

Trinity Times

A newsletter for the members and friends of Trinity Episcopal Church

Trinity Episcopal Church
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Lent - Easter - April - 2009

Greetings,

It is unbelievable to me how fast the month of March seemed to pass. Now here we are in April and approaching Holy Week.

When time goes by so fast, I become wary of whether I (we) are letting the experience of life pass us by because we have not allowed Christ to be the center of our lives.

I've been reading a book about the life of Archbishop Desmond Tutu. It contains a great many quotes and the one that struck me today is, "None of us come into this world fully formed. We would not know how to think, or walk or speak or behave as human beings unless we learned it from other human beings. We need other human beings in order to be human. I am because other people are."

I recently spoke about how Jesus wasn't just a role model for us. Beyond the "what would Jesus do" question, is the fact that Jesus is everything, absolutely everything for us.

As Holy Week approaches we will experience the excruciating, painful journey Jesus took in his last days on earth. If we allow ourselves to "get personal" with the experience of Holy Week, we will feel the connection with this human being as the journey begins by entering Jerusalem on a donkey and ends with his glorious resurrection.

Holy Week reminds us that God gave us the most precious gift ever, life. From birth, alone, we cannot survive. Our parents, or someone who cares for us, brought us through infancy, childhood and those wonderful adolescent

years. Our family, friends, and acquaintances have all affected us in some way allowing us to grow into the person we are today. And these are the people who have journeyed with us through all the pain, trouble, grief, triumphs and joys of our lives.

We, in turn, have done the same for those whom we love and care about. And so, because of the journey that our Lord took for us, we journey on together.

We are born with no clarity in thought or sight but, as we grow, we become real. We learn how to act as social beings. We learn responsibility, how to love and how to trust. We learn all of these things from our experience with each other in community.

Our journey begins with that first breath we take after being taken from our mother's womb. We are given life and Jesus asks only that we truly experience it, growing into it as we would a jacket that is sizes too large.

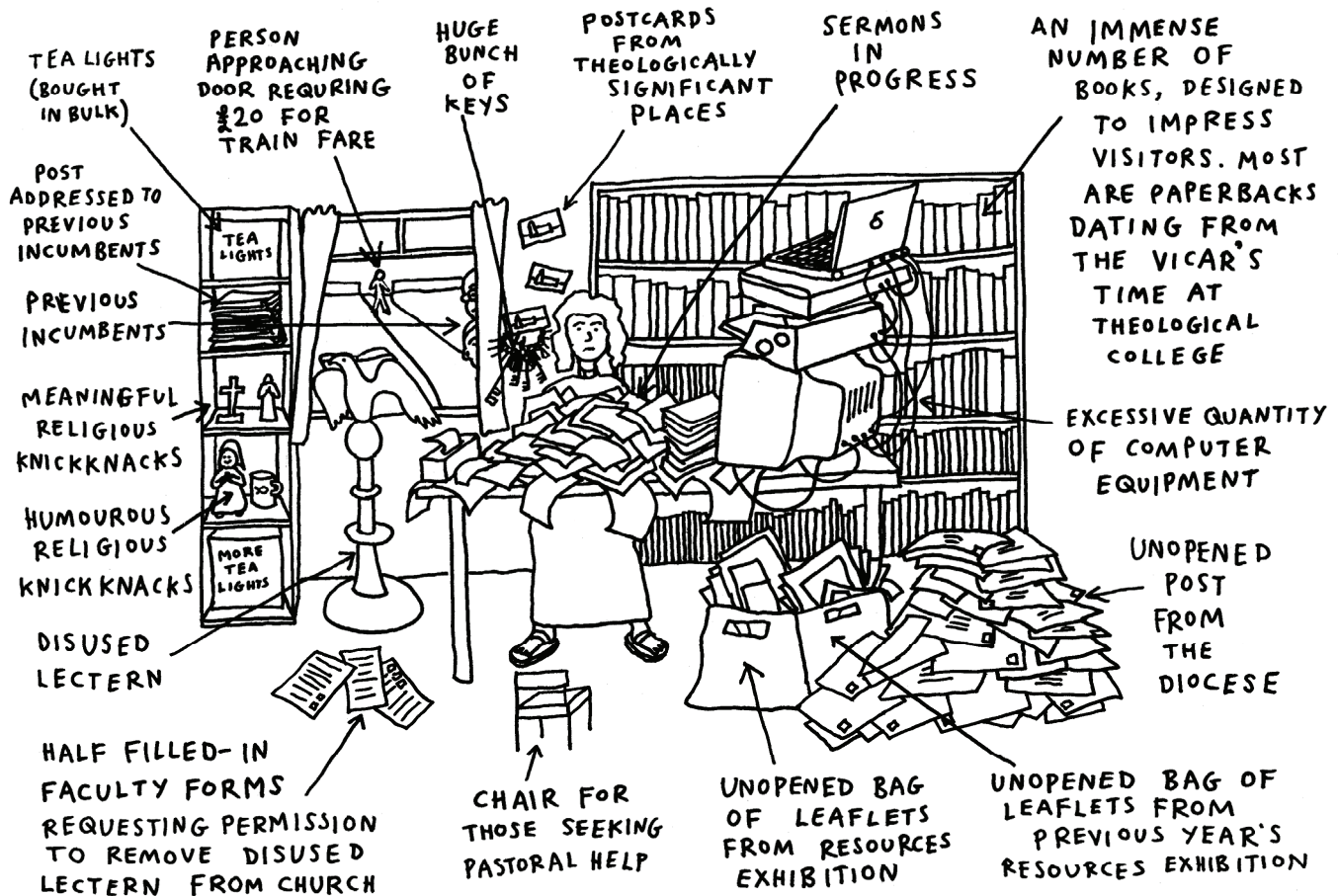
As a Christ centered community, we experience life with each other. In this life, we need always to allow for more life. Our community will only survive with those who are not currently present. Otherwise, our community will become extinct. We have the ability to grow into our community, keeping Christ at the center of all that we do. Let us begin Holy Week in contemplation, considering all Christ means for us to experience.

