



Trinity Episcopal Church

218 East Benton Street

Aurora, Il. 60505

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Serving Aurora's Faithful
since 1849

Volume 18 Issue 1

February/March 2018

Dear Friends,

Why Lent? The Ash Wednesday liturgy sets the tone; a somber reflective flavor. We take inventory of ourselves and consider how we have responded to the gifts with which God has blessed our lives. Not always a cheerful task. Lent seems dark after the light of Epiphany.

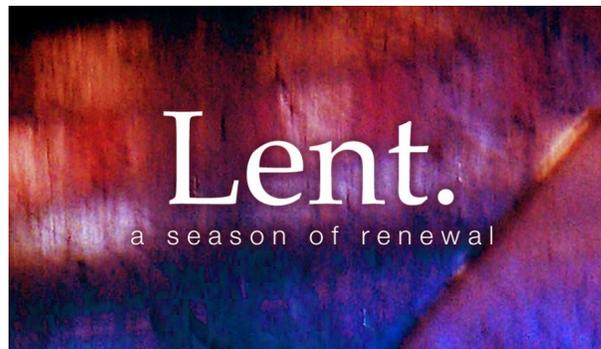
As I write this article, I find myself wondering how the earliest Christians observed Lent. Lent for them was a time of preparation for baptism. How many of us are excited about renewing our baptismal vows? How many of us take seriously the need to repent and amend our lives?

Christians are called to a reformation of life. Who hasn't felt remorse when one's behavior was less than Christ-like? We know we aren't perfect, but is Lent only mournful, only sackcloth and ashes? I think not. The ashes placed upon our foreheads on Ash Wednesday are a vivid reminder of our mortality, but they are not merely a smudge, but a cross - Christ's cross! And the cross is not merely a sign of sorrow and defeat, but also points to the joy and victory of Easter.

In our baptism, we are called to share in Christ's resurrection. We are called to share the good news of God's love and to invite those who do not know the good news to learn about it and to join us. We do well to be reminded at the beginning of Lent that we will die, but Lent is not just a season of death. It is a season of life. New life in Christ will not make sense to anyone until life is understood as meaningful and it is very difficult for anyone to see meaning when a cloud of darkness and gloom hover. There's an oft-heard litany that today's lifestyles, absence of values, young people, television, etc., etc. lead only to hopelessness. Christians are called to rise above that litany and show the world about God's forgiveness and love and plans for our future. When we do, Lent re-establishes its place within the seasons of the church as a time to prepare for the celebration of baptism; a time to renew our vocations as God's chosen and to celebrate our life in Christ. Thanks be to God!

In Christ,

Denzil J. Luckritz, Rector



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Upcoming Events

- Thursday, March 1st, 2018: Trinity Cooks for Sandwich Board
- Sunday March 25th, 2018: 9 am Palm Sunday Service with the IDOM Church.
- Wednesday, March 28th, Morning Prayer at 10:15 AM
- Thursday, March 29th, 2018: Agape Dinner 6 pm, Maundy Thursday Service 7 pm
- March 30th, 2018: 12 Noon Good Friday
- Saturday, March 31st 2018; The great Easter Vigil and First easter Eucharist 7 pm
- Sunday, April 1st, 2018: 9 am Easter Service



Financial Snapshot YTD (Month Ending January 31, 2017)

Income:

,Pledge and Plate	\$5,536
(Year to date budgeted pledge and Plate Budget)	\$4,515
Endowment Income	\$13,863
(Year to date budgeted Endowment Income)	\$11,348
Total Income	\$20,643
Budgeted Income	\$16,538*
Net Income	\$4,105**

Expense

Building and Grounds	\$3,989***
(Year to Date Building and Grounds Budget)	\$3,398
Office & Admin	\$2,503
(Year to date Office and Administration Budget)	\$ 548.****
Total Expense	\$19,744
Budgeted YTD Exp.	\$15,242
Excess of Income over expense	\$ 899

Funds

Endowment Balance	\$680,784
On 12/31/2015 it was	\$640,461.
Memorial Balance	\$ 284,028
On 12/31/2015 it was	\$335,368
Checkbook Balance on December 31st, 2017	was \$12,824
On January 31st, 2018.	It was \$14,449.

