



Trinity Memorial Church

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The Rev. Matthew R. Scott, Vicar

The Rev. Timothy D. Dyer, Clergy Associate

Newsletter

Volume 24, Issue 3, Fall 2015

Looking Forward to Fall

Although many folks sense the end of summer approaching as depressing or at least a bit sad, it is hard to feel that way as the church. The onset of September is full of expectation and excitement, as the church 'program' year launches. We've been praying for God's blessing upon our efforts to Celebrate, Grow, and Share. We've been brainstorming and planning, and all this energy is looking toward our work together for Christ. It's hard to feel bad when there is so much to look forward to!

This fall we will kick off our time together with our always popular Blessing of Backpacks and Briefcases on Sunday, September 6th. To add to the fun that day, we will have a festive reception and community forum following the service that will include an opportunity for helping Father Matthew with his Doctor of Ministry studies with a Parish Spiritual Life Workshop.

The next week, September 13th, we will host your friends and neighbors for "Bring a Friend Sunday". It would be a shame to hide the joy we find in Christ, yet it is true

that we Episcopalians are not the most outgoing evangelists in the Christian world. So, let's do it together! Every family is asked to bring one person with them to enjoy worshipping with us. Those guests interested in hearing more about our life together will get to meet Father Matthew after worship for a Q&A session and can sign up for further opportunities to hear about our mission in Christ. Included in this mailing are invitation cards for you to use as you invite others to join us.

We are delighted to host a Children of Abraham event at Trinity on September 12th. These conversations between local leaders of the three Abrahamic faiths (Jewish, Muslim, and Christian) are part of an ongoing ministry effort by our Clergy Associate the Rev. Tim Dyer. More information is available later in the newsletter.

Wednesday Evening Christian Education will kick off October 7th with our Fall Series entitled "Begin with the End in Mind". It is an annual duty for the clergy in the Episcopal Church to remind their parishioners of the vital need for all people to have up-to-date wills and end-of-life plans. While modern medicine itself is an incredible miracle, the ability to sustain life in such dramatic ways encourages us to prayerfully consider how we approach and use such tools in living out our lives in relationship to Jesus Christ. This sounds like a depressing topic,

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but the aim is that by the end of the 6 week course participants will feel more comfortable about we choose to encounter the end of this precious thing we call life. Over six sessions participants can expect informative and spiritual conversations around wills, powers of attorney, funeral homes, hospice, and the ways the church can be involved through funerals, bedside visitation, and planning opportunities. For us to have a healthy spiritual life, we should keep in mind that our time is precious and a gift, so let's "Begin with the End in Mind"!

It is so exciting to see the many different things coming to Trinity.

Blessings,

Matthew

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CELEBRATE

Bring a friend Sunday!!

We are hosting "Invite a Friend to Church Sunday" on September 13th. We are inviting others to come experience worship and let the Holy Spirit do the rest. Begin praying now for those that you will invite.

Enclosed is an invitation card and 4 business cards to assist you in this ministry. Additional cards are available in the narthex.



Blessing of the Backpacks And Work Items



Sunday, September 6th our worship will feature a time to pronounce God's blessings upon the people of God and the things they use in their callings of life. Students of all ages should bring a backpack for their school things. Workers should bring an item that they use at work (and creativity is always appreciated). Retirees should bring something that they use in their lives as part of living out their callings, too (even bridge cards have had God's blessing go with

them to their sacred tables). Don't miss this chance for us to recognize and welcome God's place in our daily life and work.

Annual Retreat

The Episcopal Church Women will hold a Retreat on Saturday, September 12, 2015 at The Episcopal Cottage at Chautauqua Institute. Registration and Continental Breakfast will begin at 8:30 a.m. The closing Eucharist will begin at 3:30 p.m. Registration fee for Saturday is \$20.00 (scholarships available). Overnight accommodations are available on a first come, first served basis. Registration fee for Friday and Saturday is \$30.00.

The Retreat Leader will be The Rev. Dr. Alvin C. Johnson, Canon for Congregational Vitality and Innovation for the Episcopal Diocese of Northwestern Pa. The theme will be "Jesus and the Local Church". Registration forms are available in the narthex or parish office. For more information please call Donna Wheeler at 814.825.5708.

Join us Sunday, September 6 after the 10:30 AM service as Trinity hosts a festive reception and community forum that will include an opportunity for helping Father Matthew with his Doctor of Ministry studies with a Parish Spiritual Life Workshop

Graduates Update

Our three Warren Area High School Graduates are beginning the next step in their journeys. Please keep them in your prayers as they embark on their new adventures.



Quinn Boger will be attending the University of Pittsburgh entering the Engineering Program.

