

The Trinity Bell



Volume 7, Issue 1

Newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church

January 2009



THE VICAR'S VOICE

There has occurred on Thursday, January 1, 2009 an official changing of the guard. Alan Pankratz and Jim White have served their respective terms as Senior and Junior Wardens and we salute them! During stressful times, they navigated the good

ship Trinity through threatening waters and into a safe harbor. We salute the two of you goodly gentlemen and trust you will find some well-deserved rest during the months ahead.

At the same time, Ms. Virginia Smith takes the helm as Senior Warden, and I plan to nominate to the Mission Board Eric Beshore as Junior Warden. It is my intent also to reappoint Linda Wilcox as Clerk and George Bothwell as Treasurer for 2009. These fine people will continue to serve us well. With John Wick joining the Mission Board, we will have a fine team!

At the Mission Board Retreat in October, the Board appointed a By-law Committee; a Job Description Committee; and a Building Committee. I will be sending notes to those we wish to serve on those committees so that they may begin to meet no later than February. This is an exciting time to be part of Trinity Church, Melrose.

Also, on February 1, we will hold our Annual Meeting during lunch and will have a special honoring of our two former Wardens. Along with this, in my report, I hope to share my excitement at 2008, my vision for the next 2 ½ years of my Letter of

Agreement, and where I hope we will be on June 30, 2011. I believe God will be doing great things for us.

At the end of January, we will bid farewell to Melanie our faithful organist. She has taken a larger assignment in Gainesville, and we wish her God speed as she moves on to the next chapter God has for her. Pray for God's leading as we seek her replacement here.

By the time you read this, God willing we will have our Allen Organ installed in the Parish Hall.

Though not a new instrument, it is a fine instrument for our current needs and has been completely covered financially through memorial gifts. It should serve us for a good number of years.

Well, dear ones, I will sign off. We have much work ahead of us as God continues to enable us to be God's own church in the Lake Area. Our circle of impact widens, and as it does, so does our responsibility. But remember thankfully, so does God's grace.

Faithfully,

Fr. Jeff+

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2009

10:00AM SERVICE

*****ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING*****

**Budget approval
Convention Report**

LUNCH

TIME AND TALENT

**Head of the Church
Jesus Christ**

**The Rt. Rev. Samuel Johnson
Howard
Bishop of Florida**

Members of the Mission Board

**Virginia Smith, Sr. Warden
Eric Beshore, Jr. Warden
George Bothwell, Treasurer
Linda Wilcox, Clerk
Terrell Bothwell
Donna Eichelsderfer**

**Kristi Gregory
Ed O'Bryan
Vi Paul
Jack Rice
John Wick**

**Staff
Clergy**

**The Rev. Jeffrey A. Mackey, Vicar
Pat Nahikian, Deacon
Valerie Thomas, Deacon**

Music

**Margaret Rice, Choir Director
Melanie Yeager, Organist**

Office

**Jean Stegall,
Financial Administrator
Linda Wilcox,
Parish Administrator
And Editor of the "Trinity Bell"**

**Service Times
8:30 am and 11:00 am Sunday
6:00 pm Wednesday Evening**

**Trinity Episcopal Church
204 SR 26
Post Office Box 361
Melrose, Florida 32666**

**Office Hours: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Monday thru Thursday**

**Office Phone: 352 475-2177
Fax: 352 475-6181**

**Email: trinitymelrose@alltel.net
Website: trinitymelrosefl.org**



NEWS FROM THE ECW

ECW will meet in the Parish Hall on January 6, 2009 at 10:00 AM. We will be discussing the budget for 2009 at the meeting.

On February 3rd, the ECW will be making a trip to Rodeheaver Boys Ranch. We will be meeting at 9:00 AM on the 3rd to car pool to the ranch. We would like to take tooth brushes, tooth paste and other items for the boys personal use. Please leave your items in the church office. Thank you so much for your help in this project.

