



Trinity Topics

From the Rector's Desk . . .

By the Reverend Sherry Deets

So many great spiritual writers encourage us to take the time to be aware of all that surrounds us. I was struck by Frederick Buechner's "Quote of the Day" that was recently shared. It is one of the clearest explanations of what it means to be aware. A good Lenten exercise to try – practicing daily awareness. Here is Frederick Buechner on "Art":

"AN OLD SILENT pond. / Into the pond a frog jumps. / Splash! Silence again." It is perhaps the best known of all Japanese haiku. No subject could be more humdrum. No language could be more pedestrian. Basho, the poet, makes no comment on what he is describing. He implies no meaning, message, or metaphor. He simply invites our attention to no more and no less than just this: the old pond in its watery stillness, the kerplunk of the frog, the gradual return of the stillness.

In effect he is putting a frame around the moment, and what the frame does is enable us to see not just something about the moment but the moment itself in all its ineffable ordinariness and particularity. The chances are that if we had been passing by when the frog jumped, we wouldn't have noticed a thing or, noticing it, wouldn't have given it a second thought. But the frame sets it off from everything else that distracts us. It makes possible a second thought. That is the nature and purpose of frames. The frame does not change the moment, but it changes our way of perceiving the moment. It makes us NOTICE the moment, and that is what Basho wants above all else. It is what literature in general wants above all else too.

From the simplest lyric to the most complex novel and densest drama, literature is asking us to pay attention. Pay attention to the frog. Pay attention to the west wind. Pay attention to the boy on the raft, the lady in the tower, the old man on the train. In sum, pay attention to the world and all that dwells therein and thereby learn at last to pay attention to yourself and all that dwells therein.

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The painter does the same thing, of course. Rembrandt puts a frame around an old woman's face. It is seamed with wrinkles. The upper lip is sunken in, the skin waxy and pale. It is not a remarkable face. You would not look twice at the old woman if you found her sitting across the aisle from you on a bus. But it is a face so remarkably *seen* that it forces you to see it remarkably just as Cezanne makes you see a bowl of apples or Andrew Wyeth a muslin curtain blowing in at an open window. It is a face unlike any other face in all the world. All the faces in the world are in this one old face.

Unlike painters, who work with space, musicians work with time, with note following note as second follows second. Listen! says Vivaldi, Brahms, Stravinsky. Listen to this time that I have framed between the first note and the last and to these sounds in time. Listen to the way the silence is broken into uneven lengths between the sounds and to the silences themselves. Listen to the scrape of bow against gut, the rap of stick against drumhead, the rush of breath through reed and wood. The sounds of the earth are like music, the old song goes, and the sounds of music are also like the sounds of the earth, which is of course where music comes from. Listen to the voices outside the window, the rumble of the furnace, the creak of your chair, the water running in the kitchen sink. Learn to listen to the music of your own lengths of time, your own silences.

Literature, painting, music—the most basic lesson that all art teaches us is to stop, look, and listen to life on this planet, including our own lives, as a vastly richer, deeper, more mysterious business than most of the time it ever occurs to us to suspect as we bumble along from day to day on automatic pilot. In a world that for the most part steers clear of the whole idea of holiness, art is one of the few places left where we can speak to each other of holy things.

Is it too much to say that Stop, Look, and Listen is also the most basic lesson that the Judeo-Christian tradition teaches us? Listen to history is the cry of the ancient prophets of Israel. Listen to social injustice, says Amos; to head-in-the-sand religiosity, says Jeremiah; to international treacheries and power-plays, says Isaiah; because it is precisely through them that God speaks his word of judgment and command.

And when Jesus comes along saying that the greatest command of all is to love God and to love our neighbor, he too is asking us to pay attention. If we are to love God, we must first stop, look, and listen for him in what is happening around us and inside us. If we are to love our neighbors, before doing anything else we must *see* our neighbors. With our imagination as well as our eyes, that is to say like artists, we must see not just their faces but the life behind and within their faces. Here it is love that is the frame we see them in.

In a letter to a friend Emily Dickinson wrote that "Consider the lilies of the field" was the only commandment she never broke. She could have done a lot worse. Consider the lilies. It is the *sine qua non* of art and religion both. -Originally published in [Whistling in the Dark](#)

Gentle Yoga

Nancy Murphy continues to lead us well in gentle yoga at Trinity! We now hold yoga most every Thursday at 12:40 p.m. following the noon service. No prior yoga experience is necessary. Mats available; simply wear comfortable clothing (easy to move around in). Free will offering.

Annual Meeting

Church of the Trinity's annual meeting will be held on Sunday, March 17. 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 are seeking nominations.

We will have a special guest with us on March 17th: Urias Cole, Coatesville Community Coordinator. Urias will explain his new role within the Coatesville Community and how he would like to get to know you!

