Trinity Episcopal Church
106 N. Grove Street
Marshall, Texas, 75670
903-938-4246
http://trinityepiscopalmarshall.org

Non Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Marshall, TX 75670
Permit No. 232

Weekly Schedule

Sunday
Holy Communion - 8:00 AM
Parish Breakfast - 9:00 AM
Christian Formation for all ages - 9:30 AM
Holy Communion - 10:30 AM
After 10:30 Service
Coffee & Cookies In All Saints Hall

Vestry
Lowell Runyan
Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Laura Rectenwald
Clerk of the Vestry
Matt Hatch
Henry Henderson
Erik Howard
Eric Neal
Paul Palmer
Randy Reeves
Clarence Brown
Cathy Cope
Jim Kutner
Bonnie Strauss

Parish Christmas Party

Parish Christmas Party

The Parish enjoyed a wonderful celebration of Christmas on December 22nd. Beginning with the traditional performance of Christmas Lessons and Carols by the Choir, the party continued with a performance of a Christmas play by the children and youth.

The celebration was topped off by a wonderful meal served by the Hospitality Committee. This annual celebration is a wonderful way to begin our Christmas festivities and for the entire parish to share in the joy of the season. Special thanks to all who made this celebration possible!

Parish Christmas Party

Focus on Parish Ministry
Rector's Meanderings
Women of Trinity
Acolyte Sunday
Church Financials and Attendance
October Birthdays & Anniversaries
DOK & JrDOK
Youth
Wednesday Night Dinner & Worship

Wednesday is a special night at Trinity, you never know what might happen.

Wednesday are a lot of things wrapped up in one. There is a children’s program, youth program, worship and it all begins with a great dinner. Wednesdays are less formal than our Sunday worship. It is a time to gather as a family for food fellowship, and prayer.

We gather for a great dinner and fellowship at 5:30 PM. This is a relaxing time to simply visit with one another. The meals range from everything from home cooked pot roast to hamburgers and hotdogs. Each Wednesday it is something new.

After dinner the children meet with Caroline for a time of fun and crafts in one of the Sunday School rooms.

The youth join Scott in the youth room for a program that includes a Bible Lesson and some fun time.

Everyone else gathers in the Church for worship singing contemporary Christian music. The Service includes the Holy Eucharist, but one of the primary purposes of the Wednesday Service is healing prayer and anointing for healing. The worship tends to be a bit spontaneous at times and is laughter and joy is strongly encouraged. It is a joyous time. You never know when the Holy Spirit is going to show up and surprise us all!

We invite everyone to join us for our Wednesday evening gatherings. It isn’t focused on one age group, and the worship spans the ages as well from twenty something’s to, well, the more mature members of our community. There is something to touch everyone’s heart. As we step into the New Year why not make a resolution that your going to make time for you and your family to worship and praise the Lord on Wednesday’s as well as Sundays.

A New Year and A New Song

First of all, I want to voice my appreciation to all those supported the youth mission efforts recently. Trinity youth took up $297 and two toys for the Empty Stocking Fund in our two services. We were also able to raise a bit of money through gift wrapping. That money will go toward our mission trip to Oklahoma this summer. Thank you Trinity for supporting the mission efforts of our youth program!

The New Year brings about many “new” things for all of us. At the beginning of the new year, many make resolutions to bring about change in their lives. We put the focus on us at the beginning of the year. But what if we think about what God has done for us for a minute. When we put the focus on God, I think it will lead us to, “Sing a new song." We see this in several places in Scripture. For example, Psalm 40:3 says, “[The LORD] put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.” And Psalm 96:1 says, “Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.” What is this “new song?” In both of these psalms, the psalmist is proclaiming God’s salvation. Like the psalmist, all those God saves proclaims it. God’s amazing deliverance causes those delivered to proclaim his greatness and praise him. And this praise of God is not private, but this is a public proclamation of God’s salvation in worship. The “new song” is a new reason for giving glory to God. God has done something new and special in the life of the worshipper. God has saved us so that we might lift him up and praise his name. God’s goodness and faithfulness is evident in the life of every believer. All of us have our own “new” reasons for singing a new song to God at various times in our lives. For me, it’s the birth of my son Elijah on December 12. What’s your reason?

There are many reasons to sing a song of praise to God in public worship this year. The fact that God has given each of us life in a new year is enough reason to sing to the LORD a new song. Thanks be to God for giving us 2014. All praise, glory, and honor be unto our great God, the LORD, the creator of heaven and earth, who has forgiven our sins through the work of our Lord Jesus Christ! Amen.

Scott
The Family Service on Christmas Eve had a special treat. Our Junior Daughters of the King Choir led the music portion of our celebration. These young ladies did a wonderfully in adding to the joy of our celebration.

The Junior Daughters of the King include young ladies from Trinity Church and School as well as some of the other churches in Marshall.

Mary Price is the Directress for the Jr. DOK Choir. Each year they appear several times at our services. It is always a joy to have them sing and praise the Lord with us. This year was the third year of their leading the music at our Christmas Eve Family Service.

The DOK were honored to represent Trinity at the Mission Marshall kickoff for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library children's book campaign on December 21.

Although the weather was terrible (torrential rain), we were happy to be among others who care so much about the welfare and educational needs of Marshall’s children, including Mobberly Baptist Church, First Methodist, and Friends of the Marshall Public Library. The DOK provided cookies and punch and several daughters were present to help serve refreshments.

