



# THE TRINITY TRUMPET



TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
Longview, Texas

FEBRUARY 2026  
TRINITYPARISH.ORG

Loving God and others, we invite, welcome and embrace all people through worship, fellowship, and service.

## What does the Lord require of us? *Bill Bane*

*He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8*

This has always been high on the list of my favorite scriptures. They say that there is no owner's manual for life, but, in my opinion, this scriptural admonition comes as close as anything can. It defines the life that God truly desires for those who profess to love and please him. If we look at it from its historical perspective, it tells a story of how God uses a lowly rural prophet (Micah) to confront a society that is riddled with systemic corruption, where victimization of the most vulnerable was rampant, religious and political leaders sought to appease God with extravagant physical offerings rather than a true sense of love and devotion, and corrupt judges pronounced unfair sentences on citizens who had no way of advocating for themselves. God uses the prophet Micah to bring to a lost nation awareness of a better way, a way that inspires moral and ethical fairness, genuine love and compassion, and reverence and submission to God, understanding that true worship flows from a transformed inner life, not just external acts. It was a nation, like so many through history, that turned against God.

I believe that it grieves the heart of God to see humanity stray so far away from what is right, holy, and life-giving. This always leads to challenging times. When humans seek to hurt one another, and to be in offense against one another, the Kingdom that God desires cannot come to bear. We need only look at what is happening in our society and in the world to understand the reality of this. Offense drives nations, cultures, and even individuals and families to be at war with one another. The poison of offense makes even churches become places of pain and despair, rather than healing and encouragement.

It is no secret that Trinity Church is facing some challenges, which can be viewed as opportunities. Like many churches, we are forced to look at ourselves through the lens of Micah 6:8, asking ourselves some urgent questions. Do we stand up to challenges with justice, mercy, and humility as ensigns of our Christian identity? Will we humbly seek God and implore him to infuse us with love, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, and self control, or will we choose to handle affairs with our fellow brothers and sisters with offense and contempt, employing the world's rules of destructive order? If we lift ourselves and our church in prayer, God's power is then invited to do its best work. Deeper relationships are formed, hurts are healed, fellowship is strengthened, and a desire to love and serve God and others becomes the way of life. That is a church that possesses what people want and need and draws them to it. The converse is a church that chooses offense, division, and bitterness toward one another and becomes a place that looks so much like our war-torn society, it stifles the hearts of its own people and repels others away from it.

I would like to acknowledge the pastoral work of Mother Vivian in reaching out to so many members of the parish with invitations to visit personally about things that are on their hearts. I know her desire is to be a true pastor and teacher to our church during this interim time. As well, I am blessed by the work of our Senior Warden, Christine Prior who has made it a priority to make sure everyone is heard, that the administration of the church moves forward as it should, and that the congregation knows their value, not only to Trinity, but to God. Both of these wonderful ladies have stepped up mightily, and given the 'gift of presence', so needed at this time of transition. And finally, my heartfelt gratitude to this congregation for your love and care for Heather and myself, and for your confidence in me as your Minister of Music.

My resolution for this new year is to embrace the spiritual admonition of Micah 6:8. This is a commitment that will take work and steadfastness on my part, but I know it is the way that brings about God's desired Kingdom. I renew my desire to love and serve God and my fellow brothers and sisters better, to work on being more understanding and kind, and to humble myself before God, seeking his guidance and wisdom in all things, conforming more to his likeness than the world's. I would not ask anyone to do what I am not willing to do myself. Will you join me?

## TRINITY CHURCH STAFF

The Reverend Vivian Shelby, Associate Rector  
Cindy Verhalen, TST Head of School  
Rachel White, Youth and Children's Minister  
Bill Bane, Director of Music Ministries  
Jeff Richardson, Communication & Connection Minister  
Sammy York, Endowment Board President

## VESTRY

Christine Prior, Senior Warden  
John Michaels, Junior Warden  
Treasurer, TBA

### Class of 2025

Karen Frith, Christine Prior, Tovah Robertson, Gary Whitwell

### Class of 2026

Tisha Grotemat, Jim Sawyer

### Class of 2027

Wesley Linseisen, Gail Martin, John Michaels

## MISSION OF THE MONTH



The Women's Center of East Texas (WCET) was established in 1978 in response to a growing need for shelter and services for battered women in Longview. Since that time, WCET has expanded to serve survivors of sexual assault and trafficking, and has expanded their geographic focus from being limited to Longview, to include the counties of Gregg, Harrison, Marion, Panola, Rusk, and Upshur. Not only does WCET provide safe shelter to women and children experiencing violence, they also provide counseling, legal advocacy, support groups, financial assistance, community awareness, and a 24/7 hotline for anyone experiencing family or sexual violence. Each year, WCET serves approximately 1,500 women, children, and men with services vital to obtaining self-sufficiency and escaping a life of violence. They are committed to serving those in crisis as well as efforts to break the cycle of violence.