Kitchen Renovation

Our kitchen renovation is scheduled to begin on Monday, April 1 and last through much of the month. This is exciting for Trinity and will enable us to continue our ministries of hospitality more safely and efficiently. Thank you to Pam Smyth for her donation toward the kitchen renovations! The Veterans Brunch is also donating toward the cause and we are most grateful to the Brunch Bunch as well!

You may recall that we received a \$30,000 Growth Development Grant from the Diocese in 2018 toward a new stove/oven and exhaust system. We have been able to raise additional funds through other grants (Clark Associates Charitable Foundation, Diocesan ECW) and a small portion of the Ellis Stern trust distribution. Our kitchen now receives a great deal of community use through the rental of our hall and actual rental of the kitchen itself. Trinity continues to utilize the kitchen on a regular basis for community outreach activities such as the Veterans Brunch, Breakfast with Santa, etc., etc. We do love to cook!



Stations of the Cross/ Compline

Each year, we offer devotions to observe the Stations of the Cross along with Compline on Fridays at 7:00 PM during Lent. This year, we will begin on Friday, March 15th.

The Way of the Cross visits places of Jesus' Passion in the Holy Land as done as early Christian pilgrims. The service consists of opening devotions and the Lord's Prayer followed by a short verse and response, a reading, a prayer and a collect at each of the fourteen stations. Concluding prayers before the alter follow the fourteenth station.

The service ends with reading of Compline. This brief service includes opening sentences, confession of sins, psalms and other Bible lessons, canticles and prayers, including a benediction. Compline makes a nice closing to the work week.

Please join us for a moving and rewarding thirty minutes.



Pasta Night



This Photo

On Saturday, March 16th, from 5.30-8.00, we will be hosting a yummy Italian pasta feast for Trinity members and friends. Chef Kevin will be offering four different types of pasta with various sauces, such as Marinara, Alfredo and Pesto. And along with the pasta, we'll top off the dish with meatballs, Italian sausage and chicken Cacciatore. Room for dessert? How about some Italian pizzelles and cookies. And don't forget to bring your favorite wine to complement the meal. And all this for just \$12.50, \$7 for kids 10 and under (under 5 eat free) and \$13 for takeout. It's all in support of Trinity, so mark your calendars now for a truly great night of delicious food, fun and friendship!

Columbarium

As you have heard before, the Trinity Columbarium project is progressing nicely. In the coming months, this long awaited addition to our church will be a reality.

You will also recall that Trinity members are invited to procure their niche in the columbarium at a special discounted pre-construction price of \$800.00. Once we break ground, this will no longer be available. We have met with three local contractors to receive quotes on providing the foundation for the structure.....a very critical and sensitive phase of the project. At this point, we are waiting on a final quote before awarding the bid.

With the relatively benign winter we've been experiencing, groundbreaking may happen sooner than anticipated, allowing us to be totally prepared for delivery and installation of the columbarium when completed by the provider. That said, I would urge any Trinity member, or friends of members, who have been considering our columbarium as a final resting place to give serious thought to finalizing the decision in order to take advantage of the \$200.00 savings.

I anticipate some conversation about this at our upcoming Annual Meeting in March, but I welcome any questions, etc anyone may have prior to that. Please feel free to reach out to myself or Bill Terry at church, by email or by phone. It's not our intent to "sell" anyone something.....we merely want to explain the value and benefits of inurnment in order for you to determine if it's the right choice for your needs and wishes.

Thank you..... Vic Shanley, Chmn, Ad hoc Comm.



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

The Women’s Group is sponsoring our annual Pancake Buffet on Tuesday, Marcy 5, from 6:00 to 7:30.

Join us for this delicious meal of pancakes, sausage, coffee, juices and homemade desserts. Cost is \$5.00 for adults; \$2.50 for children age 4-10; and under age of 3 is free. It’s a great way to indulge in scrumptious carbs before the Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday.



Women’s Group 2019 CALENDAR

The Women’s Group had a meeting on Sunday, Feb. 3rd. The following dates were picked for events in 2019:

- March 2, 2019** **Pasta Night (Fundraiser Committee). This was changed to Mar. 16th.**
- March 5, 2019 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- March 8-9, 2019 Women’s Retreat at Wapiti Center
- May 18, 2019 Indoor Flea Market & Food Sale
- August 17, 2019 Annual Flea Market & Chicken BarBQ
- December 6, 2019 Secret Sister Revel & Pick Party on St. Nick Day
- December 7, 2019 Christmas Parade Hot Dog sales
- December 14, 2019 Breakfast with Santa

Mark your calendars!!!!



