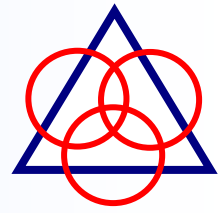


THE TRINITY TRUMPET

August/ September 2010



www.trinitychurchflushing.org

Relay for Life



We had a wonderful showing at this years Relay for Life. The Kruegers' brought their Studebaker and motorhome to be the Trinity headquarters. We had many shining faces their to walk and help sell the muffins, water and other items. We adopted the movie "Catch Me If You Can" to go with the movie theme of the event.



Community Ministry

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS

Ushers will give the appropriate bag to the young visitor to use during the service.

The ushers will collect the bag at the end of the service and return to the appropriate hook.

The child is encouraged to take the pages they have used home but leave the rest of the contents in the bag.

The usher will offer the child a "door prize" from the Goodie Basket found on the bottom shelf of the table in the entrance way.

For the second year in a row, our Trinity family has supported us in going to Camp Chickagami, where we did so many things to get involved in spirituality.

We check in at Camp on Sunday afternoon. It is always fun finding out which cabin you will be in, meeting your cabin mates and counselors, and reconnecting with people you may have met at last year's camp, or even at Happening

Every morning we attended Morning Program, which helped us understand community and prayer better. Next was Camper's Choice, when we could choose from arts and crafts, archery and boating

In the afternoons we swam and had Camper's Choice again, followed by Evening Program. Last, we had Compline (evening prayer), which was a very emotional time for us all.

Every night a different cabin group would walk the prayer labyrinth. That is one time when we all felt we were in God's presence. On Wednesday we took a bus trip to Ocqueoc Falls. Thomas waded in the river and found a fossil. I sat on the rocks under the falls and let the water pound on me.

A huge part of the fun at camp is pulling pranks. One day the campers from my cabin (Mary) and Cabin Eve snuck into the boys' cabins, stole their mattresses and hid them on the cabin roofs. To get back at us, they stole our mattresses and hid them in the branches of the trees. Later, Cabin Mary and some other campers teamed up late at night and wrapped Cabin Eve and Cabin Adam with Saran Wrap. We even wrapped their laundry, where it hung outside on the trees.

Check-out is Saturday morning. After we pack up our gear and clean the cabins, we have a prayer and song session. Then we say our good-byes and head home again. Thomas and I want to thank Trinity for helping us get to camp again. Camp Chickagami is one of the highlights of our summer!

Sincerely,

Claire and Thomas Jess

Trinity Tent Sale

Thursday August 19 all day

Friday August 20th all day Saturday August 21st until noon



Summertime and Sabbath Time

This week found me in bed for 2 days with a stomach bug that's going around. I felt bad, so wasn't up to doing much, but wasn't very sleepy either. When I'm sick I often sleep or watch TV or DVDs because I get bored sitting around. But this week I didn't feel like watching TV so I found myself forced to just sit and be, which I'm not always good at.

This combined with time at camp, and a book I'm reading called, "A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail" by Bill Bryson got me thinking about Summer-time and Sabbath Time. When we think of summer, what comes to mind? For me it's the phrase, "the lazy days of summer," memories of being at the beach with friends, thoughts of picnics, trips, and playing outdoors as a child. The thoughts are about slowing down, relaxing, fun, and play (which are also some of the characteristics of Sabbath). I think these things are related to summer for us because of fair weather, and children are on break from school so perhaps there's more opportunity to do these things.

However, I began wondering if summer as a time to relax has become more of a myth than a reality. For instance, have you ever heard someone say they need a vacation from their vacation? How is it that we end up needing a break and rest from a period of time that was supposed to be a break? I think it's because we live in a society that is filled with messages of doing, being on the go, no time to waste, checking off that "to-do" list, packing as much as we can into our schedules.

This can cross over into our free time, like summer vacations, too. Faced with competing good things we might do, rather than choose, many try to fit it all in. We try to see every sight and/or visit every family member and friend in the area. On top of that, technology may keep us connected to the things we should take a break from. The result is we can end up just as busy, if not more so, on vacation and instead of being rested, we may return as tired or harried as when we left. So how do we reclaim summer as a time to rest and play? and make room for Sabbath in our busy lives?

If you want a big break and to really "unplug" you can do what Bill Bryson did. He hiked part of the Appalachian Trail (2,100 miles from Georgia to Maine) with a friend. Two men in their 40s, neither had trained for it, and both were a bit overweight. Their days had a set rhythm. Nothing to do but hike, observe nature, eat, sleep and talk to other hikers. After the first 5 days the trail crossed a highway where there was a little store. Bryson describes how it felt strange and exciting to see a road, cars, a building with a door and ceiling, and how he appreciated the cold drinks, sandwiches and old, dribbly shower in a new way. Bryson says the main feature of hiking the trail is it removes you from the conveniences of everyday life so that the most ordinary things fill you with wonder and gratitude, and that makes the discomfort of hiking worth it.

