



The Trinity Bell



Volume 14, Issue 9

Newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church

September 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

Impossible People: A Manifesto for Our Moment by Eric Metaxas, BreakPoint Radio

In his review of Os Guinness' newest book, "Impossible People," Eric writes, "In the opening scene of the 2001 film adaptation of "The Fellowship of the Ring," Cate Blanchett's Galadriel whispers hauntingly, "The world has changed. I can feel it in the water. I feel it in the earth. I smell it in the air. Much that once was is lost; for none now live who remember it."

Western Christians in 2016 can relate. *Something has shifted.* The world we inhabit seems to have become disenchanted, and so many of those around us have entered a state in some ways worse than atheism—a state of *indifference* toward God and the supernatural.

All of this has made evangelism and discipleship a lot more challenging. As sociologist Peter Berger wrote, we live in "a world without windows." [A world bound by science and our senses, a world without transcendence, mystery, and especially without God] And for the inhabitants of windowless late modernity, questions about sin, salvation and ultimate meaning just don't matter that much.

So, how did we get here? And more importantly, what does being a Christian look like in this context? Os Guinness says the only right response today is to become what he calls "Impossible People." That's the name of his latest book, appropriately subtitled, "Christian Courage, and the Struggle for the Soul of Civilization." This book is a manifesto for our moment—a guide on how to live counter-culturally in what Os describes as our "cut-flower civilization."

But what about the bizarre term "impossible people"? Where does that come from? Well, it was originally ap-

plied to eleventh-century Benedictine reformer, Peter Damian. Among other things, this "impossible man" spoke out against the practice of selling church positions for money as well as against widespread sexual sin among the clergy. His commitment to Jesus alone was so fierce that he won a reputation for being, as Os puts it, "unmanipulable, unbribeable, and undeterrable."

"Impossible people," Os explains, "are different people. And different they are called to be or they will be irrelevant." But that's not easy in our cultural moment. We live in a civilization that has rejected its own foundations and embarked on a project to build what he calls a new, secular Babel. But it's becoming ever clearer that this secular Utopia can't hold together.

Why? Because the very belief in freedom that made Western liberal democracies uniquely successful is crumbling - replaced by the concept of consensus. As Os points out, the Christian doctrines of the *Imago Dei*, of Original Sin, and transcendent truth undergird our belief in freedom. Secular modernity lacks these foundational doctrines. Like a cut flower, it can maintain its beauty only so long without its roots. Soon it will wilt, and ultimately die.

"Impossible people" are here precisely to arrest this decline—to frustrate the secular project by consciously living

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**The Next First Sunday is:
September 4, 2016
One Service at 10:00am**

Potluck Lunch will follow the service.

**Sept. 11th, Stewardship Celebration
Is also One Service at 10:00am
Lunch Provided by the Stewardship Committee**

**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

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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

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Office Hours: 9:30 am to 2:30 pm

Monday thru Thursday

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**DEADLINE FOR THE
OCTOBER TRINITY BELL IS
SEPTEMBER 15th**



NEWS FROM THE ECW

ECW is starting up again now that we're all rested from our summer hiatus. Our first meeting will be a dinner on Tuesday, Sept. 6th at 6:00. The ECW will provide a salad bar and Linda Wilcox will speak about her recent trip to Cuba to participate in the OMEC retreat.

DOING GOD'S WORK THROUGH TRINITY

The Stewardship Committee will hold a Celebration and presentation for us on Sunday, Sept. 11th immediately following the service. There will be only one service at 10:00am that day and the committee will provide a delicious meal. So don't forget to mark your calendar and set aside this special day.

DIOCESAN OPEN HOUSE

Bishop Howard and the diocesan staff will host a Diocesan Open House on Tuesday, October 11, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Clergy, lay leaders and parish members who attend will be able to tour the diocesan offices and meet with members of the staff. Refreshments will be served.



BIRTHDAYS

Sept. 3	Virginia Smith
Sept. 5	Sheila Lowry
Sept. 7	Margaret Rice
Sept. 9	Jack Rice
Sept. 10	Kathi Warren
Sept. 12	Annette Kussler
Sept. 22	Mary Rynd
Sept. 30	Mary Barrow



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

Sept. 9	Marilyn and Ken Blair
Sept. 20	Dottie and Bill Durham
Sept. 28	Liz and John Middleton



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

This summer has been fun and very busy at Trinity! With Family Fun game, craft and movie nights, new classes from Elder Options, our Chicken Dinner and Basket Auction, cleaning and renovating the Thrift shop, as well as our usual activities, things have been humming around here.

