



THE TRIPOD

Trinity Episcopal Church & School

<http://trinityepiscopalmarshall.org>

<http://www.trinitymarshall.org>

Volume 17 Issue 8

August 2017

Trinity Episcopal Church:

Witnessing to the Power of God to Transform

Proclaiming God's Love and Joy for over 166 years in Marshall, Texas

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Trinity Youth went on their Annual Mission Trip on Sunday, July 16. The Mission week was from Sunday, July 16th through Saturday July 22nd. Fr. John commissioned and blessed the youth in preparation for the mission trip on July 9th.

This year's trip was in conjunction with the Diocese of Texas Missionpalooza. Youth from around the Diocese came together to do mission work in Louisiana cleaning up and refurbishing homes that had been severely damaged in the spring flooding.

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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.

Continued from pg 1

The Trinity Youth began fund raising for their mission trip this year in January. Over the last seven months they have cooked Sunday breakfast at Trinity, held car washes and handed out water to visitors at Second Saturday events in June and July. The end result was three carloads of excited youth heading for Louisiana to help restore homes and schools that had been destroyed or damaged in the spring floods of this year.

Our youth were not alone. They were part of the Diocese of Texas Missionpalooza Youth Mission trip. The Trinity Youth were a part of a far greater effort in spreading the love of Christ as they partnered with youth from churches throughout the Diocese of Texas.

This trip was a parish effort. The Hannah Chapter of our Daughters of the King made bag lunches for the youth to eat on they way to their destination in Louisiana. Members of the parish took the names of the youth home with them and prayed for their mission and their safe return.

The mission ended on Friday, July 21st and the mission team made there way back home to Marshall. They had a safe journey back returning physically tired but spiritually enlivened. Thank you to our youth for sharing Christ with other.



WOMEN OF TRINITY

The Summer is in its wane, but it's still hot. The Women of Trinity officers have been working on scheduling the programs for 2017-2018 and it's really looking good, so we want you to look at your calendars and block out the first three Wednesdays of the months September, October and November (since we know that you haven't gotten the 2018 calendar, yet)...that's September 20, October 18 and November 15. Please don't schedule other meetings or Doctors' appointments on those days, 'cause we don't want you to miss a single fun day with your Women of Trinity girlfriends. We might even drop a few mysterious clues in the next Tripod as to what is in store for you. Have a wonderful, healthy and blessed rest of your summer!

Rector's Reflection

Dear Beloved in Christ:

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

Every few decades the discussion about the persona of Jesus comes up in theological circles. Was he God? Was he Man? Can an being be fully God or fully man? Was Jesus only an exemplar human being who God chose out of the Human race? This is nothing new. This discussion has been taking place since Jesus ascended into heaven. It was the reason for the Council of Nicea in 325 AD. Well, it looks as if it is coming full circle once more.

What does a faithful Christian need to know concerning the humanity and divinity of Christ? In the Letter to the Hebrews we read, *"Therefore, he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people."* (**Hebrews 2:17**), RSV)

Fully man and fully God, the teaching of the church, articulated in the Nicene Creed is stated scripturally here. Jesus had to become like us says the writer of this passage. For if He was not like us, if He did not bear the fullness of our humanity, what good would his sacrifice have been? If He did not suffer as we suffer the perils of life, the heart brake, the joys and the torments what would he have been? If He had come only in His divinity, could we have related to Him? No. His humanity and His divinity is what gives us hope. For he suffered for us in His humanity yet redeemed us through His divinity. The two are so deeply interlocked they cannot be separated.

Throughout history there has been an on going discussion over the sacrifice of Christ. Paul tells us in Romans that the sacrifice was "once for all". The teaching of a part of the church is that the celebration of the Mass is a sacrifice ergo Christ is being sacrificed once more. If the work on the cross was not complete and has to be done again and again, what does this say about the divinity of Christ? It would indicate that His death was not complete, that it somehow left some people out of the equation. If it was done once for all then how does one view the mass? How does one view the words of the writer of Hebrews in this passage?

