



The Trinity Church Newsletter

Trinity Episcopal Church

44 East Market Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018

From the Senior Warden

The Search for a New Rector is Underway

With Consecration Sunday behind us, I want to thank Marius Bres-soud, Consecration Sunday Chair; the Stewardship Committee; and speakers, Tracey McArdle, George Hurchalla and Marcie Lightwood; for sharing their thoughts, time, and talent with us. If anyone is looking for a new opportunity to volunteer, the Stewardship Committee is always looking for new members. Now to the search process.

During a meeting with Archdeacon Howard Stringfellow and Canon Jane Teter, I was informed that the search for a new rector will take approximately 12 to 18 months. We can expect the following to occur during this time:

The Period of Self-Study: During this time, all members of Trinity will be asked to participate in the development of a parish profile. Section 1 of the profile will focus on a description of the community in which we live. Section 2 will be devoted to a history of our church. Section 3 will provide any prospective candidate for rector with information regarding our parish, our priorities, and our aspirations. Section 4 will inform any prospective candidate of the type of "priestly leadership" we are seeking. During this same period, the Vestry will be working to identify an Interim priest to see us through this process. More is written about this below.

The Period of the Search: During this period, only the Search Committee, appointed by the Vestry, will be aware of the content of the process. This committee will visit various priests in their parishes to determine which one they wish to call as rector.

The Period of Decision and Negotiation: The Search Committee will recommend to the Vestry the priest to be called as the next rector. The Vestry will meet with the priest to discuss the particulars of the call and will notify the Bishop of their decision. The Vestry will then formally issue the call.

The Period of Start-Up and Installation: When the new priest has been present for two or more months, a service of Celebration of the New Ministry is in order.

Where do we stand at the current moment?

In the past month, several meetings with Diocesan officials have been held. The purposes of these meetings have been twofold: to explain the search process and to arrange for an Interim. At its October meeting, the Vestry met with Canon Jane Teter, who explained the search process to the group. At that same meeting, the Vestry approved a Letter of Agreement for an Interim, the person who will

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NOVEMBER, 2006

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The Prayer List

Here are the names of Trinity people who have health problems or personal problems and who wish to be remembered in our prayers. If you or a loved one has health problems or other problems, and if you would like the prayerful help of Trinity friends, you are invited to add your name to the list. Please contact the office, 610-867-4741.

Trinity is a praying church. We love to pray for people...and we keep on praying for them. But sometimes, people get "parked" on the parish prayer list. The policy is to put people on the Prayers of the People list and to read their names for two weeks in a row, UNLESS you ask us to keep them on. They will also be put on the prayer list in the Bulletin. We keep them on the Bulletin list for two months, UNLESS you ask us to keep them on. We are very happy to keep people on either or both lists, but please do tell us. Call the office or give a note to one of the clergy.



KEEP ON PRAYING!

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Al Barr | Barb Krukowski | Dennis Taylor |
| Bud Barr | JhaDia Lukens | Pat Talijan |
| Denny Bergey | Pyong Lukens | Jackie Tompkins |
| Jane Breininger | Robert Lukens | Mackenzie Updyke |
| Leslie Buchter | the MacKenzie family | Edith Wilson |
| Edna Chase | Fr. Mac | Amy Wiseman |
| Dorothy Comegys | Elizabeth Miller | Julia Wiseman |
| Sara Creech | Margorie Miller Bergey | Ellen Wolfe |
| Steve Filko | Sgt Rob Norman USMC | Jeremy Wolfe |
| Jane Frey | Joe Palmeri | Christopher Wrenshall |
| Al Giordano | Matthew Post | Joyce |
| Dan Genthner | Gwendolyn-Jane Ro- | |
| Nancy Hofmann | meril | |
| Jo Hornyak | Sean Romeril | |
| Eileen Kessler | Joan Sheldrake | |

