

# The TIDINGS

A Publication of the  
Faith Community of  
Trinity Episcopal Church  
The Woodlands, TX

Volume IX, Number 2  
March - April 2013

Dear Trinitarians,

**Do** you want a more perfect faith? Do not let fear decide your decisions.

**Do** you want perfect hope? Know your tomorrow is already  
in God's hand.

**Do** you want perfect love? Desire only the right, the good, the beautiful,  
and the holy for all.

**Do** you want a more perfect soul? Love more, love deeply, and love all.

**Do** you want a more perfect prayer life? Sit and let God do all  
the talking.

**Do** you want a more perfect servant's heart? Seek to understand.

**Do** you want a more perfect heart? Do not protect it from love,  
God, or giving.

**Do** you want perfect speech? Listen.

**Do** you want perfect listening? Be present.

**Do** you want perfect presence? Be content.

**Do** you want perfect contentment? Seek faith.



*Peace,  
Father Gerry+*

# HORNER'S CORNER

## The Challenge of Richard Rohr

I'm regularly being stretched and challenged by Richard Rohr's writings. The meditation below is a powerful example of his theology and wisdom.

### Time to Grow Up

*It seems to me that it is a minority that ever gets the true full Gospel...in any denomination. Most of us just keep worshiping Jesus and arguing over the right way to do it. The amazing thing is that Jesus never once says, "Worship me!" whereas he frequently says, "follow me" (e.g., Matthew 4:19).*

*Christianity is a lifestyle – a way of being in the world that is simple, non-violent, shared and loving. However, we made it into an established "religion" (and all that goes with that) and avoided the lifestyle change itself. One could be warlike, greedy, racist, selfish, and vain in most of Christian history, and still believe that Jesus is one's "Personal Lord and Savior" or continue to receive Sacraments in good standing. The world has no time for such silliness anymore. The suffering on Earth is too great.*

If you are stimulated or interested by the above and want to become a Richard Rohr reader (and fan) you may contact the main office of CAC at [info@cac.org](mailto:info@cac.org) for further details.

CAC is the umbrella organization over the myriad activities and ministries of Richard Rohr.

## Sonrise Studies

Some of you may be familiar with this longstanding group of guys who meet every Friday at 6 AM for fellowship, food, prayer and study.

This Lenten season, starting on February 15, we lead the liturgy of "**The Stations of the Cross**" in the nave, beginning at 6:30 AM. The service lasts about 25 minutes. You may read more about it in the weekly Tidings.

Our group has begun study of a new book, *The Fire of the Word* by Chris Webb. We will hold the continuing study in abeyance until after Easter. This is a challenging and very spiritual book that brings together many ancient saints and characters that invite us into a life giving conversation with God and the Bible.

Chris Webb wrote this book to serve as a kind of bridge from "knowing the bible" to "living the bible".

Why not start Lent with the Stations and perhaps segue into the Sonrise group. You'll be blessed.

Bob Horner, Deacon

## 164th Annual Council Report



This is my annual report on this annual event, now in its 164th year. I believe the format has changed little in recent years. The Church Canons (rules) require certain financial reports, the Bishops State of the Diocese Address, appointments etc, and of course election of folks to fill various official offices.

There are the resolutions and changes in the Constitution and Canons, for debate and voting upon. All in all it is a very well planned and executed two day meeting and does indeed ensure the legality and credibility of EDOT. Considering the millions of dollars in assets, and 10 million dollars annual budget, 165 missions and parishes plus over 300 clergy, it is a very important annual happening.

It is also important to note that the entire meeting was undergirded by frequent Chaplain's prayers and the required Necrology Report was read.

Trinity was well represented by ten delegates, one of the largest delegations there. There were several very important highlights, in my opinion.

The hosts for the Council were the Hispanic congregations of EDOT, a diverse and growing segment in our Diocese. What a refreshing and optimistic view to see literally hundreds of young enthusiastic Hispanics in many roles during the entire meeting, and much of the Communion liturgy was in dual language.

The introduction of newly ordained and other new clergy bodes well for the future of our diocese; maintaining staffing at our many missionary outposts is critical.

The Bishops address is always a highlight as our young, dynamic, energetic and visionary leader cast a vision and course for the future. Many new/innovative ideas were rolled out, including new church plants, enhanced Evangelism programs, and moves to increase efficiency and budgeting. There was a comprehensive report on the status of St Luke's Hospital System and probable future changes.

We all came away from this exciting experience with confidence and hope for the future of EDOT, a bright and shining beacon in the National Church.

One of our own delegates, **Walter Browning** was recognized for the celebration of his birthday and being a first time delegate.

Bob Horner, Deacon

# CURATE COMTEMPLATIONS

## Do you Fast?

Lent is, for some, a time where we commit to fasting or "Giving Things Up" as we prepare for the Sacred Mystery of Easter. I offer these words of St. John Chrysostom as a reflection.

Do you fast? Give me proof of it by your works.  
If you see a poor man, take pity on him.  
If you see a friend being honored, do not envy him.  
Do not let only your mouth fast, but also the eye and the ear and the feet and the hands  
and all the members of our bodies.  
Let the hands fast, by being free of greed.  
Let the feet fast, by ceasing to run after sin.  
Let the eyes fast, by disciplining them not to glare at that which is sinful.  
Let the ear fast, by not listening to evil talk and gossip.  
Let the mouth fast from foul words and unjust criticism.  
For what good is it if we abstain from birds and fish, but bite and devour our sisters and brothers?  
May He who came to the world to save sinners strengthen us to complete the fast with humility,  
have mercy on us and save us.  
~ St. John Chrysostom

*Shalom, Deacon Sean*

## ★ EDOT *Dialog*

Sign up for the  
*Dialog E-News*. Here's the link:  
<http://tinyurl.com/diologenews>

It's that simple. The *Dialog* goes out  
every Wednesday afternoon.

*EDOT Communications*

## PASTORAL CARE

### An Invitation to Become a Pastoral Visitor In Your Hospital

It was in 1954 that St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital opened its doors in the Texas Medical Center. It has continued a significant ministry of The Episcopal Diocese ever since.