We are locked in time. The prism we view creation through is linear spread out on a vast canvas. Yet, we cannot lock God into this view for to do so makes Him finite. That which is infinite cannot be captured in time. He is beyond time. While one can view the crucifixion of Jesus Christ as a historical event that happened at a specific time on a specific day, one cannot view the sacrifice he made on the cross in the same manner. His atoning death was for all time and in that sense one could say it is ongoing. His sacrifice was for those two thousand years ago, it is for us today and it will be for our children tomorrow. One must view it with a sense of transcendence, that which is beyond physical limitations. His crucifixion was indeed a one-time event, His sacrifice is continual. His presence is eternal.

Though the discussion of Christ's nature comes around time and time again the Fathers of the Church got it right in Nicea. Fully God, fully man. He knows our experience because he is like us. His atoning sacrifice is ongoing in his divinity thus we are saved.

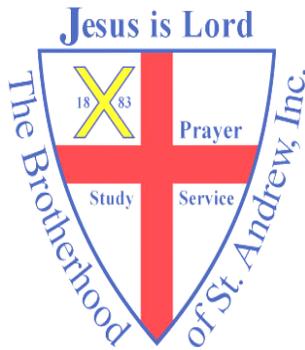
Pax et Bonum.

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.



BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

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

Bible Study at Jucy's on

Wednesdays, August 9th and 23th at 11:30

(Bible Study begins at 12:00)

Saturday, August 19th at 10:00 am monthly meeting at Golden Corral

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

TRINITY SUPPORTING FAMILIES AND FOSTER CHILDREN

As you know, Trinity has been given the opportunity to support struggling families trying to stay together, as well as help foster families. This is a great opportunity for our church to reach to members of our community, to show them Christ's love, as well as attempt to keep them together.

Last month I wrote about the Rainbow Room, this month I will talk about the Hospital Ministry. Believe it or not, kids do sometimes get sick. Sometimes, these illnesses require hospitalizations. This is a very scary thing for the kids and the parents or foster parents. A stay in the Hospital, as we know, requires lots of doctors and nurses poking and prodding the children. There are wires and possibly tubes going everywhere. This is a shock to the hospitalized child. CPS has a ministry where congregations can volunteer to support children of all ages during a possible hospital stay through visitation, giving gifts, or going to the Neo-natal Intensive Care Unit to rock infants. We can also volunteer as a sitter who can be called on to relieve a tired parent, or just be with a child. As a parent who had a child spend time in an intensive care unit, I can tell you how meaningful it was to have someone come and give us a bit of relief by offering to stay with our son. For the children it is also a blessing, as it gives them someone to visit with who will not be poking them, or running tests on them. This is another opportunity to be Christ in the world, an opportunity that all can partake.

I invite you all to look into this, and other ways we can get involved in the supporting these families. If you would like more information on the Hospital Ministry or other ways to get involved you can contact Fr. John, Fr. Andrew, or Jackie Weeks, chair of our Outreach Committee.

Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 2 Tom Whaley, Jr. | 16 Charles Porter |
| 3 Lillie Parr | 16 Fr. Andrew Ellison |
| 4 Gail Runyan | 16 Alena Ellison |
| 4 Christopher Altnau | 18 Vicki Cason |
| 4 Tara Craver | 19 Tommie Snyder |
| 5 David Collins | 20 Ashton Beavers |
| 5 Dorcas Collins | 21 Samuel Abney |
| 6 Drake Lee | 24 Allen Staggers, Jr. |
| 7 Sharon Tull | 25 Douglas Heard |
| 8 Jeffrey Littlejohn | 25 Margaret Lee |
| 9 Tracy Chevaillier | 26 Douglas Jager |
| 9 Lynellen Carmony | 28 Judy Denney |
| 12 Lynne Winn | 28 Sonya Altnau |
| 13 Lake Brannon | 29 Johnny Barkett |
| 13 Penny Van Dyne | 31 Rusty Asaff |
| 13 Gabriel DeSa | |
| 14 Charlotte Rhoades | |
| 15 Isabel Lewis | |

