

The Trinitarian



2017



A Letter from our Rector

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last. The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, "Surely this was a righteous man." (Luke 23:44-47)

Father, into your hands, I commit my spirit. This notion of giving all for God brings us to the foot of the cross. We've endured the Lenten season with piety, Rite 1 language and stair-stepping up to the cross through the Gospel of John. This seasonal journey can be hard for some. Harder for others.

Some will ask, "What did we give up for Lent?" A few will respond, "soda, chocolate or perhaps an alcoholic beverage." But it's a deeper, more meaningful question than these responses given. The real, underlying question is how seriously does one take their religion, the meaning of life, and how should we live each of our days. In sum, it's all about commitment.

In today's world, it's tough to talk about commitment, much less to do commitment. The Christian commitment is much more than skipping carbs. It's more about the serious nature of our faith in God through Christ. Do we really take God seriously? And if so, how do we show it? How does someone know we are Christian, that we believe in Jesus Christ?

The ultimate response to this question lies at the foot of the cross, that Christ died so we don't have to. That Christ takes on our burdens so we don't have to. That God loved us so much that he gave of himself as the ultimate sacrifice to ensure we are eternally connected to the holy. So, let us rejoice this Easter; and perhaps like never before, because Christ, through resurrection, gives us life.

God Bless,

Fr. Chip +

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The Deacon's Doodlings

For the past several weeks a group of Trinitarian's have undertaken to read the Bible by means of a book called "The Path." There is a disclaimer in the forward to the book describing it as a journey through the Bible in an easy and accessible form. It is the story of the Bible, excerpted and condensed so that it's easier to read. It's really not the entire Bible; instead, it is selected texts that cover most of the "great landmarks" from the Bible's stories. Within the writings are summaries and overviews of the portions that were omitted. These paragraphs are a kind of "shortcut" that enable us to bypass some of the lengthier selections of the Bible.

The most important goal of the book was to tell the overarching story of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. The highlights of the best-known Bible stories were included covering everything from creation to resurrection and Paul's conversion and naturally ending with Revelation. It was my hope that, "The Path" is a starting point for us to choose another readable but more complete version of the Bible to read.

So, what did we learn from this reading exercise? From the Old Testament, or as some prefer First Testament (old might suggest out of date), we learned of the Creation, Moses and Abraham, King David, and a diverse assortment of writings such as Psalms, Proverbs, and Job. And we touched on the content of all 39 books in the Old Testament (if everyone did their homework). We gave passing studies to the Apocrypha, the dozen sacred scrolls which do not appear in most Protestant Bibles.

In studying the New Testament – the agreement between God and his people, would come with the Messiah and be summed up in his teachings. When Jesus began his ministry, it took miracles to convince the Jews that he was the promised Messiah. And, through his ultimate miracle – the Resurrection – finally convinced his skeptical disciples and through their work the Church was born and began to grow.

While the Old Testament gives us the background for the arrival of the promised Messiah, the New Testament, through Jesus, calls us to become something beyond what the world considers successful or even practical. Rather than calling us to a list of rules, he calls us to become something that can only happen with practice – loving one another. But once practiced, it can become second nature.

To love one another can be acted out in all kinds of small ways where we complement and praise one another and rather than getting back at others. We need to find forgiveness is a second nature. But Jesus calls us to reach beyond our comfort zone. He tells us to love our enemies. He calls us to love the unlovable. The hard part is: he told us to follow him.

During this season of Lent, we are reminded of the great importance of the tradition behind our living faith today. The writings of St. Paul describe the first Eucharist which we celebrate as a sacrament, a special sign from God. Paul tells the Corinthians that the Eucharist is that event celebrated throughout the year that reminds us of what is most important, namely that Jesus died for us, unworthy as we are.

The love that Jesus demonstrated knew no limits. So, by his actions he has given a new

definition to the word love. It's indeed difficult to learn and doesn't allow for exceptions that we may be inclined to put upon it. But to settle for anything less is to settle for less than that to which Jesus calls us.

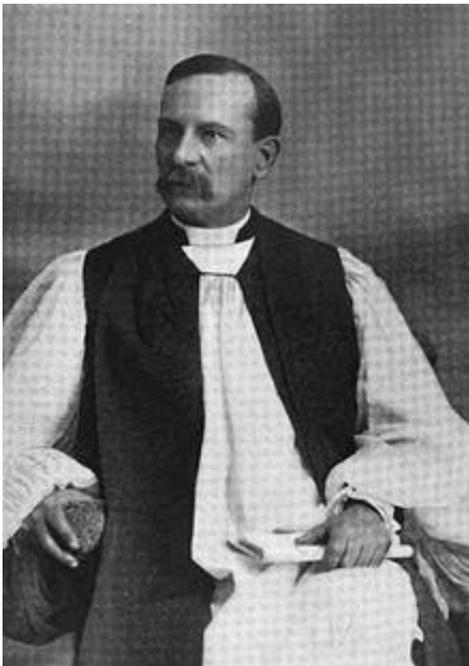
May you have a blessed Easter season!



