

Trinity Times

A newsletter for the members and friends of Trinity Episcopal Church

Trinity Episcopal Church
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Christmas - Epiphany - January 2010

Greetings,

Merry Christmas! It has been wonderful to spend a joyful and exciting Advent season back here in Bradford County with my family and my church family. I learned from being away last year how important community is to help us get through each day.

I mostly missed the day to day contact with those who make life feel as if it's going in the right direction. I get a call from a parishioner with something having to do with an upcoming event or a call from one of my kids just to share something going on with one or more of the grandchildren and I give thanks for being "here".

Our community has been through many changes, trials, losses, gains and joys within the past year. As the economy remains unstable and uncertain, we continue to consider how Trinity as a faith community and we as individuals can help one another and serve those in need.

I am pleased to report that our outreach efforts in the last year have been quite successful. Our clothing, food and toy drives were very helpful to many people in the community. These efforts gave many of us an opportunity to meet people we may not have otherwise. In that sense, the experience was very rewarding. In another sense, the experiences served as an eye opener to the poverty in our area.

In the valley area, 20% of the population have not graduated high school and 12% are below poverty level. The unemployment rate in 2008 was 5.4%.

Yes, Trinity is small in numbers, but I recently read a commentary where the pastor described her church as the "mustard seed church". Matthew 17:20; *If you have faith as small as a mustard seed...nothing will be impossible for you.* The church becomes a source of food, rest, and shelter, for all who enter its doors. The humble beginning of the church grows to a "bigness" that brings about change.

Trinity could be described as a mustard seed church, one that can and has brought about change. We have plans in 2010 to offer outreach from our smallness.

We are going to use the parish hall for AA meetings and possibly for a support group for woman in crisis. We have also increased our food pantry giving.

I hope that we can continue our current efforts at meeting needs in the community into this new year and beyond.

We are on a journey together. Many of us have faced poverty in our own lives. I know from my own experience how much stress is involved when the utility companies are threatening to shut off the heat or it is questionable where the next meal will come from, or whether there will be enough money to pay the medical bills.

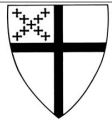
Many people are faced with making choices between medical care, food or heat. It is a scary place to be and no one chooses to be there. Circumstances in life bring us to places where survival is the main focus.

I pray that we can cultivate and grow our faith and that we may spread the Love of God to those who need it most.

The first step is to use the gifts we've been given and to bring all of us who belong to and care about our church and our community together to plan for the coming year. Trinity's annual meeting is January 24th. We will have a pot luck brunch after church. After the meal, we will conduct a meeting to make plans for our small church. There are many decisions that need to be made at the meeting and I encourage every one to participate. If you haven't been able to attend church lately, consider this an opportunity to join us in our efforts to serve others. If you are unable to physically help with our efforts, your input in the planning process will be most appreciated.


Let us go into the new year with a reasonable, positive outreach plan!

God's Peace,
Mother Trula



Trinity Episcopal Church - January 2010

Christmas
Epiphany

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Trinity Cycle of Prayer: 1/3 Joe, Laura, Peter and Tim Cama; Rachel and Peter Cama-Lekx; 1/10 Barbara, Alan and Doris Caum; 1/17 Ian, Kathleen, Audrey and Sean Clare; 1/24 Joe, Stacey, Roman, Derek, Brandon and Parker Coston; 1/31 Jeff, Kim, Eric and Abby Davenport.		Anglicans Around the World: 1/3 The Anglican Church of Australia; 1/10 The Church of Bangladesh; 1/17 The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity; 1/24 The Anglican Church of Burundi; 1/31 The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand & Polynesia			1	2 Christmas II 5:00 Holy Eucharist
3 Christmas II 9:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Coffee Hour	4 AA 8:00 pm <i>Janice Beck</i> <i>Marie Bubniak</i> <i>Bryan Bean</i>	5	6 The Epiphany AA 7:30 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	7 	8	9 Epiphany I 5:00 Holy Eucharist <i>Doris Caum</i>
10 Epiphany I 9:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Coffee Hour	11 AA 8:00 pm	12	13 AA 7:30 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm <i>Sharon & Harold Cole</i>	14	15	16 Epiphany II 5:00 Holy Eucharist <i>Janet Gurney</i>
17 Epiphany II 9:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Coffee Hour Vestry Meets—Annual Reports due	18 St. Peter AA 8:00 pm <i>Jake Armstrong</i>	19	20 AA 7:30 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	21	22	23 Epiphany III 5:00 Holy Eucharist
24 Epiphany III 9:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Coffee Hour and Annual Meeting <i>Paul Kelley</i>	25 St. Paul AA 8:00 pm <i>Catherine Page Gurney</i>	26	27 AA 7:30 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	28	29	30 Epiphany IV 5:00 Holy Eucharist <i>Joe Cama</i>
31 Epiphany IV 9:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Coffee Hour	Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: 1/3 St. James, Drifton, The Rev. Jeffrey Funk, Rector; 1/10 The Youth Ministry of our Diocesan Community; 1/17 St. Anne's, Trexlertown, The Rev. Canon Michael Piovane, Rector, The Rev. Judith Snyder, Associate; 1/24 St. Luke's, Lebanon, The Rev. Terrence Wible, Rector; 1/31 St. James, Schulkyll Haven, The Rev. John Heffner, Rector.			Kajo Keji: 1/3 Jalimo Parish, The Rev. Edward Maku, The Rev. John Jiggo; 1/10 Jondya Parish. The Rev. Aggrey Ludoru; 1/17 Kajo Keji Secondary School, The Rev. Tom Ezbon; 1/ 24 Kala Parish, The Rev. Timothy Modi Mark; 1/31 Kansuk Parish, The Rev. Simon Lodu		