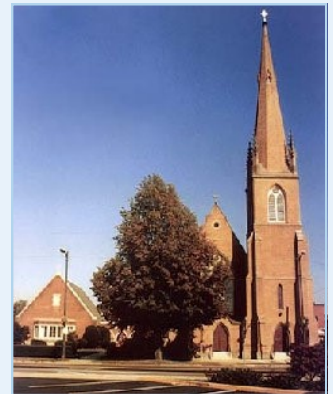


# Trinity Church Record



April 2019

Volume 8 Issue 4



What's happening in God's church

Periodically, I try to catch myself and you up on the latest news from across the Christian Church. While it may seem that decisions and events at the judicatory level are beyond what we do here in our little congregation, we cannot be immune to their greater events. Here are some important updates.

## **United Methodist Church**

February 23-26, about 800 delegates from the global United Methodist Church met in its 2019 Special Session of General Conference in St. Louis. Delegates from across the United States and around the world met together for prayer, conversation, worship and voting on several positions regarding human sexuality. The purpose was to act on a report from the **Commission on a Way Forward**, authorized to examine paragraphs in The Book of Discipline concerning **human sexuality** and to explore options to strengthen church unity. There were several options for the body to vote on, including the One Church Plan, and The Tradition Plan.

After voting down the **One Church Plan**, which would have allowed each congregation and clergy to independently decide who to marry, and each conference who to ordain, **The Traditional Plan** was passed by the 2019 Special Session of General Conference by a vote of 438 to 384. It continues a ban on the ordination of gay, lesbian, and transgender ministers; and prevents clergy from officiating at weddings of same-gender couples. While these rules and regulations had been the official policy of the Methodist's Book of Discipline for many years, there are many, including churches and conferences (our dioceses) who have been in open violation of these policies.

In part the United Methodist Book of Discipline still says, "The United Methodist Church acknowledges that all persons are of sacred worth. All persons without regard to race, color, national origin, status, or economic condition, shall be eligible to attend its worship services, participate in its programs, receive the sacraments, upon baptism be admitted as baptized members, and upon taking vows declaring the Christian faith, become professing members in any local church in the connection."<sup>1</sup>

The Book of Discipline also reads in part: "The practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching. Therefore self-avowed practicing homosexuals are not to be certified as candidates, ordained as ministers, or appointed to serve in The United Methodist Church."<sup>2</sup> Under The Traditional Plan passed by the Church, this remains in effect. But the Church body went even further, stating no church money shall be given to "any gay caucus or group, or otherwise use such funds to promote the acceptance of homosexuality"<sup>2</sup>

In addition to these votes, decisions were made at the Special General Conference which set up guidelines for how congregations or persons who wish to leave the United Methodist Church as a result of these votes shall proceed. (As with our own struggles around issues of Prayer Book revision, women's ordination, and inclusion of LGBTQs in the Episcopal Church, issues of church property, ordination vows, and clergy pensions are hotly contested.) Also voted in were increased penalties for those who violate the Church's regulations. (In the Western Conference of the US, there is currently an openly lesbian bishop, and a number of churches have gay clergy.)

Delegates from Africa made up 32% of the voting members and it is widely understood their positions are significantly more conservative than those held by many US churches, clergy and conferences. Most of the African delegates joined with conservative blocks of delegates from parts of the US and other areas in the Conference in voting for The Traditional Plan. As with the Episcopal Church, there are clearly conservative pockets of the US, and through North America. The full implications of these decisions are still to be worked out by the Church's Judicial Council which will meet later this year, and many members and clergy are pondering whether to stay and try to re-

form the Church, or to split away into a new denomination.

Also at “a prayerful pause” are conversations between the United Methodist Church and the Episcopal Church on a full-communion agreement. ““At this moment, we are in the same place that we were six months ago, except that we are deep in prayer for their situation,’ the Rev. Margaret Rose, ecumenical and interreligious deputy to The Episcopal Church’s presiding bishop, told Episcopal News Service.”

