

February 2008

THE TRINITY



TIDINGS

An Introspective Lenten Journey

As all of us know Easter is very early this year. Because Easter “moves” due to the lunar calendar, that means that as it moves up toward the fixed date of Christmas, the forty day season of Lent moves closer too. According to the prayer book (BCP, 880), Easter cannot be earlier than March 22. This year, it is March 23 – just about as early as it can get! That means that the season of Epiphany is squeezed down to just five Sundays so that we can get the forty days of Lent in before Easter Day. Ash Wednesday falls on February 6.

At Trinity, we will be doing many things to help you prepare for a good introspective Lenten season. Jane Butler has put together a sterling “Tuesday at Trinity” series, and we will begin offering Wednesday evening Eucharistic services at 5:30 p.m. These will be contemplative services with no sermon – just three minutes of



“And at the end, let’s all take stock of who and what we are, so that on Easter morning, March 23, we can look at ourselves as resurrected persons, re-dedicated to God’s mission for us all.”

time for silent meditation. After the service, we will enjoy a soup supper. After that, those who wish may partake in our study of Al Gore’s book and film “An Inconvenient Truth” (see the article on page 3 about the study).

Inside this Issue

[Wednesday Lenten Program.....pg 3](#)

[Tuesdays in Lent.....pg 4](#)

[Vestry Election Results.....pg 6](#)

[New EFM Group Beginning....pg 7](#)

[Mardi Gras Options.....pg 7](#)

[Lent Brings Liturgical Changes.....pg 8](#)

[EYC Info.....pg 10](#)

[Bishop’s Mission Corp Visit.....pg 12](#)

[Interfaith Assistance Needs Volunteers....pg 13](#)

[Confirmation to begin.....pg 15](#)

[Still Time to pay your 2007 pledge.....pg 16](#)

And more inside!

During Lent it is traditional and customary to change the order of the Eucharistic service. On the first Sunday of Lent, we will recite The Great Litany (BCP, 148) before the opening acclamation. We will continue to use Rite II during Lent, but we will begin the liturgy with the Penitential Order (BCP, 351) and the confession (thus moving it from its customary place between the Prayers of the People and the Peace). At the end of each service following the post-communion prayer there will not be a customary blessing; instead we will bow solemnly to close the service. Lastly, we will also process in and out of each service during Lent in silence. On page 8 is an article about the liturgical changes associated with Lent.

If you find these changes disconcerting or jarring, I believe that is precisely how you should feel. Lent should be a personal and corporate spiritual journey; it is a time of repentance. The word “repentance” in Greek is *metanoia* and it means ‘change of mind and heart’, or, ‘change of consciousness.’ Lent is a time of the year when we should take a

deep and hard look at ourselves and take stock of who and what we are, and what things we might change. This means our personal selves, and who we are as a people of God at Trinity. Are we individually living into our Baptismal Covenant to “proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ; to love our neighbors as ourselves; and to strive for justice and peace among all people and to respect the dignity of every human being” (BCP 305). At Trinity, are we corporately living into our mission “to be an open and diverse Christian family dedicated to serving God and all creation by fostering spiritual growth through worship, prayer, education, service, stewardship, and celebration?”

Use these forty days of Lent to delve into these issues. And at the end, let’s all take stock of who and what we are, so that on Easter morning, March 23, we can look at ourselves as resurrected persons, re-dedicated to God’s mission for us all.



2008 Open Dates for Altar Flowers

- April 27
- June 15
- June 29
- July 13
- September 14
- September 21
- October 5
- October 12
- October 19
- November 2

To reserve any of the above dates please contact the church office at 601-544-5551.

An Inconvenient Truth: A Lenten Study **by Fr. Bill**

As many of you may remember, some time ago I gave a sermon extolling the need to exercise a sense of environmental stewardship and support recycling in Hattiesburg. It was therefore with great pleasure that I forwarded on to you in January the new recycling program being developed for the City of Hattiesburg, and I hope that you consider this initiative.

In that same vein, last Fall I began advertising our Lenten study of Al Gore's Book, *An Inconvenient Truth: The Planetary Emergency of Global Warming and What We Can Do About It*. "Why," you might ask, "study a book about a controversial environmental issue during Lent? Isn't Lent supposed to be about personal spirituality?" To that I say, "Because we care called to be stewards of this planet, we need to do all that we can to understand the complexity of our earth and its systems, and understand the part we play in that complexity. That includes our *personal* and *corporate* responsibility of God's creation. After all, ours are the only hands God has in this world of ours."

Bishop Gray, in his September 15 letter to the Diocese wrote, "As Christians, we are stewards of God's Creation and have a duty and an obligation to take care of the earth and its living systems. [The results of global warming may] include severe damage to our children's future, the health and future of our communities, and the health of children yet unborn. Because the consequences could be so dire, and because human actions are demonstrated to be likely causes, we cannot afford to delay action ... I hope you will agree that conservative use of energy, fuel, and water, along with the reduction of waste and pollution are all ways to honor God's grace toward us."

The Bishop has encouraged individuals and congregations to recycle. He has also urged us to learn about the issues of climate change. Our Lenten study of *An Inconvenient Truth* is a good start toward this initiative. I hope you will join us each Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. for the program. Before the program, we will have Eucharist at 5:30 p.m. and supper about 6:00 p.m. Al Gore's book is for sale for \$15 in the church office. Please call 601-544-5551 reserve a book and your place in the class.

