

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

Lent - March - 2006

Greetings;

We're entering the season of Lent this week. I always find it so amazing how quickly the seasons go by. Spring will be here soon and we will hear and observe the new life of the season. Lent presents to us new life as well and has taken on a very different meaning in recent times.

Penitence was the main theme of Lent in the history of the church, but the emphasis of this season is now more baptismal. We still observe Lent by fasting or giving of alms but we do it with the purpose of deepening our commitment to Christ. We observe Lent in community and join with others in making a sincere effort to focus on Christ in our lives.

Lent begins with our journey of faith; each of us has a story. We examine our basic baptismal call to be part of Christ. In doing this, it is important for each of us to look at our own personal faith story. Where has God been in our lives? When did we feel as if God was not there? When was God there and we didn't recognize it?

When we are baptized, we become the body of Christ on earth. Lent gives us the opportunity to reflect on how we accomplish this great commission with which we've been charged.

Our faith must be renewed ... our baptismal promises affirmed. Each time we gather for the Eucharist, we hear God's Word and come to the table to be transformed into the Body of Christ.

We bring to that experience our questions, our sinfulness, our hunger and thirst, our need to grow, and our longing for God. As humans,

will have doubts and we will sin. The trick is to recognize that we are only human but will strive to be Christ-like.

As I think about the seasons approaching, it is clear that we at Trinity have been considering our commission as set forth in our baptismal vows.

I find myself wondering where we are heading and I realize that the good people of Trinity, with each other's caring and loving help, are ready to embark on a more active role in making things happen at our church.

I really do get excited thinking along these lines because I can feel the love and the beginnings of the same kind of excitement in all of you.

There are Lenten study groups beginning this month and many other plans in the works.

The lay ministers will be meeting and getting started with visiting the sick.

There is an evangelism committee which is making plans. Many people have stepped up to take care of the smaller but important things that need to be done at the church and the parish hall.

I ask that we all consider giving our time to a new community activity or to an activity at Trinity this Lenten season.

Participation and excitement is stirring in all of us. Please join us to get a feel for more of that at the Lenten study group Wednesdays at 7.

God's Peace,

Trula

The Church's Role in the Community: Lenten Study Group, 2006

In the January diocesan cycle of prayer we began the year by praying together "for congregations in transition in our diocese as they prayerfully consider, in their search for a new rector, their mission in their communities."

While we are not searching for a new rector, we are a congregation in transition. This is a perfect opportunity to look beyond the circle of our church family and the walls of our buildings to begin to discern our place in the community.

This is an opportunity not only for those of us at Trinity to begin this process, but to also invite other members of the community to join us so that we learn and discern together.

Please plan to join us in the Parish Hall Wednesday at 7 during the season of Lent, beginning March 8.

Pastoral Ministry Training

On January 14 Beverly Barton, Hermine Shapiro and Carla Ross attended an all-day workshop at RPH on Pastoral Ministry.

There was a discussion on what religion and spirituality are and how faith affects one's life and healing. We also discussed the role of a "pastoral presence" and how one must prepare oneself to make a pastoral visit -- prayer, center yourself and then LISTEN, LISTEN, LISTEN. Often one's presence is enough to engender a feeling of trust so that at the next visit the patient will be able to talk about what's going on with him. There was extensive background work done before we moved on to role playing.

Using the story of Jacob, we took turns taking the role of Jacob and then that of the observer. That gave us a real idea of how hard it can be to do this ministry. There were times

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Report from the Annual Meeting

There was good food, good fellowship, good laughter and much accomplished at the 164th meeting of Trinity Church.

Deep thanks to those who will serve on the 2006 Vestry: John Schoonover, Senior Warden; Laura Cama, Clerk; Barbara Caum, Treasurer (non voting); Patricia Gurney, Heather Hunsinger, Fanna Proper, Carla Ross and Hermine Shapiro.

The office of Junior Warden is open. Consider if caring for the buildings or arranging their care is something you feel called to.

Our delegate to the 2006 Diocesan Convention is John Schoonover; Hermine Shapiro is the alternate. Fanna Proper has agreed to serve as our representative to the Bridge of Penn-York Valley Churches.


There are extra copies of the Annual Meeting Report available. If you were unable to attend the meeting, please pick one up and read through it. You'll see that the budget reflects that Fr. Ned is working just one day a week for the first six months of the year. After Trula's ordination to the priesthood on July 8, he will be named assistant and will stay on with a small stipend. The day-to-day running of the parish is being handled by Barbara, whose job title and responsibilities have changed to Parish Administrator.

There is a small amount of landscape work remaining to complete the recent renovation of the church building. Also, as of July 1, the Caums will be renting the rectory and there is a great deal of work that needs to be done on that building before then, including a new furnace, weatherization, dry wall and plaster repair, a chimney leak sealed, gutters moved, porch roof replaced and more.