Bailey Dilks will be attending Gannon University entering their Physician Assistant Program.

Elin Smith will be attending Rochester Institute of Technology entering Advertising and Photography programs.

Our post graduates have also been busy.

Megan (Glarner) Giacomino graduated from Harper College in May 2015 with an Associate's Degree in Nursing (ADN). She is currently working as a Registered Nurse (RN) at in the ICU Stepdown unit at Alexian Brothers Medical Center in the NW Chicago area. Megan is now pursuing a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing (BSN) at the University of Illinois at Chicago.



Nathan Heltzel graduated from Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA with a Doctor of Education degree (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership.

Nancy S. Scott graduated Magna Cum Laude from Ohio University with her Bachelors Degree in Nursing.

Jocelin Thomas graduated from the University of Buffalo with a master degree in accounting. She completed her Certified Public Accountant's Exam this summer and moves in September to Boston to begin her career as an external auditor at Ernst & Young.

Joseph Thomas graduated from the University at Buffalo School of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences with his Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) and is currently a Resident Physician in Internal Medicine in Buffalo.

CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM

I am pleased to announce that a date has been set for a fifth event for The Children of Abraham Project. **On September 12, 2015 starting at 2pm Trinity will be hosting its first Children of Abraham event.** Some people may be familiar with this interfaith project from past events. For those that are not familiar, let me please explain what The Children of Abraham is all about.

This interfaith initiative actually started to be developed in summer of 2011, and the first event was in October of 2012. That summer I was on a break from my studies, and I was reading over our Baptismal Covenant. While each question struck a cord with me, there were two that particularly stood out. Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? I wondered if I was living into the vows as well as I could be.

As I considered the first question I asked myself how I was seeking and serving Christ in all persons and loving my neighbor as myself? What if that person was a different faith? What if they were a Sikh, a Hindu, a Buddhist, A Muslim, or a Jew? How was I to seek and serve Christ in someone that was not a Christian?

When I considered the second question I had to ask myself; how was I striving for justice and peace among all people and how was I respecting the dignity of every human being? What was I doing? If I was silent when others were being tried in society's judgmental court, was that fulfilling my vow? Did my silence make me as guilty as the accusers who were passing judgment?

To answers these questions, I felt that I must first

define what is the basic essence of God. No matter what word I used to describe God, they all seemed to stem from one word; love. The basic essence of God is love. Jesus loved the most reviled people of his time because God loves all people regardless of how we humans segregate ourselves.

Through my biblical studies, my college courses, a lot of prayer and discernment I determined an answer to the first question I had; how do I seek and serve Christ in someone that is not a Christian? I determined that when I look into the eyes of a stranger and see there the same love that is in my heart, then I am looking into the eyes of a brother or sister. It is in serving that love, that I serve Christ; regardless ethnicity or religious beliefs.

Now I had to answer my second question of how do I strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

While pondering the answer for the second question, I couldn't help but notice that the news reports were full of stories about the villainous Muslims. The portrait that was painted was that Muslims were all AK47 toting maniacs who wanted to kill everyone. I also saw news reports about Israel and Palestine and the warring factions there. One group would violently strike out against subjugation and the other would retaliate with even more violence. The constant stream of these stories was shaping the opinions of the people who viewed them. It seemed that it was the most violent and radical people who were putting a face to these cultures and religions. Just because someone puts on the mask of a religion doesn't mean that they are an actual representation of that religion. There are many people who call themselves Christians that I would not want representing me and my beliefs. I couldn't believe that these violent portrayals were actual representations of the common person.

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It was the common, everyday person who was being tried in the courts of society for the actions of a minority of people who were claiming their faith. No one was giving these people a voice. I now knew how I could further live into my baptismal vows. The Children of Abraham Project was developed. This initiative is designed to bring Judaism, Islam, and Christianity together in open and honest dialogue to discuss their differences and celebrate their similarities. It is our hope that in offering this event to our community that we may bring change and reconciliation to the world – one mind, one heart at a time. Racism, prejudice, and violence are all-too-common in our society. Finding love and peace within our communities cannot be successful without each of working together to counteract hatred, injustice and the stereotypical images that permeate our society.

Please mark your calendars for September 12 at 2pm and join together in spreading God’s love. There is no cost to attend this event. Veggie trays and bottled water will be provided. There will be a question and answer session so please bring any and all questions you may have. I hope to see you there!

Peace,
Timothy



Our food pantry shelves need a bit of restocking. Items most in need at this time include: Peanut Butter, Jelly, Complete

Meals, Cereal, Spaghetti Sauce, Spaghetti-O’s, Ravoli, Mac & Cheese, canned fruit and vegetables.

