

# **Trinity Episcopal Church**

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Serving Aurora's Faithful since 1849 Volume 18: Issue 5 Sept/October 2018

#### Dear Friends

Organizations and people reveal their values by their actions. Because organizations involve communities of people, organizational values are often extremely complex. Personnel managers will tell us how important the role of competence is and, indeed, all of us expect those who serve us to be capable.



At the same time, there are other values that are equally and sometimes even more important. Faithfulness and integrity, for instance, are components of organizational ethics; faith is an essential part of the Church's ethic. Most of us have never heard of someone leaving the Church because its members were not capable. However, many have left because they did not perceive the members to be faithful. Given a choice, I would rather trust the person who is less competent and more ethical.

All too often, I hear or read that "the Episcopal Church doesn't take a stand or have a set of values today. If only it did, then perhaps we'd fill our pews." The truth is that the Church does have clear standards, but they are not always easy to follow. They require struggling with our biases, holding them up to the standards that Christ modeled for us .The problem is that many of the individuals who make up the organization sell out. It is easier to tell someone how to live, or to have someone tell us how to live, than is it is to sort out the complexities of life. I have met far too many people who profess to have all the answers or who complain that the Church doesn't. Many individuals and organizations (some even call themselves churches) spend a great deal of time publicly and loudly vocalizing their answers and/or complaints. What would happen if the time spent complaining was spent serving the Gospel? While it cannot be denied that some forms of protesting are important and necessary, much of what we read about simply leads to hate and adds to the already existent confusion. In fact, clarity of purpose and direction are often lost.

What is often overlooked, or even ignored, is that we do not always have all the details leading to an organization's or individual's decision. Perhaps we do not agree with the decision(s) based on the facts we do possess. I know of more than one occasion in which an organization or individual has criticized or condemned without being fully aware of all the details. Protesting a decision, they believe they have the right answer . . . God's answer. Each of us must be attentive to our tendency to offer quick "Christian" solutions which are in reality our own bias. Unfortunately the damage done by our "helpfulness" becomes apparent all too late.

The task before us as Christians is to live in a manner which acknowledges the intricacy of life with all its twists and turns; to serve one another without passing judgment. Recall Jesus' words to those who condemned the woman in adultery, "Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to cast a stone." (John 8:7). There are a host of such examples in Scripture. The examples are clear, yet they are difficult to follow. St. James warns us in scripture, "... the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire." (James 3:5-6) And yet, what is it about our attitudes that lead us to "soapbox" preaching and decision making? We gather round us those who agree with us and then proceed to spread poison, polluting our families, our communities, our Churches, the world (sometimes without being aware of it). Organizations and people reveal their values by their actions. What sort of values do you want to be recognized for expressing? The road is hard and the choices often difficult, but Christ stands ahead of us on the path reaching back to lend a hand.

"Life is short and we haven't much time to gladden the road of those who travel with us. So, be swift to love, and make hast to be kind and rest assured that God is infinitely more concerned with the promise of our future than the mistakes of our past." (Based on the writings of Henri Frederic Amiel 1821-81)

In Christ

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#### **Upcoming Events**

Dengil +



# Financial Snapshot YTD (Month Ending Sept 30, 2018)

Income:		Expense		Funds Endowment Balance \$677,358 (Aug.		
Pledge and Plate	\$46,993	Building and Grounds \$23,093				
(Year to date budge Budget) \$46,34	eted pledge and Plate 6	Year to Date Building Budget)	-	31, 2018) On 12/31/2015 it was \$640,461.		
Endowment Income	e \$32,965	Office & Admin	\$6,375	Memorial Balance \$250,860 (Aug.		
Year to date budgeted Endowment In-		Year to date Office at	nd Administration	31. 2018)		
come)	\$37,313	Budget	\$4,607	On 12/31/2015 it was \$335,368		
Total Income	\$126,250	Total Expense	\$126.835	Checkbook Balance on December 31st,		
Budgeted Income	\$129.387*	Budgeted YTD Exp.	\$123,705	2017 was \$12,824		
Net Income	-\$3,137	Excess of Expense ov		On October 1, 2018. it was \$12,575.		
				On June 1st, 2018 Our Mission Fund Balance was \$9.572		

#### **Financial Notes**

\* On September 28, 2018 we took our third \$12,500 draw down. The third draw down was to have taken place on July 1, 2018. We are not intending on taking the fourth budgeted \$12,500 drawdown this year, which means we are about \$12,500 ahead..

