



TRINITY TOPICS

The Newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church

POTTSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

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January/February 2022

Dear People of God at Trinity,

Once again, we have celebrated the Light of the World coming into our midst. The Baby Jesus, our Savior and Redeemer, the man and God who teaches us to be the light for others through our love and actions. The following quote from Teresa of Avila is so appropriate for this post-Christmas season and all seasons:

"Christ has no body now on earth but yours, no hands, no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes with which Christ looks out his compassion to the world. Yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which he is to bless us now."

We are the helpers who carry on Jesus' ministry of love and act as his hands, feet and eyes on this earth. Just think of the loving ministries that led up to Christmas and carry on beyond.

*The Thanksgiving Day collaborative dinner which served almost 500 people.

*The Advent project which handed out or delivered almost 200 packets of love and devotion.

*The MPTF Christmas project which reached out to our shut-ins and nursing home residents. Ornaments made by the children for the tree.

*The Christmas Mission project which fed and purchased gifts for needy families.

*The Clothesline of Love which offers a chance to be warmer and dry and will continue until March.

These and many other ministries are who we are at Trinity and our sister parishes. May the Light of the Christ Child continue to reach out to our community in all seasons so others can recognize the loving hands, feet and eyes of Jesus.

Your Vestry

>Annual Meeting on January 16, 2022

>Ash Wednesday is March 2, 2022- 8 or 8:30 am at Trinity, 6 pm at St. John's Memorial, Ashland. More information will be forthcoming.

Trinity Church's Mission Statement

"Living, loving, sharing in the name of Jesus Christ"

Vision Statement

"Honoring the past as we build a strong foundation for the future, while sharing our Christian faith through service to the community."



Annual Meeting

The Annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 16, 2022 during the 9 am service.

Annual Meeting Reports and Vestry Biographies

Reports from all ministries and committees are due in the office no later than January 7, 2022. Also, short biographies from those standing for election to the Vestry are due by the same date. Please be prompt so that the booklet can be compiled in a timely manner.



In-Person Worship and Zoom

We continue to worship in person, but because of the rising Covid numbers, we request that you wear a mask if you feel safer. If you have not been vaccinated, you are asked to socially distance when in attendance so that we love our neighbors as we are loved. We are still offering Zoom; if you are interested in attending a ZOOM service, please contact Father Kurt at nomenk3@hotmail.com or 570-640-1738. He will be most happy to include you. The service is at 9 am.

Souper Bowl Sunday

On Sunday, February 13, 2022, we will have another soup sale fundraiser. The warm, delicious soups from our great cooks will be the perfect light supper or lunch for cold winter days. Containers will be available in the New Year.

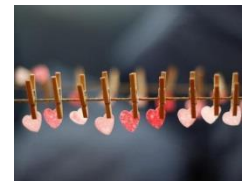


Lay Eucharistic Visits

As has happened in the last few years, Communion visits by Lay Eucharistic visitors will be on hold in January and February because of the potential of poor traveling weather. However, if you would like someone to come to you during those months, please call Cathy Clouser and hopefully a visit can be arranged.

Clothesline of Love

Our outreach ministry of putting hats, gloves, scarves, and socks in front of the church on a line will continue until March. If you can donate items for this important ministry, please drop them off at the church at the 2nd St. entrance or call for pickup. Thank you.



Christmas Mission Project

Many thanks to all people who contributed to the Christmas Mission Project. The families that picked up their gifts were very emotional and so grateful for the generosity of the church. A blessing for those receiving and for us in giving.



THE MUSIC CORNER

by Cora A. Gamelin-Osenbach

We are so thankful for our beautiful Christmas Eve service and the special music provided by Teagan and Elliot Wehr, Lea and Timothy Bortner. The sanctuary was aglow with the lighted Christmas trees and the crèche bringing the wonder and hope and joy of the Christ Child into our midst. Let us through our many ministries keep that light shining as we go out into the world loving and serving.



