

VOLUME, 2

FEBRUARY, 2018

ASH
WEDNESDAY

From the Priest-in-Charge

Last month I talked about getting in the habit of communicating directly with one another. Several people thought I was scolding them. That was not my intention. I see making sure we communicate our ideas and complaints to the people responsible as an effective way to surface issues and get things moved and if necessary repaired. As part of helping with that process, Peter and I are working on a graph that helps us know how we have organized the various ministries that members have taken responsibility for, that is how things are getting done here at Trinity. The graph is almost ready to post. It will go to the vestry on the 11th and be shown on the wall outside my office. Check it out and tell us what you think.

I also talked about the family that lived with us here in the church for six weeks. They are in their own apartment and the father has secured a job in the kitchen of a truck stop. He has a passion and talent for cooking and this seems perfect. They have not had the money to repair their car but the job is a 25 minute walk and Rich is walking to work every day.

Two of our long term members have died this month: Mary Banzof and Bill Gessner. Bill's funeral was this past Saturday the 3rd at 11:00 a.m. here and Mary Banzof's family is setting the date for her memorial service. Please remember their families and loved ones in your prayers.

The last few months has seen the formation of several new ministry work groups. Their meetings tend to be full of energy and proposed ideas, some new, others resurrected. One idea being raised is that we resurrect the prayer chain. Currently when someone becomes ill or asks for prayer, Jan or I send a blast to the e-mail list. However, I am told there was a small group of around six people that committed to include these people in their daily prayer. If you feel called to take this on, please let me know. We also now have a committee reviewing our Face Book and Web pages. Changes and updates are progressing. Have a look at these two internet connections to Trinity. One of the changes is to start a three month calendar of events rather than our current one month. This will allow all of us to plan ahead.

Lent is almost upon us. Are you thinking of what habit would bring you closer to Christ this Lent, more aware of his presence in your life? One idea I would like to promote is saying Morning Prayer, especially in Church with Michael Goodwin on Tuesday mornings at 9:00. If the idea speaks to you but you can not be here at 9:00, let Michael know you are praying with him whether at work or home or let us all know if you want to commit to yet another morning.

I am having knee replacement surgery on 2/13 and should return to Trinity on Ash Wednesday. Ginny Day will celebrate the Eucharist and impose ashes at Noon and 7:00 p.m. Traditionally the evening Eucharist is preceded by a soup dinner. Several members have already volunteered to make our selection of vegetarian soups. This simple dinner will start at 5:30 p.m. Anne Kitch will be celebrating the Eucharist on 2/18, Lent I.

Our Lenten book study this year will include a pot luck dinner, Wednesdays at 6:00 and a discussion from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. The Book is *Rising Strong* by social researcher Brene Brown. She has spent the past sixteen years studying courage, vulnerability, shame, and empathy and is the author of four #1 NY Times bestsellers— *The Gifts of Imperfection*, *Daring Greatly*, *Rising Strong*, and *Braving the Wilderness: The Quest for True Belonging and The Courage to Stand Alone*. Brown's TED talk – [The Power of Vulnerability](#) – is one of the top five most viewed TED talks in the world with over 30 million views. Her work is about what impedes and what encourages relationships. Our theological link to this topic is God's drive to be in relationship with us and we with each other. The study starts on Wednesday, 2/21.

One of the new committees has suggested parish life could be enlivened by us sharing some trips together. Suggestions have been: going to the National Cathedral in Washington D.C., checking out the rich history of the Moravian Church in Bethlehem or connecting to our diocesan cathedral in Bethlehem. Chrism Mass is scheduled in our cathedral on March 22 at 11:00 a.m. and I would like to organize some car pools. It is at this Eucharist that diocesan clergy and our Bishop renew our vows. I found it a moving service as a lay person and now as a clergy person it is deeply meaningful. I encourage everyone who can to participate.

Trinity has offered and I have accepted a new two year contract to serve as your part time priest-in-charge at Trinity. I am delighted to be part of the abundance of energy here and look forward to growing with you as we listen to the whisper of the Spirit and commit to deepening our awareness of the presence and love of Christ here.

Susan+

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Trinity Times
News of Trinity Church

From the Senior Warden

When Susan mentioned in a recent sermon one Sunday morning that we do not have a single parishioner with a Mt. Pocono address, I was stunned! The map on the bulletin board with the pins indicating where our members reside (some are off the map!) shows that we draw from a wide geographic area. People are willing to travel some distance to come to Trinity! And why not, this is a great church with terrific parishioners engaged in a wide variety of committees and action groups! The Borough of Mt. Pocono is just up the road. But we don't seem know much about the people living in the Borough!

The census of 2010 reported that there are 3,170 people, 1,225 households, and 793 families residing in the borough. The racial makeup of the borough is 59% White, 19% Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino of any race are 18% of the population. Of the 1,225 households 32% have children under the age of 18 living with them, 44% are married couples living together, 16% have a female householder and 35% are "non-families". 30% have someone living alone who is 65 years of age or older. The age range is spread out, with 26% under the age of 18, and 15% who are 65 years of age or older.