Now we're getting ready to tackle the fall with our Stewardship Celebration, ECW starting up after a summer break, Men's and Women's Cursillos, The Blessing of the Animals in Heritage Park in October, our Fall Bazaar, Thanksgiving in the Park and on to all the excitement of the Christmas holidays.

We are so blessed at Trinity to have such a vibrant and loving church, to be able to reach out to others through our Outreach programs, to encourage newcomers through our Evangelism, and to take care of one another through Pastoral Care and each of our clubs, organizations and study groups. God is good....all the time! Blessings to all, Donna

(cont)
out a belief in a supernatural reality beyond our windowless world.
Os issues this timely call, and maps out a strategy for "impossible people" to take up Damian's mantle and stubbornly refuse to conform."

Impossible people! People of faith! In church on Wednesdays, Sundays and even on vacation. People who unashamedly say grace at home, at Johnny's, at Betty's and the Melrose Cafe. People who purposefully gather to pray - Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Sundays, - for our Nation, for our leaders, for our schools, our churches, the sick, the homeless and anyone in need. ay you and I be Impossible people! People like St. Damian, who relentlessly follow the call of our risen Lord; who stand in the gap and show the world the power of God's unstoppable love.

Warmly, Tony+



WHAT IS HYPERTENSION?

Jeanne Homany

Blood pressure (BP) measurement is the pressure blood flow exerts against the blood vessels. Blood flows from your heart in arteries (that run deep) and returns from the outside of your body back into your lungs then heart in veins (that run closer to your skin). Here how it works - Cuff goes around your upper arm, with an arrow on cuff placed right over your artery in the middle of your elbow pit. As cuff inflates, it blocks off the blood returning to your heart (in veins) but not the blood flowing into your arm (in arteries). This is why it starts to hurt and your arm may turn a different color. The veins below the cuff are expanding. When the pressure in your veins overcomes the pressure of the air in the cuff - measurer hears a distinct sound. This is the systolic reading. When the blood is going through at its regular (unaffected by cuff) pressure, the measurer hears a different sound. This is the diastolic reading. BP is usually lowest in the morning, as we have been supine all night and the vessels are relaxed. BP is usually highest at dinnertime. Activity, physical stress, emotional stress, pain and aging can all raise your BP. Normal BP is 120/80. Check BP often at different times of day (CVS/Walgreens/Walmart) and record results to show your primary care physician. Consumers Report says Omron is the most reliable brand for home use. Wrist BP cuffs are available but user has to bend elbow so that hand rests over mid-chest or results will not be accurate. High BP (hypertension) is usually without symptoms and greatly increases your risk of a cardiac event such as heart attack or stroke. Some BP meds can cause uncomfortable side effects such as a dry cough, so take your meds as directed and report numbers and symptoms to your MD.

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

	July Actual	July Budget	Over/Under	Y-T-D Act	Y-T-D Bud	Over/Under
Total Revenue	\$ 16,472	\$ 16,679	(\$207)	\$116,930	\$110,344	\$6,586
Total Expense	17,682	18,832	(1,150)	114,024	124,153	10,129
Surplus / (Deficit)	(1,210)	(2,153)	943	2,906	(13,809)	16,715

Collections	July Actual	July Budget	Over/Under Budget	Jan-July YTD Actual	Jan-July YTD Budget	Over/Under Budget
Challenge	\$2,125	0	\$2,125	\$8,226	\$0	\$8,226
Pledged Offerings	\$10,416	11,845	(\$1,429)	83,321	81,556	1,765
Non-Pledged Offerings	405	1,667	(1,262)	6,489	11,669	(5,180)
Other Offerings	531	1,000	(469)	4,102	7,000	(2,898)
Priest Fund	405	642	(237)	6,800	4,494	2,306
Net Income	\$13,882	\$15,154	(\$1,272)	\$108,938	\$104,719	\$4,219

CRUISE TO CUBA

on the Celestyal Cruises' "Crystal." along with Griselda Delgado, Bishop of Cuba, and retired Bishop Frank Cervený, the grandfather of the Diocese of Florida's 1986 Cuba Ministry! It's an historically unique opportunity to celebrate 30 years of EPISCOPAL Companionship with the Diocese of Cuba. Check the Diocesan website for additional information.