When the hospital board decided to build their first suburban hospital outside of the Texas Medical Center, they wisely chose The Woodlands. The corner of Interstate 45 and SH 242/ College Park Drive was selected for the new campus- purchasing 42 acres in 2001. This year the 10th Anniversary of the opening of The Woodlands campus is being celebrated. As members of Trinity Church you are invited to consider participating in the ministry of this special place which has become a flagship of faithful loving care in our community.

**The Right Reverend John Hines** said, "We shall not build just another hospital. That would be a betrayal of our commission as a Church of God. We shall build a Church Hospital in which all the mountain-moving powers of faith and prayer and human skill can be brought to bear upon individuals in need. It will be a hospital in which the Chapel will stand close to its very heart. It will be a witness to a gallant and decisive fact of human experience, namely, that 'we are children of God.'"

In March of 2003, St. Luke's Community Medical Center, now known as St. Luke's The Woodlands Hospital opened its doors. The hospital opened as a general care community hospital- with 84 private patient rooms. Since that time, the campus has grown from 42 to 64 acres - and the hospital has grown to 184 patient rooms. Construction is currently under way to add another 60 private rooms in the next two years, increasing current capacity by over 30%.

In every regard the words of Bishop Hines have been fulfilled in The Woodlands. As you read about the clinical services provided in what is essentially "your" hospital realize, too, that spiritual care is offered and provided by many volunteers of your community. One volunteer who has been here from the beginning said, "Becoming a Pastoral Visitor at St. Luke's has been a wonderful experience for me. It has taught me compassion for the fears and pain of others. It has given me understanding of other people's beliefs. I have learned to see and feel God's love for all people."

When St. Luke's decided to bring their brand of Faithful, Loving Care to Montgomery County, they invited other nationally recognized healthcare providers to join them. Texas Children's Hospital (TCH) provides all pediatric care at St. Luke's The Woodlands. TCH also operates a pediatric clinic on the campus with medical doctors from 15 specialties seeing patients Monday – Friday.

MD Anderson, the #1 name in cancer care in the U.S., joined St. Luke's in The Woodlands in 2004. The MD Anderson Cancer Care Center in The Woodlands offers comprehensive oncology care close to home.

Since opening in 2003, St. Luke's added a Heart Program, bringing cardiologists and cardiovascular surgeons trained at the Texas Heart Institute to The Woodlands. In 2005, St. Luke's was the first hospital in The Woodlands to perform open heart surgery.

In 2009, St. Luke's Lakeside Hospital opened on the St. Luke's campus. A Neuroscience Program was added in 2010. In 2012 a Performance Medicine Center opened on campus, as well as a Wound Care Center. St. Luke's The Woodlands was named a Hometown Hero by Interfaith of The Woodlands for their years of giving back to the community. Two additional medical arts buildings have been added to the campus in the past seven years, bringing more physicians of all specialties to St. Luke's and to The Woodlands. In the past ten years the number of patient rooms has more than doubled from 84 to 184. The number of physicians on staff has more than tripled to 700. The number of employees at SLTW has more than quadrupled from 245 to 1,058.

As we have grown, this invitation is of great importance. It is a call to experience the healing power of God by helping people connect with their own beliefs, values, faith, and inner strengths on their journey to wholeness. As Henri Nouwen said, it is a "hard calling to accept because it goes against our own needs for self-affirmation, self-fulfillment and self-realization. It is a call to true humility." And yet, for those who accept they often find that they receive so much more than they give, and as one has said, "we are in a holy place and God is present." As so many members of Trinity Church have already discovered, this is indeed an amazing threshold to pass through.

As you may consider this invitation, please call **The Reverend Randall Trego** for further information about how to join this ministry opportunity, 936.266.3366.

*The Rev. Randall Trego • Chaplain, St. Luke's, The Woodlands*

# HOLY WEEK - MARCH 24 - MARCH 31, 2013

## **Palm Sunday**

We began Holy Week with the Procession of the Palms and the reading of the Passion (suffering) of Christ. This marks the entrance into Christianity's most sacred week.

We believe that Holy Week celebrations began early in Jerusalem and by the 4th century was an annual commemoration of His Death and Resurrection.

## **Holy Wednesday – 10 AM & 7 PM**

We recall the work of betrayal. Judas goes to the authorities and asks what they will give him to betray Jesus. The trap is set.

## **Maundy Thursday – 7 PM**

We remember the Last Supper, how Jesus washed the disciple's feet, and how he goes to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. It is here that Peter, James and John fall asleep while Jesus prays and he asks them could they not watch with him for one hour. Judas joins him in the garden and, with a kiss, the betrayal is complete. The Sanctuary is emptied of all its' beauty and lays bare before us.

## **Maundy Thursday Watch – 9 PM Thursday to 3 PM Friday**

In response to Jesus' question, "Could you not watch with me for one hour?", we place the Sacrament of Bread and Wine at the Altar of Repose (in the Parlor). Members come to pray, read, and meditate on the sacrifice of Christ – responding to the question with, "Yes, I will watch with you for one hour".

## **Good Friday – 12 Noon and 7 PM**

Jesus hangs on the cross from Noon until 3 PM. At 3 PM on Good Friday he dies. The Good Friday service recalls the fear of the disciples, the agony of Christ and his burial in the tomb. With devotions to the Cross we recall his sacrifice for each of us, remembering the high cost of God's Love.

## **Holy Saturday**

On the Sabbath (Saturday) Jesus' body lay in the tomb. The Apostles and disciples are hiding in grief and fear. In this very short service we recall the temporary resting place for his body and our darkness as we await the Easter word.

## **Easter – 7 PM Saturday, 7:30, 9, 11 AM & 5 PM Sunday**

The great Feast of the Resurrection begins Saturday night with the most ancient of services. We light the Easter fire for the Paschal Candle and grow from darkness to the light of the Easter Acclamation.

Sunday morning we continue to celebrate the Risen Lord, remembering that after this Easter Sunday every Sunday becomes a little Easter.

I pray you all can attend as much of Holy Week as you can. It will make Easter more joyous and meaningful.  
EASTER LASTS FOR 50 DAYS!