Your donations are greatly appreciated by those needing our emergency food pantry. Thank you for sharing the Love of Christ with others.



Coffee Fellowship

Thanks to *Leslie Baldensperger, Addy & Gary Landrio, and Marya Mason* for hosting coffee hour the months of July and August.

Would you like to host a coffee hour, but think you can’t bake? Store bought treats are always welcome, but now there’s another way to participate. Simply designate a contribution as “coffee hour treats.” Someone will do the shopping for you, and you will be the VIRTUAL HOST or HOSTESS! We’ve had two virtual hosts this year! See Dee Stewart if you have questions.

Check out the entryway table for open Sundays and your opportunity serving in this fellowship ministry.

Tea at Chautauqua

Chris Mesmer and Ellen Eberly want to thank members of the congregation who contributed to the Chautauqua Tea in July. Donna Ball and Mary Lou Campbell, Hosting and tea sandwiches; Joanna Mayer, live centerpiece; Diane Brant, mints; Carol Lake and Connie Michell, napkins and nuts; Rose Mary Landon, banana bread; Sue Dilick, vegetable/relish dish.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

September

October

2 - Logan Renninger
 John Yankasky
 Mary Lou & Tom Watt

3 - Gary Landrio

4 - Ralph Brown

5 - Betsy Bowersox

6 - Matthew Scott
 Clare & Kurt Glarner

8 - Paul Boger

10 - Emily Whaley

12 - John John

13 - Jenn Campbell
 Michael Wood

17 - Travis Cunningham

18 - Brianna Powers

19 - Suzanne & Avvington Painter
 Rae & Ralph Peterson

22 - Paul Landrio
 Elaine Rhodes

23 - Liam Boger

24 - Gretchen VanTassel

25 - Bill Mallinson
 Matt Willis

2 - Melissa Bailey
 Jennifer Dilks
 Megan & Nick Giacomino

4 - Addy & Gary Landrio

5 - William Ball

6 - Michael Brant

9 - Marga Morrison

11 - Joseph Glarner
 Karly Taylor

13 - Diane Brant
 Dan Dilick
 Denise & Jerry Ely

14 - Ian Curry

16 - Deb Davis

17 - Natalie Brown

21 - Heather Madigan

23 - Ed Brant

25 - Nathan Stewart
 Natalie & Bob Brown

26 - Kate Bowley
 Marcy O'Brien

26 - Avvington Painter
 Doris & John
 Yankasky

27 - Renee & Barry
 Cunningham

30 - Quinn Boger

31 - Logan Ludwig
 Joan See
 Gareth Smith

Income & Expense, Operating Fund to July 31, 2015

	Actual to 7/31/15	Budget to 7/31/15	2015 Budget
Member Contributions	\$54,024	\$50,647	\$86,824
Other Income	\$8,996	\$5,241	\$9,200
Plate Income	\$758	\$583	\$1,000
Sub Total Income	\$63,778	\$56,471	\$97,024
Endowment	\$58,765	\$58,765	\$99,979
Total Income	\$122,543	\$117,236	\$197,003
Expenses	\$129,654	\$131,109	\$200,976
Difference	\$-7,111		



Prayer Requests

Prayers

Illness/ Surgery/ Other Needs: Abbey Schmader, Randy Swanson, Jora, Carissa, Collin, Curtis, Tom Vorse, Laurie Rulander, Colin & his family, Matthew, relief from sciatic pain, Sandy, Joan Littlefield & family, Joyce, Bill, Lynn

Thanksgiving for: Family, Gifts from God, Summer, Cara & Mack on the 1st anniversary of his adoption, our dear family and Rebecca & John

Serving in the Armed Services: Curtis Delattre, Grant Brown, Parker Hahn, Cody, Toby, & Jeremy Williams, Jackie Shaw, Nathan Lake, Jed in Afghanistan, HT2 Jesse Sternberg in the Persian Gulf, Robert Barrett, Dan Schantz, Jonathon Fox, Andrew Horner, Stephen Miller, Patrick Schantz Abe Vansile, Bill Wencil, Bill Horner, Stephen Miller, Sondra Dew, T.J. Fera, Pete Ochucki, Stephen Battko, Cathy Fox, Rob Umbaugh, Adam Decker, Corey Traut, Troy Spencer, Pete Scobell, Jason Sweet, Natalie Neidrick Julin, Jolene Nobles, Aaron Heliker, Arick Heliker, Matthew Wright, Matthew Lambert, Sean Jenkins, Krista Traut, Matthew Easterly Alaxis Brink Smith

The Clergy: Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop; Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop Elect, Sean Rowe, our Bishop; Matthew Scott, our vicar, Tim Dyer, our clergy associate

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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