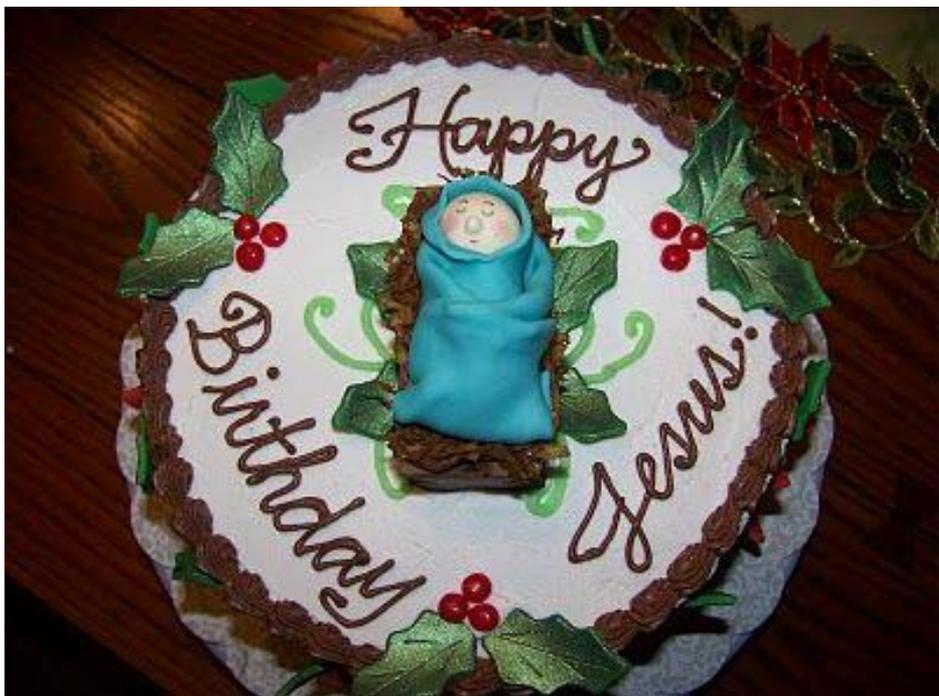


Trinity Today



Trinity Presbyterian Church, Little Rock

December 2018



Happy Birthday Jesus!

Happy Birthday Jesus!

On Sunday morning, December 2 all the preschool and elementary children (5th grade and younger) and their friends are invited to attend a birthday party for the baby Jesus. The party will be held during the Sunday School hour from 9:15 until 10:15 in the fellowship hall. There will be Advent activities, a birthday cake and the telling of the Christmas story. This event has become a Trinity tradition to help our children better understand the Advent season and to help them prepare for the coming of the Christ Child in their own lives.

Of course, it wouldn't be a birthday party without gifts, and our gifts will support the work at Perryville's Partners for Progress. We ask that each child bring toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.) to help restock the pantry's shelves. Direct questions to Angela Smiley at 501-247-6470.

December 9 is Trinity Night at Ferncliff Christmas Event

Do you need a little Christmas? Then join your Trinity family as we experience Ferncliff's new Christmas event together! On Sunday evening, December 9 all Trinity members, friends, and guests are invited to meet in the fellowship hall at 5:00pm for a chili supper. Afterward, we'll carpool to Ferncliff camp where we'll experience a living nativity to help us celebrate the Christmas season. There will be an illuminated $\frac{3}{4}$ mile walking trail with nine different live action scenes related to the story of Christ's birth, one of which will be performed by our own Trinity youth. At the end of the walk, we will be able to listen to live music, browse through the booths of craft vendors, and enjoy cookies and hot cider.

Part of the $\frac{3}{4}$ mile walk will be on gravel, but there will be golf carts available for those with mobility issues. There is no cost for the event, but they will be accepting donations. We should return to the church around 8:30pm. Ferncliff is offering the event on December 8 and 9, but we are participating as a congregation on December 9. Direct questions to Julie Price at 501-626-6477.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN
YOUR TRINITY FAMILY FOR**

A FERNCLIFF CHRISTMAS

LIVING NATIVITY EVENT

Sunday, December 9

**Meet at Trinity at 5:00
Chili Supper at the church
We will carpool to Ferncliff
All ages are welcome!**

**PLUS MUSIC, CRAFTS, REFRESHMENTS,
FELLOWSHIP, & MORE!**



Sing Christmas

A CHRISTMAS CHORAL EXPERIENCE

Composed and Arranged by
Joel Raney and Mary McDonald

Sunday, December 9, 10:30 a.m.

