



The Trumpet

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

www.trinityparish.org

Trinity Episcopal Church ♦ Longview, Texas ♦ July 2014 ♦ Volume 24, Issue 7

A Picture Is Worth A Thousand Words

Toward the end of last year, I made the decision to attempt completing my Doctorate of Ministry degree at Bexley-Seabury Seminary Federation in Chicago. At the time I was a little unsure as to whether I should make the effort. A tipping point in favor of that decision was when a parishioner said to me, "You are always more energized at work when you are taking continuing education courses."

It's true. I am more energized after I return from a time of studying. Of course, that may not always be a great comfort for the congregation since I always come back with new fangled ideas that I want to try out in the parish. The past two weeks in Chicago were a rich time of intellectual stimulation and personal growth. One of the more exciting elements of the two weeks was the second week at Kellogg, Northwestern University's Graduate School of Business. We had five days of course work in Non-profit Management in their Executive Education program.

On the second day, we focused on the topics of branding, generational values, and mining for believers strategically. The material was personally challenging. I had a

certain degree of uneasiness when we talked in terms of marketing the church. It just felt a little too commercial. However, I was there to learn and what I found fascinating was the discussion about the importance of branding. Simply put, branding is the creation of the mental or emotional association people have when they see or hear



of your product. Think of the clear mental associations that come to mind when you hear the brands Starbucks or McDonalds. What mental or emotional associations do people have when they hear the words Trinity Episcopal Church?

It is important that we work hard to create positive mental and emotional associations for people when they hear the words Trinity Episcopal Church. The work of creating a positive brand for an organization begins with three important elements in particular. The creation of a brand for Trinity first begins with a clear

understanding of Trinity Church's core values. From those core values we then develop a vision statement that clearly and concisely articulates what we want Trinity Church to look like five, ten, twenty years from now. Third, Trinity Church's mission statement describes what it is that our church is called to accomplish here and now. From these three elements we create the branding we want people to associate with the mention of Trinity Church.

We discover these three things by entering into a time of "holy conversation" with one another to discover together what God's purpose is for Trinity Church. When Bishop Fisher visits us in December for his "official" visitation he will be asking the Vestry to clearly articulate these three things; our core values, our vision, our mission.

The Vestry will be beginning this important work this month. I hope that you will pray for the "holy conversations" that will be taking place over the next few months. Pray for each other and for the Vestry as we seek God's guidance in discerning what God has called Trinity Church to do and to be as we move into God's appointed future.

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

LONGVIEW, TEXAS

STAFF

The Rev. Kevin Wittmayer	Rector
Gary Whitwell	TST Head of School
Bill Bane	Director of Music Ministries
Tim Baker	Director of Student Ministries
Tisha Grotemat	Director of Children's Ministries
Leno Mancilla	Sexton
George Pliker	Endowment
Billie Padgett	Office Volunteers

VESTRY

<u>Class of 2014</u>	<u>Class of 2015</u>	<u>Class of 2016</u>
Claire Alford	David Balliett	Lucy Germany
Bill Charles	Scott Jones	John Hall
Todd Holman	Elise McClure	Kim Howard
Dinah Rushing	Ted Skeans	Ava Welge
Bill Charles, Senior Warden		
Dinah Rushing, Junior Warden		
Barney Jones, Treasurer		
Kristen Hoover, Clerk of the Vestry		



MISSION OF THE MONTH

East Texas Child Advocates, Inc. is a nonprofit organization devoted to helping abused and neglected children in five East Texas counties. We make a difference in the lives of children through two programs: East Texas CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) and Getting Together Safely. East Texas CASA recruits and trains volunteers to advocate for the best interest of abused and neglected children who have been

removed from their homes and placed in foster care. Volunteers work with the judge to ensure a forever home for each child. CASA is the only volunteer organization that empowers everyday citizens as officers of the court. In an overburdened social welfare system, abused and neglected children often slip through the cracks among hundreds of current cases. CASA volunteers change that. Appointed by judges, CASA volunteers typically handle just one case at a time-and commit to staying on that case until the child is placed in a safe, permanent home. While others may come and go, CASA volunteers provide that one constant that children need in order to thrive. Funding for these agencies comes from local gifts and individual contributions, along with federal, state and county grants. East Texas Child Advocates is a Greater Longview United Way participating agency.



