

ADVENT OPPORTUNITIES

Christmas Giving Tree with Christmas Wishes

Giving Tree Has a Few Tags Left. You can select a tag, then return it with gifts **unwrapped**. The deadline for returning the gifts is Monday, December 18, to allow the Salvation Army time to deliver the gifts. Questions: contact Julie Lear, 541-389-2490.

Gifts for the Christ Child

We are partnering with the Family Access Network advocates to provide Safeway food gift cards for their client families in need. This will allow a family to buy food they need and can use.

Please consider making a cash/check offering **today** to allow us to purchase the gift cards before Christmas break. (Checks to Trinity should say **“Gifts for the Christ Child”** in the memo line.)

Alternative Christmas Continues Today!

The Alternative Christmas Project is available after both Sunday morning services today through Sunday, December 24th. Your donation benefits four of Trinity's sponsored charities:

- **Episcopal Relief and Development doubles your match.** We now have half the funds we need to provide a package of farm animals (chickens, pigs, and goats) to needy families and communities.
- **Cove/COPY Program donors will match up to \$2,000.** This program provided 44 camp scholarships to Ascension School in Cove, Oregon last summer. 100% of the funds are used for scholarships for at risk children from Central Oregon.
- **Family Kitchen** serves over 4,500 free meals to our homeless and less fortunate brothers and sisters each month right here in St. Helens Hall.
- **Condega Program** supports children in Condega, Nicaragua by providing upgrades to their facilities, school uniforms, school supplies, and some staff funding.

Make a donation (check, cash or credit card) and receive a card to send to your friends and loved ones letting them know that you have donated in their name. It's a great way to spread Christmas love and caring. Questions: contact Marie Suhre, 541-306-6043.

Advent — Ways to Reflect on the Season

Lots of activities and offerings for the Advent season at Trinity are described in this month's issue of *The Trumpet*, mailed last week. Here are some activities to place on your calendar:

Advent Calendars. An Advent Calendar is much more than a way to count down the shopping days 'til Christmas. Ours is a gentle and fun way to savor the season, offering ideas for marking each day of Advent ... and you can color the squares day-by-day! If you didn't get one last week, it's not too late to get started. Get yours today.

Advent Words. As an alternative to a physical calendar, take part in a global online devotional. Subscribe @ <http://www.adventword.org> and they'll send you a word – along with a very brief reflection on that word – to ponder each day. Then, join with others from around the world in creating a global Advent Calendar with pictorial interpretations of the daily.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2017

Adult Forum — TODAY @ 9:15 AM

Our weekly adult forum meets in Brooks Hall between our morning services, offering a time of fellowship, as well as a chance to exchange information or engage in deeper reflection.

We're in the middle of a five-week series on the Book of Revelation, asking whether this book of the Bible is about the "end of the world" or "heaven on earth." You're still welcome to come and join us as we look for ways to find hope in words that others seem to find fearful.

Second Sunday Cinema presents: *The Dead* — TONIGHT @ 6 PM

Even before we get to Christmas, tonight's film invites us to an Epiphany party. Based on a short play by James Joyce, the 1987 film *The Dead* was director John Huston's last film. If you're looking for a quiet break in the enforced gaiety of the holiday season, come and enjoy popcorn and cinema.



Second Sunday Cinema presentations are introduced by retired film professor Kake Huck, and followed by discussion. We meet in St. Helens Hall at 6 pm. Please join us. Maybe bring a friend.

Candle-Lighting for parents who have lost a child — TONIGHT @ 7 PM (in Trinity)

The Compassionate Friends, Central Oregon chapter, will participate in the annual World Wide Candle-Lighting for parents who have had a child die, of any age and of any cause.

You are invited to bring family, bring pictures/mementoes of the person who died. This is not a religious event. Registration is not required. There will be candle lighting events in every time zone, worldwide, at the 7 PM hour. For questions, call Carol Palmer @ 541-480-0667.

Women's Retreat Planning Team Meeting — Tuesday @ 2 PM

The Women's Retreat planning team will meet in Brooks Hall this coming Tuesday, December 12. And save the date for our 2018 retreat: March 2-4 at Powell Butte Retreat Center.

Labyrinth — Saturday from 10 AM-3 PM ... and Sunday after morning services

Our labyrinth will be available in St. Helens Hall this coming Saturday and next Sunday. On Saturday, we'll begin at 10 am. An additional opportunity will be provided after morning worship.

