



Notes for the Journey

The Rev. Anne Kelsey

"So then, you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God." Ephesians 2:19

Each Sunday we welcome to our worship and community people we've never met before. We pray that their souls will be nourished by the Holy Communion we share, and also by the time of social fellowship after the service. We hope that they will want to come back again, and that eventually they will want to join the church.

Membership in the Episcopal church is quite technical in one sense, and completely unclear in another. The Constitutions and Canons define a member as one who has received the Sacrament of Baptism, and whose Baptism has been recorded in the register of a congregation.

When a person who has been baptized in another Christian denomination is confirmed by an Episcopal bishop, that is recorded. When a person who has been both baptized and confirmed in another denomination is received into the Episcopal Church by the bishop during a service of confirmation, usually at the cathedral, that is recorded. When a person moves from one church to another, membership in the particular local parish church is then transferred by a letter.

All of this begs the question about how a person joins a particular church. We're a friendly bunch in general, and people like us. Sometimes they want to join, but I've never adequately responded to someone who comes up to me at coffee hour and says, "I really like this church. How do I become a member?" It's a different kind of question than "How do I become an Episcopalian?" The best I've done is to quote Woody Allen, who said that most of life is just showing up, which seems all too murky and unsatisfying. Most of us need some kind of event or process to mark our status as members in a more formal way.

After conversation with the wardens and much thought on my part, a simple process for joining Trinity Episcopal Church has been developed. It will allow persons who wish to join Trinity be recognized formally, but will be separate from the process of confirmation and reception into the Episcopal Church. There are three steps. The first is to attend church on a regular basis for three months. Second, to attend a newcomer's luncheon during this time. Third, to be formally acknowledged as a new member of Trinity in a brief liturgy during a service on Sunday morning.

I anticipate having these liturgies about four times a year. The next newcomer's lunch will be held on September 19th, and the first newcomer liturgy will be on September 26. In addition, there will continue to be the regular offering of an inquirer's class which addresses spiritual and theological issues. I hope that this process will provide a structure for all of us to welcome new members into this lively and faith-filled community. As always, I expect and welcome questions and comments.

Blessings,

Anne

NOTES FROM THE COMMUNITY

PARISH DIRECTORY

Copies of the new directory are now available in the parish office. Please see the wardens, rector, or sexton to pick up a copy.

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY GROUP

We hope to meet once a month, setting a topic or reading for each meeting or, for some meetings, setting up a speaker. The first meeting will be the third Wednesday in September, September 15th. The meeting will begin right after the Wednesday night Holy Eucharist and will last about an hour. Questions? Thoughts? Contact Georgia Johnston 776-6273. All women are welcome.

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

This will be a chance for you to gather quietly with fellow Christian men for fellowship, lively discussion, and participatory prayer. We will meet twice a month at a convenient time (maybe on Saturday mornings). Help create something special! Lets us know if you are interested in being a part of the group. Call Reuben Rigel at 865-2857 or Michael Sampson at 361-7311

SHOWER THE KITCHEN

We're throwing a shower for the Trinity Kitchen! It is sorely in need of new equipment, so it's been registered at Target; Bed, Bath, and Beyond; and Peerless Restaurant Supply at 1124 South Grand. Invitations are available at church - we'll gather at the coffee hour on September 26 to see what's new, from potholders to large pans. You can see a partial list of our needs elsewhere in this issue.

Vestry

The Vestry will not meet in August, but they will be back in full force in September. Vestry reports will be included in the next Trinity Times.

IN MEMORIAM

Francis Duffy, "Granny Fran", died on July 13, 2004.

Jacob Berg, husband of Darrell Berg and long-time flautist in the St. Louis Symphony died on June 27, 2004.

JULY'S RALLY AND OTHER GOOD DATES

Yay for all of us! Our church home is looking better and better. Wait till you see all of the improvements! Tom Kirk is fixing the Memorial Garden Fountain. He also finished the Sunday School closet after totally disassembling and rebuilding the Library fan. Etta Taylor and Martha Baker cleaned out the Youth Room, whereupon Martha and Curtis hauled items to the Goodwill. Jim Pfaff took command of the mess of weeds around the alley drain. Michael Haggans built a closet for Jim's supplies in the SPH. David Van Bakergem lighted the women in the bathroom and built shelves for Curtis on the basement steps. Karen, Bill, and Oliver Layher built the "Coffee Cart." Cindy Curran and Lisa Carpenter painted the kitchen area. Lisa installed the shelves in the Sunday School Closet. Kathy Van Bakergem organized her materials and dispensed with the wooden shelves that had been in the NPH. Julien "Never Again" Worland painted the TFM ceiling. Curtis provided advice, tools, and good cheer as he always does.