Deacon Jim

A History of Trinity Episcopal Church by W. Joseph Mackey

With so many new people attending Trinity I am writing a serial history of the parish for each edition of the Trinitarian. I shall be using "Trinity Church, Something of its Story" by long time parishioner James R. Haworth, published in 1964. (A copy of which is in the parish library). Since that date sources unknown then will be used, gleaned from the Internet. Hopefully these side bars will be found interesting and informative. -- Joe



Trinity has a long and historic history, starting with difficulties in the State of Virginia, before WV was even thought of, being known only as "Western Virginia". Trouble was brewing in this part of the state for some years, being so far removed from the capitol, Richmond. Much was WV then was unsettled due to lack of transportation and difficulty in travel with most population centers clustered along the Ohio River (Wheeling, Parkersburg, Pt Pleasant, Guyandotte (and a lesser degree Ceredo-Kenova) and the Kanawha River (Charleston). The Episcopal population was very small even in the towns, to non-existent in other areas. In 1851, there were only 13 parishes in "Western Virginia", and only two (one each in Wheeling and Charleston) were self supporting and that just barely. When "Western Virginia" asked to be a separate diocese Bp. William Meade denied the request. It wasn't until 1877 the Diocese of WV came into being. On May 30, 1878, the Rev. George W. Peterkin of Maryland, was elected our first bishop and remained until his death in Parkersburg in 1916 at

75. When he became bishop, he had only 14 parishes and 20 mission churches.

Upon becoming Bishop, Peterkin began a series of journey's, much of it on horseback, to every parish and mission.

The first Episcopal service held in this area was in Barboursville, on Sunday 22 August 1869 when the Rev. Horace Hayden*, rector of Christ Church Pt Pleasant, holding both Morning and Evening Prayer in the court house. It was on this date the mission vestry (consisting of four

men) resolved to establish Trinity Episcopal Church. They agreed to hold services one Sunday a month, starting January 1870, paying the minister \$200 a year and traveling expenses. (In today's money that would be \$3,659. <http://www.westegg.com/inflation/>) The Rev. Joseph A. Nock, then serving St Marks (in Coalsmouth, now St Albans) would lead the services. (*Hayden at the time was the only Episcopal minister on the southern side of the Ohio River between Parkersburg, WV and Newport, KY). Trinity continued meeting monthly in Barboursville until 1872, when Huntington became the larger town due to its C&O railroad terminus.

On 1 April, 1870, the first service in Huntington was held at Marshall Academy in the chapel.

On 25 October, 1872, the vestry resolved to formally establish Trinity in Huntington and call a rector.

(To be continued in the next Trinitarian.)

CONTACT



April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and CONTACT Rape Crisis Center has already held a number of events including participating in a state-wide It's On Us! Day of Action to end sexual violence on college campuses, and CONTACT's annual wine and small bites fundraiser. Other major events include Walk A Mile in Her Shoes at Marshall on April 13 and an open house at CONTACT's new Wayne office on April 25. CONTACT has also hired two additional victim advocates and is in the process of opening new outreach offices in Mingo and

Logan counties. To find out more about CONTACT visit contacthuntington.com.

Needs of Criddle Pantry

The following are the Food of the Month and Underwear needs: 48 Cereal, Men's L Boxers
We are in desperate need of boys' and girls' clothing sizes 4T – 10 and men's clothing and toys



Jeff's Bike Shop is open for business in the basement! A lucky recipient of one of Jeff's bikes. (left)



Clean up day!!!

We had clean-up day on April First. Mulch was spread; weeds were pulled. (Neal finally earned his keep!)

Pentecost Kids



In Sunday school on April 2nd, we learned about the Good Samaritan, and how during the season of Lent, we can focus and reflect on ways to live more like Jesus did. We studied through a story book telling us all about the Good Samaritan. We learned about who our neighbors are and what we can do to reach out to them and do good things for them.

Whitney Justice and the Pentecost Kids

Calendar of Events

Alcoholics Anonymous

Alcoholics Anonymous meets Sunday at 7 PM and Thursday nights at 7 PM.
Consult <http://aawv.org/site/home.htm> for information.

