

Trinity Times

A newsletter for the members and friends of Trinity Episcopal Church

Trinity Episcopal Church
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Trula Hollywood, Candidate

Pentecost - September - 2005

Greetings:

This Sunday, Father Ned gave a wonderful sermon about the Canaanite woman who pleaded, yelled at and finally, begged Jesus to heal her daughter. The sermon was very similar, in some ways, to my column (Father Ned and I are occasionally likeminded). Father Ned said that we should take from the Canaanite woman's behavior three things. Two were persistence in asking and the faith that Jesus could heal her daughter.

The third thing had everything to do with this column. That is that we should also realize what it took here for Jesus, for God, to realize that this woman, a non-Jew, deserved compassion as much as anyone else. We can not deny the divinity of Jesus but we also need to see that there was humanity. Could it be that this Canaanite woman actually taught Jesus something about acceptance?

As many of you know, I am out and about in the community for many reasons. Doing so allows me to meet many people. What I see is a changing community. The people in our community are becoming more and more diverse. When I drive through almost any town, there are different ethnic groups, blended families, young families and many older folks. I start to feel as it we are finally coming to the point where we can allow ourselves to be the community God meant us to be, a community where everyone is included, accepted and loved. Our culture is changing and we need to be partners in that change.

Maybe I'm naïve but I hope for acceptance for everyone in our community. God had a mission in creating our world. Then humanity was created in God's image, all of humanity. As a church in this community we need to remain aware of the different spiritual needs present. This will require creativity, energy and flexibility.

The Canaanite woman knew she was different but she was also vulnerable and courageous. We can be vulnerable as well. Every time we talk to a stranger or start a conversation, we open ourselves up to their impression of who we are. So if something this simple makes us vulnerable how can we be expected to talk about our church and our religion with others? Well, let me tell you, it there is one thing I know, we are expected to do that very thing. This is where courage comes in. It's so easy to feel God's love but we need to have the courage to give those experiences to other people. We are challenged to give our experiences to people of all backgrounds.

We are witnesses. A witness is described as someone who has seen something that is so important that it is equally important that they testify to what they have seen. Our life stories are a witness to God's grace. We need to tell our life stories and where God is in those stories. God is in our lives, tell people about it. "Tell what you have seen and heard".

We can also be seen as sacraments. We are what the Catechism describes as, "Outward and visible signs of inward and spiritual grace."

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Vestry News

Mark Hollywood is our delegate to diocesan convention, which will be held in Bethlehem October 14-15. Trula will also attend as clergy, along with Fr. Ned. Barbara Caum will attend one last time as diocesan staff. The diocesan budget has been drastically cut because of a deficit and her position as diocesan webmaster will be combined into a new technical support position located in Bethlehem. She is not willing to move!

After many years of service, Ray and Nancy Bresett have resigned from the vestry. We value their hard work and dedication and extend our profound thanks. However, that means there are two empty places at the table. Please prayerfully consider if you might wish to serve and to help steer Trinity into the future on her new voyage.

Talk to Fr. Ned or Trula if you are interested. Perhaps you might just want to finish out their terms for the rest of 2005.

Church School

Our plans for Christian education for our children for the fall are incomplete as of press time. With our service time changing to 9 we'll need to discuss when we should schedule it and who will teach. Look for updates on the web site and in the Sunday bulletin.

Two Baptisms

... on October 2. Trula's grandchildren, Libby and Caleb (Liberty Marie Hollywood and Caleb Ryan Hunsinger) will become members of the household of God. Be sure to join us for this joyous occasion. It will be a wonderful thing to see Trula give the sacrament of baptism to her own grandchildren.

Service Time Change

As of the first Sunday in September, the 4th, our service moves to 9:00. We are so happy for Kay's new position at Waverly Methodist!