We will have an evening meeting on March 3rd with the board bringing dinner. Fr. Jeff will be talking to us about the meaning of Lent. The meeting will begin at 6:30 PM.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

- Jan. 3 Glenda Geraci, Amanda Gray**
- Jan. 5 Bob Simpkins, John Rynd**
- Jan. 9 David Kidd**
- Jan. 10 Kathy Garcia**
- Jan. 11 Hank Chaires**
- Jan. 17 Margaret Kidd**
- Jan. 19 Ken Wacha**
- Jan. 24 Margaret Arenberg**
- Jan. 25 Joshua Lynch**
- Jan. 26 Alan Cook**
- Jan. 30 Tim Paul**



God, our times are in your hand; look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Book of Common Prayer p. 830

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

- Jan. 3 George and Terrell Bothwell**
- Jan. 18 Mike and Flo O'Brien**
- Jan. 31 Jack and Margaret Rice**



O God, bless our relationships, assist us with your grace, so that with true fidelity and steadfast love we may honor and keep the promises and vows we make to one another. Let us love one another as a sign of your love for us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CURSILLO NEWS



This month the Ultreya will be held on Friday, Jan. 5, at St. Albans in Chiefland, at 7:00pm. If you would like to know more about Cursillo, please be sure to go to one of the members of Trinity who has already attended a weekend and ask lots of questions.

Message from the Senior Warden

Several months ago at the doorway to the Parish Hall, Father Jeff asked me to be the next Senior Warden. I looked at him and laughed—are you kidding—No Way! On January 16th, I will attend a conference at Camp Weed for Wardens, Vestry/Mission Board members and Treasurers.

I'm beginning a new journey at such an exciting time at Trinity. So much has been happening since Father Jeff and LaVonne arrived in Melrose. We're experiencing an increase in attendance and membership, and our stewardship and outreach is commendable. The children are growing in numbers and sharing their joy and gifts with us.

It seems appropriate for each of us to consider how we might share our vision for Trinity—making it real and generating enthusiasm. We are each blessed with so many gifts.

My prayer is that each of us may realize our talents and volunteer them as we relish in the joy being experienced at Trinity. I look forward to the opportunity given to me to be a part of this journey.

Virginia Smith, Sr. Warden



BEN FRANKLIN IS COMING TO MELROSE

The Magic of Reading is an educational program designed to enlighten children and adults and inspire them to acquire a love of knowledge and a love of reading that will last forever. Come and learn the secrets of one of the world's best and most famous readers, Benjamin Franklin, as he discusses his life and achievements and explains how to improve reading habits. "From a child I was fond of reading, and all the little money that came into my hands was ever laid out in books." Many participants become part of the program as Ben challenges them to remember everything he says--and rewards them when they do! The program concludes with a reenactment of a scientific experiment Ben actually performed. Everyone learns, everyone has fun.

The program lasts about 50 minutes and is recommended for all ages. Ben speaks at many libraries each year. He believes his program is absolutely the best library program in the world. The wonder is why he has not spoken at every library in the country. Among the Famous Things Ben Franklin Did:

- Founded the first subscription library in this country
- Signed the Declaration of Independence
- Charted the Gulf Stream
- Helped win the Revolutionary War
- Invented bifocal eyeglasses
- Founded the University of Pennsylvania

Ben Franklin, in the person of Dr. Rich Davis, will be at Trinity Episcopal Church Parish Hall Tuesday, January 6, at 7 P.M. The free program is sponsored by Historic Melrose, Inc., The Melrose Library Association, and Trinity Church. Everyone is welcome!



**The deadline for the
February Bell is
January 19th.**

Top Five Signs You May Not Be Reading Your Bible Enough

- 5) You think Abraham, Isaac & Jacob may have had a few hit songs during the 60's.
- 4) You open to the Gospel of Luke and a WWII Savings Bond falls out.
- 3) Your favorite Old Testament Patriarch is Hercules.
- 2) A small family of woodchucks has taken up residence in the Psalms of your Bible.
- 1) You become frustrated because Charlton Heston isn't listed in either the Concordance or the Table of Contents!



