

Trinity Times

A newsletter for the members and friends of Trinity Episcopal Church

Trinity Episcopal Church
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Christmas - Epiphany - January - 2008

Greetings,

Happy New Year. It seems that many of us are repeating ourselves since this time last year and saying how hard it is to believe that another year has gone by.

I saw the sign on the marquee at the theater, "Goodbye 2007, Welcome 2008".

It startled me a bit, for some of the same reasons you all feel, that another year has gone by and how time flies, etc.

But it also made me feel something I can't quite put my finger on. It may have been sadness. It may have been anticipation. It may have been both of these feelings and more.

I think that it seemed like such a final statement. It's gone, we will never get those days back.

Three hundred and sixty five days have passed and I try to remember at least some of the details of these days, to examine them attempting to determine if I lived them well.

Well, to be honest there are some days I would like to forget completely.

No matter, we all know that there is no going back and recalling each and every day is not an option for me. I suspect not an option for you either.

To begin with, I often do not remember what I had for dinner last night, let alone remember all those days. All I can do is go forward. I can go forward and do the best I can with each coming day.

That's not to say that something monumental needs to happen each day. On the contrary, what we can hope for each day is that we live well.

Everyone has a different idea of what living well is but I think it begins with knowing that we are never alone. As we live, Jesus is with us and when we feel lost or question whether the life we are living is what God expects from us, we have someplace to turn.

It's hard to live well. The last person on earth who lived every day of his life well was Jesus. It wasn't easy for him. Living well meant spending time with people whom others scorned and hated. Doing so caused Jesus to be mocked and constantly questioned.

Living well had nothing to do with riches, having nice clothes or owning an elaborate home. Jesus didn't have a home. Jesus didn't have a wardrobe. Living well meant relying on what Jesus had in his heart. Living well meant loving, caring, ministering, touching, laughing and giving.

Jesus provides for us the ultimate role model for "living well". For the New Year, each and every one of us know that the (often unspoken) resolution for all of us is to follow the model of this man who lived well on earth, relied on what was in his heart to guide him, gave all that he had, including his life, so that others could go on and "Live well".

So... goodbye 2007 and welcome 2008.

May we be guided by the Holy Spirit in all that we do, bring Christ to the center of our lives and go forward toward each day "living well"

God's Peace
Mother Trula

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Mark your calendars!

Sunday, January 6 - **The Feast of the Epiphany**, when we celebrate the coming of the Magi and God showing forth in the world.

Sunday, January 13 - **The Baptism of Christ**, where we hear the story of John taking Jesus into the Jordan River and a voice from heaven is heard to say, "this is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased." It marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. This is a traditional day for baptisms, if there are none on this day we will renew our own Baptismal Vows.

Tuesday, January 15 - **Archdeacon's Visit**. The Ven. Howard Stringfellow will meet with the vestry at 6 p.m. in the parish hall. Dinner will be provided, please bring your own beverage.

Sunday, January 20 - **Bishop's Visitation** - Holy Eucharist and Confirmation. Be sure to join us for the joy this day will bring. Bishop Paul's sermons are always outstanding and he will also confirm Karen Nichols. There will be a reception for Bishop Paul, Deacon George and Karen following the service. The vestry will meet afterward.

Sunday, January 27 - **Annual Meeting**. A pot luck brunch following our worship, during which time you can eat delicious food, visit and read the annual report. Our meetings are always productive and relatively short. See you there! **Reports are due Sunday, January 20.**

Email is best: bcaum@stny.rr.com

Pennies for the Church Periodical Club

Thanks to Norma Duddie, who volunteered to roll all the pennies in that giant jar on the back table, our penny jar is empty. So, please, start saving them and bringing them in again. The Church Periodical Club is an Episcopal institution; its ministry is to supply books, magazines, tapes, videos and computer programs **free** to those who cannot otherwise obtain them and to raise the money to do this.


United Thank Offering

Need a blue box? We were late getting started last year, so let's start early this year. UTO's vision is to significantly impact the lives of women and children because of Christ's love. Each time as you drop a coin or dollar in your blue box for the blessings in your life, your thanksgiving will join with thousands of others to create grants so that those less fortunate will also have a reason to give thanks.



