



# The Tripod

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH • MARSHALL, TX  
<http://trinityepiscopalmarshall.org>

Volume 15 Issue 2

February 2015

## 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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## Bishop Fisher's Visit



Congratulations to our newest members. The Rt. Rev. Jeff Fisher, Suffragan Bishop of Texas, annual visitation took place on Sunday, January 11th. During his time with us he celebrated Mass and Confirmed ten new members of the Church. Those joining the Church are Elsiha Baldwin, James and Candie Craver, their children James and Tara, Michele Cutrer, Greg Gani Jr., Gavin McAdam, Natasha Martinez, and Wesley Simmons.

Following the Service Bishop Fisher met with the new Vestry to offer us guidance for the coming year and to answer questions concerning events in the Diocese and National Church. Bishop Fisher reiterated the focus of Diocesan Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Andy Doyle that we are focused on Mission in Unity with the entire Church and will stay the course of proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ and trusting the transformative power of the Holy Spirit to continue to bless the parishes of the Diocese and to grow the Diocese as a beacon of light in God's Kingdom.



### 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.

## Lenten Worship Schedule

**10:00 AM Wednesday, February 18**  
**Service of Imposition of Ashes**

**6:15 PM Wednesday, February 18**  
**Service of Imposition of Ashes**

**5:00 PM Each Sunday during Lent**  
**Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the Church**

**5:00 PM Each Wednesday during**  
**Lent Chaplet of Divine Mercy in the**  
**Chapel of the Holy Family**



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## Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper!

### Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper



I think our vestry are pretty good cooks! Come and see for yourself.

Trinity will host the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on **Tuesday, February 17th beginning at 5:30 PM in All Saints Hall.**

The tickets on sale now and will be available through our Boy Scout Troop, Troop 550, and at the parish office. They will also be available at the door. Tickets

will be \$7.00 with the proceeds going to Troop 550. Mark your calendars and come and join us. Take out plates will also be available.

## Rector's Meanderings

Dear Beloved in Christ:

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

Seasons and days have meaning in our faith. Some of the meaning comes from Scripture, some, from Church tradition. There are times when we have to examine these in light of what God would have us do in certain circumstances rather than just say, "This is the way we have always done it." In a sense such a response lends itself to complacency and doing something is then a sort of works righteousness. In **Joshua 8:15**, **Joshua writes**, "On the seventh day, they got up at daybreak and marched around the city seven times in the same manner, except on that day they circled the city seven times."

The Sabbath, Joshua defeated the city of Jericho on that day. Interesting to think what might have happened if it had been taking place in the first century. Joshua would not have been allowed to attack the city on the Sabbath. The Pharisee would have told him that he had to wait until the Sabbath was over, regardless what the angel of the Lord said. I wonder if Joshua would have won the battle if he had tried to win the city in another manner other than the way God said? I rather doubt it.

In many churches today we have those who would have told Joshua that he would have to wait. We have those who insist on a legalism of "doing what we have always done" rather than a faith of grace which is based on believing. In truth we all perhaps tend to be a bit legalistic. It is important for us to know that we cling to that so that we might lift ourselves above others. If you notice we tend to be the most legalistic about those things that we are very good at keeping. After all we have no problem doing such and such, so neither should you, "Have a nice day, sinner." The trap that we set to make others follow our set of rules becomes a trap that catches us instead. For the trap springs on us a religion that is of works and thus of Satan rather than a faith that is of God. Dependent on the saving works done by Christ alone, not by ourselves.

Don't you think that Joshua knew the rule of the Sabbath? But, he also knew that God had given him instructions for a battle that would glorify God, not Joshua, not the people of Israel. Recall what Rahab said to the spies; she stated that the knowledge of the God of Israel put fear into their hearts. It was God who put the fear, not the Israelites. In a sense we need to remember it is God that builds our faith, not ourselves. If God call us to do something that others might perceive as "not being the way we have always done it", ask why we have always done it, and ask for Scriptural guidance, in the same sense insure your calling is in accordance with the Word of God as well. For Satan uses Scripture also to lead God's children astray.

The faithful must not let the Pharisee of our day and age stop us from being true to all that God calls us to be about. For those who preach and teach a legalism of doing, pray – pray that they might experience God's grace.



**Heavenly  
Father, I know  
that I get  
wrapped around  
the  
axle sometimes  
in resisting  
change, Lord I  
ask that in those  
moments You  
convict me of my  
sin of turning  
from You and  
turn my heart  
back to Your  
saving grace and  
to the cross. I  
pray this in the  
name of Your  
Son and my Sav-  
ior Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

*Pax et Bonum.*

*Fr. John*

## Women of Trinity



### **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.

O.K., should we wish you a Happy Valentine's Day or a faithful, soul-searching Lent? Both I guess!

