



The Trinity Times



RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK

PUBLISHED BY TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, PORT TOWNSEND, WASHINGTON

DECEMBER 2023



SPOTLIGHT ON STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

By David Engle, Strategic Planning Committee Chair

Trinity's strategic planning committee has been meeting monthly since late summer, 2023. We meet directly following the Sunday service with a small break between the service and the meeting so that our members can be part of the post-service fellowship downstairs. But then it's back to work!

We started our work together by getting to know each other better; to hear what people thought of our church and to share our aspirations for the future of Trinity. We then did a Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis together. That document is available upon request. We shared a document on the basics of strategic planning, as well. We spent a meeting looking at how to match the process of designing a church project with a larger strategic focus on increasing our Christian discipleship. Our most recent meeting in October was spent putting on paper the five (5) strategic topics we felt were impera-

tive to address as a church. Each member submitted (or will soon!) a worksheet that captured their ideas. I'm now looking at those worksheets and capturing the common strategic ideas/projects. See the list that follows:

- Building future fiscal sustainability
- Continual expansion of our music ministry
- Increasing discipleship through an international mission trip
- Upgrading our kitchen to better serve our congregational and community ministries.
- Continue to grow our youth ministry.
- Increasing access for all through ADA improvements to our facility
- Deepening our emphasis on being a reconciling congregation in our community ministries

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The mission of the Trinity United Methodist Church is to be a welcoming ministry to all persons equally; to nurture spiritual development, fellowship and outreach.



PASTOR'S LOG

By Pastor Tony Brown

Oprah's list of favorite things for 2023 is out and the list includes Christmas gifts such as Lollia Elegant Bubble Bath (\$46), Le Creuset Bread Oven (\$300), and Zola Bakes Purple Ombré Rainbow Cookies (\$49). There is so much pressure at this time to buy the perfect gift for those we love, and it can make the Christmas season stressful.

I used to spend so much time looking for Christmas gifts for my sister, her 4 children, and her husband and ensuring that I got it ordered through Amazon Prime shipping so that the gifts would make it in time. Most of the time the gifts were a welcome treasure for a day or 2, but then like with my kids, the presents lost their magic and ended up buried away in a closet or taken to Goodwill. So, a few years ago I decided to do something different through UMCOR.

UMCOR is the United Methodist Committee on Relief and is the global humanitarian aid and development organization of the United Methodist Church (UMC). UMCOR is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization operated under the auspices of the General Board of Global Ministries. One hundred percent of donations are directed to an earmarked project or relief effort. UMCOR works through programs that address hunger, poverty, sustainable agriculture, international and domestic emergencies, refugee and immigrant concerns, global health issues, and transitional development. These programs are categorized into three major areas: Humanitarian Relief / Disaster Response, Sustainable Development and Global Health (in collaboration with UM Global Ministries).

If you go to the website www.umcmmission.org/umcor/ you will find all of the many projects that UMCOR is supporting around the world. Each project gives pictures and a brief story about how that project is changing the lives of people around the world for the better. It's truly amazing how much good work that the United Methodist Church is doing!

100% with



UMCOR

United Methodist Committee on Relief

100% of each gift reaches the mission or ministry of your choice.



So, rather than find the most popular product on Amazon I simply donate an amount to a project, print off the information about the project, and send it in a Christmas card to her family. In the card I let them know

that the gift was made in honor of them as a Christmas present.

I was a little nervous the first year I did this as I thought they'd miss the toys. I was somewhat surprised when they received the card and thanked me for their Christmas gift. They were excited to know that they had helped bring clean water to a village in Africa. Now they look forward to read about the new project I chose for them each year.

So, if you are stressed out about what to get that special someone then I invite you to join me and others in the church who have started to donate to UMCOR projects in lieu of gifts. From my experience people will truly be grateful for the honor and the information about how their Christmas gift is helping others. Additionally, it will help many to remember what the meaning of Christmas truly is.

In Christ,
Pastor Tony



TRUSTEES' REPORT

By Kathy O'Shea, Trustee Chair

When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality.

- Romans 12:13

How privileged we at TUMC are to have such a beautiful space, centrally located, that we can share with our community. One of the activities of the Trustees is to co-ordinate this outreach ministry of being a good neighbor by providing an inexpensive, comfortable and safe place where not for profit groups can meet. Below is a list of the groups that our church has hosted this year. We would love to expand this list and that is how all of you can participate in this outreach ministry. If you know of any groups looking for space, please send their contact information to either me or Lynn. I would be happy to show off our church and see if we can meet their needs.