Later in the week, Kate Haggans masked areas for painting in the NPH. She did the high part while Joan Dunbar (who walked over in the heat index of 110°) scooted along on the low part. It kind of fit their voices. Delores Friesen and Barbara Ritchey painted the walls. Anne Kelsey took on the grungy task of degreasing the SPH kitchen. Anne and Lisa Carpenter were drenched with effort and good results. Then indomitable Ted Taylor came on three other days to continue the job. Looking good!

The following week Barbara Grothe and Lawrence Holmes painted the trim around the NPH doors. (Previously, Linda Biggs had painted the doors themselves.) Kate Worland refurbished the TFM office with paint and wallpaper. Last, but equally part of the effort, Helen Hendry trimmed the weeds around the fences that still need to be painted.

We're taking a rest in August, but mark your calendars for another rally on Sept. 11. We'll have refreshments, coffee, and lunch for those who stay. We will paint the doors, fences, and exterior of the SPH; trim the gardens; and clean the NPH kitchen among other things. Y'ins come on down (that's Pittsburgh for Y'all).

Kate Worland, Junior Warden

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FAREWELL TO SALLY WEAVER

August 29

Trinity has been blessed with the presence of Eden seminarian Sally Weaver during the past three months. She has served as the director of the Food Ministry, given us thoughtful sermons, and has learned the byzantine ways of serving at the altar. She resumes her studies for the ordained ministry in September, and Sunday, August 29th will be her last day with us, so please join us in bidding her a fond farewell that day.

FESTIVAL SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 12

We formally mark the beginning of the Sunday School year with a special celebration at the 10:30 a.m. Eucharist. Teachers will be blessed for their work with the children; students, parents, and congregation will all join in commitment to education. Coffee hour that day will be sponsored by the Outreach Commission, which will have information about all the ministry opportunities available here at Trinity, as well as extra-special goodies to eat..

FALL INQUIRER'S CLASS

SIX SUNDAYS IN THE FALL

If you're new to the church and wondering what the liturgy is all about, or what Episcopalians really think, then consider attending a six-week course in an introduction to the beliefs and practice of the Episcopal Church this fall. It will be held on three Sundays in October and three Sundays in November. Classes will be at 12:30 p.m. in the North Parish Hall on October 10, 17, and 24; November 7, 14, and 21, following the coffee hour after services. Lunch will be served, and child care will be provided with advance notice. Anyone new to the church or desiring baptism, confirmation, or reception into the Episcopal church should plan on attending. Please see the rector if you have any questions

TRINITY PROM

SEPTEMBER 19

Pretty clothes, fabulous music! Could anything be more Trinity? Come dance the night away with the best-dressed people in St. Louis! Details and tickets from Tom Weber. More information to come.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

OCTOBER 2

Observe the feast of St. Francis, have your pet blessed, and see how The Pets Of The Parish have changed over the last year! Are they aging better than their people?

SESQUICENTENNIAL EVENT

OCTOBER 3

Evensong and a simple supper in the South Parish Hall and the presentation of a drawn timeline showing important events in the history of the parish in the North Parish Hall. Old photos, documents, and various memorabilia will also be on display. There will an opportunity for those who attend to add notes, quips, or small bits of pertinent information along the timeline that might be included in the updating of the Trinity history that Etta and Martha are writing.

The real celebration begins on February 11, 2005 (precisely 150 years after our first service), with an historic evensong and reception. There will be another event in March, and in April we have persuaded St. Cecilia to return for a festive musical evening! The culmination of all our celebrating will be, of course, on Trinity Sunday, May 22. Our Bishop will be with us for the morning service, and the guest preacher will be the Rt. Rev. Barbara Harris.

