

# Tidings

## TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

105 BRIDGE STREET · ELKTON, MARYLAND 21921

WEBSITE: [www.trinityelkton.org](http://www.trinityelkton.org) EMAIL: [trinityelkton@verizon.net](mailto:trinityelkton@verizon.net)

Phone 410-398-5350 Rector: The Rev. Beverly Porteus

December 2011



### *My Dear Friends in Christ...*

It is the day before Thanksgiving, and I am trying to write an interesting or useful little letter for the *Tidings*. But my mind and heart are occupied with two things only. One is the sweet thought of a new, less hectic way of living. And the other is an overwhelming sense of gratitude.

A few days ago, I was sitting at home reading. My thoughts wandered, and I found myself saying out loud, to myself and to God, "How in the world did all this happen?" By "all this," I think I meant the unlikely event of priesthood for yours truly, as well as the ensuing path to this wonderful, beautiful, and loving parish. I could never have made it happen on my own.

The past sixteen-and-a-half years have been one of the greatest blessings of my life. Of course, some things were difficult, some very sad, and there were any number of things I wasn't all that good at. But for the vast majority of my days at Trinity, I woke up happy to go to work and came home feeling like I had done some good in this world. There was so little real conflict and so much real fellowship, hard work, and a special sense of community in the Spirit.

I have never loved quite the way I have here. I am a "lover" to begin with—I practically wear my heart right on my face. But at Trinity, especially in worship, I feel God-love and people-love, both so very present, like air to breathe. When I go down the aisle at the end of the line for the procession, I often get shivers on my neck—just feeling the beautiful energy in the church.

I am grateful for all the fine qualities and talents in each of you, all the willing hands I have had the privilege of serving with here. But most of all I am thankful for the spiritual beauty of this place, and the love that makes it real.

I will miss you all very much! Thank you for being you.

In Christ,



### Online "Advent Calendar of Hope"

You can find a daily message of hope in the forward-thinking season of Advent.

Just go to  
[www.trinitywallstreet.org/advent](http://www.trinitywallstreet.org/advent)

Each day of Advent and click on the Advent calendar link and find inspiration and strength for your day.

### *Christmas Eve Services*

*7:00 P.M. Family Eucharist  
with Special Children's Homily*

*11:00 P.M. Choral Candlelight  
Eucharist Special Music at 10:40 p.m.*

### *Christmas Day*

*One service ONLY 10:00 AM*



## VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

2 New Vestry Members need to be nominated as well as Jr. Warden (2 year term). Work on Trinity House continues. Rotating Shelter: We are sharing a week with another church. December 26th and January 1st are our 2 days.

### OUR PRAYER LIST

Sharon Ashlock  
Jacob Asroff  
Jackie Bollinger  
Skip Brown  
Bill Bulford  
Judy Burkley  
Helen Cornacchia  
Jesse Cugini  
Charlie Davidson Sr.  
Samantha Elwell  
Rusann Foster  
Kelly Galyen  
Margaret Graham  
Larry Grandstaff

Russell Holland  
Connie Keares  
Libby Keefer  
Holli Krebs  
Laurie Loveless  
Chase Lupica  
Samantha McDermott  
Emma Moore  
Rose Perrone  
Vaughn Potts  
Linda Rawlings  
Patsy Rouke  
David Russ  
Robert Schick

Russell Stobaugh  
Bunny Sturgill-Martin  
Landon Michael Thrash  
Phyllis Webb  
Theresa Wheeler  
Lisa Wiegand  
**Serving Overseas:**  
Thomas Brady  
Kevin Savage  
Sara Wells-Savage  
Michael Wells



*This year we will be donating unwrapped toys for the needy. Please look for our Christmas box in the back of the church.  
Thank you in advance!*

*Save the Date  
January 7th*

*You will be receiving an invite by email or mail for  
Beverly's Retirement Party*

## Sunday School

Special Greeting during this Advent Season to all our Sunday School families and our Trinity Congregation! We are preparing the way for our Lord by studying lessons about the Advent season and what it means in our daily lives. To put the lessons into practice, the Youth of Trinity will be working on the logistics of a food drive. The students will be identifying needs from our Tuesday Food Pantry, writing itemized lists and stapling them onto paper grocery bags. These bags will be available in the back of the church for members to take home, fill and return to the Parish House. The students will then take them to Trinity House's Food Pantry and stock the shelves with all your donations.