NOTES:

<http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/what-happened-and-what-didnt-at-general-conference-2019>

<http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/homosexuality-full-book-of-discipline-statements>

<https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/2019/03/12/episcopalians-methodists-ponder-full-communion-proposal-after-umc-vote/>

### **Anglican Communion**

The bishops of the Anglican Communion, which includes our own Episcopal Church, have a tradition of meeting together in England approximately every ten years. The last scheduled decadal gathering did not occur because of the split in the Anglican Communion over the issues of inclusion of LGBTQ persons, especially in leadership. Many of the parts of the Communion in the Southern Hemisphere have traditionally been more conservative, while Northern Hemisphere members are generally more liberal on these issues. Archbishop Welby has tried to hold the Communion together despite strong feelings on both sides of this issue.

At the next gathering, scheduled for July 23—August 2, 2020, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has said the same-gender spouses of elected bishops are not invited to attend. While these gatherings are mostly for the bishops to get together, spouses have traditionally been invited to attend, with their own schedule of events. However, for 2020, there are joint events, as well as times for each of the two groups to meet separately.

At this point, The Rt. Rev. Mary Glasspool of New York and The Rt. Rev. Kevin Robertson of Toronto are the only bishops married to same-gender spouses. However, the Diocese of Maine just elected The Rev Thomas James Brown, and he is awaiting consents to his election from other dioceses across our church. If confirmed, he would be a third bishop with a same-gender spouse.

According to Bishop Robertson, the Archbishop of Canterbury told him that if their spouses were invited to come, “there would be no Lambeth Conference.”<sup>1</sup>

Regarding the decision by the Archbishop, Robertson said, ““I actually find it quite offensive. I know that’s a strong word, but I’m aware the Anglican Communion is not of one mind around marriage,” he said. “However, the decision to invite all the other spouses without inviting ours, I think, sends a very clear message about the way that same-sex relationships are regarded in the communion. I think that’s a troubling sign.”<sup>2</sup>

NOTES:

<https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/2019/02/18/same-sex-spouses-not-invited-to-next-years-lambeth-conference-of-bishops/>

Ibid

### **Presiding Bishop responds to Bishop Love’s letter**

After much deliberation, effective January 11<sup>th</sup>, Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry has issued a Partial Restriction on the Ministry of a Bishop, The Rt. Rev William Love of Albany. In his letter, Curry said that while he believes Love is sincere in his conviction that “same-sex marriage is contrary to Scripture and the ‘official teaching’ of this Church [is wrong]...I am convinced that Resolution B012 was intended by the Convention to be mandatory and binding upon all our Dioceses...” Bishop Curry’s Restriction would prevent Bishop Love from participating in any disciplinary process within his Diocese re any member of the clergy that involves the issue of same-sex marriage. Further he shall not be involved in any matter that results in penalizing any member of the clergy or laity or congregation for any manner of participation in same-sex marriage with his Diocese. The restriction is effective immediately and will remain in effect until such time as a Title IV matter against Bishop Love is resolved.

Because of our close proximity to and Bishop DeDe’s supervision of several congregations in the Diocese of Albany, this is not just a matter for our neighboring Diocese, it also very directly affects our own Bishop. Were she not already in our prayers, I would ask that you add her to your personal and our collective prayers.

## Vestry Report-March 2019

The March Vestry meeting was held on Tuesday, March 12, 2019.

### **Finance**

The February financial reports were reviewed and accepted. Carl Vallely of Allstate Financial Services attended the meeting. He distributed a summary of our accounts and listed suggestions for the future. Carl contacted Chemung Canal regarding administrative details of our loan and more collateral will be released. A motion was made and approved to release these Oppenheimer Funds and put them into our Calvert account. Carl also offered to do a planned giving presentation to our congregation.

We will look into the possibility researching the benefits of solar energy farms.

Dori will look into the terms for Gates Hobson for future planning of the funds.

### **Worship**

A discussion of Ash Wednesday services and the "Ashes to Go" event occurred.

There will be a wedding in the church the afternoon of Sat. April 6. Tom Padgett has agreed to serve as the contact person during the wedding.

### **Outreach**

Sue Draht announced that with the painting of the Thrift Shop is almost done. Expansion of the shop continues, and rooms will need to be organized. A large donation came in last week and will be sorted and priced.

