### Trinity Memorial Church

**Our Mission:** To serve Christ passionately through self, family, parish & community.

**Our Identity:** A diverse people responding to God through worship & music, friendship & formation, generosity & service.

An Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Central New York and a Jubilee Ministry Center

The Rev. Glenn Mahaffey Priest

> Randall Frye Director of Music

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# The Trinity Times

May 2025



Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,
A curious thing seems to always happen to me
when I teach a class or preach a sermon.
Somehow, upon reflection on what I am teaching
or preaching, I have a rude awakening as to who
I am and perhaps even changes I should
consider going forward.

Sarah Kendzior in 2016 suggested that in dark times we need to be our own light –the light that

is buried deep inside our brains and souls. She continues: "Do not accept brutality and cruelty as normal even if it is sanctioned. Protect the vulnerable and encourage the afraid. **If you are brave, stand up for others. If you cannot be brave — and it is often hard to be brave — be kind**. [Emphasis added]. But most of all, never lose sight of who you are and what you value."

In a meditation on Center for Action and Contemplation (CAC.org) Brian McLaren reflects on Kendzior's words as he writes: I am "trying to understand my own country's history—how millions of so-called Christians in [the United States] consented to the genocide of Indigenous peoples and then consented to the enslavement of kidnapped and trafficked Africans and then consented to American apartheid in the Jim Crow era and then resisted the civil rights movement."

McLaren continues: "Contemplative practices are many things. Our Christian tradition teaches us that they are pathways into the direct experience of divine presence and love. Contemporary neuroscience adds that they are also pathways into self-regulation.... Contemplative practices—both solitary and communal—help us resist conformity with wisdom and courage."

In the First Epistle of John 4:7b it says "everyone who loves has experienced God, because God is love." So, anywhere we see or experience love, we have evidence of God at work and the resurrected Jesus in our midst. When we give out of love, not expecting anything

(over)

### Fr. Glenn's Message (Continued)

in return, God is there. When we feel compassion for a situation in the world or a person we love going through hardship, Jesus is in our midst. Experiencing love in any form, under any name, is experiencing God.

I wish people would pay more attention to the First Epistle of John because it has some powerful lessons about the Christian faith and our relationships with one another. Here are two examples:

- 1. 1 John 4: 7-8 says: "Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love."
- 2. 1 John 3: 17-18 says "How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action."

When we love another person or let another person love us, we are literally dwelling in God. Conversely, if we choose to refuse to love another person, we are pushing God out of the interaction so we can do or have what we want! So does this mean that a couple who have fallen in love with each other have experienced God, YES! Does it mean that our love for a brother or sister in the Church is an expression of God's presence, YES! If we just stop and take a long hard look at the world around us, we can see evidence of God, of love, all over the place! We see evidence of God not only among Christians, but among Buddhists, Hindus, Jews, Muslims. Even the **nones** (30% of American adults who claim no religious preference) have experienced God, as the phrase Carl Jung found so inspiring states: "bidden or unbidden, God is present."

Bishop Desmond Tutu used to say regularly "God – loves – you", believing this was the central message of God, even during the torturous years of Apartheid. Are we willing to be enticed by love and be a participant of God in our world? It is my belief that in the end, love alone is the greatest power in the universe. So I will enjoy the teasing warm days of early Spring, trusting in the flourishing beautiful outcome that is on its way!

God's creation seems to always show us the way!

Glenn +

#### CHOW



The need for food donations in our community is greater than ever. Please consider donating to hunger relief at the <u>Broome County Council of Churches</u>, 3 Otseningo Street, Binghamton, NY 13903, or by contributing to our own Canteen effort and fund.

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Please let us know of any updates or corrections!

## Bridge Run

On Sunday, May 4, 20y25, access to a large portion of Binghamton including Trinity Memorial will be occasionally restricted, to make space for the Annual *Greater Binghamton Bridge Run* - a series of runs ranging from a *Kids Fun* Run of 1 KM to a *Double Challenge* Run consisting of a Half-Marathon followed by a 5K run.

Races start between 7:30 am and 10:00 am, and are planned to conclude by 11:00 am.

The race courses includeLeroy Street, Main Street/Court Street, and Clinton Street and Henry Street, among others.

Detailed race schedules and maps, from which you could infer approximate closure times, are available at <a href="https://binghamtonbridgerun.org/">https://binghamtonbridgerun.org/</a>.

Please allow for extra time when coming to Trinity!

