

# The Carillon

## Gratitude for Life

Once a year we set aside a special day to give thanks, yet we know that, many times, genuine appreciation goes unshared. Jesus recognized this in the story found in Luke 17: 11-19. “*Ten Lepers*” were helped by Jesus, but only one returned to give thanks. Being appreciated is wonderful. However, gratitude is not always easily expressed. It is a discipline we must cultivate. When we realize who we are, and that we are capable of the same Christ-like qualities that Jesus manifested, we are free to appreciate others, and, in the final analysis, appreciate ourselves. When we experience God’s grace and transforming love in our lives, we gain a valuable perspective. We are then able to grow in our appreciation of the gift of life and experience a greater appreciation for those around us.

I have had the pleasure of working with the members of the Finance and Stewardship Committee to plan this year’s stewardship campaign, and our church has been blessed ceaselessly and abundantly by their efforts. In the days to come you will begin to hear more about this year’s plan for our church. The enthusiasm being exhibited by everyone involved is a sure sign that God is in our midst.

During this season of Thanksgiving, I invite you to ponder the things that you are grateful for. Spend some time discerning how God is working in your life, and give thanks! Each of us has been entrusted with many blessings in our lives. We are reminded in scripture: “*To whom much is given, much is expected.*” Our task is not to do everything, but to do everything we can. Please keep the church in your prayers as we -move into a new season of stewardship. A quote from the October addition of Stewardship magazine reminds us: “God can manage without money, but the church being in this world cannot. The free will offerings of church members are crucial if we are to carry on its work. How else are we to provide for the spread of the Gospel? *“Give thanks my friends, in all things give thanks. I give thanks to and for each and every one of you!”*”

Grace and Peace, *Dr. Calhoun*



**CELEBRATE** God’s love.

**NURTURE** relationships with God and one another.

**SERVE** our community and world, as we share the light of Christ.

*Trinity is a Reconciling Congregation of The United Methodist Church.*

## INSIDE this issue

|                                         |    |
|-----------------------------------------|----|
| Minister’s Message                      | 1  |
| Prayers • B-days/Anniv. • Rose Window   | 2  |
| Stewardship & Saints Theme              | 3  |
| Volunteerism: Join in Giving Back       | 4  |
| Accessibility Proj. & Charge Conference | 5  |
| All Saints’ • Thanksgiving Boxes • etc. | 6  |
| Opportunities • Book Club • etc.        | 7  |
| Gallery • Makers’ Market • Boar’s Head  | 8  |
| Trunk or Treat • & More Opportunities   | 9  |
| Honoring Edith Dorang’s Service         | 10 |



Trinity will be closed on Tuesday, November 11th in observance of the holiday.

**VISIT US ONLINE:**  
trinityspringfield.org



# Prayer Requests

*As a faith community, we're here to share in each others' experiences and lift each other up in prayer. Whatever you're facing – whether it's a cause for joy, a challenge weighing you down, or a particular intention you're holding close to your heart – we want to join you in prayer.*

## Please Pray for these Members/Friends:

James A, Bridget B, James B, Meri B, Natalie B, Mary C, Dominick E, David F, Sophia G, Courtney H, Tony I, Pete L, Brenda L, Cristopher L, Katherine L, Amy L, Diane M, Carlos M, Herb M, Holly Joy P, the family of Sue P, Catherine Ann R, Alfredo R, Jennifer R, Henry (Bing) S, Carl S, Lynn T, Allie W, our service members and their loved ones, and those affected by gun violence and natural disasters.

We offer our Christian sympathy to Dina C and Karin K and family, upon the passing of their mother, longtime Trinity member, Sue P. Sue's memorial service is at Trinity on Friday, November 7 at 10:00 a.m. Please keep the entire family in your prayers during this very difficult time.

## November Rose Window

**November 4** – In loving memory of Pauline, from Judy & Paula

**November 10** – In loving memory of David C, Jr., from his mom, Barbara

**November 13** – Anonymous

**November 27** – In loving memory of Ted & Jane C, from Ted & Judy



## Thank You Notes

Dear Trinity friends,  
Thank you for the beautiful altar flowers for my birthday. Miss you all.

*Jeannette B*

Dear friends at Trinity Church,  
Thank you for your kindness of sending the altar flowers on my birthday! Nice surprise!