Wednesdays in Lent

- **5:30 p.m.** Contemplative Eucharist
- **6:00 p.m.** Soup Supper
- **6:30 p.m.** *An Inconvenient Truth: A Lenten Study*

Tuesdays at Trinity

The annual Tuesdays at Trinity begin on February 12 with a concert at noon by Promenade, an early music ensemble consisting of 5 instrumentalists from the University of Southern Mississippi. On February 19, violist Hsiaopei Lee, and pianist Amber Shay Nicholson, both faculty members at USM, will perform. Soprano Kimberley Davis and Douglas Rust, also USM faculty members, will be our guest performers on February 26. The last concert will

be performed by organist and Hattiesburg native Jeff McLelland. Dr. McLelland is currently Director of Music and Fine Arts at Independent Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, AL.

The Merry Marthas will provide delicious lunches following each 30 minute concert. Invite your friends to take a lunch break and come to Trinity for music, food and great fellowship!

Lenten E-Mail Meditations

by Fr. Bill

Once again I will be sending daily email Lenten meditations from the Higher Education Ministries to those on my email distribution list. *If you aren't presently on that list, just send an email to me at wgstrop@earthlink.net and type the word "LENT" in the subject line* (If you got the advent meditations, you are already on this list). Some of you have asked me about the source of these meditations. The Higher Education Ministries Arena is a program function of the American Baptist Churches USA, Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ), Episcopal Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Presbyterian Church (USA), United Church of Christ, and the United Methodist Church. I have been a member of this group for many years, since I was a Canon Missioner for College Ministry, and I adapt the meditations of the students who contribute their work to the situation of our congregation. It is my hope and prayer that the work the students and I do together enrich your Lenten journey.

Living the Questions on Vacation Until February 10th

The Sunday morning "Living the Questions" group will take a vacation! The Questions will resume with the first Sunday of Lent, Feb. 10th in the library at 9:15a.m.

SOCIAL JUSTICE will be the topic for discussion and the group is asked to answer the questions on page 6, "something to do in the real world", in the participants' guide.

The Trinity Parish Wish List

Below is a list of items that Trinity needs. If you would like to help us meet these needs, please call the church office (601-554-5551) or Fr. Bill (601-329-3538).

Item	Estimated Cost	Comments
Replacement RIZO RZ 390 Digital Duplicator	\$8700	The "Rizo" copier is the type of copying machine that we use to prepare bulletins at less per copy cost than standard photocopies. Our Rizo is old and cannot duplicate the large paper we really want to use, and it is beginning to show signs of failure.
Resealing the Parish Hall and adjacent floors	\$1600	The parish hall floors can be made to look like the narthex floor by periodic professional cleaning and resealing.
4 th and 5 th grade classroom implements and reconfiguring.	\$2000	In order to implement the Godly Play program, we need to acquire some manipulative teaching materials (for tactile learning), as well as some bookcases, shelving, tables, etc. We also will need to repaint and redecorate the room.
Intimus 2020VS Variable Speed Paper Folder	\$2000	An automatic paper folding machine would greatly improve office efficiency.

Jody Burnett's Purse

<p>If you are interested in helping Jody Burnett while he is in seminary, you can write a check to Trinity Church and put it in the envelopes provided in the pews that have Jody's name on it. If you give cash, please indicate your name and address on the outside of the envelope. <u>You do not have to put Jody's name on the memo line of your</u></p>	<p><u>check.</u> Just put it in an envelope with Jody's name on it. Contributions designated to specific individuals on your checks are not tax deductible. Jody would like to acknowledge your gifts, so we will provide him with names and addresses but not amounts. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the church office.</p>
--	--

2008 Vestry Elections

The results of the January 2008 Vestry and Elected as 2008 Junior Warden:
Warden elections are as follows:

Peter Ciurczak, Ph.D.

Elected for a three year term (2008-2011):

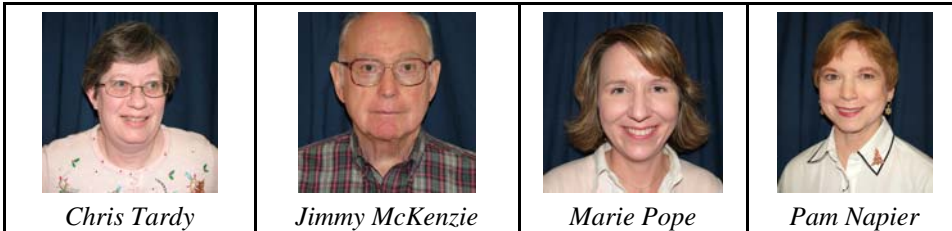
James McKenzie, J.D.
Pam Napier
Marie Pope
Chris Tardy

Continuing to serve:

Cathy Dodds
Anna Laura Brett
Troy McIntire, M.D.
Burn Curry, III, J.D.
Bob Brahan, M.D.

Elected as 2008 Senior Warden:

Ben Carmichael, M.D.



Treasurer's Report

Pledges MTD Actual	\$34,641.61
Pledges MTD Budgeted	\$30,255.25
Difference	\$4,386.36
Pledges YTD Actual	\$310,500.25
Pledges YTD Budgeted	\$363,063.00
Difference	\$52,562.75

It is not too late to fulfill your 2007 pledge. Contributions will be posted to your 2007 pledge but will show on your 2008 quarterly statements. As you can see from the above figures, we have a deficit of \$52,562.75 for 2007. Any contributions you can make toward completing your 2007 pledge will be most appreciated.