The Second Place East, Inc. Help for the Home Shop served 10 adults and 4 children in February. Trinity supports this effort with Outreach In-gatherings and donations of supplies.

The next Breakfast Club event is on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>.

The next Episcopal Community Luncheon will be at Trinity on April 13<sup>th</sup>. Mac and Cheese will be on the menu. Tari and Mike Buchholz have agreed to prepare the meal.

Sue Draht will research two opportunities for our campus; Aspire Women's Event in October and a Community Cupboard Project and report back to the Vestry.

### **Buildings & Grounds**

Brooks Painting's is scheduled to begin repair of the nave ceiling in late March.

### **Pastoral Care**

A Labyrinth walk featuring the Stations of the Cross was held on Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **Administration**

Sue Draht was appointed the official Vestry clerk until the next annual meeting.

The Vestry will send a letter of appreciation to the United Baptist leadership thanking them for the useful items that they left behind after their move.

Pastor Wanda, Tom Padgett, Susan Nagle and the Wardens met with David Anderson of Johnson-Schmidt Architects to discuss New York State's response to Susan's inquiries regarding the denial of our application for an Historic Preservation Grant. We will plan on applying for the grant again in July.

Susan Nagle plans on completing the Sacred Sites grant application by April. This grant will be part of Trinity's share of the project should we be awarded the New York State grant next year.



**Next Vestry  
Meeting  
April 9  
5:30 pm**

A long discussion involving our marketing plans was the focus of our meeting. Lisa Kelly provided a summary of her meeting with a STEG representative. Brent Stermer, a local realtor and our district councilman, will tour the facilities this week. Don Keddell and representatives of the Child Care Council will tour as well. Ideas about space utilization should be sent to Lisa Kelly. A follow up meeting for this subcommittee was scheduled for Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM.

**Dates to Remember**

Apr. 3, 10 am-12 noon	No-Sew Blankets Outreach Project
Thurs. April 4, 5:30 pm	First Thursday Eucharist
Tues. April 9, 5:30 pm	Next Vestry Meeting
Apr.10, 10 am-12 noon	No-Sew Blankets Outreach Project
Thurs. April 18, 7 pm	Maundy Thursday at St Matthew's
Fri. April 19, 7 pm	Good Friday at Trinity
Sat. April 20, 8:30 - 9:30 am	Free Community Breakfast
Sat. April 20, 5:30 pm	Easter Vigil at St. Matthew's
Sun. April 21, 9:00 am	Easter Sunday Service at Trinity
10:30 am	Easter Sunday Service at St. Matthew's

Faithfully submitted,  
 Judith Sheasley  
 Judith Brayer

**Ecumenical Lenten Program**



For many years, St Matthew's has been an active participant with other churches in offering a community Lenten program. This year our program will be based on the book and DVD: *Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times* by the Rev. Adam Hamilton. The five-week program, seen on Wednesdays March 13—April 10. The evening begins with dinner at 5:30, followed by a short program, and ends by 7:00pm. The remaining schedule of topics and locations are below:

- April 3            **Apocalypse, Change,  
Missing Out and Finances**  
St. Matthews Episcopal
  
- April 10          **Aging, Illness, Dying  
and Fear of the Lord**  
Big Flats Presbyterian

Dinner begins at 6:00 p.m. followed by presentation at 6:30 p.m.

Suggested donation of \$ 3.50

## Fellowship/Hospitality Update

Fellowship/Hospitality Update:

Our fellowship dinners after First Thursday worship are a hit! Thank you to Tari and Mike for a delicious meal in March! Join us April 4th for our next fellowship meal!

We had about 40 for our latest Breakfast Club which was a wonderful turnout on another chilly morning. Many thanks to our faithful volunteers; Carol, Nancy, Judi, Judy, John, Gabey, Daureen, Candy, Susan, Jackie and Tom!

Our next BC is April 20th. Join us at 7:00 am in the kitchen. Serving our community friends from 8:30 to 9:30.

Our no-sew blanket Lenten project continues April 3rd and 10th. We start at noon. Bring a bag lunch, dessert and beverage will be provided!

The community lunch we do with the Chemung County Episcopal Churches will be Saturday, April 13th. We serve lunch between 11 and 1:00. We need volunteers for set up, prep and serving any-time after 9:00! We will have a job for you! We also need brownies and cookies! We'd love your help!

