

2020 Trinity Giving



AND THE BEAT
GOES ON ...

Trinity Buckingham
Episcopal Church

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Our Worship

Our Outreach

Our Welcome



WHAT IS THE ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN?

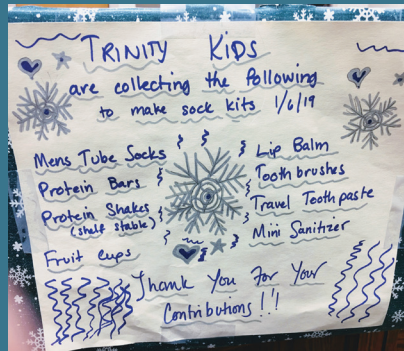
Trinity Buckingham's Annual Giving Campaign is a period set aside each fall to listen to the heartbeat of God and to give thanks for how that heartbeat echoes through our lives. We remember how we at Trinity caught the beat this year, and how we shared it with the world. And we pledge to sustain and support all of the hearts that beat in time with God's at Trinity and in the world in the year to come — by giving of our time, of our special talents and abilities, and of course, of our money.



Syncing up with God's heartbeat isn't just something we do now and then, it is a way of life: We respond to the inviting beat of God's unconditional love for us by loving God in return, and by loving and caring for one another, for those in need or trouble, for the poor and powerless, and for this good Earth.

During our Annual Giving Campaign, every person and every family who calls Trinity Buckingham home is invited to pledge their financial support to our operating budget for the upcoming year.

This booklet is designed to inform and inspire you as you determine, from a place of gratitude and prayer, just how God's heart is beating in you, and what you are able to give to sustain our common heartbeat. The beat goes on! How will you help Trinity keep the beat of love, grace, mercy, freedom, welcome, peace and justice this year?



WHAT ARE WE CALLED TO DO?

When God's heart beats at Trinity, we respond,
"WOW! — Worship, Outreach, Welcome!"

WORSHIP

How better to catch the beat than to spend time in God's presence? The different worship styles of our 8 am, 9:15 am and 10:15 am Sunday services, and our weekday meditations and Peace Vigil in Historic Trinity allow members and visitors to hear and respond to God's heartbeat in the way that suits them best.

*Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
 in the breaking of bread and in the prayers?*

OUTREACH

Having caught the beat in worship, we dance to it out in the world by caring for the poor and powerless, showing compassion for those in need and trouble, striving for peace and justice, and caring for creation. The January Code Blue Shelter, monthly Community PeaceMeals, the Trinity Buckingham Academy, Community of Hope International, pastoral care, prayer shawls, rummage and fall sales, bread ministry, and music ministry are just some of the many ways that Trinity responds to the heartbeat of love, mercy, joy, and social justice.

*Will you strive for justice and peace among all people,
 and respect the dignity of every human being?*

WELCOME

At worship on Sunday morning, and at coffee hour following, at the Tuesday morning Fizz Bible Study, and in the hustle and bustle of the ECW fall and spring sales; at Corned Beef and Cabbage dinners, and at Jazz & Joe; at baseball games, and in hospital and home visits, members and visitors to Trinity all experience the ba-BOOM of God's welcoming heartbeat.

*Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons,
 loving your neighbor as yourself?*

TOGETHER WE MAKE IT HAPPEN



ANSWERING THE BIG QUESTION:

How do I decide how much to pledge?

The answer to this question will be very particular to you and to your life circumstances, and ideally will become clear to you through prayer with God. It may be helpful for you to understand how Trinity's ministries are funded, as well as some information about current giving patterns at Trinity Buckingham —

GIVING PATTERNS AND TRENDS

Here are some numbers from 2019 —

Number of households calling Trinity home	155
Number of pledges made	90 (58% of the households calling Trinity home)
Median pledge	\$2,684 (a 10% increase from 2018!)
Range of pledges in 2019	\$52 – \$40,000

Here is the breakdown of Trinity's 2019 Giving Pattern

Annual Pledge	#	% of families/individuals
\$8,000 – \$40,000	4	(4%)
\$4,000 – \$7,999	9	(10%)
\$2,000 – \$3,999	25	(28%)
\$1,000 – \$1,999	27	(30%)
\$1 – \$999	25	(28%)

Thinking Weekly

\$ Per Week	Annual Pledge
\$10	\$520
\$20	\$1,040
\$30	\$1,560
\$40	\$2,080
\$50	\$2,600
\$60	\$3,120
\$80	\$4,160
\$100	\$5,200
\$200	\$10,040

CALCULATING YOUR PART

Some find it helpful to have information like this to consider "weekly" thinking. If you can set aside X dollars per week, your contributions make ministry possible.



THE POWER OF PLEDGES TO CHANGE LIVES

REVENUE FOR KEEPING THE BEAT GOING AT TRINITY

Pledges in 2019 totaled \$241,600 — 72% of our projected total income of \$331,000. The other 28% comes from rental income, loose plate offerings, rentals and special offerings like memorials, and Christmas and Easter offerings. Our projected expenses in 2019 are \$360,000. While this budget is comparable to that of similar sized churches (400 members), unlike many of these churches, Trinity does not have an endowment to sustain our ministries — we rely year to year on the financial support of our members. In 2019 Trinity will have a deficit. We do not expect that the cost of operating all of our ministries and caring for our property will be any less in 2020.