*Peace,  
Father Gerry+*

# OUTREACH



## Angel Reach

Angel Reach, Conroe, is a non-profit organization that assists young folks who have "aged" out of the foster system.

There is a great need of volunteers to do the following:

- Driving these young people to college, high school, or appointments
- Preparing simple meals
- Donating hygiene products
- Donating diapers
- Donating adult, children, and baby clothing
- Mentoring
- Donating gift cards

One of the founders of this group would like to come and speak to your ministry. Contact **Mary Kay Davis**.

Mary Kay Davis • [adavis998@comcast.net](mailto:adavis998@comcast.net)

## Angel Reach Open Table

Our new ministry, **Angel Reach**, has launched a program entitled **Open Table**. Open Table is a faith based organization that meets weekly with a young homeless woman, guiding her to independence. The table is staffed with Trinity members who will assist in such areas as housing, job search, education, health and financial planning.

As we walk through the desert with this young lady we would appreciate your prayers and support. Members at the Table are: **Alyssa Stebbing, Betsy Batey, Kathy Bivens Norris, Leszlie Nedelka, Ann Underwood, Kaye Sykes, Judith Randolph, Cathy Barolak, Marjorie Cox, Doris Cloud and Mary Kay Davis.**

Several groups at Trinity have had Angel Reach leaders speak to their ministry groups. If you would like to learn more about Angel Reach or Open Table, please contact Alyssa Stebbing or Mary Kay Davis.

Mary Kay Davis • [adavis998@comcast.net](mailto:adavis998@comcast.net)

## Wall of Compassion

It's time once again to build our Wall of Compassion, aka, Food Drive for Interfaith. Pick up your box and list of items in Butler Hall and return it FULL to Butler Hall by March 24th. Thank you, in advance, for your continued commitment to this important community service.

Alyssa Stebbing • [astebbing@trinitywoodlands.org](mailto:astebbing@trinitywoodlands.org)



281.3671230 • 4242 Interfaith Way • The Woodlands, Texas 77381  
[www.woodlandsinterfaith.org](http://www.woodlandsinterfaith.org) • [www.woodlandsdirectory.com](http://www.woodlandsdirectory.com) • [www.interfaithkids.org](http://www.interfaithkids.org)



# OUTREACH

## North Dakota Family Ministry Trip

The North Dakota family ministry trip to Spirit Lake Reservation is July 28- August 3rd. We need a few more people this year! If you have considered going and would like some more information, please contact **Alyssa Stebbing**. We hope to be working more in the community this year; working with children and youth, construction jobs and maintenance repairs.

Families with children, singles, teenagers, and retired couples are all invited to join this wonderful opportunity!

Alyssa Stebbing • [astebbing@trinitywoodlands.org](mailto:astebbing@trinitywoodlands.org) • 281.367.8113

## 2013 Angel Gift Market

Please join us to help plan the next Angel Gift Market in December. Our first meeting to review last year and begin planning for this year will be March 12 at 1:00 PM in the Office Conference Room. Anyone is welcome to join us and plan for the best Angel Gift Market yet!

Each year at the Angel Gift Market, we have a new Angel on the cover of the catalog and gift cards. This year we would like to invite members of the congregation to submit an angel to be considered for the the Angel 2013. It can be in any kind of medium, but must be an angel! Deadline is Sept 1, 2013. Please contact Alyssa Stebbing, [astebbing@trinitywoodlands.org](mailto:astebbing@trinitywoodlands.org), or Kaye Sykes, [kayesykes20@gmail.com](mailto:kayesykes20@gmail.com), if you have questions.

Alyssa Stebbing • [astebbing@trinitywoodlands.org](mailto:astebbing@trinitywoodlands.org) • 281.367.8113

SAVE THE DATE!



MAY 16, 2013

Please join your fellow Episcopalians for an evening of small group conversations, bringing together members from different Episcopal churches where possible. The evening will begin with a simple meal in parishioners' homes, churches or meeting spaces across the Diocese of Texas. Each dinner will have a host, moderator and 8-12 participants.

Sharing how we experience our faith deepens our spiritual lives and helps others recognize how God is at work in their lives. On this evening of Sharing Faith, it is our hope that you will experience a deeper understanding of your own faith as a Christian disciple and as an Episcopalian.

**Register to participate online beginning April 1. For more information, see your local Dinner Coordinator or go to [epicenter.org/sharingfaith](http://epicenter.org/sharingfaith).**

# TRINITY EPISCOPAL DAY SCHOOL



We decorated our own masks and celebrated Mardi Gras here at TEDS with a parade through school, beads and all! The Lenten season will be observed; our hallelujahs put away until Easter. Rodeo Days and the annual arrival of our caterpillars signal the beginning of spring. TEDS classes will have many lessons in nature study, including metamorphosis, germination and ecology. The little guys, eighteen months and two year olds, begin their color units, while the threes focus on farm, pond, ocean and weather. Our four year old classes study Texas history, Earth Day, health and nutrition and Folk Art. The Explorer class will travel to Egypt, Africa and South America during March and April.

Here is a brief Kindergarten overview for March/April: Science-an eight week process of observing tadpoles become frogs, with DATA recorded in the "Frog Log", planting pumpkin seeds saved from October, a study of planets and the phases of the moon; Language Arts-the parts of a book including the table of contents and glossary, use of describing words and creation of a new class big book; Math:-counting coins totaling more than \$1.00, telling time to 5 minute intervals, addition, subtraction, measurement and word problems.

We have begun registration for the 2013-2014 school year. We offer classes for 18 months through Kindergarten. As of March 1, we have openings in most classes, with the exception of the three day two year olds. If you, or anyone you know, are interested in the day school, please contact the school office. Our phone number is 281.367.5148, e-mail [dbremer@tedstw.org](mailto:dbremer@tedstw.org) and website [www.tedstw.org](http://www.tedstw.org). We are always happy to give tours at your convenience. TEDS is licensed by The Department of Family and Protective Services and accredited through The Southwestern Association of Episcopal Schools.

Please mark your calendars for April 13th when the TEDS Board sponsors our annual dinner and dance. This year we will celebrate *A Night in Marrakesh*, with a unique menu, intriguing auction items and colorful decorations. The Resource Committee of the Board and many other Trinity members, TEDS families and staff have worked diligently to offer a wonderful night. Proceeds from this fundraiser are dedicated to scholarship, resources, and equipment for your school. Please join us!

