

the BRIEF

Oh Come, Let Us Adore Him

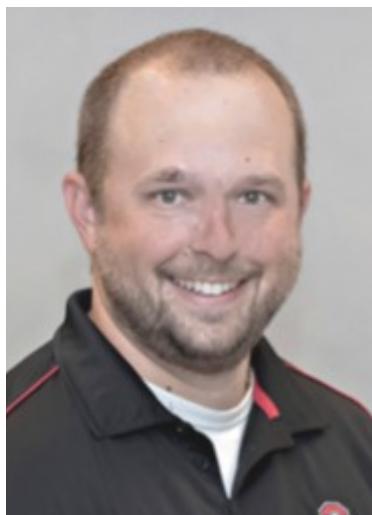
Christmas Eve at Trinity is always special but this year our final service featured a lovely living nativity portrayed by the Stuart family. From our family-focused Celebrations worship to a free soup meal before our Trinity Ringers recital and ending with this service, it was a wonderful evening of praise and thanksgiving for Jesus' birth. Many thanks to all the staff and disciples who worked to make this possible. See more pix on page 4.



Youth Ministries leadership to change hands this July

In July of 2025, Youth Ministries Director Dan Ebright shared with Pastor Rob a desire to move on from his position due to his increasing work commitments and family obligations as his kids are growing quickly. Graciously, Dan gave over a year's notice because he understood how important this role is to Trinity and will continue in this position through July of 2026, while remaining involved with other ministries.

Dan has been a blessing to the youth as he wonder-



Dan Ebright



Kyler Sturgill

fully navigated the group through both great moments and tricky situations,

including a pandemic. He managed to do ministry with humor, deep faith, and

grace, growing the youth program and helping our students to understand God in an approachable and tangible way. We will miss his presence as a staff member.

The SPRC and Ad Council have selected Trinity disciple Kyler Sturgill to assume the role of Director of Youth Ministries beginning in July.

Kyler has been a lifelong member of the church and has been involved with the youth programs through his adolescence. He has a

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From Pastor Rob: Finding our true north in Epiphany

My brother and sister-in-law purchased a new home on the outskirts of Albany, New York, and over the holidays my family made our first visit. It's a lovely home, spacious for their family as well as friends from the neighborhood.

Its most notable feature was a beautiful sunroom that's roughly our entire downstairs at the parsonage. It was a welcome addition to the original structure as windows primarily face towards the West to omit the glaring morning sun.

While sitting in that room, my father-in-law attempted to figure out which way was north and something of a friendly argument broke out as to what was true north. Finally, to settle things, someone asked for a compass, which nobody had.

We resorted to our phones and a "compass app" which gave way more information about our location than we ever desired. Things like, an altimeter, a barometer, average temperature, GPS location and more. Frankly, that hardest thing to find on

the compass app was a compass.

All I wanted was something that would tell me the right direction. The nuances of altitude and pressure were all interesting but none of them would satisfy my inquiry. Which way is north? If I wanted to walk to Montreal, how could I do that?

Epiphany to me always corresponds to direction. It begins with magi from the east following a star to find Jesus and ends with the compass pointing directly to Jerusalem to begin the season of Lent.

But Epiphany really asks us what direction we are going in our walk to and with Christ. We ponder the direction we have been traveling and ask ourselves if it's the right one. A compass would be helpful. A shining star would be better.

The blessing of a church is that we know we don't have to go through this journey alone. We have fellow travelers who are going in the same direction as we are. That offers some security and assurance. We worship, pray, and work together along the

way. Honestly, I'm unsure I could really do this journey without others, as my traveling companions do sometimes point me to the true compass when I'm lost.

Ultimately, the compass app was not helpful. There were too many avenues to go through to finally find the proper direction. Ultimately, we decided what was north at that house based on wisdom, signs in nature, and the consensus between groups. An epiphany of sorts for something we knew along.

May God bless you in this special season of the church.
*See you Sunday,
+Rob*



Pastor Rob
rkazinski@tumchtown.org

Youth Ministries leadership to change hands in July 2026

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passion for God, a love of Jesus, and the deep care for the youth.

Kyler is a 2023 graduate of Penn State University with a bachelor's in mathematics. He has served on the Trustees of Trinity and been actively involved in promoting youth and young adult ministry within the church. He and his fiancé, Alicia, regularly attend our Sunday Celebrations Worship at 9:30 AM. Kyler began shadowing Dan in November of 2025 and will fully assume the role after the Youth Mission Trip.