While rewarding for Bryson, I don't think we need to go hiking or even leave home to achieve Sabbath. Sabbath isn't about a simple day off. Sabbath Time can be a Sabbath day, afternoon, hour, or even a walk, as long as it nourishes us, or gives us an opportunity for stillness. Sabbath gives us time to delight in our lives and to remember whose we are, who we are, what we know, and to give thanks. Sabbath is about finding space to breathe and creating a rhythm of work and rest, so that being refreshed we are better able to listen for God and find more joy in our labors.

In our culture it's not easy to be still, or give ourselves permission to rest, or to carve time out of our calendar for things that nourish our body or soul. And yet, God created Sabbath for us and God rested. Jesus also went off to solitary places to listen to God, so perhaps we should reconsider places in our lives where we find Sabbath and if we need to allow time and space for more. A starting place might be to ask when was the last time we just sat and enjoyed a rocking chair or a nature spot, or played a game, or took a nap, or did a hobby really feeds our souls? As summer continues, here's hoping you find periods of rest and play that refresh the soul and create a rhythm that can be carried into the coming seasons.

Peace, Lori+



Animal Blessing: Fur, Fins & Feathers

Saturday, August 21, 2010 – 1:00 P.M.

Trinity Episcopal Church

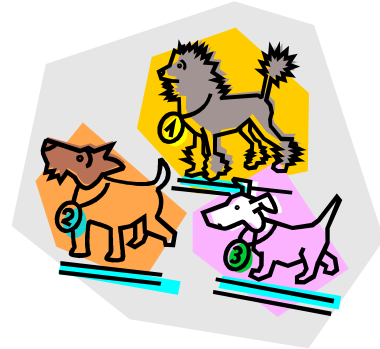
Contact Info.

Phone: 810-659-9716

Email: info@trinitychurchflushing.org

Website: www.trinitychurchflushing.org

- All animals are welcome, but should be on a leash or in a carrier.
- If your pet doesn't travel well, you may bring a picture.



Sharing our Blessings:

There is an opportunity to help animals in need by donating items for the Genesee County Humane Society.

Some needed items are:

- Dry food for kittens & puppies
- Canned food for dogs & cats, Cat toys
- Nyla bones & Kongs for strong chewers
- 1 or 2 quart stainless bowls



Visit the Humane Society website for their full "wish list"

at: www.geneseehumane.org/pages/Donate

(note: donations are not required to attend the Animal Blessing)

Enjoy Refreshments for People and Pets!

VESTRY MINUTES July 13, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM and with members sharing concerns and celebrations, followed by prayers led by Rev. Lori Johnson.

Absent: Denny Pickard Guest: Dave Krueger

Seven Good Things: Relay for Life participation and fundraising efforts, "Youthful" music at our Sunday Service, Noise makers before and during the service, 4th of July Service, Front plantings continue to flourish and our thanks to Deb Rubey, Claire and Thomas Jess' attendance at Camp Chick, Rev. Lori's participation as leader at Camp Chick.

New Business:

Pet Blessing:

This event is scheduled for Saturday, August 21st. Rev. Lori has the fliers ready and can be distributed. A leader for the event is to be established (Rev. Lori to request). Ann James is making arrangements for advertising (local papers/TV-12/etc.). Volunteers are needed for set up and to make cookies. There also was some discussion of the possibility to use the tent for the Sunday service following the event, weather/circumstance pending.

Tent Sale:

The tent sale is scheduled for Thursday and Friday, August 19th and 20th. Ann James and Betsy Eller will lead the activities. Set up activities are to take place on Tuesday and Wednesday prior to the event. A sign-up sheet for workers/helpers is to be posted. The tent will be used for the sale as well as the animal blessing. Donation items are needed.

2011 Diocesan Tithe:

The vestry reviewed and discussed the proposed 2011 Diocesan Tithe which was established by calculating 10% of the 2007, 2008 and 2009 income. After a short discussion the vestry unanimously passed a motion by Ralph Niedecken (seconded by Jane Rousseau) to accept the tithe amount of \$886.80/month.

During this discussion Rev. Lori reminded everyone of the upcoming Stewardship Conference to be held on August 28th at St. John's in Midland. Efforts should be made for Trinity representatives to attend.

Trinity Systems Document Review:

Continuing Business:

Church Signage:

Led by Sharon Krueger, the vestry continued to discuss the idea of installing/painting a sign at the east end of the church building. After discussion, it was decided to begin by stencil painting TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH on the end of the building in lieu of a smaller sign. It is hoped this will make all that pass by more aware of our location. Prior approval from the city will be received before moving forward.

Vision Statement:

Rev. Lori, Mary Dietrich, Ann James and Norb Birchmeier hope to meet in the very near future to begin the process of developing a 2020 Vision Statement.

Convocation Activity:

Denny was not present to share any information.

Other Business:

Rev. Lori mentioned an upcoming Safeguarding God's Children educational opportunity and reminded all that, per the Diocesan/Church guidelines, two individuals are expected to be with the children at all times during any church sponsored children activities.