*Bev R*



## Celebrating this month's Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Regular Birthdays Regular Wedding Anniversaries (*Italics*) (S) - Staff

- 11/1 Marcie M-F
- 11/2 Noreen A, John A, *David S & Monica A*
- 11/5 Alyssa (G) B, Christina (A) H, Barbara S
- 11/7 James F, *Mark & Laurie W, Jeff & Abney S*
- 11/8 Morgan B
- 11/10 Tina W, *Sherry & Len A*
- 11/11 Christopher R
- 11/12 Gregory A, Drew A, Wynton J, *Nicole & Christopher D*
- 11/13 Debra J, Cody M
- 11/14 Kaya D, Stephanie G
- 11/15 James A
- 11/17 Heather B
- 11/18 Phyllis W-T, Amber T
- 11/19 Audrey C, Karen K, Joanna O, Lee V
- 11/20 Zander C, Max M
- 11/21 Theodore (Ted) G, Lauren G, Laura J
- 11/22 Nicole D, Kasia E
- 11/24 Elizor K, *Elizor & John K*
- 11/27 Sue Ann F, Michael R
- 11/28 Evelyn L, *Beverly & Larry R*
- 11/29 Lynne B

### Milestone Birthdays 75 & Every 5 & 90 +

- 11/1 Robert H
- 11/24 Barbara C

### Milestone Anniversaries Every 5 years

- 11/6 Karen & Daniel K

## Opportunity for "Living Saints"—The 2026 Stewardship Pledge Campaign

Each of us plays a vital role in the life of our church. The Stewardship & Finance Committee at Trinity is excited to announce the 2026 Stewardship Pledge Campaign under the theme "*Living Saints*." This year's theme highlights the everyday saints within our congregation. As stewards of our Methodist tradition, all members are invited to recognize their role in supporting the church's mission, ministries, and future. From maintaining the grounds to nurturing spiritual programs and outreach, stewardship is how we collectively care for the legacy and vitality of Trinity.

On Sunday, October 19, Vera Baker shared the following stewardship testimonial: *"Of course, my pledge supports Trinity's rich worship services like the one in which we are participating today, and it supports all the ways Trinity 'serves the community and the world', but in the end I pledge because God has blessed me, and my life has been made richer by all of you."*

The 2026 pledge goal is \$455,000, a necessary target to meet the increasing costs of insurance, utilities, maintenance and operations, staffing, and ministry programs. With a projected year-end deficit of \$30,000 for 2025, and expenses exceeding income by approximately 7%, the committee urges members to prayerfully consider increasing their pledges by 5-8%. Even a small increase can make a significant difference considering all pledges received. Members are encouraged to submit their pledge by using the QR code provided above, through the giving page of the church website, or by submitting a pledge card. Together, as living saints, we can ensure Trinity remains a strong and welcoming spiritual home for all.



*Chad Thompson*, Chair



2026 STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE CAMPAIGN

### Theme Reflection: Saints – Past, Present, Future

It is easy to forget how blessed we are at Trinity. We are surrounded by saints – people who go above and beyond for this special church. We have people who serve on committees organizing events and leading big projects, and people who work behind the scenes repainting parking spaces and checking on the safety of children. Big and small, outspoken and quiet – these wonderful folks do what they can, when they can, to keep us all building our relationships with God and each other.

It's especially touching seeing this in action with our youth. It takes a lot of courage to embrace your faith as a teen, but our youth willingly help with worship by being liturgists, performing and singing, and serving communion. The sweet insights of the children during Children's Moment always brings God's message into perspective. These future saints remind us of our promise during their baptisms - to guide and nurture the connection to Christ.

As we reach the end of Kingdomtide and our fall theme of saints, I hope you will join me in celebrating the work we have done and continue to do to spread the Word. I'm reminded of the Apostles when Jesus sent them out to do his work. No doubt they wondered if they were up to the task, but they did what they could, when they could, and that made all the difference.

*Lisa Everett*, Worship Committee Chair



## Congratulations!

Clara Lee Sharrard was recognized as Volunteer of the Year for the Open Pantry Community Services of Springfield at the annual meeting of the South Middlesex Opportunity Council (SMOC) — the umbrella organization for 4 different non-profits in the state.