God willing
The Right Reverend Paul Victor Marshall
VIII Bishop of Bethlehem
will ordain
Trula Louise Hollywood
to the sacred order of deacons
in Christ's one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church
on
Wednesday, September 14, 2005
Holy Cross Day
at Christ Church
in Towanda, Pennsylvania
at 7 o'clock in the evening
Your prayers and presence are requested

Clergy, red stoles

A reception will follow

R.S.V.P by September 1 - 570-358-3490



Trinity Episcopal Church - September 2005

Pentecost

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<i>Trinity Prayer Cycle</i> 9/4 Mike, Shelley and Jason Barry 9/11 Sean, Donna, Daniel and Savannah Barry 9/18 Don and Beverly Barton 9/25 Jan and Janice Beck			Church School: As of press time, plans are incomplete. Check the Sunday bulletin and the website for news.		1	2	3 <i>Alan Caum</i>
4 Pentecost 16 - Proper 18 9:00 Morning Prayer and Sermon Coffee Hour	5	6	7 <i>Robert Bennett</i>	8	9 <i>Barbara Strange</i>	10	
11 Pentecost 17 - Proper 19 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour <i>Brian & Cindy Spezialetti</i>	12	13	14 Holy Cross Day Ordination of Trula Hollywood to the Sacred Order of Deacon, 7:00, Christ Church, Towanda <i>Stephen Barry</i>	15 <i>Jon Murray</i> <i>John Schoonover</i>	16	17 <i>Tom Maneval</i>	
18 Pentecost 18 - Proper 20 ----Vestry Meets ----- 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour	19	20	21 St. Matthew Apostle and Evangelist <i>Caden Hollywood</i>	22	23	24	
25 Pentecost 19 - Proper 21 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour	26 <i>Patricia Gurney</i>	27	28 <i>Shelley Strange</i>	29 St. Michael and All Angels	30 <i>Emily Kelley</i>	<i>Kajo Keji,</i> The Congregations at 9/4 Liwolo; 9/11 Lorudang; 9/18 Mangaloti; 9/25 Sokare	

Diocesan Prayer Cycle 9/4 Holy Cross, Wilkes-Barre, Daniel Jones; 9/11 Diocesan Children's Ministry, Debra Kissinger; 9/18 Diocesan Youth Ministry, Demery Bader-Saye; 9/25 St. Ann's, Trexlertown, Michael Piovane, Judith Snyder, Sally Dover

Anglicans Around the World 9/4 The Diocese of Salisbury-Ramsbury (Canterbury, England), the Rt. Rev. Peter Fearnley Hullah; 9/11 The Diocese of Saskatoon (Rupert's Land, Canada), the Rev. Rodney Osborne Andrews; 9/18 The Diocese of Shyira (Rwanda), the Rt. Rev. John Rucyahana Kabango; 9/25 The Diocese of South Carolina, the Rt. Rev. Edward L. Salmon

Mark your calendar now for a parish "Rock this Church" potluck on October 16

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There is so much evidence that our "mission" lies in the world God created. God started the mission and Jesus was certainly on a mission. This is part of the great commission that we are to carry on. Our community needs us and we need our community. And let's not think I'm talking about just our backyard.

This fall we're going to start some real evangelism work. Trinity has a place in getting the word of our faith out and reaching out to touch the lives of those who have not been able to open their hearts and minds to the love of God. There is not a single one of us that is unable to contribute to this effort. There cannot be excuses like, "there are only so many of us". There are many, many instances that Jesus sent single individuals out on mission. Are we going to say no or make excuses? No, we're going to establish a plan of action and make it happen. A big job, yes, but we're not alone. God is with us.

It's time to "Rock this Church"!

We have a dinner and planning meeting coming up on October 16th. See you there!!!

God's Peace,
Trula

Food Pantry

Please remember that the first Sunday of each month is Food Pantry Sunday. Please bring nonperishable foods in unbreakable packaging and place them in the basket at the back of the church. Thank you, Pat Gurney for delivering our donations.

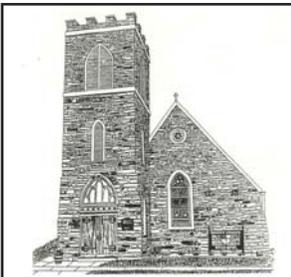
Rector's Discretionary Fund

On the first Sunday of the month any offering that is not designated as a pledge goes into the RDF. Over the past year funds have helped a prisoner, a battered woman, a patient with no place to go and others. Historically, it's purchased acolyte robes, housed the homeless, paid camping fees for young people, bought gas for the stranded. In other words, it is for those who are marginalized, exactly the people that Jesus spent his time with.

...as you did to the least of these, so you did unto me

Trinity Times is online at our web site in pdf format at www.trinityathens.org/Archives.htm. The earliest publication is 11/03.

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September at Trinity