1ST ANNUAL YOUNG FAMILIES CAMPOUT

During the first weekend in May, a group of young families went to beautiful Shady Lakes Arkansas for two nights of camping fun. We brought our tents, camping gear, and makings for s’mores and camped out together in the Ouachita National Forest. We had a total of 18 people on this trip, and everyone had a blast. We arrived throughout the day Friday, setting up tents, collecting firewood, setting up cooking stations, and unwind from a three hour drive.

All the campsites were next to each other, with one large site serving as our gathering site. The best part about our site was a crystal clear creek running directly behind them.

Friday night we ate fajitas, made s’mores, and enjoyed conversations together. On Saturday we woke up, and ate bacon and eggs. After breakfast the temptation of the creek was too much for the children and youth, so they put on their bathing suits and jumped in the creek. The parents, mostly because the water was so cold, decided to just sit on the creek bank and watch the kids swim.

Continued on page 2
That afternoon the campers did activities on their own. Some ate lunch at the dam, some went fishing, some went into the nearest “town” to get extra supplies, or to find cell phone service. Our camping location had absolutely zero cell service or wifi, so we were truly in the wilderness. Saturday night we ate burgers and hot dogs, more s’mores, and enjoyed conversations around the campfire.

Sunday we ate sausage and eggs, and then quickly cleaned up the table on the big site. After all was cleaned, the picnic table turned into our altar. Gathering around the altar we celebrated Eucharist together as a community in the woods. We followed this up with lunch by the lake and kids swimming one last time before we all drove back to Texas.

This event gave us an opportunity to get to know each other a little better. It also gave us an opportunity grow closer as a young family community. If you were not able to go, fear not, we will definitely do this again next year. Our hope is to make the Young Family Campout a yearly tradition. A big thank you to the parish for supporting the young families as they went on this camping trip; and thank you for all who made it up to Arkansas. It truly was a meaningful weekend.
Rector’s Reflection

Dear Beloved in Christ:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ. During a study of Galatians I was struck by Galatians 6:3 “For if any one thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.” Is there any among us who have not, at some point, suffered the indignity of our own pride and eventually come to regret it? Perhaps it is just the jaundice way I look at some of those I meet during the day. I do not mean to be unkind with these thoughts. However, it seems that this is before us almost daily, either in our own lives or those we meet.

Pride is the deadliest of all sins. It is the root of all the other sins that follow. It is also the sin in which we delude ourselves the most. We might say that we are humble and crown ourselves with our humility before the world – pride. We may take it in the other direction and proclaim our wealth and power – pride. I remember as a child, a teacher in school telling me that there will always be someone tougher and someone smarter than myself. I should not be upset with that, but simply strive to be who God has called me to be; in His way rather than my own way. (This was in the days when prayer and religion were regular subjects and topics in public school.) As I’ve walked this path called life, I find that the teacher’s words are also true when it comes to humility, there is always someone more humble than myself. I praise God for that, for it keeps before me the desire of our Father to humble ourselves before Him, realizing that on our own, apart from Him we are dust.

In knowing that of oneself, one can relate it to others openly. In so doing, know that their anger may well be direct towards you at full force. It seems that if people build a construct about themselves, they certainly do not want to face someone or something that contradicts that construct. You see there are people who cloak their pain in their pride. All the hurts that they have suffered, all the forgiveness that they have withheld is bundled up in that dreadful sin called pride. It leads them to have the bigger this or that, the newer this or that, rather than to be content with the blessing before them. I hear the voice say, I give to charity, yes I know they do; yet they still spend inordinately upon themselves. I do not say this without charity, for I too am guilty of this and struggle with it daily as I seek God’s strength in surrendering my pride to Him.

I recall the elder gentleman, living alone with his wife in a very large house, far larger than most people dwell in, telling me that he was building a new house that was twice the size of his present house because it was too small. Perhaps what I heard was not what he meant. I heard that he said he needed a larger place for him and his wife to hide from each other while they were under the same roof. I heard him say that I am insecure in my present position and must validate who I am with my positions and display of wealth; this will provide me with a sense of power as well as impress others and build my self-esteem. Perhaps I didn’t hear the words; perhaps I discerned them by His life style and the nature of his character. In the end I was left feeling hurt for him. For he did not realize that what God has is far better than anything he could provide for himself. Yet, he had chosen that which was a distance second, his own way, and his own pride. In the end he will come to see that he is nothing and deceives himself. But, then in the end each and every one of us will come to know that what Paul spoke to the Galatians applies to us as well.

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, June 14th and 28th at 11:30
(Bible Study begins at 12:00)
Saturday, June 17th at 10:00 am monthly meeting at Golden Corral
All men of the parish are invited to attend either of the meetings.