### Printed Member Directory Available

The 2025 Trinity Membership Directory has been available in the Hoyt Room for pickup since Palm Sunday. Please take one copy per family. If you're visiting one of our beloved homebound members, please take a copy to them on your next visit.

## **Printed Member Directory Updates**

Please note the following update to the 2025 Trinity membership Directory:

=> Martha Bennett's email is bradmarbenn@icloud.com; please update your directory copy.

Please let us know of any other updates.

## **Our Hybrid Congregation**

Join us from wherever you are, in person or remotely!

Our 10:00 am worship service and most of our events are available for remote participation:

- 10:00 am live Worship Service: on Trinity Memorial's <u>YouTube</u> page, look for: *Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church Live stream*.
- **10:00 am Worship Service replay**: services are available on <u>YouTube</u> for replay following the original live service.
- **Trinity Forum**: offered most Sundays from September to May; in person in our Common Room, or online at <a href="mailto:TrinityZoom.org">TrinityZoom.org</a>. A replay of a Forum may be made available, at the discretion of the presenter, and time permitting, on our YouTube channel.
- If you are reading the Trinity Times online, you can simply find your way to our presence on the Internet by clicking on any of these links:
  - Trinity Memorial's Website: <a href="https://TrinityMemorial.org">https://TrinityMemorial.org</a>
  - Trinity Memorial's YouTube channel: <u>youtube.com/@TrinityMemorial</u>
  - Trinity Memorial's Forum recordings on YouTube: Forum Playlist
  - Trinity Memorial's Facebook page: <a href="https://bit.ly/FacebookTrinity">https://bit.ly/FacebookTrinity</a>
  - Trinity Memorial's ZOOM meeting: http://TrinityZoom.org

If you read the Trinity Times on a smartphone or tablet, you may also notice email addresses, phone numbers, and web sites appearing in blue lettering.; If so, that means you can just tap the email address or phone number, and your smartphone or tablet should start an email to the selected address, or a phone call to the selected number, respectively.

# Trinity Memorial Church

## Worship Services and Sunday Ministries

May 2025	Altar Guild:		
May 4		8:30 AM	10:00 AM
	Ushers		Dave Pierson, Diane Pierson
	Acolyte		David Scone
	Worship Leader		Bill Palmer
	Lector	Jim Gazda	Bob Peterson
	Eucharistic		Greg Keeler, Phil Evans, Ken Lattimore,
	Ministers		Rayleen Kie, Bob Peterson
	Digital Minister		Carl Betcher
	Coffee Hour		Masha Britten
		8:30 AM	10:00 AM
May 11	Ushers		David Scone, Louise Akel
	Acolyte		Ken Lattimore
	Worship Leader		Bill Palmer
	Lector	Jim Gazda	Maya Dement
	Eucharistic		Darlene Croston, Ken Lattimore, Louise Akel,
	Ministers		Rayleen Kie, Bob Peterson
	Digital Minister		Bob Kuzia
	Coffee Hour		open
		8:30 AM	10:00 AM
	Ushers		Philip Evans, Cynthia Evans
	Acolyte		Daniel Aribisala
	Worship Leader		Phyllis Amenda
May 18	Lector	Jim Gazda	Bruce Parmelee
	Eucharistic		Bill Palmer, Louise Akel, Darlene Croston, Phil
	Ministers		Evans, Phyllis Amenda
	Digital Minister		Carl Betcher
	Coffee Hour		open
May 25		8:30 AM	10:00 AM
	Ushers		Bill Palmer, Jim Albert
	Acolyte		Phyllis Amenda
	Worship Leader	Jim Gazda	John Chaffee
	Lector		Bob Peterson
	Eucharistic		Phyllis Amenda, Bob Peterson, Nicole Huff,
	Ministers		Phil Evans, Rayleen Kie
1			
	Digital Minister		Bob Kuzia

Information is correct as of April 23, 2025

#### Canteen Schedule

We are offering a hot lunch to the neighborhood hungry in our dining room. Our prayers of thanks for all who share in this ministry!

