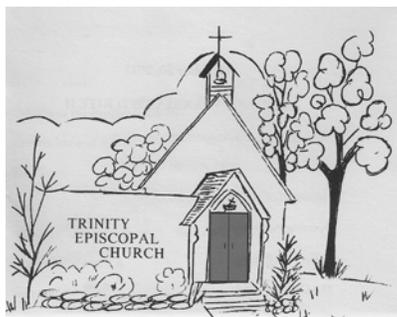


TRINITY TIDINGS

Trinity Episcopal Church
100 Harwood Lebanon, MO

10/10/2013

(Edition 3 Volume 1)



From Behind the Altar

November, which will soon be here, is one of my favorite months of the year. I enjoy it for several reasons. First of all, it is a time of transition. It is the month that moves us seriously closer to winter. The final loss of leaves and change of color of foliage are manifest signs that things around us are different. I see in November a material reminder that our lives are not static, but instead are ever-changing and dynamic.

Another reason I like November is because of the Festival of All Saints. It is one of the seven principal feasts of the Church's Year, and it helps us understand better that God through Christ calls all of us to sainthood (holiness of living). The New Testament word for a

baptized person is "saint". To be a member of the Body of Christ is to take the identity of saint upon ourselves. An extension of All Saints' Day is The Commemoration of All Faithful Departed, commonly referred to as All Souls' Day. It is on this day that the Church prays fervently that the faithful departed will receive the "unsearchable benefits of the passion of Jesus Christ." Remembering in prayer and worship those who have gone before us is a wonderful act of love.

Of course, Thanksgiving Day makes November a month of holiday. In many communities, such as Lebanon, people of faith gather in their parish churches to give thanks to God for all of the blessings of a fruitful harvest.

Perhaps the final reason I like November, and maybe this is just a priest's perspective, is that the Church's Year comes to an end. On the last Sunday of the liturgical year the theme is Christ's kingship over his creation. What a triumphal

note on which to end the liturgical cycle. On the next Sunday the liturgical year begins anew with Advent, when the faithful again try to remember what it is to wait for Christ to come to save the world. With Advent the Church gets another opportunity to live through the whole cycle of salvation.

I guess there are probably some other reasons I like November so much, but I have already taken up enough room in the newsletter with my thoughts.

God bless you all.

Father Miller

Crosslines Ministry

Viola Blankenship, who has been the interim director of Crosslines since January, has accepted the position of director. Bill Danek is chairing a committee to better record the in kind donations made to Crosslines.

It is a continual amazement the amount of donations coming in and going out of Crosslines. In one day of distributing food from the mobile food pantry, 210 families were served. The U.S.D.A. truck bought in 9,142 pounds of food for families in August, and 12,757 pounds in September plus about 500 pounds from local gardeners. Many volunteers are used, and in one month 278 volunteer hours were clocked.

As of the end of September, 574 children have benefitted from the August socks and undies drive. There was a decrease in families served from August to September possibly due to school starting and children eating one to two meals there. In August, 696 families (2,067 individuals) were served and 545 (1,650 individuals) in September.

Special needs for October are blankets, spaghetti and sauce, canned fruits, and macaroni and cheese. Place in the

Crosslines box and they will be delivered.

Peggy Graydon

About our Tradition

Often people new to the Episcopal Church ask me about All Saints' Day (November 1) and All Souls' Day (November 2) and their observance in the Church. Rather than use my own words, I will quote from the volume Lesser Feasts and Fasts, an official publication of The Episcopal Church:

"In the New Testament, the word 'saints' is used to describe the entire membership of the Christian community, and in the Collect for All Saints' Day (November 1) the word 'elect' is used in a similar sense. From very early times, however, the word 'saint' came to be applied primarily to persons of heroic sanctity, whose deeds were recalled with gratitude by later generations.

"Beginning in the tenth century, it became customary to set aside another day (other than All Saints' Day)—as sort of an extension of All Saints' Day—on which the Church remembered the vast body of the faithful who, though no less members of the company of the redeemed, are unknown in the

wider fellowship of the Church. It was also a day for particular remembrance of family members and friends.

"Though the observance of the day was abolished at the Reformation because of abuses connected with Masses for the dead, a renewed understanding of its meaning has led to a widespread acceptance of this commemoration among Anglicans."

Since All Souls' Day falls on Saturday (November 2) this year, the day of the Diocesan Convention in Kansas City, we will celebrate it, along with All Saints' Day, November 1, which also coincides with the beginning of the Diocesan Convention, on Sunday, November 3.

It is customary for the faithful to gather on this day to offer the Eucharist for their departed family members, friends, and benefactors. If you would like a departed person or persons prayed for by name, please use the form available in this month's Trinity Tidings. This same form is available each Sunday at church.

Father Miller

Laclede County Ministerial Alliance Thanksgiving Service

As in the past, the local Ministerial Alliance will host a community-wide Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 26, at 7:00 p.m. at the First Christian Church. Father Miller, who is the secretary of the Ministerial Alliance, will participate. The offering taken at the service will go toward the outreach ministries of the Ministerial Alliance. In addition to the ecumenical service, Father Miller will celebrate the Thanksgiving Day liturgy from the Book of Common Prayer on Wednesday, November 27, at 5:30 p.m.

Altar Guild

You have probably noticed the brass torches in the altar area. These are part of the purchases that have been made with the generous gifts made to the Ken Miller Memorial. They were chosen to match the candle holders on the front and back altar which were given by Denise Stockstill several years ago. We are expecting several more gifts to appear as they are ordered and arrive.

The Altar Guild is composed of veteran Trinity members. This

is a first for us in many years. For several years we have had someone in training at any given time. So we are anxious to welcome new members to train and introduce to the very satisfying ministry of altar preparation. If you are interested in being a member of the Altar Guild; please contact Fr. Miller or Karen Miller or any other member of the Altar Guild. They are Gloria Morque, Bonnie Daniels, Denise Stockstill and Amanda Perschall.

Karen Miller

Lenora Wiley's New Address

Lenora reports that she is settled in and doing well in Florida. She says that she misses everyone and would enjoy letters or calls. Her new address is:

Lenora Wiley
500 Avenue L NW
Winter Haven, FL 33881
Phone 863-229-5316

Youth Happening

September 20-22 brought Happening #68 to St. Paul's KC. 19 youth and 5 adults were first time participants in this weekend long retreat that focuses on developing personal faith and spirituality. It is led by youth in grades 9-12, though

with some adult support. A huge thank you to everyone from Trinity who prayed for us while on retreat -- I know that helped make it a great success. This event happens each September and March so be looking forward to being involved again in the future!

Through my work on the Diocesan Youth Ministry Commission, I often am able to spend time working at events like Happening. Sometimes I wonder about my personal sanity when I look back a weekend like this one that leads me straight from my classroom to a weekend full of teenagers. And yet, it's weekends like this one that restore my faith. Here are modern, millennial youth who are taking time away from their over-scheduled lives to grow their relationships with God and each other. I am inspired by their zeal, impressed with their passion, and jealous of their energy. I look forward to how Trinity can continue to grow in our involvement with youth ministry here in Lebanon and across the Diocese.

Amanda Perschall

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.

