



The Trinity Bell



Volume 14, Issue 11

Newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church

November 2016

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

At the October Fall Clergy Conference, Bishop Howard invited Jason Fout of Bexley Seabury Seminary in Chicago to report on the growth of the Anglican churches in London, England. With the

decline of the Episcopal Church noted in the news of late, Jason shared some success stories in a most unlikely place, the Diocese of London.

Yes, London! The Diocese of London is bucking the trend and over the past decade has seen 16% growth in its Average Sunday Attendance. Richard Chartres, Bishop of London, who tells us we must refuse "to see the many divisions in Church life, between High Church and Low Church between Catholic and Protestant tradition. There is only one division that truly matters in a diocese like ours, and that is the division between dead church and live church." And a live, healthy church is one where lives are changed and hearts are transformed by a deeper relationship with Jesus, where the church is focused outward, seeking justice and peace.

Jason Fout went on to tell the stories of three Churches in London, three amazing parishes come back from the brink of death:

St. Michaels, Camden Town (northern London) is a Gothic revival style church featuring very Anglo-Catholic, smells and bells worship. Begun in 1877, this parish, which was once in startling decline, is now bustling with activity and famous for its work with the homeless. The church opened its garden area for reflection and prayer. By becoming a diverse, welcoming parish open to newcomers and the community, St. Michaels has grown from a twelve on Sundays to diverse crowd of over a hundred on Sundays!

Recently, St. Michael's new vicar, Fr. Tom, applied for a liquor license in hopes of providing a "live music venue" – complete with a bar, for bands to come and play to crowds of around 300 revelers. For better or worse, this will certainly put St. Michaels on the map!

St. James, Piccadilly, is all about making connections. They have opened their chancel (sanctuary) to the homeless and an outdoor market that features an "eclectic and unique range of food, arts, crafts, antiques, collectables, complementary therapy goods, cosmetics and clothing from around the world." St. James is "an inclusive, adventurous and welcoming Christian community, honoring God and one another."

St. James also features special Art Installations. In 2013, the church spent 8 months planning and constructing a replica of the illegal wall that surrounds Bethlehem. The replica wall is over 25 feet high and nearly 100 feet long. The Christmas Festival is called "Bethlehem Unwrapped." The church continues to host daily events – comedy, concerts, art shows. In turn, they receive nearly 2000 visitors each day.

When the Bishop announced the topic, "Growing Churches in the 21st Century: Learning from London," my mind went immediately to **Holy Trinity, Brompton** – Nicky Gumbel and the ALPHA program. Nearly nine hundred fill the church each Wednesday evening for Alpha. Following the same outline we experienced in the videos, the class begins with dinner, followed by music, then a 45 minute live presentation, table discussion and a time for prayer requests. ALPHA continues to be a huge success.

Sending out its best leaders, Holy Trinity, Brompton has planted 16 churches, some of which are now planting their own churches. Imagine taking 20 of our best – the 20% who do the 80%, and sending them out into the community to begin a new church?! That's what they do!

It's a striking image taken right out of the New Testament – sending out with intentionality, fostering deep commitments and a welcoming culture. Each Parish in London is expected to have a MAP – a Mission Action Plan: a three to five year vision

Cont. p. 4

**The Next First Sunday is:
November 6, 2016
One Service at 10:00am**

Potluck Lunch will follow the service.

**Head of the Church
Jesus Christ**

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

Members of the Vestry

Senior Warden

**Donna Eichelsderfer 2017
Bob Hood, Jr. Warden 2017**

Clay O'Neal 2017

Jeanne Homany 2018

Laurie Alsobrook 2018

Joyce Chesnut 2019

Brian McCrea 2019

Carol Pettie, Treasurer

Liz Outten, 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: 9:30 am to 2:30 pm
Monday thru Thursday**

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

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

**DEADLINE FOR THE
DECEMBER TRINITY BELL IS
NOVEMBER 15th**



ECW

The next meeting of the ECW will be on Tuesday, Nov. 1 at 10:00am in the Wicker Room. We will have a speaker from Hospice who will talk to us about the "Five Wishes" program. All women of the church are invited to attend.



