Looking at the snow and ice from the comfort of a rocking chair in the hermitage at the Carmelite Monastery on Tuesday, my mind was drawn to the wonderful Christmas hymn, “In the bleak midwinter.” It is among my favorites.

Christina Rossetti wrote the hymn in 1872. She placed the birth of Jesus in her familiar wintery climes of England, where she lived most of her life. It gets bleak and frosty there, just like here.
Hardly like Bethlehem, where it’s in the mid-50s this week. But poetic license is allowed.

Most of us have our trees up, and if not finished with our search for the perfect gift, are bearing down as the deadline approaches. The last stanza of the hymn, about my gift to the Christ child, touches me most deeply. What is the perfect gift for him?

What can I give him 
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring him a lamb.
If I were a wise man
I would do my part.
Yet what I can give, I give him --
Give my heart.

Yes, the perfect gift to give him is my heart.

Remember that we are all in this together,
Dean Stephen

Christmas at Trinity - Dec. 24 and 25

CHRISTMAS EVE FOR FAMILIES AT 4 PM ON SATURDAY
The Sunday school teachers and children have been rehearsing and are excited about the annual Christmas Eve pageant. It features five mini-acts that “Show Us the Way to Bethlehem.” The Holy Eucharist will follow the pageant. All children can take part, but it is essential that they are in costume by 3:45. Check with Judy Landis for more information.

MUSIC OF CHRISTMAS AT 7:30 PM ON SATURDAY
The Trinity Cathedral Choir, along with the Trinity Hand Chimes Choir and a string quartet, will present special holiday music a half-hour before the late service. In addition, the congregation will sing familiar carols.

CHRISTMAS CHORAL EUCHARIST AT 8 PM ON SATURDAY
It will be midnight in Nova Scotia, but in Reno, we’re having our “Midnight Mass” at 8 in the evening. The midnight tradition is a long one and is theologically sound. God comes in the flesh to rescue us on the shortest day in the darkest part of the night. But there are practicalities, too, such as being a mostly 55-plus congregation, driving at night, and family obligations. It will still be dark, but we are planning a lovely service with beautiful music to celebrate the Light of the world coming into our midst: then, now, and in the future. Dean Stephen Brehe will preach.

CHRISTMAS DAY AT 10 AM
There is one service on Sunday, at 10 a.m. Canon Ruth Hanusa will preach. The Holy Eucharist will be accompanied by hymns and carols of the season. There is no Sunday school.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AND MUSIC
If you would like to contribute to the Christmas flower fund or the Christmas music fund, be sure to fill out the form in Sunday’s bulletin. Names will be printed in the Christmas bulletins. Be sure to print with block letters if you are handwriting names. The deadline is Monday, Dec. 19.

Lower left: Benjamin Kuman, Adrian Riesner

Bishop Elizabeth Gardner joined us on Dec. 11 to baptize, confirm, and receive members into the church.

**Baptized and confirmed**: Adrian Riesner.
**Confirmed**: Beverly Collins, Benjamin Kumar, and Naomi Thompson.
**Received into the communion of The Episcopal Church**: Robert and Kathryn Pickens.

**New confirmation class starts in January**
Dean Stephen and I will be offering a Zoom Confirmation Class, especially for teenagers and young adults. It will start on Jan. 4. Classes will be Wednesday afternoons from 5-6 p.m. Anyone who went through the EpiscoPAL mini-retreat is welcome to join this course and enjoy the fellowship. This is the class schedule:

Jan 4 (Wk. 1): Concepts about God
Jan 11 (Wk 2): Human nature and Sin
Jan 18 (Wk 3): Jesus: Life and Ministry
Jan 25: (Wk 4): Jesus: Death and resurrection
Feb 1: (Wk 5): The Holy Spirit
Feb 8: (Wk 6): The Church
Feb 15: (Wk 7): The Creeds
Feb 22: (Wk 8): The Bible
Mar 1: (Wk 9): Living as a Christian
Mar 8: (Wk 10): Prayer and Worship
Mar 15: (Wk 11): The Sacraments
Mar 22: (Wk 12): Baptism