Presented by

*The Trinity Presbyterian Sanctuary Choir,
David Glaze, Conductor,
Soloists and Narrators,
and Guest Orchestral Instrumentalists*

Please join us on December 9 for this very special occasion! This service in song is a joyful celebration of hope and peace for the Christmas season. From jubilant songs of praise to reflective carols of peace, this beautiful work is filled with moments designed to energize the spirit of the season in our hearts. Enjoy hearing some of your favorite carols accompanied by some of the finest instrumentalists in central Arkansas, as well as hearing original, new anthems which are sure to become favorites.

This special service will be a wonderful time to invite guests to join us! It's an opportunity to share together in the excitement of hearing extraordinarily beautiful Christmas music!





A Party for College Age and Twenty-Something Age Members and Friends Is Set For December 23

Pastor Jeff and Julie Price invite you to visit their home the afternoon of December 23 from 3:00 until 4:30. This will be a wonderful opportunity for returning college students and those of you who have moved away for careers to catch up with one another. Of course, those of you in Little Rock are part of this gathering as well.

Come share stories and memories about your time at Trinity. There will also be photographs on display of some of you when you were younger.

Come join the fun! R.S.V.P. to Julie Price at 501-626-6477.

The Youth Program

The Trinity Youth Program is dedicated to growing young hearts in a relationship with Christ and each other. Every week we meet on Sunday nights from 5:30-7:30 for a time of fellowship and fun while we learn about God's love through group activities and adventures. Our Youth Ministry partners with parents and the community to plan everything from exciting trips and themed lock-ins to supporting outreach projects like Stewpot and sending care packages to our Trinity kids who are far from home at college. Everything we do with the Trinity Youth is to show that God's love is not bound by human conditions and faults but is free to everyone that will take it. We seek to mirror that love in each other, our community, and the world at large.



Youth Sunday School Class: The Candles of Advent

The 6-12 grade Sunday School class, also known as “Donuts with Jesus,” will be starting a new series on Advent and the candles that we light each week. All youth are welcome to join us in Room 7 at 9:15 each Sunday morning for a study on what we can find in the candles in this Advent season.



UPCOMING YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

December 2: Ice Skating Trip!

Trinity Youth Group will be starting off December with a trip to Arkansas Skatium for a day of ice skating fun! We will meet at the church at 1:30 for a devotional on the first day of Advent and then carpool to Arkansas Skatium. Parents can expect pickup at 5pm from the church. Tickets are \$10 and include ice and regular skating!



volunteer in any capacity, call Jared Brown at 870-299-0989!

December 16: Oh Christmas Tree!

Where did our Christmas tree come from anyway? Explore this and other Christmas traditions at Youth Group starting with dinner at 5:30. Anne Brown will also be on hand to teach everyone how to make Pinterest-perfect Christmas cookies using your favorite shapes of the holiday season. These won't be your average sugar cookies! Take these skills home and show your parents how to make these tasty treats.