New Education for Ministry Group to Begin Fall 2008

By Fr. Bill

One of the tasks I set out to accomplish was to establish a second Education for Ministry Group at Trinity – a group that would meet in the evenings. I am pleased to announce that the second group will convene this fall – provided that enough people sign up to participate. Ten seats are available for participants from Trinity; two seats have been taken by people from Ascension. Ms. Jane Lee, a certified EFM mentor, will facilitate this new group.

As described on the EFM web site, “EFM is a program of theological education-at-a-distance of the School of Theology of the University of the South. Students sign up one year at a time for this four-year program. It covers the basics of a theological education in the Old and New Testaments, church history, liturgy, and theology. Students meet regularly, usually once a week, in seminars under the guidance of trained mentors. The program grants a certifi-

cate at the completion of the four years and 18 Continuing Education Units for each year’s work.” I believe that EFM is about the best course of study in Bible, Theology, and Ministry outside of seminary. You can learn more about EFM at <http://www.sewanee.edu/EFM/index.htm>.

The EFM program runs the entire academic year (about 34 weeks). An EFM group can consist of first, second, third, and fourth year students all studying at the same time, so if you have taken a year or two of EFM at another place or time, but haven’t finished your full four years, now is a good time to register.

Materials cost about \$340. If you are interested in this program, please contact the church office at 601-544-5551. We will need to register our students and order the materials soon, so please call us as soon as you can to register. Remember, only 10 seats are available.



Mardi Gras: One Fun Night with Two Great Options

*Adults Only Mardi Gras Party at 7 p.m. at Trinity
Pancake Supper at IHOP for the Youth at 5:30 p.m.*



Adults, plan to attend the Parish Activities Commission sponsored Adults-Only Mardi Gras party on Fat Tuesday at Trinity! The festivities will begin Feb. 5th at 7:00 p.m. Good food & good company. Please come & bring a friend.

For youth please join all your friends at IHOP for a traditional pancake supper at 5:30 p.m.

For more information about these events please contact the church office at 601-544-5551.

Lent Brings Change to Worship

By Fr. Bill

The church year is divided into six major seasons. It has become traditional to mark the seasons through the use of colors, and changes in the Sunday Eucharistic liturgies and music. It should be noted, however, that traditions change over time, and what the church once considered traditional (and perhaps unchangeable) in fact did change over time. Consequently, what we consider “traditional” today might not be the same ten or one hundred years from now. For example, the “traditional” practices for distributing bread and wine during Holy Communion have changed considerably over the centuries, and have involved such varied procedures as passing the cup of wine from person to person in the congregation (no Eucharistic servers) to the use of a common “straw” (called a fistula) to the administration of the holy supper with a spoon containing a “slurry” of consecrated bread and wine.

Lent, being the most penitential season of the year is marked by the use of the color purple or lavender. On Ash Wednesday, the hangings, altar decorations, and vestments change from the green color of the post-Epiphany period to purple, and they remain purple until Lent ends on the Saturday before Palm Sunday. Oftentimes, if a church does not normally have a vessel of holy water out during the rest of the year, such a vessel is placed in the church during Lent so that as people enter the sanctuary they may

dip their fingers in it before crossing themselves. Such gestures are not for everyone, but some people find such gestures meaningful, spiritual actions especially during the Lenten season. We will have a bowl of holy water at Trinity for those who wish to partake.

Another change you will notice in church during Lent is the use of unleavened wafers of bread instead of baked communion bread. The use of leavened or unleavened bread for communion is another of those “traditions” that has changed over time. For about 1000 years, unleavened bread was the norm for the church, but for the past 1000 years, the Eastern Catholic churches (except the Armenian) use leavened bread, while the Roman Catholic Church in the West uses unleavened bread. This change came about gradually, but by the time of the schism between the Eastern and Western Churches in 1054, the divergence over the leavening of communion bread was a cause of dissention. In the Church of England tradition, leavened bread has been the custom since 1552 (and indeed supported by a rubric in that prayer book). A number of Anglican liturgies today specifically permit the use of either kind of bread, but most make no mention of the matter, leaving the choice up to local custom. I like to change from leavened bread to the wafers in Lent as a way of marking the season as different from the flanking seasons of Epiphany and Easter.

Lent is often characterized by austerity and somberness. A common thing that many churches in the Anglican tradition do at this time of year is to put away the silver and the brass or gold fixtures and vessels of the altar and use less ornate, simpler implements made of wood, glass, or ceramic. Sometimes the number of candles is reduced as well. At Trinity this year, we will put away the silver Eucharistic vessels and replace them with simpler glass ones. And when the silver returns on Easter, it will seem even more glorious when it is surrounded by all those Easter lilies. Another austere way we will mark the Lenten season is by processing in and out of the services in silence.

