

Trinity Times

A newsletter for the members and friends of Trinity Episcopal Church

Trinity Episcopal Church
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Athens, PA 18810
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Pentecost - June - 2004

Keep the Ember Aglow

It was a Saturday evening in the middle of summer. The family of four was on a vacation camping trip. The sky was dark as deepest India ink. The night air was cool. The family was gathered around a blazing, crackling campfire. The burning embers were alive with heat and light. It was a perfect vacation evening.

The young daughter interrupted the evening's mellow mood. "Do we really have to go to church tomorrow?" she complained. "This is supposed to be a vacation. Church is not a vacation!"

Her younger brother was happy to join this complaint and added emphatically, "That's right. Going to church is not fair!"

The mother and father exchanged glances. It was the mother who answered her children. "Each of you take your marshmallow stick," she said. "Pull one of the embers out and leave it at the edge of the fire. Then just sit still, and watch a while."

My brother and I followed our mother's instructions. While we sat quietly, watching our burning

embers, we noticed that they began to change... they changed from brilliant, glowing yellow-white to deep dark orange... to dull red... and with each change, I realized my ember was dying.

I could see that the glowing, burning embers in the midst of the fire were still dancing with heat and light and life. But I could also see that my lonely ember, sitting on the edge of the fire, was slowly losing all its color and all its light and all its life.

My mother finally spoke again. "The fire is like the church," she said. "The burning embers are like each one of us. When we gather together in community, we glow with fire and life, just like all the embers in the middle of our fire. But when we are pulled apart, we are like the embers you pulled out to the edge of the fire. We also lose our light and life... we begin, individually, to die."

That vacation campfire was a long time ago, but the truth of my mother's words has never left me.

--Quoted in a sermon, by David Thompson at St. John's Cathedral, Denver, by way of *Synthesis*

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June at Trinity



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Pentecost

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| <p><i>Trinity Prayer</i> 6/6 Mark, Trula and Keith Hollywood 6/13 Matt Hollywood, Jerrilyn Park, Gage Streeter, Caden Hollywood; 6/20 Caroline Hooper, Hazel and Ron Hunt; 6/27 Chris, Heather, Adam and Brandon Hunsinger</p> | | 1 | 2 <i>Barbara Bean</i> | 3 | 4 <i>John Strange</i> | 5 Bishop's School, All Saints, Lehighton, 10 to 3:30 <i>John & Dianne Catlin</i> |
| <p>6 Trinity Sunday 8:00 Holy Eucharist I 9:45 Godly Play 10:00 Holy Eucharist II 11:00 Coffee Hour</p> | 7 | 8 | 9 <i>Laura Cama Parker Coston</i> | 10 <i>Patrick & Barbara Barry (45th)</i> | 11 St. Barnabas the Apostle | 12 Cama-Lekx wedding 2 p.m. |
| <p>13 Pentecost 2 (Proper 6) 9:00 Vestry Meets 10:00 Holy Eucharist II 11:00 Coffee Hour <i>Eric Davenport</i></p> | 14 | 15 | 16 <i>Kate Murray Bill Ewing</i> | 17 | 18 <i>Dave Caum</i> | 19 Chi-Kids Bishop's School for Kids, St. Luke's, Scranton <i>Bruce & Colleen Barton</i> |
| <p>20 Pentecost 3 (Proper 7) 10:00 Holy Eucharist II 11:00 Coffee Hour</p> | 21 <i>Charles Jackson Hildegard Mohr Nancy Bresett Greg & Ginny Caum-Lake</i> | 22 <i>Jeremy Forbes</i> | 23 <i>Jessica Cameron</i> | 24 The Nativity of St. John the Baptist Bishop's Day with Youth, Knoebel's <i>Charles Ford Paul & Emily Kelley</i> | 25 Senior Expo, 10 to 2, Athens Lynch-Bustin Elementary School <i>Tom Bubniak</i> | 26 |
| <p>27 Pentecost 4 (Proper 8) 10:00 Holy Eucharist II 11:00 Coffee Hour Celebration of Rick Cluett's 20 years as Archdeacon, Genetti's</p> | 28 | 29 St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles | 30 | <p>Vacationing? Visit the Episcopal Church near you.. then bring the service bulletin home and we'll put it up in the Parish Hall. Do you have family and friends visiting this summer? Bring them to Trinity, where they'll receive a warm welcome.</p> | | |
| <p><i>Anglicans Around the World</i> 6/6 The Anglican Church of Kenya, Benjamin Nzimbi, archbishop; 6/13 The Anglican Church of Korea, Matthew Chul Bum Chung, presiding bishop; 6/20 the Province of Melanesia, Ellison Pogo, Archbishop; 6/27 the Anglican Church of Mexico, Carlos Touch-Porter, archbishop-elect. <i>Diocese of Kajo Keji</i> 6/6 Congregation at Koiba; 6/13 Congregation at Pomojo; 6/20 Congregation at Sarajale; 6/27 Congregation at Sodogo; <i>The Diocese of Meath and Kildare</i>, Richard Clarke, Bishop.</p> | | | | <p><i>Diocesan Prayer Cycle</i> 6/6 Diocesan House Ministry Team; 6/13 Trinity, Athens, Ned Caum; Clergy licensed to officiate in the diocese; 6/20 Trinity, Bethlehem, Nicholas Knisely, rector, Laura Howell, priest associate; Elizabeth Miller, deacon; retired clergy of the diocese; 6/27 Trinity, Carbondale, Stephen Matylewicz, rector; Clergy canonically resident in the diocese</p> | | |