



From the Priest-in-Charge

"In the depth of winter I finally learned that there was in me an invincible summer."
-Albert Camus

We all experience the "depth of winter". We are presently in the grip of cold weather. Weather that has less light, and freezing cold winds. Short days that can make us long for the warmth of spring and summer. As I gaze out the windows in my office, I see trees and bushes with no leaves, that appear to be dead. Everything looks barren and desolate. Even St. Francis is holding a tray of snow. It can make us feel like the writer of Psalm 31 when he says:

9: have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble;
My eye is consumed with sorrow,
And also my throat and my belly.

10: For my life is wasted with grief,
And my years with sighing;
My strength fails me because of affliction,
And my bones are consumed.

But even in the midst of all this winter, externally and at times, internally, there is the promise of spring. Hidden within the bare branches and bushes there is the seed of new growth. Even the snow on St. Francis will melt and reveal a clean tray for bird seed.

Though it seems at times that our personal "winters" will go on forever, God has already planted the seeds of our spring and summer. The writer of Psalm 31 ends with this word of hope:

23: Love the Lord, all you who worship him;
the Lord protects the faithful,
but repays to the full those who act haughtily.

24: Be strong and let your heart take courage,
All you who wait for the Lord.

During this Epiphany season, we encounter Christ as the Light of the world, the light that the darkness cannot overcome. God has placed within each of us an "invincible summer". May the light of Christ overcome the darkness of our winters.

Blessings,
Fr. Bob+

Submit your news to Trinity Times News Editor,
Jill Long jillwilsonlong@gmail.com
or call 610 - 597-4559

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Birthdays & Anniversaries



February Birthdays

1 Taylor Ayers
6 Deanne Vincent
11 Vernon Yeich
14 Penny Clark
17 Robert Gower, Jr.
19 George Waters



February Anniversaries

14 Tom & Tracie Salmon

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*

February Calendar of Events

Feb. 2, 16, 23 - Confirmation Class, 11:30 a.m., Lower Level
Youth Group Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Lower Level

Feb. 5 - Trinity at Food Pantry, 8:30 a.m. - Noon
Bible Study, 1:00 p.m., Library

Feb. 7 - Youth Group Movie Night, 6:00 p.m.

Feb. 8 - Popcorn & Movie Night, 6:00 p.m., Library (Note new time and place!)

Feb. 9 - Vestry Meeting, 11:45 a.m. Library

Feb. 12,19,26 - Bible Study, 1:00 p.m., Library

Feb. 15 - Covered Dish "Chocolate" Dinner, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., Parish Hall
Sign up sheet in Parish Hall

Feb. 16-23 - Family Promise Host Week

Julie Beech has moved again!

201 Bear Rock Dr, Blythewood, SC 29016
Phone: 803 764-4030

After renting a few months, it was to their advantage to build a house to own. They moved in 2 days before Christmas and "once the tree went up, we were in the Christmas spirit", said Julie.

Julie gets the Newsletter and would welcome your own personal news. She's very busy with her 2 great grandchildren so don't be discouraged if she can't get to the phone. Keep trying! Jill Long

Our Prayers have been requested for:

Mary Baker
Ed Benintende
Lee Connolly
Fr. Bob & Neil Criste-Troutman
Randy Criste-Troutman
Bishop Jack Croneberger
LeeAnn Flynn
Victoria Forstein
Paige Kozak
Becca McConnell
Rob McMahon
Jim Rawson
Lola Rocks

Christopher Rose
Dudley Rowell
Katrina Troutman
Donald
Will Klopp
Jon & Austin

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants, and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*

Peace Pages

Violence surrounds us in the world today. TV news would have little to say if there was no violence.

Assault, rape, burglary, murder and war depressingly happen every day. How do we as Christians respond to this culture of violence?

Walter Wink was a theologian who took a down-to-earth look at spiritual issues. He wrote a series of books on engaging the powers, those institutions that seek to control the lives of other people. They include government and corporations; you can add to the list.

