

Tidings

105 BRIDGE STREET, ELKTON, MD 21921

November 2017 410-398-5350

Bishop Desmond Tutu, in his book God Has A Dream: A Vision of Hope for Our Time, wrote, “The truth is we need each other. We cannot survive and thrive without one another.... We can be truly free ultimately, only together. We can be human only together... According to Ubuntu (an ancient word meaning “humanity to others”) it is not a great good to be successful through being aggressively competitive and succeeding at the expense of others. In the end, our purpose is social and communal harmony and well-being. Ubuntu does not say, “I think, therefore I am.” It says rather: “I am human because I belong. I participate. I share.” These words echo our stewardship theme for this year. We are a gift because we grow in faith together. As Tutu says, “We are more than the sum of our parts. As a family, we are a gift to our community in the works of mission and ministries.”

Each Sunday we come together for teaching, prayer, fellowship and renewal. On weekdays we share the Love of Christ to our neighbors. Each one of us has a part in this because we are a family. We bring our treasures, our talents and our time for our common good and for the world around us. Trinity is what it is because of what we believe and what we do. On Stewardship Sunday we met as a family for fellowship and we heard an uplifting testimony of what Trinity means to us. The word “Love” was used to describe our Trinity family. At Trinity we do not love because we are compelled; we do not show compassion because we are forced. We love because God loved us first. We show compassion because our God in whom we believe in and in whom we worship is a compassionate God. In God we see our own image, and the image of others. The Bible reminds us that we were created in His image. We are his own. Isaiah 49:16 says, “*Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me.*”

As my former professor Howard Friend wrote, “A church is like a person..., congregations have potential for creativity, productivity and relationships.” Each one of us needs to actualize his or her inner possibilities to become outward reality. The leadership of this church is here to promote greater realization of our potential. Some of us may have muted our inner potential, hence become non-participants in the gifts that God has given us in His ministry. The way we can activate this potential is by seeing our image in the image of God and our neighbors. Know that at Trinity we see each other as a gift that has great potential.

May the grace of God abound in each one of you as we grow in faith together .

Fr. Nicholas



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SENIOR WARDEN REPORT

As Thanksgiving approaches, I tend to be more reflective of the many blessings around me. At Trinity, this past year has been full of blessings. I am so thankful for my fellow beloved parishioners who do so much for each other and the surrounding community. It's amazing to reflect on all that has happened within this past year.

As a result of our commitment to the Shared Ministry with St. Stephen's, we have engaged in shared events such as the picnic, Mass & potluck, and Christmas in April; and instituted consistent services - Saturday 5pm, Sunday 8am, Sunday 10:30am.

At a retreat about a year ago, the Vestry set forth a number of goals for 2017, and the Trinity family has accomplished many of them. I outline the goals and achievements here:

- *to improve communication* – The Tidings has been regularly published; and the website has been updated.
- *to improve Marketing/Advertising* – we have created a brochure and instituted the Youth Focus Group. Videos have been created and posted to highlight Trinity's beauty. An Instagram account has been established. Many photos have been posted to Facebook. An Organists' Showcase Concert & Reception helped bring the spotlight to Trinity.
- *to reduce the Episcopalian Shuffle* – we considered moving from paper to electronics, but that seems impractical at this time; however, we have a reusable pamphlet for Saturdays. A team created beautiful ribbon bookmarks for the BCPs and hymnals to make it easier to follow.
- *to create a Sunday School Program for Children* – we have set the pieces in place to accomplish this and held it once. If school-age children are present, Fr. Nicholas will present a 4-minute sermonette, and then the children will leave with designated adult(s) to have a brief lesson and return at the Peace. Several folks have been trained in Safeguarding God's Children which is necessary to work with children.
- *to develop a Scavenger Hunt focal event* – this is in the beginning planning stages and a task-list has been developed.
- *to develop a Mission Trip* – this has not been addressed
- *to expand our local mission/outreach* – we have offered community access to computers, which were obtained with a grant, particularly to assist our Food Pantry guests with job searching. We renewed our commitment to the Christmas in April project.

