

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 31, 2017

Thanks, one and all

A big thank you to everyone who helped with this year's celebrations of Christmas: musicians, lay ministers, Altar Guild, our church staff, as well as all who gave for the flowers and other greens.

And if you haven't seen the new crèche we used at the Family Service on Christmas Eve, be sure to come on into Brooks Hall after our morning services. A very special thanks – and congratulations – to Claire Demarest for creating this wonderful new nativity set!

Adult Forum — NOT Today @ 9:15 AM

Our weekly adult forum meets weekly 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.

This week, however, the Forum is on holiday break, so join us next Sunday!

Year End Contribution Deadline — TODAY, DECEMBER 31st, 2017

Based on IRS regulations, all contributions intended for 2017 must be offered this morning. Any gifts delivered to the office (or postmarked after December 31) will be credited as charitable gifts for 2018.

Education for Ministry (EfM) — Thursdays @ 4PM

Every baptized person is called to ministry. The 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 PM. If you are interested in joining this group or learning more about EfM, you are welcome to attend the next meeting on Thursday, January 4th.

For more information, please contact Gail Webber @ 914-263-9063 or our EfM mentor, Janet Stevens @ 541-617-7821 (office) or 541-382-3076 (home).

Taizé Service — Thursday @ 7 PM

The Taizé Choir of Central Oregon invites you to participate in an hour of meditative non-denominational Taize music and silence at their monthly ecumenical service held in St. Helens Hall on the first Thursday of the month. The theme this time is “Praying for World Peace”. For more information call 541-815-5574 or email taizebend@gmail.com.

Epiphany Potluck Gathering — Saturday @ 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.

Alternative Christmas Giving Brings Joy!

Thanks to all who helped make this year's Alternative Christmas the best year ever. As of Christmas Day, you donated:

- **Episcopal Relief and Development: \$700 which will be matched for a total of \$1,400.** This will provide many goats, pigs and flocks of chickens for needy communities. ERD provides relief and aid to victims of poverty and catastrophe in the US and internationally.
- **Condega Program: \$765 which will purchase 26 school uniforms** for children in Condega, Nicaragua.
- **Cove/COPY Program: \$6,568 which will provide 12 scholarships to summer camp** for at-risk children, especially those impacted by having an incarcerated parent or caregiver. This includes a match of \$3,000 from Trinity members.
- **Family Kitchen: \$890 which will provide 207 meals.** About 4,600 free meals are served each month to our homeless and less fortunate brothers and sisters, right here in St. Helens Hall.

Of course, the need continues year-round - help anytime by making a check out to Trinity Episcopal Church with one of these charities on the memo line. Drop it in the offering plate or mail/take it to the church office. Questions: contact Marie Suhre @ 541-306-6043 or suhredts@hotmail.com.

Nominations for the Vestry

In the December issue of The Trumpet, our monthly newsletter, we announced that we will be electing three Vestry members at our Annual Meeting on January 28, 2018.

In accordance with our parish bylaws, this year's Nominating Committee (John Lawson, Bill Silliman, Bill Swarts) have submitted the names of three persons to fill the anticipated vacancies on our Vestry. The bylaws do allow for additional nominations from the parish, but the deadline for those nominations (in writing) is four weeks prior to the meeting – i.e., today.

There are some “member in good standing” requirements that pertain, as well as a willingness to participate in an annual orientation day/retreat.

Community Book Conversations — beginning Tuesday, January 9th

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 cntrygrl1947@gmail.com to sign up or with questions. Chuck Johnson is co-facilitating this series.

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.

12/31	Sunday	8 AM	Holy Eucharist: Rite I
		9:15 AM	NO Adult Forum (on holiday)
		10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist: Rite II ... <i>and more Christmas Carols!!</i>
		11:30 AM	Coffee and Conversation
1/1/18	Monday		Offices closed for the New Year Holiday
1/3	Wednesday	Noon	Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
		2:30 PM	Sermon Reflections
		4 PM	Centering Prayer
		6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
1/6	Saturday	9 AM	Altar Guild
		5 PM	Epiphany Party
1/7	Sunday	8 AM	Holy Eucharist: Rite II
		9:15 AM	Adult Forum
		10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist: Rite II
		11:30 AM	Coffee and Conversation