



Trinity Episcopal Church

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Serving Aurora's Faithful
since 1849

Volume 18 Issue 4

June/July 2018

Dear Friends,

I sit here at my computer, staring at the blank template on the screen. At the same time, my thoughts are of disillusionment with many of the people and institutions that represent America. This past Sunday I preached about believing in the impossible. Today as I contemplate what to write for this month's newsletter, using the words of a newscaster on this morning's news, "I'm angry." About what? Well, this morning, specifically I am frustrated by the thoughtless behavior of people using city parks and beaches. They leave the trash left everywhere.

We ask ourselves the question, "What is wrong with our world?" and we ask in new and sobering ways. We look at the world around us and the answer, however, is not much different from C.H. Chesterton's response many years ago when he was posed the question. He answered by saying, "I am the problem. We have all heard the saying, "I have met the enemy and the enemy is me." How can that be, you ask? It's not just about our relationship with the environment and the world around us, it is about our relationships with one another. As John Rutter so eloquently says in one of his anthems, "We are His hands, stewards of all His bounty." We may not support or actively participate in hate crimes or intolerance, but do we turn aside and look the other way? Do we say to ourselves, "I'm just one person, what can I do?" When we offer up our confession each week, do we truly take to heart the phrase ".... We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done *and by what we have left undone*?"

What would happen if we chose to put prayer into action? What would happen if we set aside our fear of those who may be different from us? What would happen if we set aside political agendas and began to *live* the Gospel, not simply to talk of it? The gospel message that called and continues to call me doesn't have room for hate. It doesn't have room for selfishness. At times, I've found myself condemned -- condemned for offering God's love to those who are marginalized -- marginalized by others who call themselves Christian.

We can no longer afford to let such evil enter our hearts and be passed along. Simply talking about what it means to be Christian is not enough. It is time that we put into action God's call to us -- to be *living examples* of God's love in this broken and frightened world. How do we do that? We begin; We do this by empowering one another and making our prayer a living reality, sharing ourselves, our time and our resources, and by working together, coming to church and giving corporate thanks to God. We support one another in this difficult work. We acknowledge that we are part of the problem...but we also acknowledge that we each have the potential to be part of the solution, with the grace of God.

Are we truly willing to walk Christ-like? Are we willing to extend ourselves and do the hard work of loving God with all our heart and our neighbors as ourselves? Can we accept the consequences, whatever they may be? Isn't it time to BE the Body of Christ?

I'd prefer to try rather than to remain angry. Maybe if we all did, a miracle might unfold.

In Christ,

Denzil J. Luckritz, Rector



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Upcoming Events

- June 17, 2018 Members of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago will March In Aurora's Inaugural Pride Parade.
- July 1, 2018—Outreach Back to School Materials Drive begins.
- September 16, 2018—Church Picnic at Montgomery Park following the service..



Financial Snapshot YTD (Month Ending May 31, 2018)

Income:

Pledge and Plate	\$28,918
(Year to date budgeted pledge and Plate Budget)	\$21,643
Endowment Income	\$22,328.
(Year to date budgeted Endowment Income)	\$24,204
Total Income	\$69,403
Budgeted Income	\$76,106*
Net Income	-\$6,703

Expense

Building and Grounds	\$16,316
(Year to Date Building and Grounds Budget)	\$12,048
Office & Admin	\$5,290
(Year to date Office and Administration Budget)	\$ 2,637.
Total Expense	\$78,672
Budgeted YTD Exp.	\$70,297
Excess of Expense over Income	\$ 8,37

Funds

Endowment Balance	\$651,416 (Apr. 30, 2018)
	On 12/31/2015 it was \$640,461.
Memorial Balance	\$266,062 (Apr. 30, 2018)
	On 12/31/2015 it was \$335,368
Checkbook Balance on December 31st, 2017	was \$12,824
	On June 1st, 2018. it was \$6,951
	On June 1st, 2018 Our Mission Fund Balance was \$9,572

Financial Notes

- * Budgeted Income includes two \$12,500 draw downs. We have only done one. Thus our actual corrected budgeted income is \$63,805. Which means we are \$5,598 ahead of budgeted income