We would especially like to offer thanks to our outgoing TEDS Board members, **Bob Atkins, Laurie McKillip, Bev Redd and Carlin Tedesco**, for their service over the years. Through their hard work on behalf of the school, they have made a great difference in the lives of the TEDS families.

*Carol Godell, Director*



## TEDS Annual Dinner Dance and Auction

Take a magic carpet ride to the 11th Annual TEDS Dinner, Dance & Auction on April 13 from 6 - 9:30 p.m. Please join us in support of Trinity Episcopal Day School for *A Night in Marrakesh*. We welcome you and your guests for an evening that promises amazing food, wine, music, dancing and much more! A Live Auction Bazaar and silent auction Souk offer a myriad of wonders. Complimentary childcare is available with reservations. Invitations will be arriving soon! For more information or to help sponsor the event, please call Carol Godell at 281 357 5148.

*Claudia Grow • [claudiagrow1@yahoo.com](mailto:claudiagrow1@yahoo.com)*



# AROUND THE PARISH

## Ministry Opportunities

You will find on page four of this edition, an article on Chaplaining opportunities at St. Luke's, The Woodlands. I most heartily and prayerfully endorse and support this ministry in this place. I've been blessed in serving as a chaplain for almost twenty years at several hospitals and have found the experience at St. Luke's to be spiritually and emotionally rewarding. The training by Fr. Trego is excellent and you join a fellowship of likeminded/motivated Christians with gifts of mercy and hospitality.

*Bob Horner, Deacon*

## Verger Ministry: A Sincere Thank You and a Welcome



After many years as a verger, **David Salmon** has asked to take leave to be able to sit in the pew and enjoy the Trinity services with his family. The clergy and vergers sincerely thank David for his faithful and dutiful service.

**Father Gerry** has called **Dana Horton** to serve Trinity as verger. She will train in March, and her investiture into the Episcopal Guild of Vergers will be in April. Vergers are lay assistants to the rector, responsible for coordinating the physical aspects of the service. Theirs is a long term commitment.

*Dick Johnson • Head Verger*

## Spring Foyers

March is the month to sign up for Spring Foyers and will continue through the end of the month. Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. The French word "foyer" means "hearth or fireside" and suggests small groups in a relaxed and casual atmosphere. Foyers provide an opportunity for fellowship and focus on hospitality rather than entertainment. Folks get together and enjoy each other's company. Groups of 6-8 (combined at random, rather than by age, zip code, etc.) meet three or four times over a six-month period for a simple meal and relaxed conversation. Couples or individuals take turns hosting. Each Foyers group determines its own meeting date. Please sign up in the Narthex and join us. If you have any questions, please contact Jack and San West at 281.298.8811.

*Jack and San West • 281.298.8811*

## Trinity Women's Book Club

Come join the Trinity Women's Book Club! We are open to all women in the church, and your friends are welcome as well. We meet on the 4th Monday of each month at 7 PM in the Parlor. While enjoying tasty beverages and snacks, we informally discuss the assigned book and enjoy each other's company. We read a variety of genres, including fiction, non-fiction, contemporary and classical, biographical, spiritual, and even poetry! There is something for everyone who loves to read, and we have a number of former literature majors who provide knowledge and insight to our discussions. Our next few meetings are February 25 and March 25, 2013.

In December Trinity Women's Book Club held their annual Christmas luncheon at Amerigos. We chatted up a storm which prompted our kind waiter to note that he was not used to serving such great conversationalists. He noted he is used to prying customers eyes from their I-phones long enough to place an order and then never hearing another peep let alone eye contact. We told him that was just the 'way we rolled' as book lovers and social butterflies. If that sounds like you, please come and join us.

In January, the Book Club read *Jamaica Inn* by Daphne du Maurier, a romantic novel set in 1800's Cornwall, England. Her description of the wind-whipped moors and the bleak Jamaica Inn made us appreciate our gentle winter and comfortable homes. Her main character, Mary, was so solid and grounded and accepting of her fate that the ending surprised us all.

Our February reading, *Plan B* by Ann LaMott will provide insight to maintaining our faith in today's changing world and is a timely Lenten read.

On March 25, we will shift gears and read *Friends Forever* by Danielle Steele.

If you have any questions, please contact **Barbara Leary** at 281.682.7900.

*Barbara Leary • 281.682.7900*

# Parish Life



## Kids' Corner Summer Program

### Volunteers Needed:

We have our 6th annual Summer Program starting on June 11th and runs to August 15th, we are looking for volunteers to come help in our large group activities, chapel and during our lunch hour. If you interested please contact Liz Johnson at the church office or at [ljohnson@trinitywoodlands.org](mailto:ljohnson@trinitywoodlands.org)

### Materials Needed:

The summer program needs your recyclables! We are in need of plastic lids with no holes, plastic bags, small plastic containers and empty 2 liter bottles. Please drop your donations off at the church office or at Kids Corner.

## Trinity Kids' Corner

### Kids Day Out

March 12th, 13th and 14th.

This week we have Texas Moonwalks coming and Kona Ice! All you need to do is pack a snack lunch for your child. The times are 9am-2pm and the cost is \$25.00 per child or \$40 per family per day.

### Save the Date:

Kids Night Out on May 11th. The theme is Summer Fun. Dinner, Kona Ice and a good time provided. The time is 5:30-9:30 PM. The cost is \$ 25.00 per child or \$40.00 per family.

### Summer Program registration has begun!

The theme this summer is Amazing Race and its for ages 0-12. This summer we have a lot of great and exciting things going on, for more information feel free to pick up a packet at the church office or at Kids Corner.

For questions, information or to RSVP for any Kids Corner Events please contact Liz Johnson at the church office or at [ljohnson@trinitywoodlands.org](mailto:ljohnson@trinitywoodlands.org).