Sunday Canteen	Group Cooking & Serving	Site Manager	Host/Hostess
5/4/25	Temple Concord	S. Crowle	B. Crowle
5/11/25	St. Patrick's & Port Dickinson Baptist	C. Hanes	S. Hanes
5/18/25	St. Mark's & Canteen Volunteers	Bill Palmer	
5/25/25	SUNY Binghamton	B Parmelee	D Parmelee

Information is correct as of April 23, 2025

## **Trinity Forum**



### May 4 - Mark D. Bowers: Two Rivers Greenway

Mark will provide a brief overview of the history and evolution of the Two Rivers Greenway (TRG). He also seeks to provide status on its current build out and future plans. Mark's presentation will also provide background and a rationale for the creation of a

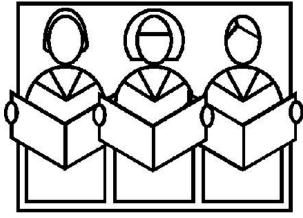
"Friends Group" to help maintain, enhance, and advocate for this regional network. The presentation will provide insight into the development of Design Guidelines for the system (this includes signage and amenities). Community engagement and support are critical to the future of any greenway system! Come and learn about this unique community asset!

• May 18 - Randall Frye, trip to Panama. The first of three "travelogues" by Trinity people, with the other two scheduled for the fall.

The Trinity Forum meets most Sundays from September to June at 11:30 am. Meetings will be held in person in the Common Room, and will usually also be made available live, via Zoom. You can join remotely by going to <a href="mainty-zoom.org">Trinity-zoom.org</a>. Please also watch the Sunday Bulletin for reminders and updates.



### **Music Notes**



To my dear friends in Christ,

I hope this message finds you well, rejuvenated by the Eastertide and enjoying this beautiful, albeit rainy, Spring weather that seems to dominate this area! As we finish the Paschal season, Pentecost and Trinity Sunday draw our attention with their observations and celebrations. Whether we look at the literal translation of Pentecost or count the days that Jesus spent on earth

after his resurrection and then ten days between his ascension and the celebration of Pentecost, we see the number fifty throughout our faith. <sup>1</sup> After the celebration of Pentecost on June 8<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate Trinity Sunday on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

On Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup> the choir will be singing Shawn Kirchner's arrangement of *Unclouded Day*. This is from a larger work by Kirchner titled "Heavenly Home: Three American Songs." It has "a straightforward first verse and chorus ... followed by two verses in which traditional bluegrass vocal stylings combine with counterpoint and fugue in a crescendo of excitement that peaks in a roof-raising phrase 'in the city that is made of gold." Kirchner is a composer, arranger, and songwriter based in Los Angeles. He has a very impressive resume, which can be accessed on his website, <a href="https://www.shawnkirchner.com">www.shawnkirchner.com</a>

It has been an honor and pleasure to serve as your Director of Music these past two years. I have learned so much about the Anglican traditions and have basked in your friendship, love, and guidance. Trinity is a very special place, and I am humbled to have been a short part of this rich history. Your friendship, support, and love have been a wonderful addition to my life, and I know that these friendships will last a lifetime.

May God continue to provide rich blessings in your lives and may you find peace in this beautiful month of May.

God's blessings to you all, Randy Frye Director of Music

- 1. "Meaning of Numbers in the Bible: The Number 50" Bible Study, accessed April 20, 2025, https://www.biblestudy.org/bibleref/meaning-of-numbers-in-bible/50.html
- 2. "Unclouded Day (Heavenly Home" Shawn Kirchner, Composer, Songwriter & Publisher, accessed April 20, 2025, <a href="https://shawnkirchner.com/product/unclouded-day/">https://shawnkirchner.com/product/unclouded-day/</a>



The Trinity Times **Trinity Memorial Church**44 Main Street
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www.trinitymemorial.org

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## **Eating Chinese**

I haven't carried cash in many years, and I do not know what possessed me to grab my wallet as I was heading to Trinity. My wallet actually had a few \$20 bills in it, which I had recently withdrawn at the bank to pay for a haircut.

As I turned the corner at the neighborhood convenience store on my walk to Trinity, a slender woman of somewhat uncertain age (late forties, early fifties?), clean and neatly, though not richly or fashionably dressed, stood herself in front of me. Would I have a dollar, she asked, explaining that she had stood there all day and hadn't eaten anything yet.

This called for a snap decision on my part: should I reply that I didn't have a dollar (taking her request literally), or part with one of the \$20 bills.

Maybe she was just too good at hooking into my sense of myself, or maybe a much higher authority gave me a small nudge or kick: I reached for my wallet and out came one of the \$20 bills. As she realized what was going to happen, her face lit up, she invoked the Lord's blessings on me, and gave me a hug. The last I saw and heard of her was her speeding off towards Main Street, cheerfully calling back to me "Tonight I'm going to eat Chinese!"