As you see them, please take time to thank Dan Ebright for his dedication and care and to welcome Kyler Sturgill to his new role at Trinity.







CHRISTIANITY | EXPLORED

WHAT'S THE BEST NEWS
YOU'VE EVER HEARD?

Based on the Gospel of Mark, this 7-session study is designed for people new to the Christian Faith and those returning to faith from an absence, but ANYONE can participate and learn from Mark as we delve into the identity, mission and call of Jesus: who He is, what He achieved, and how He calls us to respond.

TUESDAYS, STARTING FEB. 3, 6-7:30 PM
SIGN UP BY JAN. 25.
CHILD CARE IS AVAILABLE!

Mission Focus: 2026 Adult and Youth Mission Trips

We begin our 2026 Mission Focus giving by supporting Trinity Mission Trips for adults and youth. As director of Youth Ministries, every year I get the opportunity to take a group of teenagers on what I truly believe is a trip of a lifetime.

Last summer, I had the opportunity to witness a joint youth and adult trip as both groups headed to Henderson Settlement to serve those in need in Frakes, Kentucky.

Whether you're an adult or a teenager, mission trips are more than just a change of scenery or a week away from home; it's a trip that builds relationships, stretches faith, and has the power to change lives in lasting ways. Mission trips impact not only the lives of the people being served, but just as deeply, the lives of those who serve.

Another adult mission trip to Henderson is in the works for September (Watch for details to come!), and this summer, I'll take our group of teens to Columbia, South Carolina. For some students, it will be their first trip, their first experience stepping outside what's familiar, comfortable, and expected. For others, it will be their fifth time returning, choosing again to serve, to lead, and to pour into others.

No matter how many times they've gone, each trip brings something new, and God meets each student right where they are. As Jesus calls us, "Go therefore and make



Trinity's 2025 Adult & Youth Mission Teams

disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19), these students are answering that calling in a very real and tangible way.

The support of this church makes it possible for us to take yearly mission trips. Many churches and families aren't able to afford opportunities like this, and because of Trinity's generosity,

prayers, and support, our students are given the chance to experience something that will stay with them long after the trip ends. For that, I am incredibly thankful. These trips create space for God to work, to challenge and grow us in ways that won't happen in our normal routines.

The personal and spiritual growth that happens on a mission trip isn't possible without the continued support, prayers, and generosity of this church. Thank you for investing in missions and believing in what God is doing through them.

*Dan Ebright
Director of Youth Ministries*



LENT BEGINS FEB. 18

INTERESTED IN FACILITATING A LENTEN STUDY? CONTACT KAY!

Ash Wednesday is coming! In order to plan for Lenten Studies, get the word out, and allow time for sign-ups and ordering books, we need to start now. We're seeking anyone who would like to facilitate a study.

As facilitator, you pick the day of the week and time to offer your study. If you need ideas for a study, I can help with that as well.

Contact me TODAY so we can make plans!

Kay Baxter, Discipleship director
kaxter@umctown.org
 text to 717-612-8346

EASTER IS APRIL 5

December at



TRINITY HUMMELSTOWN



It was a packed house for our Jingle Jam, following our combined service on Dec. 14. The event featured our Kids Ministries students and included a fun singing of "The 12 Days of Christmas" as well as a retelling of the Christmas story. The kids did great!



The Longest Night service created a safe space for those not feeling overly festive due to loss and life challenges. Attendees lit candles to name their hurts and remember Jesus as the light in our world.



Our 2025 Christmas Eve services included all of the elements that comprise worship (Advent wreath and candle lighting, a Children's Message, and special music by all our musical groups), as well as a free soup and bread meal between services with a free gift for all who attended! Hearty homemade soups prepared by Facilities Manager Jayne (assisted by her husband, Todd, on bread duty) made for a delicious meal.

Before heading to the annual Trinity Ringers Bell Recital, attendees were invited to stop and select a handmade hat to take home with them. Our Prayer Shawl Ministry team created and contributed 100 hats of all sizes and colors for the event. It takes many hands to create a memorable Christmas Eve at Trinity. A heartfelt thank you to our incredible staff and to each disciple who stepped in to assist!