Clara Lee was nominated for over 20 years of work organizing and securing donations for the clients of Open Pantry, including items for the Young Parent Living Program (a shelter for homeless teen moms) and items for the guests of the annual Open Pantry Christmas Dinner.

Clara Lee started volunteering when she was teaching; her Key Club students partnered to raise money to purchase items for the Young Parent Living Program. In recent years she organized her Facebook friends to purchase gifts for the moms and kids at the Young Parent Living program and to purchase knitwear and gift cards for guests at the Christmas Dinner, many of whom are unhoused. If anyone would like to help with this year's collection of toiletries, socks, hats, and gloves to donate to the attendees at this year's dinner, please contact Clara Lee for more details ([publicity@trinityspringfield.org](mailto:publicity@trinityspringfield.org)). For many of the attendees, these practical, basic necessities are their only Christmas gifts.

**Photo:** Trinity UMC Youth participating in a collection drive organized by Clara Lee.



## Who is Feeding Whom?

It was a hot New England day in August. I showed up at church in the early afternoon hours. It was a day off for me. I quickly recognized several Trinity friends in the parking lot. As I walked over to the group, I saw several large boxes of produce. As I looked further, I saw a very long line of people waiting, bags in their hands. I saw young, old. I saw a beautiful variety of melanin. I heard different languages and dialects.

I was assigned to cucumbers. I was then told that there were two different kinds of cucumbers, so try not to mix them up. The long serpentine line of unfamiliar faces began to move. The people receiving the donated food were so grateful. They took lots of fresh vegetables and some bread. I engaged in conversations with them. I learned about the meals and salads they were planning to make with the food. There was one smiling face after another. People hugged me. To some, I spoke in Spanish; or others, I used my handy phone translator app to communicate. I humbly told them, *"God bless you,"* as they passed me. In these tough economic times, I was so thrilled to be able to help make someone's burden a little less.

When all had gone, I drove home with a trickle of water falling from my eye. I cried because I did my part. I cried because I was doing God's work. I cried because of the number of babies that came through the line. I cried as I thought of the elderly folks hobbling through the line. I cried because of the hurt of food insecurity in front of me. I cried because I did a small part of one week of an amazing ministry. I cried because of our volunteers—church members who come week after week to donate their time and energy—hundreds of hours over the course of our partnership with the Food Bank. I cried as I thought of Matthew 25:35, *"For I was hungry you gave Me food; I was thirsty, and you gave Me drink."* We were feeding God by feeding our neighbor. I felt it. Even though we helped to feed our neighbors, I couldn't help but feel fed myself. The human connection that day fed me in ways I hadn't felt for a long time. Are you hungry for that connection? Come! Come join those who volunteer every first and third Wednesday of every month at Trinity. I promise you will leave feeling satiated on so many levels.

*Lisa Bakowski*



## Trustees' Update: Accessibility Project

Progress continues at a good pace on our accessibility project. Since our last update: Forms have been built and concrete has been poured for the footings at the Vincent Hall parking lot entry. • The elevator pit inside the building's Junior Achievement Room reached full depth with walls and floor formed and poured. • And work at the chapel lift area has continued with additional engineered drawings, backfill, and relocation of Comcast's equipment box.



### Trinity UMC's Annual Charge Conference is at East Longmeadow UMC

Trinity's Annual Charge Conference will be held on **Sunday, November 9 at 7:00 p.m.** at East Longmeadow United Methodist Church [215 Somers RD, East Longmeadow, MA ]. This is a combined conference with East Longmeadow and Wesley UMC. Please be sure to attend this important meeting.

**This is a preview of the business of the Church Conference. These six items will be voted on separately by each congregation, by Consent Calendar—one vote for each item.**

- 1) **Election of recording secretary**—The elected recording secretary is responsible for taking attendance and minutes for his/her congregation only. This must be submitted on the Church Dashboard. The required digital Church Conference Minutes report [worksheet available] follows the Church Conference agenda and replaces the narrative minutes. Church Conference Minutes are due one week after the conference.
- 2) **Approval of 2024 Church Conference Minutes** and any Special Church/Charge Conference Minutes since last year's Church Conference.
- 3) **2026 Pastor Compensation Report**—Base compensation, housing exclusion [if designated by the pastor], housing allowance [if offered], and reimbursables are reported in whole dollar amounts by the Staff Parish Relations Committee.
- 4) **2025 Nominations Report**—Vote on church leaders and trustees to serve in 2026)
- 5) **Affirm the Names of Lay Servants**, Certified Lay Servants, Certified Lay Speakers, and Certified Lay Ministers
- 6) **2026 Budget**—Our budget is still in development and will be presented at a later date by the Stewardship & Finance Committee for vote by the Ad. Council.

