



Trinity Memorial Church
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 The Rev. Matthew R. Scott, Vicar

Newsletter

Volume 23, Issue 1, Jan/Feb 2014

“Christmas is for kids”, or so says one of my favorite secular songs that finds its way into my iPod during the holidays. Kenny Rogers crooning about the simple joy of children who have a new toy gives me those warm fuzzies that many desire as part of their Christmas observance. I know, you expect some heavenly, theologically sound triumphant statement of Christ’s birth to be playing in your priest’s ears (don’t worry, Handel’s Messiah will get a thorough airing as well), but this one does it for me, too.

I’m thinking more about this idea of children and Christmas as we enjoy a year long exploration of worship at Trinity. Already our Advent experiments with using a meditative entrance rite, incense around the altar, and shortened announcements are more than halfway over, and parish leaders are helping me design the next experiments that we will try during Epiphany. These are not meant to be earth-shattering permanent changes to our worship, but opportunities to try things a little differently for a little while, all so that we as a community can better appreciate what we do in worship.

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And this is why I think of the childhood experience of Christmas as I consider our year of worship experiments. The idea is for us to capture a child-like wonder and joy in all that we do.

I encourage you to step back and open up your child heart. Be the child relishing their new toy. Let’s play together in these experiments. Let’s approach the weekly gift of God’s presence with child-like hearts, ready to experience joy and wonder together. We are, after all, blessed with the greatest gift that any child could ask for, our God’s presence in our midst as we worship his holy name and approach his grace-filled altar to be fed by him who gives us everything. Like Christmas, worship is for children, the children of God, and I am blessed to share in worshipping God each Sunday with all of you, God’s blessed children.

How incredible that God chooses to dwell with us. We use words like grace and miracle when trying to describe it, but especially during this season the word gift rings true. We are worthy of God’s presence. No matter what we may be contending with in our spiritual and secular lives, God chooses us. May you all, as his beloved children, find a way to celebrate the gift of God himself coming into the world this season of joy and hope.

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CELEBRATE

*Greening of the Church
takes place after worship on
Sunday, December 22.*



With great success last year, we are again combining Christmas Eve Service celebrations with St. Francis. Both congregations have a variety of gifts to offer in worship, and utilizing them makes our Christmas Eve experiences profound.

Our first service is a **45-minute service being held at St. Francis in Youngsville** and will enable our youngest members to engage the Nativity story more fully by dressing up and reenacting the manger scene. Tim Dyer, postulant, will offer a brief homily and the service will conclude with Mother Sue Scofield officiating over the Holy Eucharist.



The **second service is an 8 PM Solemn High Mass at Trinity**. Nearly every role in the service will be filled with members of both congregations - a wonderful selection of musicians, readers, ushers, and servers. Fr. Matthew will officiate the service and Fr. Larry Scofield will offer the sermon. This is a fantastic opportunity to share the richness of gifts each congregation has to offer, and so we encourage you and your families to join us!

A quiet Worship service led by Father Matthew at Trinity will be held at 10AM Christmas Day.

TERRE III intro

TERRE III: The Worship Edition (TERRE stands for Trinity Episcopal Revival and Reflection Experience) will kick off Wednesday night, January 22nd. This Wednesday night education series builds on the wildly successful TERRE series held in the past two years and matches up with the central theme of our parish work this year.

Participants can expect 6 evening events that will include presentations from Father Matthew focusing on different aspects of worship, small group discussions, and ways to learn more with individual readings. The aim is to build a body of knowledge and experience with what worship is and what our intention is when worshipping, all so that we can engage more deeply in Trinity's work this year in pursuing its mission of Enriching Worship.

Circle those Wednesday nights, sign up to offer a dessert treat, and talk to Father Matthew about any questions.

Newcomer class in January

Father Matthew will be holding a newcomers series on Sunday January 12th and 19th after worship. Participants will get a chance to learn about Trinity's mission, ways to get involved, and get to know Father Matthew and some of Trinity's leaders.

- If you are interested in attending, call the office (723-9360) or email Father Matthew (frmatthew@trinitywarren.org).

- If there is someone you know who could use an invitation, please let the office know.

- If you could help sponsor a special treat for the meetings, please offer Father Matthew your cooking expertise!

GROW

Year Focus: Enriching Worship

Starting on December 1st, Trinity is embarking on a year long exploration of worship. Centered around our mission statement's direction that Trinity Celebrates God through Enriching Worship, Trinity will spend this year exploring how it can best experience Enriching Worship. As a guide to entering into this work, Father Matthew is offering us an important concept, that worship is enriching because it increases our sense of God's presence in our personal lives and in the life of the community.

During each Season of the Church year we will be experimenting with different portions of our worship with the intention of drawing our attention and awareness towards where and how we best experience God's presence together on

Sunday morning. Trinity's leadership team will periodically invite all members to contribute comments and ideas through various forms throughout the year. Alongside this Sunday work will be educational opportunities, including a Wednesday evening class beginning in January, meant to offer more experience and ideas as we engage this work.