In addition to the goals and the shared ministry activities, there are many on-going activities:

- Our weekly celebrations require the service of many - lectors, intercessors, ushers, acolytes, greeters, chalice-bearers, music ministers, counters, coffee hour hosts, flower providers, and altar guild members.
- We always have tremendous involvement of those who preserve and renovate Trinity's grounds and buildings – painting, trimming, mowing, planting, replacing lights, repairing plumbing, patching holes, revitalizing our manger scene, seeking bids for plumbing and roofing jobs requiring professional attention.
- The Women of Trinity and the Brotherhood of St. Andrew's are always busy. The WOT have conducted community outreach and raised money through their First Friday Fares. This year they were able to have windows installed in the kitchen, plus they have developed a new social gathering. The Brotherhood also raises funds and does community outreach. They are intrinsic in helping to keep our physical plant spruced up.
- Of course, I cannot forget to mention – Carol who works behind the scenes to make things happen but whose task list is long; Jimmy who helps keep our spaces clean; and Rodney who spends untold hours preparing and practicing to enhance our services with beautiful music. They contribute so much to Trinity.
- Our beloved rector, Fr. Nicholas, who shows such compassion to everyone he encounters, always seems willing to meet new challenges, and is a reminder of God's love through his words and actions.
- Everyone in the Trinity family makes the Trinity magic happen!

Outside of all that is listed above, there are other "new" blessings for which I am particularly thankful. We have several new parishioners, including Fr. Nicholas's family. I am excited about the establishment of and the commitment that has been shown to our Adult Education program, "Coffee & Conversation". We have been fortunate to have the celebrations of the sacraments of Holy Matrimony and Holy Baptism this year, too.

As we celebrate the holiday that President George Washington proclaimed "as a [national] day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favours of Almighty God", take time to count your blessings! Also, know that you have been a blessing to others and you are appreciated!

NOMINEES SOUGHT

Convention (2)

We are seeking nominees to serve as Alternates for 2019/Delegates for 2020.

The Diocesan Convention is typically held the last Friday & Saturday of February at the Hyatt in Cambridge, MD. It is a great way to learn about all that is going on in our Diocese. Mary Helen & Gayle are Delegates for 2018 and Ross & Cheryl will be Delegates in 2019. If you are interested in serving and wish to learn more, please contact them or Heidi.

Vestry (3)

The Vestry is currently composed of:
Rev. Dr. Nicholas Sichangi, Rector
Mary Helen Atwood, Treasurer
Judy Caffey '19, Registrar
Katy Derby '18
Diane Hair '19
Matt Koenings '18
Ross Lee, Jr. Warden
Dick Lemen '20
Bill Smith '20
Heidi White, Sr. Warden

After numerous years of dedicated service as Treasurer, Mary Helen will be stepping down, and Dick Lemen will assume her role. In preparation for this transition, he has been shadowing her activities. As you can see by the terms listed above, Katy's and Matt's terms are expiring. We are seeking candidates to fill those vacancies – one term will expire in 2020 and the other two terms will expire in 2021.

If you are interested in serving and wish to learn more about the position, please contact any of the current Vestry Members.

Pertinent Bylaws relating to nominations:
ARTICLE IV - MEMBERS & MEETINGS:
Section 1- Members & Eligibility to Vote

All persons entered in the books of Trinity Church shall be deemed members. It is provided, however, that only those members who have reached the age of eighteen (18) years and are enrolled members of the parish for six months preceding the day of election, and who

shall have shared in the work of the parish by contributions, donations, or personal services shall be eligible to vote in the election of members of the Vestry or upon other matters.

Section 1- Eligibility

All members who are eligible to vote, as defined in Article IV, Section 1, of these By-Laws, shall be eligible to serve as lay members of the Vestry.

Section 2- Number, Roles, and Term of Service

The Vestry of Trinity Church shall be composed of the Rector, the Senior (Rector's) Warden, the Junior (People's) Warden, Treasurer, and six (6) Members-at-Large. One of the Members-at-Large shall be the Registrar as specified in Article V, Section 2 E.

C. The Treasurer (Ex-Officio)

The Treasurer shall keep the financial records of Trinity Parish and shall have general custody of all funds. All monies received by Trinity Parish shall be delivered to the Treasurer and all expenses and other payments shall be made by him or her or under his or her direction. He or she shall report to the Vestry at its regular meetings and to the membership at its Annual Meeting as to the general financial condition of the Church.

The Treasurer shall be bonded for an amount commensurate with the funds he or she handles.

Candidates for Treasurer should be recommended by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Vestry.

D. Members-at-Large

Vestry Members at Large are elected to a 3-year term, unless filling a vacancy. If re-elected, Vestry Members may serve consecutive terms. To maintain continuity, two (2) members should be elected each year.



