



The Trinitarian

January 2017

A Letter from our Rector

Epiphany Is Here

We are now in the season of Epiphany. Epiphany is a time of joy. A time of revelation and new possibilities as we begin a new year. A time to see God come alive through Jesus Christ. The word Epiphany refers to a *manifestation*. This same word in Greek is theophany, a word alluding to the "Vision of God". Therefore, at this time, we see God for the first time in human form, in Jesus Christ.

In the United States, this feast commemorates the visit of the Magi to the Christ child; therefore, the physical manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. Eastern Christians, on the other hand, commemorate the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River as his manifestation to the world.

As I ponder this notion of 'manifestation' and 'Vision of God', I see our parish, Trinity Episcopal Church and its many activities manifesting the presence of Christ. Our beautiful worship/music; our powerful outreach; our expanding educational opportunities; and our many community events.

As we move forward into 2017, allow me to introduce you to some new ministries. Some new manifestations of Christ. For men, we have begun a monthly men's breakfast on the third Saturday each month at 9AM at the Golden Corral on U.S. 60. For women, we have begun a new ministry, Lydia's Room, a weekly gathering each Sunday at 3:30PM in our parlor on the second floor. The focus will be on fellowship, light food, and a brief worship. These are but a few of the many events now going on at Trinity. Come join us!

God Bless,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fr. Chip+".

Fr. Chip+

A Note from our Deacon

Some Thoughts for the New Year

The Christmas season is over, sort of, and we are now in this season of Epiphany. The reason I said "sort of" is that the Christmas season is celebrated for 12 days, ending with the Epiphany. When the two seasons are put together, they last for 40 days. The three main events focused on during the epiphany season are the visit of the Magi, the baptism of Jesus, and Jesus miracle at the marriage of Cana.

The visit of the Magi (also known as the three Wise men) is traditionally interpreted as symbolic of God's revelation of himself to the Gentiles, and so one of the themes of the season is mission and unity. The season culminates at the Feast of the Presentation after which we begin looking forward to the passion.

Thinking of the Christmas season that is now past, I think we can learn a lesson from the comics. In the Sunday paper there is a comic strip named "the brilliant mind of Edison Lee." In the Edison Lee strip, Edison was asked what his favorite gift was this year? Edison is a creative little boy who often comes up with unusual inventions and thoughts. The answer to the question was, "let's see... I got to live in a country that honors religious freedom. I got to go to a great school with great teachers. I can criticize my government without going to prison." I feel sure that each of us could add many more things to the list of what really should be our favorite gifts such as the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.

In my homily on New Year's Day, I mentioned three words that would help us make 2017 a great new year. Those were: forget, forgive, and forbid.

When I say we need to forget, I realize we all do that at various times. But, what we I mean is we must manage our memories so we can learn from them, but not be hindered by them. Then we need to forgive for reasons of goodwill, our health, and our hope of entering heaven. The Gospel of Mark says, "when you pray, forgive. For if you do not forgive, neither will your father which is in heaven forgive you your trespasses." Finally, we need to forbid habits to gain dominion over us. St. Paul tells us, "if God be for us, who can be against us?" So, with his confidence there is no obstacle that we cannot overcome.

Perhaps we need to reevaluate matters and think about what we could have done differently, it's never too late to learn or to change our mind or direction recognizing our mistakes the first step to positive change.

A final thought can be found in this senility prayer:

Grant me the senility to forget the people
I never liked any way,
The good fortune to run into the ones I do, and
the eyesight to tell the difference.

May we all have a happy and blessed New Year.



Deacon Jim

A Note from our Chuckmeister

The Christmas Eve Dinner of 2016 was another resounding success. As always, the families of our Parish came to the front. From dining room set up and decoration to the constant delivery of hot turkeys and hams. We received at least 20 each. Fresh fruit, cookies and desserts were also in good supply. No one went away unsatisfied. We had plenty. The sides provided by the Parish expired at just the right time. Each item not used or otherwise taken away that evening will see future use in our gatherings.

Our Sisters and Brothers of Lavalette United Methodist were headquarter in our parlor and saw that each of our guests received gloves and a cap. They also had a supply of winter coats. Their few remaining items have become part of the stock at the Cridlin Food and Clothing Pantry. They reported that they will be working all through 2017 to gather items for our next dinner.

There is no sufficient thank you for the crew and to all who make this not only possible, but make it a joyful experience.

This Ministry just keeps getting stronger through The Holy Spirit working in each and every one of us. Thank You all for being the hands of God in this calling.

Sincerely,

CF Warder

Project Chairman, Christmas Eve Dinner

Pentecost Kids

The Pentecost kids celebrated our last Sunday school class of 2016 with a Christmas party! We've spent the advent season learning about the advent wreath and the meaning behind each candle. Every Sunday in December we made a different Christmas ornament and placed them on our Pentecost Kids Christmas tree, found in the front of the sanctuary. Our ornaments taught us about how Jesus is our light and we need to share the light with the world, how we are made unique in his image, just like the snowflakes of winter, the spiritual symbolism of the candy cane, and our last ornament, baby Jesus in a manger, taught us about the birth of Jesus. We've had a great few months of Sunday School! Thank you to all of the Sunday School helpers who have volunteered each week in the classroom. Your help is very much appreciated! Thank you to the parents for sharing your children and bringing them to Sunday school every week so they can grow in their journey with Christ. I hope everyone at Trinity Church has a blessed holiday season! Merry Christmas from the Pentecost Kids!