Trinity Episcopal Church
Summary Income Statement for the Period Ended November 30, 2008



**TREAS-
URER'S**

	For the Month		Year-to-Date	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income	\$ 17,596	\$ 12,079	\$ 142,086	\$ 132,866
Expense	<u>17,207</u>	<u>17,231</u>	<u>144,192</u>	<u>143,716</u>
Income less Expense	<u>\$ 389</u>	<u>\$ (5,152)</u>	<u>\$ (2,106)</u>	<u>\$ (10,850)</u>

REPORT

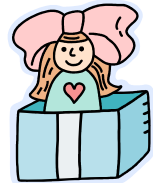


OUTREACH CHRISTMAS AT TACACHALE

On December 19, the Outreach Committee provided a Christmas party for Phlox House at Tacachale. Along with the cake and ice cream, each of the 14 residents received a Gator t-shirt and a dress shirt from Trinity. Gifts also included craft items and magazines, which are enjoyed throughout the year by the residents. The event ended with everyone singing Christmas carols. Photos of the event are on display on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall, so stop by and take a look! Sponsorship of the house at Tacachale is made possible by the Norton Fund. This fund provides financial support for outreach projects benefiting adults. If you would like to request funds to support a worthy activity, please complete a funding request form, which is available in the church office. The members of the Outreach Committee are Terrell Bothwell, Donna Eichelsderfer, Linda Wilcox, Ginny White, Pat Poppell and Pat Nahikian. We always welcome new ideas for activities benefiting the adults in our community. Please give us your suggestions anytime, and thank you for your support of this ministry.



**YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR
MELROSE CHILDREN**



On December 14, following the 8:30 am service, our Trinity Youth Group shopped for 15 students at Melrose Elementary who were in need of extra Christmas blessings. The youth shopped for clothes, dolls, footballs, basketballs, shoes, cars, trucks, and electronic gifts to name a few of the Christmas surprises. Because of a difficult economic year, many demands on everyone's pockets, awkward timing and many children in need, along with your donations, the youth group donated \$600.00 from their own funds for the children's gifts. Aside from shopping, the next best thing to do is wrap the gifts. The youth met on Wednesday night at the church and wrapped presents and had pizza (what else!). The presents were delivered the following day to Melrose Elementary to a joyful reception. We pray that these gifts will touch the lives of these children and bring them the love and joy of Christ our Savior. Amen!

TIME AND TALENT



Following the First Sunday Service in February and the Annual Meeting, we will have an opportunity for you to explore many of the ministry opportunities at Trinity. There will be information available and members who will be happy to discuss all of the organizations, committees, outreach programs, work groups, etc. Sign up sheets will be available, and many of the groups will have pamphlets or literature for you to take with you if you're interested in learning more. God has given each of us so many gifts and graces, and this is a chance to see where our talents meet the opportunities the church offers and ways in which we can each serve Our Lord in the most effective and joyful way.



January 2009

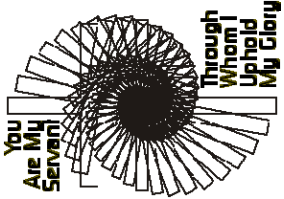
We Pray Together As We Are Living History Together



