



The Messenger

Trinity Episcopal Church, Columbus, Georgia

The Rev. Dr. Timothy H. Graham, Rector

The Rev. Andrew T. Blakemore, Associate Rector

Joseph Golden, Organist & Choirmaster

Dr. Aesook Moon, Associate Organist & Choirmaster

September 2023

From the Clergy

The Rev. Andrew T. Blakemore

"... But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ..."
-2 Peter 3:18

Dear Friends,

Father Tim's sabbatical has taken him halfway around the world, from Spain, to Israel, to the coast of Maine, and many places in-between. In his absence, I truly feel that I have also been on a journey, with all of you. Way back in May, when we were preparing for this period of rest and renewal for Trinity's Rector, I didn't know quite what to expect. I'll admit that I was a little worried about being "on my own" as the only clergy at Trinity this summer!

Thanks to all of you, I learned that this particular worry was unfounded. Your constant encouragement, your enthusiasm for the ongoing life of this parish, and your love for one another have left me feeling affirmed and fulfilled in my ministry. I'm especially grateful to Trinity's staff, alongside your Senior Warden, Bill Perkins, and your Vestry, for all their hard work and diligent leadership over these last several months. Together you have shown me that when we gather as the Body of Christ we are never "on our own."


Father Tim officially returns from sabbatical this month, on **Sunday, September 17th**. I know he is just as excited to be back at Trinity as we are to see him once again, and to hear about his adventures over the summer! On that Sunday, we will hold our first parish potluck of the Fall, in thanksgiving for the journey that has led each of us to this place called Trinity Columbus, and for this new season of growth together in the grace and knowledge of God.

Peace be with you,

+ Father Andy



Building a Spirit-empowered community that serves and celebrates Christ.



**YOUTH
BIBLE STUDY**

Each Wednesday at 6:00 pm, all youth are welcome to gather at Iron Bank Coffee for Bible study. We are currently reading the Gospel of Mark.

See you there!

Green Summit



There are many important guilds and groups at Trinity, but one of the quietest has to be the Linen Guild. Trinity has an extensive assortment of fair linens and sacramental cloths, which we use on a regular basis. All of these linens are blessed and dedicated solely for the purpose of worship. Time-honored practices around keeping, washing, and folding each individual kind of linen is a key, if unseen, aspect of our liturgical tradition's full expression of reverence and service. The Linen Guild helps maintain this tradition at Trinity and they do an amazing job!



Join Father Andy each Thursday Morning for Morning Prayer. If you're not an early bird, or if your time in the morning is too limited for a trek to church, we're also trying out a simultaneous livestream of Morning Prayer via Zoom. At 7:30 on Thursdays, just [log onto Zoom using this special link](#), and enter the password **bcp1979** if necessary.

Adult Sunday School in September *Christians and Muslims*



Beginning **September 10th**, Trinity will host a three-week Sunday school class led by Dr. Ryan Lynch, Associate Dean of Honors and Interdisciplinary Studies and Assistant Professor of History at Columbus State University. Dr. Lynch's research and teaching is focused on Islamic history. During this special class, we will explore the relationship between Christians and Muslims as Dr. Lynch gives a brief survey of the contemporary Islamic world, then discusses the role of the prophets in Islam, with an emphasis on how Muslims view and understand Jesus. All Trinity parishioners are invited to attend, and encouraged to bring your all questions and your curiosity about this fascinating subject!

Adult Sunday School is held in the Trinity Parlor beginning at 9:30. We hope to see you there!

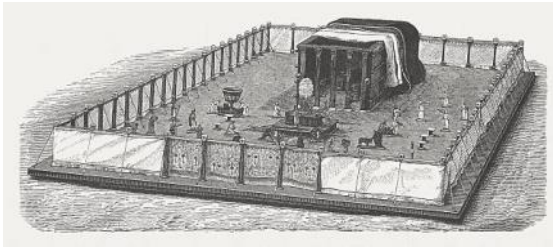
Stoller Scholarships Awarded

Stoller Scholarship

In August, Trinity awarded a total of over \$40,000 in Stoller scholarships in support of Episcopalian undergraduates from a variety of backgrounds and fields of study. College and trade school students from any parish in the Chattahoochee Valley Convocation may apply for the Stoller scholarship, which was established by the estate of Richard H. Stoller, a longtime member of Trinity. Over the past 16 years, Trinity has proudly distributed more than \$200,000 in Stoller scholarship funds to assist students in pursuit of higher education.

