



# Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

## February 2016

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This year, the season of Lent arrives early. On Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, at our Ash Wednesday services, the Celebrant will invite each and every one of us into this holy season using the following words:

Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith. I invite you, therefore, 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.

To this end, I invite all of you into a holy observance of Lent in 2016. There are many ways to observe this holy season: prayer, spiritual practice, and/or self-denial. Most importantly, Lent is an opportunity to open ourselves up to transformation by God. In addition to individual practices you may choose to bring into your home, Holy Trinity has several opportunities I would like to tell you about:

- 1) Participating in Ash Wednesday services is a great way to start a season of prayer and spiritual conversion. We will be offering 4 Ash Wednesday services to our community on February 10<sup>th</sup>, to accommodate varied needs and schedules. I strongly encourage you to be a part of this holy day in your community of faith.

8:00am	Ash Wednesday Service with Holy Eucharist (spoken)
12:00pm	Ash Wednesday Service with Holy Eucharist (spoken)
4:00pm	Simplified Children's Ash Wednesday Service (spoken, less than 30 minutes)
7:00pm	Primary Ash Wednesday Service with choir and music

- 2) Our Sunday morning worship will look slightly different during Lent. We will be utilizing the "Penitential Order," (BCP page 351). We will have silent processions and recessions into and out of worship. Moreover, our chairs will be arranged such that some (but not all) chairs are facing one another, for those desiring a contemplative experience.

- 3) We will be offering Simple Soup Suppers followed by a speaker and Labyrinth Walk each Tuesday during Lent. Childcare will be provided. The dinner will begin at 5:30pm and each speaker will begin about 6:15pm. The speakers are as follows:

Tuesday, February 16 <sup>th</sup>	The Rev. Martha Honaker
Tuesday, February 23 <sup>rd</sup>	The Rev. Daniel Cenci
Tuesday, March 1 <sup>st</sup>	The Rt. Rev. Rob Skirving
Tuesday, March 8 <sup>th</sup>	The Rev. Paul Canady
Tuesday, March 15 <sup>th</sup>	The Rev. Jill Beimdiek

- 4) Each year, Episcopal Relief and Development produces Lenten devotionals. These devotionals can be used for daily meditation during this season. When they arrive, they will be available on the table in the parish hall.
- 5) Beginning Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, our Adult Education classes will be opportunities to learn about the services and worship of Lent/Holy Week. I will lead them. Whether you are a “cradle Episcopalian” or a brand new member of Holy Trinity, I urge you to attend these sessions to learn more about the power and meaning of our great Lent and Holy Week liturgies and practices. Our Adult Education classes begin at 9:30am in the Johnson Wing.

Sunday, February 7 <sup>th</sup>	Question and Answer with the Bishop and Introduction to the Ash Wednesday liturgy.
Sunday, February 14 <sup>th</sup>	Lent and Anglican Spiritual Practices
Sunday, February 21 <sup>st</sup>	Palm Sunday: Meaning and Significance
Sunday, February 28 <sup>th</sup>	Maundy Thursday: Meaning and Significance
Sunday, March 6 <sup>th</sup>	Good Friday: Meaning and Significance
Sunday, March 13 <sup>th</sup>	The Great Vigil of Easter: Meaning and Significance

- 6) Lastly, one of the great gifts of our Anglican heritage is our worship during Holy Week. In addition to Ash Wednesday, I strongly urge you to worship with us during Holy Week:

Sunday, March 20 <sup>th</sup>	Palm Sunday (8am and 10:30am)
Thursday, March 24 <sup>th</sup>	Maundy Thursday (7:00pm)
Friday, March 25 <sup>th</sup>	Good Friday (12:00pm)
	Stations of the Cross (7:00pm)
Saturday, March 26 <sup>th</sup>	The Great Vigil of Easter (8:00pm)
Sunday, March 27 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Sunday (8:00am and 10:30am)

However you choose and are able to participate this year, I urge you to invite God into your life this Lent. Inviting transformation requires intention, openness, and community. I pray this season finds you able to authentically and whole-heartedly enter into the story of our Christian faith.

