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TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Trinity Times News of Trinity Church

From our Priest-in-Charge

Friends,

Thank you all for the wonderful welcome I received at Trinity three weeks ago. Peter and Vestry, Thank you for the wonderful job you have done in supporting this community this year and allowing Trinity to continue its ministries and to celebrate the Eucharist each Sunday.

In my first sermon I shared a poem written by Pablo Neruda, a Chilean poet. I received it from someone in my 20s and have carried it around with me wherever I have lived since then. It is in Spanish with an English translation. It starts: Quiero saber quien eres... I want to know who you are..., in what factory you work, in what pharmacy. Ya yega el dia. Already the day is here. I want to share with you the message I take from that poem.

I hear this poem in several ways: as being said to each of us by God, that God wants to know who we are, wants to share our struggles and triumphs. This is also my message to you. If I am to be truly your priest, your servant, if I am to nurture your lives as Christians, I must know who you are. The extent to which I can preach Christ's message to day and to you depends on how well you let me know you. I interpret the words: "Already the day is here" as meaning: Christ is here. Christ has called us together for a reason. We are to grow together in the knowledge and experience that each of us is made by God, is treasured by God today, exactly as we are, and is forgiven by God for our faults. Each of us is being drawn to a deeper relationship with God and with our neighbors. Ya yega el dia! It is time to build the kingdom today.

I have many goals here as I begin my ministry: getting to know your traditions, your values, how this community of Trinity Church works and interrelates with the town of Mt Pocono, and.... not but, ...and another task: getting to know you and you getting to know me as we search together for the path that will lead us closer to a deep experience of the love of God and the ministries we can continue and that we will discover that help our neighbors experience that love.

As you know, I am part time. The calendar outside my office will let you know what days each week I am expecting to be available. Each week's days are built around what is happening at Trinity. I will always be at Trinity on Sundays and two other week days. I hope to be moving into the rectory in December, when it becomes vacant. I invite you to call me, invite me for a cup of coffee, or to your home for lunch or dinner. Quiero saber quien eres. I want to know who you are.

Susan

Birthdays & Anniversaries



December Birthdays

- 1 Jolene Backora
- 2 Connie O'Grady
- 3 Grace Ferrantino
- 3 Caroline Josephine Cortez
- 4 Julie Beech
- 12 Becky Hendricks
- 17 Bob Scully
- 19 Jennifer Tolley
- 21 Dylan Campana
- 25 Chris Eidschun



December Anniversaries

- 6 Peter & Linda Salmon
- 11 Vince & Mary Cole
- 28 John & Kathryn Ritter-Vicich

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*

December Calendar of Events

Nov. 27, Dec. 4, 11, 18 Rehearsal Children's Christmas Eve Program

Dec. 3 - Christmas Bazaar, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Dec. 7 - Trinity at Food Pantry, 8:30 a.m. - Noon

Dec. 11 - Vestry Meeting, 11:30 a.m., Library

Dec. 18 - Greening of the Church, 11:30 a.m.

Dec. 18 - Dec. 22 - Family Promise Host Week

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve, Family Service with Children's Program & Holy Eucharist, 4:00 p.m.

Dec. 25 - Christmas Day, Holy Eucharist, 10:00 a.m.

Dec. 26 - Dec. 30 - Parish Office Closed for Christmas Holiday

Dec. 30 & 31 - Family Promise Host

Family Promise News

Thank you, everyone who did anything to help with our Family Promise guests on their last visit! We really seem to be picking up steam these days in supporting this important ministry, and I am so glad to be working with such a caring group of people. There's lots of little puzzle pieces to assemble to make this all work and your piece is vital to our success and the subsequent success of the families we host. Again, thank you!

One family found housing shortly after leaving us this month and another mom is poised to find employment and housing soon.

We are hosting the families for a split week around Christmas: December 18 (Sunday) through December 22 (Thursday), just in time for the kids' school breaks to begin. We will then have the families December 30 (Friday) and December 31 (Saturday) to finish up our week. At this time, it looks as though we will have 12 guests comprising 3 families for our last week in 2016.

There are two Family Promise events coming up soon: December 4 is Swim with Santa and friends at the Stroudsmoor Natatorium from 12 to 3 PM. The cost is \$5 per child. Call 570-420-8589 to reserve your spot. December 9 is Paint & Sip for adults to be held at Creative Canvas Studio, 925 Ann St., Suite 101. There'll be a glass of wine to drink, a wine glass to paint, and hors d'oeuvres to munch. All supplies are provided for \$35. Reservations can be made by calling 570-676-3495. More to come in 2017!

