



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

MARCH 2016

# trinity topics

## From the Rector's Desk . . .

### By The Reverend Sherry Deets

Music plays an important role in our worship and praise of God and I am fascinated by some of the stories behind the lyrics of many of our favorite hymns. *In the Garden* holds a special place in my heart and I recently read the story of the lyrics. As Easter is approaching, I thought it would be appropriate to share it with you. *In the Garden* was written in 1912 by C. Austin Miles.

### ...she turned around and saw Jesus standing there... John 20:14

The art of meditating on Scripture involves using one's imagination. Instead of simply reading a passage, we must read it, close our eyes, and visualize the scene, perhaps even putting ourselves in the picture. That's what the author of this hymn did.

C. Austin Miles was a pharmacist who began writing gospel songs and eventually became an editor of hymnals and songbooks, as well as a popular music director at camp meetings, conventions, and churches. His hobby was photography, and he found his darkroom perfect for developing, not just his photographs, but his devotional life. In its privacy and strange blue glow, Miles could read his Bible in total privacy.

One day in March 1912, while waiting for some film to develop, he opened the Bible to his favorite chapter, John 20, the story of the first Easter. Miles later said: "As I read it that day, I seemed to be part of the scene . . . My hands were resting on the Bible while I stared at the light blue wall. As the light faded, I seemed to be standing at the entrance of a garden, looking down a gently winding path, shaded by olive branches. A woman in white, with head bowed, hand clasping her throat as if to choke back her sobs, walked slowly into the shadows. It was Mary. As she came to the tomb, upon which she placed her hand, she bent over to look in and hurried away. John, in flowing robe, appeared, looking at the tomb; then came Peter, who entered the tomb, followed slowly by John.

"As they departed, Mary reappeared, leaning her head upon her arm at the tomb. She wept. Turning herself, she saw Jesus standing: so did I. I knew it was He. She knelt before Him, with arms outstretched and looking into his face, cried, 'Rabboni!'

## Inside this issue:

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| From the Rector's Desk          | 1,2 |
| Bishop Candidates               | 2   |
| Bishop Search                   | 3   |
| The Train                       | 3   |
| Organ Update                    | 4   |
| Holy Week Services              | 4   |
| What's Cookin'                  | 4   |
| Trinity Sunday School & Nursery | 5   |
| Annual Meeting                  | 5   |
| What Difference Does it Make    | 5,6 |
| 150th Anniversary Meeting       | 6   |
| Veterans Brunch                 | 7   |
| Easter Memorial Flowers         | 7   |
| March Birthdays &               | 8   |
| March Calendar                  | 9   |
| Readers, Servers and Greeters   |     |
| Episcopal Church of the Trinity | 10  |
| Contact Info                    |     |

“I awakened in full light, gripping my Bible, with muscles tense and nerves vibrating. Under the inspiration of this vision I wrote as quickly as the words would be formed the poem exactly as it has since appeared. That same evening I wrote the music.” - *From the book Then Sings My Soul by Robert J. Morgan*

Those lyrics are:

I come to the garden alone, While the dew is still on the roses; And the voice I hear, falling on my ear,  
The Son of God discloses.

He speaks, and the sound of His voice is so sweet, the birds hush their singing, And the melody that He  
gave to me, Within my heart is ringing.

I'd stay in the garden with Him, Though the night around me be falling, But He bids me go; through the  
voice of woe, His voice to me is calling.

Refrain:

And He walks with me, And He talks with me, And He tells me I am His own; And the joy we share as we  
tarry there, None other has ever known.

---

### **A Visit from the Candidates for Bishop!**



On February 17<sup>th</sup> the five candidates for Bishop for our Diocese stopped by Trinity for a visit. We are tickled that we were included on their walk-about through the Diocese. Present to represent Trinity were Pastor Sherry, Deacon Joan, Vestry Member Tom Swett (as our city revitalization liaison) and Linda Lavender-Norris who is the President of Coatesville City Council. We understand that we made a favorable impression on our Candidates! One of them will be our new Diocesan Bishop and that means he/she will know about Trinity, Coatesville. Prayers for the Holy Spirit's presence is discernment for all who are voting at the Special Convention to be held on Saturday, March 12.