2023 Community Groups:

- American Guild of Organists
- Candlelight Concert Series
- Community Photography Group
- Firefly Preschool, now Dragonfly Preschool
- Habitat for Humanity, East Jefferson County
- Hospice Foundation
- Olympic Angels Foster Family Board
- PT Cottage School, home school enrichment program
- Recyclery Board
- Refuge Recovery
- Summer Singers
- Wacky Wednesday after-school program for Middle Schoolers
- Wild Rose Chorale

(Spotlight continued from page 1)

- Energy efficiency (such as solar panels) in response to the climate emergency
- Discipleship development and growth
- Volunteer coordination/community organizing.
- Investing in staff
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion ministries

This is a partial listing of the ideas we're considering. Over the course of the next few meetings our committee will be prioritizing recommendations for sharing with the congregation and the administrative board of the church. We hope to close our work with a set of

strategic proposals that will answer the call to increase and deepen our Christian discipleship individually and as a congregation. We are very open to receiving ideas and suggestions from you as we continue this work.

I am grateful to this committee (members listed below) for their good work.

Committee members include:

Miriam Brown
 Tony Brown
 Jan Crow
 Brian Hageman
 Dan Purnell
 Benni Rogge



CANDLELIGHT CONCERT

Thursday, December 14, 7:00 PM

By Beth Kissinger, John Miller, and Ron Portin

Christmas Concert

In-Person, Online & On the Air

To thank the community for its continued support of our Candlelight Concert series the musicians of Trinity United Methodist Church will present a Christmas Concert on **Thursday, December 14, at 7:00 PM.**

The performance will also be streamed live at <https://trinityumcpt.org/concerts> where you will find a link for the Candlelight Concerts Online and ways to donate. The concert will also be simulcast on KPTZ FM 91.9.

Admission to the concert is **free** (really!), with a suggested donation \$15 per person. You are most welcome to attend whether you choose to donate or not. Half of the proceeds from this concert will be donated to St. Vincent DePaul of East Jefferson County (<https://svdpejc.org/>), who responds to the emergency needs of individuals and families in our community who have nowhere else to turn.

We will present a wide range of carols from Gregorian to current favorites performed on the two pipe organs, piano, harpsichord and a virginal alone or in combination. The Trinity Chancel Choir and Trinity Bell Choir will also share their music.



In the final portion of the concert, everyone is invited to join us in singing carols with the organs and keyboards. Please plan on joining us for a reception following the performance.

Trinity United Methodist Church is located at 609 Taylor Street, across from the Community Center, in Uptown. Attendees should plan on arriving early – doors will open at 6:30. Masks are encouraged for in-person attendees.



CANDLELIGHT CONCERT LINE-UP & CHARITIES

Thursday, January 25
Chris Gilbert

Thursday, February 22
Michael Carroll

Thursday, March 28
David Michael

Thursday, April 25
Mike & Val James

Thursday, May 23
Jere Canote & Bobbie Nikles

Thursday, June 27
Lino Rivera



Our Candlelight Concerts have raised donations for these charities:

OlyCap

Food Bank

Dove House

Gatheringplace

Bayside Housing

Food Bank Growers

Habitat for Humanity

Wild Rose Chorale Scholarships

Olympic Neighbors

St Vincent de Paul

Jumping Mouse

Olympic Angels

Recovery Café

YEA Music!

NAMI



Last Month's
Concert with
Kozmopolis



FINANCE COMMITTEE

By Zoe Ann Dudley, Finance Chair

Hello All,

I want to report to you that on November 14, your Finance Committee held a lengthy meeting to begin the 2024 Budget Process. We were pleased to welcome our new "Official" member Paul Nebel.

We carefully went through each and every expense and income item. As we have taken on the mortgage payments, that alone creates an additional expense of \$12,000.

Half of all our expense line items will increase in 2024....some by a small percentage and others by a

larger percentage. We are analyzing everything carefully.

IN ORDER TO DETERMINE OUR TOTAL INCOME, WE WOULD GRATEFULLY APPRECIATE ALL EOGs (*Estimates of Giving*) TO BE SUBMITTED. Many have been submitted and we thank you for your generous donations. To everyone who gives what they can when they can, many thanks are given.

