

THE GOOD NEWS
JANUARY 2012
Trinity Episcopal Church
Lancaster, Virginia
The Rev. Torrence Harman, Rector

(Due to an illness in the Parish Secretary's family and our holiday "closing" schedule the Good News is in a modified format for January. We will return to our usual Good News in February)

January Worship & Special Events Calendar

Sunday, January 1

9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer, Rite II & Scholarship Sunday
(No Coffee Hour for New Years Day Sunday)

Sunday, January 8

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Friday, January 13 Fellowship Evening at SMWC

5:15 p.m. Celtic Evening Prayer
6:00 p.m. Supper (provided by SMWC Ed Com.)
6:45 p.m. "Mary Ball Washington & the Ball Family"
Presenter: Butch Jenkins

Sunday, January 15

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Friday, January 20 at SMWC

Rector's Bible Study – The Gospel of Mark 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 22

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Friday, January 27 at SMWC

Rector's Bible Study – The Gospel of Matthew 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 29

8:30 a.m. Annual Meeting & Breakfast
9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer, Rite II

The Rector's Message

Happy New Year! I could stop right there. Of course, I could talk something about New Year's Resolutions, but I leave that up to your individual preferences.

For me, this is a special time since, as of the end of January 2012, I will have served these wonderful two churches for five years. These last six months have been a time of discernment for me and it is important that the discernment continue and broaden. What have we been about, you and I, who love these small but extremely vital churches? How have we grown? Yes, maybe in small incremental numbers, but much more importantly, how have we grown in our faith, in our worship, in our day to day commitment to each other and to the community around us? How do we move into the future preserving what is unique and sustaining yet opening our eyes and hearts to the vision which God clearly has for us, though we may have trouble seeing it as clearly as God might hope?

Are we taking good care of the gifts God has given us, but more importantly are we, with God's help, using our gifts, investing them, sharing them in such a way that the return is abundant in love? Are we working towards a harvest that is nourishing for all ages in our congregations and for all those whom God puts in our paths in this community?

I believe the answer to the above is, "Yes!" But I also think the time is ripe to examine where we are now. Considering the questions "Where is God in all of this?" and "What does God want us to do together with all he has given us?" can ground us in a "here and now" reflection. This takes not only conversation among us, but also silence, a reflective silence that lets the Holy Spirit in to speak to us and guide us. The greatest gift of all is the present and the Presence with us each step of the way.

We are small, but in our smallness there is great possibility. We can do big things from time to time, but it is in little things, done well and with heart, that provide a firm foundation to make a difference in people's lives. Mother Teresa said it well. I end with the following quotes from her:

"Be faithful in small things, because it is in them your strength lies."

"Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin."

Rector's January Schedule

Tuesdays, Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Rector to lead Morning Bible Study at RWC

Friday, Jan. 13 Diocese of Va. Discernment Facilitator Meeting, Fredericksburg

Saturday, Jan. 14 Diocese of Va. Pre-Council Meeting, All Saints, Richmond

Thursday – Saturday, Jan. 26-28 Diocese of Va. Annual Council, Reston

January Meeting Schedules

Vestry

Monday, Jan. 16 – 6:00 p.m.

Monday Morning Women's Group at SMWC

Monday, Jan. 9 – No meeting

Monday, Jan. 12 – Luncheon (contact Sherry Mann 462-6286 for reservations)

Monday, Jan. 23 – 10:00 a.m. Meeting

Men's Breakfast Group at SMWC

Thursday, Jan. 12 7:45 a.m.

Thursday, Jan. 26 7:45 a.m.