Please keep the Stoller scholars and all other students, teachers, faculty and school staff in your prayers, that their efforts to learn and grow may be successful and bear much fruit for the common good.

Wednesday Bible Study *Take and Read*



During September, Trinity's adult Bible study is turning its attention to the book of Leviticus, the central book of the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Old Testament. We will untangle the significance of Leviticus' many rituals and religious ordinances, and explore how Leviticus fits into the larger story of the People of God. The weekly Bible study meets over coffee **every Wednesday at 10 a.m.**, in the Parlor. Come and see what it's all about!

Food Offering and Parish Potluck *Sunday September 17th*



This month, Trinity is excited to hold its first Monthly Potluck of the fall season on Sunday, September 17th after the 10:30 service. This will be a special potluck lunch, as the 17th is also the date of Father Tim's return to Trinity after his summer of sabbatical rest!

On the 17th, Trinity will also make a **food offering in support of Feeding the Valley**, an area nonprofit which supplies many of Columbus' food banks (for more information, visit feedingthevalley.org). You can bring nonperishable food donations into the church office anytime during the week leading up to the 17th. Or, on Sunday the 17th, simply bring a canned good as well as a dish to share at the potluck!



Farewell Meghan!



This month, Meghan Twigg Caldie is departing Columbus as she and her husband, Austin, relocate to Winston-Salem, NC. Meghan was confirmed at Trinity and grew up in the church with her family. She and Austin were also married at Trinity this summer!

Meghan has served Trinity in many capacities in her nearly 9 years of employment, from keeping the nursery to assisting the youth director and now as our Communications Coordinator. As Trinity's secretary between 2019 and 2022, Meghan helped us weather the pandemic, as (among many other things) she expanded our digital communications and helped launch our improved Sunday morning livestream.

Meghan will continue as Trinity's Communications Coordinator remotely from North Carolina, so while you won't be able to reach her by phoning the church office, she will remain available by email at twigg.trinity@gmail.com. The office just won't be the same without Meghan, but we wish her and Austin every blessing in this new chapter of their lives!

Trinity Choir News

First of all, the response from our parish family in support of our Choral Scholars Program has been inspiring to everyone involved in making music at Trinity. All of us in the music area say prayers of thanksgiving and gratitude for your generosity and encouragement. THANK YOU!

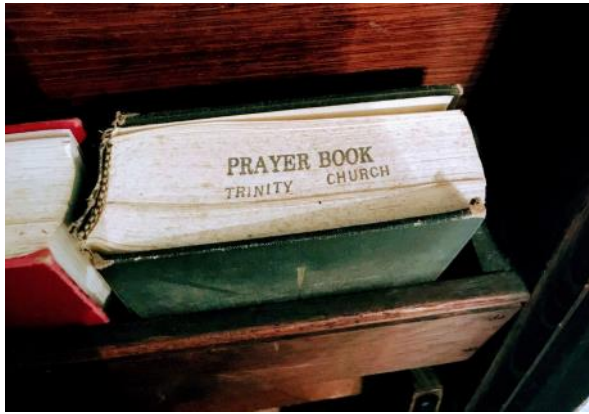
The Trinity Choir is back in full force with new members: Rebecca Manseau, Diana Pineda, Colin Daniell and Kammack Shepler, having welcomed Rachel Pound over the summer months. We have a variety of musical offerings planned through Christmas Eve, featuring music from 12 different traditions from around the world.

Media Update: Our Choir member, Enluis Montez, left for Paris, France, on August 14, where he will once again be their Assistant Conductor, this time for the Paris Opera's Fall production of "Lohengrin" by Richard Wagner. Bravo Enluis!

