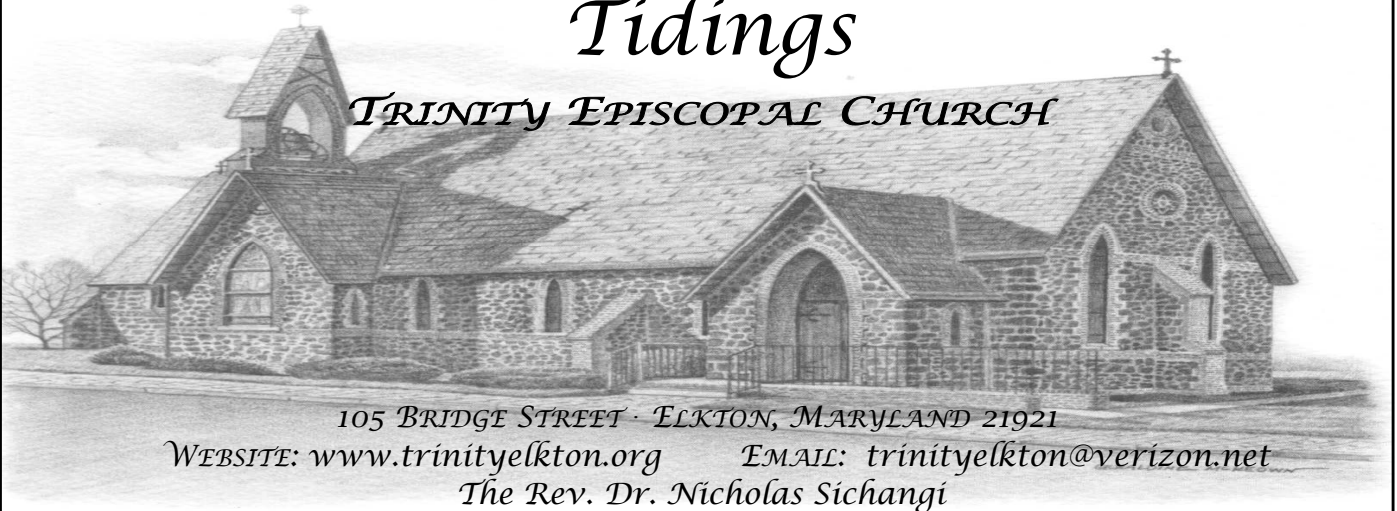


# Tidings

## TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH



105 BRIDGE STREET · ELKTON, MARYLAND 21921

WEBSITE: [www.trinityelkton.org](http://www.trinityelkton.org) EMAIL: [trinityelkton@verizon.net](mailto:trinityelkton@verizon.net)

The Rev. Dr. Nicholas Sichangi

### 146<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Diocese of Easton

Feb. 21-22, 2014

#### The summary of Bishop's speech and Saturday's session.

##### Bishop Bud's Address

Bishop Bud urged all to “remain faithful to the Lord...in works, in example, as Jesus’ disciples, in seeking & serving Christ in all persons.” He summarized some of the mission work completed by the people of the diocese during his tenure and emphasized that we are part of a global community of believers: Mississippi Mission (Hurricane Katrina); 2008-‘09 - Gift of Clean Water; Youth Mission Trips to Kenya, Peru, Mexico, Ottawa, DC; Crisfield Relief (Hurricane Sandy); ERD and Nets for Life; Camp Agape – for children of prisoners, and Camp Wright. He said this is a “time of possibilities” and noted that, consistent with the theme of the Convention, “Blessings Abounding: Embracing the Ministry We Share”, there are new challenges and new opportunities. These things can be both motivating & scary.

