

# Trinity Herald Newsletter

## January Edition 2026

Happy New Year  
2026

**Wednesday, January 14**

**6:30 p.m. State of the Church Address**

**Pastor Joe shares his vision for  
Trinity for 2026**

**6:30 p.m. Youth w/ Donald Balcom**

**Music in Motion**

w/Ms. Sheryl and Ms. Liana

**7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal**

# SIGN UP FOR



# ALTAR FLOWERS

Sign up on the 2026 Altar Flower Calendar  
on the bulletin board in the gathering space.

Flowers are \$35.00.

'In honor of ' or 'In memory of'

Please PRINT the names so that we can read  
what you write.

*Content: Deb Glenn*



Whether you're a song bird or a buzzard, this is the time to join  
the choir. We meet every Wednesday starting January 7  
from 7:30 pm—8:30 pm

A Great time of Fellowship and Singing as we prepare to lead for  
Sunday Morning Worship. You don't have to know  
how to read music. We help you.

*Content: Sheryl Howard*

## Sharing Light and Love During Advent Advent Candles

Many thanks to the families and small group representatives who shared readings and prayers, and lit Advent candles during worship these past several weeks. Special appreciation to acolytes Tuesday Browning, Bennett Burkley and Jadelyn White, who lit Advent candles in addition to the altar candles as Christmas drew near. Thanks to all of you for bringing light to this beautiful time of year!

