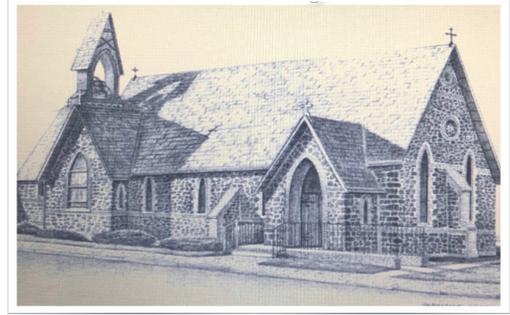

TIDINGS



William Johnston, a professor of religious studies at the University of Dayton says that lent is practice that exists to call churchgoers to repentance as they begin the spiritual journey. He further says that to mark the beginning of this journey, which begins on Ash Wednesday, clergy often daub churchgoers' foreheads with the sign of the cross, accompanied with words , “remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.”

This old tradition invites faithfuls to repent and turn back to the Lord God with sincere hearts and not by the outward symbolism as we read from the book of Joel –“so rend your hearts and not your garments, and return to the Lord.” Joel 2:13. To rend one’s heart signifies a holy zeal in which one grieves or mourns for their wrong doings. This sometimes is referred to as contrite spirit and broken hearts which needs God’s forgiveness and restoration. “My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.”- Psalms 51:17

The spiritual symbolism of the sign of ashes on the forehead is an invitation to penitence which not only begins on Ash Wednesday and last for 40 days, but should be a life time journey that invites believers to dive into the holy presence of our God the Almighty seeking for mercy and love.

The Bible reminds us that God’s mercy is reflected in the cross of Christ as one scholar calls it “a direct reflection of His Love for us. Mercy is an extension of and expression of love, an act of kindness, compassion or favor.” These are the attributes of who our God is.

One of my favorite psalms is Psalms 136. In this beautiful psalms every verse ends with the words “for his steadfast love endures for ever” hence our focus in lent is not about us , but about the mercy of our God.

I therefore invite you to join us to our Wednesday lent program every week at 10:45 am to 12:00 pm.

Shalom
Father Nicholas

Gifts of the Season

Lent is considered a penitential season when sacrifices are made.

But consider the possibility of giving gifts. Gifts that do not cost a cent but are worth their weight in gold.

The Gift of Affection-Be generous with appropriate hugs, kisses, pats on the back and handholds. Let these small actions demonstrate the love you have for family and friends.

The Gift of Laughter-Clip cartoons. Share funny stories. Your friends will say, "I love to laugh with you."

The Gift of Listening- No interrupting, no daydreaming, no planning your response. Just listening.

The Gift of a Written Note- It can be a simple "Thanks for the help" or a full sonnet. A brief, handwritten note may be remembered for a lifetime and may even change a life.

The Gift of a Compliment-A simple and sincere "You did a super job" or "That was a wonderful meal" can make someone's day.

The Gift of a Favor-Go out of your way to do something kind for someone.

The Gift of Solitude-There are times when we want nothing better than to be left alone. Be sensitive to those times and give the gift of solitude to others.

The Gift of a Cheerful Disposition-The easiest way to feel good is to extend a kind word to someone. It is not that hard to say "Hello" or "Thank you." Friends are a very real jewel indeed.

From "The Keynoter" newsletter, from St. Peter's Church, Salisbury, MD

Prayer List "Our prayers are with all those who are ill, all who are caring for them and all who are striving to hear the voice of God in these challenging times. May God bless you and keep you, now and always.

Tim Bennett, Alan Fenson, Shawnda Fenson, Brian Hubis, Dorothy Kirk,
Louise McLean, Natalie Northon, Robert Powell, Hunter Smith.



Shrove Tuesday @Trinity

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew would like to thank everyone who attended our pancake supper on Shrove Tuesday. It was good to see all the smiling faces of our church members who came, ate pancakes and shared in our fellowship.

We take this time to remember Gene Clay as well as our other Brothers who have passed on. Gene was a big part of Trinity Church and a shining example of sharing God's love in our world.

Thanks to our kitchen crew: servers Gordon, Tom, Susan, Larry and Bill, cooks Paul and Hans and dishwasher extraordinaire Bill Smith.