The language we use and the musical settings during Lent are also more subdued. We “put away” the Alleluias, and the *Gloria in excelsis* is replaced with the *Kyrie eleison* or the *Trisagion*. This year we will use the *Kyrie eleison*. The servers switch the words used to administer the sacraments of bread and wine to remind us of the season of the year. Instead of the customary priest’s blessing at the end of the service during Lent, the church commends the use of the solemn blessing for Lent from The Book of Occasional Services (seasonal blessings are also used during Advent, Epiphany, Christmas, and certain other seasons of the church year). On the First Sunday in Lent, we will recite the Great Litany. At the 8 a.m. service the litany will be read, and at the 10:30 a.m. service it will be chanted in procession. The litany, as a prayer form,

is a set of supplications said or sung by a cantor, deacon or priest, and followed by set responses from the people. Predating Christianity, the litany form of prayer was used by other religions, including Judaism. The litany we use today was assembled from many sources including the Roman litanies, Luther’s litany, the litany for rogation, and the litany of St. John Chrysostom. The current rubrics call for the Great Litany to be “said or sung, kneeling, standing, or in procession...” Indeed, in the earliest days of Anglicanism, it was prescribed that the Litany be chanted in procession. After the first Sunday in Lent, we will begin the service with the Penitential Order from the Prayer Book. This effectively “moves” the confession to the front of the service.

We will also observe the ancient traditional service of Tenebrae during Holy Week. This is a very ancient liturgical expression of our sacred story involving the reading of antiphons and psalms.

The form of the Eucharistic Prayer (the Great Thanksgiving) during Lent we will use at Trinity is Form C, found on page 369 (cf) of the Book of Common Prayer. This prayer is considered by church liturgists to be the most penitential of the Eucharistic Prayers in the American prayer book, and particularly well suited for the Lenten season.

I hope that this helps you understand some of the changes that will occur in our worship during this season, and that you have a holy and productive Lent.

The Episcopal Youth Community at Trinity

About the Episcopal Youth Community

The Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) is comprised of young people in grades 6-12 who gather for the purpose of fellowship, fun, service to church and community, and spiritual nurturing. Trinity Episcopal Church welcomes and celebrates our youth and considers them a vital, life-giving part of our Christian community. EYC meets every **Sunday** at Trinity (unless otherwise specified) from **5:00pm – 6:30pm**. Each meeting consists of dinner, games, and planned activities. Nevertheless, we need your help to continue to help make Trinity's EYC program an enriching experience for our youth and young adults. **Please consider volunteering your time or sign up to provide a meal on Sunday night. Active, enthusiastic parish support goes a long way in youth programs.**

What to Expect at Every EYC Meeting

- **Fellowship:** provides the opportunity to grow with Christ, learn about God, and each other.
- **Worship:** this component has to do with a connectedness to God. Often, we may use worship through music, prayer, and even meditation. Compline, Evening Prayer, and Taize are forms of worship used by our youth.
- **Service:** As a Christian group, service is a natural outcome of our commitment to Christ. There are many opportunities for our youth to serve in the community. Such activities might include working with Habitat for Humanity, or serving the elderly or homeless.
- **Education:** this component helps us to better understand who we are in our faith and how we can grow spiritually and deepen our faith daily.

February EYC Schedule

February 3rd – EYC will be going out to lunch after the 10:30am service. Please bring \$5 to contribute to the meal. **No EYC at 5pm since it is Super bowl Sunday.**

February 5th – SHROVE TUESDAY...Join us for Pancakes at IHOP at 5:30pm.

February 10th – Regular EYC meeting at 5pm at Trinity.

February 17th – Regular EYC meeting at 5pm at Trinity.

February 24th - EYC - 5:00pm The Bishop's Mission Corps will be in town to tell us about their work throughout the diocese. Please join us at 5:00pm at Trinity for an evening of dinner, music, Evening Prayer & the chance to hear from members of the BMC.

Expectations of Our Youth Group

- Form a Christian Community
- Provide a Safe Place
- Have Consistency and a Stable place
- Foster a Learning Environment
- Break Down Barriers
- Youth develop ownership of the church
- Learn to Respect All!
- Provide opportunities for leadership roles
- Participation in the church
- Mediation for Communication
- Have Fun and be excited about the church
- Create an Inviting Space to other Denominations
- Practice Outreach and connect with the community
- Pastoral Care
- Explore Spiritual Growth and Depth
- Christian Group Experiences



Trinity's EYC Leaders from left to right: Andrew, Audrey, & Lauren

For any information concerning the Youth at Trinity or to volunteer please call Lauren Wainwright at (601) 818-3810 or email lauren.wainwright@hotmail.com

2008 Upcoming Diocesan Youth Events



February 22-24

Spring Junior High DOY
6th-8th grades @ Camp Bratton Green



March 28-30

Spring Senior High DOY
9th-12th grades @ Camp Bratton Green

April 4-6

Happening #67
Location TBA

Applications for these events can be picked up at the church office. For more information on any of these retreats or other diocesan youth activities, please visit: <http://youth.dioms.org>

The Bishop's Mission Corps to Visit Trinity—Feb 24th

Over the past two summers, the Bishop's Mission Corps (BMC) has developed into a Christian ministry like none other. In the midst of a very noisy and confusing world, participants in the BMC step aside to live in community for 40 days at the Gray Center, the camp and conference center of the Diocese of Mississippi, where they have the time and space to listen to the still, small voice of God. The BMC is a program created by the Episcopal Diocese in Mississippi for people in their 20's. Its purpose is to create and sustain a deeper spiritual life for these adults through Christian service and mission, as well as providing means for vocational reflection. The program emphasizes three areas of critical importance to their lives within Christianity, monastically structured daily worship, theological education, and personal reflection. The experience of knowing God within the stillness of the soul gives a new perspective to the serious work of mission that is also a significant part of

the 40 days. Each day involves intentional times of prayer, manual work, study time, silence and rest. Currently, the BMC is looking for new members to enter into the forty day summer program in 2008 as well as the year long internship which may follow. The benefits of even temporarily practicing a life of discipline are immeasurable and will last a lifetime. Through the BMC, individuals can look forward to the opportunity to prayerfully discern the wisdom and will of God in their own lives while sharing in the experience of an intentionally Christian community.