## **Building and Grounds**

- Despite all the progress we have made (See Pages 4 & 5) there is still a lot left to accomplish!
- There was a hail/wind storm on August 28th that might have caused damage to the Church Roof which is holding up the repair and painting of the Church Ceiling. We do have a contract for the work to be done.
- The Church door by the North Transept has been destroyed by water leakage from the gutters (which have been repaired). The door needs to be replaced as quickly as possible. We just signed a contract with Midwest Window and Door for its replacement and are looking for a six to eight week wait for it to be made and delivered to be installed.
- The stucco repair exposed a case of dry rot on the window of the North East Corner of the Guild Room. There is a hole in the wall which water could leak in and cause another stucco problem. We are currently seeking bids for the repair or replacement of this window.
- The beginning of the Bell Choir has reduced the space at the back of the Church. We are exploring the possibility of removing the last pew to ease this congestion.
- Part of the brick wall by the parking lot door is leaning outward. We are being careful to keep the crack sealed so no new water can get down there and exacerbate the problem.
- Ken Adam is going to install a new pole by the Marquee at the corner of Benton and Lincoln so we can display seasonal messages to the public.
- There continue to be serious water pressure problems in the kitchen and the Parish Hall Bathroom. We are currently gathering bids to replace the clogged pipes in the basement. Hopefully this will be completed this month.
- The Chapel continues to flood during the have rain storms we have been experiencing. We have currently sand-bagged the door but are looking for a more permanent solution
- The Organ, while functional, there are some pending problems that need to be attended to. The last quote I saw from Fabry, our organ maintenance firm, was for over \$3,000.
- Despite the efforts of the Gutierrez family, many of our window sills still need to be sanded caulked and painted.



# Ritual, Reason, and Why - A Hidden Jewel

Prayer life for those of us in the Episcopal Church can be a vital, enriching experience. We have so many options available to us, with our main resource, of course, The Book of Common Prayer.

However, there are other books that are less well known, but just as valuable. Since *The Book of Common Prayer* does not include all of the services that we can experience, we can turn to another place, which is entitled *The Book of Occasional Services*.

This book is divided into three parts. The first section, entitled The Church Year, deals with services such as the Advent Festival of Lessons and Music, a Candlemas Procession, The Way of the Cross, Tenebrae, Maundy Thursday, and the Service for All Hallows Eve, which we know as Halloween. Each of these services deals with a moment in the life of the church that reflects our own lives: Christmas, Holy Week, Halloween, to name just a few.

The second section, Pastoral Services, deals with ceremonies that include Welcoming New People to a Congregation (a lovely thought), Preparation of Adults for Holy Baptism, to the very Christ-like and caring Burial of One Who Does Not Profess the Christian Faith. How very much like Jesus, who welcomed all to himself, and who never turned anyone away; we can do no less.

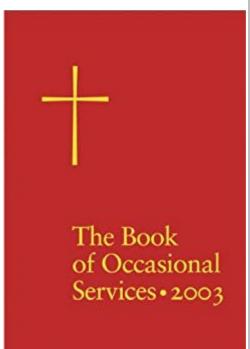
The third and smallest section, Episcopal Services, has lovely prayer services that deal with the proper order of the church as a community, such as "Welcoming and Seating of a Bishop in the Cathedral, to the respectful Service for the Ending of a Pastoral Relationship and Leave-taking from a Congregation.

The beauty of all of these services is that they deal with both small and large events in the lives of the parishioners. These services give us the opportunity to focus prayerfully on an event and take the time to acknowledge its importance.

Take, for example, the service entitled "Celebration for a Home." The service not only addresses the blessing of the entire home, as is found in the following prayer: "Almighty and everlasting God, grant to this home the grace of your presence," but the service can be expanded to include several rooms in the house: the study or library: "Teach us, O Lord, where wisdom is to be found, and show us the place of understanding," or the Dining Room: "The living God gave you from heaven rain and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness," to the lovely prayer for the Child's Room: "Heavenly Father, your Son and Savior took young children into his arms and blessed them: Embrace the child whose room this is with your unfailing love, protect him from all danger, and bring him in safety to each new day, until he greets with joy the great day of your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord."

This is just a small sample of the many prayers to be found in this lovely book. With its prosaic title, this perfect gem of a book of prayers is one of the great treasures of our church life.

- CL Basso
- The Book of Occasional Services is available on line at
- https://extranet.generalconvention.org/staff/files/download/21033





# **Pictures of Progress**













• Stucco Repair and Painting



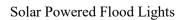


EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WELCOMES VOU

TRINITY PARISH
Come Grow with Us

New Door, New Flags, New Sign







Repaired Gutters



Cooling for the Kitchen



# **Pictures of Progress - Continued**





The Gutierez Family Caulks, scrapes and paints windowsills on the Parish Hall



Our Bell Choir



New Dumpsters and an end to our garbage problems



A Picnic - with lots of kids



A Prayer Shawl Ministry



A Quilt



Kitchen Ceiling Painted



Archangels back



A New Season for the Choir



## Francis of Assisi - Friar. 1226



Francis, the son of a prosperous merchant of Assisi, was born in 1182. His early youth was spent in harmless revelry and fruitless attempts to win military glory.

