

Trinity Times

A newsletter for the members and friends of Trinity Episcopal Church

Trinity Episcopal Church
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The Rev. Trula Hollywood, Deacon

Pentecost - Advent - November 2005

Greetings,

In the past, November has been a very solemn month for me. I'm not completely sure why. I think the recognition that another year is coming to an end, as well as the green color of life turning to brown, gave me a dreaded feeling of loss. If depression is to hit me, this would be the time of year.

I am slowing coming around to a different way of thinking. Imagine that!

I am beginning to see November as a month of transition. Wait a minute, can this be a good thing? Doesn't transition mean change?

Yes, that's what Webster says. But Webster also defines transition as a movement, development or evolution from one form, stage or style to another. It makes this time of year feel so much more like our Christian calendar meant it to feel.

The "Rock this Church" meeting in the month of October was the beginning of change at Trinity. So many excellent ideas were brought to this meeting. We really started to realize that although the word "change" can be something we don't want to deal with, God still has plans for all of us.

It's often been the case, both in Biblical times and in modern times, that transition has been slow. (Now, there's a revelation!) The first step to realize change is acknowledging God's plan and that we each have an important part in that plan.

The idea of transition makes it much easier to see God's plan. In transition, we take the time to plan ourselves, to pray and to love each other through the changes.

Planning is an important part of what we do in our evangelism efforts. The first members of the evangelism committee (for there *will* be more) meet in November and will report their thoughts to the vestry and the congregation.

All of us will be asked to participate in some way for we all have something to contribute. "Movement, development and evolution" will be occurring at Trinity.

Advent begins in November. This is a time of waiting and anticipation. It is also when we should set aside time for prayer and discernment.

What better time to begin praying about the changes that Trinity will be experiencing in the coming months and years?

I vowed years ago that the shopping and commercialism of the upcoming holidays would not control my life this time of year.

Now it's time to promise myself that there shall be no more dread in November. There is too much to contemplate, anticipate and pray about. Thanks be to God!

God's Peace,
Trula



Trinity Church is God's Episcopal people in Athens. With God's love and with the direction of the Holy Spirit our mission is to involve everyone in worship, outreach, study and prayer. Empowered by God's grace, we strive to foster a caring Christian community, which supports us in our Baptismal vows: To seek and serve Christ in all people.

November, 2005

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Above is the mission statement of our church; the question is, how do we fulfill this mission? By giving of our time to worship, our talents for the benefit of others, and our treasure so the Christian community is there to extend the kingdom of God to the world.

Stewardship is more than a duty; it is a thankful response to God's graciousness to us. Stewardship is the main work of the church.

Every year presents new challenges and new opportunities for our parish. Worship at Trinity is a source of comfort and renewal, often a quiet beacon in hectic lives. It's a good feeling to be comfortable with church. But it's also in the nature of stewardship campaigns to jar us, just a little, out of that complacency.

Each new budget should involve a new commitment rather than an attempt to duplicate last year's situation. Each year involves new promises concerning the resources entrusted to us. As Christians, the most fundamental of those promises are already outlined for us in liturgy: the promises made at baptism. Only as a worshiping community can we explore the meaning of those promises and work to fulfill them.

Our blessings have been great. As you plan your support of Trinity in both time and money over the next year, recalling this may be a good place to start. Please consider your budget and respond prayerfully and thankfully as you can. After all, all we have comes from God and we are only returning to Him and His work what is His.

A pledge card and self-addressed envelope are included; but, better yet, please place your pledge card in the offering on November 20th. Thank you.