We raised \$750 to be used in our mission to keep our property maintained. Thank you!
-Hans Nafzinger





Pictures taken
by
Gordon Tozer

Special thanks
to the
Brotherhood of
St. Andrew

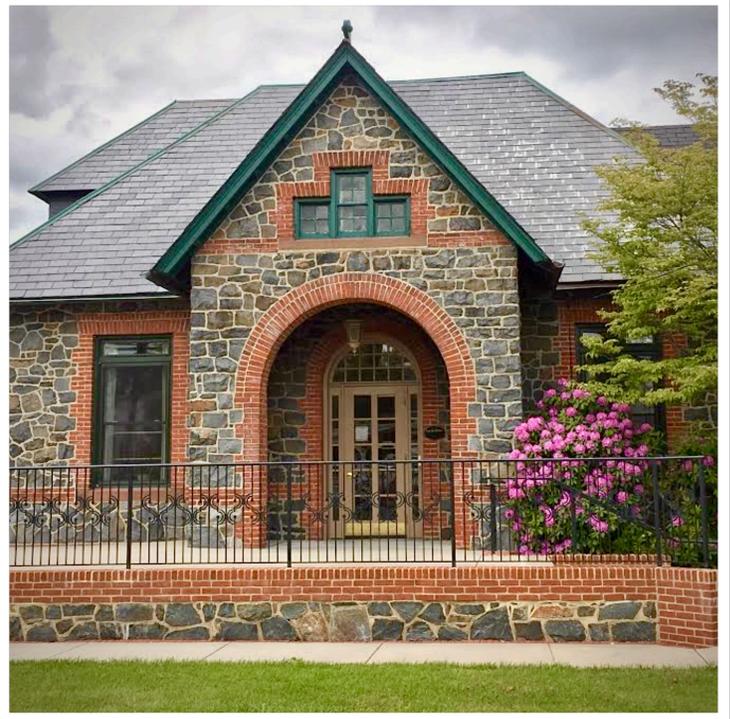


Upcoming @ Trinity

Lenten Lunch & Program

Join us, Wednesday, March 9, 11:45 AM-1:00 PM, Parish House. Sessions will be held for each Wednesday in March. Additional details and sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the parish house. Attendees please bring a can of soup and your Bible.

-Bill Smith



Daughters of the King Bible Study

Monday, March 6 at 10:30 AM in the Parish House. All are welcome to join us as we study the book Bible Women. Bring your bible.

40 Days of Lent 40 Acts of Kindness

As we begin Lent and are committing to give up something, why not give up that frown, or that grudge or that missed connection with someone you have kept putting off, like that neighbor whose house you keep passing and wondering how they are doing. Let's use this Lenten season to do these Acts of Kindness and more. Father Nicholas has asked us to read Scripture and in all of Paul's letters to the early Churches he continually asks them to put aside hurtful or unkind behavior and live according to Christ's teachings by loving one another and letting the Holy Spirit move them to be kind and caring to each other. So this Lenten season let's strive to do one Act of Kindness each day. Just email me (ross.lee@gmail.com) or drop a note at the back of the Church with your Act of Kindness on it. I will keep tally and report each week in Church and then publish the totals in the Tidings as we did for our 28 AoK in the 28 days of Advent. All will be anonymous. Thanks and thanks for all that each of you do!

Sincerely,

Ross Lee

Upcoming @ Trinity



Easter Candy

St. Stephen's is once again selling Easter Candy and Mary Katharine is taking the orders! Options are Large Chocolate Covered Eggs with Peanut Butter, Coconut or Butter Cream. There are also "bite size" Eggs, Peanut Butter, Coconut or Butter Cream as well. Each order is available for only \$10 each. If you are interested, please provide your order along with payment to Mary Katharine. All orders are due no later than March 20th. Order forms are available in the back of the church and in the parish house. Thank you for your support!



High Tea Time

Pastries By Penny is going to be hosting a Tea House in the Trinity Parish Hall on Saturday, May 13th! There are plans for 2 separate seating times available for your convenience (11:00 AM & 2:00 PM) . The Menu will be coming soon. The cost will be \$25 per person and will offer a selection of teas, scones, tea sandwiches, soup, and sweets. Mary Katharine will be taking reservations and ordering our tickets. More information to come and we hope to see many of our Trinity families with us to support our local bakery and friend, Penny. Additional tea parties are scheduled throughout the year as well. Keep your eyes open for more information! Sign up sheets will be coming in the future.



Painting Party & Crafting Events

Mary Katharine is working to put together a Painting Party for our Trinity Family and Friends. We had so much fun a few years ago creating Christmas paintings and there have been many of you who have asks for future plans. We hope you will join us and invite your friends. Cost and schedule have yet to be determined, but keep your eyes open for future Painting Parties.

If you have any ideas for crafting events or other possible fundraisers, please discuss with Mary Katharine. Proceeds will be benefitting Trinity's Outreach programs.

