



THE TRIPOD

Trinity Episcopal Church & School

<http://trinityepiscopalmarshall.org>

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Volume 18 Issue 2

February 2018

Trinity Episcopal Church:

*Witnessing to
the Power of
God to
Transform*

*Proclaiming God's
Love and Joy for
over 166 years in*

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Brotherhood of Saint Andrew

On Sunday January 7th, the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew welcomed a new member into it's ranks. Yuri Altnau, son of current member Chris Altnau and Magda Altnau, took the vows and was installed as a new member of the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew. After Yuri was installed, the current brothers who were present re-dedicated themselves to the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew. The Brotherhood of Saint Andrew is an order of men whose focus is prayer, bible study, and service to the community with an emphasis on evangelism through fraternal outreach and "the spread of Christ's Kingdom among men." The order is open to men, both young and old. We offer congratulations to Yuri on this moment in his ministry. May God continue to bless his ministry in the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew and his ministry to the church.





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.



Church Safety

CRISIS RESPONSE FIRST AID TRAINING

In January a parish meeting was held to provide information on how we, as a Church, would respond to a mass casualty situation. One of the key areas identified was the need to provide emergency First Aid to the injured while we await the arrival of EMS. At a meeting for pastors late last year Lt. Ames of the Marshall Police Department informed us that the quickest response time for the police to a mass casualty incident was three minutes, and that was contingent on the availability of units to respond. He also told the pastors that EMS would not come on the scene until it was cleared by the police. The result of this is that we need to know how to save lives until the EMS can arrive.

Jackie Weeks and Teresa Whaley have agreed to help train parish staff and parishioners on how to handle routine First Aid needs that may occur. The vestry is taking action to provide the parish with emergency first aid kits to handle a variety of emergency needs we may encounter. While this will help us deal with things like respiratory arrest or coronary events that a parishioner might have it does not this training does not cover the sort of wounds we may encounter in a mass casualty event.

Assistant Fire Chief Joey Hudson has arranged for a team of the Fire Department's EMS personnel to come and provide training on how to provide emergency first aid to trauma victims. This training will be on Saturday, February 24th beginning at 9:00 AM. It is expected the training will last six hours. The parish will provide lunch and child care will be provided as well.

A number of parishioners signed up for this training at the parish meeting. If you were not at the meeting and would like to participate in the training please call the parish office at 903-938-4246 to sign up.

Rector's Reflection

Dear Beloved in Christ:

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

Ash Wednesday and Lent come on an interesting day this year. Ash Wednesday falls on February 14th, St. Valentine's Day. That almost seems a contradiction. A day to celebrate love and a day to "Remember that you are but dust, and to dust you shall return." we associate love with life and we can't help but associate Ash Wednesday with death; so which day are you going to celebrate? Both? Perhaps there isn't a great deal of difference between the intent of both days.

In the Gospel of St John we read the passage, "*But Jesus would not trust himself to them because he knew them all, ²⁵ and did not need anyone to testify about human nature. He himself understood it well.*" (John 2:24-25) A person could hardly use this passage as a glowing recommendation on the integrity of men. How often we trust ourselves to other people, but will not trust God in our lives. I find it amazing we will lean on those we know will hurt us, who will let us down, but we won't lean on the one who promised to "be with you always, even until the end of the age." We cannot trust ourselves to the one who loves us without measure. Doesn't that seem rather odd to you?

Jesus understood well our frailties and our failures; after all He was the Word God spoke at creation. He knew all too well our nature. Yet, in spite of that, He gave himself up for us. Knowing that here and now, two thousand years after His death and resurrection, there would be those who not only deny His deity, but deny Him in His entirety. Scripture tells us that rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, but for a good man, some might die, well Jesus chose to die for the lost, the sinners, and the ungodly. That in and of itself should humble us when we start to think well of ourselves. If we are so wonderful, why did Christ have to wash us of our sins?

I read the Scripture, and in a sense I am hurt. My reaction is, "Lord You can trust me!" In truth He can not, for I will proclaim Him one moment and sin the next. Yet I say He can trust me, but my actions speak differently, my actions drive the nails deeper into His hands and feet, my actions pierce his side with a lance. Yet, it is not until the end of the day that I look back upon it and I realize I have crucified Christ! Then in remorse I seek forgiveness and healing. What is so amazing, is that Christ gives it. In my brokenness, even in my selfishness, He continues to heal me and restore me, day by day He sees that I grow a bit more in His image.