Students will be confirmed at the Easter Vigil on Sat. April 8, 2023. If you are interested in attending this class, please let Judy know so she can order you a book. This class is offered to all students in grades 6 to adult. It will prepare you for Confirmation. It is also helpful for anyone seeking to deepen their spiritual life. We are very excited to offer this class! - Judy Landis and Dean Stephen Brehe

**Adult forum will examine Luke’s Christmas story**
Join Dean Stephen and Canon Ruth as they examine Luke’s nativity story. Matthew’s story (we’ll hear a portion of it on Sunday) challenges listeners to choose who is the King of the Jews. Herod or Jesus? Luke takes a slightly different tact (we’ll hear from him on Christmas Eve). Who is the Savior of the world? Caesar or Jesus? This week we will meet in the library, downstairs under the chapel.

**Angel tree provides hundreds of gifts**
Generous Trinity members and hard-working Daughters of the King and friends bought, wrapped, and delivered six carloads of Christmas presents to Stead Elementary School. Trinity members make sure that poor children receive Christmas toys, clothes, and shoes every year. Below: bags of gifts and some of Santa’s delivery elves.
Carillon bells require additional work
Seven electrical driving boards will have to be replaced before the carillon is up and working. The strikers were installed and the bells were ready to play on Sunday. Alas. The boards that control the ringing no longer work, the casualty of old age. Replacement boards have been ordered.

Looking for a few good men and women
The January 29 Annual Meeting might seem like a long way off, but your Vestry is seeking your interest in serving the cathedral in a variety of leadership positions. If you are interested in any of these positions, contact a member of the Vestry to learn more.

Vestry Member (meets every month as the church’s board of elders)
Search Committee Member (starts meeting in February to analyze a congregational assessment and then prepare a parish profile)
Diocesan Convention Delegate (the convention will be in Ely from Oct. 5-7)

Sunday school and EYC

Faith Confirmed: Preparing for Confirmation
Description of Book
In our journey through life, we often face big questions: What is the meaning of life? Who is God? Why do people die and what happens after death? Throughout the ages, Christians have turned to the Bible and to the Church for answers.

*Faith Confirmed* is an introduction to Episcopal beliefs and practices and is a perfect primer for those preparing for confirmation in the Episcopal Church and for all those who want to know more about the essentials of the faith.

Each section of the book contains:
- a clear and accessible explanation of what Episcopalians believe
- stories and illustrations to unpack these beliefs
- thought-provoking questions and a Bible study
- prayer and suggested prayer topics for the week

We will begin zoom classes on Wednesday, January 4. We will meet weekly for 12 weeks. Classes will be from 5:00 pm-6:00 pm. The cost of this book is $14.00. If interested in being part of this class, please email Judy at education@trinityreno.org. Confirmation will be celebrated during
the Easter Vigil worship service on Saturday, April 8. This class is for anyone seeking to deepen their faith and explore the Episcopal Church.

Zoom Information: Judy Landis is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.  
**Meeting ID: 832 9349 5824   Passcode: Trinity**

**Christmas Eve Service**  
Please join us at 4:00 pm for the Children’s Christmas Story. If your child would like to participate in the story, please email Judy or arrive by 3:45 pm on December 24. There is room for everyone. There will be a dress rehearsal on Sunday, Dec. 18 immediately following the 9:00 am worship service in the sanctuary.

**EYC Christmas Fundraiser!**  
Personalized Trinity Globe ornaments (with the artist’s description and history) will be available for purchase every Sunday morning. Ornaments can also be purchased during the week, with advanced notice, from Judy Landis at education@trinityreno.org. Globe ornaments are $12.00.