Financial Notes

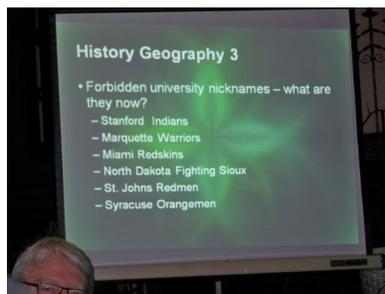
- Actual Budgeted Income is \$29,038 but includes a draw down from the Memorial Fund of \$12,500.
- Endowment Income was \$2,515 higher than budgeted. Quarterly Pledgers boosted Pledge and Plate income by \$1,021 over budget
- Building and grounds totals include our first quarter insurance payment of \$1,999.50.
- Office and Administration includes \$1,604 in end of 2017 taxes.

Building and Grounds

- We got an extension on our Grant from the Community Foundation of the Fox Valley to install a fire protective hood over the stove in the kitchen. The extension is to get a second bid on the installation and see if we can raise some matching funds.
- Contacted Heitkotter, Inc. to give us a bid on the Stucco work. We have had three painters come and look at the Church Ceiling project. So far we haven't received any bids.
- Installed humidifiers on two Pianos (the Grand Piano in the Parish Hall and the upright piano in the choir room.) Purchased a protective cover for the Grand Piano.
- Removed the broken Storm Door to the Parish Hall.
- Applied to Painters District Council No. 30 for a grant to paint the Kitchen. They won't make a decision until May.
- The Jubilee Ministry received two grants from the Episcopal Church totaling \$1,000.

Mardi Gras at Trinity

Fat Tuesday arrived as we prepared for Lent with our annual Mardi Gras Party! We ate wonderful Jambalaya served with freshly baked bread and other savory sides. We played Trivia with diabolical questions thought up by our own Tom Herget, master of the obscure and obfuscation. And to top it off we picked our winner of the most excellent Valentine's Day Basket. Lovingly prepared by the ladies of St. Margaret's Guild. A terrific time was had by all. Thanks to John Heath for stepping in as Master of Ceremonies!





Ritual, Reason, and Why...

During the season of Lent, we are encouraged to stop and take stock of our lives and the journey we are following. We are also to contemplate the suffering and death of Jesus, who took on all the aspects of being human, even those most fearsome ones. And we have also created, in our church, the practice of praying with those who are ill or are close to death.

Our Book of Common Prayer refers to these two practices as Ministration to the Sick and Ministration at the Time of Death. In days past, these two processes were referred to as Extreme Unction, or Last Rites. Over the years, these rites have been shared with those who are not necessarily suffering life-threatening illnesses, but to all who find themselves needing the support of prayers during difficult times.

We may travel back to the time of Jesus for the roots of these ministrations. In Mark, Jesus sent his twelve out to preach and “they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many that were sick and healed them. (Mark 6:13). And Jesus’ brother, James, also suggests this anointing: “Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.”

(James 5:14-15)

We at Trinity Church are gifted by the tradition we have instituted of the Laying on of Hands, Anointing, which is part of the Ministration to the Sick.

It is a lovely, comforting service, in which many readings remind us of the comfort we can find in God. On designated Sundays, we hear part of that service:

I lay my hands upon you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, beseeching our Lord Jesus Christ to sustain you with his presence, to drive away all sickness of body and spirit, and to give you that victory of life and peace which will enable you to serve him both now and evermore. **Amen**

And when our earthly travel is drawing to a close, we have a further aid in our journey back to God. Ministration at the Time of Death, words that sound so ominous, give way to another set of beautiful comforting guiding words to give us strength and hope as we go home. As humans, we fear death. As Christians, we are reminded that we are on our way to the end of our travels. In the prayer titled ‘A Commendation at the Time of Death’ we hear these words:

Depart, O Christian soul, out of this world;

In the Name of God the Father Almighty who created you;

In the Name of Jesus Christ who redeemed you;

In the Name of the Holy Spirit who sanctifies you.

May your rest this day be in peace and your dwelling place in the Paradise of God.

-Adapted from an article by C L Basso

From your Vestry

Your new Vestry held their first meeting on February 19th, 2018. We welcomed two new members, Guy Stephens, who has served on the Vestry before and Ken Adam, serving his first term on the Vestry. One of the things we discussed was inviting new members to serve on our various service missions. People interested in contributing can contact Rob at 630 897-7283.

Our Outreach group coordinates gathering food at Thanksgiving, Back to School supplies for Beaupre School which serves the highest percentage of homeless students in Aurora, support for AID, and our Christmas gifts.

Our Membership/Fellowship group coordinates coffee hours and other fellowship gatherings such as Mardi Gras and Maundy Thursday.

