

CHURCH OF THE TRINITY
323 East Lincoln Highway
Coatesville, PA 19320-3409



FEBRUARY 2017

trinity topics

From the Rector's Desk . .

By the Reverend Sherry Deets

There is energy stirring and things are happening at Trinity Church. We are gathering excited energy about our 150th Anniversary celebration in 2018 as we make plans for next year. We mark 50 years after the merger of St. Cyril's and Trinity this calendar year. As we look back in time we are reminded how things and people change and grow. There were difficult times and there were good times. It is the stuff of life.

I would like to share an excerpt this month from Becca Stevens' book *Sanctuary: Unexpected Places Where God Found Me*. This piece is entitled "A New Song":

My husband is a songwriter. My respect for his work is such that I don't watch him write. Instead, every now and then I listen from another room. He has a ritual that began long before I knew him and has continued through various places and stages of our lives. This is how it worked yesterday morning: After the kids and animals were fed, he fixed himself a cup of coffee and sat in front of his piano and began to play a familiar melodic mantra that always seems to carry his spirit to a place where he can write. I can only imagine what he looks like in that place. The sounds fill the space I am in with great peace and tenderness. It is like listening to a prelude before worship or to monks chanting evensong. Sometimes the chord progressions take him back to one of the thousand songs he has written before. Sometimes he plays a progression over and over, and it sounds like a record skipping. But sometimes, like yesterday, the progression takes off and travels to an unknown place, and I can hear him push the "record" button on the cassette player, and a melody never before sung soars into the air, bringing to life a new creation that blossoms in the morning sun.

A quarter century into writing, he still sits there every day, never doubting that a new song will emerge from the infinitely fertile ground of his soul. I want to be more like that. I want to believe that every fading moon will bring a muse to whisper in my ear. Sometimes I think, sitting in the other room sipping my own coffee, that my grieving heart holds on to old familiar melodies so tightly that I don't leave room for new ones. I hold on to loved ones who have died. I want to keep my children small so that I can always hold them.

But this beautiful new melody filling the air reminds me never to grieve what has gone before. The spirit that breathed at the dawn of creation is breathing still. So, I take a deep breath and set my coffee down and pick up my pencil and a scrap of paper and write what will be the closest I ever write to a hymn of praise of the Holy Spirit.

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What's Cookin' in Coatesville /Parents Night Out

Our free healthy meal for the community is being served once again on Thursday, February 2 at 6 p.m. This month features Boneless Chicken Breast with a Boursin Herb Sauce over pasta, Mixed Green Salad and Red Velvet Cupcakes for dessert. Our presenter this month is Jan Michener from AHHAH (Arts Holding Hearts and Hands). If you would like to volunteer to help serve and clean up, please arrive at 5:45 p.m. or simply join us for a good healthy meal.

Trinity Tea

On Sunday, February 12th the Pastoral Care Team will be hosting a Trinity Tea in honor of Valentine's Day. Join us for good food, fellowship and some Trivia fun.

Organ Update

Sing to the Lord a new song! We are getting a new organ at Trinity Church! Thanks to all who have contributed toward this new musical instrument over the last few years. As you may recall, we had a \$20,000 grant from the Stewart Huston Charitable Trust and a generous donation from the Estate of Elizabeth Thompson as well as the contributions from many members and friends of Trinity Church. The Vestry voted to move ahead with the building of the organ at its meeting on January 8th which means that we will use \$8,000 from non-specified funds to complete the purchase. It takes 12-14 weeks to build the organ, so the earliest we may see it in church is Easter Sunday.

There is still a chance to contribute toward the organ, if you wish, as we have been given an anonymous challenge to raise an additional \$2,500. For every contribution we receive toward the new organ, it will be matched up to \$2,500.

This new organ will be placed where the grand piano is currently sitting and the grand piano will move to the other side (after the removal of a half pew and modesty panel). It is much more effective for a musician to be able to see what is happening during a worship service and to be able to direct the choir when they sing anthems. Gail will essentially be coming "out of the pit" to play the new organ which will have a much better sound. This is exciting for Trinity, for our worship experience and for our ability to offer community musical experiences. Sing to the Lord a new song!



Hope in Dark Places: Knowing and Proclaiming Christ Crucified A Diocesan Lent Day with Fleming Rutledge

March 25 9:00am-3:30pm

Church of the Good Samaritan

Join us as we gather together to hear one of the Episcopal Church's foremost writers and preachers lead us in a day reflecting on the Cross of Christ in preparation for Holy Week. *Note: Rutledge's book, **The Crucifixion: Understanding the Death of Jesus Christ** has recently been named the 2016 Book of the Year by Christianity Today.*

Joining the Church

St. Cyril's Day/Bishop's Visit

Our annual St. Cyril's Day celebration will arrive with a special twist this year. It is the 50th anniversary of the merging of St. Cyril's Episcopal Church with Episcopal Church of the Trinity. Bishop Gutierrez will be with us to celebrate and preach and confirm/receive new members on June 25th. What a great day to confirm new members! If you are interested in officially joining Trinity Church, let either Deacon Joan or Pastor Sherry know. We will be holding sessions about the Episcopal Church (The Discovery Series) for several weeks prior to the Bishop's visit in order to share more about just what the Episcopal Church is.