Blue Jeans, BBQ & Homemade Pie!

July 6 - Following 10:30 AM Service

Join us at the Trinity Outreach Center for great BBQ and fellowship followed by amazing homemade pie for dessert!

Awards will be given for the best homemade pies!

DON'T MISS IT!

Service of Confirmation and Holy Baptism

July 13 at 10:30 AM Service

**Bishop Jeff Fisher
will be with us for
this special
occasion.**



What is biblical stewardship?

To discover what the Bible says about stewardship, we start with the very first verse: “in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” As the Creator, God has absolute rights of ownership over all things, and to miss starting here is like misaligning the top button on our shirt or blouse – nothing else will ever line up. Nothing else in the Bible, including the doctrine of stewardship, will make any sense or have any true relevance if we miss the fact that God is the Creator and has full rights of ownership. It is through our ability to fully grasp this and imbed it in our hearts that the doctrine of stewardship is understood.

The biblical doctrine of stewardship defines a person’s relationship to God. It identifies God as owner and people as managers. God makes us His co-worker in administering all aspects of our life. The apostle Paul explains it best by saying, “For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, God’s building” (1 Corinthians 3:9).

This concept of stewardship, then, dates from the beginning of time,

when God entrusted the earth to Adam and Eve and their offspring. All people are stewards of the earth’s resources and our Lord expects that we will use all for His glory and the salvation of souls.

In ancient kingdoms, stewards ran the country in the absence of the king. Upon the king’s return, the steward gave a full accounting for his actions. In Scripture, we find many examples of stewards being placed over the affairs of their masters. Abram had a steward; Eliezer of Damascus, a slave born in the house of Abram. Also in Genesis, we find the story of Joseph and how Pharaoh made him steward over the land of Egypt.

More often than not, when we think of good stewardship, we think of how we manage our finances and our faithfulness in paying God’s tithes and offerings. But as we are beginning to see, it is much more than that. In fact, it is more than just management of our time, our possession, our environment, or our health. Stewardship defines our practical obedience in the administration of everything under our control, everything entrusted to us. It is the consecration of one’s self and possessions to God’s service. Stewardship acknowledges, in

practice, that we do not have the right of control over ourselves or our property – God has that control. It means as stewards of God we are managers of that which belongs to God and we are under His constant authority as we administer His affairs. Stewardship is not God taking something from us; it is His method of bestowing His richest gifts upon His people.

Faithful stewardship means that we fully acknowledge we are not our own but belong to Christ, the Lord, who gave Himself for us.

PRAYER

Our Father in Heaven, You alone are the source of every good gift. We praise you for all your gifts to us, and we thank you for your generosity. Everything we have, and all that we are, comes from you.

Help us to be grateful and responsible.

We commit ourselves to being good stewards. Help us to be grateful, accountable, generous, and willing to give back with increase. Help us to make stewardship a way of life.

In Jesus’ name we pray, AMEN.

Source references: Michael Houdmann’s article “What is Biblical Stewardship” and Philip Gray’s article “What is Christian Stewardship”?

JUNE VESTRY REPORT, Lucy Germany

The opening event presented to the vestry at its June meeting focused on how to evaluate the church’s response to major challenges including the quality of its basic offerings, the cost of those offerings and how they are met and finally—the “brand” or basic nature of its offerings—its classification as to high or low church, its perceived openness to change and the inclusivity of its various functions.

The format, developed by Northwestern Graduate School of Business was presented by Fr. Kevin to the vestry as a “value triangle” followed by an in-depth discussion by vestry members of the church’s current position as to a) the quality of its offerings such as music, liturgy, services and preaching, b) its current missional position including outreach and basic hospitality and c) the level of “brand” name it represents in

regard to openness, inclusivity, diversity of theology and expression of core values. The discussion which followed focused on the importance of presenting ourselves as a center of faith with strong relationships to God, community and one another, all three of which were pronounced by vestry members as firmly in place at Trinity.