In a sense, I'm glad that Jesus doesn't trust Himself to me. Does that sound odd, it should not. You see, in His perfection, I am not worthy of His sacrifice, but His love has provided me the fruits of that sacrifice. It is by His grace I can eat of that fruit; I can savor that grace. You see, if Christ trusted me, that would indicate that I could trust myself, and that isn't so, I am too weak, I stumble too often. I am safer trusting in Christ.

God has given each of us a precious Valentine in the gift of His Son, what wonderful gift of love.

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, February 14th and 28th at 11:30
(Bible Study begins at 12:00)

Second Sunday Singles Supper

Sunday, February 11th

Place: Jucys Hamburgers

Contact:

Carol Meyer 903-759-0473 Home 701-261-4018 Cell
or

Margot Lingold 903-938-1388 or 903-926-0991

WOMEN OF TRINITY

Women of Trinity are right up there with the U.S. Postal Service...neither rain or sleet, etc. Yes, we did meet on Wednesday, January 17 and if you weren't there, you were missed, but the show does go on . Our guest speaker was Michelle Spencer of the Pregnancy Resource Center and since the Pregnancy Resource Center is one of the recipients of Trinity's Outreach efforts, we had hoped for a good turnout for the meeting. The weather had different plans for us, though. Those who were in attendance appreciated Michelle's informative visit with us and Edwina's and Sandy's culinary efforts. The next WOT meeting is on February 21 and we should all be well into a Lenten "mind set" by then. Father Andrew Ellison will be our guest speaker for that meeting and we eagerly look forward to his message. If you haven't attended a Women of Trinity meeting before, please know that all women who attend Trinity Church are encouraged to attend, not just for the many interesting programs, but also to enjoy the camaraderie of other women of all ages, interests and lifestyles during lunch provided following the program. President Julie Trexler would be happy to see that you would get a reminder call each month. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month at 11 a.m. in the Guild Room of All Saints Hall. Call Julie at [903/930-2255](tel:9039302255), the church office at [903/938-4246](tel:9039384246) or just show up...you'll be glad that you did.

Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 3 Terry Weeks | 17 Megan Himes |
| 4 Joe Weinberg | 17 Harriet Smith |
| 4 Henry Henderson | 18 Kathryn Brannon |
| 5 Richard Anderson | 18 Justin Briggie |
| 7 Pat Furrh | 22 Jonathan Bray |
| 9 Wanda Fugler | 22 Roy McCarroll |
| 9 Pauline Manly | 23 Marcus Briggie |
| 9 Matthew Prater | 25 Claire Abney |
| 12 Frannie Littlejohn | 27 Samantha Minchew |
| 13 David Cope | 28 Mary Jane McElroy |
| 13 Barbara Truelove | 28 Ethelyn Eads |
| 13 Jim Kutner | |
| 14 Lauren Hicks | |

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 2017

Budget Income for 2017	\$508,664	
Budget Expenses for 2017	\$546,091	
Budget Difference for 2017	(\$ 37,427)	
Income Received to Date	\$505,995	
Expenses to Date	\$527,010	
Income for the month	\$ 54,741	
Expenses for the month	\$ 39,462	
Difference for the month	\$ 15,279	
Difference to Date.....	(\$ 21,014)	
	2016	Present
Average Sunday Attendance to date	175	166
Average Sunday Attendance for December	209	196
Sunday Attendance to date	9096	8817
Attendance all other Services	9202	9205

PIG ROAST FOR THE YOUTH!!

On Saturday February 10th, at 4 PM, we will be having a pig roast. Come and enjoy a delicious pig cooked on a pit at the church. Our own Walter Fugler will be cooking for us. If you have never been to a pig roast come and enjoy this fun experience. If you have been, you know what you would be missing.

Tickets are just \$5.00 per person, and all proceeds go to the Youth's mission trip. Tickets can be purchased from our youth, or at the church office. If you would like to bring a dessert to share, please do so.

Come support our Youth's effort to spreading the Kingdom of God, and enjoy some good eating.