## Pastoral Care Needs?

Please call Mother Vivian Shelby with any Pastoral Care needs. As well, please keep her informed of any pastoral issues that she may need to know about.

You can reach her at:

**Mother Vivian Cell - (832) 846-7072**  
**mothervivian@trinityparish.org**

She will be glad to receive phone calls up to 10:00 PM for general issues and at any time for an emergency. Please use your discretion for items that can wait until normal business hours. But, please err on the side of calling or texting for any issues you feel needs her urgent attention.



## FAITH

GATHERING WOMEN, KNOWING GOD, BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

**What:** *Elijah: Spiritual Stamina in Every Season*  
*A Study of 1st and 2nd Kings • Cost of Book \$15*

**When:** Every Thursday evening at 6:00 PM

**Where:** The Church Library

**Who:** All women of Trinity. Please invite your friends. Contact Elise or Vicky for a copy of the resource being used.

**Call Elise Hill (903) 736-5176 or Vicky Bright (903) 738-6752**

*Come learn the Word of God and meet new people through fellowship and conversation*



## Children's Church

Children's Church meets during the 10:30 AM service and is led by our Youth and Family Minister, Rachel White. Children beyond nursery age are always welcome in the service and invited to sit with their parents in church. For more information about Children's Church, please contact Rachel White - [rwhite@trinityparish.org](mailto:rwhite@trinityparish.org)

**We have a fully staffed nursery available for infants - 3 years from 9:00 AM to Noon on Sundays. The nursery is located in the former Flanagan Room in the hallway behind the nave.**

## The Service of Compline

Sung by the Men's Compline Choir

February 8th • 8:30 PM

Reception following in Guild Hall



# FEBRUARY PARISH EVENTS

## Service of Compline

Sunday, February 8th • 8:30 PM • Nave

## Daughters of the King

Monday, February 9th • 6:00 PM • Parish Hall

## Church Offices Closed

Monday, February 16th • President's Day

## Senior Mens' Dinner

Tuesday, February 17th • 6:00 PM • Parish Hall

## WEEKLY

### Lectionary Bible Study

Tuesday Mornings at 7:00 AM • Silver Grizzly

### Spirituality Group

Tuesday afternoons at 2:00 PM • Guild Hall

### Crochet Group

Wednesday Mornings at 10:00 AM • Guild Hall

### Wednesday Evening Study and Dinner

Wednesday Evenings at 6:00 PM • Parish Hall

### Faith Women's Bible Study

Thursday Evenings at 6:00 PM • Library

### MID-WEEK HOLY EUCHARIST

Wednesdays at 12:15 PM



## Birthdays and Anniversaries

Daphne Scott (2/02)	Sallie Tullberg (2/19)
Mike Lewis (2/03)	Kelly Braswell (2/22)
Pat Florence (2/04)	Rocio Mendez (2/22)
Alyce Clark (2/04)	Nancy Elswick (2/23)
Bobby Carney (2/05)	Jennifer Jackson (2/23)
Jan Barth (2/11)	Margaret Partin (2/23)
Gail Wilks (2/12)	Loretta Lloyd (2/24)
Harry Barth (2/12)	Tom Devon (2/25)
Ben Bright (2/12)	Michell Gish (2/26)
Mike Abernathy (2/16)	James Crittenden (2/27)
David Maly (2/18)	

Sammy and Cherisa York (2/12)

Ed and Bonnie Rast (2/16)

Wiley and Judy Thomas (2/20)

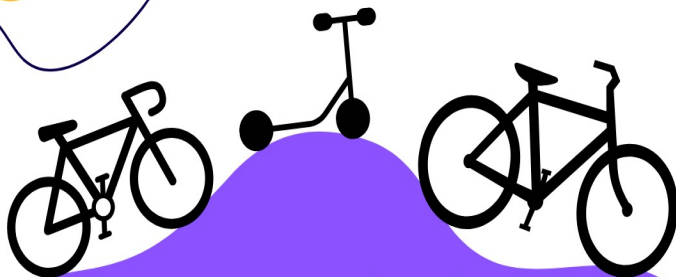
Tom and Arlene Devon (2/23)

Trinity Church has a group of folks that have been leading Evening Prayer for the past six years. We used to offer Evening Prayer six days a week, but due to attrition and health issues the group is down to three: Gayland Rushing, Bill Charles, and Linda Leath. Evening Prayer at 7:30 PM on Monday evening is led by Gayland Rushing, and Thursday evening by Bill Charles on Facebook format. Linda Leath is currently on sabbatical due to health issues and will be reinstated when she is healed. When she returns, she will lead Evening Prayer at 7:30 PM on Wednesday night. If you are interested in leading a night of Evening Prayer, contact Gayland, Bill, or Linda.

