

# NEWSLETTER

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[www.scotiatrinity.org](http://www.scotiatrinity.org)

Rev. Kathleen Gorman-Coombs &  
Rev. Dr. Timothy Coombs  
185 SWAGGERTOWN ROAD  
Scotia, NY 12302

Do justice, love  
kindness, walk humbly  
with God.

**SUNDAY**  
**10:00 AM**

Sunday School and  
nursery available  
during worship. We  
are an accessible  
Church.

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## A message from Pastor Kathy.

Dear Friends:

And once again, it is December. Advent, the beginning of the Church Year. This year, 2018, will be the 30<sup>th</sup> Advent Tim and I have been here as your pastors. (This seems screwy, because our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary here is not till next September . . . but, I counted the years on my fingers, so it must be right. I guess it is that by next September we will have completed 30 years, so we'll have done 30 of all things seasonal by then.)

Anyway—there is, as always, a lot happening this Advent! Several Mission opportunities, several fellowship activities, a sermon series, and of course the Annual Pageant and Advent Dinner.

Here's what we have planned for a Sermon Series and Advent Theme:

### **“We Get There By Walking”**

Through the Advent season, we will look at all the Advent/Christmas connected Bible stories that have to do with walking, recognizing that anything we do as human beings, then as now, is one step at a time.

Sunday, December 2	Isaiah 40:1-11	Walking Home From Babylon
Sunday, December 9	Luke 3:1-17	Walking out to see John the Baptist
Sunday, December 16	Luke 1:26-45	Mary walks to visit Elizabeth
Sunday, December 23	Luke 2:1-5	Mary and Joseph walk to Bethlehem
Christmas Eve	Luke 2:6-20	The shepherds walk to see the baby

Speaking of Christmas Eve, we'll be back to 2 services for this year; a younger family oriented service at 4 PM, and one for older families and adults at 9 PM; of course all are welcome at either, and both will include Silent Night sung by candlelight.

Tim and I “borrowed” the title “We Get There By Walking” from the title of a blog by another pastor, Rev. Paul Alcorn, whom we know through mutual friends; when I asked his permission to use the title, he shared this story:

“I first saw the saying at a contemplative retreat center in Sedona, AZ almost 50 years ago. They had a banner in their worship space which read “Pilgrim there is no way. You make it by walking.” I drew a picture of that banner and saying and carried it around with me in my wallet until the paper disintegrated. But it's message remains.”

Indeed it does. Join us on the Sundays in Advent so that together we can make our way.

Kathy



### YOUTH GROUP

After a successful pumpkin launch and time of packing Thanksgiving baskets it is time to turn our attention to the preparations for Christmas. On Saturday, Dec. 1 gather at Trinity at 1:00 pm for the Great Christmas Tree Hunt and decorating party. Plan to be at Trinity until 4:00 pm.

Then on Sunday, December 9 we will go Christmas caroling to our home bound members and friends. All the church is invited. We will gather at Trinity at 4:00 pm and finish around 7:00. See you there.

After the Christmas break the Youth Group will gather for the annual "Let's Get Crazy" Game Night. Join the fun on Sunday, January 6 at 4:30 when we will play some games you've never would conceive in your wildest dreams.

### PROJECTOR FUND

We are just about to meet our goal on the projector fund. Thanks to all who contributed thus far. It will be ordered and installed shortly.

If you have not contributed please write a check made to Trinity Presbyterian Church with "Projector Fund" in the memo line. Thank you.

### Thank you to

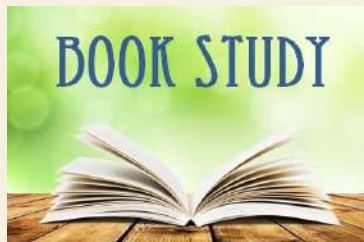
Adrienne Hall for her work on the Advent scroll.  
Wendi Brandow, Sharon Kenyon, Steve Parsons, Wayne Virkler, and Cameron Breslin for telling their Trinity stories via video in worship.