## All Saints' Sunday, November 2



Trinity's moving All Saints' Sunday worship service included a special communion where we read the names of those who have passed this year—names we have been provided with in advance, of congregants or their immediate family members. During this reading, the Dance Movement Choir brought forth a candle for each person and performed a special liturgical dance.

This service is one of the most meaningful services of the year. All service attendees were invited to bring a single, unwrapped flower to remember their saints who have passed this year or in years prior.

## Thanksgiving Boxes

Giving out boxes filled with all the ingredients for a Thanksgiving feast to our neighbors in need is a long-standing tradition at Trinity Church, and we are looking for your support again this year. Please sign up in Asbury Hall after worship if you are able to help provide food to fill the boxes. If you know of or are a family that is in need of a meal, please call the church secretary to request one.

This year, our goal is to provide Thanksgiving boxes to 60 families. Here is a list of what we are looking for: turkeys (10-15 pounds each), potatoes, winter squash, dried beans (black, pinto, or pigeon peas), gravy, stuffing, cranberry sauce, and fresh or frozen pies.

Once you have signed up, all food except for pies can be dropped off in Asbury Hall after worship on November 2, 9, and 16. We are asking that pies be dropped off the morning of November 23, since we do not have freezer storage for them and fresh pies need to be, well...fresh! Boxes will be assembled by our Trinity youth that Sunday morning, the 23rd, and given out in the afternoon at Trinity's Parkside Pantry from 2-3 p.m.

If you would like to help by monitoring traffic, organizing the line, and carrying boxes to cars on November 23, please let us know ([parksidepantry@trinityspringfield.org](mailto:parksidepantry@trinityspringfield.org)). Thank you so much to everyone for your continued support of this beloved Trinity tradition!

*Ginny Blake, Ginger Elliott, Diane Mackie,  
and Nancy Moriarty*



## New Member Orientation

A new and prospective member gathering has been scheduled for **Saturday, November 15 from 10 a.m. to noon in the Trinity Parkside Café**. Please email Doreen ([doreen@trinityspringfield.org](mailto:doreen@trinityspringfield.org)) in the office to sign-up for this informational meeting, and enjoy a continental breakfast in the Trinity Parkside Café.

This is a great opportunity to learn more about Trinity and the United Methodist Church in general. Mark your calendar now! It will be a wonderful gathering. If you choose to join after the orientation, you will be received into church membership on Sunday, November 23, 2025.



## Angel Tree

Angel tree is a program that Trinity has supported for over 30+ years.

At Christmas time, we help children and their incarcerated parents stay connected through the purchase of gifts which help kids realize they're not forgotten. These gifts provide a special connection to let the child know they are loved and are being remembered.

Angel tags are available at the Connection Point after worship. Please contact Kristina Stone ([angeltree@trinityspringfield.org](mailto:angeltree@trinityspringfield.org)) if you are unable to pick one up.

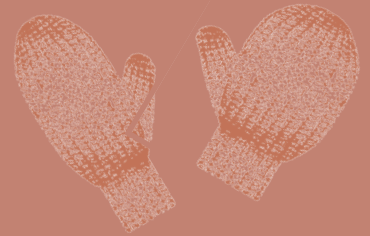
We are also looking for people to help deliver these gifts to local families.

## Mitten Tree

It's time to start preparing for Trinity's Mitten Tree 2025! Last year our Parkside Pantry guests were very appreciative of our Mitten Tree gifts. Share your warmth by donating knitted, purchased, and gently used mittens, hats, and scarves to our Parkside Pantry guests.

Donations will be accepted throughout the month of December.

