



# TRINITY TIMES

## OCTOBER 2009

### Trinity Episcopal Church

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*Sunday School*

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

#### FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN'S DESK:

Dear Friends,



On Sunday, September 27th, The Rev. Canon Erik Larsen, the Canon for Transitional Ministry, celebrated Eucharist and spoke to the parish and Vestry about our search for our next pastor. Basically we have two choices. The first is to begin a formal search process. This would mean that the Diocese would appoint an interim priest while we elect a search committee, gather information on the parish which would assist us in deciding what type of candidate we are looking for (and can afford), after which we would eventually begin looking at resumes, then interviewing and visiting potential candidates. For those of you who have been through this process before, you know that it can be an exhausting and expensive process that can last a year or more. It can also be a rewarding time during which a parish can discover a lot about itself.

The second option is to apply to the Bishop for a Priest in Charge. This means the Bishop will try to find an appropriate candidate or candidates whom we would then interview. If we agreed, that priest would then stay at Trinity for a period of two years, during which we would set goals and expectations. He or she would function in the same way as a Vicar or Rector but would remain officially as a Priest in Charge. At the end of two years, we would evaluate our time together and decide if we were suited. If we both agree that we are happy with the arrangement, that priest would then officially become our next Vicar or Rector. If we decide not to make it permanent, then that priest would remain another year as our Interim while we went began an official search.

After speaking with Canon Larsen and listening to comments from members of the parish over the last few weeks, The



Vestry decided to have Canon Larsen speak to Bishop Smith about the second option, a Priest in Charge. We felt the advantage in this is that we would

have someone in place in a much shorter period of time. Interim periods are always difficult at churches, and we at Trinity are in a good place right now. We would hate to see our momentum stalled. Also, searches are expensive and time consuming and while we may eventually have to go that route in two years, this gives us an option to avoid it and the potential to have an interim priest that we would already know. Another thing to consider is the fact that there are not a lot of interim priests out there willing to take a part time position.

Of course, our hope is to eventually become a full time parish again and the Vestry is committed to that end.

We want to thank everyone for your comments, emails, and phone calls offering opinions and suggestions. Believe me, your feelings were taken into account by the Vestry as we made this decision. Of course, as soon as we are given a response from the Bishop you will all be informed. Please continue to pray for the Vestry and everyone at Trinity. We have been in this position before and we've always managed to get stronger. Priests come and go; our Trinity family will always remain.

Peace,  
*Linda*



### THANKS TO...

...Al Dorf and all those who contributed side dishes to make our "See you in September" Labor Day picnic such a pleasant evening. The steaks were tender, the huge variety of accompaniments delicious, and we welcomed autumn and the return to "full speed" activities at Trinity in a fun filled evening.

...Tom Schindler and the Art Show Commit-



tee for their hard work in creating another opportunity for viewing and buying works from long time favorite artists and new ones as well. Trinity netted about \$3500.00 from the show, a good

result for a time of economic uncertainty and belt tightening.

...to Gretchen Hachmeister, Marian Browning and Cheryl Duntz for getting our Sunday School program off to a good start! The children meet with Pastor Heidi at the side chapel of the church for an opening service and then proceed to their classroom before returning towards the end of the liturgy to share the Eucharist with the rest of the congregation.

...to the choir of Trinity Church Wall St., which enhanced our worship service so beautifully on September 20. We look forward to their return next year!

### AND THANKS FROM...

...Rob Clements, for the purses donated by the parish at large and by the Altar Guild and ECW. He has put them to good use as he begins his ministry at Christ Church Roxbury.

...Aaron Manderbach, for the card we sent him in September. Aaron served as Trinity's interim twice as well as being a Sunday School teacher. He reports that he and Judy are both well at their retirement home in Redding.

### COOPERATIVE CONFIRMATION CLASS



Five local Episcopal parishes—Trinity, St. John's, Christ Church Canaan, Christ Church Sharon and the Chapel of All Saints will offer a seven month confirmation class beginning October 11 at St. John's in Salisbury. The program will run from 1:30-2:30 the second

Sunday of each month.

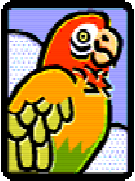
Topics to be included are Scripture, Church History, Spirituality, Worship and the Book of Common Prayer, the Sacraments, the Creeds and Mission. Each unit will be taught by a different clergy person or individual in the discernment process. It is anticipated that Alexis Dorf will be the facilitator for the program. Plans for a confirmation service at St. John's in the spring are in process.

For further information, please speak to Alexis or Pastor Heidi.

## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



We will mark the Feast of St. Francis with the Blessing of the Animals on Oct. 4 at the 10:30 liturgy. Because it is a special day, the children will be in church instead of Sunday School.



All are invited to bring their animal companions, leashed, caged, or otherwise under human control for a blessing that morning. Coffee hour will include treats for all species!



This is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends and neighbors (as well as their pets) to join us at Trinity, and to experience our liturgy and hospitality!

## "SEEING THROUGH NEW LENSES"



Parishioners from Trinity, St. John's and St. Mary's have joined together informally to offer an outreach program of readings in the areas of religion and spirituality at Noble Horizons. This venue was chosen to make the group easily accessible to residents who would like to participate in such a discussion group but for whom mobility may be an issue.

The first meeting focused on the lenses through which we see our own lives as well as Scripture and the lenses through which the Biblical writers understood their times.

The second meeting will be Nov. 5 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm in the Cobble living room at Noble. The book under consideration will be *Wisdom Jesus* by Cynthia Bourgeault, an Episcopal priest. The author presents Jesus as a wisdom teacher who taught the way of *kenosis*, or self emptying, as the path to unity with God and our fellow creatures.

The book is available through Amazon (of course!) as well as Oblong Bookstore in Millerton. For further information, speak to Alexis Dorf.



Trinity Church records with sorrow the death of parishioner Jose Or-raca on September 14.

May his soul and the souls of all faithful departed rest in peace.

*God to enfold me,  
God to surround me,  
God in my speaking,  
God in my thinking.*

*God in my sleeping,  
God in my waking,  
God in my watching,  
God in my hoping.*

*God in my life,  
God in my lips,  
God in my hands,  
God in my heart.*

*God in my sufficing,  
God in my slumber  
God in mine ever living soul,  
God in mine eternity*