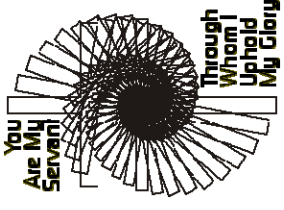
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>4 First Sunday Service 10:00am Parish Hall Lunch Following Fellowship Meeting 3pm Spratt Memorial</p>	<p>5 7:00 pm Scouts</p>	<p>6 ECW Meeting 10:00am Access 10am-2pm 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker 6:00pm Ben Franklin</p>	<p>7 6:00pm Epiphany Service 7:00pm Youth Group</p>	<p>1 10 - 4 Thrift Shop open 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker Access 10am-2pm</p>	<p>2 Ultreya at St Alban's in land</p> 	<p>3 Thrift Shop 9am-12</p>
<p>11 1st Sun Epiphany 8:30 & 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 Coffee 9:45 Sunday School</p>	<p>12 7:00 pm Scouts</p>	<p>13 Access 10am-2pm 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker</p>	<p>14 6:00pm Evening Prayer and Holy Eucharist Mission Board 7:00pm 7:00pm Youth Group</p>	<p>15 10 - 4 Thrift Shop open 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker Access 10am-2pm</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 Thrift Shop 9am-12</p>
<p>18 2nd Sun Epiphany 8:30 & 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 Coffee 9:45 Sunday School</p>	<p>19 MLK Holiday Office Closed 7:00 pm Scouts</p>	<p>20  Inauguration Day Access 10am-2pm 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker Santa Fe Audubon</p>	<p>21 6:00pm Evening Prayer and Holy Eucharist 7:00pm Youth Group</p>	<p>22 10 - 4 Thrift Shop open 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker Access 10am-2pm</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Thrift Shop 9am-12 Ph in Use</p>
<p>25 3rd Sun Epiphany 8:30 & 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 Coffee 9:45 Sunday School</p>	<p>26 7:00 pm Scouts</p>	<p>27 Access 10am-2pm 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker</p>	<p>28 6:00pm Evening Prayer and Holy Eucharist DOK Meeting 7:00pm Youth Group</p>	<p>29 10 - 4 Thrift Shop open 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker Access 10am-2pm</p>	<p>30 PH in Use Lake Dwellers Chili Cookoff</p>	<p>31 Thrift Shop 9am-12 Men's Club</p>
<p>Diocesan Convention—Camp Weed</p>						

*****TRINITY CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING*****

On Sunday, Feb. 1st, our usual First Sunday Service will be followed by our Annual Meeting and a report from the Diocesan Convention. Please mark your calendars to be sure to attend this special Sunday and hear exciting plans and news from Trinity and the Diocese and stay to enjoy a delicious lunch following the meeting.



SERVER'S SCHEDULE ~ DECEMBER 2008



Date	8:30				11:00			
	Eucharistic Minister	Reader	Usher	Greeter	Eucharistic Minister	Reader	Usher	Greeter
Jan. 4 First Sunday	One Service 10AM				Jerry Thomas	Liz Middleton	Alan Pankratz	Penny Pankratz
Jan. 11 1st Sunday after Epiphany	Suki Hoffman-Paul Stegall	Paul Stegall	Jeanne Eaton	Kathi Warren	Suki Hoffman Paul Stegall	Jerry Thomas	Ed O'Bryan	Yvonne O'Bryan
Jan. 18 2nd Sunday after Epiphany	Kristi Gregory Craig Lee	Craig Lee	Dan Wilcox	Virginia Smith	Kristi Gregory Craig Lee	Jean Giesel	Ken Blair	Marilyn Blair
Jan. 25 3rd Sunday after Epiphany	Pat Poppell Rodney Paul	Clay O'Neal	Clay O'Neal	Kelly O'Neal	Pat Poppell Rodney Paul	Kristi Gregory	Kristi Gregory	Cinnie Brown
Altar Guild	Cinnie Brown* and Debbie Brown							
Mission Board								

Thank you for placing yourself in the service of Our Lord and His Church. If you are unable to serve on your scheduled date, please arrange for your replacement and notify the office.

Out of my mind...

The year is now 2009 – almost a decade into a new century (which won't be new for too much longer)! There are things that have happened over the past decade that have been either infamous or incredible! There have occurred destiny shaping events of which you and I have received the benefits or consequences.

Moving to Florida and becoming reacquainted with Bishop Howard reminded me of 9/11. He and Mrs. Howard were in their apartment at the base of the towers in lower Manhattan, and I was on a subway headed for my office at Nyack College in lower Manhattan, just blocks from the Howard's home. It was not many minutes until the Transit Authority stopped the train and drove us all out of Penn Station, announcing that there was a bomb in the terminal. I hustled toward Time Square, arriving just in time to look down Seventh Avenue to watch the second tower collapse. Fortunately for me I had friends living just off Times Square on 44th Street, and they took me in until I could get a train north to Poughkeepsie later in the day. We've lived through 9/11 and are grateful that there have been no major attacks on United States soil since that day.