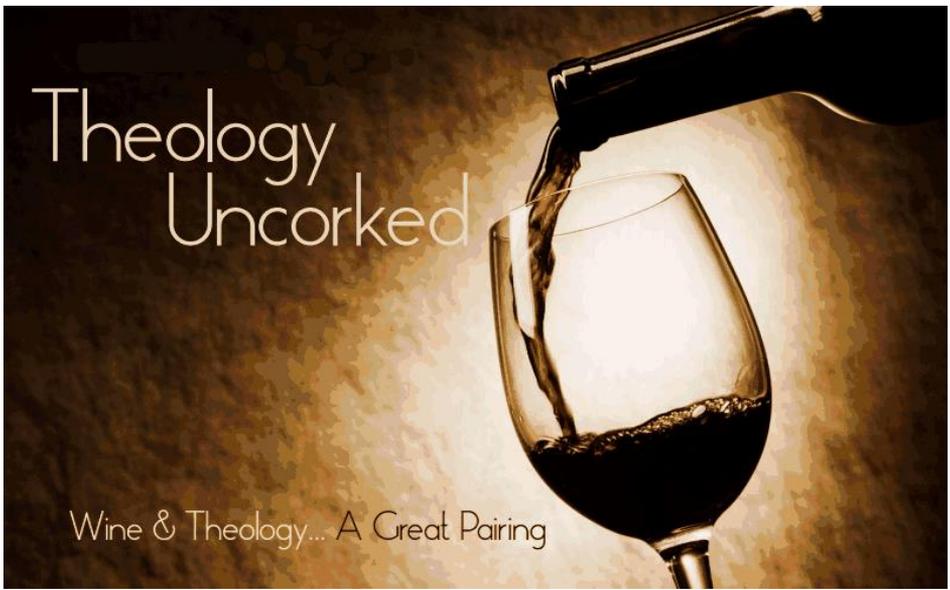
December 23: Youth Group Goes to Lunch

The Youth group will have a special lunch at U.S. Pizza! After worship the Youth Group will carpool to U.S. Pizza. Parents can expect pickup back at the church at 1:30.

The background is a solid red color. It is decorated with several white five-pointed stars of varying sizes scattered across the top and middle. On the left side, there is a vertical line of gold snowflakes of various shapes and sizes. At the bottom left, there is a large, detailed white snowflake ornament hanging from a thin white string. The overall theme is festive and winter-related.

Women's Christmas Party

On Thursday evening,
December 6 at
6:30pm, all Trinity
women and guests
are invited to the
Trinity Women's
Christmas Party at
Julianne Sublette's home
(32 Belle River Cove in
Maumelle). Bring a
potluck dish to share for
our meal. Direct
questions to Julianne at
501-786-3272.



A YA event on Friday, December 14 from 6-8:00pm at Anne & Jared Brown's home

Theology Uncorked is a new program the Trinity Young Adults will be starting this holiday season! Come for good conversation, theological reflection, and delicious wines paired with yummy cheeses. This is going to be a laid-back setting in which we tackle some of Christianity's big questions and examine our lives as they relate to Christ's teachings. Bring your faith as it is and feel free to bring a bottle of wine with it!

Theology Uncorked will be held at Anne and Jared Brown's residence December 14 from 6:00-8:00pm. If you are interested in attending or have questions related to the event, call or text Jared at 870-299-0989 or email him at jaredotisbrown@gmail.com.

A Special Invitation . . .

Mary Ann Robinson, soprano
Beth Wheeler, oboe
David Glaze, piano and organ

Present

Christmas Gift

Sunday, December 23, 5:00pm

Please join us at Trinity Presbyterian Church in the late afternoon on December 23, for a very special presentation of Christmas music. You'll hear such favorites as *Love Came Down at Christmas*; *The Holly and the Ivy*; *O Come, All Ye Faithful*; *O Little Town of Bethlehem*; and *Silent Night* in delightfully fresh arrangements, along with the exquisite setting of Saint-Saens' *Ave Maria*, John Rutter carols, and many other Christmas gems.

Trinity Director of Music Ministries David Glaze, along with Mary Ann Robinson and Beth Wheeler, have designed this special program to be a time when you can pause from the fast, sometimes chaotic, pace of the season. As the sun sets on the Eve-Eve of Christmas, December 23, hopefully this program, *Christmas Gift*, will

be both a respite for everyone's busy schedule and a prelude for Trinity's glorious Christmas Eve service only 24 hours later.

Please invite others to join us! Following the concert will be a wine and cheese reception in Gearing Hall.

(For those attending holiday dinners and parties on the evening of December 23, *Christmas Gift* will conclude at approximately 6:15pm. Suggestion! How about offering someone a concert followed by dinner — a Christmas gift!)