Building and Grounds

- If March was the month of war with our phones, April and May have been the months of frustration with contractors and barriers to projects! After looking for a contractor who was willing to repair the stucco on the Parish Hall, I went down to the City’s Permit office to see if we needed a permit. We didn’t, but we needed a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Historical District Office. We received the Certificate but it says we have to have a certified EPA Lead paint removal company do the work. The company that was to do the work isn’t so certified. Back to square one. Then the company that the Vestry approved for painting the Church ceiling backed out saying that their ceiling crew had moved on. Frustrating.
- On better notes, the new door to the Parish Hall has been ordered and should have arrived before you read this. The new door will open outward and have a crash bar on it. Once installed it can be locked before services to secure the building. Also, thanks to our intrepid sexton, Gary Gorney, the painting of the kitchen ceiling is proceeding. He has stripped off the peeling paint, sanded the affected areas and degreased the whole ceiling. Next comes the prime coat and then, finally the finish paint.
- Mercifully, the heating season is over and ended on a positive note. Once the leaky pipes under the Guild room were replaced, we had not further problem with the cut out switch!

ECHO - (Empowerment, Community Hope Organization)



For the last few months, Trinity has partnered with Arlissa Dockery and her co-workers with their new ECHO Program. The program is an after school program that is initially starting out meeting twice a month in the large classroom under the Parish Hall. It is an open door program that serves children from elementary through Junior High school in a safe environment where homework is stressed and bullying is not allowed. It partners also with Township which supplies a snack. They are now in the process of incorporating as a not-for-profit agency and are on the brink of receiving funding from the city for their support! We wish them the best of fortune and give them our thanks for the services they offer the kids of our neighborhood!



Ritual, Reason, and Why...

In the Name of the Father...

Christian prayer is modeled after the prayer of Jesus. Like his, it should come from the heart. When he prayed Jesus used words and signs and sometimes cries, as expressions of his heart. And so do we when we pray; our hearts too look for an outward voice.

The words and signs that Jesus used when he prayed often came from his own Jewish tradition, from what he learned in his family and from others. As for ourselves, we turn to our Christian tradition for guidance in prayer. We believe it is a tradition inspired by the Holy Spirit, and it is also an outgrowth of the Jewish tradition of prayer that nourished Jesus himself.

The Christian tradition of prayer has a wisdom all its own, with many different forms and expressions. Some basic prayers of our Christian tradition, however, have a special place. The **Sign of the Cross** is one example.

The Sign of the Cross is an important part of personal and public prayer. It originated in the earliest days of Christianity and so it is centuries old. It is the first sign made on us at Baptism and the last sign made as we pass to our future life. It's a vital part of liturgical prayer and the sacraments. With the Sign of the Cross we begin and end our prayers.

We call it a blessing. We say we "bless ourselves." Tracing with our hand the figure of the cross on our forehead, our breast, our shoulders, we bless ourselves: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Sign of the Cross expresses blessing. It symbolizes God blessing us, God embracing us with blessings. And in this same sign we express our belief in God from whom all our blessings flow. In the Sign of the Cross we embrace our good God with mind and heart and all of our strength.

God blesses. The Jewish scriptures describe God as, above all, the One who blesses. God blessed Noah and saved the world from the flood. God blessed Abraham and Sara with blessings more than the stars in the sky. God blessed the Jewish people, redeeming them from the slavery of Egypt. Life itself and all creation are God's gifts.

And so the Jewish tradition of prayer always approaches God as One who blesses. "I will bless the Lord at all times," the psalmist prays. As we are blessed by God, so we bless the Lord in return.

The Christian tradition of prayer follows this same pattern, but in addition it praises the One who blesses for another incomparable blessing: the blessing of Jesus Christ. "Blessed be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has bestowed on us in Christ every spiritual blessing." (Eph ,3) He is "the Word who made the universe, the Savior sent to redeem us." In Jesus Christ God appears as our Friend and Brother. With the Father he sends the Holy Spirit upon us "to complete his work on earth and bring us the fullness of grace." In Jesus, God has revealed to us the source of all blessings.

When we bless ourselves with the Sign of the Cross we remember the One who blesses us: the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

With the Sign of the Cross we recall in particular the blessing of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We trace a cross on ourselves, the cross of Jesus. His death on the Cross was an outpouring of love for us. The Sign of the Cross is a reminder of his love, a love found not only in the past, but here and now, as we make this sign upon ourselves; for the love of Jesus Christ abides forever.

The Sign of the Cross is a wonderful daily expression of our relationship with God. God is the One who blesses. This prayer reminds us that each day, in good times and bad, in danger and sorrow, God's care and blessings are never far from us.

Tracing this holy sign on our forehead, our hearts and our shoulders, we remember we are blessed in mind and heart and all our being. We can approach God with confidence through Jesus Christ whose ever present love this holy sign recalls. "Come to me," God says through this prayer, "do not be afraid. Before you take one step, I reach to embrace you with blessings in my hands."

by Victor Hoagland, C.P.