## Bishop Search

As your elected delegate to Convention, I was given the privilege of meeting, questioning and observing the five candidates that the Diocesan Search and Nominating Committee slated for election as our next Bishop. This 'meet and greet' was conducted on February 18<sup>th</sup> at Good Samaritan in Paoli. Sherry and I represented Trinity. The three hour process presented us with a half hour session per candidate. Although this was not enough time to discover the depth of each; it did allow us some observation of their ability to respond in an unscripted atmosphere. I was impressed with the confidence of all candidates. I did come away with knowing which candidate I would vote for. Responses to questions on poverty, bridge building, administration, and need to listen, led me to this selection. I will not state my selection here; but will mention that Sherry and I are in agreement on this candidate. So on March 12<sup>th</sup>, at the Call Convention at the Cathedral, Trinity is allowed one vote and clergy is allowed one vote, so know that we will vote for the future of us; the healing of our diocese; and the person who exemplifies Jesus in our midst.

-Respectfully, Pat Kirkner

## THE TRAIN



At birth we boarded the train and met our parents, and we believe they will always travel by our side. As time goes by, other people will board the train; and they will be significant i.e. our siblings, friends, children, and even the love of your life. However, at some station our parents will step down from the train, leaving us on this journey alone. Others will step down over time and leave a permanent vacuum. Some, however, will go so unnoticed that we don't realize they vacated their seats. This train ride will be full of joy, sorrow, fantasy, expectations, hellos, goodbyes, and farewells. Success consists of having a good relationship with all passengers requiring that we give the best of ourselves.

The mystery to everyone is: We do not know at which station we ourselves will step down. So, we must live in the best way, love, forgive, and offer the best of who we are. It is important to do this because when the time comes for us to step down and leave our seat empty we should leave behind beautiful memories for those who will continue to travel on the train of life.

I wish you a joyful journey.

Jean Turbeville Sanders

## Organ Update

There is very good news to share about raising funds for a new organ at Trinity. As you know, we received a grant from the Stewart Huston Charitable Trust in the amount of \$20,000 toward a new organ. Over time, we have raised another roughly \$10,000. Contributions in memory of Elizabeth Thompson have brought us another \$10,000 ! Thank you Evans and our dear, departed Elizabeth. We are very grateful. Now, Trinity is much closer to our grand goal of \$60,000 and this is very exciting. It has been our hope and prayer that we could have a new organ prior to our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and it now looks promising.



---

## Holy Week Services



**March 20 at 9:30 a.m.: Palm and Passion Sunday.** Join us for a dramatic reading of the Passion.

**March 24 at 7 p.m.: Maundy Thursday** Agape, Foot Washing (optional) and Stripping of the Altar. Join us in Stone Hall for an informal gathering with light food and drink, scripture, a short meditation and music. The foot washing is optional, but many who have participated have found it to be a meaningful experience. Simply come prepared to remove a shoe, or shoes, for the symbolic foot washing. After this, we process to the Sanctuary for the stripping of the Altar in preparation for our Good Friday liturgy.

**March 25 at 7 p.m.: Good Friday** Service in the sanctuary. Good Friday is one of those special services that brings us up close and personal, to the enormous love of God for us in the sacrifice of His Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**March 26 at 9 a.m.: Holy Saturday** Morning Prayer in the Sanctuary. Holy Saturday marks that in-between time from Jesus' death on the cross until his Resurrection.

**March 27 at 9:30 a.m.: Glorious Easter Sunday!!!**

---

## What's Cookin' in Coatesville?

Our First Monday healthy meal program continues on Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. in Stone Hall. This month we are serving Beef Stew, Smashed Potatoes, Crusty Rolls and Carrot Cake Cupcakes for desert. We usually have a good time serving and cleaning up, so if you would like to join the fellowship and volunteer, please arrive around 6:45 p.m.