Advent at Trinity

First Sunday of Advent, December 2

Children's Birthday Party for Baby Jesus
at 9:15am in the Fellowship Hall

Celebration of Worship at 10:30am
Let There Be Peace, Pastor Jeff Price

Second Sunday of Advent, December 9

Sanctuary Choir and Musical Guests
Christmas Cantata in the Sanctuary at 10:30am

Chili Supper at Trinity at 5:00pm followed by
Ferncliff's Christmas Living Nativity at 6:00pm

Third Sunday of Advent, December 16

Celebration of Worship at 10:30am
led by Trinity's children and youth

Mary: A Mother's Courage, Pastor Jeff Price

Pastor Jeff and Julie Price's annual
Christmas Open House at 11:30am

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 23

Celebration of Worship at 10:30am

Joseph: A Father's Gift, Pastor Jeff Price

College-age and 20-Somethings Christmas Gathering
at the Price home from 3:00-4:30pm

Musical trio presentation of *Christmas Gift*
in the Sanctuary at 5:00pm

Christmas Eve, December 24

Christmas Carols, Candlelight, and Communion
Service of Worship at 5:00pm

A Baby Changes Everything, Pastor Jeff Price



The Story Behind a Favorite Carol

Did you know...?

Almost every hymn we sing, as well as our beloved Christmas carols, have fascinating stories behind their creations. Many times the authors of the hymns or composers of the tunes would write as a result of something important happening in their lives at those times. Here's a wonderful story surrounding the beautiful carol, *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*, written by Robert J. Morgan and included in his book, "Then Sings My Soul" (Book 2).

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

The famous Longfellow brothers were born and raised in Portland, Maine, in the 1800s. Henry Wadsworth was born in 1807, and younger brother Samuel arrived in 1819. Henry became a Harvard professor of literature and one of America's greatest writers, and Samuel became a Unitarian minister and a hymnist.

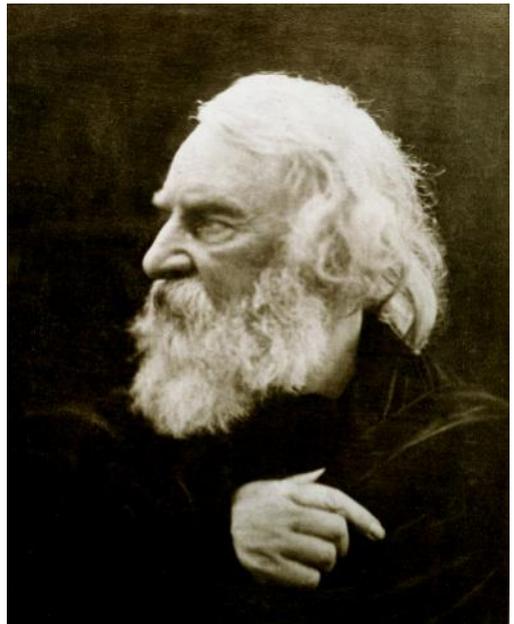
While Henry was publishing his books, however, dark clouds were gathering over his life and over all America. In 1861, his wife tragically died when her dress caught fire in their home in Cambridge, Massachusetts. That same year, the Civil War broke out, tearing the nation apart. Two years later, during the fiercest days of the conflict, Henry's son, Charley, seventeen, ran away from home and hopped aboard a train to join President Lincoln's army.

Charley proved a brave and popular soldier. He saw action at the Battle of Chancellorsville in 1863, but in early June he contracted typhoid fever and malaria and was sent home to recover. He missed the Battle of Gettysburg, but by August, Charley was well enough to return to the field. On November 27, during the battle of New Hope Church in Virginia, he was shot through the left shoulder. The bullet nicked his spine and came close to paralyzing him. He was carried into the church and later taken to Washington to recuperate.

Receiving the news on December 1, 1863, Henry left immediately for Washington. He found his son well enough to travel and they headed back to Cambridge, arriving home on December 8. For weeks Henry sat by his son's bedside, slowly nursing his boy back to health.

On Christmas Day, December 25, 1863, Henry gave vent to his feelings in this plaintive carol that can only be understood against the backdrop of war. Two stanzas now omitted from most hymnals speak of the cannons thundering in the South and of hatred tearing apart "the hearth-stones of a continent." The poet feels like dropping his head in despair, but then he hears the Christmas bells. Their triumphant pealing reminds him that "God is not dead, nor doth He sleep."

The Sunday school children of the Unitarian Church of the Disciples in Boston first sang this song during that year's Christmas celebration. How wonderful that such a song should emerge from the bloody clouds of the War Between the States!



Pastor Jeff and Julie Price

Cordially Invite

Our Trinity Family and Friends

To Our

Seventeenth Annual

Christmas Open House

After Worship on December 16

26 Heatherbrae Circle



Cathy Ormsbee and Sharon Fitts enjoy an Open House from a few years back.