



# The Trinity Bell

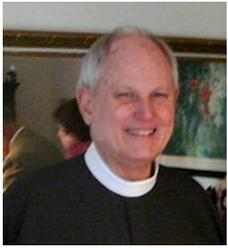


Volume 12, Issue 8

Newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church

August 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

Dear Trinity Family

I received an invitation by email to attend a special screening of the new movie, “When God Left the Building” at the Garden Theater in downtown

Winter Garden. This inspirational film chronicles the struggles of a congregation that went from 900 members to 40, and provides sobering documentary of other churches that are dying. In truth, the American church has been shrinking since the 1970’s. While nearly 80% still call themselves Christians, only one in five attend worship on Sunday. The painful truth is that nearly 4000 churches close their doors each year.

In a recent review, Robert Cooper notes that the film likens the decline of the church to the demise of Kodak, who simply waited too late to adapt to the reality of digital photography, forcing the American icon to declare bankruptcy in 2012. Cooper says, “In the same way, the church became an outdated relic and newer generations had moved on from attending.”

Yet even in the midst decay there is hope and rebirth. The film also features churches that are bucking the trend. Cooper writes, “The film does an amazing job of showing how we can still be the body of Christ in the modern day without trying to adapt to fit in with the “world”. That, Beloved, is so true of Trinity Episcopal and many churches in the Diocese of Florida. Like Mother Beth Tjoflat’s Church Without Walls, and this summer’s Summer in the City youth program, we are looking for new and positive ways to reach out to the community.

We are also looking for ways to revive our worship with a balance of the ancient and the modern.

Most important is simply our warmth and willingness to welcome others into our community. It’s so important that we be a friend, make a friend; bring a friend to Christ. Trinity offers so many opportunities to do just that! The Alpha Course in August is a great opportunity to invite a neighbor or a friend to Trinity in a totally non-threatening environment. There are also the fun things we do, including Merry Melrose, Thanksgiving in the Park, Iron Chef, and sending the kids to Camp.

Sadly, there will be churches that close their doors this year, but ours will be opened wide – reaching out, inviting in, doing all we can to be a living witness to the power of God’s reconciling love. No, God has not left the building - He resides in our hearts each day.

Warmly,  
Tony+

P.S. Looking forward to showing the movie as soon as it is released on DVD!

### ALPHA

Why Alpha? Because it’s fun! It’s exciting! It’s a breeze of fresh air, a brush of bright color to set our spirits free from years of spiritual cobwebs that clutter our spiritual minds. Alpha is renewal! Alpha helps restore our faith in Christ and the Church. Alpha offers us purpose and reason to come back to God with new energy for building his Kingdom. .

Why Alpha? Alpha is an opportunity to invite a friend or neighbor to church without worry or concern about what they will think or how they will be treated. They will have a good time! Alpha is a wonderful, unobtrusive way to introduce folks to the Christian faith and our Trinity family.

Why Alpha? Why not! Come and be a part of an exciting experience, renewing our faith and hope in our mission to build this church and make a difference in the wider community. If you have not been to Alpha, please come and enjoy. If you have, then please volunteer to be a part of the Alpha team and help our guests have a wonderful Alpha experience.

**The First Sunday August 3  
One Service at 10:00am**

**Lunch immediately following the service.**

**Head of the Church  
Jesus Christ**

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

**Members of the Vestry**

**Virginia Smith, Sr. Warden 2015  
Bob Hood, Jr. Warden 2017  
Donna Eichelsderfer 2017  
Anne Lowry 2015  
Vi Paul 2016  
Clay O'Neal 2017  
Bob Tickel 2016  
Carol Pettie, Treasurer  
Judy Davis, 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**

**DEADLINE FOR THE SEPT.  
TRINITY BELL IS AUG. 15th**

**USHERS, GREETERS, LECTORS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Kristi Gregory has taken over as scheduler for our Eucharistic ministers, Ushers and Greeters. If you need to make any changes in your scheduled times, be off of the schedule for vacation or have any questions, please let Kristi know.

**ECW NEWS**



On Sunday, August 3rd our officers for the coming year will be installed during the First Sunday Service.

The next meeting of the ECW will be on the second Tuesday in September and will be a dinner meeting.