-Mary Katharine Hitchcock

The Season of Lent offers

an opportunity for Episcopalians to set aside time in their own way to pray, study, and meditate on the word of God with an intent to renew a focus on a life in Christ. To help individuals in this endeavor the Episcopal Church offers Lenten Resources for adults to use in a way that best meets their needs and schedules throughout the 40 Day Season of Lent. Three resources are offered with a short description for your consideration.

Episcopal Lenten Resource, Video A

2023 Lenten Meditations Rev. Robin Denny St. Mary's Episcopal Church Napa, CA

In 2023 the Episcopal Relief & Development organization offers a program of 40 daily meditations and 6 Sunday videos entitled, Who Is My Neighbor? Videos focus on life, work, and service to selected communities outside of the U.S. that have been touched and benefited by support from the Episcopal R&D.

The Rev. Robin Denny now serving as Priest at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Napa, CA authored the current meditation series. She shares her personal experiences as a missionary in Liberia and South Sudan with responsibility as an agricultural development advisor. Her strong agricultural background having grown up on a farm and ranch in N. Salinas, CA, along with formal agriculture college training, and a strong motivation to serve as a missionary made her well qualified for the position she assumed. Many meditations incorporate very real situations she faced along with support, encouragement, prayer, hope, and perseverance.

Website - <https://www.episcopalrelief.org/lent>

(Scroll down to the bottom of the page - see, download Lenten Meditations PDF

Press here- see document Who Is My Neighbor?

Episcopal Lenten Resource, Video B

Life Transformed - The Way of Love in Lent, Rev. Dr. Hillary Rainey

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, Gladwyne, PA

Sometimes a need develops to start again on a different track and even on a different direction. This offering touches on this effort and has received considerable support from Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. It is recognized as a Rule of Life that is scripturally based and follows seven steps. Rev. Dr. Hillary Rainey approaches this effort with an introductory video followed by seven videos that pertain to each step.

The series is well done. Prayer is included in each video, and transcripts of each presentation can be read. All this can be done at your leisure in a timeframe that is best for you.

Website-

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/life-transformed-the-way-of-love-in-lent/>

Episcopal Lenten Resource Book

Getting to Know Jesus (Again) Meditations for Lent

This short, 108 page, book with meditations for the 40 days of Lent plus 12 additional days is well written and provides some thought provoking questions at the end of each week of meditations. It serves as a refresher for the foundations of Christianity and includes pertinent scripture verses for individual review. Recommended for those that still like to hold a book in their hand, use a pencil to underline passages or key words, and make a mark or two in the margin.

available - <https://www.churchpublishing.org/> Or <https://www.amazon.com/>

-Bill Smith

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday, One combined service

Sunday, April 2nd at 10:30 am

Celebrate with us the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem
as we wave our palm branches and shout Hosanna!

Good Friday, Elkton United Methodist Church

Friday, April 7th at 12:00 pm

The Seven Last Words of Christ

Easter Sunday Service, One combined service

Sunday, April 9th 10:30 am

Celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ with
Holy Eucharist and special music.



Happy Birthday March Babies 3 Hans Nafzinger 7 Judy Caffey

16 Andy Lee 25 Louise McLean 29 Rodney Long

Redner's Save a Tape Program When you shop at Redner's Warehouse, use your Redner's card, and save your receipt. By using this card each time you purchase merchandise at Redner's, your receipt will be designated as a Save-A -Tape customer receipt. Bring your tapes into the Parish House and place them in the envelope on the bulletin board. Trinity will receive 1% of you total. Thank You in advance!



Yard Sale

Saturday, June 17th

8:00 am to 12:00 pm

\$10.00

(You must provide your own tables)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Make checks payable to Trinity Episcopal Church, mail form with payment to

Trinity Episcopal Church, 105 North Bridge Street, Elkton, MD 21921

Return your form early so you can reserve your space. This is the only yard sale we will have this year!! RSVP before June 3. Proceeds will go to our Building Fund.

Volunteers Needed to make our yard sale a SUCCESS.

We need your help with:

- Set-up day before
- Help with making lunch
- Serve lunch
- Bake goods for bake sale. (Cookies, cupcakes, brownies, sweet breads)
- Help sell baked goods and yard sale table that day.
- Help clean up

If you are able to help with any of these tasks, please call the office 410-398-5350 or email us at trinityelkton@gmail.com

Donation for Easter Flowers

If you would like to make a donation to the decoration of the altar and church nave for Easter Sunday, please complete this form and return it to the office before Sunday, March 26. Your donation will go toward the purchase of the flowers and any extra money collected will go towards a special fund for soloists for special occasions.



Enclose a check or cash in the amount of \$_____

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

in memory of

a thank offering for

Name_____

Phone_____