## Kids For Christ

*Youth group for kids in 1<sup>st</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup> grade*

Bowling

Striking out for fun

April 14 1:30-3:30pm

# Parish Life



**I ♥ 80's**

**Sunday  
April 21  
12:30pm**

**You are invited to a birthday party!**

**We are going to be celebrating those in our parish who are 80+ years old. Come help us party and eat cake!**

Stations of the Cross

Good Friday  
Noon

An interactive time of worship for all ages, led by the youth.

## AROUND THE PARISH



### Trinity Veterans Fellowship

With our nation at war, our service men and women repeatedly in harm's way, all in the Trinity family know of friends and family who are currently serving in one of our armed services. This is a particularly stressful time for these young men and women, and their families who wait, prayerfully, for their safe return. We can think of no other time when the need of spiritual blessings is more paramount.

To meet this need, the Trinity Veterans Fellowship has undertaken a mission of providing a copy of the Episcopal Church's Prayer Book for the Armed Services. This condensed prayer book, sized to fit in field uniforms, is designed for use by Chaplains and Those in Service and contains reprints from the Book of Common Prayer, The Hymnal, and other source material. Accompanying the Prayer Book is an Episcopal Church Service Cross which may be worn with identification tags (dog tags) as a reminder that the wearer is a Child of God. Providing these items to those in service continues a tradition followed by many Episcopal parishes. Several of the Trinity veterans recall receiving them while in service, the comfort they provided at a time of need, and many still treasure them today.

In addition to the Prayer Book and Cross, the Brotherhood of St. Andrew is providing another book, *Strength for Service To God and Country*. This book contains daily devotional material appropriate for each day of the year and tailored for those in service.

The Trinity Veterans Fellowship places few, if any, restrictions on who may receive this free gift. If you know of someone in one of the Armed Services, please provide their name and address to Stoney Cox, [coxstoney@gmail.com](mailto:coxstoney@gmail.com) or Peter Benson, [PeterBenson1@hotmail.com](mailto:PeterBenson1@hotmail.com) and we will send the items.

Stoney Cox • [coxstoney@gmail.com](mailto:coxstoney@gmail.com)

*O God, bless our men, women and families of the Armed Services. Visit and sustain the lives of all chaplains in their rounds, duties and deployments. Give all who serve confident hearts in their work as peacemakers and peacekeepers. Protect our nation and its people in these difficult times. Never, Lord, let us abandon the character of righteousness in everything we do. Amen.*

### 5th Annual Car Show Sponsored by Volkswagen, The Woodlands

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew is hosting the 5th Annual Car Show on the 28th of April in the church parking lot. This year, the Brotherhood is pleased to announce that Volkswagen, The Woodlands is sponsoring the event.

Registration begins at 9:00 AM and the show hours are 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. The entry fee of \$20 for the first vehicle and \$10 for each additional vehicle includes two lunch tickets. All cars and non-food vendors are welcome. Participants who enter will vote to award trophies in 10 classes, as well as Best in Show. All proceeds from this event benefit Scouting and Youth programs supported by the Brotherhood. For pre-registration or further information, call 713.899.6910.



## AROUND THE PARISH

### Trinity Tennisers

Our first year as TTs has ended very successfully. On each of the first Sundays in 2012 the TTs played social tennis at The Woodlands Country Club. Shown below are photos from the November 2012 and January 2013 matches. We look forward to more players joining us as we continue our matches this year. For those who wish to join TT or desire additional information, please contact **Lynwood Randolph** at [lrandolph@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lrandolph@sbcglobal.net) or 281.356.2030.

*Lyn Randolph*



November 2012: Tom Budde, Peter Benson, Mike Daigle and Leslie Hajdo



January 2013: Jackie Winters, Tom Budde, Martha Macris, Peter Benson, Jeanette Brenner, Leslie Buck, Cynthia Kendall and Lyn Randolph



### Junior Ushers

2012 was a great year for the new Junior Usher Ministry at Trinity Episcopal Church. Junior Ushers served five Fifth Sundays and also provided additional service during the Christmas services. We look forward to 2013 as steps are being taken to utilize Junior Ushers with the Ushers Teams that have all of their members certified through the Safe-guarding Gods Children training. We currently have two coordinators and two teams which include fourteen young ladies and ten young men. If you wish to learn more about Junior Ushers or to join our teams, please contact Lynwood P. Randolph at the email address [lrandolph@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lrandolph@sbcglobal.net) or 281.356.2030.

*Lyn Randolph*





## AROUND THE PARISH

### Jail Needs Your Old Books, Magazines, etc.

Did you know that the Montgomery County Jail houses 1200 inmates? That's a lot of folks! Each week, volunteers with the Chaplain's Office visit with interested inmates and pass out Bibles, books, pamphlets, magazines and other Christian reading material. If you would like to donate your used Bibles, Christian books or magazines, please drop them in the "Book Box" in front of the Bookstore or call **Bill Carter** at 281.362.8882. Further, if you think you would be interested in helping in this exciting new ministry, call him to get more information.

Bill Carter • 281.362.8882

*Remember those in prison as if they were your fellow prisoners ...*

*Hebrews 13:3*

### Thank You!

Dear Church friends (known and unknown),

My family and I would like to express our deepest thanks for the prayers, love and support that was given to us during Elyse's brain surgeries in Aurora, CO.

Since these were to be her second (planned) and third (unplanned) trips to the OR for Chiari Malformation, we went to one of the few experts in the nation. Her neurosurgeon and the hospital were top notch. We all got the best of care.

Elyse was in ICU for seven days and four days in a regular room on the Neuro floor. Super nurses all the time.

The follow up appointment in December shows good healing especially around the titanium plate that was inserted during surgery.

She will begin Physical Therapy for two months that will help with her constant headaches, we hope.

We will know in October 2013 whether or not the surgeries will put her in the Success Category.

So keep those prayers coming, please. She is not out of the woods yet.

Trinity was my safety net during this time, so thank you one and all.

*With gratitude and love,  
Harriet, Rick and Elyse Giles*



### Come Make Palm Crosses with Us!

Please join the Flower Guild Friday, March 22 in the Office Conference Room as we fold the Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday Services. We will provide the instructions, a wonderful soup lunch, laughter and fellowship! For more information you can contact Barbara Miller at 281.419.4670 or [bmiller541@comcast.net](mailto:bmiller541@comcast.net).