Mark you calendars for our annual Spring Fling Luncheon for May 16th at noon in the chapel. Good food...great fellowship! We will be looking to welcome YOU!

Submitted by: Lisa Kelly



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### **“Breakfast Club”**

#### **Free Breakfast**

**Third Saturday**

**April 20**

**8:30 to 9:30 a.m.**

**Arnot Chapel**

**Open to the Community**

**Volunteers Welcome**

**Volunteers are asked to report to Trinity's kitchen at 7:00 am for food prep, table service set up, beverage station set up, food service and clean up.**

**You are an essential part of welcoming our community to Trinity! Thank you for your time!!**



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### **Free Community Lunch**

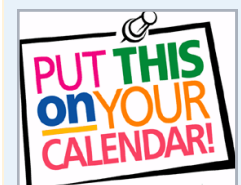
Hosted by the Episcopal Churches of Chemung County

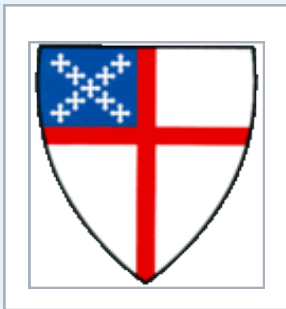
April 13, 2019

11:00 am— 1:00 pm

at Trinity Episcopal Church, Elmira

Free and open to the public





## Trinity History Corner

Cyrus L. W. Eidlitz

Interior Designer of the Arnot Memorial Chapel

While it is well known that the Arnot Memorial Chapel was designed by architect Richard M. Upjohn, little has been recorded in Trinity's history about interior designer Cyrus Lazelle Warner Eidlitz. Included in his design would have been the chancel with altar, organ and choir, all of which were removed in the renovation of the 1950s. The design of the nave included the wainscoting and theater-type seating.

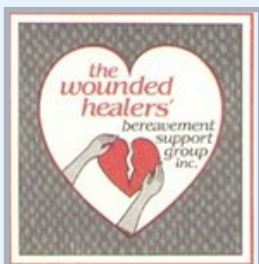
The son of architect Leopold Eidlitz and Harriet A. Warner, Cyrus was born July 27, 1853 on W. 86<sup>th</sup> St., New York City. The house had been designed by his father in what was then a near wilderness. He completed his architectural training at the Royal Academy at Stuttgart, Germany and returned to New York in 1871 where, for four years, he worked as a draftsman in his father's office. In 1878 he undertook his first commission, planning the reconstruction of St. Peter's Church in Westchester, NY, a building his father had designed, and which had been partially destroyed by fire.

During early practice under his own name, Mr. Eidlitz won a competition for the Buffalo, NY Public Library, which was built from his plans in 1881. About the same time, he designed the Dearborn Street Railroad Station (Polk Street Station) in Chicago. Designing of Trinity's Arnot Chapel would have occurred about this time as well, since work on the chapel was begun in 1880 and consecration occurred in late 1882.

The younger Eidlitz maintained an office in New York City for twenty-five years. There he planned a number of important business and commercial structures. He is best remembered for One Times Square, the original New York Times Building, which he designed in collaboration with Alexander Mackenzie. The structure, built in 1903 on the narrow strip of land between Broadway and Seventh Avenue, 42nd and 43rd Streets, was his outstanding achievement in architecture. It was the tallest building in New York City at the time. He continued to practice in association with Mr. Mackenzie until 1910, when he retired.

Mr. Eidlitz died at his summer home in Southampton, Long Island on October 5, 1921 at the age of sixty-eight and is buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo. He was survived by his wife, the former Jennie T. Dudley and two daughters.

Sources: loc.gov, prabook.com, findagrave.com



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## The Wounded Healers' Bereavement Support Group, Inc.

Will meet at St. Mary our Mother School in Horseheads on

Tuesday, April 9, 2019

from 7:30 until 9:00 pm. The Topic will be: Grief of a Spouse with a guest speaker

# First Thursday Eucharist

April 4



## Martin Luther King, Jr. and The Fight for Civil Rights

5:30 p.m.

