

TRINITY WORLD NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2025



Contact Information

Trinity Church

215 W. Court St. Rome, NY 13440

Phone: 315-336-2833

Email: trinitychurch86@gmail.com

Cindy Rouillier- Admin; Office Hours:

Mon-Fri 8:30am to 12:30pm

Pastor Karen Marshall, cell #315-956-9234

Melody Kiepert Milewski, Activities Director, cell #315-832-2009

Facebook Page: [@Trinitychurchrome](#)

Website: www.trinitychurchrome.org

Table of Contents

Council Update

Trinity Tidbits

Photos of December Events

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Karen's Korner

Some photos of "Hanging of the Greens"



On the left is Copper Coloismo, decorating the tree in Fellowship Hall.

On the right are Brinley Barcomb and Madelyn Coloismo setting up the manger.



Pastor Karen studding an orange with cloves.



On the right is Dick Kekis, giving suggestions??

On left are Sue Gatley, Sarah Barcomb and Ron Blackall decorating the tree in the sanctuary.



An Ecumenical Service
Blue Christmas/Longest Night Service
Held on December 19, 2024

A Service of Healing and Hope for All Who Grieve
during the Christmas Season



Photo of the sanctuary and area for those wishing to light a candle in remembrance of a lost love one.



On the right,
Participating Clergy:
Pastor Letta Palmer, First Baptist Church
Pastor Karen Marshall, Trinity Church
Rev. Edwina Landry, First Presbyterian Church



On the left, Aaron Browka, Pastor Letta Palmer, Pastor Karen Marshall and Rev. Edwina Landry

CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATES

1. We were pleased to award college scholarships to four very hard working students:
Danyell Coccia — Nursing student at St. Elizabeth's, entering her final semester !!
Johnathan Coccia — completed his first semester at Herkimer College, in Business.
Olivia Potter — Doctor of Chiropractic Medicine, will graduate in March !!
Vincent Klepadlo — International Studies program at Utica University
2. Our donation to the Rome Rescue Mission for two of their families was delivered and very much appreciated!! Thank you for bringing in food items and hats/gloves/scarves (including two beautiful handmade ones by Cindy R.) to go along with our purchased gifts to fulfill the requests of the four children. You all helped spread the Love of Christmas !!
3. Around 2020, New York State updated the requirements for elevator inspections in all buildings open to the public. Cindy Rouillier, our Administrative Assistant, did much research to find companies available to complete the annual inspections. Northstar Lift did our recent repair and can do annual inspections. ATIS is certified to "validate" the testing and needs to do a semi-annual inspection also. Thank you, Cindy, for finding all this information that will keep us in compliance with NYS...a difficult task!

As always, please contact any Council member with your questions or suggestions!!

Kathy Wood, Sue Gatley, Sarah Barcomb, Gerry Nelson, Dick Kekis, May Klepadlo, Danielle Klepadlo

Below is a photo of the baskets donated to Willow Network.



Pastor Karen's Korner January 2025

As I began to write for this newsletter, I looked at a book I have had for many years by Joyce Rupp. She is a wonderful author and spiritual conference leader. I found a poem that I am putting in this letter today.

The Road of Life

by Joyce Rupp

Another year is coming to an end.
I can feel her tug at my calendar;
I can sense her insistent movement.
I can hear her call to cross over.

Outside my window the trees are empty
And the air has the ripeness of snowfall.
I cast an inward glance to the past
And feel a deep desire to catch its glow.

Something in me wants to hold on,
To gather all the good things close to me.
A part of me yearns for security
Keeps encouraging me to grasp it all

Then a tiny thimble-full of light
Moves its way through my insecurity;
It weaves a thread of courage,
Sending sparks into the dark.
Up and up it rises through my spirit
Until it meets my controlling grip.

The firefly flickers of God's grace
Are enough to embrace the unknown.
A surge of powerful surrender
Takes overall my looking back,
And ever so gently and hopefully
I risk the road of another year.