Barbara Miller • [bmiller541@comcast.net](mailto:bmiller541@comcast.net)

### Easter Lilies

We will be decorating the church with lilies for Easter. If you would like to make a love offering in memory of or in thanksgiving for a loved one to be used in the sanctuary or narthex, you may pick up an Easter lily form in the narthex during the month of March. Please place your form and a suggested donation of \$15 for each lily in the offering plate or bring it to the office by Monday, March 25, 2013.

You may take your lilies home after the 11 o'clock service Easter Day.

Barbara Miller • [bmiller541@comcast.net](mailto:bmiller541@comcast.net)



## St. Anne's Guild

### March Meeting • Tuesday March 19th

The meeting will start at 11:30 AM in the Wesley Room. Please bring a sandwich. Our hostesses will provide drinks, chips, and dessert. Our speaker, who is originally from Iran, will speak on her conversion from Islam to Christianity. You don't want to miss her story!

### April Meeting • Tuesday 16th

Road Trip!!! We will meet at 11 AM in Trinity's parking lot to carpool to Vintage Garden Tea House in Montgomery for lunch. Then we will travel to Conroe to visit the Assessment and Research Center for youth leaving Foster Care (Angel Reach). This is a new outreach ministry for Trinity. This should be quite a day trip!

Our January meeting was very interesting as our Curate Sean Steele told us about his journey to Priesthood.

February we were serenaded by the TEDS children. This is always a sweet valentine treat.

If you have any questions please call our President **Judy Rutledge** at 281.465.4320.

Susan Darby-Tmadam007@aol.com

## Prime Time Guys

The Prime Time Guys is a group of retired men of Trinity who normally meet in the Wesley Room on the third Monday of each month. The meetings include fellowship, noonday prayer, lunch, and a guest speaker. We support the Interfaith Food Pantry by delivering food donations made by church members. Please bring all food donations to church and place them in the food cart in the Narthex.

Our speaker for March 18, 2013 will be **Mr. Larry Keast**, CEO of Venture Tech.

April 15 we will have one of our very own, **Vern King**, speak on the role of clowns at the circus.

Verlin Hodges 281.320.9690 or [vchodges@comcast.net](mailto:vchodges@comcast.net)

## Daughters of the King

The Daughters of the King have a busy spring planned. We continue our study of *The 21 Most Effective Prayers of the Bible*. Our outreach ministry for January was L.O.T.S. In February we chose to make a donation to the Rectors Discretionary Fund. In March we plan on taking up a collection for Angel Reach, one of Trinity's newest outreach ministries. New DOK officers will be elected in May.

Classes for the new Daughters who will be joining our group will be held in February and March. The Daughters are a group of women who are communicants of the Episcopal church who live to serve others through daily prayer, service, and evangelism. If you are interested in joining Daughters of the King please contact the church office at 281.367.8113 or **Delores Spafford** at 281.363.9370. The Daughters meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. in the library at Trinity.

Fran Zachry • [franzachry@comcast.net](mailto:franzachry@comcast.net)

*Continue to love each other with true Christian love. Don't forget to show hospitality to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realizing it. Hebrews 13:1-2*

## Aesthetics

Thank you for being good stewards of our facilities. Please be mindful of the room where you meet.

- If you borrow chairs from another room, please return them.
- If you rearrange the furniture, please put the room back in order.
- If you need to hang something on the wall, see Melanie for sticky tack, (please do not use tacks, tape, nails) and please remove the item[s] from the wall when the event is over.

Art & Mary Kay Davis • [adavis998@comcast.net](mailto:adavis998@comcast.net)

# CONNECTION'S DINNERS

- Would you like to meet our clergy and staff in an informal and relaxed environment?
- Are you new to the area, new to the church, returning after a temporary absence?
- Do you want to learn more about the ministries of Trinity Episcopal Church?

If you answered yes or maybe to any of these questions, then this is

*Your place to belong and grow!*

The dress is casual, the crowd is friendly and the food is always delicious!

If this is your first time to attend one of our dinners as a newcomer,  
We ask that you simply bring yourself!



Trinity Episcopal Church  
extends an open invitation for you to the  
**MARCH NEWCOMERS' DINNER**  
Sunday, March 17, 2013, 6:30 pm at the home of

Sue and James Hearne  
35 Cape Jasmine  
The Woodlands, TX 77381

This month's theme is soup and salad. Please, bring your favorite Irish dish (topping for baked potatoes, cabbage dish, corned beef, Irish stew, etc.) So that we will be sure to have enough food and to coordinate the menu, please R.S.V.P. to Beverly Redd at 610.304.6630 or [bevvredd@gmail.com](mailto:bevvredd@gmail.com) or Randy Redd at 832.494.8321 or [ranredd@gmail.com](mailto:ranredd@gmail.com). Childcare is available at the church upon request. Please call the church at 281-367-8113 to make a reservation for your child/children.

Trinity Episcopal Church  
extends an open invitation for you to the  
**APRIL NEWCOMERS' DINNER**  
Sunday, April 21, 2013, 6:30 pm at the home of

Charlotte and Darrell Scruggs  
107 East Fairbranch  
The Woodlands, TX 77382

This month's theme is spring picnic. Please, bring your favorite picnic item (fried chicken, ham, potato or macaroni salad, chips, etc). So that we will be sure to have enough food and to coordinate the menu, please R.S.V.P. to Beverly Redd at 610.304.6630 or [bevvredd@gmail.com](mailto:bevvredd@gmail.com), or contact the church office. Childcare is available at the church upon request. Please call the church at 281.367.8113 to make a reservation for your child/children.



## SPRING PICNIC

# EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

## Technology Recycling Drive

Ben Furry's Eagle project Troop1772

Do you have old technology you don't know what to do with?

Computer monitors, laptops, cell phones, etc.

Don't allow them to go into land fill which will leech heavy metals into the soil.