Boy Scouts

Meets every other Monday at 6 PM in the Dining Hall. If you are interested in volunteering, please call Jeremy Reed at 304-972-9116 or nighthawkeye@yahoo.com.

Bridge Club

The Bridge Club has 2 games a week – Mondays and Wednesdays at 12:30 PM. If you have questions or need a partner, contact AJ at 646.808.7404 or huntingtondba@google.com. They are also on Facebook at Huntington Duplicate Bridge Association. Contact Mark Semanco at 304-634-3451, markinwv@gmail.com.

Canterbury Students of Marshall

Meets every Monday at 6 PM in the small dining room. If you are interested in volunteering, Please contact Fr. Chip.

Coffee 'n Collars

Every Thursday at 9AM, your Huntington Episcopal priests will be having coffee at the River and Rail Bakery shop in the Heritage Square retail center off 11th St and Veterans Memorial Blvd. Everyone is invited to join us for coffee and conversation. Come join us!

Dick Newman Dances

Come to a Friday Night dance party at Trinity! Dances are from 7-10 PM in the Dining Hall on the fourth Friday of the month.
Contact Dick at 301-544-5852 or dnbl@msn.com to send requests

Narcotics Anonymous

Meets Tuesdays at 7 PM in the Dining Hall

Top Hat Ballroom Dancing

Top Hat Ballroom Dancing gives dance lessons on Thursday Evenings in the Dining Hall. Beginner's class start at 6:30 PM, Intermediate Class starts at 7:30 PM. Classes are \$20 per couple per class. Contact Gail or Paul Patton at 304-412-3171 or visit their website at tophatballroom.com.

The Woodlands Service

Every Thursday at 4 PM, please join Deacon Jim in a small service with communion.

Yoga

Monday nights at 5:30 PM. Contact Susie Ferguson at 304-633-4953 or mamasusanne2@aol.com

Deacon Jim Discerning Holy Orders

Everyone in Huntington knows our beloved deacon, Jim Morgan. In fact, just two weeks ago, Bishop Mike Klusmeyer and I were eating lunch with Jim while several other people, eating in the restaurant, came to our table, acknowledging Deacon Jim. Jim draws a crowd wherever he goes. Furthermore, many of us recognize Jim, in addition to his political and business success, as a great husband to Betty and father to their children.

Deacon Jim is so valuable to Trinity as he, many times, picks up the pieces as needed, whether it's to help someone in need, call on a parishioner, assist during Sunday worship or to lead the weekly worship at Woodlands. Jim's service to Trinity is invaluable.

However, you may not know that Jim has begun a very important journey, a journey called "discernment" in the Episcopal Church, where Jim will be discerning, along with a selected small group at Trinity, a call to priesthood. Jim's discernment committee will be focused on supporting Jim through this process. The committee will be moderated by Harriette Cyrus and to include Susan Shields, Tom Gilpin, Mike Oliver and Staige Davis - a marvelous group!

Over the next several months, Jim and this committee will be exploring his ministry, his life and his call to ministry, deciphering if taking this next step is right for Jim and his family. We cannot thank Jim enough for all that he's done for Trinity over so many years. We are so fortunate to have him here, his support, his insight and his time. I ask that all Trinitarians pray for Jim and his committee, supporting them throughout this journey. God bless all Trinitarians and God bless Jim during this very special time.

Fr. Chip+



Birthdays & Anniversaries

happy,
happy
birthday
to you!

Tom Gilpin, Jeannie Dennison, Alan Hamilton, Sean Singleton, Carolee Rahal, Brian Jackson, Libby Buffington, Mike Oliver, Luda Doddridge, Joline Osborn, Susan Morton, Betty Morgan, Charlotte Clark, Mary Mann Hagan

Larry and Charlotte Clark,
Brian and Saretta Jackson,
Matt and Mary Lauren Weimer



Trinity Dinner Club

Once a month members of Trinity are gathering together to enjoy fellowship and conversation. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP with Fr. Chip the week before the dinner and arrive at the designated restaurant by 6:45 PM.

05/11 - Outback Steakhouse - 3417 U.S. 60, Barboursville

06/08 – Cracker Barrel – US RT 60, Barboursville

7/13 - Hwy 55 – 801 3rd Ave

Rector: The Very Rev Dr. Chip Graves
Deacon: The Rev James H. Morgan

Administrator: Kristi Meadows
Organist: Mark A. Smith

Sexton: Chuck Hazelett

520 11th Street
Huntington, WV 25701
Fax: 304-525-5269

wvtrinitychurch.org
304-529-6084
admin@wvtrinitychurch.org

Facebook: Trinity Episcopal Church – Huntington, WV