This friendly, simple sketch was designed just for us by Calder Chism. Calder was raised right down the river from Trinity. His family arrived in Reno in 1880, just 12 years after the first lots were auctioned off by The Central Pacific Railroad. Gardner Chism and his wife Alice purchased 115 Acres west of town, in what is now the area of West 2nd Street for a ranch and a farm. Many older members of Trinity may remember Chism Ice Cream, The Chism House, or Chism Trailer Park. Calder and Tricia were married at Trinity in the 1991. Calder loves historical buildings here in town and we both thought it would be cool for him to do a chalk- like sketch from the perspective of the Truckee River. I love what he came up with. The sketch of Trinity is simple and invites me to wonderings. It looks like it could wobble around a bit when things get tough, or times change, but it will stay standing. Standing and beckoning “Come in .... everyone is welcome... come in.”  
-- Marne McKimmey

We also have a limited number of very special 'turned wood' ornaments made from Trinity woodwork. These beautiful mahogany ornaments include a greeting card of Trinity’s Te Deum window and sell for $25.

**Upcoming Events for Sunday School and EYC**

**December 2022**
- Saturday 12/24 – Christmas Pageant at 4 p.m. Christmas Eve Service.
- **Sunday 12/25 – No Sunday School. Merry Christmas!**

**January 2023**
- **Sunday 1/1 – No Sunday School. Happy New Year!** Combined worship service at 10 a.m.

*We begin saving our coins to donate on Superbowl Sunday!*
February 2023

- Wednesday 2/1 - Faith Confirmed on zoom. Session 5 (5-6 p.m.) Meeting ID: 832 9349 5824 Passcode: Trinity
- Wednesday 2/8 - Faith Confirmed on zoom. Session 6 (5-6 p.m.)
- Sunday 2/12 - “Souperbowl of Caring Sunday” – coins will be presented at 9 a.m. worship service.
- Monday 2/20 - EYC meets in Parish Hall to prepare a hot meal for the homeless at 8 a.m.
- Tuesday, 2/21 - EYC sponsors Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner at 5:30 p.m. (fundraiser)
- Wednesday 2/22 - Faith Confirmed on zoom. Session 8 (5-6 p.m.) Meeting ID: 832 9349 5824 Passcode: Trinity

March 2023

- Wednesday 3/1: Ash Wednesday. Faith Confirmed. Session 9. We will attend Ash Wednesday service together.
- Sunday 3/5 - Sunday School and EYC begin to gather Easter Eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt.
- Wednesday 3/8 - Faith Confirmed on zoom. Session 9 (5-6 p.m.) Meeting ID: 832 9349 5824 Passcode: Trinity
- Wednesday 3/15 - Faith confirmed on zoom. Session 10. (5-6 p.m.)

April 2023

- Sunday 4/9 – Easter Egg Hunt immediately following the 9 a.m. Service. No Sunday School. Happy Easter!

May 2023

- Sunday 5/21 – End of Year Sunday School/EYC Family picnic immediately following the 9 a.m. service.

Music at Trinity

Christmas Concert featuring musicians of Trinity

The music ministry invites you to a free Christmas Concert Sunday, Dec. 18 at 4 p.m. featuring the musical talent from Trinity. The concert will feature holiday-themed selections for piano solo, organ and piano duet, hand chimes, and the St. Cecilia Choir. Please invite friends and family to enjoy!

Music for Advent 4

The prelude and postlude for the 11 a.m. service on Dec. 18 will feature two settings by Nicolaus Bruhns (prelude) and J.S. Bach (postlude) of Martin Luther's hymn Nun komm der Heiden Heiland (Savior of the Nation's Come), a translation and adaptation of the Latin sequence Veni Redemptor Gentium into vernacular German. Bruhn's setting transforms each phrase of the hymn into four distinct musical ideas, each representing a different aspect of the Christ event.
elaborate contrapuntal settings, characteristic of the North German organ school in the late 17th century. Bruhns died at the age of 31, but his knowledge of counterpoint and pedal technique are demonstrated in his few extant works like his Prelude and Fugue in E minor.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6wBsEVgv4bo

The prelude will be performed on the S.R. Cook organ in the Bishop Lewis Chapel, all are welcome to enjoy the music in the chapel or the sanctuary.

