



The Trinity Bell



Volume 12, Issue 3

Newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church

March 2014

The vision of Trinity Church is to be relevant to the Lake Region Community serving and drawing others to the gospel of Jesus Christ as a growing Episcopal Church.



A Word from Father Tony

Mary Fairchild writes, “Lent is the Christian season of preparation before Easter. In Western Christianity, Ash Wednesday marks the first day, or the start of the season of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count). Lent is a time when many Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation and spiritual discipline. The purpose is to set aside time for reflection on Jesus Christ - his suffering and his sacrifice, his life, death, burial and resurrection.” Fairchild notes, “Not all Christian churches observe Lent. Lent is mostly observed by the Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian and Anglican denominations, and also by Roman Catholics. Eastern Orthodox churches observe Lent or Great Lent, during the 6 weeks or 40 days preceding Palm Sunday with fasting continuing during the Holy Week of Orthodox Easter. Lent for Eastern Orthodox churches begins on Monday (called Clean Monday) and Ash Wednesday is not observed.”

As early as the 2nd Century, devout Christians observing a forty hour fast marking the hours Christ lay in the tomb. By the 4th Century, the forty hour fast had grown in Biblical proportion to a season of forty days, honoring Christ’s preparation in the wilderness. Today we continue the Church’s ancient tradition in a more kindly manner. Rather than giving up something for Lent, many Episcopalians now take up something new instead, like volunteering their time for a worthwhile cause. The Diocese of Florida voted at Convention to “designate the first Friday of Lent as a day of Fasting for Mission,” with giving set aside for St. Mary’s mission to the homeless in Jacksonville.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday remain official Fast days in the Episcopal Church. As the ancients began their day at the setting of the sun, today we understand a fast as between sun up and sun down, allowing for an evening meal. Those with medical needs should not risk a strict fast. Eat as your doctor prescribes. In “Fasting 101,” at the Episcopal Café online, Derek Olsen, reminds us that simply not eating is not fasting. Fasting is a three-fold discipline that includes fasting, almsgiving and prayer. While we may no longer sit in sackcloth and ashes as Job did, still, a season of Fasting is a time to mourn our sins and quiet our minds to hear the still small voice of God say, “What are you doing here?” That still, small voice of our Lord who raises us out of our ashes and into the joy of his glorious love and resurrection.

The purpose of fasting and self-denial is not to earn brownie points with God, rather it is a time to allow the Holy Spirit access to our hearts and bring us deeper into the life of Jesus. It is a season that shakes up our routine and makes us think about things we would rather forget. However, we cannot know the joy of the empty tomb without experiencing the agony of the Cross. Therefore, I invite you, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy Word. May we open our hearts to the depth of God’s love for us in the death and resurrection of his Son.

Warmly, Tony



**Head of the Church
Jesus Christ**

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

Members of the Vestry

**Virginia Smith, Senior Warden '15
Bob Hood, Jr. Warden 2017**

Donna Eichelsderfer 2017

Anne Lowry 2015

Vi Paul 2016

Clay O'Neal 2017

Bob Tickel 2016

Carol Pettie, Treasurer

Linda Wilcox, Clerk

Clergy

Rev. Tony Powell, Rector

Music

**Margaret Rice, Choir Director
Figg Poncher, Organist**

Office

**Figg Poncher,
Financial Administrator
Linda Wilcox,
Parish Administrator
and Editor of the "Trinity Bell"**

Service Times

8:30 am and 11:00 am Sunday

**Trinity Episcopal Church
204 SR 26**

**Post Office Box 361
Melrose, Florida 32666**

**Office Hours: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
Monday thru Thursday**

Office Phone: 352 475-2177

Fax: 352 475-6181

Email:

trinitymelrose@windstream.net

Website: trinitymelrosefl.org

ECW NEWS



The ECW meeting for March will be held on Tuesday, Mar. 4th at 10am

All women of the church are invited to join us.

