School’s out for the Summer!!!!

Trinity Youth enjoyed an end of school celebration with a Lock-in on Memorial Day Weekend. Twenty of your youth spent the night in Fry hall playing games, watching some flicks and practicing living our Scripture in their interpersonal relationships. It was a great way to wrap up a school year and to begin to get ready for summer fun and mission.
GIRL SCOUT TROOP 7143 HELPS WITH THE CLEAN UP

The recent flooding that we suffered in our county affected many people in the area. Many large relief agencies immediately showed up and began to offer aid to all the people and businesses affected by the flood water.

There was one group of volunteers that began to work quietly behind the scenes to be able to help families recover after all the other organizations had left. This group was the girls of Trinity Girl Scout Troop 7143.

They realized that after the flooding recedes, after the shelters close, people will need to begin the hard work of cleaning up their homes to make them livable once again. The girls put their heads together to figure out one thing everyone would need in the midst of a clean up. They came up with the perfect idea—TOWELS! So they decided to hold a Towel Drive. They contacted individuals and businesses throughout our community and the response was overwhelming! They collected enough towels and blankets to fill one of our children’s classrooms.

These young girls are a wonderful example of what doing Christ’s work looks like - it is a hands on example of loving our neighbors as ourselves. If you have the opportunity to speak to one of our Girl Scouts let them know what a great job they are doing. If you have a daughter or granddaughter you would like to have the opportunity to participate in the Girl Scouts contact the parish office or Juli Jameson.

BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

The Brotherhood of Saint Andrew Schedule for June is as follows:

Bible Study at Jucy’s on Wednesdays June 15th and 29th at 11:30 (Bible Study begins at 12:00)

Saturday, June 11th at 10:00 am monthly meeting at Golden Corral

All men of the parish are invited to attend either of the meetings.

Men of the parish who are interested in becoming a member of the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew contact Fr. John Himes.
Rector’s Reflection

Dear Beloved in Christ:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

In my personal devotional I have been reading the Book of Ezekiel. A few days ago I came across Ezekiel 3:18. This passage states, “If I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ and you give him no warning nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way in order to save his life, the wicked person shall die for his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand.” That seems pretty harsh. Am I then to confront every sin a person commits and like Jonah pronounce judgment upon them unless they repent? I’m not too sure I like that idea. But, it is the word of God and I cannot simply dismiss it. I can seek to look at it through the lens of the New Testament and if I do that, well, it offers me a path forward in obedience to God that keeps the responsibility of judgment in God’s hands and not mine.

There is a reason the Gospel is the Good News. It is the Good News because it will eternally save one’s life. Like any news though, it isn’t news until it is known. It is the mission and responsibility of each Christian to proclaim the Good News. Not as a judgmental dictate, but as an invitation.

We might often speak of the Great Commission and think that is what ordained ministers are suppose to do. In one sense I would agree, there is a proclamation aspect to ordained ministry. However, each Christian needs to keep in mind that in Christ there is the priesthood of all believers. That being the case the Great Commission then becomes the marching orders for the church militant—for every one who says they are Christian. The Church, like any organization, must have a means of discipline and accountability. The passage from Ezekiel is that which holds each of us accountable—“but his blood I will require of your hand.”

I do not think any of us really want that kind of responsibility. It is a fearsome thing to be responsible for someone’s eternal salvation. That would be an awesome responsibility if that were the meaning that the above statement was intended to convey. However, we are not responsible for their eternal salvation. We are, however, responsible for bringing the Good News. If we do the bringing so to speak, that is the planting and the watering, we can trust the Holy Spirit to do his part. We have then been faithful to God’s commandment to us and need not fear what the Lord requires of us.

If we consider the heart of the statement we will see that God is simply requiring us to be faithful; to place all our trust in him—to love him and by extension our neighbor. If we love something we want the world to know it we want the world to share in our love. That is what we Christians are to proclaim; a love so deep that it required the cross for it to be fulfilled. A love so deep that it results in a transformation of our very lives; transformation from a life of depravity and sin to life and hope.

The sinful humanity will indeed die. It is a death that forever separates one from the love of God. The terrible thing about that is that each individual makes that choice on their own. It is our blessing to be able to bring to them the love of Christ. If they choose to accept or reject that love the burden is one for their heart not ours. If we fail to proclaim that love so that one might make that choice we are rightly to be charged with the neglect of our fellow brothers and sisters and rightly held into account for His condemnation for we failed to bring the Good News.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. John
Memorial Day Prayer Service

Nine years ago Trinity Episcopal Church and St. Joseph Catholic Church partnered together to hold a joint prayer service on Memorial Day to honor those who have sacrificed for our nation. The first service was held at Trinity Episcopal Church with Fr. John Officiating and Fr. Denzil Vithanage assisting.