Bruhns’s setting of Nun Komm overlays a three-voice fugue above a pedal cantus firmus. Bach composed several settings of Nun Komm for the organ, including a meditative setting that was later transcribed for piano by Ferrucio Busoni.

https://youtu.be/NsrK2_-yY54

**Pipes on the River: Monty Bennett**

Friday, Dec. 16, 12 p.m.

Monty Bennett, a long-time favorite performer at Pipes on the River, will present Music for Advent and Christmas at Trinity Cathedral. Selections will include works by Bach, Brahms, and well-known Christmas favorites such as: Guilmant’s Magnificat, Chapman’s Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella, and Cheban’s Grand Fantasia on “Joy to the World”

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**Daughters of the King**

The Daughters Chapter of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral will offer a Discernment Class in late January 2023. Would you like to know more?

The Order of the Daughters of the King includes women and girls between the ages of seven and one hundred and seven who desire a closer walk with the Lord. We are Christian women, both lay and ordained, who are strengthened through the discipline of a Rule of Life and supported through the companionship of our sisters. We are all at different stages of our Christian journey – some have just begun, and some have been on this path for a long time. But no matter where we are on our sacred journeys, our primary goal is the same – to know Jesus Christ and to make Him known to others.

There are currently 10 Daughters in our St. Hildegard Chapter here at Trinity Cathedral. Would you consider joining with us? Discerning women go through a three-month study period which helps them to determine if they are called to be a Daughter. Our Chapter will be offering a new Discernment Class beginning in late January, 2023. It will be an online class offered through the Diocese of Los Angeles. All our current members will go through the class with you.

Are you interested in learning more about Daughters? If so, please call Ginny Nelson, 775-750-8776 or Carolyn Hoffmann, 775-787-7807.

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**December 2022**

"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us." 1 John 5:4 NIV
Nominations Being Accepted!

Please give prayerful consideration to this question: “Am I being called to serve?”

Elections of new Diocesan Executive Board Officers will happen in 2023. Please let the Nominating Committee know now of your interest to fill one of the open positions. For more information or to nominate someone else, contact First vice President Sheila Lowerre at sheilalowerre@gmail.com

Leadership Team:
DOK Los Angeles Board

Chapter Presidents are members of the Board with voice and vote and are urged to attend or send a designated alternate. All Daughters are welcome.

The Executive Board meets at 6 p.m. Chapter Presidents may join then or at 7 p.m. when others are also welcome. Our meetings always close by 8:15 p.m. with a spiritual or contemplative practice. These are the dates for the first half of 2023:

- January 9
- February 13
- March 13
- April 10
- May 8
- June 12
Endowment at Trinity

With the end of the calendar year a short 2 weeks away, now is the time to make sure you review your important financial matters. By carefully and prayerfully planning your financial donations for the Lord’s work here at Trinity and making them by December 31, you can enjoy the satisfaction that comes from giving a gift of lasting impact.

Don’t forget your IRA!

If you are age 70 ½ or older and own a traditional IRA, you can make tax free gifts of up to $100,000 by rolling over funds directly from your IRA to a qualified charity, like Trinity. Simply contact your IRA administrator and request that a gift be made to Trinity. Be sure to act now if this opportunity is of interest to you as this is a busy time of the year for these administrators!

Stocks that have increased or decreased in value, real estate, a life insurance policy that is no longer needed or other property can all be excellent choices for a charitable gift to Trinity’s Endowment Fund. You can also give gifts through your will, living trust, or retirement plan assets.

Our Heavenly Father has blessed all of us with resources to steward for His glory and the benefit of others. Careful planning and giving bring glory to His name, provide a positive witness to others and help provide for the earthly future of our congregation. So please consult with your family and your financial advisor about the best opportunity for you and then make a generous gift to Trinity Cathedral.