Empty Ink Cartridges

Trinity continues to participate in Staples' program for returning empty ink cartridges. For each cartridge returned to Staples we are given store credit. This program has allowed Trinity to obtain copy paper for our bulletins, etc. at very little cost to the church. If you have empty ink cartridges, consider turning them in to the church. The return box is in the hallway outside of St. Cyril's chapel, beside the mailboxes. Thank you for helping Trinity to save on operating expenses! Every little bit makes a difference.

New Alarm System and Entry

Trinity will be upgrading our smoke alarm system to a burglar alarm system. Along with a new alarm system, we will be obtaining new front doors (the current wooden doors are rotting at the bottom) and a key card entry system. With an alarm system, anyone who enters the building during non-regular times will need to enter through the new doors located at the center of our plant (by the hall) in order to deactivate the alarm. Pastor Sherry is creating a list of people who will need new key cards to get in the building. If you will be in need of getting into the building during "off" times, please give your name to Pastor Sherry or Jamoca Harkins (parish administrator).



Annual Meeting

Church of the Trinity's annual meeting will be held in March (exact date to be announced). We elect members to Vestry and Convention/Deanery delegates at our annual meeting. Be thinking about who would be a good vestry member or delegate as our Annual Meeting approaches. We will be seeking nominations.

St. Cyril's Chapel

St. Cyril's Chapel will be getting a facelift. The Evans family has graciously offered to paint and carpet the Chapel. We are grateful!

Strategic Plan

Church of the Trinity has a new Strategic Plan. After working with a consultant over the summer and tweaking our goals, the Vestry voted on the final plan at its January 8th meeting. The plan is attached to this newsletter. As always, if you have questions or ideas, feel free to speak with a Vestry member, Deacon Joan or Pastor Sherry. The leadership of the church is open to new ways of being a church and widening our arms to bring others to Christ.

Mission Statement

The Church of the Trinity is a congregation rooted in the faith and love of Christ, unified in diversity, seeking to grow and nourish the Trinity family and our Coatesville community.

Vision

We wish to be seen in the community as a vital contributor to the general welfare of the Coatesville community, as well as a Christ-centered house of worship. To reach this vision, we seek to reach out and serve our neighbors in Coatesville, demonstrating the love of Christ through our actions.

Broad Three-year Goals

1. To celebrate our 150 years of faith in Coatesville during our anniversary year in 2018.
Leader: Joe Kirkner
Target Date: 2018
2. To improve the church's sustainable financial footing, making our budget stronger by raising personnel compensation to realistic levels, as well as other line items, and by starting to save towards property needs.
Leader: Finance Committee
Target Date: FY 2020 Budget (January 1, 2020)
3. To increase our engagement with single parent families in Coatesville, by transforming our monthly Community Meal into a Single Parents Night Out, complete with free meal and professional child care

services during the evening. Stretch goal: include educational sessions to help attendees with their life challenges, as requested by the attendees.

Leader: Jamoca Harkins

Target Date: January 2017

4. Make greater Coatesville community aware of the vibrant programs of the church, with the goal of welcoming new members to our congregation. (Marketing)

Leader: Tom Swett and Marketing Intern

Target Date: Throughout 2017

5. Planned Giving Awareness

Leader: Vestry

Target Date: Throughout 2017

6. Strategic Plan Review and Revision: This strategic plan will be reviewed and revised as needed each year by the Vestry at the annual Vestry Retreat. Throughout the year, the Vestry welcomes suggestions and comments on the Strategic Plan from the members of our congregation.

Leader: Rector

Target Date: June of each year



It's Spring – or It Soon Will Be!

Let's Collect Socks and Underwear for the Shelters

What could be nicer for a homeless man, woman or child than getting fresh socks and underwear when they come to one of the three shelters in Coatesville? And these are commodities the shelters always need to keep in stock in their clothes closets, because they run through them fast.

There will be marked boxes in the back of the Trinity Church, near the food collection through February, for you to drop your purchases in (new only, please). We will deliver to the shelters. For those who can only give a little we will have marked envelopes in the back of the church too, and you can donate anonymously. We will then purchase and deliver.

The shelters tell me they always need large sizes of adult underwear. So far as I'm aware, men's and women's socks are pretty much one size fits all. However, children's underwear and socks can be in a variety of children's sizes.

Please be generous if you can. And thanks! Deacon Joan



Veterans Brunch – January 29, 2017

As of this writing, for the start of 2017, we are in the process of preparing for this Sunday's gathering and anticipate 50+ veterans and approx. 20 volunteers.

