

# TEMPLE TALK

from Dianna Weiner

**THIS TEMPLE TALK WAS SHARED DURING  
WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2025**

As a Southern Tier New Yorker, I intentionally chose to settle by the lake, relocating after my youngest child began college, despite not having prior connections in the area. I was fully committed to establishing a fulfilling life and that included embracing new experiences, such as joining the Boomer Band. It is important to me to challenge myself and contribute meaningfully.

When I first came to Trinity, my initial intention was to find an Episcopalian church because that is what was familiar to me. I grew up Episcopalian and was quite active in our hometown small church. Joining the choir at Trinity, I was quickly impressed with the music ministry. Music in the church setting has always opened my mind to better absorb the message being delivered. A thoughtful music ministry enhances worship and reinforces the delivery of spiritual messages.

My first experience entering this church was marked by a warm welcome from Nancy King, an interaction that left a lasting impression. As a single individual, I felt both included and valued. This sense of hospitality underscored the importance of the greeting ministry as a shared responsibility, ensuring every newcomer—regardless of background—feels genuinely welcomed. This inclusive environment encouraged my continued participation and deepened my engagement within the church community.

Over time, I have become increasingly involved in outreach ministries supported by Trinity, notably leading the Lake Christian Ministries Children's Christmas Program. In this role, I coordinate volunteers dedicated to fulfilling each child's holiday wishes, including providing new warm clothing. A particularly meaningful moment occurred when an employee of a local business recounted her own childhood experience as a recipient of the program's generosity; she subsequently chose to sponsor a family herself. My involvement has provided invaluable insights into the complexities of poverty and reinforced the significance of compassionate giving, aligning my actions more closely with Christian teachings and values. My life has been forever changed by participating in this program. This form of outreach has proven profoundly rewarding, surpassing any professional achievement measured by financial gain.

Having experienced firsthand the transformative power of outreach, I encourage all church members to seek opportunities to serve our community with open hearts. Through Trinity, there is space for each of us to grow, learn, and participate in ways that are meaningful within the congregation and across the broader community.

