



TRINITY TIMES

APRIL 2008

Trinity Episcopal Church

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Vicar

Linda Lloyd
Senior Warden
Roy Bickley
Junior Warden

Geoffrey Brown
Clerk
Martha Nesbitt
Treasurer

Al Dorf, Bob Reid
Assistant Treasurers

Christine Gevert
Organist/Choir Director

Denise Lancto
Sunday School

Lisa Brennan, *Bookkeeper*
Jeff Silvernale, *Grounds*
Junior Wright, *Sexton*
Alexis Dorf, *Trinity Times*

FROM THE VICAR'S DESK:



We are hosting a movie production company evenings in the parish hall for the next few weeks. They're filming at a house a few doors down from the parish. I don't know anything of the plot, save that it's a haunted house tale. I have learned something about film production however, and even though it would no doubt surprise them, I believe that the folks making this movie have given me a glimpse of what the disciples faced when first looking at the post-crucifixion world and realizing the daunting responsibilities that lay before them.

Our friends from the film company include at least four producers and a collection of assistants who, I'm sure, one day wish to become producers. They dress like college kids, which is no surprise really since the oldest one is 27, and come to meetings with us without briefcases, notebooks, or pens. On one important occasion, they came without their checkbook. I think the excuse was something between "our accountant isn't around today" to "the dog ate it." Maybe it was "the dog ate our accountant", I can't be sure.

Over the course of seven weeks, they have changed the dates of their stay with us four times, the number of rooms they need five times, the actual number of people using our parish hall has never been accurate, and we seem to be dealing with a different producer, producer's assistant, assistant to a producer, or assistant to the producer's assistant each and every day. This is merely speculation on my part, but they may not entirely know what they're doing.

This is understandable given the scope of the enterprise and their obvious lack of experience. This is hardly something new under the sun. When we read, for example, of the majority of the disciples, shortly after the crucifixion, locking

themselves in a room out of fear, not only of the crowd in Jerusalem, but one may expect also out of a need to hide lest they be forced into some action for which they feel woefully unprepared, we see the same human characteristics at work.

It may be that a lack of self-confidence in the face of Christian responsibility is more common than we realize. After all, even the Old Testament prophet Jeremiah suspected God's wisdom when he was called to holy service [Jeremiah 1:6]; certainly Jesus had his moments of questioning while in the garden on the evening of his arrest [Matt 26:29, Mark 14:36, Luke 22:42]. It seems that much of the study of God and scripture is driven by the need to address feelings of unworthiness, role confusion, and fear.

Early Christianity, which some erroneously think was a beatific time of clarity and focus, was often as much a time of argument and confusion as it was a time of consensus and community formation, with proclamation being born in the midst of disorder. What made our religion viable, lasting and important was the sometimes tardy awareness that all that we needed for salvation had already been given to us through the cross and holy teachings of Jesus. Historically, this awareness was the antidote to the fear and confusion through which that rough collection of disciples navigated when they sought to balance their lack of spiritual experience with the perpetual call of their rabbi.

Many contemporary Christians forget that they are the inheritors of the disciples' ministry and witness. As with those early people of faith, we, too, deal with issues of unworthiness, confusion, fear and a lack of confidence. However, along with our inherited our mission, we have also been given, through baptism and its sacramental reinforcement in the Holy Communion, the means necessary to live in confidence and provide the world with the Christian witness it needs. If we recall the great commission, and the everlasting power that is ours as part of a community unlimited by common mortality, our mission is not only clear but wholly dependent on the gifts that we bring

through our faith.

While this is a topic worthy of much further consideration, we may have to explore it as part of an adult forum, as I just received a phone call from the 2nd assistant to the 3rd producer. It appears that there is a "wild animal" by the dumpster at the parish. The caller tells me it may be a skunk and they don't know what to do. While scripture gives us all that is necessary for salvation, I'm not sure the New Testament directly covers this one.

Father Rob

ADULT FORUMS

The adult forums which began during Lent will resume on Sunday, April 13 after the 10:30 service. We plan to continue our discussion of the political, social, religious and economic environment in which the events recorded in the New Testament occurred.

On the other hand, we may search Scripture for instruction on the removal of a skunk from the dumpster....