This year’s prayer service was held at St. Joseph Catholic Church. The Reverend Deacon John Sargent, of St. Joseph was the officiant and Fr. John was the preacher. The service was well attended by parishioners of both parishes. After the service the ladies of St. Joseph hosted a light luncheon for those attending.

Over the years each parish has alternated as host of the prayer service. The preachers have been many and varied. However the theme has been consistent that is that we have been blessed by the sacrifice others made on our behalf.

One aspect of the prayer service has been touching every year and that has been the faces of veterans as they remember those who did not come home whole. It has also been heartbreaking to see how each year there are fewer and fewer veterans from World War II and the Korean War. With their passing the number of veterans present is decreased. Sadly, many who are not veterans has also decreased each year. Perhaps it is because they have not lost a love one or witnessed the impact war has had on those who did come home.

We owe so much to those men and women who have assured our freedoms over the history of our nation. I give thanks for those who took time to honor them by praying for the repose of their souls.

We deeply appreciate St. Joseph’s willingness to host this years service. Next year Trinity will be the host.

Help Our Youth Go on Mission

Our Youth will be going on their summer mission trip to St. Louis, MO from June 27th through July 1st. The youth are raising money to cover the cost of this mission endeavor and they need our support.

The youth will be cooking breakfast on Sunday, June 5th to raise a portion of the funds needed for trip. It would be a great help if we could all come to breakfast that morning and give their fund raising a great kick-off. Please make every effort to support our youth on June 5th.

During the 10:30 Mass on June 26th we will be commissioning our youth for Mission. Mission trips are a vital discipleship tool in serving God and serving others. This is a tremendous spiritual opportunity for our youth. Please be in prayer for them during the week they are on mission.
Birthdays

| 3  | Claude Hammond        | 18 | Christina Anderson |
| 6  | Jodi Beavers          | 18 | Fr. John Himes     |
| 6  | Chloe Cope            | 18 | Russell Minatrea   |
| 12 | Jim Weaver, III       | 19 | Connie Reeves      |
| 13 | Shirley Weaver        | 20 | Jenny Kerr         |
| 13 | Judy Asaff            | 20 | Hannah Abraham     |
| 14 | Holly Hasty           | 22 | Jean Jackson       |
| 14 | Ellen Bray            | 28 | David Thomas       |
| 14 | Mark Trexler          | 29 | Charles Manly      |
| 16 | Bill Jones, Jr.       | 29 | Elijah Hammers     |

Church Financials and Attendance for March 2016

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<th>Budget Income for 2016</th>
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<td>Budget Expenses for 2016</td>
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Average Sunday Attendance:
- 2015: 175
- Present: 197

Anniversaries

| 1 | Mr. & Mrs. Bill Kemp            |
| 2 | Mr. & Mrs. Greg Gani            |
| 12 | Mr. & Mrs. Robert Perkins       |
| 16 | Mr. & Mrs. John Bockman, Jr.    |
| 17 | Mr. & Mrs. Terry Weeks          |
| 18 | Mr. & Mrs. Randy Reeves         |
| 21 | Mr. & Mrs. Mark Trexler         |
| 23 | Mr. & Mrs. Jack Sanders, Jr.    |
| 24 | Mr. & Mrs. Harry McGee IV       |
| 27 | Mr. & Mrs. Joe Weinberg         |
| 28 | Mr. & Mrs. Tony Bridge          |
| 30 | Mr. & Mrs. David Collins        |

Summer Wednesday Night Dinner Vacation

During the summer our Wednesday Night Dinner cooking team will be on vacation. We will resume our Wednesday Night Family Dinners the first Wednesday after Labor Day.

Everyone is invited to come and join us. This is a wonderful time of fellowship and great food come and join us. The dinner is at 5:30 PM.

Our other regular Wednesday Night schedule continues with Worship at 6:15 PM. At the same time we will have our children’s program.

We will also schedule some activities for our youth. Youth activities will be announced in the weekly e-mail and on the Youth Facebook Page.

Welcome

OUR NEW CURATE AND HIS FAMILY

The Rev. Andrew Ellison will join our staff on July 1st.

We will have a Reception Welcoming Andrew, Casie, and their children after the 10:30 AM Mass on Sunday, July 3rd. Please attend and welcome them to Trinity.
TRINITY CUB SCOUT PACK 550 HOLDING GARAGE SALE

Cub Scout Pack 550 will be holding a community Garage Sale on June 18th to raise funds for pack activities. Everyone is invited to find the things they just cannot live without, or to sell things they are tired of living with. The Garage Sale will be in the Trinity Episcopal School Pre-K parking lot.

If you have household items or clothes you would like to donate to the Cub Scouts to sell please call Connie Davis at 903-930-5830

DID YOU KNOW?

Over the last few months Trinity has been posting information about our faith on the Trinity Facebook page. These posts are to remind us of what we believe and provide a little history on the where, the why and the how we do things as Episcopalians.