Arnot Chapel

Dinner following

(free will offering)

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### Easter Lilies

It is tradition at Trinity Church to adorn the church nave and chancel with Easter Lilies during Eastertide. We ask that you consider making a contribution toward the cost of the flowers, either in loving memory of departed family and friends or as an act of thanksgiving. Offerings will be acknowledged in the Easter service bulletin if in to the Parish Office by April 14th.

The suggested donation for Easter Flowers is \$15.00. In order to avoid any typographical errors, we request that you **PRINT** the information to be entered into the service bulletin.

Please acknowledge my contribution for Easter flowers in memory of:

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Please acknowledge my contribution for Easter flowers as an act of thanksgiving in the name (s) of:

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From:

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Please send to the Parish Office or bring to worship with your check. Thank you.



## Community Cupboard Project Launches in April



The Community Cupboard project is a tool to cultivate habits of kindness and to create patterns of compassion within our community. Each Cupboard provides access to food and other items 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The initiative promotes confidentiality and anonymity. Individuals can give and receive without questions, without the need to ask for help and without fear and judgment.

The organizers approached us about installing a cupboard on our property for community residents to access. Because this fits so well with our mission of being a Downtown presence for the community, we suggested that they install a cupboard on both Main St. and Church St. They were thrilled and will be installing both cupboards hopefully on April 19. More details on the installation will follow.

Suggested donations of items to stock the cupboard are toothbrushes, toilet paper, canned food, boxed food, gas cards, diapers, shampoo, laundry supplies, soap, personal care items, etc. We can contribute items to stock the cupboard, but all community members are encouraged to participate in the stocking and restocking. The cupboard is 21" wide and 9" deep. The top shelf is 4" high and the bottom shelf is 9" high.

We will be the first church in the Elmira area that will be offering this service. There is currently a cupboard installed at the Vietnam War Museum on Davis St and at Rossi Lanes at the Davis St entrance.

The picture shows a sample of typical items in a cupboard.

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## Maundy Thursday - Good Friday Labyrinth Walk and Prayer Vigil



8:30 p.m. on April 18 through 7 p.m. on April 19

First Presbyterian Church  
1054 W. Clinton St. Elmira

If you wish to sign up for a one-hour prayer watch,  
please call the First Presbyterian Church Office  
at 607-734-1615.

**There will be no April Third Friday Walk at Trinity.**



## Thrift Shop Report

We're winding down our painting project and the shop area is looking great! Paul has done an outstanding job painting our walls and sprucing up our space. Customers are commenting on how great it looks and we're thrilled to have more room to spread out. Most of the items that were in the hallway are being moved in to rooms so the hall is much wider which helps when it's filled with customers.

We continue to work toward our 5th anniversary in early May. Our little Shop continues to thrive!

—Sue Draht

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## Buildings and Grounds Report

As mentioned in the Thrift Shop report, Paul is focused on finishing the painting job in the Thrift Shop, which should conclude about the time we're ready to work outside on the grounds. If you see anything that needs attention, please let Wanda or I know so we can make sure it gets attention.

We believe we've passed out all of the keys for the back door to the Parish Hall; if you have a need for access during off hours, please see Melissa in the office for a key.

—Sue Draht

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## April Birthdays

3:	Maxwell Doty	12:	Sophia Batrouney
6:	Kim Doty		Louise Marsh
7:	Corey Knighton	15:	Jackie Brown
	Wanda Copeland	16:	Katie Nagle
8:	Dori Riggs	18:	Judi Brayer
	Laura Knighton	19:	Robert Sallade
9:	Kendra Mace		Charlene Haldeman
11:	Lucille Doty	26:	Nichole Barron
		28:	Stephen Nagle

## April Anniversaries

10: Mother Nancy Lane's ordination anniversary

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## EOP Clothing Closet

The EOP has reached out to local churches, seeking assistance in stocking a clothing closet for those individuals who are looking for employment but don't have appropriate clothing to wear to an interview. They are also hoping to stock prom clothing for students who want to attend a prom but don't have a dress or suit.

We will be putting a box in the rear of the church for those donations that you may have. We're looking for men's clothing in the form of suits, sport coats, dress pants and shirts. Women's clothing should be business-type that would be appropriate for an interview.