The Spring Retreat will be held on April 4-6 at Camp Weed and the Rev. Louanne Loch will be the keynote speaker. There will be workshops, including yoga, crafts and a tour of Camp Weed including the pines, pigs, new water, and the area where Ferdinand DeSoto explored.

**DEADLINE FOR THE APRIL TRINITY BELL
IS MARCH 14th**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



| | |
|---------|---|
| Mar. 10 | Joyce Chesnut |
| Mar. 17 | Marilyn Blair |
| Mar. 18 | Bill Chesnut |
| Mar. 20 | Larry Alsobrook |
| Mar. 22 | George Bothwell |
| Mar. 25 | Elaine Ashley |
| Mar. 26 | Pat Warren, Chris Greenfield, Jennifer Lowe |
| Mar. 27 | Laurene Owen |
| Mar. 27 | Logan Middleton |

O 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. *BCP p. 830*

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



| | |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Mar. 1 | Jennifer and Clarence Williams |
| Mar. 23 | Cathy and Paul Stegall |

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



If you are interested in learning more about Cursillo or attending a Cursillo weekend, please speak with Clay O'Neal, Linda in the office, Father Tony, or anyone who has already attended a weekend.

Ultreyas are get-togethers of all those who have attended a Cursillo weekend and others who may be interested in attending. They include a pot luck dinner and celebration of the Eucharist. There will not be an Ultreya in March and the next Ultreya will be held on April 13 at 4pm at Holy Trinity in Gainesville.



THOUGHTS FROM THE SR. WARDEN

“Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much”

Helen Keller

Together..... so much depends on doing things together. This begins with individuals drawn together by a common interest. After a time of getting acquainted they come together. A feeling towards one another takes place. They become companions and want to be together. How do we show our togetherness at Trinity?

Loving one another and caring for each other
Sensing gladness when we are together
Together we are devoted to the word, fellowship, worship and prayer
Gathering with each other to participate in community together becomes a deep commitment
Sharing the Christian life together I need you..... You need me
Sharing our faith results in special togetherness

What we choose to do together shapes the future of Trinity... our growth, presence in the community, support and co-operation in all our endeavors. God intended things to be this way...as he said “Love one another”. I hope that we will all come together, especially during Lent, for soup suppers and programs, book studies, and services.

Virginia

JR. WARDEN'S REPORT



First let me thank the entire congregation for electing me to serve you on the Vestry. With Gods help and your cooperation I will do my best to live up to your expectations. Please feel free to contact me at home, 475-2054; by email, rrwhmj@yahoo.com: or anytime when I am at the Church grounds.

I would also like to thank the Vestry for trusting me with the responsibility for the care and protection of the facilities at Trinity.

On behalf of the Vestry and the entire congregation I would also like to thank Eric Beshore for his excellent stewardship of the facilities while he was the Jr. Warden. He has been very helpful to me with the transition of the responsibilities of this position. His continued support will make for a seamless transition.

As Eric mentioned in previous reports we will be relying more on the members of the congregation to help with some of the duties formerly handled by Bill our Sexton. I hope the Spirit will guide us all to give of our talents when called upon.

I would also like to express my thanks to our Sexton, Bill Fairhurst for his excellent work keeping our facilities looking clean and well maintained. He has been there to help me handle small problems in the short period I have been in charge. His dedication to Trinity should be an inspiration to all of us. I hope if you have the opportunity to see him that you would express your “Thanks” for the great job he has and is doing for Trinity.

We did have one problem with the plumbing in the Office/Thrift shop complex. Due to a running toilet on two different occasions we had minor floods in the building. As a result of these and the heavy rains lately the septic tank had to be pumped and the drain field was saturated. One solution to deal with the saturation is to install gutters on the West side of the building and divert all the water coming off the roof to the retention pond at the front of the property. We will be getting estimates on this work and then decide when to do it and if this is a sound financial investment.

As Eric has reminded us in the past “Do not hide your talent but let it shine. Lend a hand and be blessed.