Our Communications group looks at ways to get the message out about all the great things we do at Trinity, focusing on messaging on electronic, print and visual imaging.

Our Altar Guild that takes care of preparation and clean up for our worship services

We are a little Church that does wonderful things. Join one or more of our groups and help us spread God’s love.



Thomas Cranmer *Archbishop of Cantebury and Martyr, 1556*



Thomas Cranmer was the principal figure of the English Reformation and was primarily responsible for the first Book of Common Prayer of 1549 and for its first revision in 1552.

Cranmer was born in Nottinghamshire on July 2, 1489. At fourteen he entered Jesus College, Cambridge, where by 1514 he had obtained his B.A. and M.A. degrees and a Fellowship. In 1526 he became a Doctor of Divinity, a lecturer in his college, and examiner in the University. During his years at Cambridge, he diligently studied the Bible and the new doctrines emanating from the continental Reformation.

A chance meeting with King Henry VIII at Waltham Abbey in 1529 led to Cranmer's involvement in the "King's Affair" – the annulment of Henry's marriage to Catherine of Aragon. Cranmer prepared the King's defense and presented it to the universities

in England and Germany, and to Rome.

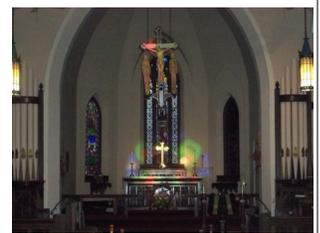
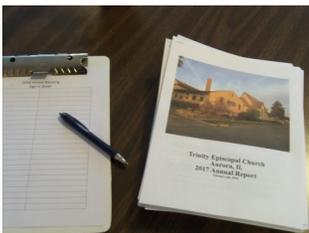
While in Germany, Cranmer associated with the Lutheran reformers, especially with Andreas Osiander, whose daughter he married. When Archbishop Warham died, the King obtained papal confirmation of Cranmer's appointment to the See of Canterbury, and he was consecrated on March 30, 1533. Among his earliest acts was to declare the King's marriage null and void. He then validated the King's marriage to Anne Boleyn. Her child, the future Queen Elizabeth I, was Cranmer's godchild.

During the reign of Edward VI, Cranmer had a free hand in reforming the worship, doctrine, and practice of the Church. But at Edward's death he unfortunately subscribed to the dying King's will that the deprived, and degraded by Queen Mary I, daughter of Henry VIII by Catherine, and a staunch Roman Catholic. He was burned at the stake on March 21, 1556.

Cranmer wrote two recantations during his imprisonment, but in the end he denied his recantations, and died heroically, saying, "Forasmuch as my hand offended in writing contrary to my heart, there my hand shall first be punished; for if I may come to the fire, it shall first be burned."

Merciful God, through the work of Thomas Cranmer you renewed the worship of your Church by restoring the language of the people, and through his death you revealed your power in human weakness: Grant that by your grace we may always worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Pictures