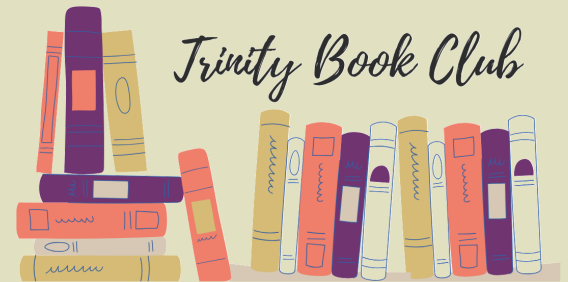
Thank you!



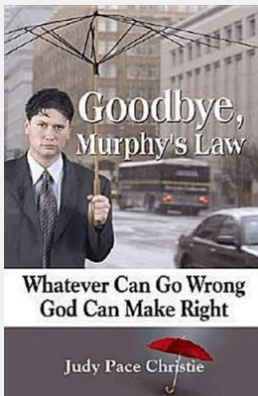
**Trinity Book Club:** The next meeting of the Trinity Book Club will be Thursday, November 6 at 2:30 p.m. at Arlene Mackie's home—the Wellington House, 936 Grayson Ave., Springfield. We will be discussing *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* by Taylor Jenkins. This fictional account of the life of a reclusive Hollywood icon explores the meaning of ambition, love, and the price of fame.

Upcoming books are: December - *My Friends* by Frederick Backman and January - *Salt to Sea* by Ruth Setey. All are welcome to attend.

For more information, email: ([tumcbookclub@trinityspringfield.org](mailto:tumcbookclub@trinityspringfield.org)).



## Upcoming Book Studies with Rev. Dr. David Calhoun



### *Goodbye Murphy's Law: Whatever Can Go Wrong God Can Make Right*

We live in a world where people tend to expect the worst. But God has an amazing plan for each of us, and this plan is not some elusive, mystical riddle we cannot decipher. We can move past dry spells and give up dread and fear. We can shape a vision for our life that is large and special and meaningful. Join Rev. Dr. David Calhoun as we explore this marvelous little book by Judy Pace Christie as she encourages us to seek and discover God's will in our lives through listening, discernment, prayer, and perseverance.

We will discuss ten important questions to help us live a more hopeful, encouraging, engaging, caring, eloquent, practical, prayerful, devoted, Christ-centered life. Judy Pace Christie encourages us, *"To do our best and trust that God will do the rest."*

All classes are held in the Gallery & Café. **Mondays: November 24, December 1, 8, & 15 at 12:1:30 p.m.** The book for Rev. Dr. Calhoun's study can be ordered new or used on Amazon. To sign up, please email Doreen in the office ([doreen@trinityspringfield.org](mailto:doreen@trinityspringfield.org)).

**Future Studies** (Dates to be determined.): *Yes, Lord, I Have Sinned, But I Have Several Excellent Excuses* by James W. Moore • *The Undivided Soul* by Cheryl A. Kirk-Duggan



### Trinity Community Gallery November Exhibit

This month, the Gallery will feature the art of The Scantic River Artisans who are dedicated to providing opportunities for local artists of all ages and skill levels to explore, develop, and market their creations. Their mission is to connect the community through diverse, dynamic, and creative experiences.

Trinity UMC Gallery hours: Monday-Friday, 10a.m.-2p.m.; Sunday. 9a.m.-3 p.m.

### Makers' Market

All are invited to visit the Makers' Market on Sunday, December 7 from noon-2:00 p.m. in the Gallery.

Handmade items by Trinity artisans will be on sale. We are offering this as an alternative to the commercialism that surrounds Christmas.

Products offered will include crocheted and knitted items, notecards, soaps, sewn, quilted, & woven items, and much more! This is a wonderful opportunity to support our congregation's talented artisans, including some of our youth, while enjoying hassle-free shopping for unique gifts for yourself or others. At least 10% of all sales will be donated to Trinity.

We still have space for 2-3 additional vendors. If interested, please contact Clara Lee Sharrard at: ([publicity@trinityspringfield.org](mailto:publicity@trinityspringfield.org)).