The Bishop's Mission Corps will be visiting Trinity on Sunday night February 24th at 5:00pm. Please join us for the opportunity to meet with members of the BMC and hear about their work and experiences throughout the diocese. For more information regarding the BMC, please visit www.bmcms.org or contact cjmeadersiii@yahoo.com.

UTO Thank You to Trinity Parish

Dear Trinity friends,

Thank you for your generous UTO ingathering of \$620.00. As you help expand the circle of thankful people, you are also helping spread God's kingdom in the world. It is good to be a part of this important outreach ministry.

Thanks be to God!

Jane Wacaster

**Have an announcement for the Tidings?
Get it to Sunshine by February 22nd (sunshinestroop@hotmail.com)**

Volunteers Needed for Interfaith Assistance Program

Interfaith Assistance is a telephone ministry of Trinity, Ascension, and University Baptist that provides financial assistance for emergency needs for people in Forrest Co. and the Oak Grove area of Lamar Co. Clients leave messages on an answering machine. Volunteers check the messages and return phone calls to discuss the clients requests. Services are provided Monday through Friday. Volunteers can check the messages from home or work, either several times a day or in the afternoon after work, returning the calls that

day. After discussing the request with the client the volunteer determines whether or not assistance can be given and completes simple paperwork to insure payment of pledges made. TRAINING IS PROVIDED and support is always available for the volunteer. Each volunteer commits one week or less in a three month period. Checking and returning calls usually takes less than two hours. For more information contact Babs Faulk at 601/268-0456.

Fr. Bill Wants Your E-Mail Address(es)

I want Trinity Parish to have the best communication possible, and one very good way to make sure we know what is happening is through electronic communications. I maintain my own email directory of all parish members, so even if you've already given your e-mail address to the church I might not have it. Please note that no email addresses will be provided to anyone for any reason, and all mailings

will be done to the parish using Constant Contact™ or "blind copy" to protect your email address. Remember, even if you have already provided your email address to the church please send it to me again at wgstroop@earthlink.net, or complete the information below, tear off the slip as indicated, and put the slip into the collection plate. The counters will get these slips to me. Thanks for your cooperation.

.....

NAME: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

PERSONAL WEB PAGE: _____

.....

Trinity News and Notes

St. Anne's Guild

Here's Antiques Roadshow again with kitchen collectibles of the mid mid 20th century. Come see and hear about the plastic, aluminum and pyrex of the unforgettable 50's. Barbara Parker will show and tell about her collectibles at the St. Anne's Guild meeting on Monday, February 11 at 1:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome. Bring your own stuff for identification and evaluation. Let's see all those long red handled forks, colorful tea towels and Sapphire Blue casseroles that you have stashed away.

St. Francis Guild

St. Francis Guild will meet Thursday, January 14 at 11:45 a.m. Lunch will be served for \$6 per plate. Call the church office (601-544-5551) or Peggy Regl (601-261-0119) by Tuesday, February 12 to make your lunch reservations. *Our guest speakers will be Doris Bradley and B. J. Andrade*

Our Missionary Miriam Dickson

If you would like to contact Miriam Dickson in Ecuador, this is her email address profesoraenecuador.blogspot.com.

Christian Education Committee Meeting—Tues, Feb 12th

The Christian Education Committee will meet on Tues. Feb. 12th at 6:00 pm to begin discussing plans for Vacation Bible School and Easter.

NEEDED: CASSEROLES, SOUPS, BREADS: Help St. Anne's keep its freezer stocked for delivery to our ill and convalescing, the bereaved and families with new babies. Whenever preparing for your family, make extra, label with directions as needed, bring to the church office. Breads can be banana nut, date nut etc. Thanks!!!

"Teach them to Fish",

a Micro-Industry Mission meets at Trinity every Tuesday night at 6:00 p.m. Please join us or call the church office for more information at 601-544-5551.



Trinity Transitions

Our Condolences

We extend our sympathy to Jim Link on the death of his mother-in-law.

On the death of Doris Traylor, we extend our sympathy to her husband Jeff Traylor and her brother B. W. Curry, Jr. and their families.

We extend our sympathy to Dan & Ann Chase on the death of Ann's sister Patricia Jo Medders.

Please let the church know...

Trinity is a busy and growing place which is a wonderful thing but it does mean that it can be difficult to get your information to the correct person. Below is a list of people to contact.

Hospital Stays	Fr. Bill	601-329-3538 wgstroop@earthlink.net
Add someone to prayer list	Linda	601-544-5551 asalinlou@aol.com
Information about choir	Jane	601-544-5551 Jane.butler45@gmail.com
Ask a question or express a concern	Fr. Bill	601-329-3538 wgstroop@earthlink.net
Information about children or youth programming	Lauren	601-544-5551 misylaw@aol.com



Copyright © 2003 The Church Pension Fund. All Rights Reserved

Adult and Young Adult Inquirer's/Confirmation Class To Begin February 10, 2008

Beginning on Sunday, February 10, Fr. Bill will teach a 10 week class designed to provide persons with little or no exposure to Christianity or to the Episcopal tradition the basic knowledge and understanding of the Christian faith and the history and tradition of the Episcopal Church. This course will not be comprehensive; not every topic or issue within Christianity will be covered or discussed in depth. However, the course is meant to provide a basic framework about Christianity onto which future learning can be placed.