## Trinity Sunday School and Nursery

We are reclaiming our space upstairs for Sunday School use and for a Nursery that will be staffed by a professional caregiver. The fire escape

is being repaired, the walls are freshly repaired and painted and new flooring will be in place. We now need new or gently used furniture, etc. for our brand new nursery that has a planned opening date of Easter Sunday! Your help with the following items is greatly appreciated: Crib, Crib Sheets, Mattress, Mattress pad, changing table, plastic pad for changing table, pack and play, go pod (portable activity seat), swing/bouncy seat, rocking chair, first aid kit, toy shelf with bins, disinfectant/sanitizer, paging system, kids table and chairs, monetary donations, garbage can/diaper pail, potty seat. Donna Puma (licensed elementary school teacher) is managing the nursery operation and is happy to speak with you regarding any questions you may have. Please let her know what items you may be able to gift to ensure we do not have duplication of efforts. We are looking at Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> during our annual meeting as the date for recognizing the gifts of the needed shower items.

## Annual Meeting

Church of the Trinity's annual meeting will be held on Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> in Stone Hall after the service. Please join us to see and hear all that we have accomplished in 2015 and what is on the path before us. This is an opportunity to share your thoughts, concerns, ideas, etc. with the leadership. This is also the time when we vote to elect members to vestry and as convention/deanery delegates. Be thinking about who would be a good vestry member or delegate as our Annual Meeting approaches. Nominations are now being accepted in the church office.

## What Difference Does it Make That We Are an Episcopal Church?

Deacon's note: the following is excerpted for length and modified from an article written by Rev. Lisa G. Fischbeck of Episcopal Church of the Advocate of the Diocese of North Carolina. I think it is a thought-provoking follow-up to our "ask-the-rector" time during our recent Trinity Tea. *Deacon Joan*

"I don't have any desire to be an Episcopalian. I just like the Church of the Advocate," says the man who has been coming to the Advocate for 5 years. The Bishop's visitation is ahead, and I'm trying to identify people who might want to get confirmed. "But the Advocate is an Episcopal Church!" I say. "Does that mean I have to become an Episcopalian to be a member?" he asks. "Well, no." I say.

Denominational identity and loyalty are less important than they used to be. Sure, some people still seek out an Episcopal Church because they were raised in the church. But more likely, people are drawn to a particular church community because of its location, its work in the larger community or the friendliness of the people. Maybe they are looking for a particular kind of church community, one that has a Bible study or a particular musical style or a social justice focus. Some are drawn to the spiritual practices of a particular congregation, to the diversity of the community, or to its non-diversity.

In my 20's, I truly wanted to understand whether denominations were the result of human pride or were instead a faithful response to God. I read and studied a lot. And I determined that denominations are both, of course. Each denominational tradition really is part of the whole of Christianity and each has something to offer that is distinct from the others. Each has a way that draws some people to God when other ways would not. Some are founded on the writing and theology of a particular individual; others still are rooted in spirit of the American frontier. Some are known for a more literal understanding of the Bible, some for being engaged in social and political issues. All have strengths and weaknesses. It is healthful for clergy and people to be able to speak, without shame or arrogance, about the strengths and liabilities that our denominational identity carries. Like so much of ministry together, this requires conversations.

The Episcopal Church is the American version of the Anglican Church, a Church with a tradition of rich and thoughtful theology, spirituality and liturgy. At its



best, Anglican theology is a theology that welcomes questions, that respects individual conscience, and that looks for larger truths. It is a theology that explores a variety of truths and that thrives in the creative tension between all-or-nothing positions. Anglican theology holds a particular appreciation of the Incarnation – God becoming a human being in Jesus. This means that we believe that God comes to us where and how we are, that all of humanity has been lifted up, and therefore the dignity of every human being is to be respected. Anglican theology has a lot to contribute to conversations among Christians, between Christians and those of other faiths, and between the Church and the world.

At its best, Anglican spirituality calls us forth for a lifetime of transformation and conformation to the way of Christ. Our Book of Common Prayer has a wealth of resources for this: the Eucharistic Rites to remind us of the Story again and again, the daily offices of Morning Prayer, Noonday Prayer, Evening Prayer and Compline, the liturgical calendar and the rhythm of the church year to transform time. This comes as a comfort and relief to all those who have not had a life-changing, “road to Damascus” conversion experience. It also means we always have more transformation ahead.