Concert Series

A prolonged standing ovation met the Mendelssohn Piano Trio at the end of their concert on November 21st. Their virtuosity, energy and passion enthralled and thrilled the audience and we are grateful that they enjoy being with us and performing in our sanctuary. We trust this will not be their last visit. Our next concert will be on March 27, 2022, featuring Samantha Wood Balboa, Ruben Balboa, III and John Kline, IV. This unique combination features two local musicians — Samantha and John who have gone on to wonderful careers. More information will be coming in the March/April edition of the TOPICS. Hopefully, we will be able to host a reception after that concert. Once again, we are so grateful to our patrons for supporting this series and our audiences for attending and spreading the word.



Cooking Demonstration Dinner

On Saturday January 22, Chef Brian Setlock of the Bake Shop VI will present a 3-course cooking demonstration dinner at Trinity at 5:30 in the Parish Hall. Chef Setlock is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America, has worked as a pastry chef in Las Vegas, and is now the owner of the Bake Shop VI on Centre St. in Pottsville.

The cost of the dinner is \$30.00 per person and \$50.00 per couple and will benefit the Summer Reading Camp. Dinner will include a salad with vinaigrette dressing, main course of chicken confit and wild mushroom risotto, and a poached pear tart for dessert, as well as coffee and tea. This is a BYOB function.

As we all know, winter weather can be tricky so in the event of a storm, we will hold the dinner on Sunday January 23. Anyone purchasing tickets will be notified by phone of the changes. If you have any questions or would like to purchase tickets, please see Barb Tokarz.

Trinity Episcopal Church

200 S. Second St, POTTSVILLE, PA 17901

Contact Barb for questions: 570-691-5113



~is joining together with~

Bake Shop VI

22 N Centre St, Pottsville, PA 17901

570-205-6049

FOR A COOKING DEMO

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, 2022 @ 5:30PM

BYOB, You'll be enjoying the following menu
as you are shown how to prepare it!

FIRST COURSE

SPRING MIX & PARMESAN SHAVINGS WITH
BSVI'S VINGARETTE

SECOND COURSE

CHICKEN CONFIT WITH WILD MUSHROOM
RISOTTO

THIRD COURSE

POACHED PEAR TART

TICKETS

SINGLE ... \$30

COUPLE ... \$50

Barb 570-691-5113

Pick up Tickets at Bake Shop VI too!





Charles Baber Preservation Trust

Details and Distractions

by C. Field - January 2022

January and February, filled with cold, snow, short daylight hours and limited outdoor activities, can be a dismal, restricted, and sad time of year for some people. For others, it can be a time of reflection, perhaps a time to form plans and pursue dreams, or a time of passivity and becoming a couch potato. Others embrace physical activities of skiing, ice skating or hockey, or indoor tennis or pickleball. No matter what avenue you take during the winter months, sometimes a change of scenery and an outside diversion can adjust any mood or frame of mind. For those that can get outside and be touched by nature, the trees are eager to grab your attention to show their wares. Some people see the trees at this time of year as barren and boring, with nothing to attract the admiration or attention of the observer. And yet, if you look closely at one single tree from its base to its top, the tree takes on its own character. Displaying and detailing its character and distracting you is a tree's most impressive job during the winter months.

As you eyeball the tree from top to bottom, look at the shape of the tree and the curve of the branches. There are so many shapes: round, pyramidal, oval, conical, vase, columnar, open, weeping, irregular, and spreading. Some trees readily fit into one particular category, for instance, the eastern white pine and the ginkgo are irregular. And of course, the weeping willow and weeping cherry are just as recognizable. The Norway spruce are pyramidal. However, some trees aren't quite sure where they want to be and do not feel the need to be in one particular category. Other trees, like humans, might be one shape in youth and then age into round or spreading as adults. Trees like the European hornbeam are tear-dropped shaped and don't fit into the basic descriptions. Trees like the oaks are generally round but they can be as wide as they are tall. And with the oaks, we add a new shape dimension called "immense size". Other trees, like the dawn redwood, change their shape from pyramidal to round. The London planetree also starts out as pyramidal but grows into an oval, but after more research, I found it is defined as open-headed irregular. However, just trying to determine the shape of a tree, which is more easily done in the winter when the leaves are gone, can be very intriguing and mind-expanding. It requires imagination and guesswork, and suppositions, and even when you guess at the shape, if you Google it, you find that it's not even close to the shape that you guessed at. But it gives you a good laugh. Generally speaking, our sweetgum, linden, American beech, magnolia, holly, and the pin oak are pyramidal. Our hornbeam, red maple, sugar maple, and tuliptree are columnar. The redbud and flowering dogwood are round. The arborvitae, bald cypress, and believe it or not the ginkgo is fastigiata, which means oval or elongated. (I wonder if the ginkgo knows this since I think it's irregular.) The box elder and elm are vase-shaped. The eastern redcedar, douglas fir, larch, and red and white oak are horizontal spreading. There are many more trees that remain to be shape categorized like the cryptomeria, sassafras, black cherry, black gum, black walnut, Kentucky coffee tree, horse chestnut, chestnut oak, mulberry, and callery pear.