CLASSES ON BALANCE

We are happy to be having Elder Options come in and offer both a Balance Class. Elder Options will provide the teachers and has advertised the class to our entire community. The Balance Class has started and is proving to be fun and valuable for all who are attending. It will last for another 5 weeks. The class is from 2:00pm until 4:00 with a short break and snack.

GIGGLESOME

Here are some things that a Pastor dreams of hearing in his church.

1. Hey! It's my turn to sit in the front pew.
2. I was so enthralled, I never noticed your sermon went 25 minutes over time.
3. Personally I find witnessing much more enjoyable than golf.
4. I've decided to give our church the \$500 a month I used to send to TV evangelists.
5. I volunteer to be the permanent teacher for the a Sunday School class.
6. Forget the denominational minimum salary, let's pay our pastor so he can live like we do.
7. I love it when we sing hymns I've never heard before!
8. Since we're all here, let's start the service early.
9. Pastor, we'd like to send you to this Bible seminar in the Bahamas.
10. Nothing inspires me and strengthens my commitment like our annual stewardship campaign!
11. I couldn't find space to park outside. Praise God!



SERVERS' SCHEDULE AUGUST



DATE	SERVICE	EUCHARISTIC MINISTER	LECTOR	USHER	GREETER
04-Sep-16	Single Service 10 AM	Sharon Jax Kristi Gregory	Lori Alsobrook	Rodney Paul	Vi Paul Kathi Warren
11-Sep-16	Single Service 10 AM	John Katterhenry	Mary Rynd	Rodney Paul	Vi Paul
18-Sep-16	8:30	Rodney Paul	Chris Greenfield	Brian McCrea	Lynda Luekel
	11:00	Kristi Gregory	Margaret Rice	Will Flynn	Carol Flynn
25-Sep-16	8:30	John Katterhenry	Jeanne Eaton	Jeanne Eaton	Virginia Smith
	11:00	Sharon Jax	Suki Hoffman	Kristi Gregory	Elaine Ashley
ALTAR	Kristi Gregory and Amanda Gray				

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.



September 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 First Sunday One Service 10:00am Lunch Following	5 Labor Day Holiday Office Closed 	6 10am Sister's Circle Noon Lunch & Gospel 1:30 Discovery Class 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker 6:00 pm ECW Dinner Meeting 7:00pm AI Anon 	7 9am Morning Prayer 10:00 Outreach Mtg 6:00pm Eucharist And Healing Service	8 10am-4pm Thrift Shop 2:00pm Balance Class 7:00pm AA ~ Wicker	9 2-5pm Thrift Shop	10 9am-noon Thrift Shop 10:30 AA—Wicker
11 Stewardship Sunday One Service 10:00am Presentation and Lunch Following	12 9am Morning Prayer	13 10am Sister's Circle Noon Lunch & Gospel 1:30 Discovery Class 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker 7:00pm AI Anon PH in use pm	14 9am Morning Prayer 6:00pm Eucharist And Healing Service	15 10am-4pm Thrift Shop 2:00pm Balance Class 7:00pm AA ~ Wicker	16 2-5pm Thrift Shop	17  Men's Club 9am-noon Thrift Shop 10:30 AA—Wicker
18 8:30 and 11:00am Holy Eu- charist 10:00 Breakfast Adult & Youth 12:00 Lunch	19 9am Morning Prayer	20 10am Sister's Circle 10:30 ECW Board Mtg Noon Lunch & Gospel 1:30 Discovery Class 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker 7:00pm AI Anon	21 9am Morning Prayer 6:00pm Eucharist And Healing Service Vestry 7:00pm	22 10am-4pm Thrift Shop 2:00pm Balance Class 7:00pm AA ~ Wicker	23 2-5pm Thrift Shop	24 9am-noon Thrift Shop 10:30 AA—Wicker PH in use 9am-3pm
25 8:30 and 11:00am Holy Eu- charist 10:00 Breakfast Adult & Youth 12:00 Lunch	26 9am Morning Prayer 6pm DOK 	27 10am Sister's Circle Noon Lunch & Gospel 1:30 Discovery Class 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker 7:00pm AI Anon	28 9am Morning Prayer 6:00pm Eucharist And Healing Service	29 10am-4pm Thrift Shop 2:00pm Balance Class 7:00pm AA ~ Wicker	30 2-5pm Thrift Shop	 Men's Cursillo Weekend Starts

NOTES FROM THE JUNIOR WARDEN

Greetings:

We survived a very busy Month of Activities in the Church Facilities. If anything, things have been busier this Summer than normal. We had repairs to both the Office & Church air conditioners recently. The Ice machine also needed repair. The Thrift Store has been remodeled and the floor stripped and waxed. As we look forward to fall when the heat subsides some there are a number of maintenance items that we will be tackling. Again if you see anything that needs my attention please let me know. Below is an excerpt from Br. James Koestr of The Society of St. John the Evangelist.