Vigil Candle Sponsorship

"Following ancient customs, the Book of Common Prayer provides that the consecrated bread and wine may be reserved for the communion of the sick or others who for "weighty cause" could not be present at the celebration or for administration of communion by a deacon to a congregation when a priest is

unavailable. The sacrament also be reserved on Maundy Thursday for the communion on Good Friday. It is customary to keep the consecrated elements in a tabernacle or an ambry, or covered with a veil on a table or altar. A lamp or candle burns nearby to announce the presence of the reserved sacrament. This light is known as the Vigil Candle (also sometimes called the 7-Day Candle, or the Sacristy Candle)."

You can sponsor the Vigil candle for a week for a donation of \$10.00. This sponsorship is to the Glory of God, and can be in memory of, or in thanksgiving for people or events in your life. Simply fill out this form and drop it off or mail it to the church office, along with your donation of \$10.00."

Name _____

Phone _____

I would like to sponsor the Vigil Candle for the week of _____

to the Glory of God, and in memory of _____

or in thanksgiving for _____

Prayers are asked for

Randy

Jacob Asroff

Dustin Bartow

Hamid Basil

Bob Boulden

Pam Boulden

Robert Burchett

Marion Conner

Goldie Cook

Jesse Cugini

Donna H. Dellinger

Deborah Edwards

Alan Fenson

Shawnda Fenson

Judy Fisher

Mike Fossler

Eve Glantz

Dan Graham

Margaret Graham

Eric Hearn

Joe Heimberger

Bill Jackson

Kathy Koslak

Elizabeth Lane

Margaret Long

Victoria Marsh

Kate Miles



George Miller

Susan Orr

Richard Palmer

Lawrence Parker

Rose Perrone

Christopher Porteus

Janice Potts

Linda Rawlings

Jane Sichangi

Geri Simons

Carroll Smith

Betsy Spina

Andy Stansfield

Marlene Thompson

Archiving Trinity's Historic Documents

Larry Parker has offered to help Trinity preserve its historic documents and records. Larry is an amateur genealogist and archivist. He had training while working with the Wilmington JC's preserving historic records and old books for the Wilmington Library, and while volunteering at the Historical Society of Cecil County working in genealogy and helping preserve the family trees of some of Cecil's historic families. Larry also volunteers with the Genealogy Detectives, a nonprofit group that helps people research their family trees, and he has traced his own family's genealogy back 113 generations.

There are steps we can take to ensure the safety and longevity and to protect and reserve Trinity's records and historic documents, some of which date back to 1832. They are not just old papers. They are the living memory of our past and the permanent legacy for the future. The three most important enemies of preservation are light, temperature, and humidity. Until the first half of the 19th century, paper was handmade and milled from linen. Near 1840 linen became scarce due to agricultural problems, then paper became made from bulky wood from trees, cellulose fibers, treated with acids. These acids, reacting with temperature, humidity and light create undesirable results such as yellowing paper, fungus, and infestation of insects.

Relative humidity needs to be controlled in relation to temperature. Too high humidity initiates a biological change which is a disaster for documents, and is a breeding ground for fungus and spores, insects and bacterial. Lack of humidity produces brittle and fragile sheets of paper. A controlled humidity between 30 & 50% is the best standard for preservation. Light has also a huge impact on document preservation. Ultraviolet UV is the most dangerous, light from sunrays. Florescent and halogen lights should also be avoided. 50 lux per day is the adequate amount for preservation (an example of a room illuminated at 50 lux would be the average family living room). Low temperature is best for preservation and photographs. A range between 55-70 degrees is best.

AIC code of Ethics and Guidelines provides standards and best practices for the preservation of documents, including prevention, examination, documentation, treatment, and research. Their number one rule is "The Rule of Reversibility" which states that no treatment should be taken that cannot be undone, like lamination. Oils from your hands create more damaging acids on documents, so papers must be handled with cotton gloves. Polyester covers can be used, but no PVC. Never staple or use paper clips. Rolled documents must be handled with care, humidity raised, then unrolled carefully. Plastic protector pockets can be used, as well as storage cartons, provided they are made from acid free components.

Larry and our Trinity volunteers would also photograph and catalogue the documents and records. We plan to download the photographs to our secretary, Carol's Cummings's computer so that a book could be assembled of our records for the congregation, visitors, researchers, as well as recorded with the Historical Society of Cecil County, the Cecil Whig, and the Diocese.

Larry Parker

Richard Lemen

DIOCESE OF EASTON

Here is a link to the weekly news update from Diocese of Easton:

<http://mailchi.mp/9487a22a5bde/this-week-in-the-diocese-of-easton-2530065?e=46c4936d53>

Click on the link, or copy & paste it into your browser.