Should you have questions, feel free to contact the Church Office or any member of Trinity’s Endowment Committee.

Canon Ruth's Corner

Compassionate Friends

While looking for bereavement resources for some of Trinity’s folks, I stumbled across a website, www.compassionatefriends.org. Compassionate Friends is a support group for those who have lost a child through death. Originally begun as an in-person group (and it still is, meeting locally at St. John’s Presbyterian Church, 1070 Plumb Lane), there are many support groups that also meet on-line. I was impressed with the many sub-support groups which are offered.

Just a sampling: Parents/Grandparents/Siblings, No Surviving Children, Suicide Loss, Pregnancy/Infant Loss, Bereaved Less Than Three Years, Bereaved More Than Three Years. Additionally there are many other resources on the website: an on-line magazine, national conferences, essays and articles, 24/7 Facebook groups, book recommendations, ways to volunteer, and more. If you or someone you know could benefit from this website, please check it out.

If you have questions, call, email or text me: 775-721-2669, ruthhanusa@gmail.com, revruth@trinityreno.org. - Ruth

Trinity library
Attention friends of the Trinity Cathedral library:

We want to let you know that the Cathedral Library can no longer take donations of any kind. There is no room. We are currently trying to purge and reorganize what is currently in the Library. Until that is accomplished, please consider donating your books, etc. to other places such as the Washoe County Public Library, the Assistance League, Grass Roots, or Karma Boxes (https://www.karmaboxproject.org) located throughout the City.

The Library is trying to dispose of VHS tapes, cassettes and DVDs to places that recycle and/or dispose of such items in a way that is environmentally friendly. These places charge for disposal. An alternative to support the Cathedral Library is to give a monetary gift to help the Library send these items to places that recycle them.

Thank you for your interest in the Cathedral Library.

Sincerely,
Library Volunteers

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Prayer concerns

Prayer list

Healing for Trinity Family and Friends
Tom, Lars Joseph, Douglas and Catherine, Michael and Olivia, Marc, Colleen, Joanne, Lillian, Allen, Michael, Joy, Nancy, Vonnie and Larry, John, Ralph, Dave, Anke, Adrian, Steve, Chris and Leighton, Lorisa, Hormon, Beverly, Sonya, Alex, Richard

Military
Craig

Faithful Departed
Meg Tarble, David Hill, Laura Neidert

Bereaved
Tarble, Karen and John Henke-Hill, Dave Neidert and family

God of mercy and healing, you who hear the cries of those in need, receive these petitions of your people that all who are troubled may know peace, comfort, and courage. Amen.

The prayer list is updated regularly. Unless otherwise requested, names remain on the list for one month. Email the office to let us know of your prayer request.

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Important to know

Flowers
If you would like to donate flowers to the glory of God or in memory of a loved one, please add your name to the ‘flower chart’ in the cathedral entry hall (side door). The suggested donation is $50.

Worship with us online
- Sunday worship at 11: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGYbPbauG4TbNTpgnZpGffw
- Morning Prayer at 7:30 on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Zoom link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86377152553?pwd=V2p5dFBVQ0hMVFJKNm5WOFpyaVVxQT09
  Meeting Id: 863 7715 2553, password: Prayer
Weekly prayer

This week in the Diocese of Nevada we pray for:
St. Thomas, Las Vegas

In our Anglican Communion we pray for:
The Anglican Church of Korea

The lessons appointed for use on the

Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Collect
Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Isaiah 7:10-16
Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; * shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, * stir up your strength and come to help us.
3 Restore us, O God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
4 O Lord God of hosts, * how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?
5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; * you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, * and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
7 Restore us, O God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
17 And so will we never turn away from you; * give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Romans 1:1-7
Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to...
Jesus Christ,
To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Matthew 1:18-25**
Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

*The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, and used by permission.
The Collects, Psalms and Canticles are from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979.*

*From The Lectionary Page: http://lectionarypage.net*