He spoke about his proposal of calling a Provisional Bishop. He said it is “not a new way of doing church”. In 1841, the 1<sup>st</sup> Provisional Bishop was elected and served in Arkansas. In 1980, there was a Provisional Bishop following the Presiding Bishop. He noted that Bishop Clay Matthews of the National Church will aid in our transition. The Provisional Bishop allows time of discernment and reflection. In reflection of his tenure, he quoted Longfellow, “Great is the art of beginning, but greater is the art of ending.”

Bishop Bud is excited about the hiring of a Youth Minister. He noted that the youth have some upcoming events: Episcopal Youth Event and the Camp Wright R&R Events. He talked about the work of the Convocational Youth Ministry Teams. Children are the future of the church and the church of today.

He concluded with a quote from Ecclesiastes, “For everything there is a season...”

##### Summary of the Saturday Session: **Imagine the Diocese of Easton** (w/ Robert Voyle)

In considering the future, we need to have discussions and tell stories. Surveys just give you data. One story is all you need to make it make sense, give it context, to market it. Many surveys and critiques are anonymous. Anonymity is bad and it can destroy the fabric of community. It goes against a core tenet of Christianity in which every Christian is known by name. At its beginning, Christianity flourished because people got together and shared the stories of encountering the risen Lord. We all need to tell our stories.

After personal interview sessions, we re-grouped and discussed several questions:

**What do people love to do?** Cooking, eating, traveling, music, meditating, creativity (art), gardening, making the lives of young people better, serving, empowering people. Rev. Voyle reflected on how these things reflect bigger themes. Christianity is a journey. In order to have harmony, everyone cannot be the same. You need different voices. Transcendence is being part of something larger than yourself. Do something together that you wouldn't be able to do on your own.

**What do you value about your congregation?** Everyone is welcome. The red doors are a sign of hospitality. There is a sense of fellowship and connectedness. He said Mother Theresa noted that poverty, alienation, aloneness abound in the U.S. and we, as congregations, help to eliminate it.

Con't

**What do you value about your diocese?** It's small. Rev. Voyle noted that means money is also small. In general, Americans never have enough. Is your parish economically sustainable? With a small parish, everyone must participate and you can't get lost in the crowd. That creates a sense of community, friendliness, and connectedness. If it's big, it can be overwhelming & confusing. Also, smallness lends itself to a simpler, more direct structure, which can offer personalized, consistent, focused leadership and support. He asked how do you do ministry sustainably? Rev. Voyle noted that having a part-time Priest long-term is not sustainable. It keeps alive a delusion that what we are doing is sustainable. We must re-invent how Episcopalians do ministry. He noted that having a part-time Bishop is the same thing. How can the diocese do things sustainably?

He noted that we can grow but we have to be willing to change. There are many forms of growth - up, out, into, deeper. Resistance to Change is an act of wisdom. We need to be able to see the value of the outcome; see that the outcome is worth time, effort, energy; and, if change is imposed from outside, without personal authority, it is an assault to our personal dignity.

**What do you value about being Episcopalian?**

*Tradition* – Tradition is collective wisdom of a group of people. We can't just hold onto it, we have to let it hold onto us. The Book of Common Prayer is key. It provides a sense of structured worship. Common prayer means to pray together, it is not common belief. If words divide you, simply sit in each other's presence and ask yourself, "Why does God give this person a heartbeat, even when (s)he is so fundamentally wrong?"

*Well-educated clergy/leadership*

*Creedal not confessional* – There are basic statements of faith, but you can challenge what it means personally. We make it safe enough for people to question. Disagreement is okay.

*Apostolic Succession* – Bishops and heritage

*Inclusiveness* - You can't build community on the basis of diversity, you can only build community on the basis of commonality. We are followers of Jesus, who accepts us as we are, but calls us to be better. We know him, but we can't contain him. He provides healing (which means to be made whole), forgiveness, and humility. We focus outside ourselves, looking out for others. We ask, "What would Jesus do?" and "What is Jesus doing?"

In summary, Episcopalians take a group of people on a journey to a place of connectedness with each other and with God, personal care, and to take the message out into the world.

