

Trinity Times

A newsletter for the members and friends of Trinity Episcopal Church

Trinity Episcopal Church
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The Rev. Trula Hollywood, Deacon

Pentecost - October - 2005

Greetings,

It's time to start preparing. Yes, this is the time of year to prepare. We prepare for the winter season by putting up the storm windows and filling up the oil tanks. Some of us fill up the pantry preparing for who knows what. We are like squirrels this time of year. It is the time when we do what we believe is necessary to "hunker down" and prepare for whatever is coming.

I always find this time of year exhilarating and a time to look back at what I have or haven't accomplished in the last few months. It's the best time of year, for me, to reflect, because it seems the earth is offering a "new time" in the new season. The autumn colors and the cool weather cause new, fresh energy. What do I hope to accomplish within the next few months?

Soooo...you knew I would be coming to my point soon, didn't you?

Here goes... on October 16th, there will be a pot luck brunch at Trinity after the church service. It is a time to prepare.

It is time to prepare and to look at our mission statement, bringing it to life. God has brought us to this place, our church, where we are encouraged to do God's work. We know, as Christians, what it is that we must prepare. It is ourselves.

In this week's Gospel lesson, the parable is that of the vineyard tenants. The landowner, (God), finally sends his son to harvest his share of the crop after his slaves were killed attempting to do the same. The son is, of course, Jesus and is killed. In this parable, Jesus is informing Israel that the Messiah is present and what is to come.

What is to come? The love of God, that's what. We best be prepared for that! God is present in the word and in the world. Look around and look inside yourself.

What we know is that we are tenants on this earth. As tenants, we are here temporarily and given the charge of caring for the vineyard. We are on this earth with a purpose. It is so clear to see that our purpose is entwined with the church and community we love. I strongly believe that we have been

brought to Trinity Church for a purpose. We all have something to offer.

We have a church family and a community to serve. Every day that passes without a real understanding of our purpose is a day that God looks upon us as God looked upon Israel.

God, in this week's Gospel, is a God looking upon Israel sadly. When will we see our potential for loving and caring for our earth and the tenants who live on it? When will we see beyond ourselves to use our gifts to meet the needs of others?

We have opportunities every day. There are always others who need the love we have to offer. One doesn't have to look as far as Louisiana to see it, although the tragedy suffered there certainly gives us one more opportunity.

Think about the potential inside us all. Thank God for all that we have to offer. It is absolutely amazing.

We spend so much of our time trying to deny our potential. It's as if we think somehow we are the creator of that potential.

How wrong is that? Our talent and skill is a gift. As a gift, how can we waste it, or in some cases, ignore it all together?

Whether you have attended Trinity recently or for some reason, you haven't joined the Sunday worship recently, come to the brunch on the 16th.

Remember that whatever it is that stopped you from attending is only allowing you to deny your own potential. Coming to worship with people who share common goals will allow you to let go and share your own potential.

Worshipping together does absolutely amazing things. I am not the only one who has felt it. Come and talk to others who know the strength of our communal worship. While you're there, have a bit to eat, enjoy the company and discover the potential of some of God's people.

You may even laugh and have a bit of fun! See you there!

God's Peace,
Deacon Trula

P.S. And service is at 9. Hope to see you there, too!

September 23, 2005
From Bishop Paul

To be read at all services and posted on parish bulletin boards on the weekend of September 25. Please include it also in parish newsletters.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in the Diocese of Bethlehem,

I write you from the House of Bishops meeting. The first day of our work was devoted to organizing a churchwide response to hurricane devastation in the Gulf Coast. As we worked with keen awareness that Rita was bearing down on that region, our concern intensified.

The bishops of Louisiana, Mississippi and the Central Gulf Coast shared images and accounts of the destruction even more vivid than those seen on television.

The Bishop of Louisiana spoke from his heart about the degree of racism and classism that this disaster has exposed in his city of New Orleans and publicly repented of his complicity in the Church's silence about it. He also reported that the omnivorous gambling industry is already moving, somewhat coercively, to rebuild New Orleans as a casino city. He emphasized the importance of the Church's presence in discussions about rebuilding.

Both the Presiding Bishop and his wife told me separately how impressed they were on their visit with the work of one of our priests, Father Ira Houck, who serves as an army chaplain. His ministry is to those dealing with death and other loss either as victims or relief workers.

I have received email from Episcopal Relief and Development also singling out the work of our diocesan ERD coordinator, Jack Moulton, in keeping us informed of needs of victims.

The bishops of the three afflicted dioceses have asked us not to show up on their doorstep to help at this time. They cannot house and feed their own people, so guests are an impossibility. They have, however, asked us to escrow our goodwill.

The Bishop for Chaplaincies will coordinate efforts over the next five years, the estimated time for rebuilding.

The national church plan calls for each bishop and one additional person – for us, the Archdeacon – to coordinate lists of resources in their diocese that can be called on as the time is right. So I ask you now to identify your willingness to give of your time, energy, or other non-monetary resources. Money will continue to be received at any time. If you can contribute general labor, building skills (including electrical and plumbing), health care, or other services, please let me or your rector know. Please indicate as well the amount of time you are able to commit. Some people have already volunteered. Diana will be taking her nursing skills south as soon as there is a place for her.

Some may not be available to do physical labor and may not have a great deal of money to give away. The Diocese of Louisiana solicits your investment at market rates in loan funds that will be made available to those who would have difficulty getting money to rebuild. It is the diocese and not the borrower who would guarantee your funds. You may call them at 225-387-5141 for more information. Vestries and Trustees are also invited to place some of their liquid assets in this fund.