Trinity Episcopal Church - March 2006

Lent

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Trinity Prayer Cycle</i> 3/5 Jon, Wendy, Kim, Kate and Kelly Murray 3/12 Cora Orshal, Elizabeth Pashley 3/19 James and Mary Patterson, Andy Patterson 3/26 Stephen, Mary Beth, Chandler and Savannah Paul.		February 28 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 6 p.m.	1 Ash Wednesday 7 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes (or at Redeemer at 7:30 a.m. or 12:05 p.m.)	2	3	4
5 First Sunday in Lent 9:00 Holy Eucharist I 10:00 Coffee Hour <i>Trula Hollywood</i>	6 <i>Laura Smith</i> <i>Evelyn Gurney Forbes</i>	7 <i>Elizabeth Pashley</i>	8 7 p.m. Lenten Class <i>Bonnie Bailey</i>	9	10 <i>Beverly Barton</i> <i>Jan Beck</i> <i>Jack Forbes</i> <i>Gage Streeter</i>	11 <i>Greg Lake</i>
12 Second Sunday in Lent 9:00 Holy Eucharist I 10:00 Coffee Hour <i>JoAnn Armstrong</i>	13 <i>Barbara Caum</i> <i>Keith Hollywood</i>	14	15 7 p.m. Lenten Class <i>Jeff Hunt</i>	16	17	18 <i>Mike Barry</i>
19 Third Sunday in Lent 9:00 Holy Eucharist I 10:00 Coffee Hour Vestry Meets <i>Mary Tolbert</i>	20 St. Joseph <i>Peter Cama</i>	21 <i>Rick Bubniak</i>	22 7 p.m. Lenten Class	23	24 <i>William Wood</i>	25 The Annunciation
26 Fourth Sunday in Lent 9:00 Holy Eucharist I 10:00 Coffee Hour	27 <i>Robert Bean,</i> <i>Mary Ann Burke</i>	28 <i>Mary Beth Paul</i> <i>Jeanne Ewing</i>	29 7 p.m. Lenten Class <i>Joe & Laura Cama</i>	30	31 Daylight Savings Time begins next Sunday, April 2. Set your clock ahead one hour Saturday night.	

Anglicans Around the World 3/5 The Province de L'Engise Anglicane Du Congo; 3/12 The Church of Ireland; 3/19 Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui; 3/26 The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean.

Kajo Keji, 3/5 The Romogi Archdeaconry; 3/12 The congregation at Bori; 3/19 The Congregation at Kimu; 3/26 The Congregation at Lobale

Diocesan Prayer Cycle 3/5 Church of the Redeemer, Sayre, Benjamin L. Lentz, rector; Hazel Hunt, Deacon; 3/12 Calvary, Tamaqua, The Rev. Rob Gildersleeve; 3/19 St. James & St. George, Jermyn, John Gamble, priest-in-charge; 3/26 St. Mark's, Moscow, Earl Trygar, rector; St. Mark's, New Milford, Carol Horton, rector.

Pray for the Diocese of Swaziland, Bishop Meshack Mabuza and the Diocesan AIDS ministry

When you are ill

Please, please let someone from the church know. Call Trula or Barbara at the church office. We care about you and want to be there to help in any way that we can. With the new privacy laws it is difficult for us to find out on our own.

Church office is 570.888.5715
Trula's cell is 607.425.1039
Barbara's cell is 607.738.0183

Safeguarding God's Children

Child Abuse Prevention Training will be offered at the Church of the Redeemer on April 29. Registration deadline is April 24. All clergy, vestry, paid church personnel and volunteers who regularly work with or around children may need to take or update their training. \$15 if you pack your own lunch, \$20 if lunch is included.

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when words failed us in the face of the fierce anger and fear Jacob was expressing in the role playing.

We learned that prayer can be a powerful tool in this ministry and that there are many kinds of prayer. Prayers of lament can contribute toward healing and transformation and identifying and naming what is inside of you. Prayer can help process difficult emotions, break one out of denial and pretense, help us move beyond despair. One must always ask the patient if would like a prayer. To illustrate, Rev. Martin, one of the presenters, read us a few of the beautifully beseeching prayers from the Psalms.

There was much, much more information discussed that affect a successful pastoral ministry. We each received a handbook, "Listening and Caring," by John Savage, which is a guide dealing with communication skills.

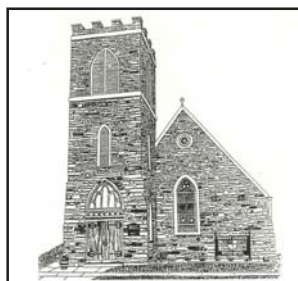
It was a full day and well spent.

Compiled from notes by Carla Ross. If you would like to know more about this wonderful ministry, please talk to Carla, Hermine or Beverly.

March Highlights

Ash Wednesday is March 1
Lenten Group begins March 8
Vestry meets March 19

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March at Trinity