Whitney Justice, Sunday School teacher

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 Huntington Duplicate Bridge Club meets every Monday and Wednesday from 12:30 – 4.
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

Lydia's Room

Every Sunday at 3:30 PM

A weekly ministry for women. The focus is simple – fellowship with finger food and spirituality. All are welcome!

Men's Breakfast

Meets 3rd Saturdays 9:00AM at Rt. 60 Golden Corral

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

Needs of Criddlin Pantry

The following are the Food of the Month and Underwear needs: 48 beef stew & Women's size 8

We are in desperate need of boy's and girls' clothing sizes 4T – 10, men's clothing, and toys.

Huntington Duplicate 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.

January Birthdays & Anniversaries



Saretta Jackson, Carol Taylor, Selden McNeer, Braden Ray, Savannah Miller, Dick Wilson, Barelay Bolen, Danita Shaw, Tom Murray, Bode Ray, Tennie Smith, Joe Mackey, Liza Caldwell, & Meredith Sturm



Jim and Kristi Meadows

Trinitarians in the News

Chip Sweeney

Chip is enjoying his senior year at Huntington High, but because he is taking Honors and AP level classes, he has not really been able to engage in the senior slide. He continues to maintain a 4.7 GPA with one more semester to go. He is actively involved in student government as Student Body Treasurer, and is working hard on his senior Honors Program project, "Chip's Celebrity Bingo with Troy Brown." This bingo night fundraiser will be held on February 11th at the Marshall University Student Center. Funds raised will go toward a multi-sport youth facility in the Fairfield West community, in conjunction with Mayor Williams' Huntington Innovation Project, a finalist in the America's Best Communities competition. He invites all Trinitarians to attend, support and spread the word about Chip's Celebrity Bingo with Troy Brown. Chip is also gearing up for and looking forward to his senior season on the Huntington High tennis team.



Chip plans to study broadcast journalism in college, and has applied to eight schools known for their excellent journalism programs. He has been accepted by several, and is waiting to hear from a few others, including his top choice, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



A Message from Chip

As a part of the Huntington High Distinguished Scholars Program, students are expected to complete a Senior Capstone Project to help better the community. This project must encompass a theme that the students feel passionate about. As far as my passion is concerned, I have always had a love of sports of any kind. I am also passionate about Marshall, including Marshall sports, and my city of Huntington. Finally, I have always enjoyed working with and helping younger kids, especially at-risk kids.

I have chosen to combine my passions for my capstone project. Specifically, I would like to provide a way for kids in the Fairfield West community of Huntington to better be able to enjoy and participate in sports and fitness. We know participation in sports gives young athletes a purpose, builds self-esteem, leads to healthy minds and bodies, and improves their chances of avoiding problems like drugs, violence and crime. By paving the way for the creation or renovation of a multi-use sports field or facility at the revitalized Fairfield West village, I can help at-risk kids take a positive step in their lives through participation in sports.

Here is how I propose to do that, and here is where I am asking for your help:

Troy Brown has agreed to partner with me to host Chip's Celebrity Bingo with Troy Brown, modeled after the fundraiser(s) that he held in Boston in past years. With Troy's participation and involvement, Chip's Celebrity Bingo with Troy Brown will be held in Huntington on February 11, 2017 at the Marshall University Student Center. Mayor Steve Williams will act as the master of ceremonies/celebrity bingo caller. Congressman Evan Jenkins and former Marshall University assistant coach Red Dawson have also pledged to support and participate in the event. I envision inviting others to join, hopefully featuring other local "celebrities," as well as former Marshall players and possibly other celebrities with ties to the area.

The event will include multiple rounds of bingo, with prizes awarded to winners, giveaways, and other drawings. Food and beverages will be included in the price of the ticket. Funds will be raised from sponsorship, individual ticket sales, and raffle tickets.

I am working with the Foundation for the Tri-State Community, which has already created a Health and Recreation Fund for the projects encompassed in the America's Best Communities competition. The money raised will go into the account to be held until ready for use toward a multi-purpose youth sports field or facility to be included in the revitalization project for the Fairfield West village that is part of Mayor Williams' Huntington Innovation Project, possibly on site at the A.D. Lewis Community Center, as an expansion/renovation of the existing facility.

I hope that you will consider working with me on this project. For more information or to discuss sponsorship, you can contact me at: Sweeneychip3@gmail.com or 304-942-6223 or see bingowithtroy.com.

Very truly yours,
Chip Sweeney

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.

02/09 - Tortilla Factory - 3419 U.S. 60, Barboursville

03/09 - Hwy 55 - 801 3rd Ave

04/14 - Christopher's Eats - 6005 U.S. 60, Barboursville

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

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

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

Administrator: Kristi Meadows
Organist: Mark A. Smith

Sexton: Chuck Hazelett

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