Faithfully,

Jeff+

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Women's Connection** will resume on January 28th with Yoga! This spring we are changing the times we meet to hopefully meet the needs of others in our community. In lieu of a bi-monthly morning group, we will meet twice a month in the evening on the second and fourth Thursday. Our focus will be Mind - Body - Spirit. The second Thursday of the month we will meet at 7:30pm (location TBD) for a short spiritual/scriptural study and fellowship. The fourth Thursday of the month we will meet at 6pm @ Holy Trinity for Yoga on the Labyrinth. Please join us! For more information please contact The Rev. Annie Thornberg @ [athornberg@holyltrinityfay.org](mailto:athornberg@holyltrinityfay.org)

**Labyrinth Walk – February 4 at 7:00 pm.** The February evening labyrinth walk will take place on Thursday, **February 4, between 7 and 9 pm.** Please come promptly at 7 pm if you wish to view the optional orientation video; otherwise, please arrive no later than 8:15 pm if you just want to walk it. Candles and soft music accompany the walk. Joyce Loughlin



**Shrove Tuesday - Pancakes for supper?** Why not? On Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. our youth will cook up some of the best pancakes and sausages in Fayetteville. Donations will be accepted to help support church missions. Be sure to join us on Shrove Tuesday.

### ATTENTION YOUTH GROUPS - SAVE THESE DATES

February 9	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
February 21	Rite 13 Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser
March 3	Youth Group Labyrinth Walk

**Parish Weekend at the Beach!** May 27 - 29, 2016 - Where will **YOU** spend Memorial Day Weekend? You have a place at the beach, and a family to share it with! Trinity Center is our beautiful diocesan camp and conference center on Bogue Banks. (The property goes from the sound to the sea.) Our church family has been going there for more than 20 years on Memorial Day weekend for a relaxing fun weekend together. If you have never been, please consider joining us this spring! Rooms go fast so don't wait to sign up! Look for the registration form in the March Good Newsletter and on the Activity Table in the Parish Hall beginning in March. *Joyce Loughlin*

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### **PARTNERING WITH MARGARET WILLIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - Adopt –a-Family:**

Margaret Willis families say thank you to everyone at Holy Trinity for their generosity and good cheer this past Christmas Season.



## NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Registration** for school year 2016-17 continues in the preschool office. Call Ruth Gillis (910-484-0250) for more information or a tour of the school.
- **Love and Logic parenting classes** (early childhood emphasis) begin February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm at Holy Trinity.

The 5-session course is approximately 2 hours. Childcare is provided. Cost is \$12.00 for the workbook. Please call Ruth Gillis at 910-484-0250 to reserve a place for you and your children.

- **Thank you** all for your support of our annual lobster fundraiser. Participation by Holy Trinity church folks is something we can always count on. *Ruth Gillis and the Holy Trinity Preschool*

## *Reports and Updates* *News from the Food Pantry*

For the month of December 2015, we served 130 household and 231 individuals in these homes. A lot of what we gave out in December was contributed by the ROTC from Terry Sanford Senior High and from people coming to see the presentation of "A Little Night Music". The Holy Trinity Pre-Schoolers also donated cans of food.

In 2015, we served 1651 households, which held 3262 individuals. This is a fantastic amount of people and it would not have been possible without the love and support of the members of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church. On behalf of all the Food Pantry workers we would like to thank the vestry and the congregation of Holy Trinity for all their support the last year!

Special thanks go out Pat Stang and Sid Gardner. Really special thanks go out to all the volunteers that shop, pack and distribute the food bags to the people that come in requesting supplemental food. The individual donations of food and money are greatly appreciated from the In-gathering Sundays.

We can always use the travel sized products you have and any individually wrapped plastic wear. Sid Gardner is interested in finding people that have time to be "shoppers" for the food pantry. If you want to honor someone, you might want to consider the Food Pantry, and we will send out a letter informing them of the honor that was given in their name. Again, thank you!! *Sharon Robertson*

## **Vestry Retreat Highlights**

The vestry, led by our Rector, met for retreat and planning at Trinity Center January 15 through 17. A rainy Friday hampered our travel somewhat, but all who were expected to be present made it by 6:00 PM. As usual, the facilities and hospitality of Trinity Center assured that we would have every opportunity for a successful weekend together.

After dinner on Friday evening, we met to complete necessary paperwork required by the Diocese of all vestry persons, engaged in some team-building exercises and introduced our topics for the rest of our time together. We completed our “work-time” together with Compline.

Saturday morning began with Morning Prayer. After breakfast, which included a brief visit from Penn Perry, Executive Director of Trinity Center, we met to begin our work together.