YOUR 2024 PLEDGE DOES NOT ROLL OVER FROM 2023. A new EOG is required each year. Thank you for your caring LOVE AND SUPPORT for Trinity. Together we will do our best to take care of our Church. It is an honor to work with you all.

..... cut here

My Trinity United Methodist Church Estimate of Giving (EOG) to the General Fund for 2024

Name(s) _____

\$ _____ weekly monthly one-time other (circle one)

If one-time or other, when can it be expected to reach Trinity? _____

Special instructions/note _____

Please submit your info by November 12. You can leave this form in the offering plate or mail to: Trinity UMC, 609 Taylor Street, Port Townsend, WA 98368, or submit your EOG on our website: trinityumcpt.org under 'Donate'.

We will contact you to confirm your EOG.

Thank you for your ongoing Prayers, Presence, Gifts and Service to Trinity!



EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Christmas Season at Trinity

United Women in Faith Christmas Luncheon

December 8, 11:30 AM

Christmas Candlelight Concert

Thursday, December 14, 7PM

Appetizers

Sunday, December 17
after worship

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Saturday, December 24, 6PM

ESTIMATE OF GIVING 2024

In case you haven't turned in your Estimate of Giving form, yet, they are still available in person at worship, in this newsletter, and our website—go to trinityumcpt.org and look under 'Donate'.

Within a couple of weeks of receiving it, we will contact you by email to confirm your information. If you have not been contacted within 2 weeks, please contact Lynn in the office.

When planning for this, remember that you can choose from several ways to get your donations to Trinity: Bill Pay (through your bank), snail-mail, Vanco (online), and in the collection plate.

TRINITY FRIENDS!

Our winter groups are now together for another opportunity to meet others in our congregation.

Here are the hosts:

- Sweet Peas—Marlene Colvin
- Cutthroats— Bess Anne and Jeff Corwith
- Chinooks—Brandi and Brian Hageman
- Sockeyes—Sally and Charlie Helman
- Cohos—Kelly and Joe von Volkli
- Steelheads—Donna and Dan Purnell

Your hosts will soon be contacting you to arrange your first get-together!

— Dan and Donna, Trinity Friends Coordinators

TRINITY TIMES DEADLINE

Articles and photos need to be received by the office by **Tuesday, January 23** for our next publication (*January & February are combined in early February*). Please e-mail your items to the office at trinityumc@olympus.net.





TRINITY UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

By Sarah Heiner, Trinity UWF President

Our general meeting on November 10th was held in the Fellowship Hall with our usual potluck. In attendance, besides the four officers were Dalene Edgar, Ross Mayeda, Margaret Engle, Chris Walvatne, Beth Kissinger, and Vicki Long.

Business items were discussed by Sarah. 1) Signing up to provide stocking stuffers (for the stockings made by Marlene and decorated at our last meeting) for the 4 children at Dove House

2) Signing up for the after-church Thanksgiving potluck on November 19 3) Issues with the front door and the recent appearance by Sarah, Pastor Tony, and Kathy O'Shea at the Board of County Commissioners to discuss our church's withdrawal of our grant request for ADA funds from the county's subcommittee. Sarah explained briefly that this was to avoid any potential for slowing down the project to repair the door further. We have most of the funds needed for an electric door opener, but Sarah is also actively looking into repairing the side of the new door that does not close correctly, which is a separate issue.

Zoe Ann then gave her Treasurer's report which was all good news! We now, thanks to our members' donations, have \$1122.18 in our bank account, making us able to fund our speakers' organizations of choice with \$100 each over this year, as well as make our usual Christmas donations of \$100 to both Dove House and Jumping Mouse. The latter two donations were approved by a show of hands at the meeting.

Sarah then congratulated Bess Anne and Debra for a job well-done, along with Marlene (out ill today) with our recent Harvest Craft Fair and Bake Sale. Zoe Ann reported that it is looking like we will have made well

more than \$3000, most of which hopefully will be used on a new floor for our kitchen.

Bess Anne was then invited to bring the group up to speed on what's happening with our kitchen. She reviewed the detailed paperwork for the county, which she completed, and the groundwork laid out over the years by Donna Purnell, Marlene, and many others to reach our goal successfully of being a designated Donor Kitchen as well as a Donor Food Distributing Organization. Bess Anne and Bill Brock will be meeting with the county inspectors on Monday November 13th at 9



am for the final walk-through inspection.