The Diocesan ECW Meeting will take place at Camp Weed on August 23, registration starting at 9:00am. There will be a fun presentation of "Bad Girls of the Bible" with lunch following. See Vi Paul to register.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Aug. 2	Sarah Garcia
Aug. 10	Mark Barrow
Aug. 15	Will Flynn
Aug. 17	Bob Hood
Aug. 18	Morgan Garcia, Jacob Lowe
Aug. 25	Paige Davis, Ann Beshore
Aug. 27	Wes Connors
Aug. 28	Jeni Williams
Aug. 30	Michael Currie



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**

Aug. 28	Debbie and Mark Brown
Aug. 30	Jean and Terry Marshall

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**

An Ultreya, a part of Cursillo, is a get-together of all those who have attended a Cursillo weekend and others who may be interested in attending. They include a pot luck dinner and a joyful, music filled celebration of the Eucharist. The next Ultreya will be held on August 10 at 4pm right here at Trinity. Cursillo is a 4 day weekend with 15 short talks, group discussions, lots of good food, time for spiritual direction if desired, and a wonderful time to renew and deepen your relationship with Christ. If you are interested in attending a weekend, speak with Fr. Tony, Clay O'Neal, Linda in the office or anyone you know who has already attended Cursillo.



### THOUGHTS FROM THE SR. WARDEN

One of the many ways we demonstrate our love for one another at Trinity is through our Pastoral Care Ministries. They support the needs of our church members, attendees and individuals or families in our community. The focus is to serve the sick, the missing, the weak and the needy. They are cared for in times of illness, family crisis, births, and deaths. This might include:

- Preparing and/or delivering food
- Providing transportation
- Phone calls, notes and cards, emails
- Listening, supporting, encouraging and befriending.

Visitation is also a vital part of this ministry. Although Fr. Tony visits as often as possible, people often appreciate members of our pastoral team visiting as well. We can read the newspaper, a book, or just engage in conversation. We can also sit with someone while their caretaker shops or goes to an appointment or even if they just need a well deserved nap or a break outside the home.

Showering a person or persons with love, prayer, support and plenty of shoulders to cry on is a gift and a blessing. The church can be a second family and this family in many ways is more willing and ready to share burdens and grief than blood kin.

Having said that .... we must examine ourselves... who have I visited or encouraged or helped or prayed for or sent a card to recently? .... rather than looking with a critical eye at the pastoral performance of another person. Pastoral Ministry is about being present with a person and walking with that person in their times of deepest need, whatever that need may be. We can do that without judgment or criticism, simply bring God's love into the environment. If you know someone who needs our attention or if you would like to help with pastoral care please give me a call.

*Virginia*



**For God so loved the world, he didn't send a committee.**



### JR. WARDEN'S REPORT



Now that summer is in full swing the grass is growing and needs to be cut every week. We still need volunteers to help with the mowing. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the hall of the Parish Hall. You can also contact Rodney Paul. The New mower makes it very easy to cut the grass. Rodney takes care of blowing the walks off and weed-eating.

You may have noticed the ceiling fans in the Parish hall are always on. We have instituted a new policy in regard to the Parish Hall. The ceiling fans in the Main Hall, Kitchen and Choir room are run on low at all times. All interior doors are left open unless the room is in use. Additionally the Service Windows in the kitchen are left in the open position unless something is going on in the Parish Hall and need to be closed for noise control. This has been done as a means of controlling the Mildew Problem we have had over the years. Since this policy has been instituted we have not had problems with mildew, even with the wet spring and summer we have had. Your cooperation with this policy is greatly appreciated.

In the Church we have changed the lighting of the Altar to have a more uniform light using florescent spots which also produce much less heat. We also have adjusted the air conditioner vents so they no longer blow directly on the pews.

If you see anything that needs my attention or have any suggestions please let me know. Remember, I and all the Vestry members are here to serve you and welcome your suggestions and concerns.

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. - 1 Peter 4:10

Thank you all for your support and help.

Bob Hood, Junior Warden  
rrwhmj@yahoo.com

### Trinity Bell Report for the month of June, 2014

	Jun Actual	June Budget	Over/Under	Y-T-D Act	Y-T-D Bud	Over/Under
<b>Total Revenue</b>	\$ 16,936	\$ 14,501	\$ 2,435	\$ 107,231	\$ 82,657	\$ 24,574
<b>Total Expense</b>	\$ 15,814	\$ 14,505	\$ (1,309)	\$ 101,336	\$ 99,049	\$ (2,287)
Surplus / (Deficit)	\$ 1,122	\$ (4)	\$ 1,126	\$ 5,896	\$ (16,392)	\$ 22,287

Collections	June <u>Actual</u>	June <u>Budget</u>	Over/Under <u>Budget</u>	Jan-Jun <u>YTD Actual</u>	Jan-Jun <u>YTD Budget</u>	Over/Under <u>Budget</u>
Pledges Offerings	\$9,926	\$10,602	(\$676)	\$55,573	\$59,902	(\$4,329)
Non-Pledged Offerings	2,660	2,241	419	12,471	12,807	(336)
Growth Income	647	167	480	2,764	1,000	1,764
Plate Offerings	<u>373</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>2,007</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>507</u>
Net Income	\$13,606	\$13,260	\$346	\$72,815	\$75,209	(\$2,394)

For the month of June we had a surplus of \$1,122. Y-T-D we have a surplus of \$5,896.