*Content: Teresa Gross*

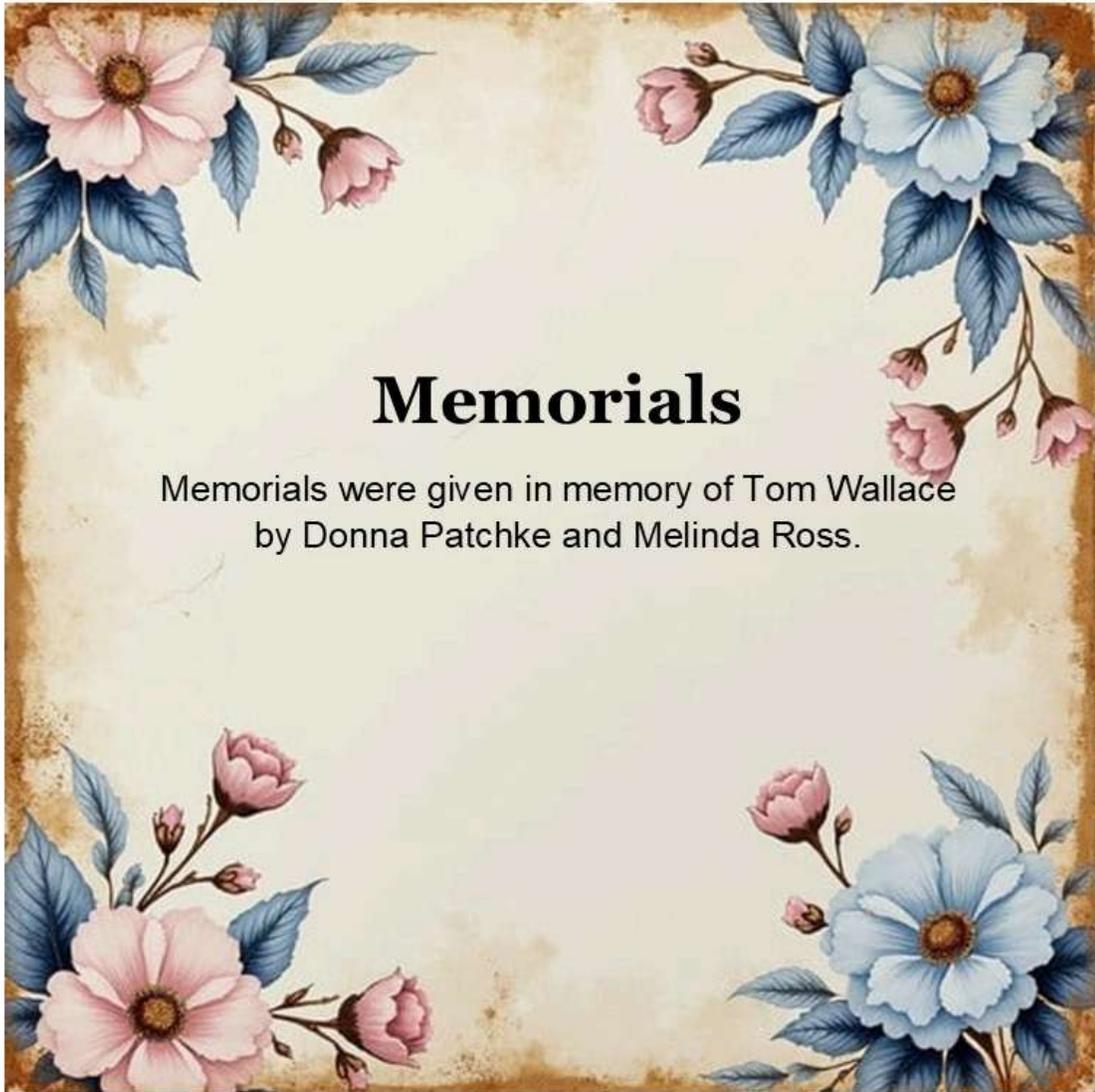


I thank  
all of you!

### **Giving Tree**

Once again, the Trinity family's generosity has been overwhelming as we decorated our "giving tree." The items given for Wesley House Community Center included about 11 hats for children, 65 hats for adults and youth (many of which were beautifully designed and hand-made), 12 lovely hand-knitted scarves, more than 60 pairs of mittens and gloves for children, 23 pairs of gloves for youth and adults, and a large collection of socks for all ages. Whether you shopped for items or contributed hours in designing and making beautiful creations, THANK YOU for sharing God's love with our neighbors this winter!

*Content: Teresa Gross*



## Memorials

Memorials were given in memory of Tom Wallace  
by Donna Patchke and Melinda Ross.

## Legacy IRA

IRA owners age 73 or older may now make a one-time qualified charitable distribution (QCD) of up to \$50,000 from an IRA to fund a charitable life income gift vehicle (CGA or CRT). Payments can be made to a donor and/or donor's spouse. This is great news for individuals who do not need their Required Minimal Distribution and non-profits/churches who need funding and welcome this new opportunity to support their mission. (Source: Holston Foundation)

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# Qualified Charitable Contributions

For those 73 or older with retirement accounts that require an annual minimum withdrawal, there is an option to make a direct distribution to a qualified charitable organization (QCD) and have that amount count toward the minimum distribution but not count toward taxable income. Trinity UMC is a qualified 501 (c) 3.

This option may be appealing to some since the 2018 changes to our tax law made it more difficult to have a charitable donation deduction. Please check with your brokerage / account manager to see if this is an option that might be beneficial to you as you meet your annual commitment to Trinity.

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## Food Pantry

We distribute food on Wednesdays 10 am to 12 pm at the main entrance.

### **For Those In Need**

We have no qualifying requirements. If you are in need of food, just ask! Food is available on a first-come-first-served basis on Wednesdays. We suggest that you call the church office at (865) 588-5763 before you arrive to make sure we still have food available that day.