This course of study will suffice for those who wish to join the Episcopal Church, and be confirmed or received by the Bishop. The course will consist of ten one and one-half hour long class periods from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. The topics we will cover are as follows:

- Introduction to Christianity and the History of Early Israel
- The History of Israel to 135 C.E. and the Development of Early Christianity Including the Creeds and the Concept of the Trinity

- Challenges to Orthodox Christianity
- The Middle Ages and the European Reformation
- The English Reformation and the Development of the Prayer Book
- The Three Legged Stool of Anglicanism and the Development of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America
- Dissection of The Prayer Book and the Hymnal (American and Others)
- What the Prayer Book and the Canons Say about Spirituality and the Sacraments
- The Church Calendar and an Introduction to Prayer
- Anglican Polity and Politics

In addition, the entire class including all handouts and Power Point™ presentations is on line at <http://www.williamgstroop.com/INQUIRER%20CLASS/Inquirer-Index.htm>.

If you have not been confirmed, or wish to refresh yourself about the tenets of our faith, I hope you will come to this class. Please contact the church office at 601-544-5551 to register for the class.

Reminder to the Outreach Commission

A written report from the Outreach Commission is due to the vestry for the March Vestry meeting. This report should be turned into the office on Feb. 22, the

regular deadline for articles for *The Trinity Tidings*. A report will be due from the New Ministries Commission in April.

2007 Ain't Over Yet!

By Fr. Bill

Just about everywhere you shop now, you can find mardi gras colors, beads, and masks. And while most of us finally have the Christmas decorations put away and the New Year's confetti swept up, the fact is that for Trinity Parish, 2007 is still very much with us.

As many of you saw from the presentation at the Annual Meeting, our annual budget is heavily dependent on pledges income. When those pledges are not received, two things happen. First, we cannot meet our financial obligations during the year. Second, the budget for the following year is adversely affected. The sum total of these effects is an overall decrease in programs and ministry that we can offer. Sometimes staff and personnel reductions can become necessary.

That said, however, we are also aware that it is plain hard sometimes to honor a pledge made at the end of the previous

year. Life happens and situations change; salaries don't increase like we hope, day care costs increase, medicine and health care costs go up, insurance premiums rise, car repairs need to be made. Many things can affect our ability to keep up with what we said we'd pledge to Trinity. And we understand and honor that.

But if your situation is such that you can meet your 2007 pledge, please consider doing so as soon as possible. We have about \$52,000 in outstanding pledges for 2007 (see the Treasurer's report on page 6). If you can, please consider helping us balance our 2007 budget by fulfilling your pledge. And to those of you who fulfilled your pledges, the staff, the vestry, the wardens, and I offer our deepest thanks.

With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you; I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good (Ps 54:6)

Calendars, Thread and Yarn Wanted

Here's a chance to clear out some unneeded things from your overcrowded storage areas. The Daughters of the King are collecting 2008 calendars & [wall or desk size] to distribute to those living in Veterans' Homes [such as the one in Collins] They also would love to have your excess spools of sewing thread, embroidery floss,

and balls or skeins of knitting yarn. They will be sending these craft supplies to women in the Dominican Republic for them to make things to give orphans and those in assisted living homes. Please bring these supplies to the office as soon as possible.

Abbreviated Minutes of the December 19, 2007 Vestry Meeting

Presentation of budget for 2008. Mr. Lewis distributed budget as reviewed by the Finance Commission and the Budget Committee. The Finance Commission recommended that we reduce the pledge to the Diocese from 11% to 10%, and the vestry voted to accept that recommendation. This reduction will save approximately \$4400 for the new budget. The proposed budget is a deficit budget and it was discussed. The vestry also voted to approve the deficit budget and work during the year to increase funds to fill in the blanks. The budget as adopted will be presented to the parish at the Annual Meeting in January 2008. It will also be printed in the Tidings and posted around the church.

EYC program changes. Fr. Stroop reported that the EYC leader has resigned and we need a new director. He has talked with Ms. Lauren Wainwright about taking over the EYC position in addition to being the Education Director. The vestry voted to increase her salary to compensate her for the extra work.

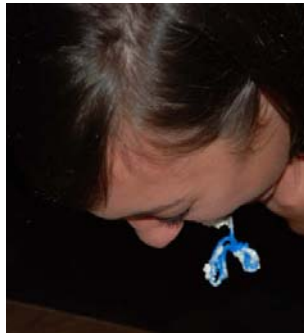
Monthly financial statement. The monthly financial report was presented, discussed and the vestry voted to accept it

Other Business. The person who wanted to move the “White House” was not been able to get a mover to move the structure. The Historical Commission has given permission to burn it down at no cost to us. (Note that that the vestry previously approved burning of the house if the structure could not be moved). The vestry voted to request \$4,450 from the Thompson trust to abate the asbestos and other material in the house which is needed before the structure can be incinerated. In order to proceed as quickly as possible (and not wait for the Thompson Trustees to act), the vestry also voted to use investment funds to start the asbestos abatement job, and then repay those funds when the Trust funds this request.

