

Trinity Episcopal Herald

A monthly publication of Trinity Episcopal Church at Hampton NH

A most blessed and Merry Christmas to all of the Trinity family!

December 2011



Hello Trinity Hampton!

It is a joy to finally be with you! I must tell you that everyone I have met, especially the Senior Warden, Rusty Bridle, Administrator Nita N., members of the Bishop's Committee, and those of you in the this faith community have been wonderful. I have been made to feel so welcome and at home. I am so grateful and I thank you!

I have yet to meet every member of Trinity. It will take some time but to meet each one of you is my goal.

This is an exciting time here at Trinity. Our shared ministry with Christ Church Portsmouth gives us a most unique and exciting opportunity. We are embarking on a real adventure, one that will hold challenges and require change and risk but an adventure that holds great promise and hope for a new way of being church.

The church is not the physical building but the people inside the building. And the church is not a group of people isolated from one another in their individual locations and buildings but rather we are all connected, we are one. With our shared ministry we have the opportunity to put our faith into action beyond our church doors. Together with Christ Church, Portsmouth and perhaps eventually together as a Christian community spanning the seacoast, we will be a model of what living as disciples in community means.

I pray for God's blessings on us all as we begin our new journey together. The One who calls us will always guide us and empower us to greater growth and service.

Peace, Rev. Kathleen+



A letter from Bill:

Thank you all for that heartwarming sendoff you gave me on my last Sunday with you. The number of people on such a terrible day, weather wise was beyond belief. But more than anything, the expression of feelings was a gift I will always remember and cherish.

Thank you also for the very generous gift of a \$ 600 gift card at our favorite North Conway getaway. Stonehurst!

Barbara joins in sending love and best wishes for you all. May God continue to guide and protect you.

Love, Bill



This is what is left of the Holy Trinity Cathedral in Haiti after the devastating Earthquake. The task to rebuild it is now in process.



Bricks For Haiti - An Episcopal Initiative

The Trinity Church Bishop's Committee/Vestry adopted the Diocese "Bricks for Haiti" program as special fundraiser for us during

Advent. Bricks may be purchased for \$10.00 per brick. Checks should be made out to Trinity Church with "Bricks for Haiti" in the memo line.

This program is designed to raise funds to rebuild the Haitian National Cathedral in Port au Prince and, other facilities destroyed by the Haiti earthquake. Diocesan-run schools, clinics and hospitals that served over 100,000 Episcopalians, as well as countless community members, were wiped out in thirty-five seconds.

Many of the services we "expect" from the government—healthcare, education, culture—are provided in Haiti by The Episcopal Church. Episcopal Relief & Development joined many agencies that rushed in to help and continue to do so in many ways following the quake. But there is one thing no one else can rebuild for The Episcopal Church: Holy Trinity Cathedral. Home of the famous murals that depicted the Biblical narrative, the Cathedral was a beacon in a land where strength of faith is inversely proportional to economic development and the other churches in the country.

Bishop Jean Zaché Duracin and the people of Haiti have asked for our help. Out of the destruction of the entire Cathedral Complex, new life has begun to rise, full of possibilities. The Haitian government has granted The Episcopal Church a plot of land that will nearly double our presence in downtown Port-au-Prince.

The Episcopal Church, acting through the Executive Council, asks every Episcopal diocese and congregation to join in this initial phase of rebuilding the Diocese of Haiti. As the walls of a new Cathedral rise, so too will the hearts and fortunes of those who have depended on Holy Trinity for spiritual succor, for education, and for income. We have the chance to resurrect the spirit of a nation.

Questions concerning the Bricks for Haiti program should be directed to Gordon Lane either at church or by phone (603-918-1168) or E-mail, volumes.nh@comcast.net. (Some of the information contained in this article was taken from a news release by the Episcopal Church Foundation dated (11-16-11.)



From Bishop Gene Robinson's Convention Address, October 29, 2011

"...During the four weeks in Advent, I have asked our clergy to invite your participation in a diocesan effort to support the rebuilding of Haiti, the largest and poorest diocese of the Episcopal Church. You will have the opportunity to purchase a brick for \$10.00 each for the rebuilding of the Cathedral in Port au Prince, the center of that nation's religious, cultural and artistic heritage. Great Christmas gift for your friends!

