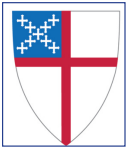


Welcome to

Trinity Episcopal Church



1220 W. Washington, Alpena, Michigan

When you walk into small, stately Trinity Episcopal Church, you may feel, as we do, the presence of God – and the communion of saints.

With more than 150 years of faith and worship, our roots are deep in this beautiful town of Alpena, situated on Lake Huron and only a block from the harbor and its abundant marine life. We're fortunate to host a community college; the Besser Museum; a regional hospital and cancer center affiliated with University of Michigan; a vibrant downtown; a countywide system of good schools; and an active arts organization. About 20,000 people live in the broader community, where neighborhoods are friendly and passers-by are likely to hear a "hello." Four seasons, with beaches and forests, inland lakes and hiking trails, and the scenic Thunder Bay River, this town is called the Sanctuary of the



Great Lakes, home to the first freshwater National Marine Sanctuary and Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center. You will find it a safe, beautiful, pleasant place to be and in the following pages we will show you why.

For us, the people of Trinity Episcopal Church, our true sanctuary is God. We are a traditional congregation with a weekly Bible study and prayer group, yet we are an imperfect people who desire to grow closer to the teachings of Christ. We honestly seek to become better Christians. In addition to weekly services, we employ God's gift of music, led by a young, talented music director and supported by a choir, two professional-level flute players, and a world-class Aeolian Skinner organ. Known as the "Village Church with a Voice," Trinity is also a venue for the performing arts in the larger community, embodying the role of a "village church" as a center of hospitality and welcome. It welcomes children,

too, in our Worship Center Sunday program as well as a fun program called "Messy Church," where it's OK to make a little noise, eat a few snacks, do crafts, and play games.

And of course the welcome extends to the community. When the first AA group was formed in Alpena many years ago, Trinity was the first and only church to open its doors for meetings. Before and since, Christian outreach has been a priority. Trinity provided the first house for the local Women's Shelter until it got on its feet. Scholarships, Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets for the needy, work with Habitat for Humanity, and an open door for community organization meetings speaks to our desire to reach out to others with care. Perhaps nothing says that better than our "Sunday Supper" program, which for 27 years has provided a weekly free supper to the hungry. At first just a Trinity program, it has broadened into an ecumenical outreach involving three other churches and the support of industry, business, community organizations and individuals of many faiths.

This is who we are; we would like to be more. We believe we could grow with a rector who steers a course guided by the all-embracing love of Christ. We hope to find that individual whose warmth, compassion, and willing-



(Photo by Bill Powell)

ness to visit the sick and shut-ins reflects God's mercy and understanding and who will see God in us, using the strengths, talents, and resources of the congregation so that we all grow together.

Besides a salary, we are pleased to offer the parish rectory, a 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath Colonial just steps from the church. Furnished with hardwood floors, tiled fireplace, and enclosed glass sunroom/library, it is another way we say "welcome."

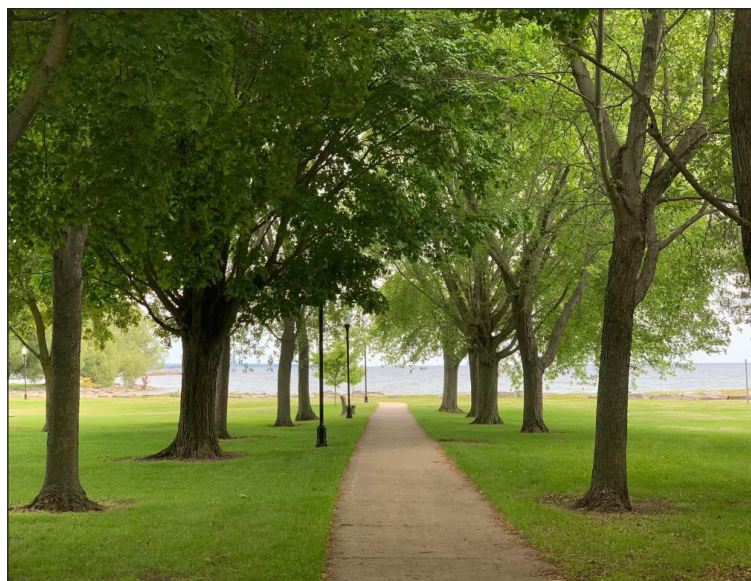
Where we live

With one of the largest Great Lakes just a block away from Trinity Church and its rectory; multiple smaller lakes in the area; and a sizable river with tributaries spread across Alpena County, it's hard to overstate the impact of abundant fresh water on our lives and our psyches. Lake Huron is a presence, a steadying force that gives an indefinable feeling of "home."



Colorful spinnaker sails unfurl in a race across Thunder Bay in Lake Huron. At right, a visiting tall ship watches the action.