Besides the shape, the size of a tree can be an identifier as to species. Look at the wide girth, height, and thick spreading limbs of the white oak, the red oak, and the chestnut oak. They are giants. The next size down is the Norway maple, elms, American beech, sugar maple and London planetree. These are followed by the more modest trees of the sweetgum, copper beech, red maple, black gum, and redbud. There are tall and slender types like ginkgo, pin oaks, cryptomeria, larch, black walnut, black cherry, and locust. There are squat trees like the yew, mock orange, and magnolia. Then, the petite size of the dwarf maple and dogwood. So many sizes and shapes to see. Come and visit and engage your imagination.



Charles Baber Preservation Trust

Trees Have Their Own Abstract Art

by C. Field - February 2022

February can be a tiring month. People are tired of shoveling snow, tired of the gusty cold wind, tired of icy conditions and tired of being homebound. As with January, a good alternative and diversion to the winter dulls is to get outside and walk if the weather permits. February is a good time to commune with nature and with trees in particular. Trees are at their best in these winter months because their true character and essence are laid bare for all to see. A tree's size and shape and even its bark color are readily noticeable and utilize one's visual senses. However, to better appreciate a tree, we enhance the visual sense by adding the sense of touch in order to deeply examine the texture and grain of the bark on a tree.

Bark recognition can be just as pleasantly distracting and entertaining as trying to figure out the appropriate shape of a tree species. The bark is the armor of the tree. The bark is equated to abstract art. It can be thick or thin, and it can be stripped off to reveal sub-layers of bark. Tree barks have texture (striations) and color. The coloring can be shades of brown, red, rust, green, gray, cream, pink, white, yellow, and black. The bark can be one color on the outside and a different shade on the second or sub-layer. The eastern pine is gray on the outside and pink underneath. The London Planetrees are brown on the outside but the outer bark peels off in long curls to display multiple colors of cream, green, yellow, and gray underneath. The American elm is brown on the outer bark but has a layer of white underneath. And the yew and dawn redwood have a light reddish-brown outer bark, which peels off to reveal a deep rust color underneath.

Besides its color, the bark's texture, striations, and patterns can have varying depths of furrows, ridges, and cracks. These ridges, furrows, fissures, and cracks can be vertical, intersecting, or uninterrupted. The ridge and furrows can be light to deeply fissured. The ridges, cracks, and furrows form patterns that can be irregular, have no pattern, or be block or diamond-shaped. The ridges can be narrow or wide and flat or rugged. And the cracks or blocks can be small or large and can vary within a tree species like the oaks. This wide variation in the pattern of the bark is what gives the tree the abstract art design. There are so many possible patterns. Also, the bark can peel, or be smooth, thorny, scaly, or lenticel.

The yews, London planetree, arborvitae, cryptomeria, mock orange, eastern red cedar, Norway spruce, bald cypress, and dawn redwood peel. The American beech, copper beech, Kwanza cherry, and staghorn sumac have smooth bark. The black cherry is heavily scaled while the Japanese larch, coffee tree, and white spruce are moderately scaled. The sweetgum, douglas fir, black gum, box elder, and sassafras are deeply furrowed. The black walnut and the white ash have deep interlocking ridges that form diamond shapes, while the black locust has deep interlocked ridges that simulate a mild diamond pattern. In the maple family, the sugar maple and red maple are furrowed with long scaly plates; the dwarf red maple and the sunset red maples have smooth bark; the sycamore maple's bark is scaled, and the Norway maples have normal furrows. The European hornbeam and the tuliptree have shallow furrows. The flowering dogwood has small block squares that look like an alligator's hide. The American elm is furrowed in narrow untidy, interlocking ridges, while the Siberian elm is deeply furrowed with rugged interlocking ridges. In the oak family, the chestnut oak has deep blocky fissures, while the pin oak has broad smooth fissures, the white oak has small blocks, the red oak is deeply furrowed, and the pin oak has broad fissures that are smooth. Come visit and examine the abstract art exhibit of a tree.