Cindy Hill



**Trinity Episcopal Church
Annual Christmas Bazaar
Saturday, December 3, 2016
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

137 Trinity Hill Road, Mt. Pocono

(Off Rt. 611, south of Mt. Pocono opposite Paradise Riding Stables)

**Hand Made Craft Items, Christmas Decorations
Children's Shopping Room with Free Gift Wrap
Assorted Home-Baked Items**

Delicious Homemade Food Served All Day

Raffle - \$ 5.00 Ticket

1st Prize: \$ 150 Wal-Mart Gift Card

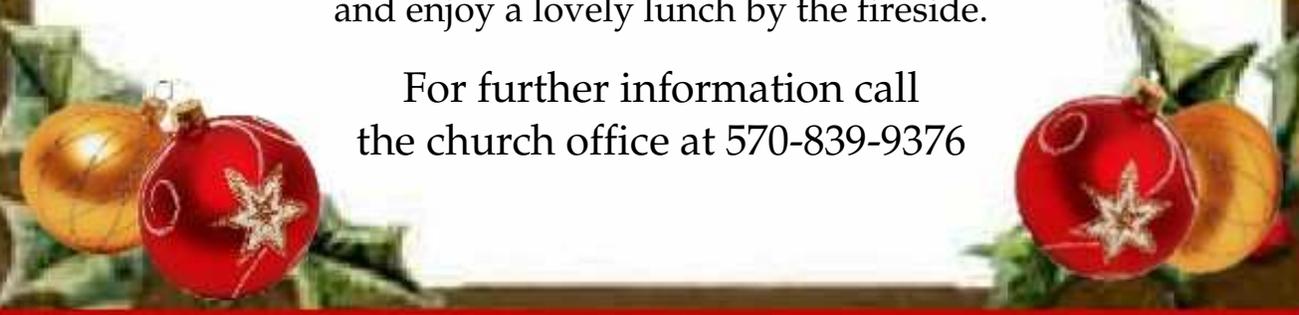
2nd Prize: \$ 50 Hickory Valley Farm Restaurant Gift Card

3rd Prize: \$ 50 Pocono Cheesecake Factory Gift Card

4th Prize: Handmade Afghan

Come find that unusual Christmas gift you've been looking for,
pick up some dessert for your holiday entertaining,
and enjoy a lovely lunch by the fireside.

For further information call
the church office at 570-839-9376



Words from the Senior Warden

How are we doing, financially speaking?

Red is one of my favorite colors. It is a vibrant color, great on a sports car, a tie, scarf, a holiday dress, a sweater, on wreaths, garlands...so festive, bright and exciting!

There is however, one place where **red** is not attractive and that is on the “bottom line” of the Income Statement! Operating in the “**red**” means we spend more than we bring in from donations.

Of course, I am referring here to the Trinity Income Statement. All year long we have been working towards a balanced budget, our first one in many years. Our expenses are predictable and year to date we have managed these so that they have been at or below budget. While it is difficult to predict monthly contributions, using previous years as a benchmark on a cumulative basis, should make it somewhat predictable. And this is where I have a concern.

Pledge contributions through October are behind budget. This may simply be a matter of timing, but if it persists through the end of the year our hopes for a balanced budget may not be realized.

This is an appeal to all who have pledged in 2016 to bring your pledge commitments up to date by the end of the year and help balance the budget!!

Let's get the **red** out of the Income Statement and put that color where it belongs, in the festive decorations of the Christmas season!!!

Carpets Cleaned

Did you notice the clean carpets throughout the Parish Hall, offices, library, Sunday School Rooms? The carpets were cleaned on Friday November 18th. What a great job! And cost of the work was paid for by a contribution from one of the AA groups and largely from the proceeds of the Book & Media sale earlier this year! Thanks to the Cathy & Jim Siglin for all their work, and to all who contributed by donating and buying at the Book & Media sale!

We are getting an AED... Really, what is that?

Pocono Medical Center will be at Trinity on Wednesday, November 30th at 1:30 p.m. to present an AED to Trinity. An AED is an automated external defibrillator is a portable electronic device that automatically diagnoses the life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias of ventricular fibrillation and ventricular tachycardia in a patient and is able to treat them through defibrillation, the application of electrical therapy which stops the arrhythmia, allowing the heart to reestablish an effective rhythm. With simple audio and visual commands, AEDs are designed to be simple to use for the layperson.

Thanks to Annmarie Ruggiero for facilitating this donation. The device is a lifesaving piece of equipment for someone experience a heart attack. We will arrange a training session with a volunteer from the Pocono Mountain Regional Ambulance Service. The training will be announced with enough lead time to optimize turnout. Having the device is great, having folks who know how to use it in an emergency is imperative!!

Words from the Senior Warden

Continued.....

What's going on at the Rectory?