Children's Choir Practices 2018

Wednesdays, 6:30 pm - 7:15 pm

February 7th & 21st
March 7th, 21st, 28th

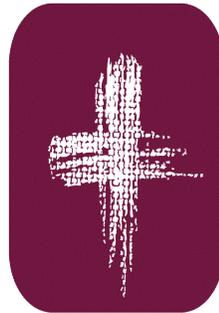
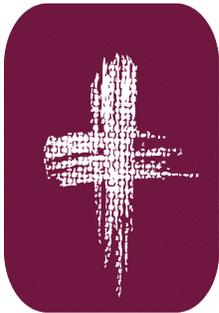
Performance: March 29th
Maundy Thursday Service

LENT AT TRINITY

Join us this lent at Trinity as we prepare our hearts and minds for the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ. This lent there will be many opportunities to gather and worship and be together. We begin our Lenten journey on Shrove Tuesday. On Tuesday February 13th join us at All Saints Hall as our vestry cooks pancakes. Tickets are \$7 or 4 for \$25, and all proceeds go to our Boy Scout Troop. This is a fun tradition before we kick off our Lenten disciplines. We will also be burning the palms for Ash Wednesday. Speaking of Ash Wednesday, join us at the 10AM or 6:30 AM for the imposition of ashes. Each Sunday during Lent we will also be holding our Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Come and join us as we pray in the presence of our Lord, and sit in adoration of His Body in the Blessed Sacrament. After Benediction, join Fr. Andrew as we explore the Gospel of Mark, including a complete reading of the Gospel.

Lent is a journey, a time where we can reflect on our need of Christ. At Trinity there are many opportunities to participate in this journey. Come and observe Lent in any of these ways, and build on your relationship with God as we prepare for the Passion and Resurrection of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lent



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. How many of you have been to the new restaurant Ginnocchios? I have heard from a few of you that it is one I need to try. Many have talked about how good the food is. When we find a restaurant that we like we want to share that. We want others to enjoy it too. There are many websites where people can rate restaurants, and many go and rate their favorite restaurants so that others may know about them. The same with movies or shows, when we see a movie or show we really enjoy we tell people about them. We want to bring people in, so that they can see the movie or show. Simply put, when we enjoy something it is easy for us to share that enjoyment with our friends, family, neighbors, or even people we do not know. What about sharing Jesus? Is it easy to share our relationships with Jesus? Or is it difficult to share those relationships?



We are called to share Jesus, so that the Kingdom of God can grow. However, for some reason that can be scary. Some think that sharing Jesus means we must convert people. We think it means we must relentlessly persuade someone to believe in Christ. The good news is that is not what evangelism calls for. In St. John's Gospel we hear the story of Philip and Nathaniel. In that story we meet Philip, who Jesus told to "Follow me". The first thing Philip did was to go to his friend Nathaniel and tell him he found the Messiah. Nathaniel was skeptical, asking if anything good can come from Nazareth. Philip responded with the simple invitation "come and see". It was that invitation that set Nathaniel's introduction to Jesus in motion. Nathaniel met Jesus, heard from him, and came to believe. When I hear that discourse I always wonder, what would have happened if Philip kept Jesus to himself? What would have happened if he did Follow Jesus, and not tell Nathaniel about him? Perhaps Nathaniel would not have had a chance to begin his own relationship with Christ.

We are called to share our relationships with Christ. We never know who may need to hear about him. We never know whose lives we can change by simply telling someone about Jesus. Now, it is important to realize that we are not called to convert people. Philip did not convert Nathaniel. All he did was tell Nathaniel about Christ, and invited him to see Jesus. It was Christ that did the converting, but that may not have happened without the invitation. We may be able to help others develop their own personal relationships with Christ. While we think about building up the Kingdom of God let us be faithful followers of Christ and share our relationship with him, let us introduce others to Jesus and sit back and watch Him form a relationship with those who do not have one. May we all be like Philip and tell our friends about the Messiah.

Blessings,

Fr. Andrew

Understanding the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion

XV. Of Christ alone without Sin: Christ in the truth of our nature was made like unto us in all things, sin only except, from which He was clearly void, both in His flesh and in His spirit. He came to be the lamb without spot, Who by sacrifice of Himself once made, should take away the sins of the world: and sin, as S. John saith, was not in Him. But all we the rest, although baptized and born again in Christ, yet offend in many things: and if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

In Article II of the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion we dealt with Jesus Christ being fully God and fully man. In this article we delve deeper into an aspect of His human nature; that is that we was with out sin. While we are born under the stain of Original Sin and have a sin nature that results in us, as human beings , committing sin, Christ alone was born without the stain of Original Sin nor did he succumb to temptation to sin.