From Jeremiah 6:16:

Stand at the crossroads and look, ask for the ancient paths;
Which was a good way? Take it and you will find rest for
yourselves.

As January 1st comes quickly towards us, it gives us a time to reflect on the past and to think about the future. How many times have we looked and said a new year I am turning over a new leaf. I will begin to eat better, to move more and to be a better person. This is great and really

we do not have to wait for January 1st to do this. The other thing is many will say they are going to do things and then after a bit of time, well the thoughts are gone and people will go back to their old ways. Many gyms will have great increases in people working out but after a month well the people are not there. This has been one way of looking at the new year but in the poem, the author asks us to look back at what the old year brought. To see where we have been, to notice how far we have come and then to clear our vision for the new year. There may be things in the past year we want to cling to and keep in our grasp. The good things that happened and yes we can keep them in our memories. Ponder them and look back on them but, we do need to move into the new year. We need to think about where we are, where are lives are and what is going on around us as we begin to venture into the new year.

The new year, a place where we have never been, that may bring fear because it is new and it is the unknown. Yet the grace of God is with us as we journey. Maybe we need to think about others who have journeyed into the unknown.

We have just celebrated Christmas and if we think about Mary and Joseph and their journey and their trust in God, it will help us. Or Sarah and Abraham, the Exodus and those who traveled far. The wise men who followed the star.

There are many who journeyed before us from this church. Those who began with a small congregation on James St and moved here. Those in our own families that came to this country and this place.

May God guide you this year. May the light of Christ, that thimble-full of light guide you each day in the coming year.

Blessings.

Pastor Karen

Trinity Tidbits

Trinity Church has a long history of having fund raisers to support the church and also donating to many organizations locally and around the world to aid in their goals.

In the 1930's and 40's the organizations within our church hosted several fund raisers. There were many people from the community who participated in these events but were not Trinity members. These organizations within the church were the Youth Group, Brotherhood, Women's Guild, Thimble Club and Ladies Guild. The events included poems written and sold about members of the church, selling candles, quilts, dolls, cards (both Christmas and all occasion) table linens, gelatin and food snacks. They also held bake sales and bakeless food sales, when sugar was hard to get, bazaars and rummage sales. Plays were put on by the Brotherhood Club, held in both the church and other venues in Rome.

The Washington Birthday Social, invitation dated 1916 was sent to friends and family to encourage people to join the Thimble Club and make a donation which would be given to the church. The invitation was sent with an accompanying red, white and blue pouch for making a contribution.

The object of the Ladies Aid Society was to aid the church, promote interest in church work and good fellowship. To meet its various obligations, the Aid Society held food sales, Coffee and Ice Cream Socials and sold cookbooks. There have been three cookbooks that I know of that have been written and sold at the church.

The Women's Guild, previously called the Ladies Guild, held two German suppers per year, card parties, Bingo parties, sold blankets and other fund raisers to purchase needed items for the Church.

In addition to raising money, the organizations within the church in the 1960's donated items made by church members. These items were knitted bandages from crochet thread for the leper colony in Hawaii and making hospital clothes from altered white dress shirts.

For 2025 we will continue our work at Trinity with two fundraisers. The first will be our Trinity Treasures and Tasty Treats event which will be held February 7, 8, and 9. From now until then we will be collecting any unused items anyone would like to donate. These can be clothing, household, kitchenware or furniture. I will be happy to assist with cleaning out closets or basements and bringing the items to the church. We will also need food items donated for the Tasty Treats sale on Saturday and Sunday February 8 and 9.

We will be holding a Quilt Display on March 14, 15 and 16. This is a display, not a judged show and I am looking for people to show old, new, not finished or quilts that need repair. If you have friends that would like to participate, we would love to show their quilts. Admission will be by donation with all proceeds going to Hospice in New Hartford.

If you have any questions or would like to schedule a time for donations to be picked up, I can be contacted at 315-832-2009.

Thank you in advance for all the participation we will have for our fund raisers for 2025.

Melody Kiepert Milewski