Vestry Nominating Committee Report. The following parishioners will run for the three vacant Vestry positions: Mrs. Pam Napier, Mrs. Marie Pope, Mrs. Linda Cox, Mrs. Chris Tardy, Mr. Jimmy McKenzie, and Mr. Bob Johnson.

The meeting was adjourned at 6: 28 p.m. with the Lord’s Prayer.

Trinity Episcopal Church is an open and diverse Christian family dedicated to serving God and all creation. We foster spiritual growth through worship, prayer, education, service, stewardship and celebration. As a historic and landmark parish in a thriving and changing community we seek, welcome and nurture all who wish to share our journey.



**Fun with
Trinity's
EYC**



For more information about the EYC program see pages 10 & 11

Prayer List

If you have a Prayer List request, please complete the form below and send it to Linda in the church office.

Please add the following individual to the prayer list.

Today's date _____

Name _____

Submitted by _____

Brief explanation (family member, friend, military deployment, etc.) _____

Please return this form to the church office.
Names will remain on the Prayer List through the last Sunday of the month.
Those who continue to need our prayers should be resubmitted
at the beginning of the next month.

THE TIDINGS (USPS 045-870) is published monthly Trinity Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 1483, Hattiesburg, MS 39403-1483. Periodicals paid at Hattiesburg, MS. Postmaster: Send Form 3579 and all address changes to: The Tidings, P.O. Box 1483, Hattiesburg, MS 39403-1483.

509 West Pine Street
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
Phone (601) 544-5551
FAX (601) 544-5558

Periodicals
Hattiesburg, MS
39401
Permit #045-870

February 2008

Trinity Episcopal Church
www.trinityhattiesburg.org

509 W Pine Hattiesburg, MS
601-544-5551

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<p>3 8 & 10:30 am Holy Communion <i>Coffee Hour Follows Each Service</i> 9:15 a.m. Rector's Forum (Old Choir Room) Choir Rehearsal Children & Youth Hour 10:15 a.m. Godly Play & Catechesis 12:00 p.m. EYC Eating Out <i>(more information pg 8)</i></p>	<p>4 8:45 a.m. EFM 9:30 a.m. Pine Meadows Service</p>	<p>5 2:00 p.m. Centering Prayer 5:15 p.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. EYC Celebrates Shrove Tuesday at IHOP 6:00 p.m. Micro-industry Mission Meeting 7:00 p.m. Mardi Gras Party</p>	<p>6 7:00 a.m. Ash Wednesday Service 12:15 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service 5:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service</p>	<p>7 7:00 a.m. Holy Communion & Breakfast</p>	<p>8 7:00 a.m. Holy Communion & Breakfast</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10 8 & 10:30 am Holy Communion <i>Coffee Hour Follows Each Service</i> 9:15 a.m. Rector's Forum (Old Choir Room) Adult Study (Library) Children and Youth Hour Choir Rehearsal 10:15 a.m. Godly Play & Catechesis 4:00 p.m. Adult & Youth Confirmation Class 5:00 p.m. EYC Meeting</p>	<p>11 7:00 a.m. Holy Communion & Breakfast 8:45 a.m. EFM 9:30 a.m. Pine Meadows Service 1:30 p.m. St. Anne's Guild</p>	<p>12 7:00 a.m. Holy Communion & Breakfast 12:00 p.m. Tuesdays at Trinity 2:00 p.m. Centering Prayer 5:15 p.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Micro-industry Mission Meeting 6:00 p.m. Christian Ed Commission Meeting</p>	<p>13 9:30 a.m. Holy Communion & Healing Service 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 4:00 p.m. Staff Meeting 5:30 p.m. Contemplative Eucharist 6:00 p.m. Adult Choir 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper 6:30 p.m. An Inconvenient Truth</p>	<p>14 7:00 a.m. Holy Communion & Breakfast</p>	<p>15 7:00 a.m. Holy Communion & Breakfast</p>	<p>16 Layreaders Conference at Trinity Cost \$25 8:30 a.m. Registration 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Conference <i>(Lunch provided)</i></p>
<p>17 8 & 10:30 am Holy Communion <i>Coffee Hour Follows Each Service</i> 9:15 a.m. Rector's Forum (Old Choir Room) Adult Study (Library) Children and Youth Hour Choir Rehearsal 10:15 a.m. Godly Play & Catechesis 4:00 p.m. Adult & Youth Confirmation Class 5:00 p.m. EYC Meeting</p>	<p>18 7:00 a.m. Holy Communion & Breakfast 8:45 a.m. EFM 9:30 a.m. Pine Meadows Service</p>	<p>19 7:00 a.m. Holy Communion & Breakfast 12:00 p.m. Tuesdays at Trinity 2:00 p.m. Centering Prayer 5:15 p.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Micro-industry Mission Meeting</p>	<p>20 9:30 a.m. Holy Communion & Healing Service 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 4:00 p.m. Staff Meeting 5:30 p.m. Contemplative Eucharist 5:30 p.m. Daughters of the King 6:00 p.m. Adult Choir 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper 6:30 p.m. An Inconvenient Truth</p>	<p>21 7:00 a.m. Holy Communion & Breakfast</p>	<p>22 7:00 a.m. Holy Communion & Breakfast Jr High DOY Weekend Tidings Deadline Please send articles to Sunshine at sunshinestroup@hotmail.com</p>	<p>23 Jr High DOY Weekend</p>
<p>24 8 & 10:30 am Holy Communion <i>Coffee Hour Follows Each Service</i> 9:15 a.m. Rector's Forum (Old Choir Room) Adult Study (Library) Children and Youth Hour Choir Rehearsal 10:15 a.m. Godly Play & Catechesis 4:00 p.m. Adult & Youth Confirmation Class 5:00 p.m. EYC Meeting & presentation by the Bishop's Missionary Corp for the Parish <i>(more information pg 10)</i></p>	<p>25 7:00 a.m. Holy Communion & Breakfast 8:45 a.m. EFM 9:30 a.m. Pine Meadows Service 5:15 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting</p>	<p>26 7:00 a.m. Holy Communion & Breakfast 12:00 p.m. Tuesdays at Trinity 2:00 p.m. Centering Prayer 5:15 p.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Micro-industry Mission Meeting</p>	<p>27 9:30 a.m. Holy Communion & Healing Service 10:30 a.m. Bible Study FOLD TIDINGS 4:00 p.m. Staff Meeting 5:15 p.m. Vestry 6:00 p.m. Adult Choir</p>	<p>28 7:00 a.m. Holy Communion & Breakfast</p>	<p>29 7:00 a.m. Holy Communion & Breakfast</p>	
<p>Every Sunday...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two services at 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. with coffee hour following. Please join us! • Nursery for infants & young children through age 3 starting at 9 a.m. • Adult Sunday School at 9:15 a.m. (check the weekly announcements for details) • Children's Hour (5 & up) at 9:15 a.m. with Christian formation • Godly Play & Catechesis of the Good Shepherd at 10:15 a.m. 						