Anniversaries

- | | |
|----|----------------------------------|
| 2 | Mr. & Mrs. Steve Lewis |
| 3 | Mr. & Mrs Henry Henderson |
| 6 | Mr. & Mrs. Scott Rectenwald |
| 9 | Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Tanner |
| 18 | Mr. & Mrs. Richard Toussaint |
| 20 | Mr. Matthew Hatch & Juli Jameson |
| 21 | Mr. & Mrs. Larry Waskom |
| 25 | Mr. & Mrs. Doug Heard |
| 27 | Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Barkett |

Church Financials and Attendance for June 2017

Budget Income for 2017	\$508,664	
Budget Expenses for 2017	\$546,091	
Budget Difference for 2017	(\$ 37,427)	
Income Received to Date	\$253,364	
Expenses to Date	(\$267,053)	
Income for the month	\$ 33,811	
Expenses for the month	\$ 45,698	
Difference for the month	(\$ 11,887)	
Difference to Date.....	(\$ 13,689)	
	2016	Present
Average Sunday Attendance to date	177	165
Average Sunday Attendance for June	146	169
Sunday Attendance to date	4431	4281
Attendance all other Services	4850	5254

Holy Visioning Report for July

The vestry spent a great deal of time at the July Vestry Meeting examining the Holy Vision our Lord is calling us to live out.

Fr. John had the vestry breakdown into 3 groups to take the response of parishioners had developed at the parish meeting and began to correlate them into what will ultimately be the Holy Vision God has given Trinity.

Each group came up with 2 to 3 specific aspects of a Holy Vision for the parish. During the meeting it became increasingly clear that there was a great deal of commonality among the ideas that the groups articulated. The Holy Spirit is at work!

The next step is for the vestry to take the work of each group and further refine each groups work into a single statement of Holy Vision. At the August vestry meeting each group will present there work to the vestry and it will be published in the September Tripod.

As the vestry continues to work through discerning God's call for us I would ask each member of the parish to pray for our vestry that the work they do will reflect the will of God.



Lord, What Would You Have Me Do?

I think that in everyone there comes a time for change, an addition to our lives where God tugs at our hearts, and asks something more of us. It is sometimes a deep longing or a whisper that we want to add to what is in our lives. That is why I come to the women of our church today. I am a Christian and I have been one since I was eight years old. I will have turned 69 when you read this article and I assure you that Jesus has been with me all of those 61 years. When I became an Episcopalian, I wanted to participate in something in our church. This was a whisper in my heart that would not go away. How? How could I participate in anything? I was sick, my hips and shoulders ached, and all I could do was to drag up to the church for worship on Sunday.

Guess what happened? I received a call from an acquaintance at church who encouraged me to become a Daughter of the King. I am so thankful for her care for me. Wow! Why in the world would anyone want me? Yet, that whisper had been answered. I prayed and said yes to God and became a Daughter of the King. Despite my bad health and feelings of unworthiness, I found a renewal of faith and a further reason to minister to my sisters in Christ and to serve God through the Order of the Daughters of the King.

Our mission is to serve, pray, and evangelize in our homes, church, community, and the world. We meet once a month to renew our spirits and go forward with the Good News of Christ to our families, church and communities. If God is tugging at your heart or whispering to you that he wants more for you, consider the Order of the Daughters of the King. Our membership ranges from young women to those of us who are not so young. We share in common our salvation, our Love for Jesus and our desire to learn more and to minister in service, prayer and evangelism.

We will have a luncheon on **Sunday, August 20 after the 10:30 worship service** and invite you to attend. We begin a new class for those who are inquiring about joining the DOK that begins on September 10th at 9:30 a.m. Be in prayer and if God so leads you, come and check us out. Contact me if you have further questions.

