

Ministry Opportunities Book at Trinity Church

September 10th, 2023



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Friends, inside this book, you will find something wonderful. A glimpse into a church which is alive and following in the footsteps of Jesus and the way of love which Jesus made known to those who followed Jesus. Each of the little blurbs which talks about opportunities to engage in a “ministry” is really just a way that people seek to love and serve God at Trinity Church. Now to be clear, there are MORE ways which people do this than what is listed here. People take personal time in the morning and evening to pray and read scripture. They have their own personal actions which help them follow in the footsteps of Christ. Added to that, there are opportunities for adults to study and pray which are not listed here (Adult formation opportunities), but this booklet still tells an amazing story of Trinity making a difference for each other and for the community of Portland.

So, I invite you to take a few minutes, look through this book and ask where God might be inviting you connect, to grow and to serve. The opportunities are real, and as always, you are welcome and you are wanted!

Ever in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peter Swarr" followed by a small plus sign.

Peter Swarr

WORSHIP

Ushers—A ministry which helps welcome folks to worship by greeting, handing out bulletins, collecting the offering, and bringing the offering and bread and wine to the Altar. Ushers also help congregants know when it is time for them to come forward to receive communion. Training will be provided. Contact Bill Spear.

Altar Guild—A ministry which makes the church ready for worship. This group of volunteers prepares the Altar and church for all services of the year. They assist the pastor in preparing for special services such as funerals and weddings and help decorate for Christmas, Easter, and other major festivals during the church year. Training is provided and seasonal meetings are held for fellowship and planning. Contact Jan Lewis.

Choir—A group which helps make a joyful noise to God each and every Sunday of the “program” year September through June. They practice on Thursday evenings and again meet on Sunday mornings at 9am in preparation for helping to lead the musical life of the congregation. They are under the direction of Dr. Mary Frances Fest the Trinity Minister of Music.

Sound System Volunteer—A volunteer who makes sure the house sound at Trinity is working so parishioners can hear the readers and other ministers leading worship. The sound system volunteer also makes sure the livestream sound is functioning throughout the service. They work in conjunction with the Livestream director of the day and will receive training from Bill Green. and Peter Swarr, priest@trinitychurchportland.org or 772-7421.

Flower Team—Volunteers, working with the Altar Guild, who help bring the beauty of God’s creation to the Altar on Sundays throughout the year. Depending on the season of the year volunteers pick their own flowers or purchase flowers from local stores and then bring the arrangements to church in time for the earliest service. They are reimbursed for their expense when they make purchases. To learn more, speak with Jan Lewis.

Lectors—Members of the congregation who help lead worship by reading selections of Scripture as part of our church services. Typically, the lector comes forward, reads the first lesson and then leads the congregation in the Psalm. Training is provided. To learn more, speak with Dibbie Appleton.

Lay Readers—A member of the church who assists the pastor in leading the service by carrying the cross, assisting at the Altar, and leading the prayers of the People. Lay Readers receive training before being scheduled and are an integral part of the worship life at Trinity. Layreaders must be licensed by the Diocese as the assist with Communion. To learn more, speak with Dibbie Appleton.

Livestream Ministers—Each week 15-20 people “tune in” to Trinity online. This is only possible because of our Livestream ministers who operate our two digital cameras and our director who runs our streaming software. You will be part of a team of three people who make this important worship and outreach ministry possible each week. Training will be provided by Bill Green and other members of the Team. To learn more, speak with Bill Green.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Gardens—Trinity is blessed with several people who create patches of beauty all around our grounds. If you happen to have a green thumb and would like to take time weeding, watering, and tending the gardens at Trinity we would love to have you jump into the mix! Contact Davis Hartwell, Linda Gordan, Mary Dumond, or Donna Downing.