Birthdays in February



*Jesus commends that we pray for one another.
Please remember those on our prayer list.*

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<i>If a birthday is omitted or listed incorrectly, please call the church office at 601-544-5551.</i>		<i>Happy Birthday!</i>			1 Katherine Morrison Thomas Ware Lilly Burghard	2 Dorothy Williamson
3 B. J. Lambert	4 Betty McSwain Jarrod Hood, Jr.	5 Katherine Adams Melodee Curry	6	7 Hugh Sutherland	8 Mecklin Stevens Marsha Lamb	9
10 Michelle Heidelberg	11	12 Jeanie Puckett	13 Michael Herrington	14 David Harris Kevin G. Klauk	15 Kate Darby	16 Hitch Thomson Sheri Ezell
17	18 Mary Tatum Mary Deane McInnis Ben Saucier	19	20 Tommy Pope	21 Nanette Stevens	22	23 Ann Poole
24 Joel Keller	25 Douglas Montague	26 Scott Lightsey	27	28 B. J. Andrade	29 Charlene Weaver	

Those who have asked our prayers:

- Bobby & Betty Steadman
 - Elizabeth Scharff
 - Betty & Charlene McSwain
 - Kim Gibson
 - Bettie Webb
 - William Montgomery
 - Cyril Ozell McGowan
 - Crosby Gammill
 - Lee King
 - Margaret Powell
 - Dercia Pattie
 - Mildred Stafford Thomas
 - Dr. Artis Knight
 - Lee H. McKee, Sr.
 - Ronnie Johnson
 - Daryl Thompson
 - Jerry Jones
 - Sharon Weathersby
 - Wayne Scarborough
 - Joyce Meadows
 - Tyler Monahan
 - Drew Kossum
 - Liam Livingston
 - Etta Marie Wagner
 - Frances Trosclair
 - Frank Bingham
 - Janna Beall
 - Sarah McMullen
 - Angie McMillen
 - Verna Blouin
 - Matthew Carreiro
 - Pat Green
 - Josh DeLancey
 - Joy Hancock
 - Larry Polk
 - Mark Holston
 - Larry McDonald
 - Jim Riley
 - Mary Miller
 - Curt Weaver
 - Phillip Canizaro
 - Keith Melancon
- Gene Saucier
 - Jo Pugh
 - Scott Johnson
 - Lyn Johnson
 - Margaret McIntire
 - James Durden
 - The Rev. Susan Bear
 - Linda Smith
 - Carolyn House
 - Judith Jones
 - Jo Bissell
 - Ron & Loretta Murray
 - Diane Harvey
 - Mary Deane McInnis
 - Dickie McKenzie
 - L. A. Rogers
 - Mildred Sumner
 - Retha Johnson
 - Kay Tallirico
 - Cyndie Le Pori
 - Pam & Larry Wingate
 - Dessa Hinton
 - Jason Weathers
- Our homebound and retirement home residents:**
- Buddy Crawford
 - Fran Lassiter
 - Marge West
 - Inez Heidelberg
 - Kathryn M. Jones
 - Willana Price
- For our men & women serving our country:**
- Blake Heidelberg
 - Kevin Lewis
 - Major Beau Eidt
 - Joseph Duncan
 - Major Patrick Walden
 - SFC Shawn Walden
 - Paul Waldoff
- Wesley Prevsch**
- For our Seminarian and Missionary**
- Jody Burnett
 - Marian Dickson

O God, our times are in your hands: Look with favor on our members and grant that they grow in wisdom and grace as they begin another year.

To add someone to the prayer list please fill out the form on the back of the Tidings or contact the church office at 601-544-5551.