OUTREACH

The Outreach Committee has been at work! Recently, members of the Committee paid a visit to "My Friend’s House", an all-encompassing mission, owned and managed by Carolyn and Dave Snow. At this time, they aren't receiving assistance from Trinity on a regular basis, but should the committee be suddenly flush with funds, they certainly would be a shoo-in. They offer housing on a temporary basis for the homeless; assist in job placement, if called for; provide clothing, bedding, some furnishings for folks who have lost homes to fires; and an amazing "gift shop" for the "Antiques Roadshow" enthusiast, with all proceeds going to support the shelter. They also offer their "guests" support counseling on many levels. That's just the beginning of what they have to offer those in need.

Wouldn't it be great if we could help this effort on a regular basis? Oh, by the way, I'm asked to remind you that the 4th Sunday extra collection as you walk the path to partake in the Lord's Supper will now be used to assist the Outreach Committee in doing just that...reaching out to those less fortunate than we are.

Count our many blessings and remember those who must do without. We're hoping to come up with a "fun" fundraiser...got any ideas? We'll be visiting one of our regular fund recipients in the next Tripod...I think you'll be pleased to be a part of their mission...stay tuned!

Trinity Supporting Families and Foster Children

Trinity has the opportunity to help keep struggling families together and help foster children in need. Recently the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services has begun a program with local churches to help keep at risk families together and to help foster children. This a wonderful opportunity to serve our Lord and to serve others.

We will immediately begin by taking part in the CarePortal Program. This program makes the needs of at-risk children known to local churches so that churches can help meet their needs. CarePortal supports churches with a heart to help children and families in crisis. Each participating church owns and sustains this work through time, prayer, and resources. The CarePortal makes the needs of a family or child known to local churches and churches then can decide how best to help those in need. Not every church can do everything, but every church can do something. Child Protective services identifies the need for a child or family, they make the need known to the local churches and the churches answer the call.

I invite each member of the parish visit www.inf.careportal.org for additional information.

We will begin sending out needs as we get them and ask you to help support this outreach. Further information can be obtained by contacting Fr. John, Fr. Andrew or Jackie Weeks, chair of our Outreach Committee.
Birthdays

3 Claude Hammond 16 Bill Jones, Jr.
3 Casie Ellison 18 Christina Anderson
5 Kensley Ellison 18 Fr. John Himes
6 Jodi Beavers 18 Russell Minatrea
6 Chloe Cope 19 Connie Reeves
13 Shirley Weaver 20 Jenny Kerr
13 Judy Asaff 20 Hannah Abraham
13 Dick Tracy 20 Paul Whaley
14 Holly Hasty 20 Lou Violette
14 Ellen Bray 22 Jean Jackson
14 Mark Trexler 28 David Thomas

Anniversaries

1 Mr. & Mrs. Bill Kemp
2 Mr. & Mrs. Greg Gani
12 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Perkins
16 Mr. & Mrs. John Bockman, Jr.
17 Mr. & Mrs. Terry Weeks
18 Mr. & Mrs. Randy Reeves
21 Mr. & Mrs. Mark Trexler
23 Mr. & Mrs. Jack Sanders, Jr.
24 Mr. & Mrs. Harry McGee IV
27 Mr. & Mrs. Joe Weinberg
29 Fr. & Mrs. Andrew Ellison
30 Mr. & Mrs. David Collins

Church Financials and Attendance for April 2017

Budget Income for 2017 .................. $ 508,664
Budget Expenses for 2017 ............. $ 546,091
Budget Difference for 2017 ............ ($ 37,427)
Income Received to Date .............. $178,494
Expenses to Date ...................... $176,679
Income for the month ................. $  36,158
Expenses for the month ............... $  38,535
Difference for the month .............. ($    2,377)
Difference to Date .................... $     1,815

2016 Present
Average Sunday 185 165
Attendance to date
Average Sunday Attendance for March 147 178
Sunday Attendance to date 3143 2966
Attendance all other Services 3826 3935

10 MORE things the Holy Spirit Does

1. He Strengthens us (Ephesians 3:16)
2. He prays for us (Romans 8:26)
3. He prophesies through us (2 Peter 1:21)
4. He bears witness to the truth (Romans 9:1)
5. He brings joy (1 Thessalonians 1:6)
6. He brings freedom (2 Corinthians 3:18)
7. He helps to obey (1 Peter 1:22)
8. He calls for Jesus’ return (Revelations 22:17)
9. He transforms us (2 Corinthians 3:18)
10. He lives in us (1 Corinthians 3:16)
WOMEN OF TRINITY

The view from Enoch's Stomp Winery was an amazing reminder of God's presence as the Women of Trinity gathered on May 17th for their annual get-together Luncheon before the summer "break." It wasn't a very "clear day", but it really seemed like "we could see forever"...at least Harrison County.