As a number of people in our own diocese have reminded us, this new effort does not take the place of our ministries throughout the diocese or our commitment to Kajo-Keji in southern Sudan. It is an additional opportunity for us to enter the self-giving life to which Jesus calls us. Begun and continued in prayer, such an undertaking will only deepen our solidarity with those in need and with our Lord himself.

I have been amazed – but not surprised – by the depth of generosity the diocese has shown over the last three years to human need around the world. Our church asks us to give .7% of our budget to developing countries and we have in fact sent amounts equal to nearly 30%.

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Trinity Episcopal Church - October 2005

Pentecost

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>Trinity Prayer Cycle</i> 10/2 Robert and Kay Bennett, Jake Parshall; 10/9 Virginia Bostwick, Marie Bubniak, Mary Ann Burke; 10/16 Joe, Laura, Peter and Tim Cama, Rachel and Peter Cama-Lekx; 10/23 Ned, Barbara and Alan Caum, Doris Caum; 10/30 Ian, Kathleen and Audrey Clare</p>		 <p>ROCK THIS CHURCH PARISH POTLUCK BRUNCH ON THE 16TH ... DON'T MISS IT</p>		<p><i>Diocesan Prayer Cycle</i> 10/2 St. Luke's, Lebanon, Terrence Wible, rector; 10/9 Pray for our Diocesan Convention; 10/16 St. Luke's, Scranton, Virginia Haskett, senior warden; 10/23 St. James, Sch. Haven, John Heffner, rector; 10/30 St. Martin's, Mountaintop, Frank Sefchick, rector</p>		<p>1 Bishop's School, 10 to 3:15, Hazleton</p> <p><i>Chris & Heather Hunsinger</i></p>
<p>2 Pentecost 20 - Proper 22 9:00 Holy Eucharist and Baptism Coffee Hour</p> <p><i>Tyler Smith</i></p>	3	4	5 <i>Carla Ross Melanie Wood</i>	6 <i>Audrey Lauren Clare</i>	7 <i>Kathy Patterson Ayres</i>	<p>8 BRIDGE BAKE SALE AT KMART 8</p> <p>Bishop's School, 10 to 3:15, Hazleton</p>
<p>9 Pentecost 21 - Proper 23 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour</p> <p><i>Brian & Cindy Spezialetti</i></p>	10 <i>Scott Armstrong Brandon Hunsinger</i>	11 Pre-convention meeting, St. Stephen's, Wilkes-Barre, 7 p.m. <i>John Bubniak</i>	12	13 <i>Meredith Beck Mentzel</i>	14 Diocesan Convention, Bethlehem	15
<p>16 Pentecost 18 - Proper 20 ----Vestry Meets ---- 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Rock this Church brunch</p>	17 <i>Tom & Kathe Maneval</i>	18 St. Luke the Evangelist	19	20	21	<p>22 Bishop's School, 10 to 3:15, Hazleton</p> <p><i>Bob & Barbara Bean</i></p>
<p>23 Pentecost 19 - Proper 21 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour</p>	24 St. James of Jerusalem	25 <i>Fanna Proper</i>	26	27	28 St. Simon and St. Jude	<p>29 Bishop's School, 10 to 3:15, Hazleton</p>
<p>30 Pentecost 20 - Proper 22 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour</p> <p><i>Don Barton</i></p>	<p><i>Anglicans Around the World</i> 10/2 The Diocese of Southeast Florida, Bishop Leopold Frade; 10/9 The Diocese of Southern Ohio, Bishop Herbert Thompson; 10/16 The extra-provincial Diocese of the Falkland Islands; 10/23 The Diocese of St. Albans- Bedford (Canterbury, England) Bishop Richard Neil Inwood; 10/30 The Diocese of St. John's (South Africa), Bishop Sitembele Tobela Mzamane</p>			<p><i>Kajo Keji</i>, 10/2 The Congregation at Jondale 10/9 The Gaderu Archdeaonry&Jondle 10/16The Maaji Refugee Camp 10/23 The Kolididi Refugee Camp 10/30 The Keyo Refugee Camp & Canon Benaiah Poggo Bible College, Adjumani</p>		<p>Coming in November 6th - All Saints Sunday 23rd - Thanksgiving Eve 27th - Advent begins</p>

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 take part in the sacrament of Holy Baptism for her own grandchildren.

Bridge Bake Sale

Now, more than ever, with heating fuels predicted to at least double, the people who turn to the Bridge will need help. Please plan to bake for, work at or buy at the Bridge Bake Sale on Saturday, October 8 at KMart. Sale will begin at 8 a.m. Also, please consider a donation directly to the Bridge; you may place it in the offering plate on Sunday. Be sure to note "The Bridge" on the *for* line of your check.

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This witness to the love of God is something that I will always cherish. It encourages me in my own walk with Christ. The Church as a whole now asks us to coordinate our effort with 99 fellow dioceses so that our sisters and brothers to the south can most effectively face the years of rebuilding that lie ahead. Please do let me hear from you.

With thanks for the great compassion you have so consistently shown in the years I have known you, I remain,

Faithfully yours,



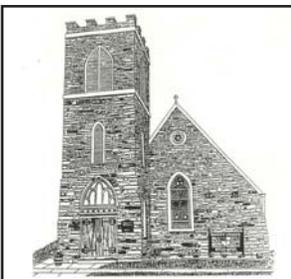
Bishop

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

Are you receiving *Diocesan Life* and *Episcopal Life*? If not, please let Barbara know. Call the office at 888-5715, her office phone at 888-8981 or email her at information@trinityathens.org.

Are you interested in being confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church? Talk to Fr. Ned or Deacon Trula. May 7, Christ Church.

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October at Trinity