2018 Annual Meeting Minutes With 2017 Annual Reports

1. Attendance list is attached to the file copy of this report.
2. Father Denzil called the meeting to order and began with an opening prayer
3. Appointment of a clerk: A motion was made, seconded and passed to appoint Rob Borchert Clerk of the annual meeting.
4. Approval of the 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the 2017 Meeting Minutes.
5. Report of the nominating Committee. John Heath reporting. John presented the two new members put in nomination for the open Vestry positions: Guy Stephens and Ken Adam. At a later point in the meeting a motion was made seconded and passed to elect Ken and Guy to the Vestry. There were no other nominations from the floor.
6. Report of the Rector: Father Luckritz took this opportunity to offer thanks to all who contribute so much to Trinity.
 - a. Thanks to Karen Dolan and Janet Stephens who contributed so strongly to the Vestry. A motion was made, seconded and approved thanking them for their dedicated service. He thanked the whole Vestry for their passion for Trinity.
 - b. He expressed his admiration and thanks to Linda Barber for her stewardship of the Sandwich Board, and to Gale Blogg for her continued support.
 - c. He thanked Greg Gyllsdorff and all the members of the choir for the beautiful music throughout the year.
 - d. He thanked Janet Stephens and all the Lay Readers for their sharing of God's Word throughout the year. As more Readers step forward, Father intends to expand their role in the prayers of the people in the next year.
 - e. He thanked Pat Wilson and all the members of the Altar Guild for preparing for each and every service held in the Church and for their dedication to the beautification of the Church.
 - f. He thanked Linda Barber and Chireen DeKing for their leadership of St. Margaret's Guild and thanked the Guild for its support and dedication to Trinity. He also thanked Dolores Palmquist for her many years heading the Guild.
 - g. He thanked all of our Community Service Workers, especially Ruben, who was in attendance, for all of their work to clean and better the Church.
 - h. He thanked our Sexton, Gary Gorney, for all his work, his dedication and his willingness to go the extra mile.
 - i. He thanked Maria Ulloa for her ongoing work to make Trinity's grounds beautiful.
 - j. He thanked Trinity's Committees: Outreach, led by Marilou Clohessy; Finance, led by Tom Herget.
 - k. He thanked anyone he might have missed!
7. Report of the Wardens:
 - a. Marilou Clohessy, Senior Warden, referred people to her written report.
 - b. John Heath, Junior Warden said he was excited about the new grand piano and that it was actually being used!
8. Report of the Treasurer: Tom Herget reviewed:
 - a. The end of year financial statement.
 - b. The 2018 approved budget.
 - c. Our Endowment and Memorial Fund asset allocations. He reiterated that the Finance Committee sets the allocations and directs Morgan Stanley in following them.
 - d. The report of Parish Funds.
 - e. The Memorial Fund Subsidy of the Rector's Salary. A motion was made, seconded and approved that this investment is paying off very big dividends.
 - f. And the 2017 Finance Committee Report.
 - g. Father Luckritz reviewed the new separate Mission Funds Checking account and explained how it allows us to track dedicated donations and assure that the donor's wishes are followed.
9. Standing Committee and Miscellaneous Reports. Father Luckritz referred us to the submitted written reports, asked if there were any questions and then asked for a motion to approve all of the reports. A motion was made, seconded and approved to approve all of the submitted reports. (Continued on Page 7)



10. New Business:

- a. Father Luckritz discussed the appointment of Marilou Clohessy, Sr. Warden; John Heath, Jr. Warden; and Tom Herget, Treasurer to an additional three year term on the Vestry when their terms expire in January 2019. Linda Barber questioned the canonical and by-law limitations. Fr. Stated that he believed terms limits allowed for 2 consecutive terms being served before a break was required. Fr.'s purpose for bringing the topic up was to make certain the matter was addressed by the Vestry prior to next year's Nomination Committee brings to the Annual Meeting names for approval.
- b. He also asked approval of the appointment of Gale Blogg, Linda Barber, Karen Dolan, Mary Jacobsen, Cathie Patterson, and Pat Wilson as delegates and/or alternate delegates to the Diocesan Convention
- c. Linda Barber felt that we should abide by the Vestry-passed motion about sustainability at coffee hour. The question will be addressed by the Vestry.

11. Courtesy Resolutions – The Clerk will recreate the ones we sent last year.

12. Closing Prayer and dismissal at 11:50



Respectfully Submitted,

Rob Borchert
Clerk

Jubilee Ministry notes: - Linda Barber

Well, a lot has happened since the last newsletter for Jubilee. We received two Jubilee Grants.

The first one was from the Diocese of Chicago. This was a surprise. The next BIG surprise came from the National Church. I received a call from a lady in Washington, D.C. for a phone interview. We were awarded a grant. I had no idea how this came about, but what a pleasure this was to receive this recognition. I hope that you read about this in an e-mail Rob mailed out. Trinity is one of more than 600 Jubilee Ministry Centers in the Episcopal Church's Jubilee network. The award was part of \$67,000 distributed through 54 grants that support mission and ministry in 35 dioceses.

The article was published in the Chicago Diocesan newsletter. As I have said on many occasions: God works in mysterious ways!

Sandwich Board:

I applied for a grant from the Hunger Commission of the Diocese and were we awarded a sum to the Sandwich Board.

A.C.E. Conference will be held at the Northern Illinois Food Bank. If anyone is interested in attending this meeting, please let me know. Date: March 17th. It is a conference of all agencies that are part of the NIFB.

Amnesty Center:

Nothing has been happening so far this year. I hope "business" will pick up now that we are through the holidays. If you have friends, acquaintances or anyone that could use some help with immigration issues, please have them call the Church.

St. Margaret's Guild

We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Dues are only \$2.00. This is open to all women who would like to meet and give support to Trinity. All you need to do is join us and bring a sandwich. Hostesses furnish a salad and dessert.

Most likely by the time you read this the Sweetheart Basket will have been won by some lucky person. And, yes it was, by a friend of Karen Dolan. Our next bake sale will be in March.





DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.



February 2018

Trinity Episcopal Church



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March 2018 Trinity Episcopal Church



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29	30																																																																																									
<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">4</p> <p>8:15 AM Choir 9:00 AM Eucharist</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">5</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">6</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">7</p> <p>[Perpetua and Companions]</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">8</p> <p>St. Andrew's, Downers Grove</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">9</p> <p>[Gregory of Nyssa]</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">10</p>																																																																																				
<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">11</p> <p>8:15 AM Choir 9:00 AM Eucharist</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">12</p> <p>10:15 AM Finance [Gregory Gt. of Rome]</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">13</p> <p>ECHO</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">14</p> <p>ECHO</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">15</p> <p>St. Mark's, Geneva</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">16</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">17</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day</p> 																																																																																				
<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">18</p> <p>8:15 AM Choir 9:00 AM Eucharist [Cyril of Jerusalem] Anointing</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">19</p> <p>6:30 PM Vestry Saint Joseph</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">20</p> <p>12:00 PM St. Margaret's Guild [Cuthbert]</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">21</p> <p>[Thomas Ken]</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">22</p> <p>[James DeKoven] St. Charles</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">23</p> <p>[Gregory the Illuminator]</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">24</p>																																																																																				
<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">25</p> <p>8:15 AM Choir 9:00 AM Eucharist Palm Sunday</p> 	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">26</p> 	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">27</p> <p>ECHO</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">28</p> <p>ECHO</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: green; opacity: 0.5;">Holy Week</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">29</p> <p>Maundy Thursday St. David's, Aurora</p> 	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">30</p> <p>Good Friday</p> 	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">31</p> <p>Easter Vigil</p> 																																																																																				



Trinity Episcopal Church

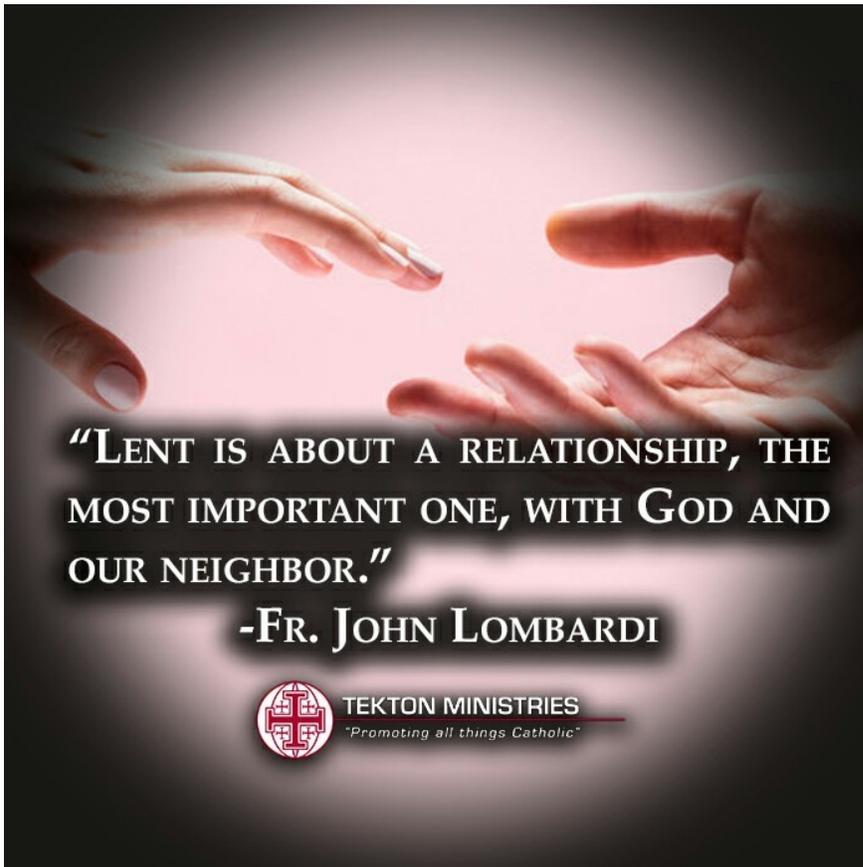
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Serving God and God's People
Since 1849



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.



"LENT IS ABOUT A RELATIONSHIP, THE MOST IMPORTANT ONE, WITH GOD AND OUR NEIGHBOR."

-FR. JOHN LOMBARDI



TEKTON MINISTRIES
"Promoting all things Catholic"

Trinity Vestry

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