SOLI DEO GLORIA,
Joseph Golden
Dr. Aesook Moon

Faith Formation in October

Prayer Book Spirituality



What does it mean to be an Episcopalian? Where do the prayers we pray together on Sundays come from, and what are they trying to teach us? This Fall, you are invited to explore these and other questions in a small group class. The class, which will meet for six Sunday evenings beginning **October 15th**, will study the book *Inwardly Digest* by Derek Olsen, a former member of the standing commission on liturgy and music. Olsen's lucid reflections will help us open up the Book of Common Prayer, and discover in its pages a link to the broad and deep tradition of Anglican Christian belief and practice, and guidance for our own spiritual journey.

Curious? Reach out to Father Andy
(blakemore.trinity@gmail.com)!

St. Lydia's Guild Christmas Ornaments

St. Lydia's Guild is selling the 2023 White House Christmas Ornaments for \$25!



This year, the Official White House Christmas Ornament is a festive holiday wreath, adorned on the front with decorations inspired by the handcrafted Christmas ornaments used in the White House during the Gerald R. Ford Jr. administration. Dozens of dolls, cherubs, doves, stars, flowers, gingerbread men, candles, and pentagon balls, in bright, cheery colors are featured with red ribbons at the bottom bearing the words "Christmas 2023" and "The White House." These ornaments make great gifts or additions to your own Christmas tree while also allowing you to support an important Trinity guild. To order your 2023 White House Christmas Ornament, please call the church office at 706-322-5569 or email trinitycols@gmail.com.

Choir Member Spotlight

Rebecca Manseau

Rebecca is one of our newest choir scholars and can be found singing with her peers during worship every Sunday. Rebecca was born in Atlanta and grew up north of Columbus. She did her undergraduate studies in Politics and German at Sewanne: The University of the South where she was an active member of the University Choir. She also received a Fulbright grant to study refugee and asylum politics in Berlin, Germany. Rebecca earned a Masters degree in Political Science from the Otto Suhr Institute of Free University, Berlin as well as being involved in private vocal studies during that time. Until now, she has lived in Berlin for eight years.

Although her CV says otherwise, Rebecca has always been a singer. She realized near the end of her undergraduate studies that singing was her true calling. Rebecca was fortunate to have voices of encouragement to help her keep faith that she was on the right path, even when times were tough. Rebecca came to Columbus after contacting Professor Golden about study opportunities at the Schwob School of Music.

Career: Rebecca has worked as a teaching assistant at the Free University and in the EU/North America team at the Heinrich Böll Foundation. During the pandemic, she made the career switch to music, focusing on singing and teaching privately. Rebecca also worked with her local church choir in Berlin to rehabilitate choir members' voices after months of lockdown. Rebecca has sung in the semifinals for both the Musica Sacra competition in Rome, Italy and the Laffont Metropolitan Opera competition in Atlanta, GA. She is currently pursuing a Masters in Music in Vocal Performance at Schwob while working as a freelance copywriter/editor for travel articles and tours.

Faith: As an organist's daughter, Rebecca had the opportunity to visit a number of different churches growing up. Despite some disillusionment with church in her younger years, Rebecca always retained a sense of personal spirituality. She ultimately found her church in the Episcopalians through choir at Sewanne and found her faith through classes, humanities and astronomy in particular. What Rebecca enjoys most about the Episcopal Church is the elevated liturgy, beautiful musical tradition, and the recognition of the value of inclusivity. The feeling of community keeps Rebecca coming back.

Hobbies: Before she moved to Germany, Rebecca was an avid horseback rider and hopes to pick it back up again. She also enjoys sketching, painting, gardening, cooking and baking, and occasionally practicing the violin. Rebecca has a love for antiques, having several beloved items in Berlin, including an art deco chiming clock and a desk from the 1920s she restored.

At Trinity: Rebecca is very glad to be donning the chorister vestments and singing in the choir at Trinity. She looks forward to getting to know the congregation!