Treasurer Report:

In his absence, Treasurer John Rowe provided a written summary of the June and YTD finances. During the month of June, we had offerings of \$5,929 compared to a budget of \$6,577 and expenses were \$10,719 compared to a budget of \$10,455 resulting in a loss for the month of \$1,492 compared to a budget loss of \$2,658. Year to date (January – June) we have a loss of \$5,654 against a budgeted loss of \$2,538.

Minutes:

With minor changes, and a motion by Ralph Niedecken (second by Jim Dietrich) the Vestry minutes from the June 8th meeting were approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM and Rev. Lori closed with prayer.

Our next meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, August 10, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Norb Birchmeier, (for Clerk Donna Henneke)

SENIOR WARDEN NOTES

August/September 2010

It is unbelievable we are now past the half way point of 2010 and summer is quickly passing us by. I am sure the vestry members will agree there just does not seem to be enough hours in a day, days in a week and weeks in a month to get things done.

The vestry has been plugging away at the work of Trinity and moving forward with some things while not finding time to do others. Besides the routine monthly issues, we continue to work in an effort to move Trinity forward. Much of what I would like to update you about has been mentioned previously in the Trumpet, so I will do my best to keep it brief and to the point.

We continue to review a document we renamed "Analyzing Trinity Systems". It was first shared with the vestry by the Reverend Marty Fields during our Vestry Retreat in early February. The document is broken up into four (4) categories with a number of questions under each. The categories are:

- Your Welcoming System (21 questions)
- Your Nurturing System (16 questions)
- Your Empowering System (13 questions)
- Your Servicing System (15 questions)

The intent of the document is to provide an outline for the congregation to determine where we are and what we can do to improve our processes within each question. Originally, each vestry member was given the document to provide their individual reflections concerning each question. The results were summarized and shared at the April Vestry meeting. We are now moving through portions of the document at each meeting sharing and recording our thoughts and ideas. This will allow us to create a "to do" list with an end goal of meeting the requirements of all applicable questions.

Continuing with the "systems" theme, we have gathered a list of all of the various committees, small groups, elected and non-elected positions within Trinity and reviewed which have appointed leadership and which need guidance. The next step is to have the leadership within each area define the purpose of the group, determine membership and outline any needs within the group. The goal of this exercise is to provide leadership and general information for members to assist in determining a particular interest or ministry involvement. This will also provide newcomers with necessary information and assist them in determining where they may best fit when deciding to become involved in the works/ministries of Trinity.

Unfortunately we have not moved forward in creating a 2020 Vision Statement. Busy schedules have not allowed a small group of us to meet. You will recall this Vision is to be developed from input already provided by all of you. Hopefully we can begin this process very soon.

The Tent Sale and the Pet Blessing are coming up in August; please offer your support of both either in donations, giving of your time in setting up, volunteering during the event, or taking down/closing up after the event.

Finances continue to be a concern and John Rowe and our finance committee will likely share more details with you. As expected, attendance has been down during the summer months, thus contributions have been down as well. Your efforts to keep up with your pledges are appreciated and will assist the Finance Committee and Vestry in making future plans.

Should anyone have any questions or concerns as to what is or is not happening, please do not hesitate to ask. Rev. Lori, myself or any of the vestry would be happy to answer or discuss your concerns with you.

In closing, I thank you for your support and sharing of your time and talents. A number of you go above and beyond and without your efforts Trinity would not be what it is.

"We are **CALLED**, in fellowship, **TO LOVE AND SERVE** God by reaching out and sharing the good news!"
Yours in Christ, Norb

New Trinity Cup

This new cup is being given to all new visitors to Trinity.

It is also available for purchase at the cost of \$10



BIRTHDAYS



Kathleen Pickard Aug 3
 Neil Mosey Aug 5
 Randilyn Knerr Aug 7
 Nancy Booth Aug 9
 Cary Rouse Aug 9
 Mary Dietrich Aug 9
 Nancy Kelly Aug 13
 Nancy Pickard Aug 23
 Dick Stone Aug 28
 Thomas Jess Sept 9
 Phil Pickard Sept 9
 Whitney Boulter Sept 12
 Chad Hitchcock Sept 16
 Lynette Peppler Sept 27
 John West Sept 30

ANNIVERSARIES

Jim & Mary Dietrich Aug 2
 Neil & Trudy Mosey Aug 4
 David & Sharon Krueger Aug 16
 Chuck Allison & Cary Rouse
 Aug 20
 Jim & Sandi Rundell Aug 22
 Mike and Nancy Kelly Sept 3
 Ralph & Linda Niedecken Sept 16

*God bless you on
 your special day*



Day	Date (s)	Time	Event & Location
Thurs.	Aug 5	8:00am	Men's Breakfast
Tues.	Aug. 10	6:30pm	Vestry Meeting
Thurs-Sat	Aug. 19-21		Trinity's Tent Sale Aug. 19 & 20: All Day - Aug. 21 morning only
Sat.	Aug. 21	1:00 p.m.	"Blessing of the Animals" (Start telling friends and family; take flyers)
Sat.	Aug 28	10:00am-3:00pm	Diocesan Stewardship Workshop "Money Enough: Everyday practices for living faithfully in the global economy" St. John's, Midland

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“Called to Love and Serve”

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