So that we may know how many people to expect on October 3, please sign up on the sheet in the South Parish Hall or notify Bill Ader in the Parish Office before Monday, Sept. 27.

CLEAN UP AT ST. JOHN'S, 3664 ARSENAL

OCTOBER 9, 8AM-2PM

Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Volunteers are asked to bring some of their own cleaning supplies - heavy-duty gloves, wood cleaner, floor cleaning materials, window cleaner, paper towels etc. - so that they have enough supplies to go around

Please contact Christine Cannon, the Senior Warden, to volunteer. Her e-mail is <u>ccannon@kingdomhouse.org</u>.

THE SESQUICENTENNIAL SECTION

Dear Friends of Trinity,

We have studied reams and quires of notes and minutes and correspondence, so we are ready to commit history to paper. We would never dream of doing so without your thoughts and memories and prayers. We need them for History Night (Oct. 3), and we want to consider them for the final draft. Please take the time to answer any and all of the following questions, or make up ones that apply to your life at Trinity.

Plan A: You may e-mail your answers to us in care of Bill Ader, administrative assistant (trinity-cwe @sbcglobal.net), with "history" in the subject line; he will forward them to us. Plan B: write answers to these questions or record your own memories and give them to us personally. Don't hesitate to share this page with former Trinitarians at home and abroad-in-the-land (just tell us who so we don't duplicate efforts).

Please know how much we value your memories and appreciate your taking the time to share them with us, for where would Trinity be without you?

Martha Baker/Etta Taylor

Name Whom do you remember most sharply? Among the priests? Among the staff? Among the congregation? Address Telephone How have you changed while at Trinity? When did you start attending services at Trinity? Why? What made you stay? What about Trinity brings you the greatest joy/peace as you sit in the Sanctuary? Were you baptized, confirmed, and/or married/blessed here? What was special about your ceremonies and sacraments? Remember the music? What lingers on your ear? Whom do you remember most sharply? Among the priests? Among the staff? Among the congregation? What are you nostalgic for? What makes you smile when you think of Trinity? Is there anything you don't miss? What have your learned from your time here? Who made a difference here? Did you? What about Trinity has been the same? What are your thoughts about this 150-year-old "institution"? What changes mattered the most at Trinity? When you look into Trinity's future, what do you see? If you could change one thing about Trinity's history, what

would it be?

SHOWER THE TRINITY KITCHEN!

We're having a shower for the kitchen. The list below is what we really need. You're invited to bring donated items to church anytime after you purchase them, and we'll celebrate on Festival Sunday, September 12th.

The following items may be purchased anywhere, but the larger frying pans and soup pots probably may be available only at a restaurant supply. The prices vary widely—a large pot is in the range of about \$90 and a good potholder about \$3.50. So donate what your budget allows—we're grateful for each and every item. Peerless Restaurant Supply is at 1124 South Grand.

- 24 plates, thin durable ones such as Corelle ware
- 12 matching bowls
- 12 72 oz. clear "bouncer" pitchers (Peerless: \$7.50 each)

LOTS of pot holders (the more the better)

- LOTS of kitchen towels
- 2 sugar and creamer sets
- 2 14" frying pan, preferably with a lid
- 2 12" frying pan, preferably with a lid
- 2 heavy-duty spatulas (restaurant supply only)
- 2 27 quart pots (heavy-duty)
- 2 heavy-duty can openers (not electric)
- 1 large strainer or colander
- 2 medium mixing bowls
- 2 large mixing bowls

TRINITY - OASIS & INTEGRITY

Trinity's involvement with the St. Louis Metro Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) has been a long journey. Until the late 1990's, Trinity was one of the few churches that was welcoming and affirming of LGBT Christians and their relationships.

For the past few years, Trinity has been an Oasis congregation joining Christ Church Cathedral, Transfiguration, St. Mark and Advent. The Oasis/Missouri assists gay, lesbian, and transgendered Episcopalians, their families, and friends by providing support, resources, and educational materials to assist their congregations and clergy to be more open and welcoming to all people. Oasis continues to be an educational outreach and a resource for the Diocese of Missouri.