(Photo by Gretchen Dorian)



Be it winter or summer, residents and visitors find serenity in walks by the lake and along the 12-mile bike path circling through Alpena.



A vibrant downtown with unique shops and restaurants is always a fun place to be. In summer, free downtown street concerts and weekly band shows at the nearby band-shell add music to the colorful scene.



A pretty pink-and-gold sunset lights a drone shot taken from the lake side of Alpena on a cool November day. On the right is Thunder Bay River and on the left, Trinity Episcopal is the larger red roof and spire in the vertical center of the photo. Some 20,000 people live in the City of Alpena and its surrounding Alpena Township.

Who we are as people of the spirit

We are Christian – or try to be. Without a rector we strive to keep our small, venerable congregation together through traditional Episcopal liturgies, weekly services, Bible studies, and prayer groups, while at the same time fulfilling our Christian mission to love and care for one another inside and

outside the bounds of church and country. The services themselves – at 9 and 11 a.m. on Sundays and at noon on Wednesdays – are conducted by dedicated supply priests, our deacon, and trained worship leaders and available through You Tube to shut-ins, the infirm, and all within the long reach of the internet. Complimented by a small but enthusiastic choir, a professional flutist, and led by a young, talented music director, the 11 a.m. worship in our 168-year-old sanctuary resonates with the spirit of our past and the hope of our future. Downstairs during the service children gather to enjoy each other and learn something of this faith called “Christian” by inhabiting a makeshift 1st Century community developed by parishioner Bronwyn Woolman. Understanding in small measure how Jesus lived in history helps them see him as man as well as God. In addition to Sunday services, Trinity offers a Wednesday noon worship, Bible study, ever-faithful prayer group, and from time-to-time book group discussions, all of which help us in our search for a deeper understanding of and connection to the universal God.

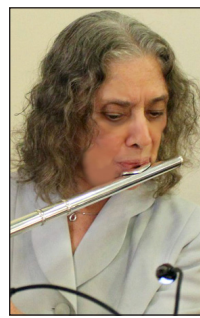


The well-maintained sanctuary of Trinity Church, where generations of Alpena families have come together for baptisms, marriages, funerals, and to regularly celebrate the mercy and grace of God.

One of Trinity Episcopal's ten remarkable stained-glass windows. Depicting scenes from the life of Jesus as well as Celtic and Anglican saints George, Hubert, Sidwell, and Boniface, most of the stained-glass art dates from the 1950s and was imported from Wipple and Co., Great Britain.



The altar at an Easter celebration during Covid (obviously) with our former rector the Rev. William McClure (right) and deacon Dr. Dan Maxwell.



Music makes our hearts sing! Music director Kat Tomaszewski (right), assisted by professional flutist Mary Ann Hubbard (center) and the choir, bring God's uplifting gift of music.

Worship Center children learn about the life of Jesus through the traditional Christmas pageant (right), baking and eating challah bread (bottom left) and through the ritual washing of hands.



Who we are as ministers of God

More than anything else our ministries define who we are and who we seek to be as the embodiment of Christ's call to "love one another." Our church is known in the wider community as a "giving" congregation, housing the community pantry for the hungry, needy, and poor and every Sunday night for the last 27 years offering a hot, home-cooked meal to any in the community who care to come, no questions asked. We weekly serve 60-70 residents through this program, entirely through donations and the hard work of our parishioners and those from other churches who have joined in this ecumenical effort. We donate food and goods to the residents of the local women's shelter, donate new household goods and supplies to Habitat for Humanity, donate clothing and funds to the war effort in Ukraine, and support other ministries in our community and in the world.



"...for I was hungry..."

Caring for others is at the top of the "to do" list at Trinity Episcopal Church, where one particular ministry, begun by Senior Warden Ellen Eagan (bottom photo, right) has been in operation for 27 years and more than 1,400 consecutive Sundays. "Sunday Supper" provides a hot, home-cooked meal for an average of 60-70 hungry community residents each week. Although the program is supported entirely by donations outside of the church budget, many parishioners donate time to cook and serve as well as foodstuffs to keep the program going. And we have help! Sunday Supper has grown into an ecumenical operation involving three other churches and donations from business, industry, and schools. In addition to Sunday Supper, Trinity maintains a community food pantry (top photo, left) filled through food drives from Ella White School (top photo, right), the Post Office, and other organizations.





Our small but generous congregation, cognizant of the community's needs and hardships around the world, makes an effort to respond. Women and children at the local shelter for the abused receive gifts at Christmas and Easter time through the efforts of Trinity Episcopal Church Women (top left) while the children who receive Operation Christmas Child boxes find gifts inside from Trinity (top right). Below, TECW partners with Habitat for Humanity to supply goods for a family's first home.





