



THE TRIPOD

Trinity Episcopal Church & School

Church - <http://trinityepiscopalmarshall.org>

School - <http://www.trinitymarshall.org>

August 2020

Trinity Episcopal Church's Holy Vision:

In glorifying God, we the members of Trinity Church, will foster a unified parish, demonstrate our spirituality with an open heart, and reflect in our actions the good news of the Holy Spirit to all members of our church and community.

Contents

| | |
|--|-----|
| Martha's Kitchen | 2 |
| Prayers | 3 |
| Search committee | 4 |
| Sunday services Good news | 5 |
| Digital Schedule | 6 |
| Birthdays/ Anniversaries From the Sr. Warden | 7 |
| Scouts & School | 8-9 |
| Prayer | 10 |

Goodbye, Good Luck and God Bless

We have wished our Locum Tenens and his family a fond farewell. Father Andrew, his wife Casie along with their wonderful children have been part of our Trinity family for 4 year. He has been called to continue his journey with God as he takes the position of rector with St. Catherine of Sienna Episcopal Church in Missouri City. Unfortunately, COVID marked this event the way it has marked so many important events this year and we had to find a creative way to say goodbye to our dear friends. A farewell parade was held on Sunday, July 12th after the airing of our online services. A parade of 27 cars filled with the families of Trinity filed through the portico of All Saints Hall to share prayers, goodbyes, memories and wishes for a safe move and a wonderful future.



The Ellisons have arrived safely in their new home and have begun the long task of settling in. The kids have already enjoyed time at one of the local pools and look forward to the start of a new school year. Missouri City Texas is a growing small city of about 71,000 people, located north of Houston near Sugarland. Like Marshall, it's historical roots and importance are strongly tied to the railway. Today Missouri City is a wonderful place to raise a family with a vast parks system that encompasses 20 parks and nearly 400 acres, including multiple pools, trails, splashpads and boating facilities. Casie

said the kids are most excited about all the pools (especially the ones with slides). Father Andrew performed his first services this past Sunday online. The service is available online on Facebook and YouTube. St. Catherine of the Sienna is a congregation of about 400 that was founded in 1999. Fr. Andrew said that he was most excited about getting to worship in person and looks forward to meeting his new congregation face to face.

While we are certainly sad to see the Ellisons move on, we all wish them well and know that this is part of the journey that God has planned for this amazing family. Just as it was part of his plan for them to be a part of our lives, our families, and our friends – and for that we are so grateful.





Our Mission

To proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ by:

Inviting all to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Fostering the presence of the Holy Spirit for the equipping of saints to do the work of ministry.

Witnessing to the power of God to heal, transform, and make all things new.

Supporting those who by word and example make Christ's redemptive work known.

Martha's Kitchen

Trinity reopened Martha's Kitchen on July 9. A surprising number of considerations were involved, but we have found a format that is safe and simple, with minimal contact or cleanup. The number of meals served has expanded every week. Last Thursday, July 30, about 20 "to-go" meals were distributed to 10 guests.

We have found it easiest to prepare brown paper lunch bags holding non perishable chips and a wrapped treat in advance. It would be easy to add a note or use a custom bag or napkin for purpose. Next time I'm going to bring bags with handles for guests on bicycles.

At meal time we add hot or cold sandwiches and apples to the bag. On July 30 we served pulled pork sandwiches wrapped in foil. Assembly was neat and easy on a sanitized card table in the driveway at the church. We provide an ice chest full of cold bottles of Gatorade and Dr. Pepper that are easy to pass out.

Since the interaction with our guests is brief, outdoors and of minimal contact, we hope that the risk of spreading the coronavirus is minimized. We wear masks. Most guests arrive wearing a mask and are sensitive to the importance of minimizing contact.

It is tricky to guess how many to prepare for, but we've typically had about 30 bags ready just in case. For convenience, we've purchased the food out of pocket and took perishable leftovers home for our family.

We have found it helpful to wave and greet passers-by so that they see the sign and know they are welcome. Some people are shy about taking meals for others, so we have needed to invite them to take food home to family.

We've not served much at Martha's Kitchen in the past, but it has truly been a blessing to our family to feed God's people. If you are interested in serving, we are forming additional teams to assist. Contact Laura Rectenwald for more information on how to get involved.



Prayers!!

Join us in praying for...

