Bishop Fisher Celebrated Confirmation and Reception Service

The Rt. Rev. Jeff Fisher, Suffragan Bishop of Texas and his wife Susan visited Trinity on Wednesday, September 16th. The purpose of his visit was to celebrate a Service of Confirmation and Reception. At the Service Bishop Fisher Confirmed the following individuals, Chris Cope, Laura Blood, Don and Susan Bramlett, Keaton Howard, Lewis Thompson, Jr., Sarah Rectenwald, Cate Truelove, Haley Uerkert, Jordan Weeks, Lillian Weeks, and Vicki West. Jim and Jeanette Shelton were received from the Lutheran Church.

Prior to the service the Bishop and his wife joined the parishioners for our regular Wednesday night meal.

After the service the Bishop met with the vestry and focused his address on being a missional community. He related that this is the intent of our Diocesan Bishop for the entire diocese. It is important he said for us to strive to reach beyond our walls and be a parish that reflects the larger community around us.
CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

Greetings from our Children's Ministry! Back to School is well underway and our Children's Ministry is also embarking on some new and exciting adventures this Fall!

We had a wonderful summer learning about the Fruits of the Spirit and the children worked on their own personalized Fruits of the Spirit wall plaques all summer. We finished off our study by taking a "field trip" to the Guild Room to have a closer look at the beautiful stained glass windows there, which the children were delighted to recognize as the Fruits of the Spirit. I cannot tell you how excited they were at this discovery and are now eager to find out if there are any other similar "treasures" hiding around the church. I have assured them that we will explore more of Trinity's many wonderful gems in the coming months!

We are embarking on two new programs this year. Our Sunday School lessons will focus on a Catechism study, as we explore the foundations of our faith in a tangible and engaging way.

Our Wednesday evening program will be exploring "Heroes of Our Faith". Each week we will be featuring a Biblical character or other heroes and heroines within our Christian tradition, learning their stories and how they lived their faith. We will be following along with the church calendar of Feast Days whenever possible, to help weave a year long program that will encourage the children to see how so many others before them have lived, shared and experienced beautiful and personal relationships with Christ.

Also, be on the look-out on Sunday mornings during church for our new children's bulletin called, The Sunday Paper. The ushers will be handing them specifically to children as they enter the church. This paper coincides with the gospel reading for the week and it is our hope that it will engage the children as they join us in worship.

NOTE TO PARENTS :: Every Sunday, I will be asking your child to pray for another child in our class. I will be sending home a card with the name of the child who your child will be praying for. Please encourage them to take a few moments every evening during their prayers to remember their fellow classmate. Who is your child praying for this week?

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Wading into the Word

A Workshop on Bible Study

The Daughters of the King invites the women of the church to a Day of Reflection on Saturday, October 24, from 9:00 to noon. The Day of Reflection will begin with Holy Eucharist and continue in All Saints Hall with Wading into the Word: A Workshop on Bible Study.

Please bring your Bible(s). Explore the Word of God through tools and techniques designed to help you study God’s Word and use concordances and scriptures to pray God’s will for our lives, our families and our church. Magda Altnau and Bonnie Strauss will lead the study.

Lunch will be served at the conclusion of the workshop.

Childcare will be provided. Please call the office to reserve childcare.
Rector’s Reflection

Dear Beloved in Christ:

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

October is the month of Halloween. Every year I have noticed that it becomes a larger and larger holiday. I saw my first commercial for it today, and it is August 31st! It is a bit early. I find the American fascination with this day odd. It is odd because so much of our culture denies the spiritual aspect of life. Yet, on this day; a day that is all about spirits, Americans perk up and take notice. The truth is we are confronted with spiritual forces every day in our life and unlike Halloween, they aren’t here to trick or treat. They are to maim and kill.

St. Paul in his letter to the Ephesians writes, (Eph 6:12) “For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.” Our eyes are shut; we can not see the true forces with which we contend day by day. We see the physical world about us, but we have shut our minds to the spiritual world. In our sophistication we have decided that it doesn’t really exist, that it is simply superstition of some bygone era. In our intellect we are blind to the ways of God.

