

Trinity Times

A newsletter for the members and friends of Trinity Episcopal Church

Trinity Episcopal Church
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Mid Pentecost - September, 2014



Parish Picnic!

We are pleased to announce that the Gerharts have again offered their home and grounds for our picnic. It will be on Sunday, September 7, at 2 p.m. Absolutely everyone is invited! Dan and Marny will provide hotdogs, hamburgers, buns and condiments; we should all bring along our favorite picnic side dish to share. Come at 2 to walk the trails, fish in the pond or just enjoy the view; we'll eat around 4.

--How to find Dan & Marny Gerhart--

From the light at PA 187 and Route 6 in Wysox:

Go North on 187 approximately 1.8 miles to Myersburg. Turn Left on Claverack Road approximately one block then right on Glen Road. We are 3.4 miles up Glen Road on the left. Number is 3355 - reflective sign on mail box post - only paved drive off the dirt road - driveway is between two sections of fence.

If you prefer, head up Lake Road past the lake, then turn right on Allen's Lane and left on Glen Road. We are approximately 1.7 miles up Glen Road from Allen's Lane.

From the North/West:

Take 220 to Ulster and cross the bridge. From the stop sign on the east side of the river proceed straight ahead (up Ghent Hill) approximately 3 miles. Turn right on Shores Road approximately 2.4 miles to Lake Road. Turn right on Lake Road approximately 0.5 miles. Turn left on Maloney Road (sorry, no sign) at the big tree. Proceed approximately 0.2 miles and turn right onto Glen Road. We are approximately 0.8 miles down Glen Road on the right. See above.

If you get lost, call 570-265-8871. If you'd like a ride, call Barbara. This is a great time to bring along friends and family!

The Mission of Trinity Episcopal Church

At the last vestry meeting we began to take a look at just what it is we do and what our purpose is as a parish.

Here's what we do really well:

- Gather for worship each Sunday with excellent clergy, wonderful music and lovely liturgy.
- Care for each other, in joy and in sorrow
- Welcome visitors and guests with genuinely open hearts
- Host four AA meetings each week, offering a safe place for those in recovery to continue their journeys
- Give regularly to the local food pantry
- Act as good stewards of the buildings entrusted to us by those who went before
- Give financially enough to keep the church operating

But, the question is, what else do we do? About twenty years ago we gathered to come up with a parish mission statement. We took a long evening, working in small groups and then came together to write the statement you see on the bulletin each Sunday:

Trinity Church is God's Episcopal people in Athens. With God's love and with the direction of the Holy Spirit our mission is to involve everyone in worship, outreach, study and prayer. Empowered by God's

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grace, we strive to foster a caring Christian community which supports us in our Baptismal vows: To seek and serve Christ in all people.

So, looking back at what we do well, we indeed foster a caring Christian community, and within the limitations of our small membership, we do quite a bit.

But, are we involving everyone in “worship, outreach, study and prayer”?

Our **worship** is clearly rich, but Sunday attendance continues to dwindle. There is just no denying the numbers, and while Len Caum used to very often say, “don’t confuse quantity with quality,” we are fewer each Sunday. Are we inviting friends and family to join us, or is it easier to just go alone? Are we sharing with others the reason we do this church thing and asking them to consider adding some richness to their lives? Do we make arrangements to pick up folks who don’t drive or younger folks who have just gotten out of the habit of coming?

Over the past several years we have focused on **outreach** by holding clothing and toy giveaways, adopting a family for Christmas, making a mitten tree each Advent, and donating food each week along with the yearly Souper Bowl cash offering. However, the last few clothing giveaways have not drawn in many people. While the bulk of our offerings went to a local charity, where the clothing is put to use, the amount of work involved to gather it, set up the tables, advertise and schedule people to be there is a bit overwhelming and the energy might be better spent elsewhere.

We have not had either an adult or youth offering of **study** in many years. Partly, it’s because we do not have a full time clergy person; another reason is that most of us are older and are not fond of going out to meetings after dark. Can we get around those limitations and consider a book study led by one of our members and held during the day? Do you have ideas to share on this topic?

Do we **pray**? Yes, we do, for each other, for the world and for ourselves. What we don’t have presently is a way to get in touch with each other when prayer is needed right *now*. If you recall, we had an active group of people, connected by phone, who formed the St. Julian Society. We’ll be activating that group with a new phone tree again; if you’d like to be included, please let Barbara know. In the meantime, an updated contact list of active members of the parish will be made available to you. Bishop Mark Dyer told a story about a woman he visited who was bedbound. She felt useless, she said; she wanted to do something. He said to her, gently, “you can pray.” Yes, she could; she did, thus helping others and her own prayer life. There is always something we can do.

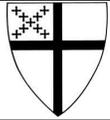
We have had a wonderful **music ministry** in the past and we’re going to be activating that again as well. We’ll be forming a small choir for special holidays and asking our musicians to play for those services as well. We are also undertaking a concert series, based on the work begun by the late Dr. Stephen Paul, who served on our vestry and was an active member of the parish and a very gifted musician. Look for news about that soon; tentative plans include an organ concert, a jazz concert and a vocal concert.

Please, take a serious look at the mission statement; it’s in the bulletin each Sunday. Try to look at it with new eyes and consider it prayerfully. Talk to a vestry member or one of our clergy if you have ideas or concerns.