<http://www.cptryon.org/prayer/sign.html>

Paul Jones was born in 1880 in the rectory of St. Stephen's Church, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. After graduating from Yale University and the Episcopal



PAUL JONES, BISHOP (4 SEP 1941)



Divinity School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, he accepted a call to serve a mission in Logan, Utah. In 1914 Paul Jones was appointed Archdeacon of the Missionary District of Utah and, later that year, was elected its Bishop. Meanwhile, World War I had begun.

As Bishop of Utah, Paul Jones did much to expand the Church's mission stations and to strengthen diocesan institutions. At the same time he spoke openly about his opposition to war.

With the United States entry into the war, the Bishop of Utah's views became increasingly controversial. At a meeting of the Fellowship of Reconciliation in Los Angeles in 1917, Bishop Jones expressed his belief that "war is unchristian," for which he was attacked with banner headlines in the Utah press.

As a result of the speech and the reaction it caused in Utah, a commission of the House of Bishops was appointed to investigate the situation. In their report, the commission concluded that "The underlying contention of the Bishop of Utah seems to be that war is unchristian. With this general statement the Commission cannot agree. . . ." The report went on to recommend that "The Bishop of Utah

ought to resign his office," thus rejecting Paul Jones' right to object to war on grounds of faith and conscience.

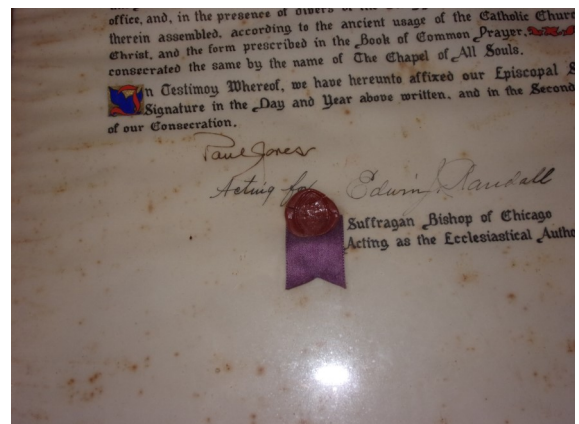
In the spring of 1918, Bishop Jones, yielding to pressure, resigned as Bishop of Utah. For the next 23 years, until his death on September 4, 1941, he continued a ministry within the Church dedicated to peace and conscience, speaking always with a conviction and gentleness rooted in the Gospel.

In his farewell to the Missionary District of Utah in 1918, Bishop Jones said: "Where I serve the Church is of small importance, so long as I can make my life count in the cause of Christ. . . . Expediency may make necessary the resignation of a Bishop at this time, but no expedience can ever justify the degradation of the ideals of the episcopate which these conclusions seem to involve."

Merciful God, who sent your beloved Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Raise up in this and every land witnesses, who, after the example of your servant Paul Jones, will stand firm in proclaiming the Gospel of the Prince of Peace, our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Bishop Paul Jones was featured last year in the June newsletter. I asked Father Denzil if we could use him again. As you can see in the picture to the right, Paul Jones signed the Diocese's dedication of our Chapel. The Certificate is posted on the wall of the Chapel.

I find it fascinating that this Holy man of God, who was remembered as the Bishop of Utah due to his opposition to the first World War, was actually at Trinity and gave his and the Bishop's blessing to Trinity.





Our Stoup

Don't know what a Stoup is? Neither did I. Merriam-Webster defines it, "A basin for holy water at the entrance of a church." Father DeKay and Linda brought ours from the Church of Holy Communion in Maywood that was forced to shut its doors. (Linda says we got other things from there but can't remember what.) I didn't pay much attention to it other than dipping my fingers in it and saying a blessing every time I came in the Church. Then in the last month or so Father Denzil began putting together brochures for the Church (more about them next newsletter) and inserted a picture of a Stoup from another location. I went and took pictures of ours. Oops not too pretty. Tarnished and pitted brass and the glass insert was stained from dried up water. But thanks to Pat Wilson, our wonderful leader of the Altar Guild it has been restored to its original beauty. Thank you, Pat!



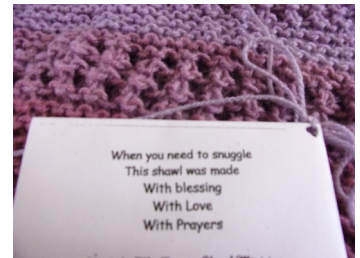
Prayer Shawls



Three Sundays ago, after the candles were lit and the procession about to begin, we saw Missy bringing things in and laying them in front of the Altar. It was dark and almost impossible to see what she was doing. Then nothing until the announcements when Father Denzil shed light on what was going on. They are Prayer Shawls to give to people to wrap themselves in God's love when they are sick, depressed, or any other kind of infirmity. Missy got them from Father's old Church. St. John's in Lockport. The two pictured are all that are left of the original batch.