Our Clergy:

Bishops Andy, Jeff, Hector, Kai, Fr. David Greer

Our Staff:

Jim Johnson - Organist; Melissa Hammers - Choir Director; Stacey Shaw - Parish Administrator; Suzie Ward - Admin. Assistant; Angela Bray - Nursery Director; Magda Altnau - Children's Ministry; Rae Dickson - Youth Director

Our Elected Officials:

Our President, Donald; our Governor, Greg; our County Judge, Chad; our Mayor, Terri

Our servicemen & women:

Douglas Manly, James Ott, Zachary Vernon Walker, Jason Woodley, Michael Walsh, Lisa Sperhake, Barrett Horak, Christopher Love, Audrey Dobbs, Aubrey Toussaint, Edgar Simmons, Kenny Welch, Ryan Allgood, Wil Moseley, Chase Tondee, Chandler Province, Alex Cameron

Our Parishioners:

Charles Manly, Clarence Brown, Joe Weinberg, Rick Toussaint, Sandy Toussaint, Walter Fugler, Wanda Fugler, Charles Porter, Carol Hicks, Mary Lou Barkett, Ron Denney, Sr., Lynne Winn, Holly Hasty, Joyce Hammers, Kathleen McGee, Yank Terrell, Richard Anderson, Harold Hoffmeister, Nancy Haynes, Rusty Asaff, Mieko Hathaway, Mary Wasike, Nora Brown, Fort Staggers

In the Community:

Tommy Asaff, Brad Thomas, Philip Ford, Lola Duncan, Cindy Albright, Roy Garcia, Marty Alexander, Maureen Potter, Cason Bonsall, Diane McConnell, Stephen Ward, Raymond Nader, Janet Wells, Michael Bogue, A.D. Jordan, Harold McArthur, Kylie Neal, April McClaskey, Jeremy Fugate, Nola Honeycutt, Laurie Robb, John Heath, Laura Dunham, Glen Reeves, Debbie Dreesen, Chuck Dreesen, Regina Duke, Grayson Flanagan, Wes Grigsby, Duncan Lewis

Homebound:

Bill & Carolyn Sullivan – Home, Kathleen McGee - Home, Mary Jane McElroy – Reunion Inn, JoAnn Cason - Marshall Manor, Peggy Tracy – Home, Patty Whaley - home

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Your Search Committee continues to earnestly follow God's guidance in the selection of Trinity's next Rector. In the past four months, we have received two candidates for consideration from the Diocese. Unfortunately, neither were the best fit for Trinity. We would, however, like to take this opportunity to update you on the what we've learned about the process, as many of us found it very helpful.

Our committee met again with Christine Faulstich, Canon to the Ordinary at the Episcopal Diocese of Texas, on the evening of Tuesday, July 28th. During that conversation, we learned that the Diocese regularly conducts preliminary screenings on behalf of Trinity before presenting them to our committee for consideration. As a part of that screening process, they conduct a background check and confirm their interest in a parish and willingness to relocate. If these criteria are not met, then they are not presented to the search committee for consideration. We also learned that Ms. Faulstich maintains a working list of candidates looking to relocate within the Diocese and frequently searches outside the Diocese on behalf of Trinity and other churches in an active church status.

To date, Christine has screened 8-10 candidates with two making it through the preliminary screening to us. Our committee has also formally recommended two candidates from outside the Diocese based on our own research. One was not interested and we are awaiting a response from the second.

Ms. Faulstich is fully aware of our eagerness to move this process along as quickly and efficiently as possible. We made her aware of the fact that our sense of urgency is atypical as we are without an interim priest and experiencing an unusually high amount of turnover within our vestry. We also asked her to send us a monthly update with what has occurred at the Diocesan level on behalf of Trinity, even if those efforts did not yield a candidate. We believe this will help alleviate some of the disconnect we feel between what we're seeing as a parish and what is occurring at the Diocesan level. Ms. Faulstich happily agreed. The search committee has also instituted a monthly meeting, the last Friday of every month, to discuss recent happenings, in the event that we don't meet to consider a candidate before then.

I know it may seem discouraging, the number of candidates received to date, but according to pre-COVID search processes, we remain only slightly below the normal number and frequency of candidates. The issue appears to be partially secular in nature – the older generation Rectors are now looking to retire rather than take new positions. COVID is also playing a considerable factor here with those who were considering relocating now preferring to remain at their current parish. That being said, Ms. Faulstich indicated that those who are looking to move appear very motivated.

We remain at the Lord's mercy during this transition, but know that we are working as hard and as fast as we can. Unfortunately, we did not get the sense that there was much more we could do as a parish to speed this process up any further, which means we must put more of our faith and trust in God to shoulder this burden for us.

I have been very impressed with the thoughtfulness, diligence, and responsiveness of our Search Committee; they have all been a blessing to serve alongside.

We will continue to keep you updated as events and conditions permit.