Sherry Henderson

903 263 8877

sthen48@yahoo.com

Curate Corner



Our Core Values:

Commitment
to Jesus Christ

Authority of
Scripture

Evangelism

Relational Ministry

Worship

Servant Ministry

Sacrificial Giving

Biblical Leader-
ship

Hello friends, greetings in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. It is hard to believe that summer is almost over. In a couple of weeks we will be sending kids back to school, and gearing up for fall. As excited as I am for fall, I realize that maybe I am not as ready for summer to be over.

For most of us, summer is a time where we relax. With the kids out of school we try to find time to take off, to breathe, and to relax. We try to take vacations or trips with the family. We put kids in activities outside the home to keep them busy. We go to the lake, beach, or camping. Suddenly, the summer becomes busy. During this time, one thing we forget to do is rest. Truly rest! We forget to recharge ourselves. We forget our own Sabbaths.

The Sabbath is not only a suggestion; it is a commandment of our Lord. It is a time where we can refill ourselves spiritually. The Sabbath is a time where we can grow in God. It is a time that should be free of the outside demands of the world. It is not only just important; it is a holy day and experience. In our Decalogue we say "Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day." Personally for me, my own Sabbath is the easiest thing to give up. This is especially true when there is so much going on in my life. I see this more and more in the summer time. Usually I go into summer thinking I have less to do to keep me from observing the Sabbath. However, we know that is not the case. Then the Sabbath takes another backseat to my life's demands. This is common for many followers of Christ. We have lots of outside demands, how are we to put those aside completely for one day and have a day of rest? In that we can remember that if the Lord can rest, so can we.

As we end the summer, let's remember to keep holy the Sabbath day. Let us remember the importance of a day of rest. Let us remember the holiness of this day of rest. When we can keep holy the Sabbath day during these last days of summer we can begin to keep them holy in the year ahead. So my friends, rest, recharge, and just be. Leave the busyness of the world for a day; it will still be there. Give time for yourself and for your family, and watch as you grow closer to God.

Blessings,

Fr. Andrew



Understanding the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion

***IX. Of Original or Birth-Sin.** Original sin standeth not in the following of Adam, (as the Pelagians do vainly talk;) but it is the fault and corruption of the Nature of every man, that naturally is engendered of the offspring of Adam; whereby man is very far gone from original righteousness, and is of his own nature inclined to evil, so that the flesh lusteth always contrary to the Spirit; and therefore in every person born into this world, it deserveth God's wrath and damnation. And this infection of nature doth remain, yea in them that are regenerated; whereby the lust of the flesh, called in Greek, φρονημα σαρκος, (which some do expound the wisdom, some sensuality, some the affection, some the desire, of the flesh), is not subject to the Law of God. And although there is no condemnation for them that believe and are baptized; yet the Apostle doth confess, that concupiscence and lust hath of itself the nature of sin.*

Original sin is part of our nature. Or, if we were to but into the language of post-modernism, it is in our DNA. We do not suffer original sin because we choose to be like Adam, for who would ever do that intentionally, we suffer from original sin because we are related to Adam. Each of us has received physical traits from our mother or father. These traits decided not only hair or eye color, these traits can also indicate if we are predisposed to things like cancer or heart disease.

Original sin is the sin by which the first human beings disobeyed the commandment of God, choosing to follow their own will rather than God's will. As a consequence of their choice they lost the grace of original holiness, and became subject to the law of death. The consequence of their choice affects all their offspring, that's you and me. When they chose their own will over God's their moral being was disordered. How do we know that? In Psalm 51 verse 5 King David writes, "*Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.*" (RSV) As much as we would like to deny the existence or the stain of original sin it is a reality articulated in Scripture, Psalm 51 being the clearest statement of its presence in humanity.

The stain of original sin is a defect that can only be made right by God's compassion rather than by His wrath. That is why in the story of the Fall in Genesis we are promised a deliverer who will come forth by the "seed of a woman". The seed is God incarnate and we are assured that in due time the Deliverer will crush the serpents head. That is why the Article goes on to say that there is no condemnation for those that believe and are baptized.