News from Marion C. Price Trust Fund

Welcome to 2022! I'm sure we all hope that this will be the year to return to some sense of normalcy. There sure have been a lot of changes over the last couple of years, some for the better, some not. I will have one year of experience as a health advocate and I want to let you know how much I have enjoyed this year! I have spent this past year getting to know many Episcopalians of Schuylkill County. This by far has been the best part of my job! I have discovered this about Episcopalians- you are a very faithful people. I admire the way you step up to participate in the services and have Morning Prayer when there is not a supply priest available. I have also witnessed the love and outreach you show to parishioners not able to attend service regularly. Cards, ornaments, Advent kits and visits with communion are all ways to show that although missing from the pew, they are not missing from the hearts of others.

My first year has consisted of getting to know you through phone calls and visits. I also got to know you through peeling peaches for the Peach Festival, making apple dumplings, and peeling potatoes for the Thanksgiving meal. I must admit I enjoyed participating in it all. If you would enjoy an in-person visit, phone call, or if there is a matter I can assist with, please contact me at the office-(570)621-3220.

If you are like me the New Year usually means cleaning! Typically, I try to clean as I undecorate from Christmas. I do not like to undecorate from Christmas and my husband will tell you I'd leave the tree up until the last needle falls off just to avoid undecorating it. I think the house looks so bare after all the holiday decorations come down. Although I am not crazy about cleaning, I enjoy discovering new ideas and different products to use.

I often get emails and read articles about how to clean with simple items you already have in your home, so I decided to share some with you. Some of you may already use these items to clean. Most of us have a box of baking soda in our house. It may be in the fridge to eliminate odors or in the cupboard to use in a favorite recipe, but it does so much more!

- sprinkle a small amount in the trash can as a deodorizer
- pour baking soda directly onto grimy stovetops and let sit for 5 minutes. Scrub gently with a damp sponge and wipe clean with a soft cloth.
- remove stuck-on foods from your microwave by applying baking soda to a damp sponge and scrubbing the residue
- sprinkle baking soda in the bottom of your dishwasher and run as usual to freshen and remove stains
- pour baking soda slowly down the drain of your garbage disposal while running warm water
- deodorize your cutting board by sprinkling baking soda and scrubbing and rinsing (use a disinfectant for cleaning)
- sprinkle on a wet rag or sponge to rub on sinks and bathtubs to remove stubborn soap scum
- clean shower grout by making a paste of lemon juice and baking soda or ½ cup bleach and ¾ cup baking soda, brush on grout lines with a toothbrush and let sit several minutes before wiping off

- clean your shower curtain by scrubbing with baking soda on a damp sponge and rinsing it off
- baking soda is a wonderful deodorizer, sprinkle on carpets and mattresses and vacuum up
- put baking soda in a jar to deodorize closet, in a sock to and keep in a drawer, add to laundry, add some to a litter box
- remove tarnish from sterling silver jewelry by lining a dish with aluminum foil shiny side up, Dissolve 1 tablespoon of baking soda in 1 cup of boiling water (solution may bubble). Place jewelry in the dish, making sure it's touching aluminum foil and pour the solution into a dish. Let sit for 2-10 minutes. Rinse and dry with a soft cloth.
- clean your grill by sprinkling baking soda on grill grates. Scrub with a brush and wipe clean.
- sprinkle a line of baking soda along basement windows and doorways to repel ants
- clean lawn furniture by wiping down with ½ cup baking soda and 1-quart warm water
- remove oil stains from your driveway or garage floor by sprinkling baking soda over stains and scrubbing with a stiff bristle brush

Baking soda may also be added with vinegar to do the following:

- clean your drain by pouring ½ cup baking soda followed by ½ cup vinegar down the drain. Let fizz then pour 6 cups of hot water down the drain.
- remove stains from coffee mugs by mixing equal parts vinegar and baking soda inside a mug and let sit 5 minutes (do this in sink-it'll fizz up) and wash the mug as normal
- remove carpet stains by mixing 1 cup baking soda, 1 cup salt and 1 cup white vinegar into a paste. Apply to the stain and allow to dry and vacuum.
- soften stiff paint brushes by boiling them in a mixture of ½ gallon water, ½ cup vinegar and 1 cup baking soda

White vinegar is also a great cleaner and deodorizer while being relatively inexpensive. It can be used for many of the same things as baking soda. Some uses include:

- descale your coffeemaker or electric tea kettle by pouring several cups of straight white vinegar into the water chamber and let sit for 30 minutes. Then run the vinegar through the coffee maker. Run a few more brewing cycles with plain water to rinse the vinegar out.
- clean the exterior of the microwave by applying vinegar directly to the door, handle and keypad rubbing in with a microfiber rag
- a DIY cleaning solution of white vinegar and warm water (about ¼ cup of vinegar with 2 cups of water works wonders on all glass surfaces from mirrors to stovetops and shower doors
- a mist of white vinegar can eliminate smells throughout the house
- add ¼ cup of vinegar to any load of laundry with your normal detergent. It will neutralize odors and even enhance colors

There are certain things vinegar should NOT be used to clean because of its acidity. Do not use it on waxed wood, granite, marble, soapstone, aluminum, and cast iron.

January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 HAPPY NEW YEAR
2 9 AM SERVICE WITH ZOOM	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4 5:30 PM ZUMBA	5 12 NOON HEALING SERVICE	6	7	8
9 9 AM SERVICE WITH ZOOM	10	11 5:30 PM ZUMBA	12 12 NOON HEALING SERVICE	13	14	15
16 9 AM SERVICE WITH ZOOM ANNUAL MEETING	17 OFFICE CLOSED 4 PM SOUP KITCH- EN	18 3 PM MPTF-MTG @ RECTORY 5:30 PM ZUMBA	19 12 NOON HEALING SERVICE	20	21	22 5:30 PM COOKING DEMO
23 9 AM SERVICE WITH ZOOM	24	25 5:30 PM ZUMBA	26 12 NOON HEALING SERVICE	27	28	29
30 9 AM SERVICE WITH ZOOM	31					

February 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 5:30 P M ZUMBA	2 12 NOON HEALING SERVICE	3	4	5
6 9 AM SERVICE WITH ZOOM	7	8 5:30 PM ZUMBA 6:00pm CBC BOARD MEETING	9 12 NOON HEALING SERVICE	10	11	12
13 9 AM SERVICE WITH ZOOM SOUPER SUNDAY SOUP SALE	14	15 5:30 PM ZUMBA	16 12 NOON HEALING SERVICE	17	18	19
20 9 AM SERIVE WITH ZOOM 1030 VESTRY	21 OFFICE CLOSED 4 PM SOUP KITCHEN	22 5:30 PM ZUMBA	23 12 NOON HEALING SERVICE	24	25	26
27 9 AM SERVICE WITH ZOOM	28		MARCH 2 ASH WED 8 OR 8:30 AM @ TRINITY 6 PM @ ST. JOHN'S ASHLAND			

Trinity Episcopal Church

200 South Second Street
Pottsville, PA 17901
Phone: 570.622.8720
Fax: 570.621.3221
Return Service Requested

**Deadline
For
March/April "Topics"
Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2022**

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
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Pottsville, PA 17901



January

2 - Harry Ebling
4 - Carla Kauffman
7 - Courtney Rauco-Lewars, Margie Keyworth,
Wanda Dodds
8 - Herbert Harris, Jr.
9 - Tish Malarkey, Elizabeth Cirelli
14 - Mike McCabe
16 - Daniel Hopkins
18 - James Snyder
22 - Tim Bortner
23 - Hank Beaver
26 - Karen Portland
27 - Cody Lewars
30 - Al Portland

February

1 - Phyllis Moehrle
4 - Kathy Polcrack, Elise Scott
8 - Norm Kauffman
10 - Shelby Hostetter
16 - Brent Burns
20 - Erin Banonis
23 - Patricia Brennan
24 - Sara Wehr
25 - John Fehr, Laura Weiner, Deliliah Howells
29 - Cassie Kauffman Holm