My thanks to everyone who has contributed to the Full-Time Priest Fund. This has made the difference for Trinity Episcopal Melrose. How blest we are to have such generous members.

I look forward to all the wonderful events we have coming up this fall.

Carol Pettie

Treasurer

#### PLAN AHEAD FOR IRON CHEF

This year's Iron Chef will be the most exciting ever with a "secret ingredient" of Chocolate! It will be great fun to see how many dishes our chefs can come up with that night. Be sure to save Oct. 18th on your calendar.



#### UNITED THANK OFFERING

Thank you so much for your generosity to the United Thank Offering ingathering in May. We deposited a check for \$422.07. Our next ingathering will be in November, so I urge you to start collecting your coins so you will be ready. Our goal is to have at least \$500.00 in November to deposit!



#### SISTERS' CIRCLE

Did you know that the Sisters' Circle has made almost 100 hats on looms to send to Church Without Walls for this winter? I'm sure they will appreciate the warmth these hats will provide. We have enjoyed this project so much, that we are continuing our hat making for the homeless. We have several places in mind to give them. I cannot tell you how easy these are too make (ask anyone who is making them). You don't have to know how to crochet or knit in order to make a hat. And as much as we would love to have you join us, if that's not your thing, we will teach you and you can do it at home in front of the television! Sisters' meets every Tuesday at 10:00 in the Wicker Room.



# August 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>3 First Sunday</b> 9am Confirmation Class One Service 10am Lunch Following	4	5 Access 10am-2pm 10am Sisters' Circle Rally Day Cmte 10am Noon at Betty's 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker 7:00pm AIA non	<b>6 Eucharist and Healing Service 6pm</b> Worship Cmte 10am	7 10 - 4pm Thrift Shop 7:00 pm AA	8 2-5pm Thrift Shop	9 9am - 12 Thrift Shop
<b>10 Holy Eucharist 8:30 &amp; 11:00</b> 9am Confirmation Class 10:00 Sunday Classes 4:00pm Ultreya at Trinity	11 	12 Access 10am-2pm 10am Sisters' Circle Noon at Betty's 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker 7:00pm AIA non	<b>13 Eucharist and Healing Service 6pm</b>	14 10 - 4pm Thrift Shop 7:00 pm AA Alpha Meeting 6pm	15 2-5pm Thrift Shop	16 9am - 12 Thrift Shop
<b>17 Holy Eucharist 8:30 &amp; 11:00</b> 9am Confirmation Class 10:00 Breakfast	18	19 Access 10am-2pm 10am Sisters' Circle Noon at Betty's 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker 7:00pm AIA non	<b>20 Eucharist and Healing Service 6pm Vestry 7:00pm</b>	21 10 - 4pm Thrift Shop 7:00 pm AA Alpha Begins 6pm	22 2-5pm Thrift Shop	23 9am - 12 Thrift Shop
<b>24 Holy Eucharist 8:30 &amp; 11:00</b> 9am Confirmation Class 10:00 Breakfast	25 	26 Access 10am-2pm 10am Sisters' Circle Noon at Betty's 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker 7:00pm AIA non	<b>27 Eucharist and Healing Service 6pm</b>	28 10 - 4pm Thrift Shop 7:00 pm AA Alpha 6:pm	29 2-5pm Thrift Shop	30 9am - 12 Thrift Shop  Men's Breakfast
<b>31 Holy Eucharist 8:30 &amp; 11:00</b> 9am Confirmation Class 10:00 Breakfast						