**What is the demand of the future?** Fear is a consequence of looking.

**Who do you know that needs to know that there is a place to find what you value?** How can you share it with them?

Heidi White

*Your Prayers are asked for*

*Jan Ackerman*

*Wendy Gilbert*

*Vince Rinella*

*Jacob Asroff*

*Joe Heimberger*

*Brooke Rollins*

*Mary Helen Atwood*

*Walter Jermyn*

*Antonette Rosato*

*William Atwood*

*Libby Keefer*

*David Russ*

*Dustin Bartow*

*Kathy Koslak*

*Carroll Smith*

*Ellen Bonn*

*Rosemarie Scott Murphy*

*Ira Smith*

*Melissa Collins*

*Richard Palmer*

*Tricia Smith*

*Goldie Cook*

*Justin Pearce*

*Christine Stanley*

*Helen Cornacchia*

*Rose Perrone*

*Bunny Sturgill-Martin*

*Tiffany Cox*

*John Potts*

*Lisa Wiegand*

*Jesse Cugini*

*Vaughn Potts*

*The Russ Family*

*Nancy Draper*

*Linda Rawlings*



**Episcopal Church Lenten Movie Series 2014:  
Wednesday Nights beginning at 6:00 PM  
(Light supper will be served\*)**

**March 12 -- "I Heard the Owl Call My Name" at St. Paul's, Centreville (410) 758-1553**

In this film which stars Tom Courtnay and Dean Jagger, a young priest named Mark Brian is sent by his bishop to a Native American village in the wilds of British Columbia. He learns of faith and humanity as he becomes a part of the village himself learning the rituals and beliefs of their culture which is gradually being destroyed.

**March 19 -- "Amazing Grace" at Emmanuel, Chestertown (410) 778-3477**

This 2006 film starring Ioan Gruffudd, Benedict Cumberbatch and Albert Finney, tells the story of the campaign against the slave trade in the British Empire led by William Wilberforce, a member of Parliament. It also recounts the story of slave ship crew member John Newton who wrote the poem later used as the words for the hymn of the same name.

**March 26 -- "Being There" at St. Stephen's Earleville (410) 275-8785**

Hailed as *a fairy tale, a political story, and a religious parable on the nature of identity in the media age*, "Being There" is a savvy comedy drama about Chance (Peter Sellers) who has lived all his sheltered life inside the D.C. townhouse and walled garden of a rich recluse, until his release into and upon the world at the death of his benefactor.

**April 2 -- "Motivational Theatre Presentation" at St. Paul's, Kent (410) 778-1540**

(A live presentation by members of the Hugh Gallagher Motivational Theatre group)

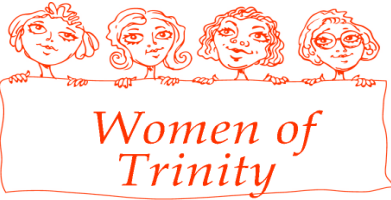
All of us face challenges in our lives. Lent is a season when we particularly strive to see ourselves as God sees us: uniquely gifted and yet vulnerable, challenged and yet empowered. The "Flying High" trilogy focuses on the lives of minority and women aviation pioneers who overcame physical disability, racial discrimination and adversity. The monologues are performed in an hour and include "My Spirit Lives On" (about Bessie Coleman), "Standing Tall, Flying High" (about Neal Loving), and "My Proudest Moment" (about Anne Morrow Lindbergh).

**April 9 -- "What the Deaf Man Heard" at Trinity, Elkton (410) 398-5350**

This 1997 film directed by John Kent Harrison and starring Matthew Modine, Claire Bloom and James Earl Jones, tells the story of a young boy who arrives alone and orphaned in a small Georgia town in the mid-1940's. As a self-protective device, he pretends to be deaf and mute resulting in him hearing all the town's secrets and confidences over a 20 year period. He finally reveals his secret to protect the town and the people who have cared for him for so long.