The intention is that by December of 2014 Trinity will be able to say that its efforts on Sunday morning are best utilizing the gifts we have been given by God to pursue enriching worship whenever we gather. Enjoy the experience this year and be ready to offer your input as we make the journey.

SERVE

Bishop's Committee member discernment

All members of Trinity are called to prayerfully discern who God is lifting up for the leadership of the mission through being a part of Trinity's Bishop's Committee. In previous years this group was called a vestry, but now that we are a mission our leadership board's name changes to Bishop's Committee. Responsibilities entail meeting monthly for mission discussions or business meetings, serving as Father Matthew's council of advice, and being spiritual leaders for the mission.

As you feel God lift up certain people for this ministry through your prayers, please forward those names to Father Matthew or a current Bishop's Committee member. The more leaders actively participating in the Bishop's Committee, the more action we can take in pursuing our mission.

Christmas Day Hot Meals

We will once again bring joy to the homebound on Christmas Day by delivering a hot meal to those who cannot get out or are alone.



Please sign up in the narthex if you can assist in this ministry by helping prep, deliver and/or providing cookies. Cookies should be delivered to First Lutheran or Trinity by Christmas Eve morning.

Hot Meals Fundraiser

We've had a great response to our non event invitation in of support our Hot Holiday Meals ministry with over \$2000 being raised so far!



Food Pantry Drive

Our Community Dinner and Food Pantry Drive was a great

success. The pantry was filled requiring us to add more shelves. A great problem to have!

Thanks to everyone for celebrating and supporting our Emergency Food Pantry.



43 Shoe Boxes were sent from Trinity to Operation Christmas Child. Thank You!!

84 Thanksgiving Food Bags were distributed for Thanksgiving.

Over 240 meals were delivered Thanksgiving Day!

Cathedral in Haiti

Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori has asked The Episcopal Church to remember the Diocese of Haiti on the fourth anniversary of the earthquake in Haiti.

On January 12, 2010, a massive earthquake struck Haiti, killing more than 300,000 people, seriously injuring more than 250,000, and leaving 1.3 million homeless. An extensive number of private and public buildings were destroyed including Holy Trinity Cathedral and the affiliated Episcopal institutions in the Cathedral Complex.

Bishop Schori urges all Episcopalians to pray and give in solidarity with our largest and fastest-growing diocese and asks for our generosity in a special offering on Sunday, January 12 to aid the Diocese of Haiti in rebuilding Holy Trinity Cathedral in Port-au-Prince.”

On Sunday, January 12th our loose plate offering will be designated for the Cathedral in Haiti.

Bishop Schori noted that the fourth anniversary falls on the first Sunday of Epiphany, the day on which the Church celebrates the Baptism of Our Lord, which is depicted in one of the three surviving Cathedral murals.



Salvaged Historic Mural of Holy Trinity Cathedral
The Baptism of Our Lord painted by Casera Bazile 1951

Annual Meeting

Trinity’s annual meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, January 26th**, and will be held as part of our morning worship. We will gather at **9AM (note that this is 30 minutes early)** for Morning Prayer, engage in the meeting with reports, nominate members for the Bishop’s Committee, and hear more about the upcoming year’s work. We will conclude with Eucharist and then sharing lunch together (meal provided, you bring dessert to share).

All reports to be included in the printed annual report, should be in the office by Monday, January 20th.



Coffee Fellowship

Thanks to
Addy & Gary Landrio for hosting coffee hour in November and to *Mary Lou & Tom*

Watt, Addy & Gary Landrio and *Rose Mary Landon* for hosting in December.

Check out the table in the narthex for open Sundays for your opportunity to serve in this fellowship ministry.

Primary age space in development

Trinity is delighted to have young people bounding around the halls, and we would like to collect some board games and activity sets for children ages 6-12. Our nursery is nice, but a space for these bigger players with toys for their age would be even better. Drop off a good board game, bean bag chair, or other primary age activity outside the office and then volunteer to help organize a space for them!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

January

- 1 - John Robertson
Sunny Thomas
- 2 - Barb Willis
- 3 - Mary Lou Watt
- 11 - Barbara Boger
Darlene John
- 13 - Donna Ball
- 19 - Jim McCollough
- 20 - Vivien Boger
- 25 - Pam Curry
- 26 - Dorothy & Charles Bennett
- 29 - Charles Bennett
Chuck Rapp
- 31 - Keira Fox

February

- 2- Chris Mesmer
Pat Hesch
- 3 - Andy Yurick
- 4 - Sue Rapp
- 8 - Taylor John
- 9 - Addy Landrio
- 14 - Ed Ball
Pauline & Charles Steinmyer
- 15 - Ellen Scalise
Kurt Smith
- 18 - Siby Thomas
- 20 - Leslie Baldensperger
- 23 - Linda Jensen
- 25 - Joseph Thomas



Address Update

Dick & Mary Klancher
379 Kittery Point
Sanford, NC 27332

2013 CONTRIBUTIONS:

For contributions to be credited in 2013, they must be received at the church or postmarked on or before December 31st.

