

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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Holy Week - Easter - April, 2012

I recently saw a sign in a repair shop:

If it doesn't fit,

Force it ...

If it breaks,

It needed fixing anyway.

Isn't that the modus operandi for most of us?

I know that I sometimes 'fix' things that way. I am a good one for stripping the threads on a bolt trying to make the nut fit. I believe that a hammer is an extremely handy tool, especially for getting square pegs into round holes.

Isn't that the way it is in larger issues in our life as well? We find an empty place in our life and we put God into it. But we do it by forcing God into a place where we think he should be.

We invite God into our life, but confine him to only specific times (Sundays), places (Church), and events (crises).

We keep him out of our political decisions, business dealings, relationships, etc. Heaven forbid he should spill out of the niche we have made for him. What would people think?

But God doesn't fit into our life that way. He doesn't want to be in merely a small part of our life, but rather to envelop us fully.

When we force God into these small places, excluding him from other places, our life breaks. We find ourselves struggling with issues, making bad decisions, and ultimately hurting. We end up back where we started.

The way to fix our life isn't to bring God into it by forcing Him into the small places, "filling in" the cracks. We fix it by offering our life to God, fitting ourselves into Him.

Then all that we have; all that we are (our talents, our possessions, our will) conforms to the One who has brought it all into being.

It is a broken and sinful world in which we live. A broken world into which we could so easily discard our life if we aren't careful. But if we strive to conform our life to God's will, then our life will be fixed enduringly.

The Rev. Benjamin Lee Lentz



Bishop Paul will visit us on Sunday, April 15, at our 9 a.m. service. He is a wonderful preacher and will bring news and greetings from our diocesan family. He will be accompanied by Diana as well as his chaplain, Deacon George Loeffler.

There will be ample time for conversation during coffee hour and Bishop Paul will also be meeting with the vestry. Please plan to come and make him welcome. If you need a ride, call the office.

Building News

On March 16th, Dan and Margaret Gerhart, Jan Beck and Barbara Caum did a complete walk-around and walk-through of the church to make a list of things that need to be done as well as things we'd like to have done.

It's a long list.

The Vestry is now working on prioritizing the items on the list. Some will have to be professionally done, some are just wishes, but there are some things we can do ourselves.

For instance, the garden needs work. Our early and very warm spring weather brought up all the flowering bulbs, which survived the damage much of the garden received during the tower renovation. However, it's full of pieces of mortar and stone. We can hold a clean-up day to clear that out and take stock of what might need to be replanted. Surprisingly, the burning bush, after being seriously pruned and then battered by falling mortar, looks like it's going to be just fine.

Another item, loose pews and kneelers, is something that happens with time. Dr. Beck has volunteered to do some tightening and epoxying for us.

If you'd like to look at the list, just speak to a vestry member. There may be a small project you or you and your family might wish to undertake. Vestry meets next on April 22.

Worship

We are grateful for the pastoral care and worship leadership of our two supply clergy, Deacon Hazel and Fr. Ben. Our Saturday 5 p.m. Deacon's Mass has been an offering gratefully appreciated by the core group of those who attend. We are blessed that Hazel, in her very busy life as a full-time medical records worker and as the Deacon assigned to Church of the Redeemer, makes the time to share her ministry with us.

Sharing Fr. Ben with Grace Church, Waverly,

has enriched us as well. We held a joint worship service for Ash Wednesday here at Trinity with the members of Grace, Waverly, attending and will be joining them at Grace for Maundy Thursday (7 p.m.) and Good Friday (noon). We hope that some of them will join us for our Great Vigil, a highlight of the Church Year. Members of Grace joined us for our pancake supper and they have invited us to join them for a Palm Sunday brunch (12:15).

As of this date, we have some great music planned for the **Great Vigil**: a brass section, vocal offerings and more. Our regular musicians will be joined by some special guests and there will also be a reception following in the parish hall. Please join us April 7th at 7 p.m.

On Being An Episcopalian






The following is an insight into why so many adults have chosen the Episcopal church. You may like to share these concepts with a friend who is searching for a spiritual home. (reprinted from St. Paul's Press)

1. Worship that brings you into the action instead of leaving you on the sidelines.
2. A theology that demands using your intelligence rather than ignoring it.
3. A willingness not only to tolerate differences, but to celebrate them.
4. A heritage that takes the Bible seriously but is not bound by literalism.
5. A strong sense of community in which our consensus is in Christ, not to conformity of opinion.
6. A devotion to the Biblical Sacraments instituted by Jesus which evoke awe and mystery instead of factual explanation.
7. An understanding that ministry is rightfully the obligation and privilege of every baptized person.
8. An insistence upon morality (what is good and loving) and an avoidance of moralism (salvation by code and not by Christ).
9. The heritage of Apostolic faith in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and in the Apostolic order given the Church by Him.