## SERVERS' SCHEDULE AUGUST 2014



Date	Service	Eucharistic Minister	Lector	Usher	Greeter
3-Aug-14	Single Service 10AM	Chris Greenfield Sharon Jax	Laurie Alsbrook	Robert Menzen Clay O'Neil	Donna Eichelsderfer Joyce Chesnut
10-Aug-14	8:30	Rodney Paul	Jeanne Eaton	Jeanne Eaton	Kelly O'Neil
	11:00	Kristi Gregory	Suki Hoffman	Liz Middleton	Margaret Kidd
17-Aug-14	8:30	Rodney Paul	Mary Rynd	Clay O'Neal	Vi Paul
	11:00	Bob Tickle	Kristi Gregory	Kristi Gregory	Joyce King
24-Aug-14	8:30	Rodney Paul	Brian McCrea	Robert Menzen	Virginia Smith
	11:00	Sharon Jax	Sharon Jax	Will Flynn	Carol Flynn
31-Aug-14	8:30	Rodney Paul	Joyce Chesnut	Robert Menzen	Jane Menzen
	11:00	Kristi Gregory	Liz Middleton	Liz Middleton	Joyce King
Vestry	Donna Eichelsderfer and Virginia Smith				
Altar Guild	Kathy Warren and Judy Davis				

**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.**

## Gaza Update

The only power plant in Gaza has been destroyed. As a result, 1.8 million people in Gaza have no power, no running water, and no sewage treatment.

Disease is sure to follow. The bombing continues, and conditions worsen for Al Ahli Hospital and their heroic staff. Reports say that 72 United Nations schools, hospitals, and offices have been damaged in the fighting in Gaza. There are 11 full service hospitals in Gaza for 1.8 million people. Two have been destroyed and several are badly damaged. Several UN clinics are also destroyed.

A portion of the outer wall of Ahli Hospital has been destroyed. The main steam line into the hospital has been damaged. There is now no hot water. Large pieces of shrapnel have hit patients' rooms and the laundry facility. There is an immediate need for repairs to ensure patient safety.

Suhaila Tarazi, Director of Al Ahli, reports that 40% of her staff are unable to get to the hospital because of dangerous conditions, personal injury, or family crisis. She has had to find replacement personnel to attend to the wounded, costing additional funds. The doctors, nurses, and support personnel who are there have been working nonstop for two weeks - providing compassionate care to all.

Al Ahli has generators to provide power to critical areas such as operating rooms and the emergency room. But they need fuel to run. The cost of fuel rises each day, and with the power plant destroyed, they are completely dependent on their generators and their capacity to pay for the fuel to run them. The suffering is acute, as is the shortage of supplies and medication. Hospitals and clinics are working together to share supplies, personnel and whatever they can to provide the best care possible.

### **Our Role - How You've Helped**

Thanks to your generous support, Ahli Hospital will have financial resources to get supplies and badly needed medications.

Your generosity is part of \$115,000+ AFEDJ is able to send to Ahli Hospital - with more expected to come. Thank you to each and every donor for making this possible. (Each year Trinity sends it's Good Friday collection to the church in Jerusalem which is supporting this effort)

The Rt. Rev. Barry Howe, Chair of AFEDJ's Board of Trustees, spoke for us all when he said, "we're so very grateful for the outpouring of support at this critical time. 100% of each gift goes to those who are suffering and to support people who are ministering to their needs. The Episcopal Church is there to offer healing and the embrace of compassion to all God's children."

As more families are turning to the Hospital for care and now shelter, hundreds of people are relying on Ahli Hospital and on our important financial support. Please consider a gift now.

If you would like to give a financial gift to the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and their efforts to support Al-Ahli Hospital, you may make the check out to Trinity and note Jerusalem in the memo section.

*Taken from the newsletter of American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem.*

### **GIGGLESOME**

A man was brought to Mercy Hospital, and went in for coronary surgery.

The operation went well, and as the groggy man regained consciousness, he was reassured by a priest waiting by his bed.

"Mr. Smith, you're going to be just fine," the priest said while patting his hand.

"We do have to know, however, how you intend to pay for your stay here. Are you covered by insurance?"

"No, I'm not," the man whispered hoarsely.

"Can you pay in cash?"

"I'm afraid I can't, Father."

"Do you have any close relatives, then?"

"Just my sister in New Mexico," replied, "but she's a spinster nun."

"Nuns are not spinsters, Mr. Smith," the Priest replied. "They are married to God."

"That's right..." the man said with a smile, "So bill my Brother-in-law."

**Trinity Episcopal Church  
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**August 2014**

#### **SPECIAL EVENTS IN AUGUST**

- August 2 Memorial for Clarence Williams 1:00pm**
- August 3 First Sunday One Service 10:00am**
- August 5 Rally Day Committee 10:00am**
- August 6 Worship Committee 10:00am**
- August 10 Ultreya at Trinity 4:00pm**
- August 14 Alpha Committee 6:00pm**
- August 21 Alpha Program Starts 6:00pm**
- August 25 DOK Meeting 6:00pm**
- August 28 Alpha 6:00pm**

#### **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