



THE TRINITARIAN

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Welcoming Change in the New Year

Join me in the Serenity Prayer by Reinhold Niebuhr:

God, grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change,
the courage to change the things I can,
and the wisdom to know the difference.
Living one day at a time,
enjoying one moment at a time;
accepting hardship as a pathway to peace;
taking, as Jesus did,
this sinful world as it is,
not as I would have it;
trusting that You will make all things right
if I surrender to Your will;
so that I may be reasonably happy in this life
and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen.



With the calling of our first rector-time-certain, Trinity-Fuquay will celebrate a joyous series of changes that will help the parish family grow as a new parish in the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina.

One of the changes directly affects the deacon. When a new call is accepted, at a time designated by the Bishop, the deacon will go on a sabbatical lasting between four and eight weeks.

During that time, the Bishop will meet with the deacon and the new rector to determine what the new assignment is, here, or at another parish. The deacon will begin that new assignment at the end of the sabbatical. In consultation with Bishop Sam Rodman, I will begin my sabbatical January 16.

The last two columns that I've written detail the ministries that I've been involved with in my time here. In addition to the activities in those columns, the end of the year Outreach Committee activities were completed with sending \$1000 donations to FACES, MMIA, Angier Food Pantry, Mama's, ERD and EFWM.

Senters was provided with Christmas cheer before they closed for renovations, and a needy family was provided with Christmas joy working in conjunction with FACES.

Our By-Laws, which the parish voted to send to the Diocese for approval at last year's annual parish meeting, have gone through a series of minor adjustments and await Diocesan approval. Once that approval is obtained, the parish will again vote to confirm the amended document to finish the process.

There will be opportunities for parish family members to continue all the ministries mentioned in my previous three columns to spread Franciscan joy as I go on sabbatical.

Cyn and I have made many wonderful friends as we have shared ministry here at Trinity. Thanks to all who have blessed us with their ministries these last few years.

A Blessed Holiday season to all as we continue through the New Year and Epiphany in the Parish of Trinity-Fuquay. Be a part of the change and help Trinity thrive in this joyous new year.

Deacon Bob Thomas, TSSF



January Birthdays



- 1/4 Brian Perry
- 1/6 Drayton Wingler
- 1/11 Raymond Garrison
- 1/15 Carlene Galvin-Harris
- 1/22 Renee Wood
- 1/28 Jim Woodard

If we missed your birthday or have the wrong date, please email srwarden@trinityfuquay.org

Let Us Pray For You.

Prayer is an integral part of our daily life. Your contemplations, concerns, thanksgivings, and celebrations can be daily prayers.

We know and trust that God hears all prayers: those that are spoken and those that are kept close to the heart.

Email your prayer request to:
prayerrequest@trinityfuquay.org

The Daughters of the King will lift up your requests in prayer for 30 days unless otherwise specified. All requests are confidential.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



What Does Outreach Do?

We at Trinity have a very active Outreach Program.

The dedicated men and women of our church are always ready to step up and volunteer our time, talent, and treasures to those in need in our church, community and around the World.

Within the Episcopal Church, we support Episcopal Relief & Development Fund, an international program supported by the greater Episcopal Church, and the Episcopal Farmworkers ministry, which is not only supported by our Diocese, but is right in our own backyard and is supported through volunteers in our parish.

We also support several local nonprofit programs around the Community. Currently we support, both with volunteerism and financially, the Angier Food Pantry, FACES (Family and Community Empowerment Services), MMIA (Military Missions in Action) and Senters, a local, government run memory care facility.

Who Trinity supports is decided by the Outreach Committee. Choices are generally decided by consensus of the Committee based on what causes are near and dear in the hearts of our congregation. I will be highlighting one of these programs each month to share with you the role they each play in our community, and why we have chosen to support that program. Please watch for the articles in our upcoming newsletters. I hope you will find them informative and inspiring.

--Donna Wooten



Grades 1 thru 6

Lessons are now available online at
<https://www.trinityfuquay.org/sunday-school>

Angier Food Pantry Needs:

**Breakfast Cereal
Rice**

Please drop off any donations at the church.