And now we move into 2009 with a new president soon to be inaugurated. Mr. Obama's election is historic, regardless of one's politics. And as Christians, we have a Biblical, and an ecclesial (the Prayer Book enjoins us) mandate to pray for the safety and success of our secular leaders. Again, this is regardless of one's politics.

As your Vicar, I want to lead Trinity in praying for our secular leaders, that by God's grace, they will have wisdom and vision, and fortitude and faith. Mr. Obama is not a Muslim (though I would not hold that against him – I would just have much more to learn since I am grossly ignorant of the Muslim faith). He is a devout Christian. I have heard and read his testimony. So you and I have all the more reason to pray for him. Holy Spirit possesses him.

Well, enough of the past, now onto the future – with the vigorous and vital growth of Trinity, I simply do not want us to cease being a prayerful people. Our government leaders need our prayers; our ecclesial leaders need our prayers; our community needs our prayers; individuals in our congregation need our prayers. And lest you forget, the Vicar, a sinner in your midst, needs your prayers. I vow to pray regularly for you. I covet your prayers for me, that this beggar might help other beggars to find the bread I have been graced to find in Christ Jesus.

Under the same wing,

Fr. Jeff+

THANK YOU

My deepest thanks for your prayers and warm expressions of sympathy on the death of my mother during the month of December, and for your help, understanding and patience during my unexpected absence from the office at a very busy time. My mother had a happy and wonderful life; and while she will be dearly missed, my family was uplifted by your prayer support and kindness and with the peace of knowing that she is now blessed with eternal joy with the Father. With a grateful heart and much love, Linda

EPIPHANY

“Epiphany means an awakening or understanding; taking the light into the world. Epiphany Eve, is the twelfth day of Christmas, or Twelfth Night. Christmas begins with Christmas Day, December 25, and lasts for twelve days until Epiphany, January 6, which looks ahead to the mission of the church to the world in light of the Nativity. The one or two Sundays between Christmas Day and Epiphany are sometimes called Christmas-tide. For many Protestant church traditions, the season of Epiphany extends from January 6th until Ash Wednesday which begins the season of Lent.

The Wise Men, or Magi, who brought gifts to the infant Jesus were the first Gentiles to acknowledge Jesus as "King" and so were the first to "show" or "reveal" Jesus to a wider world as the incarnate Christ. This act of worship by the Magi, which corresponded to Simeon's blessing that this child Jesus would be "a light for revelation to the Gentiles" (Luke 2:32), was one of the first indications that Jesus came for all people, of all nations, of all races, and that the work of God in the world would not be limited to only a few.

**Trinity Episcopal Church
204 SR 26
Post Office Box 361
Melrose, Florida 32666**

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JANUARY 2009

SPECIAL EVENTS IN JANUARY

- Jan. 4** First Sunday Joint Service 10:00AM
Parish Hall—Pot Luck Lunch Following
- Jan. 6** Fellowship Meeting
ECW Meeting 10:00AM Parish Hall
Melrose Library presents Ben Franklin
Parish Hall 6:00PM
- Jan. 7** Epiphany Service 6:00pm Church
- Jan. 14** Mission Board Meeting 7:00pm
- Jan. 19** Martin Luther King Day Office Closed
- Jan. 20** Santa Fe Audubon Meeting PH
- Jan. 24** Santa Fe Regional Pre-Convention Mtg.
St. Joseph's Newberry
- Jan. 30-31** Diocesan Convention at Camp Weed
- Feb. 1** First Sunday Joint Service 10:00
Parish Hall and Annual Meeting and
Lunch Following

REGULAR EVENTS

- Sunday : 8:30 & 11:00 am Holy Eucharist**
9:15 am Coffee
9:45 - 10:45am Children's Sunday School
Adult Spiritual Development
- Youth Group**
After 11:00 Service on Sunday
Wed. Evening Bible Study Parish Hall
- 1st Sunday of the Month**
One Service only at 10:00am
In the Parish Hall
- Wednesday: Holy Eucharist
and Evening Prayer 6:00 pm**
- Thrift Shop**
Open 10 am to 4 pm Thursday
9 am—noon Saturday
- Access Program**
Tuesdays 10am—2pm