A Recycling Drive will be held on **Saturday, April 13th.**

(Pick-up Available : Phone 936-231-8494)

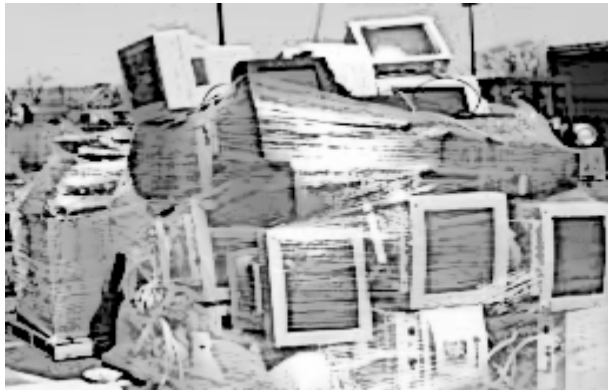
**WHERE:** The Trinity Episcopal Church, Rear Parking Lot. 3901 Panther Creek Drive.  
The Woodlands.

**WHEN:** 9am - 12 noon.

**WHAT CAN YOU RECYCLE?:**

**Computer Equipment:**

- Laptops
- Monitors (LCD, CRT, LED, Plasma)
- Desktops
- Servers, Server racks, and Peripherals
- Keyboards, Mice, Speakers, Cables
- Network Switches, Routers, and Hubs
- Printers/Fax machines/ Scanners/ Copiers/ Plotters
- Circuit Boards
- Hard Drives, Memory Chips, Data Storage Devices
- Tape Drives and Optical Drives
- Projectors
- Toner Cartridges

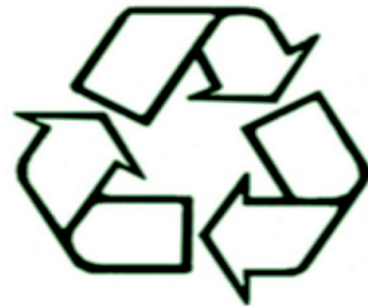


**Consumer Electronics:**

- Cameras
- Cell Phones, Telephones, and PDAs
- Tablets
- Game Consoles
- Televisions up to 32" (TVs larger than 32" can be dropped off at CompuCycle)
- Small Kitchen Appliances
- CDs, DVDs, Floppy Disks
- Hair utensils (blow dryers, straightening irons etc.)
- Radios, Alarm Clocks, and Speakers
- DVD/CD/VHS Devices

**Batteries:**

- UPS/Battery Backups
- Lithium-Ion Batteries (cell phone/camera batteries)



# VESTRY

## Vestry's Covenant to the Congregation of Trinity Episcopal Church Adopted August 26, 2007

The vestry strives to articulate and nurture the parish's vision of who God is calling us to be.

- We welcome and include all people who seek God here and incorporate the gifts and talents each offers into our collective vision.
- We promote and celebrate the diversity of our congregation and seek to represent all our members' views.
- We creatively seek out innovative ideas and best practices as to how we can answer God's call.
- We strive to be inspired leaders who look for God in the world around us.

The vestry dedicates itself to the faithful stewardship of our parish.

- We serve the members of our parish who have entrusted us to help them carry out the mission God has given us.
- We prayerfully seek consensus on how to support the needs of our parish.
- We are accountable for the decisions we make concerning the spiritual, physical, and financial care of our parish.
- Individually, we give generously of our time and treasure and model stewardship for others.

The vestry commits to honest, two-way communication with all members of the parish.

- We will listen with open hearts and minds to all comments and concerns expressed.
- We will actively seek out and understand all aspects of issues raised and offer constructive solutions that look forward towards God's call.
- We will convey a positive and consistent message through our communications, facilities, and ministries to our members, visitors and community.
- We will communicate positively and respectfully and avoid defensive, confrontational language and gossip.

## Financials

We concluded the year 2012 with total revenues of \$1,636,249, nearly matching the record contributions of 2011. Expenses of \$1,659,973 were generally on-budget with the exception of our Facility expenses. We experienced a number of unplanned repairs that exceeded annual historical levels due to A/C issues, drainage repair, pest control, lights replaced in the sanctuary, fire monitoring equipment to meet standards, and removing dead trees following the 2011 drought. For the year, we ended with a deficit of \$24 thousand.

For the year 2013, the Vestry has projected overall revenues of \$1,675,000 equating to about a 2% increase vs 2012. Expenses are budgeted with an overall increase of less than 1% so that we can arrive at a balanced budget. With the help of our staff, we continue to focus on reducing administrative costs so that we can make additional funds available to support our ministries.

As we enter the new year, there remain a number of challenges, but we find ourselves with a firmer foundation. In 2012, we established the Trinity Reserve Fund which is similar to an "emergency fund" to help address unplanned facility expenses. We also witnessed the start-up of the Trinity Endowment Fund which is focused on building a fund for future generations of Trinitarians. We have seen growth as evidenced by our average Sunday attendance. On behalf of the Vestry, we thank you all for your time, talent, and treasure!

Should you have specific questions or feedback about the financials, please feel free to contact me by email at [TStavins@comcast.net](mailto:TStavins@comcast.net) or find me in Butler Hall during the Sunday coffee hour.