(I am happy to report that as of this writing, we passed our inspection and the trustees will be getting down to the nuts and bolts of having a kitchen committee and all the ongoing documentation etc. that will be needed to maintain it. This is big!! We can now cook at the church and take hot meals to the Legion Shelter, or wherever, as needed, among other potential service opportunities.)

Debra then introduced our speaker for the day; East Jefferson Habitat for Humanity's long-time executive director, Jamie Maciejewski. Prior to her talk we had a devotion from Deb from the book "What I Learned from God While...Gardening" by Niki Anderson and Christine Bolley. It centered on how some human interactions are similar to trying to force a flower to bloom out of season. Sarah then delivered a short prayer centered on Peace, for grace.

After eating Jamie gave us a great talk. She highlighted that Trinity and EJ Habitat have been entwined since

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about 2006. She gave us a lot of information which is available in Bess Anne's minutes from the meeting which Sarah will attach to a group email. East Jefferson County's Habitat for Humanity website is <https://www.habitatejc.org/newsletter-subscription>.

Our December meeting will be at Sarah's home in the Cape George Colony. Her address is 161 Quinault Loop. There are indoor carpeted stairs. There is parking but carpooling is encouraged as the street is old and narrow. The board will meet earlier that morning to set up, then we will have a potluck luncheon and everyone is encouraged to bring a holiday favorite. After lunch we'll have a brief meeting then finish as we did last year with a carol sing-along. She has the lyrics from last year and again will take requests (if they're easy to play!) Libby Schnick will be playing her violin as well and hopefully Mary Hedberg will also be able to attend and play her dulcimer. Sarah is going to send out a separate email that week with a map.

FORGING ON IN FAITH!



United
Women
in Faith

December Celebrations!

DECEMBER Birthdays

- 6 Dan Purnell
- 7 Jill Buhler
- 12 Lorraine Newman
- 16 Ruth Kohl
- 17 Don Campbell
- 18 Scott Hill
- 18 Charlie Telling
- 21 Maya Boyle

22 Pat Webb

28 Bill Colson

DECEMBER Anniversaries

- 4 Nancy and Alan Stevens
- 14 Bill and Cathy Colson
- 18 Ted and Sharon Wimer (1965)
- 20 Brian and Brandi Hageman

January Celebrations!

JANUARY Birthdays

- 1 Will Kenney
- 16 Alan Stevens
- 21 Jeff Krida
- 21 Mary Weeding
- 24 Eli Allen
- 26 Ciara Abbott

30 Benni Rogge

31 Lynn Zephyrna

JANUARY Anniversaries

- 2 Tony Brown and Eric Incoy

SUNDAY WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Ron Portin Organ Tech
 John Miller Sound, Tech, Musician
 Devon Helman Zoom Tech
 Matt Harter Live Video Tech
 Ron Portin and Melinda LaPlant ... Fold and collate bulletins
 Dan Purnell Liturgist scheduling
 Kathy O'Shea Sunday volunteer scheduling
 Marlene Colvin Money Counter scheduling, training, etc.
 Bess Anne Corwith Candles & paraments
 Vicki Long Communion prep

DECEMBER 3

Liturgist: Dan Purnell
 Greeter: Sheila Burrell
 Money Counters: Sheila Burrell and Melinda LaPlant

DECEMBER 10

Liturgist: Vicki Long
 Money Counters: Sally Helman and Chris Walvatne

DECEMBER 17

Liturgist: Kelly von Volkli
 Money Counters: Donna Purnell and Beth Kissinger

DECEMBER 24

Liturgist: Debra Olson
 Money Counters: Marlene Colvin

DECEMBER 31

Liturgist: Sally Helman
 Money Counters: Donna Abbott and Marlene Colvin

TRINITY LIFE AND COMMUNITY

FROM SHIRLEY AND GEORGE WILLIAMS

It is very difficult to talk about our son John, who recently died, in person to so many so we're sending this message in the newsletter. All your children are special, but John, more recently, really special. When George broke his leg in May, 2022, John took 2 weeks of his vacation time to fly from Denmark to help. He cheer led his dad through many painful steps. He cooked meals, cleaned house, weeded the garden, mowed the grass and trimmed the bushes, all with a sense of humor.

John, at his home in Denmark, was a Finance chairman of his Methodist church for many years, and his family sponsored refugee families. They loved to entertain and hosted many big dinners for friends and family. He was an avid gardener and

his yard was filled with fruit trees, flowers and a waterfall with a large pond filled with large koi fish.