Last year's "goodie bag" project for the local homeless shelter was a terrific success and we thank Trinity members for giving so generously. We hope to repeat the success again and have a overflowing pantry. The students will have the benefit of seeing this project through completion by having the opportunity to work with the Ben and Goldie Cook on Tuesday, December 27th when the Food Pantry is open and distributing food to those in need, thus making the connection from start to finish about their efforts and putting a face to the needy that will hopefully make an impact on the students in the future.

As always, thank you for your continued support of our Sunday School program.  
~Sherri Calladine and Robanne Palmer

## Calling All Trinity Volunteers for the Rotating Shelter

Trinity will be covering 2 days for the Rotating Shelter this year. We are signed up for December 26<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup>. If you are able to provide assistance with dinner, intake, host/hostess or an overnight stay please signup or contact me. A signup board will be placed in the parish hall. Please contact Mary Katharine at 443-350-2439 if you are able to help out or have any questions.

Thank you

~Mary Katharine

**Meeting Ground**, a non-profit organization that strives to end homelessness has been issued a challenge. If they can raise \$20,000 by December 31<sup>st</sup> they will receive an additional donation of \$10,000. A donation jug has been placed at the back of the church where cash/ checks and coins can be placed.



Please consider making a donation to the cause. Checks can be made payable to Meeting Ground. Please make a memo on the check to indicate "Challenge". Donations can also be given to Mary Katharine if you are uncomfortable with placing your donation in the jug. Thank you for consideration.

~Mary Katharine

Ministry Schedule    December 2011

**8 a.m. Service**

**C-B/R**

12/4 Gordon Tozer  
12/11 Marilyn Wardle  
12/18 Mary Helen Atwood

**P of the P**

12/4 Mitzie Snyder  
12/11 Mary Graff  
12/18 Mitzie Snyder

**Usher**

12/4 Paul Arbour Jr., Marilyn Wardle  
12/11 Mitzie Snyder, Frank Brown  
12/18 Mary Graff, Sam Smith

**Altar Guild**

December  
Nina Fletcher and Goldie Cook

**Nursery**

12/4 Joan Gaffney  
12/11 Tammy Cox  
12/18 Sherri Calladine  
12/24 Hired Out

**10:00 a.m. Service**

**Acolytes**

12/4 Aaron Derby, Carri Birdsall  
12/11 Jordyn Parrott, Christina Bello  
12/18 T. J. Taylor, Hunter Taylor  
12/24 7:00 pm J .P. Fossler, Jack Fossler  
11:00 pm Allie Clay, Carrie Birdsall, Jonathon Wood

**Lector**

12/4 Bill Gorak  
12/11 Ross Lee  
12/18 Jill Magnani  
12/24 7:00 pm Bill Gorak  
11:00 pm Hans Nafzinger

**C-B/R**

12/4 Heidi White, Mary Morrison  
12/11 Kathy Davidson, Allen Clay  
12/18 Margaret Russ, Ross Lee  
12/24 7:00 pm Marilyn Wardle, Gordon Tozer  
11:00 pm Ross Lee, Kathy Davidson

**P of the P**

12/4 Debbie McKeown  
12/11 Ed Evans  
12/18 Janice Potts  
12/24 7:00 pm Mike Fossler  
11:00pm Debbie McKeown

**Usher**

12/4 Ross Lee, Dita Wright, Kim Cline  
12/11 Wendy Gilbert, Charlie Davidson  
12/18 Mike Caffey, Rick Burkholder  
12/24 7:00 pm Dita Wright, Kim Cline  
11:00 pm Charlie Davidson, Rick Burkholder

**Greeter**

12/4 Libby Keefer  
12/11 Sherri & David Calladine  
12/18 May Katharine Hitchcock

# December 2011

## Monthly Planner

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