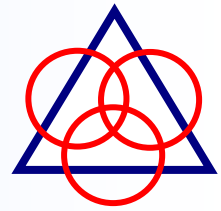


# THE TRINITY TRUMPET

October 2010



[www.trinitychurchflushing.org](http://www.trinitychurchflushing.org)

## A Busy Summer

A successful tent  
sale



Outdoor  
Liturgy



A Pet Blessing



# At Trinity

## A Season to Be Present

As I write this we are several days into a new season. Autumn began officially on September 23<sup>rd</sup> this year. Vacations have been taken and we are beyond the “lazy days of summer.” You can sense the change happening all around us as school gets into full swing, the nights dip into the 50s and 40s, the trees along Main Street begin to show us their brilliant red and gold hues, and we find ourselves thinking about wearing long sleeves or a jacket. To me, when September and October arrive, with them come the sense that it’s “time to get back to work.” I think part of that comes from being a student for so much of my life. I’ve grown accustomed to the change in rhythm that comes with a new Fall Semester. I think part of it is also related to the rhythm of parish life and the Church Calendar. Things that were put on hold during the summer start up again as people return from their travels, and at the same time we find ourselves thinking about Diocesan Convention & stewardship, and nearing the end of our longest Church season and needing to plan for Advent.

At this time of year we may find our secular and spiritual lives converging in a way filled with to-do lists or a feeling of busyness. Yes, we all have various responsibilities and activities, and yes we also need to be doing some looking ahead or planning... but I think particularly in this season and as we make our way toward the “pre-Christmas rush”, it’s a good time to consider if we are off-balance and we’ve tipped over into too busy & too future-oriented. One example of this: we are barely into Autumn, have 4 weeks til Halloween, 2 months til Thanksgiving and a friend saw Christmas Trees in a K-mart in New York this week. My gut response was, “Noooooooooo! Too early.”

I have a book called “Too Busy Not To Pray,” the premise being it’s when we are most busy we are most in need of prayer... of intentionally making time for God in our lives. Since Fall may be over quicker than we like, it may be a good time to ponder if we are too busy to appreciate it’s beauty and the One who created it. Are we too busy and too focused ahead to listen to God, appreciate creation, spend quality time with loved ones, to pray?

Reflecting on Autumn Thomas Nelson notes, “Our senses do not function in the past nor the future. We cannot see, smell, taste, hear, or feel something that has happened before or that will happen in the future... Therefore, we are not intended to spend most of our waking hours focusing on a time when we cannot use these senses. Enjoying the sights, sounds, smells, feelings, and tastes of fall is one of the best ways we can be truly in the present and enjoy the riches of the moment” (Soul Searching, p 351). I know it can be easier said than done, but let’s consider taking time in the midst of a new, perhaps busy season when stores and media keep pointing us to the future and various holidays on the horizon, to be present in the moment, to be present with our senses. Rather than looking ahead, looking behind, being on the go and rushing to and fro, let’s take a moment to try to be fully present and look for God, listen for God in the moment and in the day that has passed.

I ran across a quote in Monk Habits for Everyday People by Dennis Okholm. A Monk named Father Guy states, “Samuel said, “Speak, Lord, for thy servant is listening”; we more often say, “Listen, Lord, for thy servant is speaking.” And in Listening to Your Life Frederick Buechner notes when God speaks it’s into our personal lives, and that Jesus is most likely to show up in the midst of our lives... walking down the road or during supper. So while we need to make time to prayerfully talk to God, so too we need to make time to prayerfully listen for what God might be saying to us, and to reflect on where God has been present to us, and how God may be moving in our lives. The spiritual discipline of practicing the presence of God means recognizing that God is here, now, moving through our everyday activities even if they may seem trivial or insignificant to us. If we take the time to pause, look, listen, reflect we may notice – even in the average or trivial – a pattern, a pattern than reveals to us God’s presence in our lives. May we each find time this fall to be present to loved ones, to life, and to God’s patterns & presence.