Monday Crew—A gathering of folks who meet on Monday mornings a little before 9am to help take care of Trinity’s physical space. They tackle projects ranging from painting to repair, remodeling and yard work. And each week they share coffee, tasty treats, and catch up with each other. Contact Bill Gordan.

Mower—The yards at Trinity are kept looking tidy thanks to a crew of volunteers who mow week in and week out. If you might be willing to offer some of your time to run the new riding lawn mower while keeping the grass looking great, we’d love to have you join the mowing crew! Speak with Bill Gordan.

Trinity Park Team—Believe it or not, but the park just outside the church along Forest Ave is not actually church property but belongs to the City of Portland. That said, Trinity Church takes care of it. And over the past few years Trinity Park has been transformed into an amazing spot filled with blooms and beauty. Recently Trinity has also been working with other interested neighbors in talking with the city about revitalizing the park while dealing with the cracked sidewalks. If you are interested in being part of this redevelopment effort please speak with our fearless leader, Davis Hartwell.

FORMATION

Sunday School Volunteer—Help assist Peter and our Sunday School Craft Staff, Rory Nickerson, as we offer Sunday School twice a month during the church school year (Sept-June). Safe Church training online will be required. You will always be working in a group of at least two adults and will be provided with curriculum and plans for the Sunday School Class. Contact Peter Swarr, priest@trinitychurchportland.org / 772-7421.

Trinity Service Corp Volunteer (Youth Group)—Help Peter offer transportation and adult support for our Youth Group Service Corp which runs programming at least once a month Sept-June. Typically, we have 9-15 youth (middle and high school) from several different churches who participate in youth group. You will be asked to take online safe church training. Contact Peter Swarr priest@trinitychurchportland.org / 772-7421.

Trinity Day School Board Member—This board is comprised of Trinity Church members who meet for about 30-45 minutes once a month via Zoom to hear reports from the Day Care director and help oversee the functioning of the Day Care which is a entity which Trinity Church has a controlling interest in via the Board. You will receive occasional emails from the director as well as from the Rector of the Church about issues and opportunities which pertain to the Day Care. If you are interested in learning more, please speak with Peter Swarr, priest@trinitychurchportland.org / 772-7421.

OUTREACH

Outreach Team—A gathering of interested members of Trinity people who help oversee and plan the outreach activities and programs of the parish. This group meets after church no more than once a month. Contact Deacon Heather.

Laundry Love—A community of neighbors who meet on the second Wednesday of the month to share the love and get laundry done. From 1-5 Trinity folks, aided by people from HopeGateWay serve around 75 community members in doing their laundry at Wash Tub 2 located behind Burger King on Forest Ave. To learn more, speak with Deacon Heather.

Labyrinth Team—numerous times a year Lincoln Hall is transformed into a sacred space where people can walk Trinity's labyrinth and seek to encounter the Holy. People from the parish and from the community are invited to come and walk for roughly a three hour period. Volunteers help set up and tend the labyrinth as well as put the labyrinth away. Contact Robyn Morin.

Cora Brown Board—The oversight board, appointed by the Vestry, to help run the operations of a foundation which benefits and is entirely composed of Trinity, HopeGateWay and Williston Immanuel churches and helps fund much of our outreach work. This board meets roughly 8-10 times a year for one and a half hours per meeting. Contact Peter Swarr, priest@trinitychurchportland.org / 772-7421.

Project Feed—A well-established food pantry which Trinity helped create, located at Woodfords Congregational Church which provides food to anyone looking for it. Food is available once every two weeks. Volunteers check in guests, help distribute food, and stock shelves. To learn more, speak with Linda Gordan.

St. Elizabeth's Essential's Pantry—This Jubilee Center provides essential items to people in need in Portland ranging from diapers to dishes, toilet paper to tampons, coats to cookware and much more. Each Tuesday morning, located at St. Luke's Cathedral, a team of volunteers welcomes nearly 300 guests and helps serves their needs in the name of Christ. To learn more speak with Dibbie Appleton, or Lynne Gammon.