The good news is that our own Cindy Olson has come forward and decided to take this ministry upon herself! If you would like to participate in this ministry, let the office know and we'll hook you up with her!

I know how powerful they can be. A friend of mine who is facing major spinal surgery cried when I gave him one. You too can wrap yourself in God's warm and loving embrace. Call 630 897-7283 and we will get you one.



Outreach - Committee

Association for Individual Development - Group Homes Trinity Contributions

Last Thursday, May 31, the AID clients who volunteer at Trinity and I delivered to the Thompson Center the items and funds that were donated by Trinity parishioners through our outreach ministry in support of the AID group homes.

To each and everyone of you who contributed to this effort, the group home clients and staff of AID are sincerely grateful.

Your love and generosity will provide many essentials that will improve the lives of these special people.

God bless you,

Dick Blogg
Trinity Outreach Committee

(FYI: Your efforts showed an increase in giving this year; there were more items. The wish list was almost answered and we increased our cash donation from \$106.89 to \$255.00.)





NOTES FROM THE ORGANIST AND CHOIR MASTER

Our Easter celebration was especially wonderful this year. Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, we had a Brass Quintet with us to enhance our Resurrection hymns. They did a superb job and we offer special thanks to John Heath for conducting and booking our guest musicians!

A few weeks before Easter, I was working with one of my organ students. I told him how much we had enjoyed having his bell choir play for us on Christmas Eve a few years ago. I wanted to see if I could borrow some of his bells for Easter, but they were ringing that day, so that possibility seemed to vanish. After I thought a bit more I told Karl, "If you ever hear of a church that has bells and doesn't use them anymore, please let me know." Karl told me that the church where we were having his lesson was such a place. He gave me the telephone number of the music person at the church, I talked with her that night, and got the bells the next day. How is that for timing? In any case, we were able to use the hand bells on Easter and have been ringing them throughout Eastertide.



I do hope to start a hand bell choir at Trinity. It will be lots of fun. And, for people who might like to be involved in the music program, but not singing in the choir, this will be a great way to be involved. I'll have more information about the program soon.

As an aside, I know that Pentecost used to be called Whitsunday. But, this year, I am not "dreaming of a white" Pentecost!!

Around the Church

- Additions to Building and Grounds: After a battle with the City, we have received our certificate of Appropriateness and can now proceed with the stucco repair on the Parish Hall. An inspector from the City came out to look at our new boiler (I thought the company had done this already. He said the new pipes had to be wrapped, the vented air intake automated. He is writing that up and I will then contact the installation company.
- We hosted the cooperative Sandwich Board meeting at which we reviewed and voted to accept the Sandwich Board: Declarations, Rules and Regulations as amended. The Board thanked Manuel Lopez, who put these guidelines together. There will be one more meeting before the end of the year to finalize the Rules and Regulations, elect officers and prepare to kick the new Board off in January of 2019..
- Matthew Stephens recently took a trip to Europe to visit various historic musician sites.
- I didn't have pictures, but did want to mention that Lisa Luckritz hosted a Ukrainian Eggs Creation Workshop on April 14th.
- I have begun the much needed task of digitalizing our Parish Records. I began with Parish Baptisms starting in 1861 and am currently up to 1878. I try to add 10 per day. The process is time consuming as I believe Priest's handwriting is generally worse than any physician's I have ever seen. Anyone who might be interested in working on this project is quite welcome! The Parish Registers must remain at the Church and be locked up each night. We do have a visitor computer that can be used on the project..
- The Choir is taking the summer off and communion has moved from the Communion rail down the first step up between the Choir and the Organ in order to assist those who are having problems with the stairs.
- Our Annual Audit has begun! Thanks to Ken Adam, Dick Blogg and Marilou Clohessy for their auditing efforts!





Jubilee Ministries and St. Margaret's Guild - Linda Barber

Jubilee Ministry

Amnesty Center: Applications, etc. are slow and so is fingerprinting.