## INFORMATION FROM PASTOR TIM:

### **Book Study**

A men's group gathers at the Glenville Queen every other Thursday morning at 7:00 to discuss Brian McLaren's book *The Great Spiritual Migration*. Check the church bulletin for the next gathering. The book is an engaging read so don't feel left behind if you missed a time.



### **Wolf Hollow Reception for Tim**

After ten plus years Tim Coombs is ending his position with Albany Presbytery as the Associate for Congregations. The presbytery is honoring his "retirement" with a reception at the Wolf Hollow Brewery on Route 5. The festivities begin at 5:00 and end at 7:00. If you've never been to Wolf Hollow before this is a great opportunity

### **Congregational Meeting**

The Session has called for a meeting of the congregation for Sunday, December 2 to commence immediately following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to elect the new officers to come on the Session and Board of Deacons, as well as to elect the congregational representatives to the 2019 nominating committee.

### **Congratulations**

To Trinity's Trivia Team, aka "The God Squad" who placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the YWCA Trivia fund raiser in November. "We'll get 'em next year!"



## MISSION COMMITTEE NOTES

**The Vendor Fair 2018** was another wonderful success!!! The lunch was wonderful, the vendors creative and friendly, and the bake sale held delicious treats. Our wonderful volunteers are much appreciated and our organizers, Wendi Brandow and Megan Beauchamp, are the masterminds behind our success. All proceeds will be used during the coming year to provide assistance for groups in need. Thank you to all.

The denomination-wide collection for the Christmas Joy Offering will be taken during Advent. The purpose for the collection and details for use of the money collected will be provided in the brochures in the bulletins each week and a talk by Cara Molyneaux during the Minute for Mission on December 2nd.

**From Jane Taber, On-Site Coordinator of the SGHS Food Pantry that we helped to start:**

“Just wanted to say Thank You to all of you who were involved in providing turkeys and extra food to our SGHS families! I hope you realize how much your concern, hard work, time and generosity is appreciated!! Thank you, thank you!!!”

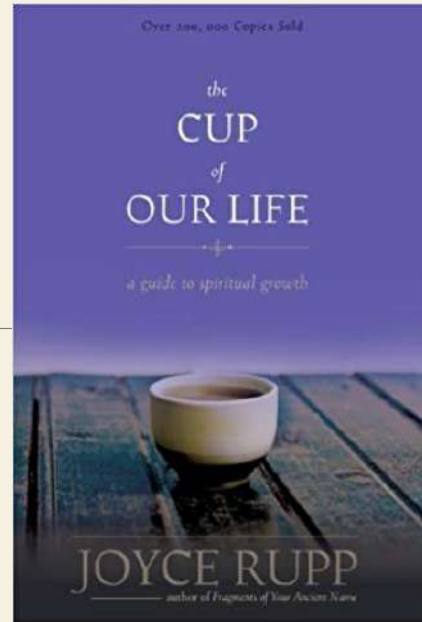
**The Weekend Backpack Program** is in need of crackers to place in the children’s backpacks on weeks when the Food Bank is unable to provide bread. Saltines are wonderful, we can lace a sleeve of them in each child’s backpack. Thanks so much for you help.

**Please join us on Sunday, December 9 after worship (11:30 a.m.)** to make a beautiful one-of-a-kind gift and support the Food and Personal Hygiene Pantry at the high school! Select your item, choose from a wide selection of beads or flowers created by the artist (Pat LeGere), and finish with a cute gift bag. Unique, affordable gifts for family, friends, coworkers or teachers, with 10% of the purchase price going to support the SG High School pantry.



**10% of the purchase price goes to support the SGHS !**





## Women's Spirituality "The Cup of Our Life" 6 Week Devotional and Small Groups

During January and February, Women's Spirituality at Trinity will include an opportunity for a daily devotional/small group experience using a book The Cup of our Life, by Joyce Rupp.

I was given this book a few years ago by Meg Bryant Knarr, of Woodberry Crossing, and have been looking for a good time to use it; this winter seems like it will work. The practice the book recommends includes choosing a cup or mug, to represent ourselves and to use symbolically through the 6 weeks. Themes of the chapters/weeks are: The Cup of Life, The Open Cup, The Chipped Cup, the Broken Cup, the Cup of Compassion, and the Blessing Cup.