Several persons involved in the Oasis parishes have recently formed a Metro St. Louis chapter of Integrity. Integrity is the leading grassroots voice for the full inclusion of GLBT persons in the Episcopal Church and equal access to its rites. However, advocacy is only one facet of Integrity's ministry. At the national level and in local chapters throughout the country, the primary activities are: worship, fellowship, education, communication, outreach, and service to the church. If anyone is interested in finding more about this organization, please email Mike at <u>info@integrity-missouri.org</u> or call at (314) 231-3454 x239. Integrity is scheduled to begin regular meetings in September -- 3rd Sunday of each month at Christ Church Cathedral.

PUBLICATION OF INTEREST

Martha Ficklen and Nan Sweet have contributed to *Breathing Out: Poems by Loosely Identified*. This collection is by the St. Louis women's poetry workshop known as *Loosely Identified*. *Loosely Identified* is a women's arts collective with roots in the 1970s. *Breathing Out* has been featured and reviewed in the *Post-Dispatch* and is now in its second printing. Martha crafted the book's title; Nan composed its introduction.

CHURCH SCHOOL CLASSES BEGIN ON SEPTEMBER 12TH

Families, mark your calendars and remember that church school classes will begin on **Sunday, September 12th at 10:30 a.m.**

After a long summer hiatus, my teachers and I are looking forward to the start of a new, spiritually-enriching education program at Trinity. We're fortunate to have all our teachers back and I know we're going to have another great year. Our preschool/kindergarten section will be staffed by Hazel Kirk, Chuck McManis, Jan Parker and Dave van Bakergem, each of whom brings a wealth of different talents to the table as they rotate Sundays. Matt King will lead the primary section of children in grades one through third and I'll continue to lead the intermediate class of older children. Excellent nursery care will alternate weekly between Ellen Weber and Alex Gerteis

I encourage all parents and families to take an interest in Trinity's exceptional church school program. Once again we'll be using lectionary-based teaching materials, and I urge you to discuss the lessons and readings with your children every Sunday. To help facilitate this, the Living the Good News folks have introduced a new resource that we'll be trying out this fall. Called "At Home with the Good News," it (I'll quote the blurb in the catalog) provides a "refreshing and simple way to share the Good News at home. Reproducible family papers engage parents and kids in further exploration of the Sunday readings. The whole family will enjoy the creative, easy-to-lead activities. Parents will welcome the Bible backgrounds, parenting tips and quick info on feasts, saints and season, building confidence and gaining skills as their family's "primary teachers." I hope this resource helps to make our ongoing spiritual education a real 'family affair.' Feedback will definitely be appreciated!

If any parishioners would like to teach or if you have something special you'd like to share with our youngsters on a one-time basis, I'd love to hear from you. No teaching experience is ever necessary, we're very flexible and I can guarantee that working with Trinity's young people can be mutually rewarding!

I speak for all the teachers when I say we're looking forward to welcoming all of you on September 12th!

Kathy van Bakergem, Director

PRAYER LIST

THOSE WHO ARE HOMEBOUND

Camilleann Nelson

Frank Oakes

Dee Scott.

THOSE FACING CRITICAL OR LONG TERM ILLNESS

Ann Baker

Esther Burkhart

Andrea Chrismer-Still

Katie N.

Barbara Kelsey

James Berg

Deketa Booker Williams

Jerry Copeland

Ulric and Mary Dunbar

Kayte Foxworth

Mittency Pastard

Mary Webber.

SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Josh

Wesley

Eddie.

THE DEPARTED

Francis Duffy

Jacob Berg

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Holy Eucharist

Sunday - 8:00 a.m. (Rite I) and 10:30 a.m. (Rite II) Wednesday - 6:00 p.m. (except June, July, and August) Thursday - 6:30 a.m.

VESTRY MEMBERS

2005

2006

Barbara Ritchey Tom Weber Kate Worland Virginia Benson Kate Haggans Harry Leip Jan Parker Kim Corliss Nancy Cadenhead Michael Sampson Sheryl Sharpe Jeff Wunrow

2007

TRINITY TIMES

Published monthly for the parishioners and friends of Trinity Episcopal Church

The Rev. Anne Kelsey, Rector

Phone: (314) 361-4655 Fax: (314) 367-3552 E-mail: trinity-cwe@sbcglobal.net Web: trinityepiscopal.net

Trinity Episcopal Church 600 North Euclid (at Washington) St. Louis, Missouri 63108

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