Women of Trinity will be meeting on February 18, which just happens to be Ash Wednesday, so you gals can come to the 10 a.m. Eucharist and just stay for the Women of Trinity's meeting, a win-win!! The January meeting was so interesting as we were treated to a presentation about Martha's Kitchen thanks to Bonnie Strauss. You really don't want to miss these meetings because great effort goes into obtaining worthwhile programs, while also affording an opportunity to visit with some fascinating women of all ages and experiences.

The February meeting will feature our own Edwina Thomas and she will share her experiences from her recent trip to Kenya, Africa, with "Sharing of Ministries Abroad." Edwina is a former director of the organization.

If you're not on our calling list and would like to be notified of the meetings, please call Flo Lewis at 903/938-0444 or Sandy Toussaint at 903/938-3372 or call Stacey or Suzie at the Church office. It would be great to have you with us...we laugh a lot and pray a lot! Come join us! And join us for lunch after the meeting.

## Men of Trinity

The Men of Trinity will meet on Monday, February 9 at 5:30 PM in All Saints' Hall

### Brotherhood of St. Andrew

Will meet at lunchtime (12 noon) for a bible study at Jucy's on February 11 and 25.

Regular meeting is February 21 @ 10am - Golden Corral

### Eagle Scout Court of Honor

Chris Verhalen  
February 28  
2:00 pm  
All Saint's Hall

## Acolyte Party

This party is for the dedication & service our acolytes give to this ministry! It will be at the Silverleaf Resort indoor Water Park outside of Tyler. All acolytes are invited on Saturday, February 21, 2015, . We will depart from the church @ 9:30 am. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before departure. Bring swim suits, towels, and dry clothes to come home in.

## Birthdays

3 Terry Weeks	14 Katelynn Howard
4 Joe Weinberg	16 Mac Abney
4 Henry Henderson	17 Megan Himes
5 Richard Anderson	17 Harriet Smith
7 Pat Furrh	18 Kathryn Brannon
9 Wanda Fugler	18 Justin Briggie
9 Pauline Manly	22 Jonathan Bray
10 Remley White	22 Roy McCarroll
11 Adam Shaw	23 Marcus Briggie
12 Frannie Littlejohn	25 Claire Abney
13 David Cope	25 Alice Camp
13 Barbara Truelove	27 Samantha Minchew
13 Jim Kutner	28 Mary Jane McElroy

## Anniversaries

7	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Whaley, Jr.
8	Mr. & Mrs. Cecil Portman
14	Mr. & Mrs. David Spellings
18	Mr. & Mrs. Allen Staggers, Jr.
19	Mr. & Mrs. Gary Beavers
20	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Porter
25	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Manly

### Church Financials and Attendance for December 2014

Budget Income for 2014 .....	\$ 482,774
Budget Expenses for 2014 .....	\$ 484,855
Budget Difference for 2014 .....	(\$ 2,083)
Income Received to Date .....	\$ 474,723
Expenses to Date .....	\$ 454,650
Income for the month .....	\$ 44,701
Expenses for the month .....	\$ 35,344
Difference for the month .....	\$ 9,356
Difference to Date.....	\$ 20,072

	2014	Present
Average Sunday	165	161
Attendance to date		

Average Sunday  
Attendance for January

Sunday Attendance to date	8,374
Attendance all other Services	10,525

### Apple Dumplings

- 2 large Granny Smith apples,  
peeled and cored
- 2 (10 ounce) cans refrigerated  
crescent rolls
- 1 cup butter
- 1 1/2 cups white sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 12 oz Mountain Dew

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F .  
Grease a 9x13 inch baking dish.

Cut each apple into 8 wedges and set  
aside. Separate the crescent roll dough  
into triangles. Roll each apple wedge in  
crescent roll dough starting at the small-  
est end. Pinch to seal and place in the  
baking dish.

Melt butter in a small saucepan and stir in  
the sugar and cinnamon. Pour over the  
apple dumplings. Pour Mountain Dew over  
the dumplings.

Bake for 35 to 45 minutes in the pre-  
heated oven, or until golden brown.



# Daughters of the King & JrDOK

Continuing our very special & successful annual tradition, the JrDOK will host a Daddy-Daughter-Special Friend dinner for all JrDOK girls.



Next Regular  
JrDOK  
meeting:  
  
**February  
22 at 2:45**  
in Fry Hall  
Youth Room

**February 13  
7:00pm**

**All Saints' Hall (Trinity Parish Hall)**

JrDOK can bring their dad, grandpa, or special friend to a wonderful meal to share a special time with him and their friends. This year's dinner will be an Italian catered meal at the Church in All Saints' Hall.

Be sure to let Mrs. Jennifer know ASAP if your JrDOK plans to attend with her "date."