Each section includes suggestions for individual reflection as well as for group gatherings. In order to accommodate a variety of schedules, there are two options, both in the evening: Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Tuesdays will be January 8, 15, 22, 29, Feb 5 & 12; Wednesdays will be January 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and Feb 6. Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board in the Annex; if you would like to order a book as part of the group order, please put a check next to your name, and sign up by December 16. See Kathy G-C or Laraine Longhurst with questions.

# For Your Information...



## 2019 Stewardship Campaign

Thank you to everyone who pledged for 2019, your generosity is greatly appreciated, and having the pledge amounts helps Session plan our budget for the coming year. If you haven't pledged yet, but are planning to, please submit your pledge amount as soon as possible. This can be done by putting your pledge envelope in the Sunday offering plate, or mailing your pledge in to Trinity Presbyterian Church, 185 Swaggertown Rd., Scotia, NY 12302.

## Birthdays

Dec. 14	Julie Bishop
Dec. 16	Kelsea Moore, Kimberly (Palmer) Sullivan
Dec. 17	Angelica Savoie Stewart Bell
Dec. 25	Chris Grigsby
Dec. 26	Tim Coombs, Diane Garvey
Dec. 29	Brian Breslin
Jan. 1	Kelsey Jessup
Jan. 8	Jennifer Breslin
Jan. 10	Tony Caruvana
Jan. 12	Jennifer Pietrow, Alec Massey , Barrett Germain
Jan. 16	Daniel Clune, Louise Gundrum, Maria Arket Nagle
Jan. 18	Kyle Coombs, Cheryl Harris
Jan. 21	Bill Palmer
Jan. 24	Adam Murray, Cameron Bishop
Jan. 25	Ed Hutchinson, Jr.
Jan. 27	Bridget Caldwell
Jan. 31	Luke Brandow

**Directory.** We recently discovered that Carole Palmer's daughter and family were left out of our directory!

Kellie, Tony, Maxwell, & Madeleine Pruett  
4930 Viro Road  
LaCanada Flintridge, CA 91011

[kelliesusan@yahoo.com](mailto:kelliesusan@yahoo.com)

We are aiming to potentially publish a new directory in the late Spring that's sure to include them along with any of our newer members who are not yet included.

## Announcers

Dec. 2	Wendi Brandow
Dec. 9	Linda Rockinger
Dec. 16	Melissa Peterson
Dec. 23	Don Wheeler
Dec. 24	Louise Gundrum
Dec. 30	Megan Beauchamp

## Counters

Dec. 2	Louise and Darren Gundrum
Dec.9	Louise and Darren Gundrum
Dec. 16	Louise and Darren Gundrum
Dec. 23	Louise and Darren Gundrum
Dec. 24	Louise and Darren Gundrum
Dec. 30	Louise and Darren Gundrum

## Ushers

Dec. 2	The Masucci Family
Dec. 9	Don & Pat Wheeler
Dec. 16	Mariellen Boomhower, Phil Garvey
Dec. 23	Rick & Laraine Longhurst
Dec. 24	The Beauchamp Family
Dec. 30	Cliff & Adrienne Hall





## For Your Information...



Reminder: Please let us know if there is any change in your directory information- phone numbers, address, email address, etc. Please send to our church secretary at [scotiatrinity@aol.com](mailto:scotiatrinity@aol.com). Thank you!

### Trinity at Holiday on the Avenue

Come to the Village of Scotia's Holiday on the Avenue, Sunday, December 2 from 2:00 to 5:00. We will host a station making Christmas cards for inmates at the jail to send to their loved ones. Also, Tim Coombs will offer a little "A Christmas Carol" and our choir will sing.