God's Blessings,

Mike
210.269.7320

Sunday Services Schedule

| Date | Officiant | Lector | Verger | |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| August 9 | Fr. David Greer | Roy McCarroll | Mark Trexler | In person & Facebook Live |
| August 16 | Fr. David Greer | David Thomas | Chris Altnau | In person & Facebook Live |
| August 23 | Fr. David Greer | Ken Kerr | Chris Altnau | In person & Facebook Live |
| August 30 | Fr. David Greer | Paul Palmer | Walter Fugler | In person & Facebook Live |

Good News - Prayers of Thanksgiving & Gratitude

- Ellisons made it safely to Missouri City and are getting settled in!
- Girl Scouts had a wonderful trip to Colorado and all returned safely!
- Martha’s Kitchen has started back up serving the community!
- Fr. Greer has agreed to continue with us on Sundays
- Sagan Jameson-Hatch skipped 7th grade and will be starting 8th grade at Texas Early College High School!
- Trinity School had a successful academic bootcamp for 60 returning students!
- Mary Wasike received her U.S. Citizenship & will graduate from Kilgore Colege with her LVN
- Magda Altnau achieved her purple belt & Sonya achieved her red belt in Tae Kwon Do

Thank you so much all that worked with the Tripod to get it back up and running!

**Any GOOD news you have please send out way for the next Tripod!
These days we need ALL the GOOD news!**

Our Vision:

Growing a dynamic youth program.

Reaching out to our community outside the walls with the love of Christ.

Increasing spiritual and congregational growth for our parish.

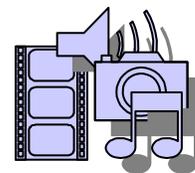
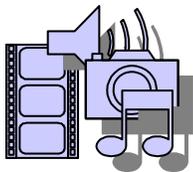
DIGITAL SCHEDULE

| Date/Day | Time | Content | Led By | Platform |
|-----------|---------|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Sun 8/9 | 10:30am | Worship | Fr. David Greer | Facebook Live |
| Wed 8/12 | 12:00pm | Sweet tea & Fellowship* | Juli Jameson | Facebook Live |
| Sun 8/16 | 10:30am | Worship | Fr. David Greer | Facebook Live |
| Wed 8/19 | 12:00pm | Sweet tea & Fellowship* | Juli Jameson | Facebook Live |
| Sun 8/23 | 10:30am | Worship | Fr. David Greer | Facebook Live |
| Wed 8/26 | 12:00pm | Sweet tea & Fellowship* | Juli Jameson | Facebook Live |
| Sun 8/30 | 10:30am | Worship | Fr. David Greer | Facebook Live |
| On Demand | | Youth | Rae Dickson | Youth Facebook page |

Want to lead a small group bible study or fellowship group?

Contact Juli Jameson 903-926-2517

*Sweet Tea & Fellowship is a weekly gathering to say Hi, check-in and see some of our Trinity family that we miss so much!



Trinity is in the process of purchasing new camera/video equipment for the streaming of services. If you would like to donate to this please note that your gift is for “camera equipment”.

Thank you!



Our Core Values:

Commitment
to Jesus Christ

Authority of
Scripture

Evangelism

Relational Ministry

Worship

Servant Ministry

Sacrificial Giving

Biblical Leader-
ship

August Birthdays

Lynellen Carmony 8/9; Lynne Winn 8/12; Lake Brannon 8/13;
Gabriel DeSa 8/13; Isabel Lewis 8/15; Charles Porter 8/16;
Ashton Beavers 8/20, Sam Abney 8/21, Jim Steidley 8/21,
Allen Staggers, Jr. 8/24, Margaret Lee 8/25, Doug Jager 8/26,
Judy Denney 8/28, Sonya Altnau 8/28, Rusty Asaff 8/31

August Anniversaries

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Tanner 8/9; Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Ryan 8/11;
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Toussaint 8/18; Mr.s & Mrs. Matt Hatch 8/20;
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Martinez 8/21

From the Sr. Warden

Trinity family,

I am honored to be Senior Warden again and I'm very happy to have the opportunity to make my hands busy in this time of transition. The vestry and search committee are actively engaged in helping our church fulfill our mission today and prepare for the future.

Father Greer has kindly agreed to lead 10:30 mass every Sunday going forward barring unforeseen circumstances. I am awed by his courageous service to the Lord. Please continue to be flexible as we, of course, must continue to respond to evolving conditions. I assure you that we will make it a priority to have safe and in-person mass for up to fifty people every Sunday in addition to online mass.

We have had a wonderful outpouring of volunteers ready to safely restore Martha's Kitchen with outdoor "to-go" snack meals. The expansion of our online ministry and use of virtual meeting platforms offer unexpected blessings that will have long term positive benefits. Our online ministry is getting noticed, even beyond our parish, thanks to the God-given talent, hard work and creativity of our ministers.

The church office is well cared for in the experienced, organized and skilled hands of our parish administrators. My focus this week has been reviewing the finances and making application to the Payroll Protection Program as approved by the vestry in special session on August 4. We qualify for a forgivable loan from this program that will help to make up for the modest lost income and extra expenses we have experienced as a result of the pandemic.