Various encounters with beggars and lepers pricked the young man's conscience, and he decided to embrace a life devoted to Lady Poverty. Despite his father's intense opposition, Francis totally renounced all material values, and devoted himself to serve the poor. In 1210 Pope Innocent the Third confirmed the simple Rule for the Order of Friars Minor, a name Francis chose to emphasize his desire to be numbered among the "least" of God's servants.

The order grew rapidly all over Europe. But by 1221 Francis had lost control of it, since his ideal of strict and absolute poverty, both for the individual friars and for the order as a

whole, was found to be too difficult to maintain. His last years were spent in much suffering of body and spirit, but his unconquerable joy never failed.

Not long before his death, during a retreat on Mount La Verna, Francis received, on September 14, Holy Cross Day, the marks of the Lord's wounds, the *stigmata*, in his own hands and feet and side. Pope Gregory the Ninth, a former patron of the Franciscans, canonized Francis in 1228, and began the erection of the great basilica in Assisi where Francis is buried.

Of all the saints, Francis is the most popular and admired, but probably the least imitated; few have attained to his total identification with the poverty and suffering of Christ. Francis left few writings; but, of these, his spirit of joyous faith comes through most truly in the "Canticle of the Sun," which he composed at Clare's convent of St. Damian's. The Hymnal version begins:

Most High, omnipotent, good Lord, To thee be ceaseless praise outpoured, And blessing without measure. Let creatures all give thanks to thee And serve in great humility.

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



Join us on Sunday, October 7th, 2018 as we celebrate our pet blessing!

All Pets welcome!

#### Volume 18 Issue 5



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

#### **Jubilee Ministry notes:**

Amnesty Center: Not much happening.

Sandwich Board:

Rob has been working on plumbing issues in the kitchen and bathroom. Hope to have the water pressure resolved, soon.

#### St. Margaret's Guild News

**Meeting:** Resumed meetings on September 18th at noon. All women of the parish are more than welcome to attend. We meet on the third Tuesday of each month. Should you desire, you can become a member by paying only \$2.00. Quite a bargain for such a wonderful membership. Our first fall bake sale will be October 14th. Please see Linda Barber, Karen Dolan or Gale Blogg for more information

**Quilt Fund Raiser:** We are looking into an online auction for the quilt and all the information will be available to you within the month.

**ECW** (Episcopal Church Women): An invitation to the Women's gathering and retreat: "Walking Together", becoming God's Beloved Community, Fall Gathering and Retreat, October 26-28, 2018 at the DeKoven Retreat Center, Racine, Wisconsin. Registration form and full details are posted on the Parish bulletin board or go their website at ecwchicago.org.

#### **Around the Church**

#### Outreach

Our Outreach committee would like to thank everyone for their generosity in our Back-to-School campaign! Not only were there many school supplies, but we collected \$515.00 cash!! The folks at Beaupre were overwhelmed by this kindness and said it will go a long way toward helping the school help their underserved population. ('Homeless' and 'children' should never be used in the same sentence - but it is a fact of life at Beaupre) We are now gearing up for our Thanksgiving and Christmas programs. Once again we will be preparing bags of groceries for our needy neighbors, starting about Mid October. We will also have our Angel Tree in December. What better way to enjoy the Holidays than by helping the less fortunate!

#### The Bells Are Ringing

About two weeks ago we had a "get acquainted workshop" for people interested in ringing our new set of handbills. Sunday, September 24, we had our first rehearsal. I'm happy to tell you that our Trinity Ringers has 10 members! We made bell assignments, so ringers know which bells they are ringing, marked our music, worked on ringing and damping techniques, and started a new piece of music. Now, we are ringing, "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God, Almighty!" We have another bell rehearsal on Saturday, October 6, at noon. We hope to be ringing for worship by the end of October. Congratulation to all the Trinity Ringers, for all the hard work you've done, and the skills you have learned.

#### The Trinity Choir

The Trinity Choir just gets better with every rehearsal. Our blend, balance, tuning and breath control is better all the time. I am so proud of them. We have eight singers who are with us regularly, and our library of literature that we know improves every year. Sunday, September 29, we will be practicing music for October, November and Christmas Eve. We're learning a new anthem by John Rutter, *Shepherd's Pipe Carol*, and plan to sing the *Angel Carol* again this year. John Heath is scouting the area for a good harpist for Christmas Eve. Beside accompanying the choir's anthem, the harp will play a solo during Communion, accompany a vocal solo, and play while we sing *Silent Night*. Greg Gyllsdorff—Director of Music

#### **Communications:**

The Communications Committee moves forward on many fronts. The digitalization of Trinity's Registers has begun. Rob is working on Baptisms and Linda is working on Marriages. We could use some help. If you would be interested in assisting on this project ler Rob know. Ken Adam's son and a friend erected another flag pole at the corner of Lincoln and Benton. We plan banners to mark the seasons of the Church: Advent, Christmas, Holy Week, and Easter. We are also revising exterior signage for the Church to make it consistent, colorful and appealing. Before Christmas new brochures will be finalized. There are some early editions at the back of the Church if you are interested. The Prayer Shawl Ministry has distributed 11 shawls and has been well received. Our next meeting is November 12, 2018 at 10:00 am in the Guild Room. All are invited!