### THANK YOU TO...

- Melissa Peterson and Polly Benjamin who taught Sunday School this month.
- Bill and Carole Palmer, Rick Longhurst, Kathy Gorman-Coombs, John Hutchison, and Tim Coombs who turned out for the fall clean up.
- Tom Helenek for blowing our leaves away this fall.
- Thank you to Wendi Brandow and Megan Beauchamp for once again planning and executing a wonderful Vendor Fair. Nearly \$1,600 was raised this year, to be used by the Mission Committee for unexpected needs that arise through the year in the community and world. Thanks also to all who helped, and all who shopped!
- Walt Hayes, Brian Breslin, Rick Longhurst, and Wayne Virkler for picking up Weekend Backpack food each Wednesday at the Regional Food Bank in Latham and delivering the boxes to Trinity in time for packing.
- All the dedicated individuals and families who come faithfully to pack the backpacks and deliver them to Lincoln and Sacandaga Schools each week.
- Many thanks to Jean and Walt Hayes who pick up items for the Food Pantry and deliver them to the S-G High School to assist our older students.
- Thank you to Megan Beauchamp for assisting our guest preacher Viki Brooks on November 25th—announcing, lighting the peace candle, sharing the Word to the Children, and passing the mic for Joys and Concerns. And to Carole Palmer who coordinated all that needed to happen that morning, and to Glenn Pietrow for providing on the spot troubleshooting for "technical glitches."
- Thank you to Bill and Carole Palmer, Rick Longhurst, Kathy Gorman-Coombs, John Hutchinson, and Tim Coombs who turned out for the fall cleanup; since the outdoor weather prevented us from raking, much was accomplished in cleaning out some cluttered areas in the building.



## Christmas Giving: Sharing Our Gifts with Refugees

This year the Mission Committee is asking that we once again assist newly arrived refugees in our area. We have been notified that 40 people have recently arrived at the USCRI (United States Committee on Refugees and Immigration) from the Congo and from Burma. The refugees are in need of everything, having arrived in America with only what they were wearing.

### **Here is a list of needed items:**

- Socks: men's women's children of all sizes
- Toys for children under three years
- Stuffed animals – new or very gently used
- Packages of white, unscented bath soap
- Rice cookers
- Twin sheets or blankets
- Towels of all kinds (bath, kitchen, etc.)
- Cleaning supplies – laundry soap, bathroom cleaners, window cleaners, kitchen cleaners, mops and brooms
- Men's and Women's clothing in all sizes and Children's outdoor clothing for boys/girls – sizes 2T – 4T and sizes 5 – 14; these clothes can be new or very gently used

Please do not wrap any items. We will wrap at Trinity. **Please bring any gifts to Trinity by Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>.**

We also have a Burmese family for whom we are going to provide Christmas gifts. The family consists of two parents and three children. If you are interested in helping this family there is a listing on the bulletin board at church with particular requests.

We are so appreciative of your generosity and kind thoughts during this holy season. Certainly, the families that receive these gifts will be just as grateful.



## Coming in 2019

### **Officer's Retreat, Saturday February 2**

Each year, the leaders of the congregation gather as a full group (Elders and Deacons) to plan for the year and to seek God's guidance in that endeavor. For 2019, the date for this event will be Saturday, February 2, from 9-2. If you are on Session or the Board of Deacons in 2019, please make every effort to attend. See Kathy or Tim with questions.



### **2018 Annual Report** **Sections due January 6**

The annual report is a written document describing the events and activities of the past year, as well as including financial and membership reports. If you are responsible for writing part of the report (Co-pastors, chairs of committees, Clerk, and Deacon) please get them to our secretary Sarah by January 6 so they can be compiled and made available on the Sunday prior to the Annual Meeting

### **Annual Congregational Meeting** **Sunday, January 27,** **immediately after worship**

As a congregation, we are required both by our denominational rules and as a corporation in NYS to have an annual meeting, to review the previous year's activities, including finances. In the Presbyterian Church, the overall budget is determined by the Session, and this is presented to the congregation at this Annual Meeting; the "Terms of Call"-- salary and benefits for the pastors are recommended by the Session, but ultimately approved by the congregation, and this also happens at this meeting. If you are a member of Trinity, please make every effort to be there, as it is an important moment in the life of the church; if you are not an official member, you are still welcome at the meeting.

# Mark Your Calendar

## Holiday on the Avenue- Scotia Village

December 2, 2:00 pm-5:00 pm

Please help out! Trinity will have a table. Tim will perform a stave of "A Christmas Carol" and our choir is to sing!