Our menu for this month will be eggs, bacon, pancakes or French toast, roast pork, sauerkraut, red russet smashed potatoes, root vegetable medley, green beans with shallots and hazelnuts; saffron risotto, and many more options (coming in, each day!). We will provide our usual dessert varieties from Wegmans; fresh fruit; juices, coffee and water. If you haven't participated for a while; or haven't volunteered yet – give us a try! You won't be disappointed. God bless our veterans, Trinity Church, and God Bless America. -Brunch Bunch



Women's Group

A quick reminder that February 28th is Shrove Tuesday. The Women will once again be holding our annual Pancake Supper. On Tuesday, February 28th 2017, the Trinity Church Women will be hosting the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Before we begin our journey into the season of Lent, let's gather together for this fun evening meal to enjoy the sweets and conversations. Bring a friend, or two, or six!

Join us for pancakes, sausage, juices, and homemade desserts. Come anytime from 6:00 to 7:30 pm.

Cost = \$5.00 for adults; \$2.50 for children ages 4-10; and free for children 3 and under.

("Shrove" is derived from the Old English word "shrive," which means to "confess all sins.")



150 Anniversary Meeting – January 15, 2017

“Celebrating 150 years of Faith in Coatesville”

Another enthusiastic turn-out from the congregation to discuss plans for our celebration slated for 2018.

Marshall and Diane Evans reported on the various venues they reviewed. A total of five locations for our Saturday evening celebrations were brought up for discussion. The final decision, selected by everyone in attendance, was the home of Greg and Caroline Bentley. As we approach the celebration, and in future reports, etc., we will refer to the location as “Runnymede”. Their offer to use their residence is very exciting, and we look forward to our special event at their lovely home. Thank you, Greg, & Caroline!

Pat Kirkner shared her results of banners and tapestries for Stone Hall, and will be ordering them soon. Nicole McGovern and Erika Haak will be handling letter writing, invitations, and securing memorabilia items. Please offer your help to them, to ease some of the time needed to acquire these items. Kathy Lozier will be interviewing some of our long-time parishioners to create biographies for our anniversary book. Upcoming meeting topics: handling advertising; budget; building & grounds; music program; and organ. Stay tuned for announcement of date for next meeting. -Joe Kirkner, Chair

Happy February 2025 Birthday



22-Feb Craig & Nicole McGovern

Aaron Bruce	3-Feb
Paige Olson	8-Feb
Violet Armstead	9-Feb
Michael Magness	10-Feb
Irma Bailey	11-Feb
Andrew Bentley	13-Feb
Martha Rutledge	14-Feb
Patricia Hendricks	17-Feb
Vic Shanley	20-Feb
Josh Busch	20-Feb
Patricia Vogt	22-Feb
Dennis Irwin	24-Feb
Jamoca Harkins	25-Feb
Kent Nation	26-Feb

FEBRUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
				HE Chapel- 12Noon Whats Cookin in Coatesville- 6PM		SH & Kitchen Rented
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	BIBLE STUDY 7PM	CHOIR REHEARSAL		HE Chapel – 12Noon Food Distribution		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
SH Rented Trinity Tea	BIBLE STUDY 7PM	CHOIR REHEARSAL		HE Chapel -12Noon Food Distribution Pastoral Care Team Meeting 1230PM		SH Rented
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Vestry Meeting	BIBLE STUDY 7PM	CHOIR REHEARSAL		HE Chapel – 12Noon		SH & Kitchen RENTED
26	27	28				
VETERAN'S BRUNCH 1230pm SH & Kitchen Rented 3PM	BIBLE STUDY 7PM	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner 6PM				



Readers, Servers and Greeters for February 2017



Date	Readers	Psalter/P-O-P	Chalists	Servers	Torches	Greeters
2/5	Seth Haak	N/A	Pat Kirkner	Pat Kirkner	N/A	TBA
	Craig McGovern	Lon Cross	Bill Terry	Pat Kirkner	N/A	
2/12	Bill Terry	N/A	Jim Anderson	Seth Haak	N/A	TBA
	Ebbie Carey	Caroline Bentley	Al Carey	Bill Terry	N/A	
2/19	Vic Shanley	N/A	Lon Cross	Jack McGovern	N/A	TBA
	Jim Anderson	Chris Haak	Pat Kirkner	Bill Terry	N/A	
2/26	Greg Bentley	N/A	Pam Smyth	Zoey McGovern	N/A	TBA
	Donna Puma	Pam Smyth	Bill Terry	Bill Terry	N/A	

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For more information

contact:

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Website:

www.trinitycoatesville.org

Jamoca Harkins, Parish Administrator

Parish Office Hours

Monday – Wednesday

8AM—12PM

Thursday 9AM—12PM

Mission Statement

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Service Schedule

Holy Eucharist

Sundays 9:30 AM

Thursdays 12:00 PM

Church School

Sundays 9:15 AM

Bible Study

Mondays 7:00 PM

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