If you wish to receive these weekly updates, you can subscribe through the link.



**DON'T FORGET TO RETURN YOUR
STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE CARDS.**

Prompt return of your pledge will help the Vestry with financial planning for 2018.

If you have misplaced the card that was mailed to you, there are cards available at the rear of the church and also in the church office.

The Vestry thanks all of you for your support of our church and its ministries.

~Richard Lemen

Stewardship committee

“Autumn Prayer” by Peter Jarret, C.S.C.

God of all creation, you give us the gift of seasons to mark our journey through time.

The season of autumn, with its changes of colors and falling leaves reminds us that sometimes things must die and fall away for new life to arise.

Such is the message of the cross That through death to self we find life in all its richness.

In those moments when we experience setbacks or failures, Help us to remember that you are with us always, And that there is no failure or sin your love cannot heal.

Help us to trust in you and in your promise of new life. Amen.

Trinity Episcopal Church Fellowship Sunday

Christmas Cookie Exchange

Sunday, December 10

After 10:30 service join the Cookie Swap
Bake 2 Dozen of one kind of holiday homemade Christmas Cookie, bring them and exchange them for 2 Dozen of Cookies you choose from the cookies others bring, or just join us for fellowship, cookies to taste, and cookies for sale.



**Mark your Calendar, Annual meeting
January 21, 2018**
following the 10:30 am worship service.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Mary Helen Atwood



December articles due by November 27



The sign up sheet for our coffee hour is in the Parish House. Please consider signing up to bring in a treat for any particular Sunday. We very much appreciate you contributing your time and talents to Trinity's wonderful hospitality endeavor.



EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN OUR TRINITY SOCIAL

On Thursday, November 16 from 11:00 to 3:00 pm in the Parish House. We will have games to play, or you can bring your own, and bring a friend. Bring a lunch and \$5.00 for our outreach programs. We will have drinks and desserts! Please help us make this a community fun and gathering time! It will be held the third Thursday of every month.



Every second Sunday of the month the loose offering will be given to Father Nicholas's discretionary fund. Sunday, December 10.

HOLIDAY TURKEYS NEEDED!

We need small turkeys or turkey breasts for families in need. Also, we need box/bag stuffing, mashed or sweet potatoes. If you would like to donate a turkey, please contact the office or drop it off at the Parish House before November 10th.

Children's Home Foundation Ingathering

will be on **Sunday, November 12**, a Ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Easton. Scholarships are awarded to recent high school graduates And adults returning to the workforce who need financial support to attend vocational and technical schools. Camperships are also provided, giving children an opportunity to attend summer camp. Emergency aide is available to local families when sudden disaster or acute hardship occurs. You may visit us on line at www.childrenshomefoundation.org for more details. Be sure to have your name and address on your donation.



Halloween Parade- Hot dog sale



November Calendar

Saturday, November 4- Holy Eucharist 5:00 pm, Pizza @ Seasons

*Sunday, November 5- Morning Prayer 8 am, C & C & Adult Ed. 9:15– 10:15 am
Holy Eucharist 10:30 am*

*Tuesday, November 7- Food Pantry 10:00 am– 11:30 am
NA Meeting 7:30 pm*

Wednesday, November 8- AA Meeting 6:30 pm

Saturday, November 11- Holy Eucharist 5:00 pm, Pizza @ Seasons

*Sunday, November 12- Morning Prayer 8 am, C & C & Adult Ed. 9:15– 10:15 am
Holy Eucharist 10:30 am*

Monday, November 13- Vestry Meeting 7:00 pm

*Tuesday, November 14- Food Pantry 10:00 am– 11:30 am
NA Meeting 7:30 pm*

Wednesday, November 15- AA Meeting 6:30 pm

Thursday, November 16– Women’s Fun Day 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Saturday, November 18- Holy Eucharist 5:00 pm, Pizza @ Seasons

*Sunday, November 19- Morning Prayer 8 am, C & C & Adult Ed. 9:15– 10:15 am
Holy Eucharist 10:30 am
Five Rivers Thanksgiving Community Service, 7:00 pm*

*Tuesday, November 21- Food Pantry 10:00– 11:30 AM
NA Meeting 7:30 pm*

Wednesday, November 22- AA Meeting 6:30 pm

Saturday, November 25- Holy Eucharist 5:00 pm, Pizza @ Seasons

*Sunday, November 26- Morning Prayer 8 am, C & C & Adult Ed. 9:15– 10:15 am
Holy Eucharist 10:30 am*

Monday, November 27– Women’s Meeting 11:00 am