The Luncheon was delightful, featuring great service, delicious food and such wonderful camaraderie. Several members brought guests to introduce them to the group and to share the WOT "experience", including Carol Meyer's two granddaughters visiting to share Carol's birthday. And, indeed, we did celebrate Carol's special day with lots of warm wishes and a beautiful Birthday cake.

Between now and September, the officers of WOT will be making plans for the 2017-2018 program schedules, so you would be wise to mark your calendars now for the third Wednesday of each month, with the exception of December, just to make sure that you gals don't make other appointments for those special WOT days from September through May. If you have any suggestions for programs, don't hesitate to pass them on to President Julie Trexler, Flo Lewis or Sandy Toussaint.

We missed those who were unable to attend the Luncheon, but look forward to seeing everyone in September. Have a summer-time filled with fun, family and friends and don't forget to include God in your life and plans and give Him thanks.

JUNE YOUTH SCHEDULE

Saturday, June 10: Water Bottle Fund Raiser
Meet in Trinity Parking Lot @ 4pm and we will walk downtown to hand out water bottles

Friday, June 16: Karaoke and Coffee
Meet in Trinity Parking Lot @ 6pm and we will walk across the street to First Baptist and join their youth

Friday, June 23: Beach ball/Volleyball
Bridge 281 Coffee House, Longview
Join us at 6pm for beach ball volleyball fun, plus coffee, plus bring your favorite board games!

Sunday, June 25: Pool Party @ TES
All Church Pool Party from 2-5pm at
Hello friends, greetings in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

It’s hard to believe that summer is already here. School is out, kids are home, and we are trying to figure out ways to keep them busy. Perhaps summer camps, vacation bible school, athletics or family vacations will be occurring over the next two and a half months. The summer is also a time to look forward. It is a time to look forward to a new school year, to look forward to new activities at the church, and to a new Texas Tech Football season (they have to be better than last year). However, in this time of looking forward I would like to stop and look back. I would like to look back at this exciting year.

One year ago my family and I moved to Marshall. It amazes me all that occurred this past year, especially with our young family ministry. From the young family mixer to the young family campout we have done something as a group. We have formed a community.

This community not only shares time in an adult formation classroom together, but also at breakfast on Sundays or dinner on Wednesdays. This year of getting this ministry going has been an important one. It is important because it is building up a community. A community that has already spent time together, but is starting something new, something uniquely ours. On the campout, many commented on how we got to know each other more deeper. This happened because of meaningful conversations, meaningful fellowship. This is how communities are formed.

This upcoming year the young families have stuff to look forward to. A regular Parents night out is being planned. Perhaps movie nights, pool parties, and other fun activities will happen. We will have our Fall, and Christmas events; and of course we will have another campout. To me these events are not the most exciting thing happening next year. The most exciting thing is that we will continue to build up this new young family community at Trinity Church. To continue to build up this community of people in the same stage of life; to talk with, to laugh with, maybe to cry with, but most of all to grow closer to God and each other with. These events are just a means to make this happen. So join me in looking back at our past year, and then we can look forward to the growth that will happen going forward. We can look forward to the growth of our little community at Trinity. This is our community, let’s build it up together.

Blessings,

Fr. Andrew
VII. Of the Old Testament: The Old Testament is not contrary to the New: for both in the Old and New Testament everlasting life is offered to Mankind by Christ, who is the only Mediator between God and Man, being both God and Man. Wherefore they are not to be heard, which feign that the old Fathers did look only for transitory promises. Although the Law given from God by Moses, as touching Ceremonies and Rites, do not bind Christian men, nor the Civil precepts thereof ought of necessity to be received in any commonwealth; yet notwithstanding, no Christian man whatsoever is free from the obedience of the Commandments which are called Moral.

Have you ever heard someone speak of the God of the Old Testament isn’t the God of the New Testament. Or that the God of the Old Testament had a change of Heart after the coming of Christ and rethought His instructions to humanity? Both of those sentiments are incorrect. God is God; the God of the Old Testament IS the God of the New Testament, and He hasn’t changed. Jesus, as the Messiah was fully God and fully man. His Testament was the Books of the Pentateuch, the prophets, the historical books and the wisdom writings. As the living Word of God he proclaimed the promise of God made throughout the Old Testament writings to be that God of all to all humanity.

When asked what is the perceived difference between the God of the Old and New Testaments the majority of people for whom that is an issue will offer that the God of the Old Testament is a harsh and judging God, and the God of the New Testament is a merciful and loving God. It is God whom clothed Adam and Eve. It is God who led the people of Israel out of Egypt and into the land of milk and honey. It is God who brought back the exiles from Babylon. These are acts of mercy and love for His people. In the New Testament God had His own Son bare the sins of the whole world! God is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. There is no difference in God in the Old Testament and the New Testament. His nature, character, and substance is the same.