We hope you are enjoying receiving these tidbits and it is our prayer that not only will you read, and inwardly digest them, but that you will also share them on your own Facebook page. This is a wonderful way to share the faith. These posting have led at least one family to visit Trinity. Your sharing on Facebook may bring another family to know Christ.

If you appreciate the design say thank you to Magda Altnau. She developed this idea and does the artistic designs for the postings.

RETURN OF THE BABY BOTTLES

Right to Life East Texas in support of Living Alternatives of Marshall provide the baby bottles we passed out on Mother’s Day.

We asking parishioners who took bottles return them on Father’s Day, Sunday June 19th. We will bless the bottles at the 10:30 AM Mass.

The funds will go towards Living Alternatives of Marshall. Living Alternatives provides free counseling for abortion vulnerable women. Living Alternatives has been providing this ministry serving Harrison County and Marshall for over 20 years.
Our Core Values:
Commitment to Jesus Christ
Authority of Scripture
Evangelism
Relational Ministry
Worship
Servant Ministry
Sacrificial Giving
Biblical Leadership

Happy Father’s Day!

Being a dad is an awesome responsibility. It isn’t a responsibility any man should take lightly, not do I think that most men do. Fathers want to see their sons and daughters grow up to be successful and happy. With that being said I think it is important to understand just what being successful and happy truly means.

Every father wants to prepare their children to succeed in life. Often we take several roles to see that we provide a firm foundation upon which our children may build. Perhaps we set up a college fund to ensure they have the opportunity to go to college and not pile upon a mountain of student debt in the process. We teach them and encourage them to take part in sports to build both their mind and body. We sport them through youth programs such as Scouting or 4H. Dad’s spent TIME with their children to teach boys how to not just become men, but to become gentlemen and to teach our daughters that they are not to be viewed as objects but rather as ladies reserving respect and honor.

There is one other role a father has that for the last fifty years has been all but forgotten. That is to set the spiritual example of what both men and women should aspire to become—and that is a person who centers their life upon the triune God. As dads we want our children to have a solid moral foundation. But where are they to build that foundation? We certainly cannot depend upon public schools to do that. Such institutions have long given up that role in favor of political correctness. While some youth programs are a valuable assist in building the foundation they are just that an assistance to the values and world view being taught in the home. Children look to their dads and an example of how to live. If dad isn’t living the moral example that an organization, such as Scouting or 4H is promoting, then those espoused values will have little long term impact on the child.

Dads which would you rather have, a successful child or a happy child? I admit the two are not mutually exclusive. However, I would offer that a child who is successful in life isn’t necessarily happy and a child who is happy isn’t necessarily successful. In the course of my ministry I have counseled a number of men and women who the average person had successful careers, but were desperately unhappy. I have also counseled those who most people would classify as not being very successful yet were very happy with their lives. What is the underlying difference between the two? When all is said and done it is the spiritual foundation upon which they live their lives. Those who you would define as happy understood that their value, their worth wasn’t based upon what they did or what they had, but rather on whose they were. They had a strong and abiding faith in God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. That foundation was gave them the synergy to see their life in a far broader perspective than the secular world offers. It was a happiness that was lived out in their lives as men and women and in their relationship with others. This happiness found in God also made their individual view of what success was vastly different that what the secular world says it is.

In conversations with these individuals I learned that the person who had the greatest influence on their spiritual lives was not a teacher or minister, or even their mothers, rather it was their fathers. The had grown up in the presence of Godly men who prayed openly and with them, who demonstrated living in relationship with God not by words alone, but by their very actions as fathers. One young lady once told me, that she came to know her heavenly Father through her earthly father. That is high praise indeed and a high bar for any father to aspire towards. Happy Fathers Day.
Parish Staff

The Rev. Dr. John M. Himes, OSF
Rector

Rae Minchew
Youth Director

Magdalena Altnau
Children’s Christian Formation

Angela Bray
Nursery Director

Jim Johnson
Music Director and Organist

Melissa Hammers
Choir Director

Stacey Shaw
Parish Administrator

Suzie Ward
Administrative Assistant

Melvin Williams
Sexton

Vestry

Ken Kerr
Senior Warden

Joel Truelove
Junior Warden

Cathy Cope
Clerk of the Vestry

Julie Trexler
Treasurer

Doug Jager

Cindy Cain

Leana Westergaard

Clarence Brown

Jim Kutner

Bonnie Strauss

Micheal DeSa

Cassie Rhoades

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

Wednesday
Holy Communion - 10:00 AM
Dinner in All Saint’s Hall - 5:30 PM
Contemporary Worship - 6:15 PM

Thursday
Martha’s Kitchen - 6:00 PM

Behold, I come among you as one who serves.
Luke 22:27