### Boar's Head Festival Tickets On Sale 2026 Show Dates: January 9th—11th

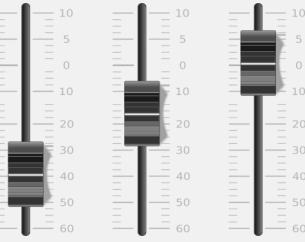
The "Patrons only" Boar's Head Ticket sales have begun. We are again using Eventbrite for all ticket sales. Patrons have the ability to purchase tickets before they go on sale to the general public. If you would like to become a patron, you can find the Patron letter online [here](#) and the patron form [here](#). You can also pick up a copy of the letter and form at the Connection Point at the rear of the church. Tickets go on sale to the general public on November 24, 2025. The premium seats and matinee performance tickets are the most popular.



If you have any questions about the ticket process or need assistance purchasing tickets through Eventbrite, please contact Colleen Bugbee at [mytrinitybhf@gmail.com](mailto:mytrinitybhf@gmail.com) or call (413) 486-0381. Colleen understands that purchasing tickets online can be intimidating, and she will gladly help you with the Eventbrite process.

## Would You Like to Join the Trinity Tech Team?

Do you consider 'muting yourself on Zoom' a spiritual gift? Then the Trinity Tech Team is for you! We handle the church's livestream each Sunday and keep the audio and PA system running smoothly. Don't worry if you're not a pro. If you can move a computer mouse and want to serve, we'll train you. We ask for just a once-a-month commitment, and anyone age 13 and up is welcome to join. Interested? Reach out to us at ([trinitytechteam@trinityspringfield.org](mailto:trinitytechteam@trinityspringfield.org)).



## New Ministry: Earth Advocacy Team

Would you be interested in being a part of a new ministry at Trinity? This team will work with Rev. Calhoun to coordinate, plan, and implement congregational and community action to care for the Earth and renewable resources. The team will:

- Help the congregation understand theological and biblical foundations for environmental awareness and Christian responsibility for Earth stewardship.
- Provide opportunities for people in the congregation and community to learn about issues and actions that have impact on health and future of the planet.
- Lead the congregation in the annual celebration of Earth Day, Arbor Day, and/or other efforts to raise local and community environmental awareness.
- Link with organizations, people, and resources in and beyond the congregation with environmental issues.

Email Rev. Calhoun for more information: ([revcalhoun@trinityspringfield.org](mailto:revcalhoun@trinityspringfield.org)).



## Trunk or Treat: A Huge Success!

Lots of neighborhood folks stopped by to enjoy the festivities along with members and friends of Trinity. There were 19 trunks and over 85 kids who came through. It was

so gratifying to see everyone enjoying the nice weather and getting to know one another.

Afterwards we had Youth Fellowship indoors, where 19 youth watched *Hocus Pocus* and ate pizza.

Thank you to everyone who made the event a huge success! Visit the *Events* tab of our website to view more photos: [www.trinityspringfield.org/events](http://www.trinityspringfield.org/events)



## Help Wanted

Join the Church Parkside Café Team, and help create a warm, welcoming space for fellowship and connection!



Team members volunteer once a month or so to run the café on Sunday mornings to ensure smooth operations. This is a great opportunity to serve others while building friendships and sharing hospitality. No experience is necessary—just a willing heart and a smile!

To sign up or to ask questions, email: ([gallery-cafe@trinityspringfield.org](mailto:gallery-cafe@trinityspringfield.org)).





### A Dedication—Honoring Edith Dorang

Last fall, a Kousa Dogwood tree was planted in front of Trinity in honor of Edith Dorang's 60 years of service to the church. We held a dedication and blessing of the tree on Sunday, November 26. While Edith wasn't able to join us in person, she was there in spirit and is looking forward to seeing photos from the ceremony. Edith has been an important and vital part of the staff and congregation over the years, and we were so happy to be able to honor her in this way.

Psalm 78:4-6 (NRSV) was read, and the dedication included these words of appreciation: *"This tree, whose roots will form an ever strengthening foundation, whose leaves will cast shade for playing children, invites us to reflect on the steady, loving faith and service of our friend, Edith. May both the beauty of the tree and our gratitude for Edith's ministry point our hearts toward God's loving care and inspire our continued commitment to life together as the family of Christ."*



*Believing that all persons are created in God's image and are of sacred worth, that Jesus' message was one of inclusion of those rejected by mainstream society, and that each member makes inherent and valuable contributions to the Body of Christ, we of Trinity Church, welcome into this congregation people of every age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic condition, family structure, and physical or mental ability.*