Fall Blessings, Lori+



## SENIOR WARDEN NOTES

### Updates, Comments and Thanks!

Its been a couple of months since our last *Trumpet* publication so I would like to share some updates and comments while offering thanks for a number of items that have taken place over the past couple of months. August was a very busy month and activities included the tent sale, the Animal Blessing and the "Service on the Lawn".

The tent sale was very successful and raised approximately \$1,700. A huge thank you to Ann James for leading this project and to all of you for your donations and your time spent setting up, selling and removal of the unsold sale items. (Many of you assisted with all three!) For a small congregation this is a large undertaking and Ann and the congregation should be commended for this successful endeavor.

The annual Animal Blessing took place on Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. This was again a success with many previous attendees' returning to have a blessing said over their beloved animals. Thank you to Reverend Lori and Shirley St. John for your leadership in this event.

Use of the tent continued on Sunday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> when our Sunday Service was held under the tent. Unfortunately attendance was low do to a number of members traveling. Those that attended voiced approval of this celebration on the lawn. Again, thanks to Rev. Lori for her leadership in this event. Based upon the response, I am certain more tent services are in our future.

These and other events are very important for Trinity to show that we are alive and a vibrant faith community.

As for some church business the following items is a quick summary of non-routine vestry actions and topics.

Vision Statement: The vestry has reviewed the first draft of a 2020 Vision Statement and will offer suggestions and comments to the small group working on the statement. The comments will be reviewed and the appropriate adjustments made to the vision document. Once a final draft has been created and approved, the vestry will share it with the congregation for input.

Church Signage: As noted in the Vestry minutes of previous *Trumpet* publications, the Vestry continues to discuss and review the possibility of adding signage at the east end of the church building. The latest proposal would include **Trinity Episcopal Church** painted in large lettering under the large red cross with an image of praying hands and a chalice on one side of the lower portion of the cross and "*All are Welcome*" on the other. In addition, low voltage accent lighting is being suggested to highlight the front and east ends of the church building.

The vestry realizes there may be some sensitivity about using the building to advertise, but the vestry believes this can be done in a very tactful and attractive manner and will go a long way in promoting Trinity and assist the local community to become more aware of Trinity's location.

Before moving forward, we will review what is to be done with the City of Flushing Building Department as well as seek comments from the congregation. We must do all we can to promote Trinity within the local community. This area of the building is a primary focal point to those driving west past the building and is a natural location to promote who we are. How many times have you been asked: "Where is your church/Trinity located?"

Review of Trinity Systems: The vestry continues to review a document we call "Analyzing Trinity Systems" by suggesting improvements or confirming we are on the correct path in each particular area. Once completed the document can offer assistance and suggestions when creating future goals and objectives.

Continued on Page 4

Finances/bookkeeping: John Rowe, our treasurer, continues to work through bookkeeping changes. For personal reasons, Jeannie Hitchcock, our previous bookkeeper recently resigned. John has been busy working through finance details while looking for a replacement for Jeannie. With assistance from Rev. Lori, John has shared information with the vestry and received approval to move forward to work with a new “contract” bookkeeper. John believes he is on the right path to getting things back on track while providing for future bookkeeping duties.

(Thanks to Jeannie for her years of service to Trinity as bookkeeper, sexton and secretary!)

To date we are some \$6,000 from the break even point. Obviously things are tight for everyone, but anything you can do to assist our budget would certainly be appreciated.

Wreath Sale: What better way to assist with finance concerns than assisting with the sale of wreaths. We will again sell wreaths this year for \$25.00 each. Sales will begin soon

with production of the wreaths taking place the weekend after Thanksgiving. Besides selling/buying the wreaths yourself, perhaps

you know of an organization that would like to sell the wreaths as a fundraiser? We would be happy to produce the wreaths and “share the profit” with any organization to create a “win, win” for all. If you know of such an organization, please let any vestry member know.