**Congratulations:** Linda Barber received a service award from the Illinois High School Association for 30 years. She is a Swimming and Diving Official. Linda was also promoted to recognized level following an examination.





# September 2018 Trinity Kpiscopal Church



			· p· · · · · · p·	>	) 10/20/22	
Sunday  Choir Rehear Resume	5 6 12 13 sals 19 20	Aug 2018 T W T F S 1 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4		Friday	Saturday  1 [David P. Oakerhater]
8:15 AM Choir 9:00 AM Eucharist	3 ECHO Clothing & Food Labor Day	4	5 4:15 PM-6:15 PM ECHO	6 Trinity	7	8
9 8:15 AM Choir 9:00 AM Eucharist	10 10:15 AM Finance	11 perfore	12 4:15 PM-6:15 PM ECHO [John Henry Hobart]	13 [Cyprian of Carthage] St. Andrews, Downers Grove	7:30 PM Drum Dance Holy Cross Day	15
8:15 AM Choir 9:00 AM Eucharist	17	6:30 PM Vestry [Ed. B. Pusey]	19 4:15 PM-6:15 PM ECHO [Theo. of Tarsus]	20 [John C. Patteson] St. Mark's, Geneva	21 Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist	22
23 8:15 AM Choir 9:00 AM Eucharist	24	25 [Sergius of Moscow]  Muy	26 4:15 PM-6:15 PM ECHO	27 St. Charles	28	Saint Michael and All Angels
8:15 AM Choir 9:00 AM Eucharist			Bol		Jeh)	*





# October 2018 Trinity Kpiscopal Church



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Curacy	[Remigius] ECHO Clothing & Food	2	3 4:15 PM-6:15 PM ECHO	4 [Francis of Assisi] St. John's, Naperville	5	6 [William Tyndale]
9:00 AM Eucharist Sharing Sunday Food Drive St. Francis Pet Blessing Sunday	8 10:15 AM Finance Columbus Day (Observed)	[Robert Grosseteste]	10 4:15 PM-6:15 PM ECHO	11 St. Andrews, Downers Grove	12 7:30 PM Drum Dance	13
8:15 AM Choir 9:00 AM Eucharist Sharing Sunday Food Drive	15 [Sam. LJ. Schereschewsky]	16 6:30 PM Vestry [Latimer, Ridley, Cranmer]	17 4:15 PM-6:15 PM ECHO [Ignatius of Antioch]	18 Grace, Hinsdale Saint Luke, Evangelist	19 [Henry Martyu]	20
8:15 AM Choir 9:00 AM Eucharist Sharing Sunday Food Drive	22	Saint James of Jerusalem, Martyr and Brother of Jesus	24 4:15 PM-6:15 PM ECHO	25 St. Charles	26 [Alfred the Great]	27
8:15 AM Choir 9:00 AM Eucharist Daylight Savings Time Ends Sharing Sunday Food Drive	29 [James Hannington]	30	31 4:15 PM-6:15 PM ECHO Halloween	Sep 2018 S M T W T  2 3 4 5 6 9 10 11 12 13 16 17 18 19 20 23 24 25 26 27 30	1 7 8 4 5 11 12 18 19	Nov 2018  T W T F S  1 2 3  6 7 8 9 10  13 14 15 16 17  20 21 22 23 24  27 28 29 30



#### **Trinity Episcopal Church**

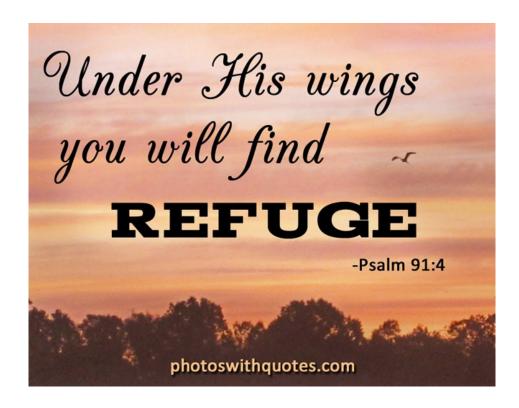
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Serving God and God's People Since 1849



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.



# **Trinity Vestry**

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