We received pictures and words from the service they held at his church. Several phrases stand out, he was a man of deeds and actions for his friends and family. His daughters list him as the "World's most patient man". His wife had been sure they had 30 more years. As parents, we can't take all the credit, John was influenced by many friends, neighbors, church camps, teachers, and work colleagues. He lived a good life and left us with many wonderful memories.

Sincerely,
Shirley and George Williams

CAN YOU GUESS WHO IS IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS PHOTO?

Send your best guess in to the office. We'll make an announcement in the next Trinity Times to reveal the mystery photo!



Holiday Appetizers

We will not be having Taco Sunday in December. Instead, we will be doing appetizers on **Sunday, December 17th** after church. We hope everyone will participate by bringing your favorite dessert or snack to share. After our lovely Thanksgiving Table let's fill up our Christmas Table with hors-d'oeuvres and treats!

Your Kitchen Elves





IN OUR PRAYERS

Please remember these people and their families in your prayers: **Juanita Campbell, Cecil, Pinky Dale, Diane Delmar, Drewery Family, Kris Fairbanks, Lisa Flick, Steve Freeman, Teresa Gonzales, Ray Grier, Addison Kinchen, Clayton LaPlant, Lu, Beth Mackey & Stan Goddard, Marla Moriarty, Tom Olson, Recovery Café, Lisa Reynolds, and Pat Webb.**

Please pray for healing and support for our Trinity family, friends, and family members.

Pray also for those who are lonely, grieving, in need, homeless or looking for work, and for peace in our world.

Also, remember in your prayers all those in the military, and pray for all in harm's way and their families, as well as those who have lost loved ones to war.

Please pray for those innocents who have died and those affected by war and violence throughout the world.



BIBLE READINGS

December 3

1st Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 64:1-9

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Mark 13:24-37

December 10

2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Mark 1:1-8

December 17

3rd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Psalms 126

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28

December 24

4th Sunday of Advent/Christmas Eve

Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16, Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38, Luke 1:46b-55

Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7, Psalm 96

Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-20

December 31

1st Sunday after Christmas

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Psalm 148

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:22-40



December 2023

Trinity Event Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 Communion Sunday Food Bank Sunday 10 Worship Service 11 Coffee & Fellowship	4 9-12 Office Open 12 Bible Study	5 9-12 Office Open 7 Pub Theology (offsite)	6 9-12 Office Open 9 Work Wednesday 9:30 Clean Team & Coffee 11 Souper Wednesday 1:30 Wacky Wednesday 5:30 Bell Choir	7	8 11:30 UWF Luncheon	9
10 10 Worship Service 11 Coffee & Fellowship Blood Pressure Check	11 9-12 Office Open 12 Bible Study	12 9-12 Office Open 10:30 Trustee Mtg 12 Finance Mtg 5:30 Voice Choir	13 9-12 Office Open 9 Work Wednesday 9:30 Clean Team & Coffee 11 Souper Wednesday 1:30 Wacky Wednesday 5:30 Bell Choir	14 7PM Candlelight Concert Christmas Concert	15	16
17 10 Worship Service 11 Coffee & Fellowship Appetizers after Worship	18 9-12 Office Open 12 Bible Study	19 9-12 Office Open 5:30 Voice Choir	20 9-12 Office Open 9 Work Wednesday 9:30 Clean Team & Coffee 11 Souper Wednesday 1:30 Wacky Wednesday 5:30 Bell Choir	21	22	23
24 10 Worship Service 11 Coffee & Fellowship 6 Christmas Eve Service	25 	26 Office Closed 5:30 Voice Choir	27 9 Work Wednesday 9:30 Clean Team & Coffee 11 Souper Wednesday 4:30 Wacky Wednesday 5:30 Bell Choir	28	29	30
31 10 Worship Service 11 Coffee & Fellowship						

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Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, &
Wednesday, 9am-noon.

Trinity Times is published by Trinity UMC.
Please email photos, articles, calendar
items, announcements, etc., to
trinityumc@olympus.net. See the
calendar for current deadline.

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Photos in this issue were submitted by Pastor Tony, Ron Portin, Nancy
Stevens/Trinity Hiking Group, Dan Purnell.



*Pray for Love, Peace, Justice
and Rebirth in the world.*

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
609 Taylor Street
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