2014 Stewardship Drive

As of December 12th 36 pledges for 74,764 have been returned.

Treasurer's Report—Operating Fund to November 30, 2013

| Beginning Balance | 25,650 | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | Actual to 11/30/13 | Budget to 11/30/13 | 2013 Budget |
| Member Pledges | \$79,765 | \$91,747 | \$100,088 |
| Other Regular Member Contr. | \$11,120 | \$9,900 | \$10,800 |
| Miscellaneous Other Givers | <u>\$785</u> | <u>\$1,375</u> | <u>\$1,500</u> |
| Total Contribution | \$91,670 | \$103,022 | \$112,388 |
| Other Income | \$10,407 | \$4,583 | \$5,000 |
| Plate Income | <u>\$1,086</u> | <u>\$917</u> | <u>\$1,000</u> |
| Sub Total Income | \$103,163 | \$108,522 | \$118,388 |
| Endowment | \$91,614 | \$91,614 | \$99,630 |
| Total Income | \$194,777 | \$200,136 | \$218,018 |
| Expenses | \$192,019 | \$201,923 | \$218,018 |
| Difference | \$2,758 | | |
| Ending Balance | \$28,408 | | |

Prayer for Trinity

Guide, O Lord, our efforts in following your mission for Trinity. Unify us as a the body of Christ at mission in this world. Build us up for greater service and joy. Remind us that we follow you in faith when we Celebrate you in our worship, Grow through the transforming power of your Spirit, Serve you by sharing the healing we've found in Christ. Amen

Prayers

Homebound: Mickey Ettinger (Cambridge), Judy Nobles (Warren Manor), Mickey Conroy, Helen Kroemer, Veryl Riley (Golden Living), Marcia Baker, Jean Gibb, (Suites at the Rouse), Marian Edwards (Warren State Hospital)

The Bishop's Committee: Vivien Boger, Diane Brant, Denise Ely, Clare Glarner, John John, Addy Landrio, Connie Michell

Illness/Surgery/Other Needs: Denny Brown, Jon Ettinger, Billy Moriarity, Janet Ely, Kurt Glarner, Terry Brant, Ed Brant, Dick & Mary Klancher, Tom, Stacey & Ryan Sorensen, Cody Stalder, Gar & Beth Spicher, Jen Spicher, Scott Mitchell, Jeff Washburn, Brian Knisley, Ash & Jean Brant, Susan Bennett, Kara Donaldson, Carrie, Susan Wolfe, Reiner Peters, Ted, Peggy Skinner, Cathy Swanson, Lacy Brant, Julie Eberly & the Eberly family, Ellen, Rick S., Joe Wallo, Cathie & Merl, Betsy, Bill & Celia, Jake Glenn, Magda, Ann, Dave & Bonnie Dickson, Derek, Betty West & daughter, Barb & Rosie, Ed Barlow, Jim & Vickie Eggleston, Cheryl, Peggy & Sam, Mary R., Joan, Mariah, Ashley & Stefan, John, Susie, Libby & family, Mary, Bill Nuhfer, Roger, Regina Davis & Dami, J. Gene Ely, Kris McKillip, Nikole, for the starving, family of Hazel Shield, Kim & Emma, Mike Brant, Bishop's Committee & Matthew

Thanksgivings for: safe travels, new friends, Mary's birthday, happy families, youth sharing the message of Christ, meeting with the consultants, possible job

Serving in the Armed Services: Peter Landrio, Curtis Delattre, Grant Brown, Parker Hahn, Cody, Toby, & Jeremy Williams, Jackie Shaw, José Sepulveda, Nathan Lake

The Clergy: Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop; Sean Rowe, our Bishop; Martha Ishman, Canon to the Ordinary; Matthew Scott, our vicar

Serving justice and peace: Christian Peacemaker Teams; House of Hope, Birds of the Sky, and Good Samaritan House in India; Asociacion Rescate

Prayer for the Diocese

O God, by your grace you have called us in this diocese to a goodly fellowship of faith. Bless our Bishop, Sean, and other clergy, and all our people. Grant that your Word may be truly preached and truly heard, your Sacraments faithfully administered and faithfully received. By your Spirit, fashion our lives according to the example of your Son, and grant that we may show the power of your love to all among whom we live; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Or Current resident

Trinity's Vision of its place in Christ's Mission



Celebrate God through enriching worship,

Grow through the transforming power of the Spirit, and

Serve by sharing the healing we find in Christ.

Come witness the power of God's Love with us.