**Evening Prayer Online - Mondays and Thursdays**  
**7:30 PM • [www.facebook.com/TrinityLongview](http://www.facebook.com/TrinityLongview)**

## SHROVE TUESDAY BIKE PARADE

5:30 PM February 17th  
Precedes Pancake Dinner



Bring your bicycle,  
trike, or scooter to decorate!

**MEALS WITH LOVE**  
*Valentines*

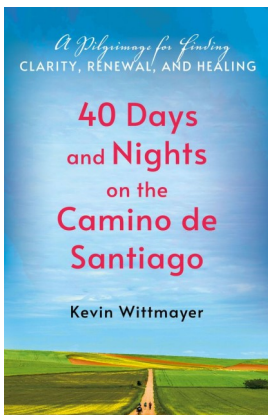
Help us show God's love to our neighbors!  
Grab a Valentines Kit from Rachel White to get started!

**VALENTINES' DROP OFF:**  
**02/01-02/12**

# Trinity Service Calendar

## February 2026 - Lectionary Year A

	February 1, 2026	February 8, 2026	February 15, 2026	February 22, 2026
	4th Sunday after the Epiphany	5th Sunday after the Epiphany	Last Sunday after the Epiphany	First Sunday in Lent
<b>Scriptures</b>	Micah 6:1-8 Psalm 15 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Matthew 5:1-12	Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 112:1-10 1 Corinthians 2:1-16 Matthew 5:13-20	Exodus 24:12-18 Psalm 2 2 Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17:1-9	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 Psalm 32 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Charles Team	Sticher Team	Matteson Team	Baker Team
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	NONE - Annual Mtg	C. Sikes	Men of Trinity	DOK
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	K. Frith	Charles Team	N. Sawyer	<i>Lent</i>
<b>8:00 AM</b>				
<b>Verger</b>	S. Tullberg	R. Tucker	D. Rushing	S.Tullberg
<b>Ushers</b>	Charles Team	Peters Team	Abernathey Team	Abernathey Team
<b>LEM 1</b>	J. Welge	G. Rushing	M. Abernathey	B. Charles
<b>10:30 AM</b>				
<b>Verger</b>	S. Jones	B. Bright	R. Mendez	S. Jones
<b>Ushers</b>	Wilcox/Tate	Gray/Matthews	Howard Team	Martin/Sikes
<b>Reader 1</b>	T. English	H. Bane	J. Wilkinson	T. Wilcox
<b>LEM 1</b>	J. Sawyer	A. Robertson	S. York	R. Joos
<b>Acolyte Team</b>	Team 2	Team 3	Team 1	Team 2



### INTRODUCING a new book, “40 Days and Nights on the Camino de Santiago”

Authored by Fr. Kevin Wittmayer, former priest of Trinity Episcopal Church in Longview, the book chronicles a forty-day spiritual journey of grief, healing, and faith grounded in one pilgrim's journey on the Camino de Santiago.

For more information about how to pre-order your copy of the book, or to find out the time and place of the nearest book signing, please visit Fr. Kevin's website at [www.kevinwittmayer.com](http://www.kevinwittmayer.com).

**Book is due to be released on March 31, 2026.**

# You are cordially invited to Trinity Church's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper



- When:** Tuesday, February 17th from 5:30-7:00 p.m.  
**Where:** Trinity Parish Hall  
**Serving:** Delicious Pancakes, Bacon, Sausage, Fruit and King's Cake Catered by Christi Allen  
**All are welcome:** Invite your friends, children, grandchildren and Trinity's children/youth invite a friend

**\$10 Suggested Donation Per Family**

Shrove Tuesday Fun includes:  
Annual Bike Parade at 5:00 p.m.  
(Miss Rachel will help the children decorate their bikes); and

**BINGO!** Yes, B I N G O! Come play, win and get a surprise!

**Fun for the Entire Family!**

This is a time of celebration and remembrance before we commit ourselves to our Lenten journey.

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**ASH WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 18TH  
IMPOSITION OF ASHES WITH HOLY COMMUNION  
12:15 PM AND 6:00 PM**

**TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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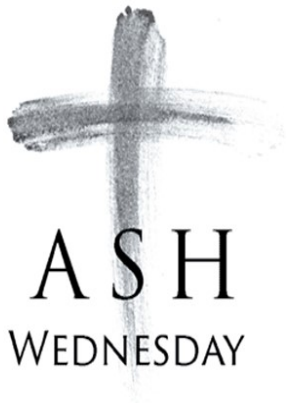
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ASH  
WEDNESDAY

**FEBRUARY 18TH**  
Imposition of Ashes with Holy  
Communion

**12:15 PM & 6:00 PM**



SAVE THE DATE

**G  
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A**



*Trinity Gala*  
2026  
APRIL 11, 2026