Thank you for the trust you have placed in me. With God's help, I will endeavor to deserve it. I ask each of you to pray with me each day for our church, our vestry, Father Greer, the search committee, and our future rector.

Sincerely,
Laura Rectenwald

Scouts and School

As summer starts to wind down and we look forward to another school year we have some good news of learning and adventure that we managed to squeeze out of the summer of 2020. Trinity School finished up the school year via distance learning. Over the summer, administrators worked hard preparing for the unprecedented challenge that they face in the upcoming school term. They have just finished up a week-long refresher camp to work on reading and math skills. Over 60 kids attended this in person educational camp. As we move forward into the 2020-2021 school year, the campus will be offering in person or distance learning starting on Wednesday August 19th. The teachers and staff eagerly look forward to the new school year.

Over the past summer, the school also played host to many swim lessons and lifeguard classes. Several of our youth participated in Lifeguard classes and were either certified or re-certified as Red Cross Lifeguards!

The Girl Scouts were unfortunately not able to go on their trip to Canada because of border closure but instead participated in an amazing and socially distant road trip to Colorado. Using masks, temp checks, well packed food coolers and carefully planned distant activities, the girls went through 5 states in 8 days. They hiked Palo Duro Canyon, went to the top of Pike's Peak, hiked to waterfalls and through the Garden of the Gods, visited parks, drive thru zoos and even white water rafted through Bighorn canyon!

Several of our girls did not let this summer go to waste. Four of them started or expanded businesses. Alera now boards horses in addition to her egg business, Jalen started raising quails and started a quail egg business, Sagan started a soy candle business and Jurhnee started making and selling jewelry and accessories.



The girls will start back meeting in small groups during an open-air meeting on August 6th as they enjoy s'mores in honor of National Smore Day. They have several community service projects in the plan including a "PJs for Seniors" drive to gather PJs for local senior living homes, which will be wrapped and delivered in time for Christmas. You can call Juli at (903)926-2517 if you would like more details.



The Boy Scouts did not let it be a Bummer summer! Our scouts went to Camp Pirtle for a session filled with learning and adventure. One of our senior scouts, Lifescout Logan Jameson-Hatch, used the summer to work on his Eagle Scout project – the production of 250 masks for Marshall Police Department, local medical facilities, and Trinity Church. The masks he made are available at Trinity, should you forget yours. The Boy Scouts will return to a regular meeting schedule starting the second Sunday in September.



| Financials | Jan | Feb. | Mar | April | May | June |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Income | 132,516.76 | \$27,793.35 | \$20,010.36 | \$31,611.00 | \$24,566.00 | \$28,684.01 |
| Expenses | \$48,774.85 | \$36,266.37 | \$36,008.19 | \$22,998.37 | \$41,951.24 | \$22,760.26 |
| | \$83,741.91 | (\$8,473.02) | (\$15,997.83) | \$8,612.63 | (\$17,385.24) | \$5,923.75 |



Prayer



Loving God, in this season of pandemic and when we are without a priest, remind each of us that WE, together, are the Church. We possess every gift of the Spirit to spread your light and your love into our uncertain and fearful world.

We ask for

- an impartation of courage instead of fear that we may walk as a children of the Light;*
- for love and hope to fill us and spill into the lives of others;*
- for healing for the sick and comfort for the suffering;*
- for abundant wisdom for our leaders;*
- for spiritual ears to hear your voice and obedience to follow;*
- for joy in the midst of hardship;*
- for patience as we wait on you for the provision of a priest of your choosing.*

We turn our eyes upon You, Lord Jesus! For you are Love, Hope, Healing, Peace, Joy and our future.

**THANK YOU FR. DAVID GREER FOR LEADING
OUR SUNDAY SERVICES!**

Be Happy & Safe out There!

We Love You!





*Behold, I come
among you as one
who serves.*

Luke 22:27

Parish Staff

Fr. Andrew Ellison
Locum Tenens

Rae Dickson
Youth Director

Magdalena Altnau
*Children's Christian
Formation Director*

Angela Bray
Nursery Director

Jim Johnson
*Music Director
and Organist*

Melissa Hammers
Choir Director

Stacey Shaw
Parish Administrator

Suzie Ward
Administrative Assistant

Vestry

Laura Rectenwald
Senior Warden

Sam Clark
Junior Warden

Juli Jameson
Clerk of the Vestry

Margot Lingold
Treasurer

Gary Hathaway

Chris Altnau

Steve Lewis

Blair Hammers

Roy McCarroll

Kathleen Abraham

Edwina Thomas

Bud Bray

Weekly Schedule

Sunday

Holy Communion - 10:30 AM
In Person & Facebook Live

Thursday

Martha's Kitchen - 6:00 PM



Trinity Episcopal Church

106 N. Grove Street
Marshall, Texas, 75670

903-938-4246
<http://trinityepiscopalmarshall.org>