The possible responses are pacifism, non-violence, and violence. Pacifism, in the sense of submissive complicity, doesn't work. It encourages the tormenters to increase the torment. Witness the Holocaust.

Violence as a response to violence doesn't work either. Violence escalates. War begets war. Has there ever been a time when the world has not been engaged in armed conflict?

Non-violence is the only effective way to combat violence. It means to confront the oppressors with the truth. Telling smug, self-righteous people that they are hypocrites and vipers, as Jesus did, is likely to promote a violent reaction, but Jesus was non-violent. So were Ghandi, Nelson Mandela, Desmond Tutu, and Martin Luther King Jr.

Non-violence is the only method that has produced long-lasting, beneficial effects that have outlived the active public lives of its leaders. But those leaders have all suffered, and they knew that going in.

Tom Sayer

Stewardship “Flourish in Faith”

“Flourish in Faith” campaign --- final figures (as of 1/28/2014)

Total amount pledged for 2014 --- \$ 129,058.15

Total number of pledging units --- 65 (68 in 2013); these include:

--- 11 new pledges

--- 36 increased pledges

--- 16 unchanged pledges

The total amount pledged is almost \$ 21,501 more than in 2013 (\$ 107,084.16). This represents a 20% increase from last year.

Many thanks to Jan for doing these calculations.

The Stewardship Committee

4th quarter pledge statements were mailed/distributed this past week. If you don't receive yours in the next few days contact Don Scheck, 570-595-2748, email: dgscheck@yahoo.com. If you have questions about any of the figures on your statement contact Nigel VanGronigen, 570-894-3555, email: nvangronigen@hotmail.com.

Thank you,
Don Scheck

Food Pantry News

Here are the numbers	251 Families	=	Adults	464	
			Children	256	
			Seniors	108	= 828 People Served

We have struggled with the weather on our opening days and our numbers are slightly down. What February brings we can't predict, however, if our volunteers and our donations are in place we will serve all who come with a few extras due to the holiday collections. If there are any folks interested in volunteering we ask them to call our Pantry telephone 570-894-2072 number to let us know when they are available Saturday/Wednesday or both. With the cold weather we hope extra folks would volunteer.

Thanks for your help in getting this information to your Church members.

Lorraine Naiko

A meditation from Deepak Choprah

When we do for others or ourselves, we sometimes don't take the time to enjoy the good feeling or bliss that we get in return. The following is taken from Deepaks meditation titled "Desire and Destiny". Last month I wrote about "How Can I Serve?" The next days subject was enjoying the bliss. Why not take those moments to enjoy what comes back to us after giving.

The expansion of happiness in this lifetime is our birthright. Finding what it is we are meant to do and be and identifying that which brings us the greatest happiness is our highest purpose in life. This is our dharma, our truth and, our destiny. Each moment presents us with a unique opportunity to express ourselves in ways that only we can. When we answer the call of our heart in each moment, we have the opportunity to experience pure joy.

The Rules for Being Amazing...

1. Risk more than is required.
2. Learn more than is normal.
3. Be strong.
4. Show courage.
5. Breathe.
6. Excel.
7. Love.
8. Lead.
9. Speak your truth.
10. Live your values.
11. Laugh.
12. Cry.
13. Innovate.
14. Simplify.
15. Adore mastery.
16. Release mediocrity.
17. Aim for genius.
18. Stay humble.
19. Be kinder than expected.
20. Deliver more than is needed.
21. Exude passion.
22. Shatter your limits.
23. Transcend your fears.
24. Inspire others by your bigness.
25. Dream big but start small.
26. Act now.
27. Don't stop.
28. Change the world. ~ Robin Sharma

Altar Flower Gifts

Each Sunday there are two beautiful vases with flowers on our Altar. These flowers are given as memorials or thank offerings by parish members. The cost of Altar flowers is \$35.00, and there are several openings for this year, 2014. Below is the list of available dates. If you wish to have flowers placed on the Altar as a memorial or thank offering please contact Jan in the parish office at 570-839-9376.

2014 available dates:

February 16, 23

December 7, 14

March 2

May 4

June 22

July 6, 13

November 16, 30