UNITED THANK OFFERING

The familiar blue boxes will be available beginning this Sunday as we start collecting for the November 6th ingathering. The mission of The United Thank Offering addresses compelling human need through grants to projects that alleviate poverty, both domestically and internationally, within the Anglican provinces, dioceses, and companion dioceses. Through the United Thank Offering, men, women, and children nurture the habit of giving daily thanks to God. These prayers of thanksgiving start when we recognize and name our many daily blessings. Those who participate in the United Thank Offering have discovered that thankfulness leads to generosity. UTO combines these generous offerings to fund significant projects that make a real difference in the work of the Episcopal Church and in the Anglican Communion and a real difference in people's lives.

BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|---------|--|
| Nov. 3 | Robert Menzen |
| Nov. 8 | Cathy Stegall |
| Nov. 9 | Brian McCrea |
| Nov. 11 | Elston Kussler, Joyce King |
| Nov. 14 | Terry Marshall |
| Nov. 16 | Kelly Curry, Bettye Zowarka, Ken Blair |
| Nov. 17 | Cheryl Katterhenry, Ted Giesel |
| Nov. 19 | Bob Tickel |
| Nov. 21 | Carol Flynn |



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*

ANNIVERSARIES

Nov. 23 Chip and Amanda Gray

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.





NOTES FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

We're coming into a very exciting time of year for Trinity. The Fall Bazaar, Thanksgiving in the Park and preparation for the Christmas holidays create lots of activity and an enormous opportunity for us to reach out to others.

The Fall Bazaar will be held on Nov. 11th and 12th in the Parish Hall, and we will welcome many people from our community, Gainesville and the wider area. It's a wonderful opportunity not only to sell the many beautiful, useful and delicious things we have which will benefit the church, but also to introduce people to the church and the joyful warmth of our members.

Thanksgiving in the Park serves our community and is a visible witness to the generosity of God's people and His charge to us to love one another. Each year we hear from those who are amazed that this event is put on and there is no charge for anyone who attends, and there are many people from the community who donate casseroles, desserts, and even a turkey or ham.

In December the excitement continues with Merry Melrose, the Nativity Walk, the Low Country Boil and the fun and excitement of Christmas itself. Decorating, shopping, cooking treats, parties, travel or relatives visiting all add to the activity.

Trinity is blessed to have such wonderful warmth and fellowship and while we are busy and having fun together we are also reaching out to our community in so many ways.

Blessings to all,
Donna

GIGGLESOME

A man in Florida, who was in his 80s, called his son in New York one November day. The father says to the son, "I hate to have to tell you, but we've got some troubles here. I've had it! I want to live out the rest of my years in peace. Your mother and I are getting a divorce. I'm telling you now, so you and your sister won't go into shock later when I move out."

He hangs up, and the son immediately calls his sister in the Hamptons and tells her the news. The sister says, "I'll handle this." She calls Florida and says to her father, "Don't do ANYTHING till we get there! We'll be there Wednesday night." "All right" the father agrees.

The man hangs up the phone and hollers to his wife, "Okay, they're coming for Thanksgiving. Now, what are we going to tell them for Christmas?"



LAUGHTER REALLY IS THE BEST MEDICINE

Jeanne Homany

Studies show that people who laugh regularly have lower rates of heart disease (including heart attacks and strokes), lower blood pressure, less insomnia, better oxygenation, less pain, better immune system response, less stress/anxiety. Start by smiling – at strangers, family, pets! Laughter relaxes your muscles, improves mood, enhances teamwork, strengthens relationships, attracts others to us, defuses conflict, enhances resilience. Start by telling a joke, playing a gag on someone, watching "Funniest Home Videos", playing with a pet, retelling funny stories, singing out loud. (or reading Gigglesome!)