As the discussion continued, our need for a mission statement which reflects all three was made clear. We agreed to the need for “branding” ourselves as a community of people knit together, fully reflecting the importance of both mission and vision. Fr. Kevin then asked that the vestry come together to develop a specific vision statement reflective of an understanding of our core values and a strong mission statement, with the intention of presenting both to the Bishop during his December confirmation visit.

Barney Jones, Treasurer, said the church is in “pretty sound condition” at the present time and that the budget reflects “good management.” The discussion of the work of the Security Task Force emphasized the possible need for having a uniformed officer at church services, or at the least for a backup for the current position occupied by Buddy Molpus. It was agreed that the Security Task Force investigate the cost of hiring a security company to patrol the building and grounds. There was also discussion on placing lighting on the 6th and Padon Street sign to enhance the church’s visibility.

An open discussion as to the success of the recent change in the choir’s re-positioning to the front of the altar was followed by a brief visit to the site so as to continue to examine ideas for proposed changes.



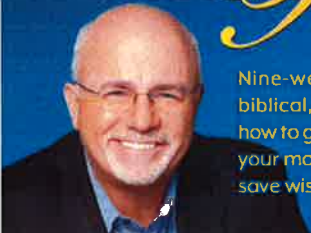
VBS 2014 WAS AWESOME!

This year, we had over 90 kids involved in VBS! Tisha Grotemat did an amazing job of coordinating this fun, energetic outreach event. Special thanks to all of our awesome volunteers who helped to make this such a resounding success! We are also delighted to report that we contributed 94 boxes of cereal to the Longview Community Ministries food pantry as a special outreach project of this year's VBS. To God be the Glory!

COMING IN SEPTEMBER...

Dave Ramsey's

Financial Peace UNIVERSITY



Nine-week class presents biblical, practical steps on how to get rid of debt, manage your money, and spend and save wisely.

Trinity Episcopal Church will host the Dave Ramsey "Financial Peace University" course this fall in the Parish Hall. The plan teaches God's ways of handling money. It presents biblical, practical steps to get from where you are to where you've dreamed you could be.

A (no obligation) class preview session is scheduled for August 21, 2014, beginning at 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall. Regular classes are scheduled to begin September 11, 2014, at 6:30 PM; class duration is approximately 1-1/2 hours. The course is completed in 9 weeks. Cost is approximately \$100 per family (couple). If you are interested or have questions, contact David Wilcox at 903-326-9797, or Bill Charles at 903-297-4430, or attend the preview class.

You can register at <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/org/31322/class/257371>



WELCOME
Arthur Wade Henson

Born June 14, 2014
7lbs. 14 oz. 21' long
Proud mom is **Mary Milnor**,
member of Young Adults group

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday

7/05	Gary Fowler	7/21	Myra Smith
7/05	Peggy Proetz	7/21	M.C. Akin
7/10	Lindsay Mraz	7/22	Wray McCash
7/12	Kathryn Bradford	7/22	Dorothy Conrad
7/13	Betty Horaney	7/24	Tina Styles
7/14	Tricia Wilcox	7/26	Dan Stroup
7/15	Chase Barbe	7/27	Nathan Collins
7/18	Arlene Devon	7/29	Celeste Jenkins
7/19	Marilyn Lewis	7/30	Kirsten Phillips
7/20	Alex Butter	7/31	Jack Mann, Jr.
7/21	Susie French	7/31	David Alexander
7/21	Eleanor Heinz		

Happy Anniversary

7/03	Ben & Rachel Darby
7/03	Bill & Patsy Charles
7/06	Charles & Margaret Miller
7/11	George & Marie Pliier
7/12	Tommy & Jeanette Kirkindoll
7/15	Harry & Jan Barth
7/21	James & Barbara Crittenden
7/22	Dickens & Kate Wilkinson
7/25	Scott & Steffani Jones
7/26	Nathan & Christy Collins
7/30	Lee & Kay Pigeon