As, Archbishop Tutu says, "We are because other people are."

God's Peace, Mother Trula

*Please Note: While this cartoon by Dave Walker is titled "The Vicar's Study," it actually highly resembles the church office, located in the rectory. Our rector is much neater.

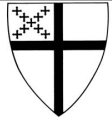
THE VICAR'S STUDY



CartoonChurch.com

Northern Tier Churches Evangelism Project begins this week: (more on page 4)

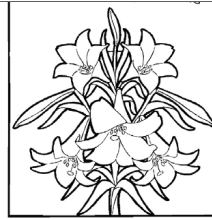
WNEP, an ABC affiliate out of Scranton, reaches almost all of the parishes in the northern and central part of the diocese. It also reaches as far south as Allentown and Bethlehem, but for market reasons it does not include that area. (That region belongs to the Philadelphia market.) During WNEP's daily newscasts the station reaches 82% of adults age 25-54 in the central and northern portion of the Diocese of Bethlehem. A yearlong television advertising campaign would be cost prohibitive for any single parish, but if we each contributed \$1,000 to \$1,500 we could participate in a campaign to promote the Episcopal Church in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Churches which cannot contribute that amount are asked to pledge an amount more attainable, because we anticipate that every parish will benefit from this cooperative venture. No single congregation will be highlighted during this campaign. It is also worth noting that no other denomination is advertising locally on any station. This is a one-year experiment.



Trinity Episcopal Church - April 2009

Lent
Easter

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer 4/5 Church of the Redeemer, Sayre, The Rev. Andrea Baldyga, priest-in-charge; 4/12 The Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Bethlehem, Marlene Hartshorne, President; 4/19 Calvary, Tamaqua, The Rev. Robert Gildersleeve, priest-in-charge; 4/26 St. Mark's, Moscow, The Rev. Earl Trygar, rector.



Anglicans Around the World 4/5 The Church of the Province of the West Indies; 4/12 Province I of The Episcopal Church; 4/19 Province II of the Episcopal Church; 4/26 Province III of the Episcopal Church.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Trinity Cycle of Prayer</i> 4/5 Jeff, Kim, Eric and Abby Davenport 4/12 Jerry and Jean Dolan 4/19 William, Sarah and Leigha Draper 4/26 Norma Duddie, Charles and Virginia Ford			1	2 Chrism Mass 11:00 a.m. Cathedral Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem	3	4
5 Palm Sunday 9:00 Reading of The Passion and Holy Eucharist 10:00 Coffee Hour	6  Sarah Draper	7 Kelly Murray Jan Beck, Jr.	8 	9 Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar	10 Good Friday 7:00 p.m. Liturgy for Good Friday 	11 Holy Saturday 7:00 p.m. The Great Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter Rachel Cama-Lekx
12 Easter Day 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour	13	14 John Gurney	15 David Bean	16	17 Catherine Gurney Stanley	18
19 Easter 2 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour Vestry Meets Jim Patterson	20	21	22	23	24 Christophany, through Sunday	25 St. Mark the Evangelist Evangelism/ Stewardship Conference, Cathedral
26 Easter 3 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour	27	28	29	30 Mark Hollywood	<i>Diocese of Kajo Keji</i> 4/5 Montongo Parish, The Rev. Chaplin Wori; 4/12 Mundari Parish, The Rev. Emmanuel Muye, The Rev. Miaya Loguli, The Rev. Alice Gune; 4/19 Pasiki Parish, The Rev. Cosmas Lobur Yusto; 4/26 Pomoju Girls Secondary School, The Rev. John Mono	

April Highlights

April 5 - Sunday of the Passion, Palm Sunday

April 9 - Maundy Thursday
Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar, 7 p.m.

April 10 - Good Friday
Noon to 3 - Valley Clergy Association Community Service, First Presbyterian, Athens.
Six reflections beginning each half hour
7 p.m. - Liturgy for Good Friday at Trinity

April 11 - Holy Saturday
The Great Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter, 7 p.m.

April 12 - The Sunday of the Resurrection - Easter Day

April 19 - Vestry meets

Evangelism News

In the northern tier of the diocese a series of commercials about the Episcopal Church will begin running this week on WNEP TV. Trinity is part of this cooperative venture. Read more on page 2.

They are really quite well done; you can watch all three commercials on line by visiting <http://sharethebread.blogspot.com>. The commercials will direct viewers to a web site for more information.

“Beating the Bounds” is an Evangelism/Stewardship workshop which will be held Saturday, April 25 from 9 to 3 at the Cathedral. It will feature some excellent resources and speakers. Read more in this month’s *Diocesan Life*.

Parish Newsbits

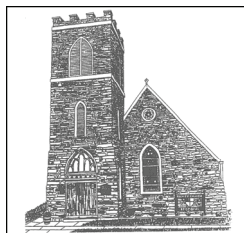
As we bid a fond farewell to Carla Ross with a very fine potluck brunch in late March, we also welcomed back Fanna Proper, who had successful back surgery and can now join us again.

We have a vacancy now on the vestry. Please prayerfully consider volunteering for this ministry. Our vestry is a fine group of people who work by consensus. Donuts provided!

The vestry approved work on the rectory chimney, which is disintegrating. It will be done later this month.

A quick clean up of the church garden reveals myriad spring bulbs coming up and crocuses already open!

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April at Trinity