As planning for the April "Open House" event progresses, where we will be intentionally reaching out to invite people to learn about Trinity, it seems to me that we have a target rich environment just up the road! Not only is there a concentrated population but simple metrics suggest that there are at least a few Episcopalians around!!

Our Sunday bulletin regularly includes meeting times for two AA groups. In the past we have had other groups use the parish hall for activities including martial arts classes. We have space and times available for groups at a modest use fee. The Vestry is interested in attracting other groups to use space on a regular schedule. If you are aware of a group seeking space for regular gatherings, we are interested in speaking with them. Offering space can help with our Space Use income and also provides a service to the community which can build awareness for Trinity.

Get Ready for Spring!!!!
Don't forget.....Trinity T-SHIRTS!
Place your Orders

Please see order form in the Parish Hall along with a sample of a men's and women's T-shirt. Cost for most sizes will be \$15.00; XL sizes will be \$20.00 per shirt. Price includes ~\$3.00 donation to the Church. If you are interested fill in an order form and leave it in my mail box. The minimum order is for 24; so far I have orders for 17! Wearing a Trinity T-Shirt is a great way to let people know about our church Evangelism!!!!

From Jill & Jerry Long

January 13 3:06 EST Text message to Jill and Gerry Long from our son, Doug.

"Interesting start of our day today with a ballistic missile announcement and 15 minutes until imminent strike. Brings what's important into clear view. Announcement was broadcast erroneously, thank goodness.

Go Eagles!"

I was at Lake In the Clouds and heard the 'bing' of my cell. I picked it up but couldn't get this message from our son, Doug, who lives in Kona, on the Big Island. Our internet had gone out and a few hours later, I had forgotten that I had a text message. Monday, (last night) we had a call from Doug.

"I was going to work on my motorcycle and noticed more traffic than usual. I didn't hear my phone as it was in my saddlebags. As I got closer to work, I'm noticing people hurrying out of the ocean, people talking on their cells, people rushing to be somewhere. I stopped and opened my phone to read a terrifying announcement that a ballistic missile was heading for Hawaii to arrive in 15 minutes.!

I rushed home to find my family all together. Kaitlyn age 19 came over from her apartment, Jamie, (wife), Logan (18) and Evan (16) were already at home. We sat and looked at each other, hugged and began to wait. Warning siren was never released as is usual when there is danger of tsunami. or disaster. We had less than 15 minutes at that point. We just held hands. Then, it was over and Kona was back in business.

"BRINGS WHAT'S IMPORTANT INTO CLEAR VIEW"

Part Two "Jamie"

I would first start by saying we in Hawaii have been instructed to prepare our homes, families in the event of an emergency with meeting places, and at least a 5 day supply of food. The first thing I thought of was Kait and Doug who were out at briefings when the txt hit. Kait was hysterical and I got her to calm down and return to the house (she was about 1 mile away) – Doug also returned home.

Evan brought up our emergency food bin which also contains a solar radio... and the 5 of us waited. We checked social media, news channels, NO current news on impending doom. So we were in the dark...

We have tsunami sirens which powered on for one second but did not continue. It was about 15-20 minutes before we were able to get an all clear. Doug said the roads in those few minutes going home were filled with panic, and erratic driving and with people looking upset and confused.

After about an hour or so, Doug drove Logan to work as he is a new driver and wanted to keep things safe... and Kait returned to her place to check on folks over there...

We went through our supplies.. and I made a list (as you would expect me to do) of things I'd like to get for my emergency kit.

Also, I guess it's important to say that all in all, I do feel safe out here.. I feel that we have a lot less to be afraid of than mainland with shopping malls being bombed, schools/festivals/sporting events being attacked. I just wish people would be kinder to one another as a whole. I'm going to do my part to do that. That is what I got from this 20 minute experience.

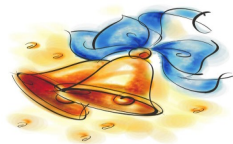
Love you...

Birthdays & Anniversaries



February Birthdays

11 Vernon Yeich
14 Penny Clark
17 Robert Gower, Jr.
19 Nigel VanGronigen
28 Marie Milone



February Anniversaries

25 Corris & Marva Cannonier

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. 6 – Community Services Team Meeting, 9:45 a.m.

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

Feb. 11 – Vestry Meeting, 11:30 a.m., Library

Feb. 14 – Ash Wednesday

Holy Eucharist with imposition of Ashes

Noon & 7:00 p.m.

Soup Dinner, 5:30 - 6:45 p.m.

Feb. 18 – Fundraising Comm. Meeting, 11:30 a.m.

Feb. 21 – Lenten Study Begins

Covered Dish 6:00 – 6:45 p.m.

Study 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Book – “Rising Strong” Brene Brown, Please purchase and read book in advance

Feb. 23 – Newsletter Deadline for Information

Feb. 24 – Popcorn and Movie Night “High Noon” – 5:00 p.m.

March 2 - Newsletter Mailing

Our Prayers have been requested for:

Alex Backora

Sean Beech

Randy Criste-Troutman

Victoria Forstein

Wendell Moser

Merrill Nanton

Jim Rawson

Fr. Charles Rice

Lois Rothrock

Jennifer Salmon

Ellie Schenck

Tom Sayer

Pat Young

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*