Soon there will be a new resident in the Rectory. Our priest, Susan Treanor, will move into the Rectory in December. In the meantime, Father Bob has been busy buying a new, larger home (in the area) and moving furniture and personal belongings into his new home.

As usual, whenever there is a turnover in of residents in a home there is a lot of work. There are repairs to be done, spackling and patching walls, and painting. Along with that pumping the septic system and other homeowner maintenance activities there are a lot of chores that must be attended to.

Soon, very soon, we expect to begin painting and after that Susan will move into the Rectory full time. With Bob's kind permission, Susan will occasionally be staying at the Rectory during November, especially when the threat of inclement weather would make driving from upstate New York treacherous.

2017 Stewardship

Our formal Stewardship campaign came to an end on November 6th. Pledge cards were collected and a celebratory pot luck lunch was enjoyed in the Parish Hall. The theme of this year's campaign was Giving Thanks. Each Sunday a spotlight was placed on one of the many ministries our parish members participate in and make possible. I hope this will continue throughout the year, because time and talent are the most important part of Stewardship! Our stewardship chairs will be following up on missing pledge cards so we can get an accurate forecast for the 2017 budget. This is a perfect opportunity to Give Thanks to all who commit to financial contributions as well as their time & talents. With that in mind, thank you to our Stewardship co- Chairs, Carolyn Tolley and Joanne Smith!

Peter Gonze

Tales from a Welsh Corgi



And a happy Thanksgiving to one and all. It has been awhile since I have had a story to tell, and boy, this one is a doozie, as they say.

I knew it was bound to happen. My folks were always going here or there, trips to the store, to visit family or go to church. It all started on one lovely, autumn day this past September. Of course, as usual I was going to stay home. Not a bad idea since I had already had my walk and felt a nap coming on.

From my cage I overheard their conversation in the dining room, it went something like this:

Dad was already out the door and called back to mom, saying 'do you have your keys?'

Then she said 'I thought you had yours.' The next thing I heard was the door slamming shut, both of them left on the deck. On the wrong side of the door! Nobody had the keys!

Oh dear, then I drifted off to sleep only to be scolded later on for not paying attention and at least barking to what could have been burglars. They proceeded to bang on several windows to see if any were unlocked, but no. Nothing to do but call someone called a locksmith and wait. I slept through all of this, even the banging didn't give me a clue...all you could hear from me, in place of barking was ZZZZZZs... Even later when the locksmith came and I should have heard a strange voice and all the commotion, I just slept on. More ZZZZZs! I proved hopeless in an emergency. I have heard mom tell dad about hearing of dogs barking and warning their family of danger or fires. Sadly, not me. I'm a really good sleeper! I knew Corgi's were not watch-dogs, or guard-dogs and in this case, not even a dog that recognized strange voices and strange noises. All ended well but my folks didn't let me forget how I slept through it all.

Don't eat too much turkey and pumpkin pie, be thankful for those in your family and those that love you and those that you love. Until next time,

I remain, your Corgi friend, Huw Morgan.

PS -This will be the last news from my Corgi, Huw. He passed away on a lovely autumn morning this past week, one on which he would have loved to be on the deck in the sunshine. I want to thank you for reading the many stories, written from what I presumed would be Huw's view of his little world. I send this last story with a heavy heart. Huw was a real character, stubborn as Corgi's are, with a mind of his own, certain he was the boss of the household. He was a wonderful companion for over 11 years. Rest in peace, Huw, you are missed.

Pat Goodwin

Food Pantry News

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL

After the month of September a dramatic change in the number of clients has occurred and as we approach the end of November we stand at 308 families which includes 22 newly registered. The breakdown is Adults 531 Children 288 and Seniors 145 as a total served 964. We are pleased to have members of the Tobyhanna Army Depot Operation Santa Claus to assist with the December distribution. The days we will be giving out are December 3rd and December 7th. Lastly thanks to the Coolbaugh Municipal Complex for allowing us to operate within their property.

We thank you for your continuing support . Any donation is welcome at our pantry large and small alike. Special thank you for their help preparing the pantry are students from the Pocono Mountain Work to School program. Donations from the Pocono Mountain School District Staff and Students, Wal-Mart Distribution Center, Tobyhanna Army Depot Operation Santa Claus and the member Churches along with the volunteer staff. You all have made this Pantry able to serve our neighbors all year long.

Should you need to contact the pantry 570 894 2072 is our phone number and leave a message.

Again thank you to everyone who is or has participated in our operation at the Coolbaugh Municipal Complex.

Lorraine Naiko

Our Prayers have been requested for:

Alex Backora

Mary Banzhof

Randy Criste-Troutman

Victoria Forstein

Wendell & Jutta Moser

Jim Rawson

Fr. Charles Rice

Lois Rothrock

Jennifer Salmon

Ellie Schenck

Katie Scully

Heather

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*