked to help decorate the church for Christmas on Friday, December 23rd at approximately 10:30am. On Sunday, January 1st we are also asking all to come and help clear the decorations at the 10:30 am service and give them out to the congregation." Thanks much! Sally & Susanna

Origami Crane Ornament available in the church office : Origami crane ornaments to benefit Japan Relief are available for sale in the church office. The proceeds will go to Japan Society's Japan Earthquake Relief Fund, which supports long-term relief efforts.

(<http://www.japansociety.org/page/earthquake>) There is no fixed price, so whatever amount you can donate will be appreciated: \$1, 10, 20, 50, 100. Please make a check payable to Trinity Episcopal Church with memo line, Japan. If you're interested in making cranes, or learning more about this project, please contact Misa Kobayashi Stuart at 886-2441, or stuartmk@verizon.net.



Thank you to all who contributed to a beautiful **Advent Lessons and Carols** reception! The generous and flavorful donations of food made for a satisfied and joyful congregation. Thank you choir for helping with food, as well, and for lighting our outdoor paths! A blessed evening to be cherished in entirety. Yours in His service, The ECW Advisory Board

Many thanks to all who had a part in last Sunday's Advent Lessons and Carols service and reception! It was an exceptionally beautiful evening in myriad ways and all efforts to have made it so are appreciated.

Advent Wreaths There are copies of Advent wreath prayers in the back of the church. Please feel free to take one home and use the information to assist you in your daily/weekly worship time.

Orange Juice Containers needed for Altar Guild Please bring your used and rinsed ½ gallon cardboard containers to the Parish Office. The Altar Guild uses these containers to transport altar flowers after services on Sundays. They are currently out and need to restock. Thank you!

Trinity Youth Outreach Project: "Miles of Tiles" The youth were so inspired by their trip to Honduras they have undertaken the task of raising funds to lay a tile floor and finish painting a neighboring church, San Miguel Arcangel. Thanks to an anonymous donor your donations will be matched tile for tile! Tiles are \$5. Please contact Sean Taylor Staylor925@gmail.com. The tiles are will be used to create a mosaic design of St. Michael.

Automatic Bank Draft processing is available for your Trinity pledge payments. If you would like to have regular payments toward your Trinity pledge drafted from your account automatically by Trinity on a schedule of your choosing, please contact Margaret Pearson at the Trinity office(886-9132; admin1746@trinitystaunton.org).

Now you can like Trinity Church on Facebook! Just go to www.facebook.com/TrinityStaunton to see our new Facebook page. You can see the page even if you're not a Facebook member. This is a great place to check up on events, announcements, and happenings around our church. If you're a Facebook member, you can "Like" the page and help spread the word about Trinity!

Worship

Our service times for the Feast of the Nativity are:

Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. Family Eucharist, Rite II

10:00 p.m. A Celebration of Music for the Nativity

10:30 p.m. Festival Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Christmas Day

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I

And, the Feast of Holy Name:

New Years Day

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I