Bob Hood, Jr. Warden

For the Month of January and YTD, 2014

| | <u>Actual</u> | <u>Budget</u> | <u>Over/Under Budget</u> | <u>YTD Actual</u> | <u>YTD Budget</u> | <u>Over/Under Budget</u> |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Pledges Offerings | \$7,588 | \$10,219 | (\$2,631) | \$7,588 | \$10,219 | (\$2,631) |
| Non-Pledged Offerings | 1,130 | 2,071 | (941) | 1,130 | 2,071 | (941) |
| Plate Offerings | <u>205</u> | <u>250</u> | <u>(45)</u> | <u>205</u> | <u>250</u> | <u>(45)</u> |
| Net Income | \$8,923 | \$12,540 | (\$3,617) | \$8,923 | \$12,540 | (\$3,617) |

For the month of January we had a deficit of (\$3,218).

Hopefully, the first month of the new year is not an indication of coming months.

Our expected Operating revenues showed a deficit of (\$2,557)

The first month of each quarter has heavy expenses such as Property Insurance and Priest pension. Revenues do not take these expense blips into account.

Carol Pettie
Treasurer

LENTEN BOOK STUDIES

It's not too late to join one of the Lenten Book Studies. Below are the times and starting dates:

9:45 am - Sunday March 9th "Healing the Heart of Democracy: The Courage to Create a Politics Worthy of the Human Spirit" with Fr. Kidd

1:30 on Tuesday, March 11, "40 Days in the Word" with Fr. Tony

4:00 on Wednesday, March 12, "Welcome to the Wisdom of the World" with Fr. Tony

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS AND COMMUNITY LUNCHESES

We will once again share Lenten Soup Suppers, a program and Eucharist Service with St. Mark's in Starke. The theme of the programs this year will be Ministries of the Diocese. "The Church Without Walls", "St Mary's Mission", "Mission Orphanage in Sudan", The Hispanic Ministries including liturgical dance, and our Prison Ministries, will be presented. The first dinner will be held on Wednesday, March 12, at St. Mark's. And we will alternate weeks with them. Cinnie Brown is the chair of the dinners at Trinity and if you are able to make soup or help with set up or clean up, please let Cinnie know.

The Community Interdenominational Lenten Services will be held at our local churches, schedules are available in the office. Trinity will host one of the luncheons on March 26th. Pastor Paul Daniels, who is new at Melrose Methodist Church, will be the speaker. When we hosted this luncheon last year there were almost 200 people in attendance. Virginia Smith is the chair of the luncheon committee and will appreciate any help you might be able to offer.



March 2014



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|--|--|-------------------------|--|
| 2 First Sunday Transfiguration One Service 10:00am Lunch Following | 3 7:00pm Scouts | 4 Access 10am-2pm 10am ECW Noon Pizza and Gospel 5pm Pancake Super 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker 7:00pm AIA non | 5  Services at Noon and 6pm | 6 10 - 4pm Thrift Shop 6:00 pm Poetry Club Forum Room 7:00 pm AA | 7 2-5pm Thrift Shop | 8 9am -12 Thrift Shop |
| 9 8:30 & 11:00 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Refreshments 9:45 Sunday School 11:45 Refreshments Palanca Party | 10 7:00pm Scouts Blue and Gold Dinner | 11 Access 10am-2pm 10am Sisters' Circle Noon Pizza and Gospel 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker 7:00pm AIA non | 12 Lenten Soup Supper At St. Marks 6:30 pm | 13 10 - 4pm Thrift Shop 6:00 pm Poetry Club Forum Room 7:00 pm AA | 14 2-5pm Thrift Shop | 15 9am -12 Thrift Shop |
| 16 8:30 & 11:00 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Refreshments 9:45 Sunday School 11:45 Refreshments | 17  7:00pm Scouts | 18 Access 10am-2pm 10am Sisters' Circle Noon Pizza and Gospel 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker 7:00pm AIA non 7:00 pm Vestry | 19 Lenten Soup Supper At Trinity 6:30 pm | 20 10 - 4pm Thrift Shop 6:00 pm Poetry Club Forum Room 7:00 pm AA | 21 2-5pm Thrift Shop | 22 9am -12 Thrift Shop |
| 23 8:30 & 11:00 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Refreshments 9:45 Sunday School 11:45 Refreshments | 24 6:00pm DOK Mtg.  7:00pm Scouts | 25 Access 10am-2pm 10am Sisters' Circle 1:30 Evangelism Mtg 2:30 Outreach Mtg Noon Pizza and Gospel 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker | 26 Lenten Luncheon Noon Lenten Soup Supper At St. Marks 6:30 pm | 27 10 - 4pm Thrift Shop 6:00 pm Poetry Club Forum Room 7:00 pm AA | 28 2-5pm Thrift Shop | 29  9am -12 Thrift Shop |
| 30 8:30 & 11:00 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Refreshments 9:45 Sunday School 11:45 Refreshments | 31 7:00pm Scouts | | | | | |