Friday Book Club at SMWC

Fridays, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27 – 12 noon bag lunch; 12:30 p.m. Discussion

Great Decisions at SMWC

Wednesday, Jan. 18 – 10:00 a.m. Kickoff

Trinity Annual Meeting & Election of Vestry Members

The Annual Meeting of Trinity Episcopal Church will be held on Sunday, January 29 5, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. to include Breakfast. At the Annual Meeting there will be an election of two members to serve three year terms on the Vestry and the election of one member to serve a one year unexpired term. Members who have agreed to serve if elected include Jay Davenport and Albert Pollard for the three-year terms. Watch for later information on the member to fill the one year term. Members retiring from the vestry include Janet Christopher and Allan Cornwell. Members continuing on the vestry include Stan James and JR Roscher. Brief biographies of the nominees follow:

Jay Davenport

When Jay was very young, it was always his dream of living in the Davenport house in Lancaster, just across the street from Trinity. After retirement he and his wife, Janet Beane Davenport, a Lancaster County native, made immediate plans to return to Virginia and to Lancaster in particular. For Jay, Virginia, Lancaster County, the family property and Trinity church are his heritage. He is the fourth generation of Davenports to live there. Jay's great grandfather, John H. Davenport, helped found Trinity Church and his grandmother Irene was the first female member of the Trinity vestry. Jay said that he is proud to continue the Davenport legacy with Trinity, both as a parishioner, but also in any capacity he is asked to serve. Jay serves as an usher and Lector and has been the appointed Chairman of the Audit Committee for the past couple of years. Jay has extensive work experience in the areas of accounting, finance and tax. He retired in 2008 after 18 years with the Computer Sciences Corporation in California, having worked there as a Senior Tax Analyst, as Manager of Tax Research and Planning and as their Senior Corporate Tax Manager.

Albert Pollard, Jr.

Many years ago Albert C. Pollard, Jr. was baptized at St. Mary's Whitechapel and after some intervening years he and his wife Mariah joined Trinity Episcopal Church. At the time, their oldest child was an infant. Albert and Mariah now have three children, Mears, Sarah Wells and Ap. Albert owns his own business making and selling portable sawmills. He has previously served the Northern Neck for approximately ten years in the Virginia House of Delegates. He has previously been on the Vestry and has served as both Junior Warden and Senior Warden. He was recently elected to the Board of the Virginia Public Access Project, a non-profit dedicated to the transparency of money in politics. There are now five Pollards at Trinity, and they are all dedicated to "The Little Church with a Big Heart."

Annual Council of the Diocese of Virginia

The Annual Council of the Diocese of Virginia will be held in Reston, Virginia on January 26-28, 2012. One of the major events at Council will be the Diocese's saying goodbye to our Suffragan Bishop, the Rt. Rev. David Jones, who is retiring at the end of Council. **Mariah Pollard** is serving as Trinity's delegate to Council. Torrence Harman and Karen Woodruff will be attending as Clergy Delegates.

January Fellowship Evening at SMWC

The January Fellowship meeting held at SMWC continues the fall theme of the history of early families in Lancaster County. On Friday evening, January 13, Butch Jenkins will be our presenter on the topic: "The Ball Family and Mary Ball Washington."

Francis W. (Butch) Jenkins, Jr., is a native Lancasterian whose study and love of history has made him a resource for knowledge of "upper" Lancaster County (Lively, Ottoman, Morattico, Nuttsville, etc.). Butch has spent many hours pouring over records in the Lancaster County Clerk of the Court's office in his desire to know more about the people and events of the colonial period in Lancaster County. Butch is the First District Representative of the Lancaster County Board of Supervisors, having served since January 1, 1994 and has been a member of St. Mary's Whitechapel since his youth.

Join us for Celtic Evening Prayer in the sanctuary at 5:30 p.m. followed by supper prepared by the Education Committee in the parish hall at 6:00 p.m. The presentation will begin at 6:45 p.m. There is no fee for supper but donations will be accepted to help defray the costs of the dinner and with proceeds to go to local outreach in the community.

Rector's Bible Study – "Gospel Basics"

Fridays, January 20, 27 & February 3, 10 – 3:00-4:30 p.m. at SMWC

Episcopalians are accused of not knowing their Bible. Maybe some of the other denominations fall into that category too. It appears that there may be rising interest in getting to know the Bible better and so I am offering a Bible Study on the four Gospels during Epiphany. We will take the Gospels, one by one, and study such issues as the context in which each was written, each Gospel's basic themes, portrayals of Jesus and the unique ways each Gospel writer tells the Gospel story. For further information contact Torrence. Each session is a stand-alone but the study is richer by attending each session in the series.