[This column was written by your editor, Barbara Caum, and does not necessarily reflect the mind of the vestry, but is an attempt to pull some ideas together to get the conversation going. If you have comments or concerns, please call or write, bccaum@gmail.com]

**All shall be well, and all shall be well
and all manner of thing shall be well.”**

— Julian of Norwich



Trinity Episcopal Church - September 2014

Pentecost

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Trinity Cycle of Prayer: 9/7 Patricia Martin, Heather and Steve Lake, Hildegard Mohr. 9/14 Jon, Wendy, Kim and Kate Murray. 9/21 Kelly Murray, McKenzie Elliott, Peg Murray. 9/28 James and Mary Patterson, Andy Patterson.</p>  <p>Bethlehem: 9/7 St. Mark's, New Milford, Christ Church, Susquehanna. 9/14 St. John's, Palmerton, The Rev. Abraham Valiath, Priest-in-Charge. Health Ministries. 9/21 St. Joseph's, Pen Argyl and St. Mary's, Wind Gap, The Rev. Joel Atkinson, Priest-in-Charge. 9/28 Trinity, Pottsville: The Rev. James Rinehart, Rector. New Hope Campaign.</p> <p>Kajo Keji: 9/7 Dwani Parish: The Rev. Gideon Wani. 7/14 Kansuk: The Rev. Grace Juru Simeon. 9/21 Pasiki Parish and Rural Dean Kala: The Rev. Henry A'bu Yairo. 9/28 Lire Parish: The Rev. Henry Kwanyi Peter; The Rev. Peter Wani Adulai, Romogi Archdeacon</p>						
	1 Labor Day AA 8:00 pm	2	3 Carol Reed Memorial, noon, Redeemer AA 7:30 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm <i>Alan Caum</i>	4 AA 8:00 pm	5	6
7 Pentecost 13 P-18 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour 2:00 Parish Picnic	8 AA 8:00 pm	9 <i>Barbara Strange</i>	10 AA 7:30 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	11 AA 8:00 pm	12	13
14 Pentecost 14 P-19 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour <i>Stephen D. Barry</i>	15 Holy Cross Day AA 8:00 pm <i>Jon Murray</i> <i>Paige Bubniak</i>	16 Clergy Bible Study, Towanda, 3 pm	17 AA 7:30 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm <i>Kim Cornell</i> <i>Tom Maneval</i>	18 AA 8:00 pm	19	20
21 Pentecost 15 P-20 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour — Vestry Meets --- <i>McKenzie Elliott</i> <i>Caden Hollywood</i>	22 St. Matthew AA 8:00 pm	23 Pre-Convention Meeting, 7 pm, Church of the Epiphany, Clarks Summit	24 AA 7:30 pm AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	25 AA 8:00 pm	26 <i>Patricia Gurney</i>	27
28 Pentecost 16 P-21 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour UTO Ingathering <i>Shelly Strange Fish</i>	29 St. Michael and All Angels	30 <i>Emily Kelley</i>	<p>Anglicans Around the World 9/7 The Episcopal Church of the Sudan: The Most Rev. Dr. Daniel Deng Bul Yak, Archbishop. 9/14 The Anglican Church of Tanzania: The Most Rev. Jacob Erasto Chimeledya, Archbishop. 9/21 The Church of the Province of Uganda: The Most Rev. Stanley Ntagali, Archbishop. 9/28 The Episcopal Church: The Rt. Rev. Dr. Katherine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop.</p>		<p>United Thank Offering Ingathering September 28th, October 5th</p> 	

September Highlights

September 3 - Memorial for Carol Reed.

Noon, Church of the Redeemer, The Rev. Benjamin Lentz and The Rev. Trula Hollywood, Concelebrants. Fr. Glenn and the people of Redeemer have graciously agreed to host the service there at the request of the family. This will enable Carol's friends and colleagues from the hospital and clinic to be at the service. We are hosting the reception afterward downstairs. We'll be coordinating this on Sunday, but if you can, please plan on bringing a plate of finger-food (cookies, small sandwiches, etc.). The staff at the Cath Lab, where Carol worked, will also be bringing food.

September 7 - Parish Picnic, 2 pm.
Details and directions - page 1.

September 21 - Vestry meets

September 30 - UTO Ingathering,



we will also be gathering your offerings on October 5th. Convention is October 10th and

11th, when UTO Offerings will be

gathered from all parishes in the diocese. *Every day in every way, give thanks.*

2014 ECW Project: Deadline, October 6th! We're doing well gathering items, they're piling up in the parish hall kitchen, but there's still room for more: This year items will be collected in support of the ministry at St. George's Regional Disaster Recovery and Outreach Center. Items needed include:

- First Aid supplies -- adhesive bandages, gauze pads and tape (no creams or other items with expiration dates)
- Personal care items - toothbrushes and paste, washcloths, bar soap, razors
- Evacuation "Go Kits" - individual tissue packets, hand wipes, space blankets, rain ponchos
- Also: Single flat bed sheets and pillow cases; white socks, large plain sweatshirts, NRSV Bibles, children's packets (activities, crayons, etc.), notes of encouragement for kits.

Hospital Visits: Because of the privacy regulations now in effect, the church has no way of knowing

if someone is in the hospital. Please, make arrangements now with a friend or family member to call the church if you are admitted. Fr. Ben, Mrr. Trula or Deacon Hazel will visit with you, pray with you and bring you communion, but only if you let us know.

Prayer List, Birthday Anniversary Calendar: We keep a copy of the prayer list on the back table for you to add or subtract names each week. Please take a look and make sure it's up to date. Also, look over the **birthday/anniversary** calendar and make sure you and your family are included.

Altar flowers from your garden ... please feel free to bring bouquets any Sunday to grace our worship.

Outreach discretionary fund: We no longer have a rector's discretionary fund, a small account that was used for emergency help to those in real need. The vestry proposes that we reestablish this fund. If you wish to make a contribution, you may write a check and indicate its purpose on the *for* line. There are now also envelopes in each pew for cash donations.

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September at Trinity