Trinity Bell Report for the month of September & YTD, 2016

| | Sept Actual | Sept Budget | Over/Under | Y-T-D Act | Y-T-D Bud | Over/Under |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Total Revenue | \$14,503 | \$15,729 | (\$1,226) | \$144,185 | \$141,802 | \$2,383 |
| Total Expense | 15,772 | 15,546 | 226 | 147,543 | 158,335 | 10,792 |
| Surplus / (Deficit) | (1,269) | 183 | (1,452) | (3,358) | (16,533) | 13,175 |

| Collections | September Actual | September Budget | Over/Under Budget | Jan-Sept YTD Actual | Jan-Sept YTD Budget | Over/Under Budget |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Challenge | \$0 | 0 | \$0 | \$11,626 | \$0 | \$11,626 |
| Pledged Offerings | \$12,281 | 11,845 | \$436 | 103,445 | 105,246 | (1,801) |
| Non-Pledged Offerings | 746 | 1,667 | (921) | 7,466 | 15,003 | (7,537) |
| Other Offerings | 583 | 1,000 | (418) | 5,150 | 9,000 | (3,850) |
| Priest Fund | <u>320</u> | <u>642</u> | <u>(322)</u> | <u>7,580</u> | <u>5,778</u> | <u>1,802</u> |
| Net Income | \$13,930 | \$15,154 | (\$1,224) | \$135,267 | \$135,027 | \$240 |

mapping out their mission. Each church, each parish holds the mission – the clergy are only one piece of the puzzle, not the whole show. And it is all about living deeper in Christ and presenting Christ to the world.

Bishop Howard reminded us that it is not about the numbers, it's about the people – encouraging and supporting one another, being humble and forgiving, looking for ways to become a new body in Christ. He reminds us that Stewardship is Sacramental.

As a Vestry, as a parish, we must discern what the Holy Spirit is saying to us right here in Melrose. Where do we focus our resources? How do we rethink and act differently – how are we changed and transformed to Do Mission vs. Talking about it? How do we break down the barriers that are preventing us to grow?

We must have a willingness to try something – to take risks and be missionally focused. Trying and failing is more valued than playing it safe.

Bishop Howard spoke of returning to the first things (Revelation):

1. Pray! Beginning, ending and in between – Pray! People will come and stay when we are on our knees praying.
2. Discernment for our future: Unbranded Churches, Invitational Churches – Come and See! Prison Churches, Work Camp Churches, Store Front Churches, Flip-Flop Churches, Rite III Churches with fresh expressions of the Christian Faith – new challenges to stretch our worship.
3. Training Leadership – raising up lay leadership to take the church into the future. The Diocese is committed to developing training to equip the laity to take on a more active role in ministry.
4. Spiritually Immersive Growth – leaving the ordinary to go to the extraordinary so we can return to the ordinary revitalized. Like going on a retreat, it is important to take time to allow the Holy Spirit to refill us.
5. Taking advantage of Program Resources like Alpha, Cursillo, Happening. There will be a co-ed Cursillo in February, and the Bishop takes full responsibility for taking the chance on changing Cursillo, however the purpose is to meet the needs of young professionals who do not have the time to be away for an extended weekend. And childcare will be provided!

It's time to be bold, to think outside the box, and take the Church to the people.

Tony+



SERVERS' SCHEDULE NOVEMBER



| DATE | SERVICE | EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER | LECTOR | USHER | GREETER |
|-------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 06-Nov-16 | Single Service 10 AM | Kristi Gregory Marie Curewitz | Lavonne Mackey | Lavonne Mackey Jean Stegall | Margaret Kidd Winifred Tichel |
| 13-Nov-16 | 8:30 | Bob Hood | Brian McCrea | Brian McCrea | Donna Eichelsderfer |
| | 11:00 | Bob Tichel | Margaret Rice | Will Flynn | Carol Flynn |
| 20-Nov-16 | 8:30 | Chris Greenfield | Chris Greenfield | | Lynda Luekel |
| | 11:00 | Sharon Jax | Suki Hoffman | Kristi Gregory | Joyce King |
| 27-Nov-16 | 8:30 | John Katterhenry | Joyce Chesnut | Rodney Paul | Vi Paul |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Altar Guild | | | Kristi Gregory | | |

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.