Paul took the spiritual world very seriously. He had contended with it up close and personal. Think of his life for a minute. Prior to his Damascus Road experience, he was on a steep upward curve of power and recognition, he was a comer. Afterward we endured imprisonment, torture, shipwreck, snakebite and ultimately death. One might be inclined to ask why. The answer of course is that he chose to be obedient to the Jesus Christ he had met on that road to Damascus and surrender all to Him. In so doing, he became not only an enemy of the powers of darkness, but of the world. For the world does not like the light of God to be shown upon its inadequacies.

In the Ephesians passage Paul warns fellow Christians what it is we are fighting against. We are not simply fighting against Satan, though one could hardly call that a simple fight. Rather, we are fighting also against the world, against the very falleness of man himself. We might claim that we have been tempted by Satan in this area or that, but often, the ultimate temptation we give into is that of our own pride. We want it our way, that is the end state of our existence in the world, our way. In that capacity we do not surrender to the power and glory of God but rather place ourselves above God.

Paul warns us that we will contend against not only Satan, but ourselves, our nature as well. It is what we are to be on guard against. St. Teresa of Avila was very familiar with the weakness of self. She tells us that the only way to overcome that weakness is through prayer. So too St. Paul tells us that it is in prayer we not only overcome Satan, but the world and ourselves when he writes, “Pray at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.

Perhaps it is time for Christians to think of Halloween in a new Light—the Light of Christ.

Pax 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.

MEN OF TRINITY
Meeting October 12th at 5:30 PM in All Saints' Hall for food, fellowship and prayer. All men of the parish invited!

BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW
Bible Study at Jucy's on Wednesdays: October 14 and 28th at 11:30 (Bible Study begins at 12:00)
Saturday, October 24th 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 Adam Lundgren. We will be conducting a training class in the near future.

WOMEN OF TRINITY
Women of Trinity will meet Wednesday, October 21 at 11:00am in the Guild Room of All Saint's Hall. This month our program will be given by Marianne Mullins, a Court Appointed Special Advocate who is a trained and active CASA volunteer. You'll want to come and hear why this group is so important in our community. Remember that all women of the parish are members of Women of Trinity and are urged to attend. Call the church office 903-938-4246 to let us know that you'll be joining us and bring a friend! This time of inspiration, information, food and fellowship will be one of the bright spots in your week!

FALL STRING CONCERT
Mark your calendar for Sunday, October 11th at 5:30 PM. Trinity will host its 3rd Annual Fall Concert. This year we will have the Shreveport Symphony String Quartet led by Mr. Leonard Kancenjar, former conductor for the Marshall Symphony. They will be performing several original pieces about the Saints of the Church as well as some familiar works of the great masters.
After the concert there will be a Wine and Cheese Reception in All Saint’s Hall. Both the concert and the reception are brought to us by the Hannah Chapter of the Junior Daughters of the King who received funding from the Strategic Mission Grant Committee of the Diocese of Texas to fund this event.
This concert series has been so well received that this year Trinity received a $20,000 donation from the Parker family to continue the concert series after the this year in memory of Wanda Somerford Parker. We thank the Parker family for their generosity and their love of music.
This is a wonderful opportunity for families to share an evening together and hear some outstanding performances by four extremely talented musicians.
Birthdays

1  Hope D’Asto       16  Ken Kerr
2  Dawn Kutner      17  Jeff Henderson
2  Frank Strauss   20  Deann Heard
3  Melissa Shaw    21  Charles Cobb
3  Wendy Slayter   22  Trent Staggers
3  Irma Tanner     22  Maggie Truelove
3  Brent Truelove  23  Cecil Portman, Jr.
5  Mieko Hathaway  25  Carolyn Sullivan
8  Jay Van Dyne    25  Lula Waskom
9  Gary Beavers    26  Mary Lou Barkett
11 Gayle Weinberg 27  Woody Moseley
11 Cindy Duncan   28  John Bogue Sr.
13 Ron Denney, Sr. 28  Lynn Sanders
13 Bonnie Strauss  29  Buzz Snyder
13 Katherine Thompson 29  Blake Hammers
13 Julie Trexler  30  Adam Beavers
14 Nathan White   30  John Bockmon, Jr
15 Diane Taylor   30  Gregory B. Gani
15 Laynie Abraham 31  Virginia Nader
15 Larry Waskom   31  Curtis Weeks