WOMEN’S RETREAT, MARCH 8-9

“We are all just walking each other home.” -Ram Dass

This quote will be used to get conversations going during our sharing times at the Women’s Retreat being held at the diocese’s facility on the banks of the Elk Neck River. Although the sign-up deadline has passed, you can still sign up by calling me so we can discuss details. For only \$85.00, we will be spending two days and one night, talking, laughing and hopefully renewing our energy that gets so depleted in the weary winter months. God Bless this opportunity to spend time in his natural beauty. -Pat Kirkner, President, Women’s Group



CO-ED OPPORTUNITY

To prepare for the church kitchen renovations commencing April 1, everything in the cupboards and shelves must be removed and packed up. Items that will be returned to the kitchen will be stored in a corner of Stone Hall until renovations are complete. We will pack items sometime during week of 3/25/19. This effort will be coordinated by Women's Group officers who will take into account all uses and users who will need access to water, etc. during April. A sign-up sheet will be located at coffee hour window during March, where you can indicate which day of the week of 3/25 works best for you. We will then pick a date that works for the most volunteers. This is an equal opportunity task; check your calendars.

-Pat Kirkner, Trinity Women's Group



Veterans Brunch – February 24, 2019

We had another busy, fun-filled brunch for our local veterans; most from the VA Medical Center, and some walk-ins from the city of Coatesville.

Some of our regular members were not in attendance this month, and sorely missed, especially our mess sergeant, Kevin Evans. But everyone adapted, handled the various tasks, and managed to have everything done on time; so our results were successful.

We also want to recognize 6 members from Church of the Advent, Kennett Square, for helping with the food preparation, serving and clean-up. Another thank you to Seth and Sam Haak and their school buddies, Garrett and Pearce, who are working on their Honor Student service project requirements by helping us with the brunch! Our newest participant, Kim, and her little helper Desire, did a wonderful job handling washing dishes. In total, we had 29 volunteers that served the 46 veterans in attendance.

Our menu this month included scrambled eggs, bacon, Very Blue blueberry pancakes, fried chicken, roasted red potatoes, buttered noodles, creamy hamburger gravy, homemade mac-n-cheese, bacon flavored green beans, apple cider glazed carrots, buttered corn, Asian coleslaw, fresh bread, fresh fruit and lots of desserts, juices, water and coffee.

Each month we receive kind words, gestures and smiles from our veterans, and that is what it is all about!

Please continue to contribute and support this wonderful outreach, and when you see a veteran, thank them for their service. God Bless our Veterans, Trinity Church, and God Bless America.

-Brunch Bunch



Caroline Puma	3-Mar
Antonio Wilson	6-Mar
Chris Haak	7-Mar
Mildred Coveleski	9-Mar
Paul Cox	10-Mar
Esther Harvey	14-Mar
Michelle Butler	20-Mar
Meg Devereux	26-Mar
Joseph Kirkner	29-Mar
Robin McWilliams	29-Mar
James Shreve	29-Mar

Ray & Liz Hulse	31-Mar
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March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	Ash Wed Noon & 7PM Services	HE Chapel- 12noon Yoga 1240pm	Kitchen Rented Women's	Retreat
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Confirmation Class 545PM	Choir 730pm		HE Chapel- 12noon Yoga 1240pm	Stations of the Cross 7PM	Pasta Night 630-8PM
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Annual Meeting SH, Sanctuary & Kitchen Rented		Choir 730pm		HE Chapel- 12noon Yoga 1240pm	Stations of the Cross 7PM	SH Rented
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		Choir 730pm		HE Chapel- 12noon Yoga 1240pm	Stations of the Cross 7PM	SH & Kitchen Rented
31						
Vet Brunch						



Readers, Servers and Greeters for March 2019



Date	Readers	Psalter/P-O-P	Chalists	Servers	Torches	Greeters
3/3	Caroline Bentley	N/A	Bill Terry	Seth Haak	N/A	TBA
	Craig McGovern	Pam Smyth	Jim Anderson	Bill Terry	N/A	
3/10	Vic Shanley	N/A	Donna Fleck	Jack McGovern	N/A	TBA
	Seth Haak	Chris Haak	Pat Kirkner	Pat Kirkner	N/A	
3/17	Dev Devereux	N/A	Al Carey	Zoey McGovern	N/A	TBA
	Kent Nation	Bill Terry	Pam Smyth	Al Carey	N/A	
3/24	Greg Bentley	N/A	Bill Terry	Craig McGovern	N/A	TBA
	Violet Armstead	Jim Anderson	Pat Kirkner	Craig McGovern	N/A	
3/31	Pam Smyth	N/A	Jim Anderson	Jim Anderson	N/A	TBA
	Caroline Bentley	Betty Sullivan	Pam Smyth	Jim Anderson	N/A	

CHURCH OF THE TRINITY

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For more information

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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.

Service Schedule

Holy Eucharist

Sundays 9:30 AM

Thursdays 12:00 PM

**Jamoca Harkins,
Parish Administrator**

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 130-430pm

**THE EPISCOPAL
CHURCH OF THE TRINITY
323 East Lincoln Highway
Coatesville, Pennsylvania
19320-3409**

**Church School
Sundays 9:15 AM**