The vicar would like to consider rescheduling these meetings to Saturday mornings so that more parishioners might attend. Please let him know your preferences!



A big thank you to all who sang, decorated, dyed eggs, read, ushered, hid eggs, assisted with the Eucharist, donated for flowers, baked, ate and attended Trinity's Holy Week and Easter services! We ushered in the Feast and Season of Easter with brio!



EFM OPEN HOUSE : IT'S NOT YOUR MOTHER'S BIBLE STUDY!

All parishioners are invited to attend the Education for Ministry open house on April 23 from 3-5 in the Trinity library.

EFM is a distance learning program which provides theological education for those who do not plan to work towards ordination but are interested in why we Christians believe what we believe and how we have arrived at that place.

Over the course of the program, participants study the Old and New Testaments and the economic, social and political environments which gave rise to those writings. Church history is considered in the same manner.

Each week the group focuses on a story, current event, scripture passage or other source and considers it in the light of our understanding of both our own culture and the world of the Bible. The application of the class members' resulting insights in everyday life and decision making is a key goal for the group.

For further information, contact MaryAnne Carley at 860.364.5652 or macarley@sbcglobal.net.

MEMORIAL DAY TAG AND BAKE SALE



It's not too soon to start gathering well loved (but preferably not *too* well loved) items that are collecting dust in your home and preparing to donate them to the Annual Tag and Bake Sale on

May 24 from 10-2.

Books and gently used furniture are particularly welcome. Please, no clothes, shoes or pocketbooks! Remember the tag sale motto: "if it belongs at the transfer station, please

take it there directly!" If something is so dilapidated that you don't want it at your home, chances are excellent that no one else wants it at their place either!

Alice Tweed (860.435.2058) will be looking for bakers and sandwich makers for the bake sale portion of the day. If the weather is good, we will have lots of cyclists coming through, and they will be hungry! Cookies, pies and other confections are welcome as well. Word to the wise: it is better to volunteer your services to Alice before Alice appears with her pencil and clipboard...

We also will need folks to help set up for the tag sale and to sell food and tag sale items on the big day. Ginny Dildine (860.824.7455) will gratefully accept your offer of assistance and is also the lady with all the answers, should you have any, about acceptability of tag sale items.

SPRING CLEAN UP

Come spring, everyone's yard needs raking and sprucing up, and Trinity's is no exception! Buildings and Grounds Chair Judy Brown (860.824.0640) is planning a general sprucing up of our parish grounds on April 26 at 9:30 am (assuming it is not raining or snowing...). Coffee and doughnuts will get us up and at 'em and a light lunch will be served.



Bring your gloves, rake, broom or other clean up equipment and offer your time and talent to Trinity! You'll be able to skip your exercise routine for the day and will be gratified at the results of your hard labor!



SUNDAY SUMMER SOCCER

Trinity's summer soccer coordinator Geoff Brown invites all Trinity's young people, their friends, neighbors and out of town cousins to participate in our fourth year of Sunday Summer Soccer, beginning June 8 at 10:00 am on

Reid Field. Both new and experienced players are welcome to attend as often as they wish to over the summer.

As always, Geoff will be there, and he will be assisted by Richard Kirby, soccer coach at Hotchkiss School and Jeff Merrill of the North Canaan school, among other coaches.

Participants will begin each week with a brief prayer and then practice soccer skills and scrimmages. The program ends at 11:30 with those wishing to attend Eucharist leaving for the church and others going home.

For further information or to sign up for the program, visit www.trinitylimerock.org or contact Geoff at geoff@betweenthelakes.com or at 860.824.0640.



LA BONNE'S RECEIPTS

If you shop regularly at LaBonne's, please save your receipts and deposit them in the lucite envelope outside the office door. We remit them to the store and receive 1% of our expenditures back to Trinity. Every little bit helps!

AN EASTER PRAYER

Christ, we thank you for all rebirths. We thank you for forgiveness and for second chances, both for ourselves and others.

This Easter season as sleeping seeds and trees begin to burst into new life, help us all to become more alive and to grow more nearly into the people you mean us to be.

Avery Brooke in
Plain Prayers for a Complicated World

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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