As usual, I think I have taken up more than my share of the *Trumpet* so I will end by saying thank you to all you do to make Trinity the faith community it is. I also wish to remind you to contact myself, Reverend Lori or any vestry member to share your concerns, suggestions or need for clarification. The vestry wishes to serve you and do what we believe is best for Trinity and its future; there are no secrets or hidden agendas. All are welcome and invited to attend our meetings which are held on the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 6:30 PM. “We are **CALLED**, in fellowship, **TO LOVE AND SERVE** God by reaching out and sharing the good news!”  
Yours in Christ, Norb

**BeadforLife** is a nonprofit organization providing impoverished Ugandan women an opportunity to lift their families out of poverty by making beads and beaded jewelry out of recycled paper. Many of the bead makers are HIV+ mothers or refugees, all of whom have been living in extreme poverty. In spite of their hardship, the bead makers are resilient, hardworking and resourceful.

BeadforLife products are not intended for children 6 years of age or younger.

Around the world, people partner with the bead makers to buy and sell beads and educate others on ways to end extreme poverty.

Join us in our efforts to eradicate poverty by visiting our website [www.BeadforLife.org](http://www.BeadforLife.org): buy beads, host a **BeadParty**, and read the stories of the bead makers. Your acts of generosity will not only help a Ugandan woman raise herself and her family out of poverty, but will also bring her story, hard work, and joy into your home and into your heart.

**Thank You and Welcome to the BeadCircle!**

## Let's Have a Party!

### And Help the World

Tentative date

Tues. Nov 16th

6:30-8:00 pm

1.4 billion people around the world – one out of every four people alive – struggle to survive on about \$1 a day. After paying the bead makers fair trade prices for their work, **BeadforLife** invests all net proceeds in programs that fight extreme poverty in the areas of health, affordable housing, entrepreneurial development and vocational training for impoverished youth.

[www.BeadforLife.org](http://www.BeadforLife.org)

### BeadforLife

Eradicating Poverty One Bead at a Time®

This item has been created using **BeadforLife®** Loose Beads

REMEMBER EUCHRE

October 21st Thursday

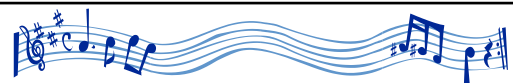
PRIZES & FUN



## *Happy 93rd Birthday Helen*

*Our sincere wishes go out to Helen on her birthday. She is a wonderful inspiration to all of us for enjoying everyday of life and loving the Lord wholeheartedly.*

### *Notes from the organ bench*



We have been singing "Come and see.... Come and Hear" as a hymn of praise. Come and hear, come and see two substitute organists this month. I would like to introduce: Karen Howells who will be subbing for me on Oct 10 and 17. Karen has been playing the organ for many years. Recently, she was interim organist at 1<sup>st</sup> Pres in Fenton until they found a regular organist. Not only does Karen play the organ and piano, but she also plays the guitar. Karen will be playing solo guitar music at the time of offertory rather than a hymn.

Renate McLaughlin will be subbing on Oct. 24. She recently received her service playing certificate from the National Guild of Organists. And in addition to being very skilled at playing the organ, she is a student of Donald Kaye, she plays the bagpipes. Renate will be playing a bagpipe solo for the offertory music in place of a hymn on that Sunday.

I trust that you will be pleased and enjoy the music these two ladies will be bringing to the services.

Peace Eileen

Hi All:

First let me say thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you for your willingness to serve in the many ways that you do-you and your ministries are very appreciated by myself and the rest of the Trinity family! :).