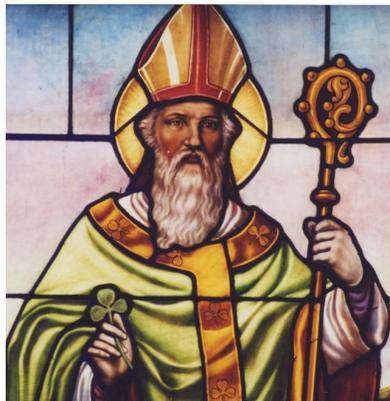


SERVERS' SCHEDULE MARCH 2014



| Date | Service | Eucharistic Minister | Lector | Usher | Greeter |
|------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2-Mar-14 | Single Service 10AM | Paul Stegall Sharon Jax | Jeanne Eaton | Jeanne Eaton Will Flynn | Carol Flynn Virginia Smith |
| 9-Mar-14 | 8:30 | Rodney Paul | Marika Brokas | Clay O'Neal | Kathi Warren |
| | 11:00 | Suki Hoffman | Margaret Rice | Kristi Gregory | Cinnie Brown |
| 16-Mar-14 | 8:30 | Chris Greenfield | Joyce Chesnut | Eric Beshore | Ann Beshore |
| | 11:00 | Bob Tickle | Marie Curewitz | Liz Middleton | Linda Wilcox |
| 23-Mar-14 | 8:30 | Paul Stegall | Paul Stegall | Rodney Paul | Vi Paul |
| | 11:00 | Kristi Gregory | Laurie Alsobrook | Will Flynn | Carol Flynn |
| 30-Mar-14 | 8:30 | Rodney Paul | Chris Greenfield | Robert Menzen | Jane Menzen |
| | 11:00 | Sharon Jax | Sharon Jax | Kristi Gregory | Margaret Kidd |
| Vestry | Bob Hood | | | | |
| Altar Guild | Cinnie Brown, and Ginny Garnar | | | | |

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.



ST. PATRICK

Saint Patrick's Day or the Feast of Saint Patrick (Irish: Lá Fhéile Pádraig, "the Day of the Festival of Patrick") is a cultural and religious holiday celebrated on 17 March. It is named after Saint Patrick (c. AD 385–461), the most commonly recognised of the patron saints of Ireland. Saint Patrick's Day was made an official Christian feast day in the early seventeenth century and is observed by the Catholic Church, the Anglican Communion (especially the Church of Ireland), the Eastern Orthodox Church and Lutheran Church.

St Patrick is credited with bringing christianity to Ireland. Most of what is known about him comes from his two works; the *Confessio*, a spiritual autobiography, and his *Epistola*, a denunciation of British mistreatment of Irish christians. Saint Patrick described himself as a "most humble-minded man, pouring forth a continuous paean of thanks to his Maker for having chosen him as the instrument whereby multitudes who had worshipped idols and unclean things had become the people of God."

Little is known of Patrick's early life, though it is known that he was born in about 385 in Roman Britain, into a wealthy Romano-British family. His father Calphurnius was a deacon and his grandfather, Pontius, was a priest in the Christian church. His mother, Conchessa, was a close relative of St. Martin of Tours. Surprisingly, Patrick was not raised with a strong emphasis on religion and education was not stressed during his childhood which would be come of source of embarrassment to him later in life. He wrote in his "Confessio". "I blush and fear exceedingly to reveal my lack of education."