### **For Those Who Wish To Help**

**Prayer:** Ask our Lord to help us have the resources we need, the people to volunteer, and an end to hunger.

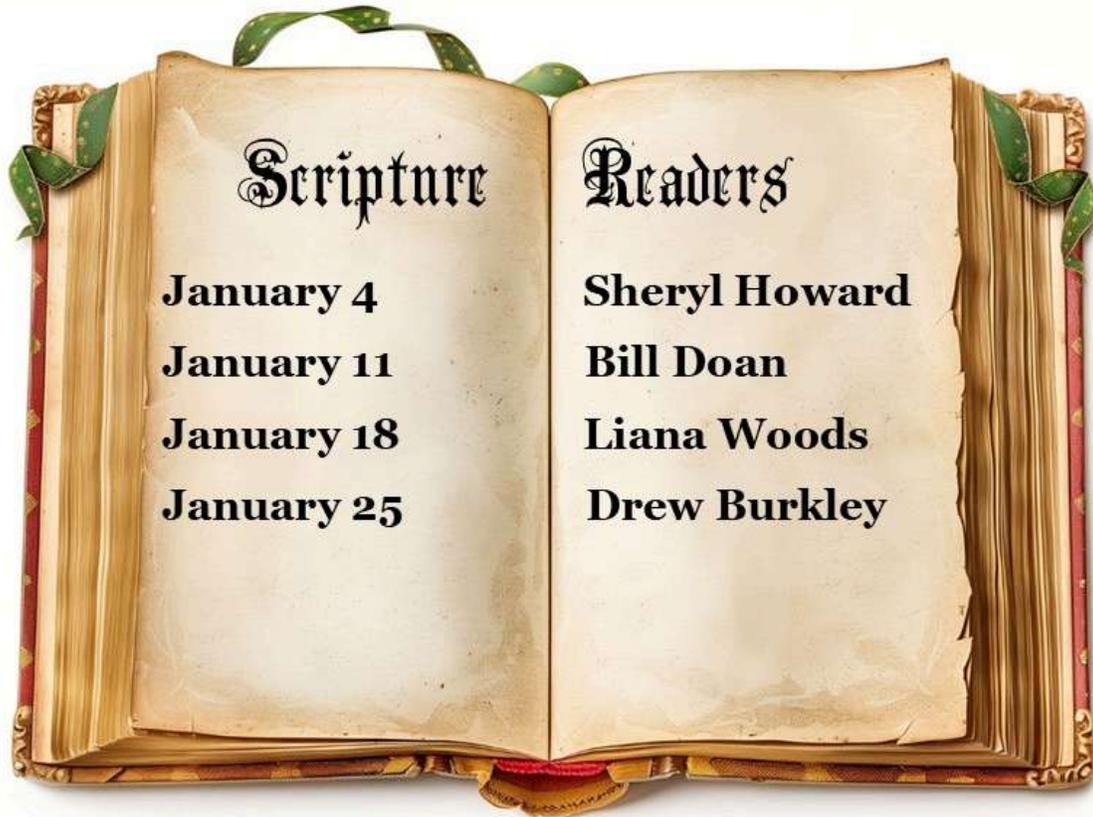
**Time:** Our Food Pantry gives every church member an opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus. On a weekly basis, we take inventory, shop for groceries, pack the food bags, and distribute the food bags. If you have the time to help with any of these tasks, just ask and we'll find a place for you.

*Content: Ron Raymond*

## January Birthdays

1/3	Jeanne Mitchell	1/18	Melinda Ross
1/4	Erin Dunaway	1/19	Gary Teams
1/6	Donna Patschke	1/20	Chance Bunch
1/7	Jimmy Ooten	1/21	Nancy Flynn
1/8	Katherine Forester	1/22	Russ Fuquay
1/8	Elizabeth Forester	1/22	Emma Jennings
1/9	Joe Cunningham	1/24	Ann Foschino
1/9	Braxton Kiser	1/25	John Bush
1/9	Ann Morris	1/26	Peter Beddia
1/9	Elliott Raxter	1/26	Peyton Reed
1/9	Hunter Deaton	1/26	Herbie Piercy
1/13	Gail Jones	1/27	Jennifer McNeil
1/15	Celeste King		
1/15	Jadelyn White		
1/17	Rusty McGill		





## Seeking Help

**How would you like to get involved this year?**

Scripture Reader:

*See Sheryl Howard*

Choir / Musician:

*See Sheryl Howard*

Tech / Sound / Screens:

*See Janie Hensley or Mike Ooten*

Usher / Greeter / Communion Server:

*See Ron Raymond*

*If you need assistance on who these people are—call the office at 865-588-5763 and we can get your info to the right people.*



## Worship with us!

Online worship on  
Facebook & YouTube!

In-person worship  
in the sanctuary!

Sundays at 10 am!

## Worship With Us!

Online worship on Facebook and YouTube,  
and in-person worship in the sanctuary.  
Join us on Sundays at 10 am!

The staff of Trinity would like to  
express their sincerest gratitude to  
everyone who contributed to this  
year's Christmas staff bonus!

We are thankful and honored to  
serve the members of Trinity!  
Thank you! Have a very happy  
and blessed New Year!



*The deadline for newsletter submissions is the 22th of each month.  
Please email your newsletter submissions to [contact@knoxtrinity.org](mailto:contact@knoxtrinity.org)*