As most of you know, we are trying some new things with scheduling Sunday ministries since it's hard to guess when folks are in and out of town. The most difficult to schedule, especially this summer has been Coffee Hour. To that end, we've asked folks to sign up for Coffee Hour (or we may contact you if we need to fill in blank weeks). Then we are attempting to plug in the other ministries around that as well as honor requests to schedule spouses or parents and children on the same day. We will also continue to try to space people out so folks don't get overburdened. This is new and no system is perfect, so we remain open to suggestions as we work on scheduling.

Given the number of people who currently do coffee hour, couples/teams would ideally serve about once every 8 weeks (every other month, 6 times a year), but we realize at times serving 2 months in a row or twice in a month might work better for someone as well as times you are gone or have a full calendar.

We need to begin work on November and December, so please check your calendars and that of a partner if you work as a team as to dates that won't work. Please also let the office know if there are dates you know you will be gone and unable to serve. If there is a particular date you would like to serve let us know and we can do our best to accommodate that.

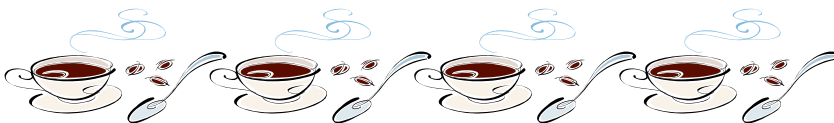
**November dates are:** have all been filled

**December dates are:**

Dec 5, Dec 12, Dec 19, Friday Dec 24th (Christmas Eve-no coffee hour), and Sunday Dec 26.

**January dates:** Jan 2 (New Years weekend), Jan 9, Jan 16, Jan 23, and Jan 30

Thanks again! Peace, Lori +



## Outreach News

Trinity's Outreach is collecting goods for both the [St. Andrews](#) and [St. Paul's](#) homeless programs. They are in need of blankets, personal care items such as toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, thermal underwear, gloves, hats, scarf's, and mittens. They do not take mouth wash.

Any warm jackets, vests, socks are welcome. There will be a box in the lounge for collection.

There are [men and women in need](#) of help in [Genesee County](#). We are working through Episcopal Church's in our area who deal with the home less on a weekly basis.

Trinity Outreach

## BIRTHDAYS



Marianne Funke	Oct. 2
Helen Notman	Oct. 3
Tom McNally	Oct. 5
Paul St. John	Oct. 6
Don Erickson	Oct. 16
Jim Rundell	Oct. 16
Linda Niedecken	Oct. 18
Anne Stone	Oct. 20
Brenda Leffen	Oct. 21

## ANNIVERSARIES

John and June Rowe	Oct 1
Robert and Beth Michels	Oct. 8
Norb & Deanna Birchmeier	Oct 14
John and Dorothy West	Oct 30



*God bless you on  
your special day*

### SCHEDULE OCTOBER 2010

Ministry	October 3	October 10	October 17	October 24	October 31
Altar Guild	Anne Stone (Chair) Betsy Eller Fay Kenrick	Same	Same	Same	Same
Acolyte	Austin Boulter	Claire Jess	Tori Lockhart	Austin Boulter	Claire Jess
Lector/ Chalice	Larry Elder	Shirley St. John	Ed Henneke	Larry Elder	Shirley St. John
Greeters	Kathy Boulter	Rebecca Jess	Lynnette Pep- pler	Kathy Boulter	Elaine Martin
Ushers	Elaine Martin Jane Rous- seau	Don Erickson John Rowe	Dennis and Nancy Pickard	Kathy Boulter Elaine Martin	Rebecca Jess Jane Rous- seau
Kids Word	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	N/A
Coffee Hour	Ralph & Linda Niedecken	Betsy Eller June Rowe	Dennis & Nancy Pickard Anne Stone	Larry and Pam Elder	Donna Jes- sop Shirley St. John
Eucharistic Visitor	Ed Henneke or Lori Johnson	Vause Carlsen or Lori Johnson	Ed Henneke or Lori Johnson	Vause Carlsen or Lori Johnson	Ed Henneke or Lori Johnson

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**“Called to Love and Serve”**

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