Celebration of Saints During November

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

- 1 All Saints' Day
- 2 Commemoration of all Faithful Departed
- 3 Richard Hooker, Priest, 1600
- 6 William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1944
- 7 Willibrord, Archbishop of Utrecht, Missionary to Frisia, 739
- 10 Leo the Great, Bishop of Rome, 461
- 11 Martin, Bishop of Tours, 397
- 14 Consecration of Samuel Seabury, First American Bishop, 1784
- 16 Margaret, Queen of Scotland, 1093
- 17 Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, 1200
- 18 Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680
- 20 Edmund, King of East Anglia, Martyr, 870
- 22 Clive Staples Lewis, Apologist and Author
- 25 James Otis Sargent Huntington, Priest and Monk, 1935
- 28 Kamehameha and Emma, King and Queen of Hawaii, 1864, 1885
- 30 St. Andrew, The Apostle

Sunday Readings During November

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Nov. 5

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

- Deuteronomy 6:1-9
- Hebrews 7:23-28
- Mark 12:28-34
- Psalms 119:1-16 or 119:1-8

Nov. 12

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

- 1 Kings 17:8-16
- Hebrews 9 24-28
- Mark 12:38-44
- Psalms 146 or 146:4-9

Nov. 19

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

- Daniel 12:1-4a(5-13)
- Hebrews 10 31-39
- Mark 13:14-23
- Psalms 16 or 16:5-11

Nov. 26

Last Sunday after Pentecost (Christ the King)

- Daniel 7:9-14
- Revelation 1:1-8
- John 18:33-37 or Mark 11:1-11
- Psalms 93



Birthdays

- 1 Joseph Allen
- 2 Juliana Bradley
- 4 Jo-Ellen Darling
- George Kondash
- Carol Vickrey
- R. Bruce Reiner
- 5 John Lehman
- 10 Carol Barthold
- Helen Conrad
- Susan Royster
- 12 Stephen Gee
- 13 John Malok
- 15 Clarann Filko
- Beth Schlener
- Kristin Tracy
- 16 George Hurchalla
- Charles O'Connell
- Kenneth Vail
- 18 Eshan Reed
- Tom Donaldson
- 19 James McCandless
- 21 Tristan Frigm
- 22 Paul Salerni

- Logan Post
- 24 Elmer Drusba
- Paul Sabet
- 25 Mary Billets
- Janet James
- 26 Phyllis Douvanis
- Ann Mickus
- 27 Mike Mentuck
- 30 Elizabeth Miller
- Brian Leidy

Anniversaries

- 2 Marcie Lightwood & Gene Mater
- 5 Donna & Robert Lawrence
- Lisa & Paul Medeiros
- 8 Nadia & Foster Leonhardt
- 11 Gwendolyn-Jane & Robert Romeril
- 14 Violet & James McCandless
- 16 Sheri & John Majczan
- 17 Heather & David Myers
- 27 Sally & Christopher Wrenshall
- 29 Diane Carl & Brian Ziegler



"The Ecology of Giving": A Sermon by Mother Laura

Proper 23B
Amos 5:6-7,10-15
Hebrews 3:1-6
Mark 10:17-27(28-31)
Psalm 90 or 90:1-8,12

In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

The Stewardship Committee asked me to speak this week about the connections between stewardship and spirituality. And then I looked at the Gospel. YIKES! This is the passage that caused St. Antony in the 3rd Century to dispose of his fortune and become one of the first desert Fathers in hopes of saving his soul. It's one of the passages that I have heard from preachers on stewardship since I was a child. It is commonly known as one of the "difficult sayings" of Jesus. And it IS difficult. How many of us would be willing to give up everything that we own to follow him? I know I could not. And I'm not sure my family would appreciate it, either.

Even though this is the time of the church year when we talk about stewardship, I am not asking you to do that. So don't worry, I guarantee you that you will get through this sermon with most of your bank account intact. But I don't make that promise about your souls....

