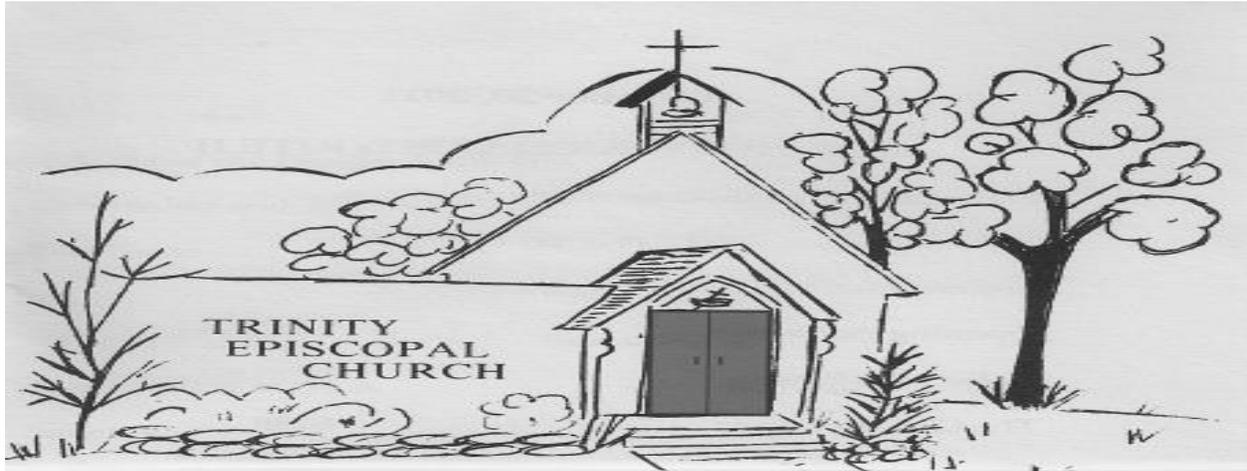


TRINITY TIDINGS

100 Harwood, Lebanon, MO

January 6, 2016, Volume 4, Issue 1



From Behind the Altar

Before I comment about the upcoming events and liturgical celebrations for this New Year, I want to thank those of you who contributed to a “Christmas Purse” for Betty and me. The extra money came in handy over the holidays.

I also want to tell you how happy Betty and I are that so many of you were able to travel to Springfield to attend our annual Christmas Open House. Thirty parishioners were able to be with us. Betty is already beginning to think about the menu for the 2016 Open House.

The day I am writing this article is The Epiphany (January 6), and next Sunday, January 10, is the celebration of Jesus’ baptism, his becoming aware of his divine vocation. On that day we will renew our own baptismal vows and remind ourselves of our own vocation to serve Christ and his Church.

Lent is only five weeks away. Ash Wednesday falls on February 10 this year. As usual, there will be two celebrations of the Ash Wednesday liturgy that day: at 12 noon and 5:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday is a fast day in the Episcopal Church and those who are able are encouraged to observe it as

such. Tracts about fasting are available at the church in the tract rack.

It is customary to add additional study opportunities during the Lenten Season. Starting on Wednesday, February 17, at 5:30 p.m., the Stations of the Cross will be made every Wednesday. At 6:00 p.m. we will have a Lenten supper together (potluck), and at 6:45 p.m. we will be together for a Lenten Class. This year we will explore the topic of Personality Type and our relationship with God and one another. I was certified years ago to administer the Myers Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI). I have taught the MBTI theory before and have collected a good number of MBTI books regarding relationships and spirituality. I think those who attend will enjoy learning more about their own personality style and how to use it to have more effective and satisfying relationships.

The Wednesday noon study group is working its way through 12 lectures about Islam. The class views a 30-minute lecture by a subject-matter expert and then discusses the lecture theme. The class will view the first lecture today, January 6.

Do not forget that on Sunday mornings the lectionary study group continues to meet at 9:00 a.m. to preview the readings (lections)

for the Sunday liturgy. The class concludes at 9:40 a.m.

My prayer for Trinity Church this New Year is that we will continue to mature in our relationship with Christ and one another, and in the process, learn more deeply what it means to be a baptized person living in a community of faith.

Many blessings!

Father Miller

Calling All Palm Branches

If you have at home palm branches that have been blessed at the Palm Sunday liturgy, please bring them to church to be burnt in order to provide ashes for this year's Ash Wednesday liturgy. A container for the palms is in the Parish Hall.

Trinity Open House

Father Miller and Betty hosted the third annual Trinity Open House on January 2, 2016, at their lovely home in Springfield. Betty's Christmas decorations were wonderful as always and everyone enjoyed the Italian food she served. Thank you, Father Miller and Betty for opening your home to the Trinity Church family!