November

FALL BAZAAR
Nov. 11 & 12

THANKSGIVING
IN THE PARK

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | |
|---|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| 6 First Sunday One Service UTO INGATHERING 10:00am Lunch Following Daylight Savings Time | | 1 10am ECW Noon Lunch & Gospel 1:30 Old Testament 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker 6:00 DOK Service 7:00pm AI Anon | 2 9am Morning Prayer 10am Outreach Mtg 6:00pm Eucharist And Healing Service | 3 10am-4pm Thrift Shop 7:00pm AA ~ Wicker | 4 2-5pm Thrift Shop | 5 9am-noon Thrift Shop 10:30 AA—Wicker PH in use | |
| | 7 9am Morning Prayer | 8 10am Sister's Circle 10am Outreach Mtg. Noon Lunch & Gospel 1:30 Old Testament  | 9 9am Morning Prayer 6:00pm Eucharist And Healing Service | 10 10am-4pm Thrift Shop 7:00pm AA ~ Wicker | 11 2-5pm Thrift Shop | 12 9am-noon Thrift Shop 10:30 AA—Wicker | |
| | 14 9am Morning Prayer | 15 10am Sister's Circle Noon Lunch & Gospel 1:30 Old Testament 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker 7:00pm AI Anon | 16 9am Morning Prayer 6:00pm Eucharist And Healing Service 7pm Vestry | 17 10am-4pm Thrift Shop 7:00pm AA ~ Wicker | 18 2-5pm Thrift Shop | 19 9am-noon Thrift Shop Men's Club 8am 10:30 AA—Wicker  | |
| 20 8:30 and 11:00am Holy Eucharist 10:00 Breakfast Adult & Youth Ed 12:00 Lunch | 21 9am Morning Prayer | 22 10am Sister's Circle Noon Lunch & Gospel 1:30 Old Testament 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker 7:00pm AI Anon | 23 9am Morning Prayer 4pm Thanksgiving Set up Parish Hall 6:00pm Eucharist And Healing Service | 24 Thrift Shop Closed Thanksgiving in the Park 7:00pm AA ~ Wicker  | 25 Thrift Shop Closed | 26 Thrift Shop Closed 10:30 AA—Wicker | |
| 27 8:30 and 11:00am Holy Eucharist 10:00 Breakfast Adult & Youth Ed 12:00 Lunch | 28 9am Morning Prayer 6:00pm DOK  | 29 10am Sister's Circle Noon Lunch & Gospel 1:30 Old Testament 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker 7:00pm AI Anon | 30 9am Morning Prayer 6:00pm Eucharist And Healing Service |  | | | |
| | | | | | FALL BAZAAR 2PM-6PM FRI. 9AM-3PM SAT. | | |

NOTES FROM THE JUNIOR WARDEN

Greetings,

We were very lucky that Hurricane Matthew did no major damage to the Church grounds. Thanks to all who helped clean up the grounds. We did have some roof leaks in the parish hall. The major one has been fixed and the other is scheduled to be done. As the weather continues to cool we will be working on a long list of routine maintenance items. Once again if you see any concerns please let me know. Below is an excerpt from an article for your reflection.

A Wonderful Story – Br. Nicholas Bartoli

Luke 15.4;8 *“What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine and in the desert and go after the lost one.” “Or what woman having ten coins and losing one would not light a lamp and sweep the house, searching carefully until she finds it?”*

“Parables often use a variety of symbols and metaphors to convey this kind of inner meaning, sometimes taking the form of particular numbers. In the parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin, we’re told it’s not just a herd of sheep or a handful of coins, but 100 sheep, and 10 coins.

Gregory of Nyasa, a fourth century theologian, saw the lost sheep as “our lost humanity” brought back to wholeness by the saving power of Christ, the incarnate Word.