**April 16 -- "Saving Jesus: The Death Threat of Pontius Pilate, the Trial of Jesus and the Plan of the Jewish Leaders to Save Him" at Shrewsbury Parish, Kennedyville (410) 348-5944** (a Readers Theatre performance written, directed and performed by the Rev. Robert R. Smith). In Roman-occupied Judea, while Pontius Pilate was governor, the son of the Jewish High Priest leads an inquiry about a charismatic, young teacher, Jesus of Nazareth. It turns into a desperate effort to save his life and the lives of many other Jews from a Roman death-threat of a mass crucifixion. Written by Rev. Robert R. Smith, an Episcopal priest, this new drama convincingly shows that Jesus was put to death by Pilate, not the Jews. Based upon persuasive evidence from Jewish, Greek and Christian texts, this play is compelling theater for all people regardless of faith, with a revealing new look at an ancient and controversial story.

\*There is no charge for this series. Feel free to contact each parish for directions and carpool information.



will meet at the  
Parish House at  
11:30 am on  
Monday,  
March 24th  
Bring a bag lunch,



**BIBLE STUDY & MID-WEEK EUCHARIST**  
*Wednesdays at 9:00 am*  
*in Trinity House.*  
*Join Us!*

## Grass Cutting

Beautiful green grass will return before we know it. (I hope!)

And we could use your help keeping it under control. Please consider if you could join the dedicated few for about once a month to cut and trim God's lawn. No experience is needed. If you are able bodied, 18 or over, and somewhat mechanically inclined I will show you the ropes, and pair you with a seasoned Trinity grass pro for the "season". Family teams are also welcome. Please let me know if you can join our behind the scenes team .

Thanks! Rich Gilbert, 410-287-3580, [richgilbert2003@yahoo.com](mailto:richgilbert2003@yahoo.com)

## WOMEN OF TRINITY FIRST FRIDAY FARE



**April 4th 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM in the Parish House.**

**Soup and desserts \$5.00 per person**

**Chili and desserts \$7.00 per person**

### Ministry Schedule

### 8:00 AM

Date	CBR	P of P	Usher
3/16	Victoria Koslak	Mitzie Snyder	Mitzie Snyder , Susan Weed
3/23	Victoria Koslak	Mary Helen Atwood	Paul Arbour Jr, Sam Smith
3/30	Gordon Tozer	Mary Helen Atwood	Paul Arbour Jr,

### 10:00 AM

Date	Acolytes	Lector	CBR	Ushers	P o P	Greeter
3/16	Marina White Hunter Taylor	Mary Morrison	Margaret Russ	Rick & Susan Burkholder	Mary K. Hitchcock	Libby Keefer
3/23	T.J.Taylor Aaron Derby	Marina White	Debbie McKeown	Charlie Davidson M K. Hitchcock	Judy Caffey	Jane Ayers
3/30	Jack Fossler JP Fossler	Bill Gorak	Heidi White	Eugene Caffey Ross Lee	Marina White	Libby Keefer

*Lent and Easter Services*

*Palm Sunday, April 13th*

8:00 am & 10:00 am Holy Eucharist with Liturgy  
of the Palms.

*Maundy Thursday, April 17th*

\*7:00 pm – Special Liturgy & Eucharist  
with organ and choir

*Good Friday, April 18th*

\*7:00 pm Liturgy (with music )

*Easter Sunday, April 20th*

8:00 am – Holy Eucharist with hymns

\*10:00 am – Full Holy Eucharist

\*Childcare provided.



Donation for Easter Flowers

*If you would like to make a  
donation to the decoration of the  
altar and church nave for the Easter Sunday service,  
please complete and return it to the church office  
by April 13th. Thank you!*

Enclosed is a check/cash in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for Easter flowers.

My donation is: (as it is to appear in the bulletin)

*in memory of*

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*a thank offering for*

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_