## DOK Spring Assembly in Tyler

Next Regular  
DOK  
meeting:  
  
**February 23  
at 6:00pm**  
in ASH

The Diocesan Spring Assembly for the Daughters of the King will take place in Tyler on February 20 and 21 at Christ Episcopal Church. All DOK are invited to attend this special event. Also, Trinity Marshall will be hosting the Diocesan Spring Assembly in February 2016 so this is a great opportunity for us to learn everything we can to make our time in February 2016 a great experience for all of the Diocese of Texas DOK chapters. Special speaker for the 2015 Assembly in Tyler is Bouquet Boulter, who also spoke to our chapter during a recent Day of Reflection.



### Our Core Values:

Commitment  
to Jesus Christ

Authority of  
Scripture

Evangelism

Relational Ministry

Worship

Servant Ministry

Sacrificial Giving

Biblical Leadership

## Why Lent?

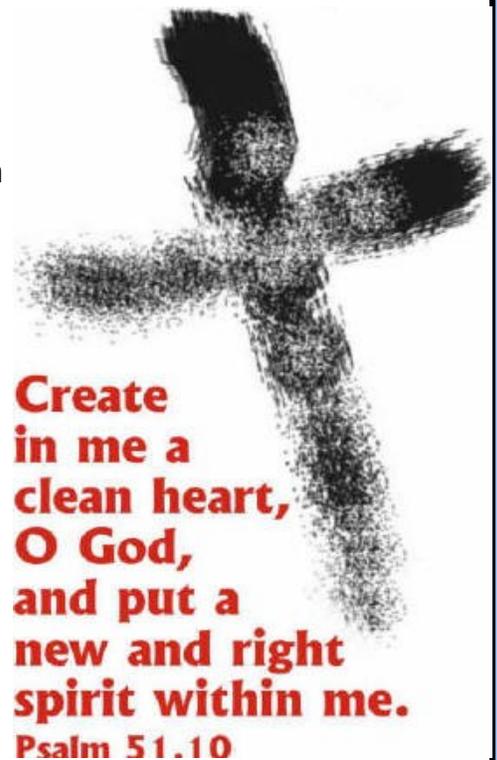
In the ancient Church the season of Lent was a time of preparation for those who would be Baptized or Confirmed on Easter. The preparation focused of fasting and prayer. The catechumens were to be singular focused on our Lord and seek continual spiritual communion with Him.

Over the centuries the Lenten practices have changed. It is now viewed as a season for all Christians to pray and mediate on their relationship with Christ in preparation for the coming of Easter. Christians today still fast and pray as a Lenten discipline. Some Christians seek to take on a special spiritual discipline for the season of Lent. Whether a person is giving something up or taking something on; the focus of our lives during this season is to be on Christ's sacrifice for us.

Focusing on Christ is a great way to live each day. If we only seek the forty days of Lent to live like this we are missing the message of Christ. The spiritual discipline a person takes on during Lent should be a discipline that centers the life on our Lord and Savior not just for Lent, but carries over to our daily lives after Lent. If a person takes on the spiritual discipline of reading a devotion every day during Lent that is wonderful. But, what impact on their faith and their life would there be if they decided to carry that practice into their daily life? It would begin to transform them as they spent that time seeking God everyday rather than just for a season. Or, what if someone decided to simply read the General Confession in the Book of Common Prayer everyday during Lent to help them see how the life they live separates or brings them closer to God. Wouldn't that be a wonderful thing to mediate on each day rather than just for a single season. What if a person gave up some aspect of technology, say Twitter or Facebook for Lent and in place of it dedicated the saved time to prayer or even practicing the ancient art of face to face communication.

There are many thing a person can give up or take on for Lent. The key, for us spiritually, is what we do with what we take on or give up. How does it grow our spiritual union with the Lord? If it has no impact on our union with God; why is a person doing it? Let me offer an example. Several years ago a person gave up Starbucks for Lent. For them that was a major sacrifice in and of itself. But what they did with what they saved by not purchasing their daily latte from Starbucks was to give the weekly savings to a ministry of the church. They felt a bit of the physical cost of following Christ and folks in need benefited from their sacrifice. After Lent the individual went back to their Starbucks routine but, with a change of habit. After seeing the blessings their gift to the ministry they had chosen had been, they continued to give to that ministry and also began to volunteer to help that ministry. What began as a spiritual discipline became a way of living out their faith.

When all is said and done the purpose of Lent is to allow each Christian the opportunity to find new ways of living out their faith. A spiritual discipline that is taken on during Lent can become a way of everyday life. Christ invites us to be transformed daily.





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

**Luke 22:27**

### **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*

Reggie Hasty  
*Treasurer*

### **Vestry**

Laura Rectenwald  
*Senior Warden*

Henry Henderson  
*Junior Warden*

Cathy Cope  
*Clerk of the Vestry*

Ken Kerr  
*Treasurer*

Doug Jager

Joel Truelove

Cindy Cain

Erik Howard

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 - 5:15 PM

Martha's Kitchen - 6:00 PM



### **Trinity Episcopal Church**

106 N. Grove Street  
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