For convenience's sake, we have a tendency to think of our lives in discrete fragments: here is church, here is work, here is family, this is what's going on with my spirit, this is what's going on with my physical body. But if we start believing that we can really keep parts entirely separate, it doesn't work. It results in a sense of being pulled in many different directions. We end up spending a lot of time and money in therapy, trying to re-integrate ourselves. Yes, we do need boundaries, so one of the activities of our life doesn't eat up the rest of it. But if we are to be healthy, all the pieces of our life have to fit together to make some kind of sensible whole. The same is true of our families, of our community, of our church. Not one of us can ever truly be independent of each other. Try this experiment, just for a week. I don't think you'll be able to: try using only the electricity you yourself have generated. Or eat only the food you have grown. When you try this one, you have my permission to skip church: Don't wear any clothing, except what you yourself have woven and sewn. I'm sure you get the idea. In this age, none of us, even survivalists, can be self-sufficient. Even in ancient times, it was never possible.

Having spent decades trying to become a whole person, in a community and in a church that says it believes in supporting people's wholeness, I can't separate out stewardship from everything else in my life. I call it The Ecology of Giving, and I think is a great idea. It is my bad luck that my discovery just missed the Nobel Prizes given out this week.

Most of us know the word ecology, but we might not have studied it since we were in school. We often use it to talk about saving the environment. Although that is increasingly urgent, it's much broader than that. The Oxford English Dictionary defines

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Ecology as “the branch of biology concerned with the relations of organisms to one another and to their physical surroundings.” Among other things, this means that every being in nature affects life on Earth as it pursues its own life. Existence is circular.

God has literally given me everything that I have, because God has given me life, and the abilities I have to work, and think, and accomplish. Existence is circular, so over the years, many other Godly people have given me support, help, things, paychecks, training. And, I hope that I have passed on to others prayer, counseling, companionship, teaching, and money. I want my life to count for something. I want to have an impact in the world. But by myself, in this little town of Bethlehem, how much can I do?

If the Ecology of Giving is disrupted in me, if I do what Amos describes--become concerned only about what is good for me, trample on everyone else, ignoring the needs of others--there will be consequences. The best example I can think of is breathing. To live you must breathe. But you can't simply inhale and imagine you can hold on to the breath that is yours. You must exhale and let the breath that you have go, so you can inhale again. If I clutch the possessions that are mine, I can never experience the thrill on another's face when I give to them. And if I only have time for my own concerns, there's no room for me to make any connections with other people.

I get a great deal of joy from this church. When I give to the church that I love so much, I have an immediate impact on the world around me—sometimes in ways that I may never be aware of. What I give, added to what you give—in time, prayer, and money—shows up in the tiny hands of the children, clutching papers from their Sunday School teachers as they run down the center aisle to their families. What I give—added to what you give-- shows up in the majestic voice of the organ at services and concerts. What we give in time and effort appears on over 31,000 lunch plates a year in our Soup Kitchen. What we give in dollars pays tuition for orphans in Swaziland. What we give in creative effort warms our hearts when we walk into the church decorated for Christmas or Easter. Everything that we give lets us fulfill Christ's command to preach the Gospel in words and in deeds. Not one of us has to do it alone, no matter what our financial circumstances or the constraints on our time.

I have empirical evidence that we're on the right track with the Ecology of Giving. Because this weekend, Diocesan Convention adopted a resolution, calling for the entire diocese to make a commitment to the ecology of giving: to develop a personal spiritual discipline of giving to God that includes, at a minimum, daily personal prayer and study, Sabbath time, weekly worship, and tithing. I haven't decided yet if I'm going to sue the diocese for breach of intellectual property rights, but you will be hearing more about this program throughout the year.

However, don't wait for news and instruction from Convention. Trinity is ahead of the curve in this area. Take some time this week to consider YOUR place in the ecology of giving: what have you received from God and from others? What is God inviting you to pass along? What changes in prayer time, in money, in volunteering, is God suggesting to you? What is your place in this wonderful church? AMEN.