Another early church father, Origen, while commenting on the parable of the coin, compared the inside of the woman’s house to our inner life, the lost coin to the hidden parts of ourselves that when brought to light restore us in God’s image.

Another message from these parables comes from an assumption Jesus is making, namely that finding the lost sheep and discovering that lost coin is truly possible, and he wants to share the excitement and joy of this reality with us.

Now, it’s true, in one sense, that we live in a fallen world — our tendency to sin and hurtful behavior is fairly obvious, but if that were the only message of the gospels it wouldn’t be much in the way of news, let alone good news.

In trying to describe the essence of the good news, the most crucial piece of being a Christian, Marcus Borg once summed it up with the word “transformation,” transformation of the individual, of communities, and of the world, typically in that order. And he observed that simply believing the right things didn’t seem to have much transformative power. He wrote “It is about a change of heart. It is about the transformation of ourselves at that deep level that shapes our vision (how we see), our commitment (our loyalty, allegiance), and our values (how we live).”

This transformation, this change of heart is an ongoing process, one started by our Beloved God who created us in His image, and the only thing we need to do is surrender to God’s will for us. It does help, though, if only to renew our hope and trust, to be reminded, to remind each other, that transformation is possible, that the one sheep can be found, that the one coin is hidden somewhere in the house just waiting to be brought to light with joy.

The resurrection promised us after dying to whatever keeps that one coin hidden in the shadows, the promise of eternal life, of seeing ourselves and the world in the light of Christ, is not reserved for what happens to us after we die. The way of Jesus means taking each passing moment as an opportunity for surrender to God’s Love. And as we practice allowing ourselves to simply rest in Christ’s embrace, we begin to realize that this joy Jesus talks about isn’t just an emotion we feel, it’s who we’re meant to be. When we sweep our inner house and find our true selves, seeing ourselves as God sees us, we understand that we are the peace and joy Jesus wants to share in the world.

I often feel that God is most attentive to our stories, and to our collective story. Like any good story, there’s multiple levels of meaning to find, to live through, and to grow with, and when we let God be the author, we can be sure the story brings transformation, healing our separation from God, from ourselves, and from each other. Some days it’s easy to forget that this story is true, that in this life we’ve been given all things are possible with God. We can find those lost coins deep within us and be made whole again, becoming a source of peace and joy for all the other lost sheep out there. And our story as Christians isn’t over as long as there’s one lost coin to find, one lost sheep to welcome back into the fold.

The way of Jesus was never meant to be easy, but that’s our calling, to courageously surrender to God in each moment. And so for the sake of Christ we become the transformation we seek, sharing peace and joy in our communities, and inspiring the world to a new story, the story of God’s beautiful Kingdom.”

Bob Hood, Junior Warden
rrwhmj@yahoo.com

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

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NOVEMBER 2016

COMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- Nov. 1 ECW meeting 10:00
DOK Service 6:00pm
- Nov. 2 Outreach meeting 10:00
- Nov. 5 PH in use
- Nov. 6 **First Sunday 10:00am**
UTO Sunday
- Daylight Savings Time Starts**
- Nov. 8 Parish Hall in Use
Presidential Election
- Nov. 11th & 12 **Bazaar**
- Nov. 15 PH in use pm
- Nov. 16 Vestry
- Nov. 19 Men's Club
- Nov. 23 Thanksgiving Set Up
- Nov. 24 **Thanksgiving in the Park**

REGULAR EVENTS

Sunday : 8:30 & 11:00am Holy Eucharist
9:30am Breakfast

10:00am Children's Sunday School
Adult Christian Formation
Noon Lunch

1st Sunday of the Month

One Service only at 10:00am
In the Parish Hall
Lunch Following

Mon. & Wed. 9:00 Morning Prayer

Tuesdays: Noon Lectionary Study at Betty's Pizza
Bible Study at 1:30 - Wicker Room

Wednesday: 6:00pm Eucharist

Thrift Shop

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

Access Program

Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am—2pm