I will be travelling to Haiti with the bishops of New England in early December. You will be able to follow that journey via a daily blog I will write from Haiti.

This presents a wonderful opportunity to join Episcopalians from all around the U.S. in this effort to reach out to our most needy fellow diocese. So please, buy a brick, buy lots of bricks, and let's do our share in this national effort."



2ND ANNUAL SOUP & CHOWDER CHALLENGE.

December 3: Hobbs House



This is our second annual event and will be held from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM Saturday, December 3. The cost is \$ 6.00 with raffles to benefit the Village Preschool who will do an Ice Cream Sundae and Cone sale! For further information contact: Rusty Bridle at capt.hfd@myfairpoint.com or 926-8694 and Ginny at 929-7349 if you can scoop ice cream! The price is right on a fellowship night!

Thelma's Thoughts

*November hath 30 days
many dark-damp-dreary
then Thanksgiving Day! and
over the hills or highways - to
family, friends, food; love, joy, hugs
and a "now thank we all or God"
name our many blessings - and eat!
Bon-appetite! □ Thelma*



Trinity Pantry Request

A HUGE thank you to Nita, who spent a great deal of her time seeking out assistance from area schools and others to provide for our Food Pantry. Her efforts and those of all are most appreciated.

Where once our cupboard was pretty bare, it is now full. On Saturday, we assisted 27 people in need of food. We were able to provide breads, cakes, cookies and fresh vegetables. The vegetables were donated from a wonderful donor restaurant. Even though our cupboards may be full, it unfortunately, will not last. We have seen a steady increase in the number of people in need.

Your generous donations of items are always welcome. Canned fruits, vegetables, paper goods, dish detergent, laundry detergent, toothpaste, and many items are always very gratefully accepted.

We are now heading into the winter months. Our clients really appreciate pancakes and syrup. We also need winter hats, mittens, for the young ones.

Should you prefer to make a cash donation, simply drop an envelope in the collection plate and clearly mark your check: FOOD PANTRY in the remarks section.

"If you have done it for the least of my brethren, you did for me" Matthew 25:40 †

Sandi Nickerson



Bible Study Meetings

We meet at 7 PM every Wednesday evening in the Narthex. Please feel free to join in at any time. This group has grown and continues to have lively discussions on the Bible. At present we are studying and reviewing the Prophets of the Old Testament. This group studies the ways and words of the Lord.

Ginnie-Lee McCaddin

Editorial: The season of Christmas and Thanksgiving both evoke the word of thanks. Jesus is involved in both of them. He certainly is the reason for the season of Christmas which some of the secular world appear to want to suppress as the expression of a Christmas party is being supplanted by "Holiday Party," and listen carefully as people greet you: In the USA it was always "Merry Christmas" and in England "Happy Christmas," and the whole world too!

Many factories which produce items for Christmas are actually open all year just for this season, while stores have their greatest sales at Christmas. Our country alone is dominated by people of the Christian faith, yet, even those who are not Christian but believe in a supreme being, have never flinched at the words "Merry Christmas."

This trend of Christmas Cards without references to Christmas have no basis for use and appear to be, once more, catering to a noisy mini-minority which does not appear to represent the concepts espoused by our founding fathers.

Personally, if anyone says to me "Happy Holiday," as a substitute for the Christmas greeting, I simply respond: Merry Christmas. After all: Jesus alone is the reason for the season!

Thanksgiving is another matter. Here, we have the words of Jesus being expressed so vividly regarding the words thank you. He expressed this so succinctly in Luke 17:11-17 † where he cured 10 Lepers. They had asked for a cure and Jesus sent them to see the priests. On the way, they were all cured, BUT, only one, a Samaritan, (A Semitic people who were not considered part of Israel) returned to say THANK YOU! I just love those famous words of Jesus: "Were not ten made clean"? But where are the other nine?

This certainly should implant in us the need to thank God each and every day as the sun rises upon our face. A very famous Saint wrote out her daily prayer, which I found a great guide to life: "Lord, here I am, give me what You will." "If He gives me something, I am very pleased and I thank Him. If He gives me nothing, I still thank Him because I do not deserve anything. ...I listen. If you listen to Him, He will speak to you also, because with God it is necessary to speak and to listen. He always speaks to you if you go to Him simply and sincerely."

Trinity Herald Newsletter

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