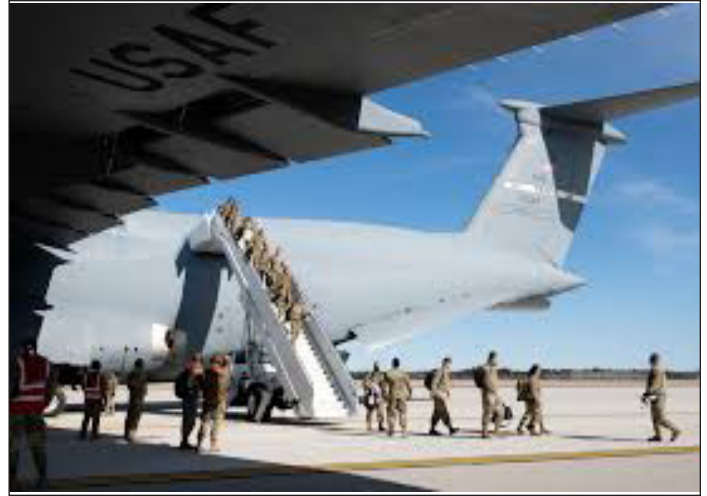
The giving spirit surfaces in all kinds of ways. Above left, folks enjoy an auction to raise money for the church's outreach programs and TECW efforts. The Victorian Tea, an annual fundraiser for TECW supporting the works of the church, requires weeks of volunteer work. It's a popular community event with old and (top right) young alike. At bottom left, young ladies sample wares of the Chocolate Extravaganza, another product of parish culinary skill which raises college scholarship monies. At right, a child proudly shows a booklet she made at Messy Church, a fun outreach for kids. At bottom right, children from across Michigan get close to nature at nearby Camp Chickagami. Many attend through scholarships.



What our community provides

The most “livable” communities have access to health care, good schools, a sound economic base, and a safe environment. Alpena Michigan has all of those, including a hospital and cancer center, a network of K-12 schools in the city and across the county, a regional airport serviced by Delta, a county library,

museum, and Alpena Community College. Industry includes Besser Co., a maker of concrete block machines; Lafarge Corp., an international cement manufacturer; and DPI, a wall-paneling company.



Alpena is the county seat and its courthouse (left) hosts the 26th Circuit Court and Michigan 88th District Court. Alpena Regional Airport, serviced by Delta Airlines, is adjacent to the Alpena Combat Readiness Center, a summer training base for national guard all over the U.S.



MyMichigan Medical Center-Alpena, a 139-bed hospital, is a regional hub of health services and part of a network of MyMichigan clinics and hospitals. Its cancer center is affiliated with University of Michigan's state-of-the-art health technology.



Alpena's Besser Museum is a showcase of national, state, and local art as well as a resource for students, tourists, and residents.



Established in 1952, Alpena Community College offers courses equivalent in content and quality to freshman and sophomore courses at four-year colleges and universities as well as certificates in various technical areas.



The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration center, commonly known as “Noah,” brings Lake Huron’s underwater world to the surface. Visitors to the museum view videos of newly-discovered shipwrecks, learn about the area’s maritime history, and may see some of the lost ships on a tour aboard the glass-bottom boat “Lady Michigan.” Alpena’s Marine Sanctuary is one of only 15 in the U.S. and the first in the Great Lakes.



This 3-D fish mural, set in a pocket park downtown, draws spectators like mayflies draw...well, fish. Large murals adorn many of the city’s buildings, reflecting its history, commerce, and milestones. Also, Thunder Bay Arts Council and Art in the Loft actively promote the visual and performing arts, from painters to musicians to singers to those performing in two live theatre groups operating in Alpena. If art is your interest, you’ll find friends here.

What God’s natural world offers

Though Alpena’s man-made attractions are notable, nothing compares with its natural attributes. A four-season paradise for sports enthusiasts, northeast Michigan is a destination for boaters, bikers, cyclers, fishermen, and hikers in at least three seasons and for hockey fans and players, skaters, cross-country skiers, snowshoers, snowmobilers, and ice fishermen in at least one.



Be it motorboating or sailing, Thunder Bay is right for it.



There are plenty of fish in the sea. Except it’s a lake.



Spend time on any of several beautiful (and affordable) golf courses.



Try a smooth, quiet kayak cruise on Thunder Bay River...



Take the kids to the beach and enjoy our Splash Park!



Hiking on the many trails is popular any time of year.



...or speed over an all-sports inland lake.

What Trinity offers its rector

In addition to the gratitude of a good people, a safe and pleasant town in which to live, an (incredibly) efficient staff with whom to work, and the usual wage and benefit financial considerations, Trinity offers its rectory, a stately four-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath home with a garage just steps from the church.

Help from our staff:



Dr. Daniel Maxwell
Deacon



Peggy Tomaszewski
Administrative Asst.



Kat Tomaszewski
Director of Music



And a lovely place to live!