Please let Tim or Laraine Longhurst know if you can be at our table for 1/2 hour or full hour to greet people and help kids make holiday cards.

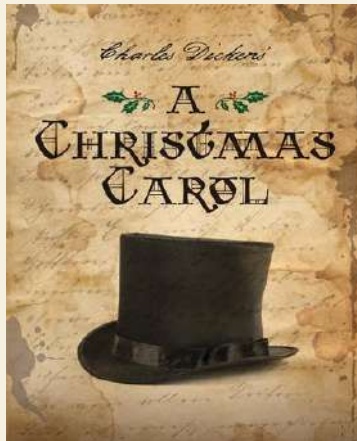
No need to bring anything- just need to be there!

Thank you!

Save  
the  
Date

## "A Christmas Carol"

It's now a Trinity tradition. Tim Coombs will present his storytelling of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" at 4:00 PM Saturday, December 8. Of course, Nicki will be providing her wonderful "high tea" intermission with those delectable scones and short bread. Invite your friends. A free will offering is present which Tim uses for his mission trips to Guatemala and Haiti.



## Church Christmas Dinner

Our annual dinner and pageant will be Sunday, December 16 beginning at 5:30. This is always a highlight of our year. Join us for this wonderful potluck dinner, advent angel revelation, and Christmas play by the children. Details to follow.

## Christmas Eve Services

-> A service for children of all ages will be held at 4:00 PM

-> A more meditative service will be held at 9:00 PM

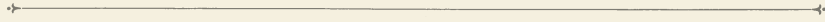
Silent Night will be sung by candlelight at both services



Christmas Eve



# December Calendar of Events



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 1-4pm: Christmas Tree Hunt & Decorating Party
2 Holiday on the Ave  10am-Worship after worship- election of new officers	3	4 7:30pm- Choir	5 5pm- Tim Coombs' "retirement" party @ Wolf Hollow	6	7	8 4pm-Dickens Christmas
9 10am- Worship 11:30am-DIY Christmas Items 2pm- Bridge 4pm- Christmas Caroling	10	11 7:30pm-Choir	12	13 7am- Book Club Meeting @ Glenville Queen	14	15
16 5:30pm- Advent Dinner & Pageant  10am-Worship	17	18 Blue Christmas	19 7pm- Session	20 7:30pm- Choir	21	22
23 10am- Worship	24 Christmas Eve 4pm- Children's Service 9pm- Meditative Service	25 Christmas Day  Pastors On Vacation	26	27 7am- Book Club meeting @ Glenville Queen 7:30pm-Choir	28	29
30 10am-Worship Corlin Bauhofer preaching	31 New Year's Eve					



# January Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 New Year's Day	2 Mission Education Worship Committee Meets	3 7:30pm- Choir	4	5
6 10am- Worship	7	8	9	10 7am- Book Club Meeting @ Glenville Queen 7:30pm-Choir	11	12
13 10am-Worship 11:30am-Mission 2pm-Bridge	14 Tim out of town	15	16 7pm- Session	17 7:30pm-Choir	18	19
20 10am-Worship	21 Martin Luther King Jr . Day	22 7pm- Deacons	23	24 7am-Book Club Meeting @ Glenville Queen 7:30pm-Choir	25 5pm-Soup Shabbat Congregation Gates of Heaven	26
27 10am-Worship Annual Meeting	28	29	30	31 7:30pm-Choir		

## Epiphany Undecorating Party

Our recognition of Epiphany will take place on Sunday, January 6, which is the actual day of Epiphany. Epiphany is the day, twelve days after Christmas, when is traditionally recognized that the magi arrived to worship the baby Jesus.

It is also the day we hold our “un-decorating” party as we put away the Christmas decorations and prepare the sanctuary for the season of Epiphany, which lasts until Ash Wednesday, which is March 6<sup>th</sup> this coming year.

Bring a chicken-based or vegetarian can of soup. We will round out the meal with some bread and cheese. Of course, there will be the Epiphany cake with its crowns baked into it. Who will be the lucky ones who get to be “wise” for the day?