Greater Portland Family Promise—An organization committed to helping families find stable housing in the greater Portland region. Currently, all of their clients are asylum seekers. Volunteer with GPFPP involves getting to know these wonderful families, helping with transportation, staffing the shelter at Williston Immanuel Church, and taking part in special outings while raising awareness at Trinity about GPFPP. To learn more speak with Deacon Heather.

HOSPITALITY

Coffee Hour Hosts—Each Sunday, following the main service, Lincoln Hall welcomes parishioners and guests to a time of fellowship, sharing, and refreshments. Coffee is brewed. Hot water is prepared. Treats and laid out. And hospitality takes place. This is possible because volunteers give their time and ability to help set up and host coffee hour. If you would be willing to learn how to host, we'd be excited to have you do just that! Training and support, as desired, is provided. You can sign up on the schedule in Lincoln Hall or you can speak to Donna Downing.

Fellowship Commission—Trinity has a number of different occasions when we gather together for events, and a team of volunteers step up to pull together food, drinks, and treats for the special occasion. Perhaps it's a parish meal, or funeral, or breakfast, or picnic. The fact is, it takes a team to plan these meals and events. If you would be interested in being part of this essential team which stands at the heart of Trinity's hospitality, please contact Donna Downing.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Vestry—The governing body of Trinity Church. They meet on a monthly basis on the third Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Led by Peter and the Executive Committee (Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer and Secretary) they pray, learn what is happening at Trinity, offer advice and make decisions for the mission and ministry of the church. They are the final decision makers for all financial matters at Trinity and vote on all major policies and ministry decisions. Speak with Peter, priest@trinitychurchportland.org / 772-7421, if you are interested in learning more about Vestry.

Counter—Under the guidance of the parish Treasurer, counters take the weekly offering, total it and prepare it for deposit at the bank. They follow procedures created by the finance team and treasurer and create an added layer of accountability and assistance for our financial systems. Training will be provided. Speak with Bill Spear.

Clynk—Did you know that Trinity collects returnable cans to help fund our mission and ministry? That's what the Clynk donors do. You can help be part of this movement by picking up Clynk bags at the parish office and using them for your returnables. Then, all of your returnables will benefit Trinity. To learn more speak with Paula in the Parish Office/ 207-772-7421.

Finance Team—A team of interested parishioners who aid the Treasurer in drafted the budget and overseeing financial plans and procedures. This team meets roughly twice a year, generally via zoom, and provides oversight and suggestions. To learn more speak with Bill Spear.

MORE COMMUNITY

Christmas Fair Volunteer—On the first Saturday in December, Trinity holds its annual Christmas Fair. To be able to run this fair takes all kinds of volunteers from folks who set up, to crafters, from cookie bakers to candy makers, from cash register workers, to volunteers who staff different tables. We'd love to have you be part of this fun community tradition which welcomes the whole neighborhood to Trinity. Contact Peter Swarr, priest@trinitychurchportland.org / 772-7421 to learn more.

Yard Sale Volunteer—On the Second Saturday of June, Trinity holds its annual Yard Sale. This is an event that gives us all an opportunity to pitch in and take part. From donating items to pricing them, from setting up the hall to moving tables outside, from setting up tents to running registers, from bringing in plants to greeting our neighbors...there are so many ways to take part. Contact Bill Spear.

Little Free Library—just outside Trinity's office stands a replica of Trinity Church. And inside that replica are lots of free books available to the broader community via our little free library. You can participate in the Little Free Library by checking it out and taking books that interest you and leaving books you think would interest others. To learn more, contact Ida Connolly.

Church Sign—Trinity is blessed to have a large sign right on one of Portland's busiest streets, Forest Ave. This sign helps us share messages of welcome and faith day in and day out. If you would be interested in helping to change the lettering on the sign, we'd love to have you be part of the sign team. Speak with Jan Lewis.