The Episcopal Church is sacramental, with the Eucharist at the center of our liturgy and worship. We are in the same liturgical mold as Roman Catholic, Anglican, Orthodox and Lutheran churches. We realize that Christian formation occurs by the study of the Word, but also by life lived in the Body of Christ, the church. We wear vestments, we process, we have prayer books. All of these things are help form clergy and laity alike. But they are even more formational when explained and understood.

The Episcopal Church has a rich musical tradition, promoting congregational singing, weaving sacred poetry and ancient texts with music that has endured the test of time and thrives still today. Episcopal Church music has also become increasingly diverse and global.

In the early years of my ministry, I cheered people on to Confirmation, telling them that they were going to be part of a wider Communion, a worldwide Communion of Christians with whom we shared our tradition and our history. The bishop who confirmed me as a young adult in 1979 told me I could walk into any *Anglican* Church in the world and call it my church.

But the Church of the Advocate was launched right after the General Convention that supported Gene Robinson’s consecration as Bishop of New Hampshire. That move, within a few decades of the move to ordain

women, attracted new people to the Episcopal Church, and certainly to the Advocate. But the reactions within the Anglican Communion in the years that followed have caused some people to shy away from an affiliation with our denomination. Increasingly, I don’t feel I need to or want to convince them.

And increasingly, I realize that Baptism is what makes us part of a worldwide communion. I am ready to celebrate the faith we share, ready to be challenged by those Christian theologies that are different from my own (though, if I am honest, I don’t want to be challenged too much...). I want to believe that I can walk into any *Christian* Church in the world and call it my church (though I know not every church agrees with me).

Still, my love and appreciation of the Anglican Way continues. I am a liturgical sacramental Christian, intentional about liturgy and passionate about the Incarnation. I confess I struggle with growing non-denominational ministries that seem to set aside denominational traditions and distinctions. I guess I want it both ways. I deeply believe that the Truth is in the whole of Christian belief and expression, and I want to learn from it. But I am keen on the particular belief and expression of those who share my own in the Episcopal Church.



## 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting

Our next meeting is slated to follow directly after the close of the annual meeting on March 13, 2016.

We need everyone’s input! Let’s get creative... provide your ideas on what the theme could be for our anniversary celebration in 2018. If selected, your idea will appear on posters, banners, and programs, etc.

If you can’t make the meeting, leave your idea in Joe Kirkner mailbox. Maybe yours will be selected! Example: 1868-2018 150 years of God’s presence in Coatesville.



## Veterans Brunch

January 31, 2016

Another successful brunch was enjoyed by members of our Brunch Bunch. This month we had 27 volunteers working together to serve up another meal as good as Mom would make.

We had 52 veterans come and socialize with their friends and with members of our church. After announcements, and Pastor Sherry gave the grace, they enjoyed a fine meal of scrambled eggs, bacon, French toast (regular and raisin bread), pork loin, stewed tomatoes, egg noodles, chicken gravy with vegetables, cheesy macaroni and potato casserole, Cajun mashed potatoes (loved the garlic!), Mexican rice, corn bread, salads, breads, desserts, including homemade cookies, fresh fruit, juices, coffee, tea and water.

Special thanks this month to John Rieder and Kit Stanford and the youth confirmation class from St. Andrews of West Vincent. They added their own artistic flare to the fruit presentations. Not only did they help with our brunch, they brought and presented a check to Sherry from St. Andrews congregation in the amount of \$323.00 to help with this outreach program.

God Bless our youth, St. Andrews, our Vets, members of Trinity, and God Bless America.