*Tony Stavins, Treasurer • [TStavins@comcast.net](mailto:TStavins@comcast.net)*

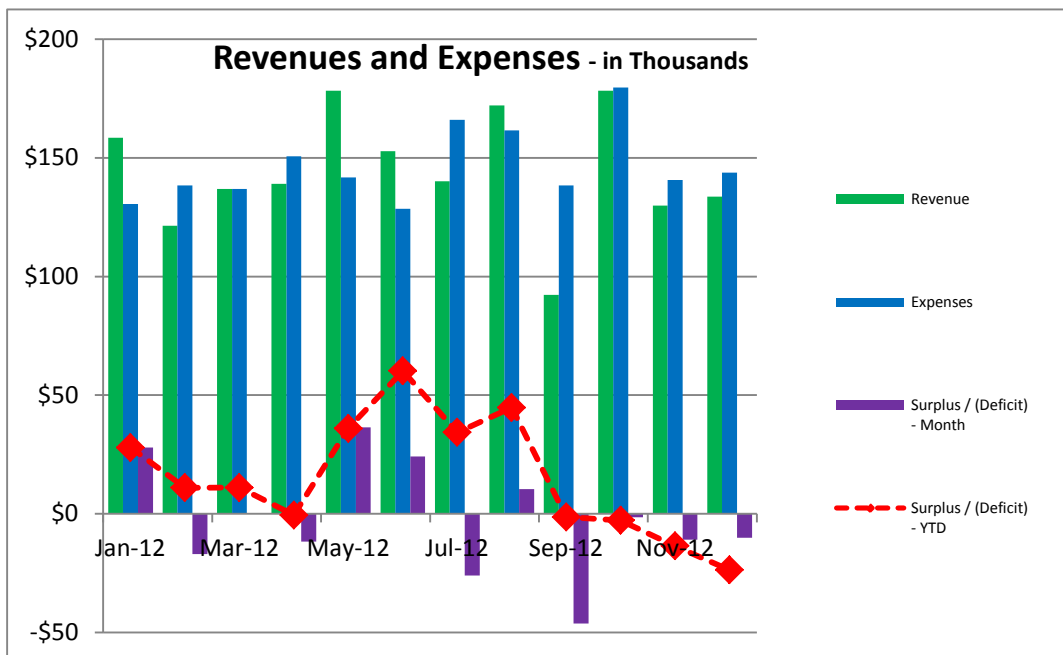


# FINANCIALS

| Year to Date                    | 2012<br>Jan. | 2012<br>Feb. | 2012<br>March | 2012<br>April | 2012<br>May | 2012<br>June |
|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| Revenue                         | \$ 158.4     | \$ 121.4     | \$ 136.9      | \$ 139.0      | \$ 178.2    | \$ 152.7     |
| Expenses                        | \$ 130.5     | \$ 138.3     | \$ 136.8      | \$ 150.6      | \$ 141.7    | \$ 128.5     |
| Revenue Surplus/(Deficit) - Mth | \$ 27.9      | \$ (16.9)    | \$ 100        | \$ (11.6)     | \$ 36.5     | \$ 24.2      |
| Revenue Surplus/(Deficit) - YTD | \$ 27.9      | \$ 11.0      | \$ 11.1       | \$ 500        | \$ 36.0     | \$ 60.2      |

| Year to Date                    | 2012<br>July | 2012<br>Aug. | 2012<br>Sept. | 2012<br>Oct. | 2012<br>Nov. | 2012<br>Dec. |
|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Revenue                         | \$ 140.1     | \$ 172.0     | \$ 92.2       | \$178.2      | \$129.9      | \$133.6      |
| Expenses                        | \$ 166.0     | \$ 161.5     | \$ 138.3      | \$179.6      | \$140.7      | \$143.7      |
| Revenue Surplus/(Deficit) - Mth | \$ (25.9)    | \$ 10.5      | \$ (46.1)     | \$ (1.4)     | \$ (10.8)    | \$ (10.1)    |
| Revenue Surplus/(Deficit) - YTD | \$ 34.3      | \$ 44.8      | \$ (1.3)      | \$ (2.7)     | \$ (13.5)    | \$ (23.6)    |



Trinity Episcopal Church  
3901 S. Panther Creek Drive, The Woodlands, Texas 77381  
Office Phone: 281.367.8113 • Office Fax 281.296.2201  
Office Hours: 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM, Monday - Friday  
Visit our web site at [www.trinitywoodlands.org](http://www.trinitywoodlands.org)

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Worship with Us at  
Trinity Episcopal Church

## Diocese of Texas

The Rt. Rev. C. Andrew Doyle, Bishop  
The Rt. Rev. Dena A. Harrison, Bishop Suffragan  
The Rt. Rev. Jeff Fisher, Bishop Suffragan

## Trinity Episcopal Church

The Rev. Dr. Gerald Seveck, Rector  
The Rev. Genevieve T. Razim, Associate Rector  
The Rev. Robert W. Horner, Deacon  
The Rev. Robert Lowry, Deacon  
The Rev. Sean Steele, Curate  
Micki Balog, Director of Music Ministry  
Alyssa Stebbing, Contemporary Music Leader

## The Staff

Molly Carr, Parish Life Minister  
Liz Linger, Admin. Assistant to Parish Life Ministries  
Melanie Sheffield, Admin. Assistant to the Rector  
Alyssa Stebbing, Outreach Coordinator for the Parish  
Lawrence W. Martz, Parish Accountant  
Sheila Gerth, Pastoral Care Coordinator  
Carol Godell, Director Day School  
Liz Johnson, Trinity Kid's Corner Coordinator  
Nick Earl, New Member's Ministry Coordinator

## The Vestry

John McKinley, '15 Sr. Warden  
Joanne Welker, '14, Jr. Warden  
Tony Stavins, '14 Treasurer  
Bob Atkins, Clerk

|                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Tom Budde '15     | David Marshall '16  |
| Doris Cloud '15   | Judith Randolph '14 |
| Stoney Cox '16    | Michael Thomson '16 |
| Jim Filkowski '14 | Jack West '16       |
| Vicki Hamill '15  |                     |

## Vergers

Dick Johnson, Head Verger  
Martha Martz Aaron Michaelson  
John McKinley Joanne Welker  
Dana Horton, Verger in Training

## Sunday

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Rite I Said Eucharist                             | 7:30 AM  |
| Contemporary Rite II Eucharist                    | 9:00 AM  |
| Children's Liturgy of the Word                    |          |
| Sunday School for all ages<br>[3 years to Adults] | 10:15 AM |
| Traditional Rite II Eucharist                     | 11:00 AM |
| Children's Liturgy of the Word                    |          |
| Rite II Eucharist                                 | 5:00 PM  |

## Wednesday

|                                      |          |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Rite II Eucharist                    | 10:00 AM |
| Eucharist with Anointing for Healing | 7:00 PM  |

## Monday through Friday

|                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Morning Prayer (in Parlor) | 10:00 AM |
|----------------------------|----------|

## Our Vision

We believe Jesus Christ calls us to be His true disciples. Trinity chooses to use the unique gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit to become a shining example of God's love to each other and our community.

## Our Mission

Grounded in Christ's love and surrendered to the Holy Spirit, we provide a safe and positive environment for spiritual growth of all, to welcome and serve others, to reach out to those in need and to share the Gospel.