Trinity Episcopal Church - January 2008

Christmas
Epiphany

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Trinity Prayer Cycle 1/6 Laura, T.J. and Tyler Smith 1/13 Roger and MaryAnn Smith; 1/20 John, Barbara and Shelly Strange, Ann Zulkosky 1/27 Jake, Joanne, Nicole & Greg Armstrong.		1 The Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ	2	3	4 <i>Janice Beck Bryan Bean Marie Bubniak</i>	5
6 The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour 		8	9 <i>Doris Caum</i>	10	11	12
13 Epiphany I The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour Scouts meet <i>Sharon & Harold Cole</i>	14	15 Archdeacon's visit to Trinity, 6 p.m.	16 <i>Janet Gurney</i>	17	18 Confession of St. Peter the Apostle <i>Jake Armstrong</i>	19
20 Epiphany II Bishop's Visitation 9:00 Holy Eucharist II and Confirmation 10:00 Coffee Hour -----Vestry Meets-----	21	22	23	24 Clergy Bible Study, Towanda, 10 a.m. <i>Paul Kelley</i>	25 Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle <i>Catherine Page Gurney</i>	26
27 Epiphany III 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Brunch and ---Annual Meeting--- Scouts meet	28	29	30 <i>Joe Cama</i>	31	<i>Kajo Keji,</i> 1/6 The Congregation of Kiri 1/13 The Jolimo Orphanage; 1/20 The Congregation Magburu Refugee Camp, Adjumani 1/27 The St. James Refugee Congregation, Kampala	
Anglicans Around the World 1/6 West Africa, Nigeria, North India and Papua New Guinea 1/13 The Anglian Church of Australia 1/20 Christian Unity; the Anglican Church of Kenya 1/27 The Church of Bangladesh		Diocesan Prayer Cycle 1/6 Church of the Epiphany, Clarks Summit, The Rev. Craig Sweeney, rector; 1/13 St. Paul's, Troy, The Rev. Mary Kisner, rector; 1/20 Church of the Mediator, Allentown, The Rev. Maria Tjelveit, rector. 1/27 St. Brigid's, Nazareth, The Very Rev. Robert Schenkel, priest-in-charge			Coming in February: 2/5 - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 2/6 - Ash Wednesday 2/13 - Bad girls of the Bible!	

January Highlights

Sunday, Jan. 6, The Epiphany

Sunday, Jan. 13, The Baptism of Christ

Tuesday, Jan. 15, Archdeacon Howard Stringfellow visits, 6 p.m., Parish Hall

Sunday, Jan. 20, Bishop Paul Marshall's visitation, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation

Sunday, January 27, Annual Meeting and Potluck during coffee time

Anyone interested in becoming involved with the **Altar Guild**, please let Mother Hollywood know. This is a much needed ministry. It is not time consuming but very gratifying. Please consider if this is a ministry for you.

During Lent, a book study will be held in the parish hall and led by Mother Trula. The book will be "**Bad Girls of the Bible**" by **Barbara Essex**. The first meeting will be Wednesday, February 13 at 7. If you are interested in joining the book club talk to Mother Hollywood. The book can be purchased on Amazon, where you can read a sampling, and in book stores.

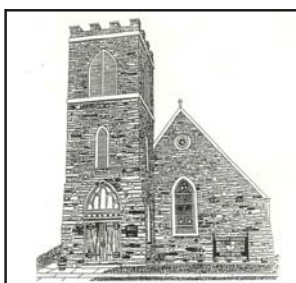
Here's a sampling of the chapters:
 Eve: Willful or Wise?
 Lot's Wife: Homicide or Suicide?
 Rebekah: Deceptive or Direct?

The Boy Scouts are meeting in our Parish hall again this year. The Tiger Cubs from last year have graduated to "Wolf" and meet on the second and fourth Sunday evenings of each month.

Stephen Paul, M.D., J.D. passed away peacefully on Friday afternoon, December 14, 2007, with Mary Beth at his side. A memorial service was held December 19 at the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany in Wilbraham, Massachusetts with Fr. Ned Caum as celebrant. When the onset of Parkinson's Disease forced Steve to retire from neurosurgery, he studied forensic anthropology for a year at Cornell, then was awarded a full scholarship to Western New England College School of Law. Although he graduated and passed the bar, his disease had progressed to the point that he never was able to practice law. Mary Beth, Chandler and Savannah are doing well. Their address is 12 Bellows Rd., Wilbraham, MA 01095.

Memorials may be given in his name to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research. ATTN: Tribute Gifts, Church Street Station, P.O. Box 780, New York, NY 10008-0780

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January at Trinity