Sandwich Board: Our friends from the Thompson Center are back. Dick Blogg has returned to GOOD HEALTH. We are truly thankful for his involvement with the wonderful adults he brings to us. They have shown how truly they care about the Sandwich Board. "Ryan" wrote a note about how people should turn off their cell phones during the Church Service. In a note and I quote in part: "you don't see us using our cell phones during the Church Services, we don't text-that can wait. Would you go into a theater and talk on your cell phone while the movie is going on I don't think so. This is showing proper respect for public places, you guys at the church should do the same." I would hope that you could come to a Sandwich Board and see how important this outreach is to them and the others that we serve.

Thank you to all of you that have sent your prayers my way. I think and hope that I am getting better. It has been a struggle for me not to be active. My knee has GOT to cooperate. I am not a good patient or have patience. Peace to all!

St. Margaret's Guild News

Painting Party: Our second painting party was held on May 19th. Nicole was our leader and Kimberly Rubis' sister. The picture was of a beach front including flip flops. There were 12 painters. It was a fun time. Special thanks to Kimberly Rubis for scheduling and Pat Wilson for bringing in treats.

Bake Sale: was held on May 20th and it was a great success. Look for more goodies in the fall.



Quilt Fund Raiser: After about 20+ years the quilt is finally done. We would like to thank Kathy Clark and Karen Dolan for their efforts. It is a lovely quilt and would be a welcome addition to any home either for framing or placing on your bed.

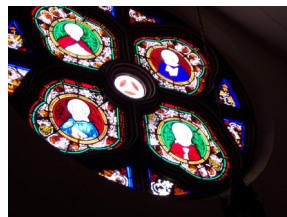
We, the Guild, think the quilt was originally started by Mona Knuth and some years later Georgia Sanborn and other members of the Guild took their hands at embroidery. Many years in the making with lots of memories of all that it has taken to finish this project.



If you are interested in this quilt being yours, contact St. Margaret's Guild. Better yet come to their meeting at noon on the third Tuesday of every month at the Church!

Meeting: The meeting will be held at Open Range Restaurant on June 19 at noon. Reservations need to be made to Linda Barber by June 12th. Please e-mail me at trinity_aurora@sbcglobal.net or let me know on Sunday. All are welcome

Pictures





June 2018 Trinity Episcopal Church



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																					
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<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">17</p> <p>9:00 AM Eucharist Sharing Sunday - Back to School</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: blue; text-align: center;">HAPPY FATHER'S DAY</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">18</p> <p>6:30 PM Vestry [Bernard Mizeki]</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">19</p> <p>12:00 PM St. Margaret's Guild</p> <p style="color: green;">ECHO</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">20</p> <p style="color: green;">ECHO</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">21</p> <p style="color: red;">Grace, Hinsdale</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">22</p> <p style="color: red;">[Alban]</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">23</p>																																																																																					
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July 2018 Trinity Episcopal Church



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																	
1 9:00 AM Eucharist	2 ECHO Clothing & Food ECHO Clothing and Food	3 ECHO	4 ECHO Independence Day 	5 Trinity	6 7:30 PM Drum Dance	7																																																																																																	
8 9:00 AM Eucharist	9 10:15 AM Finance	10 ECHO	11 [Benedict of Nursia] ECHO	12 St. Andrews, Downers Grove	13	14																																																																																																	
15 9:00 AM Eucharist	16 6:30 PM Vestry	17 [William White] ECHO	18 ECHO HELLO SUMMER	19 St. Mark's, Geneva	20	21 																																																																																																	
22 9:00 AM Eucharist	23	24 [Thomas a Kempis] ECHO	25 ECHO Saint James, Apostle	26 St. Charles 	27 [William R. Huntington]	28																																																																																																	
29 9:00 AM Eucharist	30 [William Wilburforce]	31 [Joseph of Arimathea] ECHO	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Jun 2018</th> <th colspan="7">Aug 2018</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td> <td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td> <td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td> <td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td> <td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Jun 2018							Aug 2018							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2				1	2	3	4	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31
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Trinity Episcopal Church

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Serving God and God's People
Since 1849



Trinity is a congregation that strives to be a thriving, vibrant, open and affirming, diverse community of hope that, with God's help, heartily welcomes the stranger, joyously worships the Lord in the beauty of holiness, and lovingly serves 'the least of these,' a church that changes people's lives for the better.

Trust
in the Lord 
with all thine heart;
and *lean* not
unto thine own understanding.
in all thy ways
acknowledge Him,
and He shall *direct* thy paths.
Proverbs 3: 5-6

Trinity Vestry

Senior Warden:
Marilou Clohessy
Junior Warden:
John Heath
Members
Rob Borchert
Rose Cantu
Tom Herget
Cathie Patterson
Ken Adams
Guy Stephens