Trinity Episcopal Church:
*Witnessing to the Power of God to Transform*

*Proclaiming God’s Love and Joy for over 163 years in Marshall, Texas*

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A Glorious Easter Celebration at Trinity
Charity BBQ Great Success!

Trinity’s Charity BBQ had great weather & a great turnout! We had entries in each category that the judges had to taste and decide their favorites! Over 200 people were served in All Saint’s Hall which was more than we had even expected. How awesome is that! Donations were very successful also!

We would like to give a big thanks to all that helped make this a successful event! In the Fall we will hopefully start planning for next year so start thinking where you would want to be involved in this event for Trinity Church.
Dear Beloved in Christ:

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

Exodus 23:19 tells us, “The best of the first fruits of your ground you shall bring into the house of the Lord your God.” In ancient Israel one of the legal practices that was encouraged was to leave some of the grain or produce along the edge of the field so that the poor may glean it and not starve. This tradition proved to be a life saver for Ruth and Naomi. Even the disciples benefited from this practice as they traveled with Jesus. This practice was considered charity and a good social policy. The fruits of the harvest that was taken, were first given to God. So the ancient Israeli farmer found that of his harvest he gave a first portion to God and left a second portion in the field to provide for the poor. If you visit Israel you will not find it taking place. Every morsel is harvested and perhaps a donation of some figure may be given to a charity or to the poor in an effort to conform somewhat to the Law pertaining to this ancient practice. As I have driven around our nation over the last forty years I haven’t seen this to have been a practice that we ever adopted. Nonetheless, the principle on which it was initially based is still valid today.

What we find as we have shifted from an agricultural society to an industrial society that there is little room for the practice of gleaning. As to giving on one’s first fruits, well, no longer does one bring their first fruits into the house of the Lord our God. We, more often than not, leave not even the gleanings for God. Some may ask if the donation of the gleanings are to be based on “gross” or “net” proceeds. Thus proving that some have missed the point entirely. Today most individuals may offer a trifle to God and believe that they are being generous, but in reality we are cheating God and ourselves.

If we cannot be a blessing to others because of our own greed why should a person expect God to bless them? If we are so utterly concerned with hanging on to the last penny, the last kernel of grain, what makes us think that we deserve to receive God’s blessing? The whole notion of giving of the first fruits is to open one’s heart to God. If we are willing to give the first fruits of our labors to God we are showing a willingness to open our hearts and minds completely to God and that is what he seeks. Certainly our first fruits can be used to sustain and maintain those in need. We might see that as a by-product of our relationship with God. But by giving willingly of the first fruits we show our Lord God that we put nothing before Him, there are no idols in our life.

In a recent conversation with an accountant he told me that the average American spends the first four and half months working to pay his or her taxes. After that he or she is working to pay for their lifestyle. No mention of God and what we are asked to give him was in this accountant’s mind. I found that rather sad. We dare not require God to glean the edges of our heart for a kernel of grain. If we do so we may discover that God has determined that ours is a rocky, barren field not worthy of his attention. Let us bring our best and first always to God that it might be blessed by Him and in the blessing we too will be blest.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. John
WOMEN OF TRINITY

A safe and delightful cruise up the "ol' man River" (otherwise known as the Mississippi River) was experienced, although vicariously, at the April meeting of the Women of Trinity meeting. Alice Camp described her exciting trip up the River from the unusual perspective of a real honest-to-gosh Steamboat, complete with the paddlewheel. This adventure brought the 2014-15 year of programs to a close and "the committee" is already working on a fascinating roster of programs for 2015-2016, so stay tuned! May brings Women of Trinity to their annual end-of-the-year "going out to lunch" gathering. On Wednesday, May 20, we'll all meet at 11 a.m. at Central Perks mezzanine in the Weisman Building in downtown Marshall for fellowship, good food, and laughter. All women of all ages of Trinity Church are invited to participate in all WOT activities. If you're not on the call list and would like to be notified of meetings, etc., please call Stacey or Suzie in the Church office. Flo Lewis is President for the coming year and promises to provide us with inspiration, spiritual nourishment, moments of hilarity and lots of fellowship...and some great programs, by the way. Please join us at Central Perks on May 20, 'cause after that, you're on your own 'til September!!

MEN OF TRINITY

The Men of Trinity will meet on Monday, May 13 at 5:30 PM in All Saints’ Hall for food, fellowship and prayer.

BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

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

Bible Study at Jucy’s on Wednesday, May 6 and May 20 at Noon (lunch begins at 11:30)

Saturday, May 16 at 10:00 am monthly meeting at Golden Corral

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

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew contact Adam Lundgren. We will be conducting a training class after Easter.
Birthdays

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<tr>
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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jackson Howard</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Carol Hicks</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Robbey Simmons</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Amanda Palmer</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Randy Reeves</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Scott Rectenwald</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Mia Abraham</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Dudley Taylor</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Harold Hoffmeister</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Carol Meyer</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Hannah Tondere</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Lily Price</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Ken Haynes</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Lake Littlejohn</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Dick Boyd</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Jerry Tanner</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Ben Whaley</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Jack Sanders</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Margot Lingold</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Catherine Cope</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Fort Staggers</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Mackenzie Patel</td>
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Church Financials and Attendance for March 2015

- Budget Income for 2015: $449,952
- Budget Expenses for 2015: $436,876
- Budget Difference for 2015: $13,076
- Income Received to Date: $104,623
- Expenses to Date: $111,028
- Income for the month: $37,198
- Expenses for the month: $33,021
- Difference for the month: $4,176
- Difference to Date: ($6,405)

Average Sunday Attendance:
- 2014: 165
- Present: 175

Sunday Attendance:
- 2014: 2150
- Present: 2271

Anniversaries

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. David Cope</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Woody Moseley</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Frank Strauss</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Merwin Camp</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Walter Fugler</td>
<td></td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Paul Palmer</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Louis Slayter</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Paul Whaley III</td>
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Senior Breakfast

May 17th at 9:00 am

Our graduates will be honored at breakfast on this day!

Please join us to congratulate them

A little boy was in a relative’s wedding.

As he was coming down the aisle, he would take two steps, stop, and turn to the crowd. While facing the crowd, he would put his hands up like claws and roar. So it went, step, step, ROAR, step, step, ROAR, all the way down the aisle.

As you can imagine, the crowd was near tears from laughing so hard. By the time he reached the pulpit, when asked what he was doing, the child sniffed and said,
DOK & JRDOK

Daughters and Junior Daughters of the King

Tea and Celebration

The Daughters and Junior Daughters join together for a time of celebration that concludes a year of sharing in the ministries of the Junior Daughters and Senior Daughters on Sunday, May 3rd at 2:45 p.m. The DOK joined the girls in creating toiletry packets for women's shelters in our community and will consider other opportunities to work together in the future.

This tea will showcase the video of our Junior Daughters of the King that will be shared at the June Triennial DOK meeting in Utah. This video will be seen by DOK and JrDOK members around the world. What a wonderful reason to celebrate!
Our Core Values:
Commitment to Jesus Christ
Authority of Scripture
Evangelism
Relational Ministry
Worship
Servant Ministry
Sacrificial Giving
Biblical Leadership

Covering Marshall with Prayer

Last year members of the parish and our surrounding community walked through our community praying for our government, educational institutions, our business and agricultural community and for all the churches in Marshall.

We are holding our Annual Prayer Walk again this year on Sunday, May 17th at 5:00 PM. We will gather at the Church at 5:00 PM for opening prayers and begin our walk. The total distance will take approximately 45 minutes.

The first 120 people to arrive will receive a “Cover Marshall with Prayer” tee shirt. We will also be providing water for each participant.

Scripture admonishes us all to pray for the welfare of our local communities. This walk is a visible sign of a commitment we take seriously. We are all members of the community of Marshall and the welfare of our local community affects our individual welfare. Christians would be remiss if they fail to petition God for the welfare of all.

Please make plan to join us this is a wonder event that families can participate in together for the welfare of all.
### Parish Staff

- The Rev. Dr. John M. Himes, OSF  
  **Rector**
- Caroline Donica  
  **Children’s Christian Formation**
- Angela Bray  
  **Nursery Director**
- Jim Johnson  
  **Choir Master and Organist**
- Stacey Shaw  
  **Parish Administrator**
- Suzie Ward  
  **Administrative Assistant**
- Melvin Williams  
  **Sexton**

### Vestry

- Laura Rectenwald  
  **Senior Warden**
- Henry Henderson  
  **Junior Warden**
- Cathy Cope  
  **Clerk of the Vestry**
- Ken Kerr  
  **Treasurer**
- Doug Jager
- Joel Truelove
- Cindy Cain
- Paul Palmer
- Randy Reeves
- Clarence Brown
- Cathy Cope
- Jim Kutner
- Bonnie Strauss

### 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

- Choir Rehearsal - 5:30 PM
- Martha’s Kitchen - 6:00 PM

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**Trinity Episcopal Church**  
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http://trinityepiscopalmarshall.org

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Permit No. 232

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