The Imagination Library is a program where children birth to 5 years receive a book in the mail every month until their 5th birthday. Mission Marshall is sponsoring Imagination Library in our area for kids 0-5 years living in the MISD boundaries.

New DOK members installed in December.

Dear Beloved in Christ:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ. I pray each of you have a blessed and joyous New Year.

I have been thinking about New Year’s resolutions. This seems to be a fitting time to consider such things. So many people make a big deal out of them early in the New Year, sometimes that is a good thing. I have found, though, that by the end of February most of the good intentioned resolutions have gone by the boards and we are pretty much in the same place we were before we made them. As we start the New Year would like to offer a New Year’s resolution that all of us should strive to keep through the coming year it is really quite simple, and if kept can make all the difference in the world to the way we view our own life, and the way we relate to others. Here it is, let our New Year’s Resolution be to: Love more and criticize less. Pretty simple, we would think that it ought to be pretty easy to keep.

Loving is hard work. The very nature of love calls for sacrifice of self, the giving of one’s self for the good and welfare of another. It means going out of our way, going the extra mile or two miles. Yet, it is the gift of love all humanity cries out for. It is in loving other people that we are living into image of God Christ has called us to reflect.

If we look at the way Christ loved others we see a living example of how we too should love. Jesus loved unconditionally but he also loved in a way that sought to lead to the transformation of the other person’s life. A transformation that led away from the ways of the world and into an ever deepening relationship with God the Father. It was a challenge to repent, amend, and return. In our culture today love is often confused with approval. If you love me you’ll accept this or that about me; even if the this or that is destructive to myself, or others. True love is not an enabler of destructive ways of life. True love is the foundation of building a new life on the foundation of Jesus Christ. The foundation Christ laid for us is one of sacrifice as a reflection of that love. Jesus said to his disciples, “By this all men will know you are my disciples, if you love one another.” (John 13:35) Our Lord has given us a goal, let us make every effort to live into it in the coming year.

Criticism is something we all face, I’ve never met anyone who liked receiving criticism, but it seems a great many people have no problem offering it. What do we accomplish by criticizing another? Do we believe it will change behavior? Rarely does it accomplish that. What it does accomplish is that all too often it engenders animosity.

We may find that in loving more and criticizing less we discover that we are far closer to our brothers and sisters in Christ than we may have ever dreamed. We may also discover that through the love of Christ we offer we ourselves are bathed in His love.

Pas et Bonum,
Fr. John
Our Vision:
Our vision for Trinity Episcopal Church includes
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.

Women of Trinity
How would you like to “tie one on” with the Women of Trinity? It might be more fun than it sounds. Women of Trinity will be meeting on Wednesday, January 15, 2014, at 11 a.m., immediately following the Wednesday morning 10 a.m. service. The Brass Trunk’s Suzanne Planchard will present this program and she will show how much fun it can be to “tie one on”...with scarves, that is!

Any woman of Trinity is automatically considered a “Woman of Trinity” and is enthusiastically invited to join us at the meetings on the third Wednesday of every month except summer months and December. The food is anywhere from “pretty good” to “fantastic,” but the important thing is the amazing women who attend...and you don't have to be old either. Our programs range from interesting tales of Trinity’s history by Mary Price, Bible studies by guest theologians, safety tips from the Fire Marshal to local museum directors and the High School Madrigal Singers. We try to keep up to date on facts and/or fancies, so join us at one, any or all of our meetings...we would love to have your input. Please join us to start off the year right, on Wednesday, January 15 at 11 a.m. in All Saints Hall...see you then!

Acolyte Sunday
On the First Sunday of Advent we celebrated Acolyte Sunday.
We inducted 9 new members into our Acolyte Ministry, Keaton Henderson, Cass Anderson, Ada Anderson as new acolytes. Also Cade Runyan, Dallan Shaw, Jack Rectenwald, Lilly Price, James Welch, and Crystal Brown were promoted to our Junior ranks. Promoted to Middler Acolyte were Chase Tondee and installed Carson Rectenwald and Chloe Cope as middlers. Promoted to Senior Acolyte was Ellen Bray. This ministry is a true blessing for the children and youth and for the parish as a whole.
Children can begin serving as Acolytes at age 7. If you have a son or daughter who is interested contact our Acolyte Verger, Walter Fugler.

Birthdays
2 Bud Spellings
15 Mamie Lyons
3 Doyle Curry
16 Cody Baldwin
3 Meagan Moseley
16 Nancy Haynes
3 Barbara Cobb
17 Jean Taylor
5 Walton Truelove
18 David Jones
6 Yuri Altnau
19 Alice Furr
7 Ann Brannon
25 Rebecca Bockmon
8 Bill Abraham
27 Cassy Rhoades
8 David Cason
28 David Spellings
9 Sandra White
28 Brett Weeks
9 Jack Rectenwald
29 Janet Gullette
9 Ella Neal
30 Christian Tolar
10 Jim Johnson
31 Dennis Rhoades

Anniversaries
1 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Martin
1 Mr. & Mrs. Erik Howard
3 Mr. & Mrs. Justin Briggle
5 Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Haynes
18 Mr. & Mrs. Cameron McElroy, III
23 Mr. & Mrs. Rusty Asaff

We welcome articles for the Tripod if you or a ministry you are a part of would like to submit and article please have it to the parish office by the 15th of the month.