What Article VII is telling us is that we are no longer bound by the ceremonies and rites that are articulated in the Old Testament, primarily in the Pentateuch. However, this doesn’t mean that the Church is a proponent of antinomianism. You might ask, “What is antinomianism?” The word antinomianism comes from two Greek words, anti, meaning "against"; and nomos, meaning "law." Antinomianism literally means “against the law.” Theologically, it is the belief that there are no moral laws that God expects Christians to obey. Antinomianism takes a biblical teaching to an unbiblical conclusion. The biblical teaching is that Christians are not required to observe the Old Testament Law as a means of salvation. When Jesus Christ died on the cross, He fulfilled the Old Testament Law (Romans 10:4; Galatians 3:23-25; Ephesians 2:15). It is true that Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets. However that should not lead a person to the unbiblical conclusion is that there is no moral law God expects Christians to obey. This is clearly contrary to what Christ taught in His earthly ministry. We must remember that Jesus himself said in Matthew 5:18, “For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.” All will not be accomplished until Christ comes again to judge the living and the dead.

It is by apostolic tradition that the church discerned which writings were to be included in the canon of Scripture. When the canon of Scripture was set by the Church it include all the texts that the Jewish people considered sacred. It is important for us to understand that the Old Testament is an indispensable part of the totality of Sacred Scripture. These texts are divinely inspired and retain a permanent value for the Old Covenant has never been revoked.

The economy of the Old Testament was deliberately so oriented that it should prepare and declare in
prophecy the coming of Christ, who is the redeemer of all. Even though the books of the Old Testament may contain matters that seem imperfect and provisional, they bear witness to the entire pedagogy of God’s redeeming love. They are a storehouse of teaching that continually reflect God’s grace and mercy. They also reflect the wisdom of God’s in regards to how humanity should order its life. Within its pages we find a treasure trove of prayers that are as applicable in our lives today as they were for the ancient Israelites. As we read the Old Testament we can see the unfolding of all humanities salvation through the coming Messiah.

As Christians we venerate the Old Testament as the true Word of God. The Church has always vigorously opposed the idea of rejecting the Old Testament under the pretext that the new Testament has rendered it void. Such an approach is actually an ancient heresy called **Macionism**. Marcionism was a religious movement based on the teachings of the 2nd-century heretic Marcion of Sinope. None of Marcion’s writings have survived to the present, However, we know of his teachings through several early Christian writers including Justin Martyr, Irenaeus of Lyons, and Hippolytus. These father of the faith spoke against the teaching of Marcion in defense of the true faith.

Marcion held to many errant views, but he is primarily known for his belief that the Old Testament Scriptures were not authoritative for a Christian. He denied that the God of the Old Testament was the same God presented in the New Testament. For Marcion, Jesus was the Son of the God of the New Testament but not the Son of the deity described in the Hebrew Scriptures. The deities of the Old and New Testaments were, from Marcion’s perspective, literally two different gods. Marcion did not deny the existence of the god of the Old Testament who he referred to as a Demiurge. He simply classified this god as a secondary deity, one that was inferior to the supreme God revealed in Jesus. Rather describes what is mentioned in the first paragraph doesn’t it? You see this heresy is still with us today. There are main line denominations who hold that belief.

One of the chief lessons we learn from the entirety of Scripture is that we must take the Canon of Scripture as a whole. We cannot choose one part over another because it agrees with our senses to a greater degree. We must view each part of Scripture within the context of the whole. To begin moving bits in and out as it suits human will leaves us with a false picture of who our heavenly Father is, and to what he calls His people to live out.
Memorial Day Prayer Service

Memorial Day is certainly a special day for each American. At Trinity we take time to remember those who have given their lives for the freedoms we enjoy. This year was the eleventh year that Trinity Episcopal Church and St. Joseph Catholic Church joined together to remember those who have died in service to our county. This year Trinity hosted the Service.

Monsignor Zach Kummakkattuthara, pastor of St. Joseph joined Fr. John as co-officiant. Fr. Andrew assisted and Paul Palmer was the lector. This year’s preacher was the Rev. Deacon John Sargent from St. Joseph’s. Dcn. John is a retired Air Force Major. Also assisting with the service was Walter Fugler serving as verger and acolytes, Chase Tondee, Yuri Altanu, Troy Simmons, Blake Ellison and Sagan Jameson-Hatch.

Following the Service the Hannah Chapter of the Daughters of the King hosted a reception for all who came to the service. Many of our veterans wore their uniforms and/or their awards.
Join us on our Feast Day!
Trinity Sunday is
Sunday, June 11th
Trinity Church will be
166 years young!
Parish Staff
Fr. John M. Himes, OSF
  Rector
Fr. Andrew Ellison
  Curate
Rae Minchew
  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

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