The Food Pantry is also looking for volunteers to collect, sort and pack food.

It Was The Most Wonderful Time

Enjoy these images from our Christmas Eve service provided by Alex Lamont. He also provided the cover image on page 1.



Sonnet Sequence with Todd Truffin

won't you celebrate with me
what i have shaped into
a kind of life? i had no model.
born in babylon
both nonwhite and woman
what did i see to be except myself?
i made it up
here on this bridge between
starshine and clay,
my one hand holding tight
my other hand; come celebrate
with me that everyday
something has tried to kill me
and has failed.

--Lucille Clifton (1993)



In January we celebrate the life of Martin Luther King, Jr, who taught us, among other things, that "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Lucille Clifton's "won't you celebrate with me?" is a modern sonnet that offers a different take on Psalm 137.

Both poems feature "I"s that have been stolen from their homes. While the Psalmist is a person with memories of home, Clifton's speaker was "born in babylon." The Psalmist implores herself to remember Jerusalem with the threat of her hand withering. Clifton's speaker has "one hand holding tight/ my other hand" since that is all she has of who she is. Both persons are trying to keep hold of their identity even as that identity is being stolen or kept from them.

The Psalmist sees no hope in what the speaker can do; therefore, the Psalmist cries out to an external power, "Remember, O Lord, against the Edomites" and wishes that "they" will sweep up the children of the oppressor and "dash them against the rock."

Clifton's speaker, born in Babylon and triply an outsider—"both nonwhite and woman"—does not look for help. Instead, she asks you to celebrate her survival of those who tried to erase her.

Whether the injustice was in the past or present, in Africa, the Middle East, or in the United States, Clifton's poem and it's echoes of Psalm 137 remind us that injustice is violence against the image of God on Earth, that Image on Earth that just celebrated.

Here's Your Chance to Provide Altar Flowers!

Now that some are meeting in person and others are worshipping online, the opportunity to dedicate flowers for the altar is open.

For those who wish to participate, please email **Annette Stowe (annette@annetestowe.com)** at least 2 weeks in advance.

In the email please include the desired date, name of donor(s), reason for dedication (in memory of . . . , in honor of . . . , in thanksgiving for , , . to the glory of God . . .etc) , and indicate who will be picking up the flowers after the Sunday service.

Then mail a check for \$25 to Trinity Episcopal Church and indicate "flowers" on the memo line. Please contact Annette to sign up or if there are any questions.



The Altar Guild Needs YOU.

In this month's newsletter Deacon Bob writes about the challenge churches in the diocese are facing getting volunteers to do the work done prior to the pandemic. You've also heard Mother Susan speak about the need for Altar Guild workers.

The Altar Guild keeps the sanctuary in a state of readiness for worship.

The activities are not hard; the reward is immeasurable; and the camaraderie can't be beat. There are many options to participate. Experienced Altar Guild members are ready to mentor one and all.

Please consider joining this vital ministry for our church. Contact **Edna Gaston (ladybug.gang@gmail.com)** for more information or to volunteer, . Can we count on YOU?



Let Us Know What's Happening

The Trinitarian is one way we communicate what's going on in our little patch of the Jesus Movement. You don't have to be an official leader of a Church Ministry to submit news to *The Trinitarian*. If God is doing something amazing in your corner of the world, we want to hear about it. If a member of your family is serving God outside the church walls, we want to hear about it. If you hear about an opportunity to minister to the community, we want to hear about it. If you are celebrating an important milestone or achievement...you guessed it, we want to hear about it.

Don't worry if you think your writing skills aren't "newsworthy," the editor will be happy to massage the knots out any tense prose.

Please email all news and articles to **Todd Truffin at tctruffin@gmail.com** (Pictures make the newsletter more interesting!) **The deadline for inclusion is the 20th of each month.**

Sunday Worship

Services are LIVEstreamed on our **YouTube** channel every Sunday Morning at 10:15am.

Subscribe to TECFV on YouTube. You can also view past services whenever you would like.