Our labyrinth is a replica of the labyrinth laid out on the floor of Chartres Cathedral around 1220. It's considered an ancient tool for meditation and a symbol for a sacred journey toward the divine.

SANTA needs helpers — Saturday at 12 and 2 PM

Santa will be talking with children in downtown Bend the next two Saturdays. He needs helpers to greet the kids and pass out candy for **two-hour shifts** on:

- Saturday, December 16, from 12 noon to 2 pm, and from 2 to 4 pm;
- Saturday, December 23, from 12 noon to 2 pm, and from 2 to 4 pm.

If you have elf clothing or a Santa hat you can wear them! And you can bring a friend to help, too. **Contact Marie Suhre on 541-306-6043 or text her at 541-588-2350.**

Greening of the Church — NEXT Sunday @ 11:30 AM

The “hanging of the greens” is an old English custom of adorning one’s home with evergreens and other festive trappings. We’ll do the same at Trinity next Sunday, under the direction of Helen Brisson, supported by members of the Altar Guild. Adding to the festive occasion, we’ll have Christmas cookies and hot cocoa ... and maybe we’ll enjoy some Christmas music for the season!



Christmas Flowers — Due back to office by Monday, December 18th

For those who want to support our seasonal greens and flowers, we have special envelopes in the pew racks this morning for you to use. Please **print** VERY legibly your thanksgiving or memorial intentions.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services — December 24th and 25th (correct times below)

Bring all the family to church Christmas Eve! We have three services on Christmas Eve and one service only on Christmas Day.

Christmas Eve @ 4 PM

Our first Christmas service is a “family service,” especially appropriate for families with young children. This service will be held in St Helens this year, and will feature something special for our younger participants.

Christmas Eve @ 7 and 9 PM

The later services are more traditional, with music provided by the Trinity Choir. Caroling begins 30 minutes before each of these later services, as people arrive.

Christmas Day @ 10 AM (one service only)

The service on Christmas Day is a relatively simple affair, with carols to sing and a story for everyone to enjoy on Christmas morning.

An invitation is included with your bulletin this morning, to use as a handy reference or to invite others to join us for Christmas.

Please note: we have signup sheets available this morning. If you’re going to be here for our Christmas services, please let us know if you’re available to help with these special services.

Thanks to Musicians

We had a lovely service of Lessons and Carols last Sunday. Thanks to all those who came, along with those who invited friends and neighbors to join us. Thanks to readers who helped. And a very special thanks, of course, to Susan Evans, our Director of Music, and the Trinity Choir!!

They’re not done yet, though, so a word of thanks in advance for the Christmas music we’ll enjoy.

Thanks to the Elves of St. Nicholas

We celebrated our annual St. Nicholas Dinner this past Wednesday. Thanks to the “elves” who organized the evening, who did the work of decorating and setting up (and taking down afterwards), and our great cooks who prepared the meal we all enjoyed. Plus there was singing!

A few photos of the fun are posted on the Brooks Hall bulletin board.

CALENDAR

This following list of events is not comprehensive. To add your meeting or event to our calendar, please contact the parish office by phone - 541-382-5542, or email - ministry@trinitybend.org.

12/10	Sunday	8 AM	Holy Eucharist: Rite II
		9:15 AM	Adult Forum: <i>Book of Revelation (part 3): "Staying Awake"</i>
		10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist in the season of Advent
		11:30 AM	Coffee Hour
		6 PM	Second Sunday Cinema: <i>The Dead</i> (St. Helens)
		7 PM	Compassionate Friends (Trinity)
12/12	Tuesday	2 PM	Women's Retreat Planning Meeting
12/13	Wednesday	12 PM	Noon Eucharist
		2:30 PM	Sermon Reflections
		4 PM	Centering Prayer
		6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
12/14	Thursday	4 PM	EfM (Education for Ministry)
		4:30 PM	Finance Committee
12/16	Saturday	9 AM	Altar Guild
		10 AM	Labyrinth Walks (St. Helens) ... also available after services on Sunday morning!
12/17	Sunday	8 AM	Holy Eucharist: Rite I
		9:15 AM	Adult Forum: <i>Book of Revelation (part 4): "Good Dreams"</i>
		10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist in the season of Advent
		11:30 AM	Coffee Hour
		11:30 AM	Greening the Church