Your Brunch Bunch



## EASTER MEMORIAL FLOWERS

If you are interested in placing memorial flowers in the church on Easter, we will be ordering a variety of flowers to decorate the church. The suggested donation is a minimum of \$12.00 to the church flower fund. Please fill in your name, phone number, and how many flowers you are ordering; make checks payable to Church of the Trinity and return to the parish office by March 13, 2016.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF PLANTS ORDERED \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF PERSON(S) PLACED IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



### March Birthdays

|                   |          |                        |          |
|-------------------|----------|------------------------|----------|
| Caroline Puma     | March 3  | Michele Butler         | March 20 |
| Chris Haak        | March 7  | Joseph Kirkner         | March 29 |
| Mildred Coveleski | March 9  | Robin McWilliams       | March 29 |
| Esther Harvey     | March 14 | Margaret Ann<br>Watson | March 29 |



### March Anniversaries

|                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| Ray and Liz Hulse | March 31 |
|-------------------|----------|



# MARCH 2016

| Sunday   | Monday                                       | Tuesday                    | Wednesday | Thursday   | Friday                              | Saturday   |
|--|--|----------------------------|-----------|--|-------------------------------------|--|
|  |  | 1                          | 2         | 3  | 4                                   | 5  |
|  |  | Choir Rehearsal<br>7:30 PM |           | HE Chapel-12N  |                                     | NA 10-11:30<br>SH Rented   |
| 6  | 7  | 8                          | 9         | 10   | 11                                  | 12   |
| SH Rented                                      | What's Cookin'<br>in Coatesville?<br>6:00 PM |                            |           | HE Chapel-12N  |                                     | NA 10-11:30  |
| 13   | 14   | 15                         | 16        | 17   | 18                                  | 19   |
| Annual Meeting<br>150th Anniversary<br>Meeting | Bible Study 7 PM                             |                            |           | HE Chapel-12N  |                                     | NA 10-11:30<br>SH Rented   |
| 20   | 21   | 22                         | 23        | 24   | 25                                  | 26   |
| <b>Palm and Passion<br/>Sunday</b>             | Bible Study 7 PM                             |                            |           | HE Chapel-12N<br><b>Maundy Thursday<br/>Agape Service 7 PM</b> | <b>Good Friday<br/>Service 7 PM</b> | <b>Holy Saturday<br/>Service 9AM</b><br>NA 10-11:30<br>SH Rented |
| 27   | 28   | 29                         | 30        | 31   |                                     |  |
| <b>Glorious Easter<br/>Sunday!!!</b>           | Bible Study 7 PM                             |                            |           |  |                                     |  |



## Readers, Servers and Greeters for March 2016



| Date | Readers                           | Psalter/P-O-P         | Chalists                     | Server                               | Torches    | Greeters/<br>Ushers |
|------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|---------------------|
| 3/6  | Chris Haak<br>Donna Puma          | N/A<br>Kent Nation    | Jim Anderson<br>Jodi Bakshas | Jim Anderson<br>Jim Anderson         | TBA        | TBA                 |
| 3/13 | Greg Bentley<br>Ebbie Carey       | N/A<br>Bill Terry     | Al Carey<br>Lon Cross        | Jodi Bakshas<br>Jodi Bakshas         | TBA<br>TBA | TBA<br>TBA          |
| 3/20 | Andrew Bentley<br>Violet Armstead | N/A<br>Jim Anderson   | Bill Terry<br>Dona Puma      | Al Carey<br>Al Carey                 | TBA<br>TBA | TBA<br>TBA          |
| 3/27 | Seth Haak<br>Art Busch            | N/A<br>Craig McGovern | Jim Anderson<br>Jodi Bakshas | Seth Haak&Bill Terry<br>Jim Anderson | TBA<br>TBA | TBA<br>TBA          |

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

For more information contact:

The Reverend Sherry Deets, Rector

Linda Flamer, Parish Administrator

Parish Office Hours

Monday & Tuesday 9 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

Thursday 1-5 p.m.

#### **Mission Statement**

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.

#### **THE EPISCOPAL**

#### **CHURCH OF THE TRINITY**

**323 East Lincoln Highway**

**Coatesville, Pennsylvania 19320-3409**

**610-384-4771**

**fax: 610-384-1538**

**trinitycoates@aol.com**

#### Service Schedule

Holy Eucharist

Sundays 9:30 a.m.

Thursdays 12:00 p.m.

Church School

Sundays 9:15 a.m.

Bible Study

Mondays 7:00 p.m.