At the age of sixteen, he was kidnapped by Irish pirates and taken captive to Ireland where he was sold into slavery. His job was to tend sheep and his master was a high priest of Druidism. It is believed he was held somewhere on the west coast of Ireland, but the exact location is unknown. According to his Confession, he was told by God in a dream to flee from captivity to the coast, where he would board a ship and return to Britain. Upon returning, he quickly joined the Church in Auxerre in Gaul and studied to be a priest.

According to legend, Saint Patrick used the three-leaved shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity to Irish pagans. Through teaching, writing and baptisms, he convinced the pagan Druids that they were were worshipping idols under a belief system that kept them enslaved. By accepting Christianity, he told them, they would be elevated to "the people of the Lord and the sons of God."

Folklore also tells us that he is known for driving the snakes from Ireland. It is true there are no snakes in Ireland, but there probably never have been - the island was separated from the rest of the continent at the end of the Ice Age. As in many old pagan religions, serpent symbols were common and were often worshipped by the Druids. The story holds that he converted the Druid warrior chiefs and princes, baptizing them and thousands of their subjects in the "Holy Wells" that still bear this name. Ending the Druid rites may have been the symbolic "snakes" that were driven from Ireland.

After nearly thirty years of evangelism, he died on 17 March 461, and according to tradition, was buried at Downpatrick. Although there were other more successful missions to Ireland from Rome, Patrick has endured as the principal champion of Irish Christianity and is held in high esteem in the Irish church. *Adapted from several online sources*

GIGGLESOME IRISH HUMOR

Three guys, one Irish, one English, and one Scottish, are out walking along the beach together one day. They come across a lantern and a Genie pops out of it. "I will give you each one wish, that's three wishes in total", says the Genie.

The Scottish guy says, "I am a fisherman, my Dad's a fisherman, his Dad was a fisherman and my son will be one too. I wish for all the oceans full of fish for all eternity." So, with a blink of the Genie's eye FOOM! the oceans were teeming with fish. The Englishman was amazed, so he said, "I wish for wall around England, protecting her, so that no one will get in for all eternity." Again, with a blink of the Genie's eye POOF! there was a huge wall around England.

The Irishman asks, "I'm very curious. Please tell me more about this wall." The Genie explains, "well, it's about 150 feet high, 50 feet thick, protecting England so that nothing can get in or out."

The Irishman says, I wish that you "Fill it up with water."

**Trinity Episcopal Church
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Melrose, Florida 32666**

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Return Service Requested



March 2014

SPECIAL EVENTS COMING SOON

MARCH

- Mar. 2** **First Sunday One Service 10am**
- Mar. 4 Boy Scout Pancake Supper 5:00 pm
- Mar. 5** **Ash Wed. Services Noon and 6 pm**
- Mar. 9** **First Sunday of Lent 8:30 and 11am**
"Healing the Heart of Democracy...
Study begins in the Wicker Room 9:45am
- Mar. 11 "40 Days in the Word"
1:30pm In the Wicker Room
Audubon Meeting PH 6 pm
- Mar. 12 Lenten Soup Supper (St. Mark's)
"Welcome to the Wisdom...
4:00pm in the Wicker Room
- Mar 19 Lenten Soup Supper (Trinity)
- Mar. 26 Community Lenten Luncheon
Lenten Soup Supper (St. Mark's)

REGULAR EVENTS

Sunday : 8:30 & 11:00 am Holy Eucharist
9:15 am Coffee
9:45 - 10:45am Children's Sunday School
Noon Coffee

1st Sunday of the Month
One Service only at 10:00am
In the Parish Hall

Tuesdays: Noon Bible Study at Betty's

Wednesday: 6:00pm Eucharist and Healing Service

Thrift Shop
Open 10 am to 4 pm Thursday
2 pm—5 pm Friday
9 am—Noon Saturday

Access Program
Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am—2pm