In Christ,

Your Vestry



Trinity Episcopal Church - November 2005

Last Pentecost
Advent

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Trinity Prayer Cycle</i> 11/6 Joe, Stacey, Roman, Derek, Brandon and Parker Coston; 11/13 Jeff, Kim, Eric and Abby Davenport; 11/20 Jerry and Jean Dolan, Norma Duddie; 11/27 Bill Ewing, Jean Ewing.		1 All Saints' Day	2 All Souls' Day	3 <i>Heather Martin Brandon and Derek Coston</i>	4	5 Bishop's School, 10-3:15, St. Peter's, Hazleton
6 All Saints Sunday 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour <i>Norma Duddie</i>	7	8	9 <i>Matthew Hollywood</i>	10 <i>Jim & Mary Patterson</i>	11 Happening! through Sunday Kirby House	12 Bishop's School, 10-3:15, St. Peter's, Hazleton
13 Pentecost 26 - Proper 28 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour <i>Ann Zulkosky</i>	14	15 District 8 Bible Study <i>Carol Reed</i>	16	17	18	19 Bishop's School, 10-3:15, St. Peter's, Hazleton
20 Last Pentecost Christ the King ----Vestry Meets ----- 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour Pledge Sunday	21	22	23 <i>Fr. Ned & Barbara Caum</i>	24 Thanksgiving Day <i>Joe Coston</i>	25	26
27 Advent I 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour <i>Ruby Jenney Elizabeth Maneval</i> 	28	29	30 St. Andrew the Apostle	<i>Anglicans Around the World</i> 11/6 The Diocese of Taita-Taveta (Kenya), Bishop Samson Mwakitawa Mwaluda; 11/13 The Diocese of Texas, Bishop Don Wimberly; The Diocese of West Texas, Bishop James Folts; 11/20 The persecuted church in the Sudan; 11/27 The Diocese of Tuam, Killala and Achonry (Armagh, Ireland) Bishop Richard Henderson		

Kajo Keji, 11/6 The Esia Refugee Camp
 11/13 The Adidi Refugee Camp
 11/20 The Aliwara Refugee Camp
 11/27 The Mongola Refugee Camp

Diocesan Prayer Cycle 11/6 St. Elizabeth's, Schnecksville, Scott Allen, rector; 11/13 St. Clement's/St. Peter's, Wilkes-Barre, William Marshall, rector; 11/20 Episcopal Ministry of Unity: All Saints, Leighton, St. John's, Palmerton, Peter Harer, rector; 11/27 The Jubilee Ministry of all congregations

Coming in December - Christmas is on a Sunday this year, which will make scheduling a little tight. Greening of the church will be Sunday, December 18.

July 8, 2006, 11:00 a.m. Trula's Ordination to the Priesthood

Bridge Candle Sale - November 6

Just in time for your Christmas shopping! These are Pennsylvania made Blue Mountain candles and they come in any scent you can imagine. They are ten dollars each and burn a long, long time. Deadline is this Sunday, November 6. Also, please consider a donation directly to the Bridge; you may place it in the offering plate on Sunday. Be sure to note "The Bridge" on the *for* line of your check.

Planning for the Future - What about our children?

Most of us manage to get our children to church now and again, but between school, sports and sleeping in, it's not often. The Rev. Demery Bader-Saye, our diocesan youth minister, has offered to come visit us and help us with some ideas and planning to include our young people more in our parish life.

We need to choose a date for her visit; are you interested? Please talk to Fr. Ned or Deacon Trula.

Safeguarding God's Children, the child abuse prevention training, will be offered at Church of the Redeemer on April 29. All church members are urged to take part, especially vestry and those who work with children.

Trinity Times is online at our web site in pdf format at www.trinityathens.org/Archives.htm. The earliest publication is 11/03.

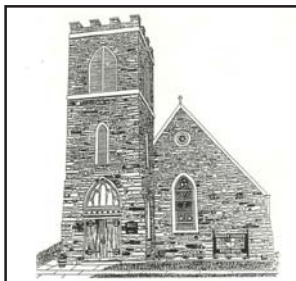
Are you receiving *Diocesan Life and Episcopal Life*? If not, please let Barbara know. Call the office at 888-5715, her office phone at 888-8981 or email her at information@trinityathens.org.

Are you interested in being confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church? Talk to Fr. Ned or Deacon Trula. May 7, Christ Church.

Sign up to host Coffee Hour! Since the parish hall freezer froze itself open and was running all the time and was consequently over defrosted by your forgetful parish secretary, there are no more leftovers. Coffee will be made, you supply the goodies ... and everyone will be quite thankful.

Holy God, your Son called us to wrap the whole world in your saving embrace. By your Holy Spirit, give us compassion, purpose and energy to invite into your Church those who do not yet know the transforming power of your love. We ask this through him who has brought us from darkness to light, your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

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November at Trinity