



Rector Search & Transition Report

as of February 15, 2026



Update from Search Committee Chair, Joy Hadwiger

Though it seems this search is taking an awfully long time, I remind myself of all the work that had to be done before we could begin the candidate search. It was a year ago when I sat in my first self-study committee meeting as we began planning a strategy to collect information from parishioners for the parish profile. The culmination of those listening sessions and parish surveys that many of you participated in provided the foundation on which our parish profile was built and which, I am pleased to share, has paid great benefits. It is that pre-work that enabled us to attract a significant pool of extremely diverse candidates, distinct in many ways and yet each having been drawn to us by the uniqueness of Trinity Episcopal Church, as our Parish Profile describes.

The search is now fully underway. We have received letters of interest from eight (8) individuals, each of whom was drawn to request consideration because they have found our story compelling. The committee has been conducting interviews since early January. We have suspended accepting new letters of interest and are fully focused on identifying two or three candidates who will be revealed to the vestry once our discernment process is concluded. With God's help and the prayers of the entire parish community, we will be ready to share that information with the vestry before the end of February.

Pledge Campaign and Budget Update

The vestry has approved a 2026 budget with a small deficit that will need to be filled from additional pledges, unpledged gifts, other income, or additional cost savings. Since the Annual Meeting, we received one new pledge and six pledge increases. For 2026, we now have a total of 176 pledges for a total of \$737,294. You may still pledge for this year or increase your pledge. To do so, turn in a completed pledge card with your name and amount or contact Sara Arnold at saraarnold1028@gmail.com

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Celebrate Shrove Tuesday with a classic Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 17, at 6:00 p.m. in the Nichols Great Hall. Come for pancakes, bacon, and sugary goodness before your Ash Wednesday and Lenten fasts.

O shepherding God, guide the hearts and minds of our Search Committee as we seek to discern the role of Rector for Trinity. By your light, draw to us those with vision and passion for Trinity's future. Guide them as they discern your call.

Raise up for us a faithful pastor, a dynamic preacher of your Gospel, to shepherd us as your flock, strengthen our ministries, and work with us in building up your kingdom. Amen.

 Thank you to Langdon Publishing for printing this insert.



Trinity Rector Search Timeline

MARCH 2025

1

LISTENING & DISCERNMENT

- Committees Formed: Self-Study, Profile, Website Committees
- Self-Study launches congregation listening sessions

2

APRIL & MAY

BISHOP'S BUDGET CHALLENGE

- Bishop tasked Vestry to balance the budget before we can begin our search.
- Canon Steve appointed as Interim Priest
- Financial Sustainability Task Force begins work to develop recommendations

JUNE & JULY

3

PLANNING FOR SUSTAINABILITY

- Self-Study Committee conducts parish-wide survey
- Vestry & Committees shape long-term plan
- Vestry evaluates recommendations
- Vestry approves and begins implementing the plan

4

AUGUST

PARISH PROFILE, NEW STAFFING MODEL

- Profile Committee works to complete Parish Profile
- Job postings for new staff positions
- Newly formed volunteer committees launch successfully

EARLY FALL

5

PROFILE COMPLETE, POST FOR RECTOR POSITION

- Fill Director of Operations position
- Search Committee (SC) formed
- Profile completed
- Profile approved by Diocese and presented to congregation
- Job posting shared with potential Rector candidates
- Canon Betsy vets candidates and conducts background checks

6

OCT 12- NOV 16

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

- Stewardship Campaign
- Every Member Canvas
- Goal to increase pledges by 15%
- For the same pledge households, there was an increase of 24% over 2025 pledges

LATE FALL/WINTER

7

SEARCH COMMITTEE DISCERNMENT

- SC evaluates candidates, identifies preliminary pool, interviews semi-finalist candidates
- SC identifies and interviews finalists (alongside Vestry)
- SC makes recommendations to Vestry

8

EARLY 2026

THE CALL

- Vestry discerns and extends a call
- Candidate accepts; public announcement
- New Rector joins the life of Trinity
- Celebration of new ministry

ADULT LENTEN SERIES

Thursdays at 6 pm
February 26 - March 26
Nichols Great Hall

Join us each week for a soup and bread supper, presentations on faith from five Trinity parishioners, and group discussions.

Lenten Meditations

Trinity parishioners have again shared daily reflections on the scripture readings for the days of Lent. Pick up your copy beginning February 15, or look for the link on Trinity's website.

Email TrinityRectorTransition@gmail.com

with any questions, suggestions, or offers to be connected and serve.