Praying Well, Loving Much – Br. James Koester

For many, prayer is one of the great puzzles of life. It is thought by some to be largely hocus pocus and because nothing happens, or at least nothing magically happens, it is deemed useless and quickly abandoned. And because nothing happens, it is clear that there is no one ‘there’, and any previous understanding or experience of God on their part is quickly abandoned. Because prayer doesn’t ‘work’ and because there is no one ‘there’, the great enterprise of faith is rejected. But for us as Christians, prayer is not about the magic of saying certain words so that some desired outcome happens. Rather prayer is about mystery. It is about the mystery of love. We pray, not because we want something, but because we love someone. It is, as Father Benson reminds us, the occasion when *the soul really enters into union with God.*[1] *Thus we ought, then, to approach with a real hope that God will reveal Himself to us; not merely that He will enable us to acquire some view of this or that truth that we have prepared, but that He will reveal himself to us.*[2] When this speaking with God face to face as one would speak with a friend becomes true for us, prayer ceases to be magic and the *conception of prayer as homage paid to a distant God falls away. We shall find ourselves full of awe and gratitude that the life of divine love is open and accessible to us, for God dwells in us.*

”Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them, and make our home in them.”[3] What is clear throughout the gospels, and what is clear in the story of Abraham, is that both Jesus and Abraham were great lovers of God. Both put their whole trust and confidence in God. Both had come to know God as a friend and as a son. And so both dared to speak to God *face to face, as one speaks to a friend.* Jesus calls God ‘father’, ‘abba’, ‘dad’. Abraham argues with God: suppose, suppose, suppose. This is not the language of strangers but of those who know and have come to love, one another. And because they know and love the One to whom they speak they are filled with boldness. Both Jesus and Abraham are incredibly bold in their prayers. Jesus asks God to *give, forgive, save, and deliver.* Abraham has the audacity to bargain with God: suppose 50, suppose 45, suppose 40, suppose 30, suppose 20, suppose 10. One biblical scholar describes them both as *shameless.*[4] They are shameless not just in their requests, but their demands. They shamelessly and boldly demand: *give, forgive, save, deliver, suppose, suppose, suppose, suppose.* I sometimes wonder if our prayers are too timid, too polite? Are we still too afraid of God? Is God still a threatening force to hide from and not embrace? There is no fear of God in either Jesus or Abraham. Instead, they are shameless in what they ask, and confident that their requests will be heard, not by some distant deity in the sky, but by a loving father and a compassionate friend. At the heart of real prayer, whether it be uttered by Jesus, or Abraham or you or me, or in the privacy of your room, or publically in Church, prayer is a relationship of love: our love for God and God’s love for us. It is love which makes prayer real and not magic. It is love which makes prayer effective and not empty. It is love which make it possible for prayer to move mountains.

[1] Benson, Richard Meux, **The Religious Vocation**, *Of Mental Prayer*, page 190

[2] Ibid, page 191

[3] SSJE, **Rule of Life**, *The Mystery of Prayer*, chapter 21, page 42

[4] Pilch, John J., **The Cultural World of Jesus**, Collegeville MN, The Liturgical Press, page 116-17

Bob Hood, Junior Warden
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SEPTEMBER 2016

COMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- Sept. 4 First Sunday 10:00 am**
- Sept. 5 Labor Day Holiday
Office Closed
- Sept. 6 ECW 6:00pm Dinner Meeting
- Sept. 7 Morning Prayer
- Sept. 11 **Single Service 10:00am
Stewardship Celebration**
- Sept. 14 Outreach Committee 10am
- Sept. 17 Men's Group
- Sept. 20 ECW Board
- Sept. 21 Vestry
- Sept. 29 Men's Cursillo Starts

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 Bible Study at Betty's Pizza

Wednesday: 6:00pm Eucharist

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

Access Program
Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am—2pm