Trinity Episcopal Church - April 2012

Holy Week
Easter

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 The Sunday of the Passion - Palm Sunday 9:00 Holy Eucharist I 10:00 Coffee Hour 	2 AA 8:00 pm 	3	4 AA 7:30 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	5 Maundy Thursday 7 p.m., Grace Church 	6 Good Friday Noon, Grace Church  <i>Sarah Draper</i>	7 Holy Saturday 7:00 p.m. The Great Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter <i>Kelly Murray</i> <i>Jan Beck, Jr.</i>
8 Easter Day 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour  <i>Chela Bubniak</i>	9 AA 8:00 pm	10	11 AA 7:30 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm <i>Rachel Cama</i>	12	13	14 There is no Deacon's Mass. Please join us for Bishop Paul's visit Sunday morning <i>John Gurney</i>
15 Easter 2 - Bishop Paul's Visitation 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour <i>David Bean</i>	16 AA 8:00 pm	17 <i>Catherine Gurney</i> <i>Stanley</i>	18 AA 7:30 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	19 <i>Jim Patterson</i>	20 Retired Clergy/ Clergy Spouse Luncheon Christophany - through Sunday	21 Easter 3 5:00 Deacon's Mass
22 Easter 3 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour Vestry Meets	23 AA 8:00 pm	24 Clergy Bible Study 8, 3 p.m.	25 St. Mark AA 7:30 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	26	27	28 Easter 4 5:00 Deacon's Mass
29 Easter 4 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour <i>Liberty Hollywood</i>	30 AA 8:00 pm <i>Mark Hollywood</i>	Trinity Cycle of Prayer 4/1 Ralph, Bonnie, Rose, Jeffrey, Chris, Justin, Alden Bailey. 4/8 Patrick and Barbara Barry. 4/15 Mike Shelley and Jason Barry; Sean Donna, Daniel and Savannah Barry. 4/22 Don Barton, Jan Beck. 4/29 Kay Horton Bennett,		Diocesan Cycle of Prayer 4/1: St. James', Dundaff. St. Matthew's Society. 4/8: Trinity, Easton: The Rev. Canon Andrew T. Gerns, Rector. Clergy Widows. 4/15: St. Margaret's, Emmaus: The Rev. Wayne Sherrer, Priest-in-Charge and The Rev. Elizabeth Diely, Assistant Priest. Bishop's School. 4/22: St. John's, Hamlin: The Rev. Ronald Miller, Priest-in-Charge. Postulants and Candidates for Ordination. 4/29: Diocesan Staff. Youth and		
Anglicans Around the World 4/1: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: The Rt. Rev. Suheil Dawani. 4/8: Pray for all Christians everywhere. 4/15: The Nippon Sei Ko Kai (The Anglican Communion in Japan): The Most Rev. Nathaniel Makato Uematsu Primate. 4/22 The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East: The Most Rev. Dr. Mouneer Hanna Anis President Bishop. 4/29: The Anglican Church of Kenya: The Most Rev. Dr. Eliud Wabukala Primate and Archbishop of All Kenya.				Kajo Keji 4/1: Wajira: The Rev. Mikaya Loguli, Deacon Jackson Kenyi. HIV/AIDS Department: The Rev. Taban Israel and the Rev. Wilson Lomugun. 4/8: Mangalotore: The Rev. Cicilia Kiden Losu. Participatory Awakening Process: Ezbon Wudu Mogga. 4/15: Ku'dupi: The Rev. Peter Mala, Deacon Mary Kanan. Development Office: Alix Achiga. 4/22: Mereguga: The Rev. Alfred Dumokosuk, Eli Mawa. Bishop's Leadership School: The Rev. Canon John Lomundu and committee. 4/29 Jondalee: The Rev. Simon Lodu.		

Holy Week, 2012



- **April 1 - The Sunday of the Passion, Palm Sunday.** Holy Eucharist I, Trinity.
- Palm Sunday Brunch, 12:15, Grace Church
- **April 5 - Maundy Thursday, 7 p.m. at Grace Church, Waverly**
- **April 6 - Good Friday Liturgy, noon, at Grace Church, Waverly**
- **April 7 - Holy Saturday - The Great Vigil and first Eucharist of Easter, 7 p.m. at Trinity (no 5 p.m. service)**
- **April 8 - Easter Day - Festival Eucharist, 9 a.m., Trinity.**

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- **April 14 - no 5 p.m. Service; join us on Sunday morning for ...**
 - **April 15 - Bishop Paul's Visitation, Holy Eucharist II at 9 a.m.** followed by a reception and a meeting with the parish and vestry.
 - **April 21 - 5 p.m. Deacon's Mass resumes**
 - **April 22 - Vestry meets**

Please remember that every Sunday as Food Pantry Sunday. Bring non-perishable foods in unbreakable containers. All donations are used locally.



Easter Lilies

There is a sign up sheet on the back table for you to fill in if you wish to donate flowers. You may designate if the flowers are given in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving.

Would you like Fr. Ben to visit you and bring you communion? We can arrange pastoral visits. Please call the church office or Barbara's direct line (888-8981).



Trinity is on Facebook!

Make Trinity a friend on facebook, **Trinity Episcopal Church, Athens.** You're

more apt to find newer pictures on our FB page than on our web site as the process is much simpler. Check it often.

Trinity Times: Thanks to those of you who receive this newsletter in your email! You are saving trees and postage and it really does look better in color. If you have an email address, please send it to Barbara at information@trinityathens.org. We've been able to add more of you to our email list now and so we are using less paper and postage, which is a very good thing. Thanks again.

Take a moment to check the **birthday and anniversary calendar** on the back table ... additions and corrections welcome!

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April at Trinity

--Bishop Paul's visit -- Holy Week and Easter--