### **Maundy Thursday**

April 18, 7 p.m.

St. Matthew's Church

### **Good Friday**

April 19, 7 p.m.

Trinity Church

### **Easter Vigil**

Saturday, April 20, 5:30 p.m.

St. Matthew's Church

### **Easter Sunday**

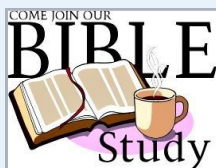
April 21

9 a.m.

Trinity Church

10:30 a.m.

St. Matthew's Church



### **Bible Study**

Wanda is leading a bible study each Wednesday at 10 am at Bell's Country Coffee, 258 E. 14th Street, Elmira Heights, NY 14903. Come join us!! (We will not meet on April 17th (Wed. of Holy Week).



### **Second Place East, Inc.**

Second Place East, Inc. is still counting on the individual churches that are involved with its program to donate selected goods in the coming months. April's selected goods are dish detergent. These goods can be of any brand name, type and size will be acceptable and can be purchased at any Family Dollar, Dollar General, Big Lots, Dollar Tree, or area grocery stores. Please put the designated goods in the basket near the Chapel doors. Second Place East, Inc. thanks everyone for their help in this mission.

# April 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> Office Open 1-5	<b>2</b> Office Open 1-5	<b>3</b> Children's Clothing Closet 9-11 No-Sew Blankets 10-Noon	<b>4</b> First Thursday Worship Service & Fellowship Dinner 5:30	<b>5</b> Office Closed	<b>6</b> Thrift Shop Open 9-12
<b>7</b> Holy Eucharist 9	<b>8</b> Office Open 1-5	<b>9</b> Office Open 1-5 Vestry Meeting 5:30	<b>10</b> Children's Clothing Closet 9-11 Bible Study 10 No-Sew Blankets 10-Noon Office Open 1-5	<b>11</b> Office Open 1-5	<b>12</b> Office Closed	<b>13</b> Thrift Shop Open 9-12
<b>14</b> Holy Eucharist 9	<b>15</b> Office Open 1-5	<b>16</b> Office Open 1-5	<b>17</b> Children's Clothing Closet 9-11 No Bible Study Office Open 1-5	<b>18</b> Office Open 1-5 Maundy Thursday Service 7 at St. Matthew's Labyrinth 8:30pm through 7:00pm 4/19	<b>19</b> Office Closed Good Friday Service 7 at Trinity Deadline for The Record	<b>20</b> Breakfast Club 8:30-9:30 Thrift Shop Open 9-12 Easter Vigil 5:30 at St. Matthew's
<b>21</b> Holy Eucharist 9	<b>22</b> Office Open 1-5	<b>23</b> Office Open 1-5	<b>24</b> Children's Clothing Closet 9-11 Bible Study 10 No-Sew Blankets Office Open 1-5 Aktion Club 5-9	<b>25</b> Office Open 1-5	<b>26</b> Office Closed	<b>27</b> Thrift Shop Open 9-12
<b>28</b> Holy Eucharist 9	<b>29</b> Office Open 1-5	<b>30</b> Office Open 1-5				

# Trinity Episcopal Church

304 North Main Street  
Elmira, NY 14901  
Phone: 607-732-3241  
E-mail: [info@trinitychurchelmira.org](mailto:info@trinitychurchelmira.org)



**Trinity Church: Serving God and  
All People in Heart, Mind and Soul**

[www.trinitychurchelmira.org](http://www.trinitychurchelmira.org)

## Trinity Staff

Rector: The Reverend Wanda Copeland  
Email: [pastorwanda24@gmail.com](mailto:pastorwanda24@gmail.com)

Office Staff: Melissa Ransom  
Email: [info@trinitychurchelmira.org](mailto:info@trinitychurchelmira.org)

Organist: Sharon Reynolds

Wardens: Judith Sheasley and Judith Brayer

Vestry Members: Lisa Kelly, Sue Draht, Ben Buchholz, Thomas Padgett

Treasurer: Dori Riggs

Clerk of the Vestry: Melissa Ransom

Sexton: Paul Palmer