Scholarships

The Scholarship Committee announces the award of scholarships to Carolyn Schraeder (former Trinity Youth Program School Teacher) and Catherine Chilton. The awards will be made on Scholarship Sunday, January 1, 2012, at the Sunday morning service. A scholarship award was previously made in 2011 to April Gaddy. Thanks to Eleanor Hayden and her committee for their selection.

Community Outreach

The Northern Neck Food Bank (NNFB) has had an exceptional first year under a three-year grant by the Jessie Ball duPont Fund with Trinity Episcopal Church serving as the eligible entity in partnership with the NNFB for the grant. First year funds from the grant were \$30,000 with an additional \$21,000+ through a special equipment grant from duPont. The year end report for its first grant year has been filed with duPont and the second year grant funds of \$60,000 have been received. The NNFB's original goal was to serve nine food pantries in Year One, fifteen in Year Two and twenty-five in Year Three. At the conclusion of Year One they are serving twenty-one food pantries throughout the Northern Neck and in Middlesex. Lance Barton serves as the director of the NNFB, Craig Giese is a member of the board and Torrence Harman is on the advisory board. Congratulations to Lance and all staff and volunteers who have worked so hard to make the Northern Neck Food Bank such an amazing success.

Miscellaneous Announcements

Poinsettia Pick-up

For those of you who donated Christmas poinsettias you may pick them up after church on Sunday, January 1st. Any flowers left after that will be available for pick up in the parish hall for one week. Thank you for all who donated flowers in memory of loved ones. Lella Lee Edwards, Altar Guild Chairman

Notary Public Reminder

Bill Pennell is a notary public and offers to assist any parishioner of SMWC and Trinity if they need a notary. He is very inexpensive: FREE. Bill may be reached at 462-5803 or whpjr517@aol.com.

John Philip Newell Workshop Event – St. Stephen's Church, Richmond

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church will sponsor a workshop with John Philip Newell on Saturday, Jan. 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. So many of our parishioners are familiar with this noted scholar of Celtic Christianity. Newell is author of numbers books on Celtic Christianity, including books of daily prayers, many of which we have used in Evening Prayer Services before Fellowship Evenings at SMWC and the Friday Book Group is familiar with some of his books. Rev. Margaret Anne Fohl, a friend of Newell's and member of the Board of the Friends of John Philip Newell, encourages those interested in attending this workshop. For further information contact Margaret Anne 462-0108. To register contact St. Stephen's (804-288-2867).

Trinity Prayers

(Please remember the following people in your daily prayers)

Trinity Parishioners: Mr. & Mrs. Keith Cornwell, Meredith Brent, Michael Dunaway, Julia Oliver, Rose Donovan.

Family Members: April Godbout and Sherry Brooks, Jane Furbush's daughters; H.T. Courtney and R.W. Courtney, Glenn Courtney's father and brother; Tony Davis, Barbara Nunnery's brother; Toi Beane, Janet Davenport's mother; Stanley James, Jr. and Mildred James, Stan James' parents.

Friends of Trinity: Mark Brent, Ian Larmore, Norwood McCarty, Becky Swann (wife of former rector), Glendon Pinn (Rev. Nancy Pinn's husband).

For those in the Armed Forces: Paul Price, Ryan Setzer, Jimmy Hodsdon, Warren Ruitt, Daniel Fox.

Trinity Volunteer Schedule for January

Altar Guild for January Dorothy Keyser & Eleanor Hayden

Sunday, January 1

Lector: Buff Harman

Acolyte: Buff Harman

Usher: Ellen Tracey

No Coffee Hour:

Sunday, January 22

Lector: Wes Edwards

Acolyte: Janet Christopher

Usher: Wes Edwards

Coffee Hour: tba

Sunday, January 8

Lector: Bob Cahn

Acolyte: Craig Giese

Usher: Bob Cahn

Coffee Hour: tba

Sunday, January 29

Lector: Chris Cammarata

Acolyte: Ryan/Chris Cammarata

Usher: Ellen Tracey

Coffee Hour: tba

Sunday, January 15

Lector: Albert Pollard

Acolyte: Mariah Pollard

Usher: Albert Pollard

Coffee Hour: tba