Original Sin isn't just a matter of dogmatic theology, it must be considered in light of Christian moral principles because it conditions the whole Christian life. The central principle of that life is the redemptive life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is Christ's obedience that is the antidote to the poison of sin. The demands of the true Christian life are hard, and an understanding of Original Sin helps make clear why such life cannot be easy. Also, the effects of Original Sin set many of the problems which Christians find difficult in the proper light of why, even with faith in the redemptive work of Christ, our character still lends itself to sin.

We might ask ourselves, "What aspect of the human condition does original sin account?" Although death is natural; and inevitable, it hardly seems appropriate to us that we and those we love should die. Still worse than death is the general condition of the conflict in which we find ourselves, the inner turmoil, of falling short of our ideals, of striving against others; we were not created for these sorts of things, yet we experience them. The situation is really no better when we look beyond ourselves and at our society at large. Social structures that should promote justice often foster oppression. Groups of all sorts struggle constantly for supremacy at the expense of others. These conflicts are real and they are not the result of the will of God, rather they are manifestations of the

Original Sin in humanity.

Accounts of evil incompatible with the Christian faith are common. We were not created to do evil. Humanity chose that path and over the millennia there have been those who have tried to discount the human inclination for evil. In our age there are those who have said that evil is an illusion. Secular humanist write off humanities evil inclination as a stage of evolutionary development that if we just learn enough humanity eventually overcome it. Systems like socialism and Marxism have been tried and proven to be failures. On paper the sound good, but they do not take into account humanities fall from God's grace and in doing so they never take into account that under such systems those in power will also ways seek to stay in power regardless of the human suffering. In some cases these systems foster human suffering as a means of maintaining their power.

If God created everything good then how is it that sin came into the world? God also gave humanity free will. Free will to choose God or not choose God. In the Fall humanity made a choice. That choice was to "not choose God" but to choose its own will. Sin originate with and in humanity by its choice to exercise its free will to step away from God. If we cannot account for the universal features of our human condition by referring them to God, we must look instead to ourselves, to the beginning of humanity. This requires us to consider the condition of humanity in humanities initial innocence in which we were created. How did human beings first commit sin? Only an abuse of the freedom that God had given us can we find an explanation for the misery which continues to plague humanity.

How can we be cured of original sin? We cannot be cured, but humanity can be healed. God himself has provided the palm that removes the affect of humanities fall from grace. That palm is Jesus Christ His son. The stain of Original Sin is erased with Baptism. Christ's atoning death on the cross bore the sins of all people including Original Sin. Yet, that sacrifice is only beneficial for those who choose Christ as Lord and Savior. Simply acknowledging Christ as the Son of God will not accomplish it; remember even Satan knows that Christ is the Son of God, but rejects Him out of his own selfish pride. We must make sure that we do not do the same.





Trinity Episcopal Church
Annual Fall Concert
Sunday, October 22, 2017
At 5:30 PM
PRESENTS



*The Shreveport
Symphony
String Quartet*

Led by Leonard Kacenjara

*Join us as the String Quartet performs original Kermit Polling compositions
celebrating the lives of the Saints of the Church*

*Wine and Cheese Reception to follow in
All Saints' Hall*

ADMISSION IS FREE
TICKETS AVAILABLE IN
THE PARISH OFFICE



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

Luke 22:27

Parish Staff

Fr. John M. Himes, OSF
Rector

Fr. Andrew Ellison
Curate

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

Melvin Williams
Sexton

Vestry

Ken Kerr
Senior Warden

Joel Truelove
Junior Warden

Angela Bray
Clerk of the Vestry

Julie Trexler
Treasurer

Doug Jager

Cindy Cain

Leana Westergaard

Tony Pierce

Carol Meyer

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

Choir practice 5:00 PM

Martha's Kitchen - 6:00 PM



Trinity Episcopal Church

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