Youth Happenings

As we look ahead to spring (well, spring semester at least!) there's lots going on in the youth program. Diocesan events coming up include Happening #73 February 26-28 at Grace, Carthage and Junior High Retreat April 1-3. The Southern Youth Network will be doing a 30-Hour Famine March 18-19 and a Day of Service April 30, both in Springfield. So many inspiring, educating, and empowering opportunities for youth! See Amanda or wemoyouth.com for more information.

Amanda Perschall

Annual Meeting Date Set

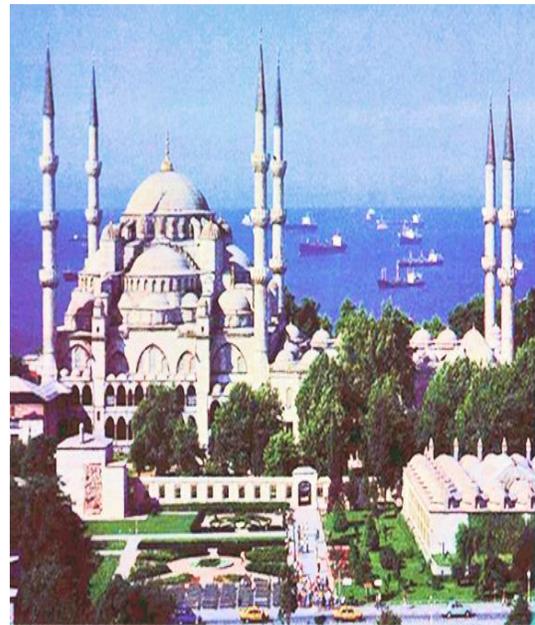
This year Trinity Church will meet for its Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 31. Immediately after the 10:00 a.m. Eucharist, in place of the regular coffee hour, lunch will be served in the parish hall. The Bishop's Committee will provide the meat dish, bread, and beverages. Parishioners are asked to bring a food item or dish to share.

After lunch, the congregation will elect new Bishop's Committee members, discuss the budget for 2016, and hear reports from the officers of the congregation. If you are in charge of a group that normally submits a written report for the Annual Meeting,

please submit to the office no later than Sunday, January 24.

Most Holy Places

The ninth most holy world geographic site is considered to be the Sultan Ahmed Mosque in Istanbul, Turkey. The place is also



known as the famous Blue Mosque because the interior, especially the inaccessible upper floors, are embellished with blue tiles. This exemplification of unmatched masonry and architecture accentuates the Istanbul skyline.

The famous Ottoman architect Sedefkâr Mehmet Ağa took 7 tedious years, 1609 to 1616, to finish this marvel, during the rule of Ahmed I. The design is a beautiful apogee of Ottoman church and Byzantine

mosque development and the interior of the mosque which is accessible from the hippodrome is the finest example of the rarest aesthetic marvel. The mosque is active and can access up-to 10,000 visitors.

Fascinatingly it also marks the site of The Great Palace of Byzantine and stands equal to the beauty of nearby Hagia Sofia, a former Christian patriarchal basilica, later an imperial mosque, and now a museum. Hagia Sofia is the one of the most visited museums and among the most prominent monuments in the world in terms of art and the history of architecture.

Altar Guild

Thanks to everyone who donated to the Christmas flowers. The church was beautiful for the Christmas Eve service and into Epiphany. A new Flower Chart is now posted on the bulletin board. Please consider choosing a month to donate flowers for the altar. If at least two people from of the congregation would donate each month, that would help the fund greatly. There are also separate areas to donate to Easter flowers and Christmas flowers. To donate to the Flower Fund, write a check to the church for \$30.00 and put your check in the collection plate. Indicate on your check Flower Fund. Sign the chart under the

month of your choice and indicate if the donation is in memory of a loved one or a special occasion. Giving toward flowers helps to beautify the church to glorify God.

Karen Miller

Articles for the Newsletter

Articles for the Trinity Tidings Newsletter may be emailed to Bonnie Daniels, editor at bonnieraydaniels@centurylink.net . If you do not have email access, we will also accept paper submissions.

Crosslines Report

The special needs for Crosslines for the month of January are jelly, peanut butter, catsup, and mustard. Thanks for the increased donations being brought in to the church. It is nice to see Trinity Episcopal on the monthly Crosslines report given to the board at the end of each month.

Last year as a congregation we had a focused food drive for the month of February. That is a month when few to no food drives are being conducted and the generous Christmas donations are being depleted. Please contact Father Jerry, Bill Danek, or Peggy Graydon if that is something the church wants to do again this year.