Hebrews 4:15 tells us, “For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.” Christ was born holy. Before he was born the angel Gabriel told St. Mary, “The Holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.” (Lk 1:35, KJV) If Jesus’ virgin birth is rejected, then his virgin life cannot be accounted for. Born holy, Jesus remained holy because through divine unction he was able to successfully resist every enticement of Satan who had nothing in him to fight out from. (John 14:30) Jesus, himself claimed to be sinless on more than one occasion. In John 8:46 he asks those around him, “Which of you convicts me of sin?” Elsewhere in the same chapter of St. Joh’s Gospel Jesus declares that in all things he pleases the Father.

In order to free humanity from sin he had to be free of any sin himself of any taint of sin, that was over the rest of humanity. Had Jesus committed any sin, even one sin, he would have been disqualified as the redeemer of sinful humanity. Being perfect himself Jesus professed the highest conceivable standard of character for those who would follow him; “be perfect”.

The Bible is emphatic in its witness to the fact that Jesus Christ was himself perfect in thought, word, and deed. In him was no sin. Even the demons, as well as the angels, called him the “Holy One of God” (Mark 1:24). Judas confessed of betraying “innocent blood”.

Over the last one hundred and fifty years there has been a great deal of controversy among theologians concerning the sinless of Christ. Did his deity render sin impossible, and consequently make his temptation unreal? If, to Christ, sin was impossible then his temptation by Satan was meaningless and his victory only a delusion. One answer that has been offered is—“We may say it was impossible Jesus would sin. We dare not say it was impossible he could not sin.” For Christ temptation was stronger and the conflict more intense than with ay other member of the human race. His knowledge of the human heart made it harder for him to have the least sympathy with the least semblance of sin. Jesus’ unstained holiness gave saving efficacy to the blood he shed for humanity. Sinless Christ can save from all sin. Only as a the sinless one could he atone for the sins of others.

We have to also remember that it is because Jesus Christ remained the highest embodiment of human character that he is our great example. Jesus’ own life surrendered in obedience to the Father on the cross gives him the right to make imperative spiritual and ethical demands on those who take up their crosses to follow him.

For the Doctrine of the Atonement to be viable it is imperative that Christ be without sin. The

brief version of this doctrine is that the death of the sinless Christ upon the cross was his bearing all the sins of the world that we might be made free of sin through his atoning sacrifice. The early church fathers, specifically Origen the death of Christ was the ransom price paid to Satan, who acquired rights over humanity due to the Fall. Satan thought he could hold the sinless Christ in death because he took on the sins of humanity. Other Church Fathers, such as St. Augustine, St. Gregory of Nyssa took it a step further by stating, that while maintaining that the devil had rights over sinful humanity, Satan's attempt to exercise them over the sinless Christ he abused them and was thus conquered by the power of Christ's resurrection.

In the Gospel of St. John we read that the Word became flesh. Jesus is the divine Word. The Word becoming flesh provides a model for human holiness. For one to be holy that person must be without sin. Thus, Jesus could not be that divine example unless he was sinless. The challenge we face is to live into the holiness that Christ sets before us. We may strive our entire lifetime to become holy, but our striving doesn't make us holy. Our holiness is through Jesus Christ alone. If we claim our sanctification is in anyway associated with our own works we, in St. John's words, "deceive ourselves". The challenge that is before every man and women is to live by faith in Christ and thus live into the holiness that Christ has set before us.



References:

Cross, F. L and Livingstone, E. A., ed., *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, England, 1997.

Lockyer, Herbert, *All the Doctrines of the Bible: A Study and Analysis of Major Bible Doctrines*, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, MI, 1964.

McGrath, Alister E. *Studies in Doctrine*, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, MI., 1997

Haring, Bernard, Kaiser, Edwin G., trans., *The Law of Christ: General Moral Theology*, Newman Press, Westminster, MD., 1964

PIG ROAST FOR THE YOUTH MISSION TRIP



**Saturday, February 10th at
4:00 PM**

Tickets \$5.00

**Available from our youth or
at the office**

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER!



**Trinity Episcopal Church is
hosting its Annual**

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
on Tuesday, February 13, 2018
from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM. All
proceeds go to support Troop
550. Ask our Scouts for tickets.
Adults \$7.00 or 4 for \$25.00**



*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

Senior Warden
Tony Pierce
tony.pierce@att.net

Junior Warden
Michael DeSa
desamj@gmail.com

Clerk of the Vestry
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Treasurer
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Chris Altnau
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Steve Lewis
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Margot Lingold
margotlingold@hotmail.com

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 - 6:30 PM

Thursday

Choir Practice 5:00 PM
Martha's Kitchen - 6:00 PM



Trinity Episcopal Church

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