Church Financials and Attendance for August 2015

Budget Income for 2015 ................. $ 449,952
Budget Expenses for 2015 ............ $ 436,876
Budget Difference for 2015 ............ $   13,076
Income Received to Date ............... $ 289,428
Expenses to Date ....................... $ 289,428
Income for the month ................... $  42,681
Expenses for the month ................ $  35,172
Difference for the month ............... $    7,509
Difference to Date ...................... $    8,895

Average Sunday Attendance
2014  Present
162  163

Anniversaries

1  Mr. & Mrs. Reggie Hasty
2  Mr. & Mrs. Jim Kutner
4  Mr. & Mrs. Richard Anderson
11 Mr. & Mrs. Drake Lee

Homestyle Beef Stew

Ingredients

- 2 packages (16 ounces each) frozen vegetables for stew
- 1-1/2 pounds beef stew meat, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1 can (10-3/4 ounces) cream of mushroom soup, undiluted
- 1 can (10-3/4 ounces) tomato soup, undiluted
- 1 envelope onion soup mix

Directions

1. Place vegetables in a 5-qt. slow cooker. In a large nonstick skillet coated with cooking spray, brown beef on all sides.
2. Transfer to slow cooker. Combine the remaining ingredients; pour over the top.
3. Cover and cook on low for 6-8 hours or until meat is tender.

Yield: 5 servings.
Youth Activities

Trinity Youth Had a Busy Month

Our youth have been on a roll this past month! There have been several activities in addition to our regular Sunday Christian Formation classes. Five of our youth were confirmed when Bp. Fisher visited they include, Chris Cope, Keaton Howard, Sarah Rectenwald, Jordan Weeks, and Lillian Weeks.

Our youth also cooked and served at Martha’s Kitchen on September 24th. That evening turned out to be the largest turnout in Martha’s Kitchen history, we served 200 people that evening. This youth cooked and served just about everything we had in the kitchen. The youth did fantastic! We would also like to thank the Trinity adults that helped the youth make this a wonderful experience, Steve Lewis, Margot Lingold and Scott Rectenwald.

Our youth ended the month with some fun and some theology. On the 26th of September they ended the month with a movie night showing the C. S. Lewis classic, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. This movie night also included popcorn and pizza.
In 1988, October was declared National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Month, by Ronald Reagan. In years since then, October 15 was chosen to be a specific day of remembrance where women and their families could light a candle in honor of the children that they lost through miscarriage, stillbirth, or in infant death.

Seven years ago, I experienced a traumatic miscarriage at 16 weeks. Going into labor and giving birth alone in a hospital room, for a brief moment I held my son, Luca in my hands. Though we never got to meet him and share our lives with him, he is a part of who we are as a family. And we know that when our time here on earth comes to an end that Luca will be among the beloved who wait for us in heaven.

The grief of the loss of this pregnancy however, was a very real grief. And yet, because we lost him in pregnancy there was not much support afterwards. Life literally goes on the next day, but unfortunately it doesn't for those who have experienced the loss. In the seven years since we lost Luca and I began speaking openly about my loss, I cannot tell you how many women have started sharing their own stories of miscarriage.

Last year, on October 15, 2014, I wrote about and shared my story publicly on my personal blog. So many women contacted me to talk about their own loss, some who were dear friends and had never opened up about losing a pregnancy. It is such an unspoken-of loss, and yet a very real and heartbreaking one.

That same day, I approached Fr. John and asked if we could do a prayer service this year in honor of these our lost but not forgotten babies.

I am pleased to say that Trinity will be holding this service this year, on Thursday, October 15, 2015 at 7:00pm.

If you have experienced a miscarriage, stillbirth or infant loss, please join us. If you know of someone who has, or would like to lift them up in prayer, please join us. Please share this event with other women and families. You may not even know that someone has experienced this kind of loss, but perhaps in sharing this event it can help a family work towards dealing with their grief and healing.

Most women I speak to whom have lost babies will say that they wish that we spoke of this more often. The grief is very real and we need to let them know that they are not alone. It is my hope that our October 15th Prayer Service can be a step in the direction of healing and letting women know that we care and that God cares.

Warmly & FHS,
Magdalena Altnau
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
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

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
Martha’s Kitchen - 6:00 PM

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http://trinityepiscopalmarshall.org

Behold, I come among you as one who serves.

Luke 22:27