

ANNOUNCEMENTS
FOR
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 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 at the end of our 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.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services — TODAY AND TOMORROW (*correct times below*)

Bring all the family to church this evening! 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 the 7 pm service and 15 minutes before "Midnight Mass," 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.

Last Day for Alternative Christmas Giving

Do you still need a last minute gift? No need to fret. Make a donation to one of Trinity's sponsored charities and get a beautiful card for your family member or friend letting him/her know that you have donated in his/her name. Trinity's Alternative Christmas benefits four of our sponsored charities:

- **Episcopal Relief and Development matches all gifts.** Help us purchase farm animals for families and communities. The animals provide a food source as well as reliable income.
- **Condega Program** supports children in Condega, Nicaragua by providing upgrades to their facilities, school uniforms, school supplies, and some staff funding. The average uniform costs \$30.
- **Cove/COPY Program** provides summer camp scholarships for at risk children, especially those impacted by having an incarcerated parent or caregiver. **Gifts will be matched up to \$3000.** We have nearly \$1800 at this point. The average scholarship is \$560.
- **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. The budget is tight this year, so we need your generosity.

You can make a donation by check, cash or credit card. Checks should be made out to Trinity Episcopal Church with the charity name(s) on the memo line. What a wonderful way to celebrate Christmas! Questions: contact Marie Suhre, 541-306-6043.

Epiphany Potluck Gathering — Jan. 6th @ 5 PM

Everyone is invited to this fun gathering in Brooks Hall! Bring a dish to share. (Except dessert - dessert is provided, in the form of the traditional King Cake, as part of the festivities.)

We'll distribute stars – with your word for 2018! – as part of the festivities, and there's bound to be something more to mark the occasion! Also, those who colored/decorated Advent Calendars these past weeks are encouraged to bring them back to share with others!

Come and celebrate the season when we expect God to show up in our midst! Want to help? Contact Julie Lear at julieann.lear40@gmail.com.

Openings on the 10:15 AM Coffee Host Roster

If you've been enjoying the coffee, treats and conversations during the coffee hour after the 10:15 service, consider partnering with a friend to host a few times next year! Hosting consists of acquiring or making a treat to share and arriving a little early to start brewing coffee and get the table ready. It isn't difficult and it doesn't have to cost a penny – reimbursement is available. If you are willing to give it a try or have any questions, please contact Judi Inglis at 541-389-8220 or see her at coffee hour after the 10:15 service.

Education for Ministry (EfM)

Every baptized person is called to ministry. The Education for Ministry (EfM) program provides both education and an opportunity to discover how you might respond to the call to Christian service. There is an EfM group that meets at Trinity on Thursdays at 4:00. If you are interested in joining this group or learning more about EfM, you are welcome to attend the next meeting on Thursday, January 4. For more information, please contact Gail Webber at 914.263.9063 (cell) or our EfM mentor, Janet Stevens at 541.617.7821 (office) or 541.382.3076 (home).

Community Book Conversations — beginning in January

Once again, during the 2018 Season of Nonviolence, Trinity is hosting a series of conversations exploring race consciousness.

The focal book this year is the autobiographical *My (Underground) American Dream: My True Story as an Undocumented Immigrant Who Became a Wall Street Executive*, by Julissa Arce, available online or at Dudley's Bookshop Café. Sessions run from 10-11:30 AM on Tuesdays: January 9, 16, 23 and February 13 and 20.

Please contact Mary Ann Mays @ 541-815-8413 or cnygrl1947@gmail.com to sign up or with questions. Chuck Johnson is co-facilitating this series.

Year End Contributions — due by Friday, December 29th

Based on IRS regulations, all contributions intended for 2017 must be received or postmarked by December 31st. If you choose to mail your contribution, either drop it in a blue box before noon

December 30th (regardless of the last pick-up time stated) or have it hand-cancelled at the Post Office (open regular Saturday hours this year.) If you bring it to the parish office, please do so *before noon* on Friday, December 29th.

Pledge contributions for 2017 either received or postmarked after December 31st will be recorded as 2017 pledge contributions but will appear on your 2018 Charitable Contributions Statement. If you have questions about your pledge balance, please contact Joan Wellman, our Contributions Secretary (541) 408-5435 or contributions@trinitybend.org.