We spent our morning session investigating and examining our vestry roles in the context of Holy Trinity’s growth and transition into a “Program” sized church. This reality required us to recognize and address some new issues, including the anxiety related to our growth, as well as the incumbent need for excellent and varied communication by all the working parts of our parish. We examined what it means to be, and live into, a Missional Church. We discussed the development of processes and procedures, which would empower and allow all our varied ministries to not only survive, but thrive and grow. It became apparent through our discussions that Holy Trinity’s ministries are best managed as close to their “point of delivery” as possible, and not micro-managed by vestry members. We recognized that the ministries at Holy Trinity have been developed and grown by members of the parish, who are passionate about their service. We decided a better role as a vestry might be to support and facilitate those members’ activities and the ministries they represent. By empowering these “points of contact” we can efficiently direct parishioners and newcomers to the active work of Holy Trinity directly, rather than relying on a more circuitous process, which relies on vestry members to connect interested parishioners with a particular ministry or group. Vestry members will be creating a working list of Holy Trinity’s ministerial points of contact that can be easily shared with anyone. This list will enable members and newcomers to connect with whatever ministry they are called to pursue and will be made available in hard copy, as well as posted prominently on our Facebook page(s) and/or website.

Vestry roles will continue as liaisons to points of contact, but we will also be focused on longer range planning and strategic visioning for the parish. In cooperation with selected ministries, we will be developing processes for executing the work of those ministries, as well as processes for constructive review and improvement. Towards all those ends, the vestry divided and met with three general areas of emphasis, those being Parish Life (Heidi Witty, Scott Hancox and Tom Holt); Outreach (Kasmin Davis, Julie Lee-Jacobs, Mike Morketter and Keith St. Peter); and Strategic Visioning (Wendy Hustwit, Mark Philbrook, Rob Richardson and our Rector). Alison Jones will serve as a liaison to Holy Trinity’s Pre-School. We will also take advantage of our additional clergy. Rev. Joe Running will be leading the parish’s Pastoral Care efforts and Rev. Annie Stoller-Thornberg will be working with children’s education and formation.

We ended our Saturday with Compline, and had some time for fun and fellowship in the evening.

Father Jeff conducted Holy Eucharist in the Dame Julian Chapel after breakfast on Sunday. The vestry members briefly shared our stories of why we are members of Holy Trinity (which proved to be another way we bonded during this brief weekend together). After a review and summary discussion, we travelled home (again, in the rain) refreshed, renewed, and excited to be a part of a vibrant parish and its efforts to be a place of joyful worship that sends its members into the world to love and serve the Lord.  
*Tom Holt*

**Note about birthdays:** Our database was migrated to the “cloud” and only birthdays with the year you were born converted. If you don’t see your name in the birthday list, please call the office and give us the year you were born. Thank you, Janice



Birthday Blessings

**February:** 1 Carl Beene, Brennan Short\* 2 Sally Caldwell \* 3. Nancy Holt, Richard Karp\* 4 Coleman Smith\* 5 Ginny Franks\* 6 David Alecca, Florence Alvarez, Chick Chisolm, Leroy Chisolm, Katie Jenifer\* 7 Eileen Bratton, Rosemary Zimmerman \* 8 Nancy Broadwell \* 9 Cooper Wilson\* 10 Alison Fleming\* 11 Martha Brown, Stuart Jordan, Chris Sims\* 12 Nan Fiebig \*14 Mia Carpenter, Olisaemeka Udoh\* 20 Sara Norris \* 21 Jessica Nelson, Libba Pate, Mary Lynn Mercer\* 22 Linda Karp, Liam Wylie \* 24 Derrick Nadalini\* 25 Charles Koonce, Linda Taylor-Lau\* 26 Paula Stewart, Meredith Philbrook\* 27 Aidan Long, Cindi Slappey \*28 Reagan Francis\*



**PRAYER LIST:** Cheri Adams, Frank Allison, III, Ted Autry, Baby Louisa, Violet Brown, Jean Canham\*, The Honorable Jimmy Carter, Mary Elizabeth Council, The Presiding Bishop Curry, Eli Davis, Ed Fields, A.C. Greene, Jr., Louise Hall, Gloria Kelly, Susanne Kohrman\*, Shannon Lipe, Zachery Lutes, The Mercer family, Anne Mizelle\*, Gaye Moser, Marie Parker\*, Margaret Peterson\*, Ann Plemmons, Paul Reichle Jr.\*, Isolene Robertson, Angela Rowley, Joe Running Sr., Hilda Saleeby, Pat Spears, Zachery Sine, Virginia Smith, Ray St. Onge, Scott Surrent, Mary and Harold Syms\*, Jimmy Teachey, William Verdun, Brayden Wayne, Grace White and family  
 \*Visitation and Prayers

**MILITARY PRAYER LIST:**

Leroy, John, Cedric, Daven, Scott, Daniel, Mike, Jon, Stephanie, Sam, Trey, Ed, Amanda, Robert, Augustus, Roger, Kyle, Brian, Oliver, Alex, and Thomas.