BREAKDOWN OF TRINITY'S 2019 OPERATING COSTS

How did we spend our revenue this past year? Like most churches and other non-profit organizations, the majority of our expenses involve personnel and property and outreach and social justice —

PERSONNEL We have one full-time staff member — our Rector, Nancy. The rest of our staff is part-time. Cynthia (Parish Administrator), Caroline (Media Communications Assistant), Dani (Facilities Coordinator), Regina (Minister of Music), Martha (Organist), Alison (Director of Trinity Buckingham Academy), Fran (Nursery Care Provider) and Liz (Family Ministries Facilitator) employ their time and considerable talents to make it possible for the Beat to go on at Trinity. Our deacon, Matthew, is non-stipendiary, but Trinity does provide for some of the expenses he incurs on our behalf. In addition, we contract with a cleaning company and with a lawn and snow removal service. We use a careful mix of talented and faithful volunteers, staff and professional services to support our many ministries of Worship, Outreach and Welcome.

PROPERTY Our property provides the place where we can worship, from and in which we can serve, and to which we welcome others home. The 1841 church is used for morning prayer, peace vigils, weddings and special services throughout the year. The “new” church, built from 1961 (sanctuary) through 2000 (Faith Hall), is used daily for worship, preschool, education, fellowship, community events, rentals and outreach. Our cemetery has graves dating to the church’s founding, and space is available for new graves. Pierce Hall, having outlived its usefulness, is slated for demolition in the near future. The stone farmhouse on the property houses the rector and her husband. All of this property requires regular care and maintenance, heating, cooling and insurance in order to sustain the Beat.

OUTREACH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE It is hard to calculate a dollar amount for what Trinity spends on caring for those who share this good creation with us. Some expenses, like the budget line items for Code Blue and Community PeaceMeal are straightforward enough, as is the amount of the Sacred Gift which we pledge to the Diocese of Pennsylvania to use on our behalf. (The diocese sends a portion of its annual budget to The Episcopal Church, extending our reach even farther)! It is harder to capture the cost of serving others like AA or 4H through the use of our buildings, or the portion of each staff person’s work week that supports Trinity’s witness for social justice. What does our weekly Vigil for Peace “cost”? One might say, since everything we do at Trinity is part of our commitment to be God’s heart and hands in the world, every dollar given to Trinity is an outreach dollar.

SHARING IN GOD'S DREAM



HOW WILL THE BEAT GO ON IN 2020?

Being the Church today calls us to be ready to respond to changing rhythms in the ageless heartbeat of our One Holy and Triune God. We believe that the beat of love, grace, mercy, peace, freedom, welcome and justice will echo through the universe until all of creation is in sync with its Creator. And we believe that we are called to support and sustain God's heartbeat.

We dream not only of sustaining God's heartbeat at Trinity Buckingham by supporting our existing ministries (and the people and property that enable us to do ministry), but to be able to listen for and respond to new rhythms of worship, outreach and welcome to let the beat go on.

WORSHIP

In 2020 we will continue to offer inspirational worship, thought and action-provoking sermons, and spirit-refreshing music on Sundays and throughout the week.

Worship costs money — from the care, cleaning, accessibility, heating and cooling of our worship spaces to the salaries of our clergy and musicians; from the tuning of our organ and bells to the printing of our weekly service leaflets — your volunteer and financial support enables us to give God thanks and praise in worship, and encounter God in word spoken, bread broken and wine poured out.

OUTREACH

In 2020 we will continue to care for our neighbors and our members and our planet as best we can within and outside our walls.

Outreach costs money—from the heating of Faith Hall on cold January nights to coffee cups and the hot Joe that fills them; from the salaries of our staff who answer the phones, schedule our spaces and communicate what's going on at Trinity to the servicing of the dishwasher; from the emptying of the dumpster to the waxing of the floors—your volunteer and financial support enables us to love and serve others the way Christ loves and serves us.

WELCOME

In 2020 we will continue to extend Christ's welcome to everyone and honor the heartbeat of God within in each person we encounter or who encounters us.

Welcome costs money—from the salaries of our pastoral care, administrative, communications and facilities staff to ensuring our grounds and buildings are beautiful and inviting; from air-conditioning to visitors cards and newcomers bags; from Sunday School lessons to professional nursery care; from homebound newsletters to the exchange of the peace and an invitation to coffee hour — your volunteer and financial support enables Trinity to be a place where no one is an outsider.



RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

HOW DO I MAKE A FINANCIAL PLEDGE TO SUSTAIN AND GROW TRINITY'S MINISTRIES?

Anyone and everyone who calls Trinity Buckingham their spiritual or church home is invited and encouraged to make a pledge. A pledge is a promise to contribute a specific amount of money to Trinity (determined by you and God) over the course of the 2020 year. (If your circumstances change, you may revise your pledge at any time).

Between October 27, 2019 and November 17, 2019 we encourage you to spend time in prayer giving God thanks for all of God's blessings in your life and asking God to help you discern the amount of your pledge to sustain and grow God's ministries of nourishment at Trinity.

Fill out a pledge card, and on November 17 place your completed pledge card in the special offering box in front of the altar. If you are unable to attend worship on November 17, you may send your pledge to the Trinity office or put it in the offering basin at any Sunday worship service prior to November 17.

Your pledge will be recorded by Trinity Buckingham's annual giving chairperson and the treasurer, and you will receive a letter of thanks for your pledge.

WHAT IF I STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?

We encourage you to have conversations with any vestry member or with the clergy, Nancy and Matthew. You may also connect with Marty Gillen, Chair of Annual Giving, at 267-454-8222.

Trinity Vestry Members — Dom DeCaprio, Meghan Dennis, Marty Gillen, Elisabeth Goggin, Paul Harar, Dave Huddy, Bob Kinney, Mary-jo May, Bonnie McCabe, Joe McLean, Don O'Hara, and Peter Oliver.



The beat goes on at Trinity Buckingham! We do great things and have been doing so for more than 175 years. Thank you for being an integral part of Trinity's journey. Wishing you well as you discern how to support Trinity's 2020 financial needs.

— Marty Gillen, Chair of Annual Giving