Trinity Service Calendar

Month of July – Lectionary Year A

Date	July 6 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	July 13 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	July 20 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost	July 27 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost	August 3 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Verger	S. Alford	M. Wilks	J. Barbe	S. Alford	M. Wilks
Acolytes 8:00 10:30	T. Gignilliat Team 1	J. Hall Team 2	T. Gignilliat Team 3	B. Charles Team 1	T. Gignilliat Team 2
Lay Readers 8:00 10:30	G. McWhorter G. Rushing L. Germany B. Charles	N. Collins J. Hall Z. Brown J. Sloan	J. Welge B. Charles C. Collins J. Sawyer	G. Hoover B. Charles L. Germany K. Sparks	G. McWhorter G. Rushing J. Sloan J. Hall
First Reading Psalm Second Reading Gospel	Gen. 24:34-38,42-49, 58-67 Psalm 45:11-18 Romans 7:15-25a Matt. 11:16-19, 25-30	Gen. 25:19-34 Ps. 119:105-112 Romans 8:1-11 Matt. 13:1-9,18-23	Gen. 28:10-19a Ps. 139:1-11, 22-23 Romans 8:12-25 Matt. 13:24-30, 36-43	Gen. 29:15-28 Ps. 105:1-11, 45b Romans 8:26-39 Matt. 13:31, 44-52	Gen. 32:22-31 Ps. 17:1-7,16 Romans 9:1-5 Matt. 14:13-21
L. E. M. 8:00 10:30	G. McWhorter G. Rushing L. Germany B. Charles	N. Collins J. Hall J. Fowler J. Sloan	J. Welge B. Charles C. Collins J. Sawyer	G. Hoover B. Charles L. Germany J. Fowler	G. McWhorter G. Rushing J. Sloan J. Hall
Altar Team	Crittenden Team	Mann Team	Baker Team	Collins Team	Campbell Team
8:00 Ushers 10:30 Ushers	Campbell & Piler Alexander Team	Campbell & Piler Kirkindoll Team	Campbell & Piler Thorson Team	Campbell & Piler Crittenden Team	Campbell & Piler Alexander Team
8:00 Greeters 10:30 Greeters	Charles Team Kirkindoll Team	Maly Team Gray Team	Charles Team Skeans Team	E. McClure & G. McWhorter Barbe Team	Charles Team Kirkindoll Team
L. E. V.	J. Mraz M. Arnold		L. Leath J. Mraz		M. Arnold L. Leath
Parish Security	T. Devon	G. Piler	T. Todd	D. Sapp	T. Kirkindoll
Vestry Counters 8:00 10:30	B. Charles D. Rushing S. Jones T. Skeans	B. Charles K. Howard C. Alford K. Howard	B. Charles D. Rushing J. Hall T. Skeans	B. Charles E. McClure C. Alford S. Jones	B. Charles E. McClure T. Skeans S. Jones
Flower Delivery	B. Hancock L. Leath	E. Cargill D. Fricks	M. Arnold D. Skeans	J. Barth C. Wilks	B. Hancock L. Leath
Coffee Hour	L. Leath	C. Russell	P. Charles	B. Todd	N. Sawyer

JULY 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 No Noon Eucharist	3	4 Church Offices Closed in Observance of Independence Day 	5
Youth Mission Trip - Oklahoma City						
6 Regular Sunday Schedule NO SUNDAY SCHOOL Blue Jeans, BBQ & Homemade Pie Noon - Outreach Center 	7	8 6:00 PM Senior Men's Dinner	9 No Noon Eucharist	10	11	12
13 Regular Sunday Schedule Baptism and Confirmation Bishop Fisher Visit 10:30 AM Service 	14 5:30 PM DOK	15 6:00 PM Vestry	16 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist	17	18	19
20 Regular Sunday Schedule	21	22	23 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist	24	25	26
27 Regular Sunday Schedule	28	29	30 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist			
<p><u>REGULAR SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE:</u></p> <p>8:00 AM Rite I Holy Eucharist 9:00 Coffee Hour 9:15 AM Christian Education 10:30 Rite II Holy Eucharist</p>						

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July Special Events

6th Blue Jeans, BBQ & Homemade Pie, Noon, Trinity Outreach Center
13th Confirmation and Episcopal Visitation, 10:30 AM Service

August Special Events

2nd East Texas Chamber Ensemble Concert, 7:00 PM, Nave
18th Blessing of Backpacks, 10:30 AM, Nave