DAUGHTERS OF THE KING, ST. CONSTANCE CHAPTER, NEWS

A is stirring us to action. Therefore, after prayer, comes service. And in prayer, The Daughters at Trinity feel called to very specific ministries. One of these ministries is to help Suzanne, our Librarian, and to help our new Christian Educator, Ellen, develop a Children's Library in the Sunday School wing. Ellen has particular kinds of material in mind, that will feed our children spiritually, and promote Godly Play. If you would like to donate a book to celebrate a child's birthday or other important event, or give a book in memory of someone special, speak to Ellen and she will guide you. Another of our ministries, discerned in prayer, is to welcome and incorporate new members into the life of Trinity. The need for this ministry is ongoing and Father Nick asked us to take it on. His encouragement was confirmation that we were on the right track! We invite any parishioners who have ideas, or who want to help make this ministry come alive, to join us at 7 PM on November 28th in the Library on the 2nd floor of the Parish Hall. This ministry doesn't just belong to us, it is simply being generated by us, for all of us. We need your help to make it a success.



One of the reasons we chose Constance as the Saint for our Chapter is because she worked in tandem with others. She knew the value of Christian Community.

To strengthen the image of 'Trinity Church as a Praying Church', on December 2nd, we will sponsor a QUIET DAY here at Trinity. It will begin at 9AM and end at 3PM. The title is WAITING FOR GOD. Mother Gwendolyn-Jane will be our Presenter. All are invited. Particulars will be found on the Bulletin Board by the Rector's Office.

Be assured of our prayers for you, and please pray for us.

Faithfully,
The Daughters of the King, St Constance and her Companions.

PARISH LUNCHEON November 19th

following the Children's Sunday service

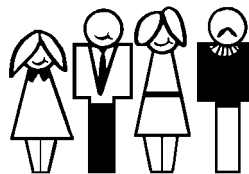
Throughout the church year on special Sundays, the children will worship with their families at the services and there will be no Sunday School. Nursery care will still be available.

Trinity's Group Involving Families will host a luncheon for the congregation following each Children's Sunday service. Fellowship has been an important part of our group and we hope you will all join us. The November 19th luncheon will be hosted by the Siftar/McIntosh family. Come share the feast and enjoy the friendly service of our host family and our middle school gang!

The main course will be provided. We ask families whose last names begin with A-L to please bring a side dish or salad to share. If your last name begins with M-Z, please bring a dessert to share.

If you have questions or would like to help, please contact Jennifer Bradley at 610-694-9805.

Trinity Group Involving Families



TGIF's annual family Thanksgiving Feast will be held on Friday, Nov. 10th at 6 pm in the Parish Hall. Please

bring a side dish to share. New families are welcome! Questions? Contact Jennifer Bradley at 610-694-9805 or email: jen@msn.com.

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assist us in maintaining the viability of our parish as we resolve our feelings of grief; reinforce the ministry of our laity; clarify our mission; deal with our special needs; emphasize fellowship and reconciliation, and strengthen our Diocesan ties. The most important responsibility of the Interim is to help us prepare the way for the new rector. (The Interim will not be our new rector; he or she is prohibited from applying for that position.) According to Canon Teter, appropriate Interim candidates may already be, or soon will be, available. The Vestry will need to interview these candidates and then choose one. This selection should be completed by December or January.

The next crucial step in our search for a new rector is the Period of Self-Study. The Vestry needs your assistance now! We are currently seeking volunteers to serve on the Profile Committee. A sign-up sheet has been placed on the bulletin board in the hallway for this purpose. Once a committee has been identified, it can move forward with the parish profile.

At the present time we find ourselves caught in the throes of change. Change opens windows for new experiences and new opportunities. Change also offers us time - time for remembering, reviewing, renewing, rebuilding, and recommitting. Over the next months, the Vestry promises to keep you informed on the process and progress of finding a new rector. We also ask that you communicate openly and freely with the Vestry—ask questions and make recommendations. Dialogue is critical at this time of seeking a new shepherd to lead this flock.

—Sara Klingner
Senior Warden

FOR ROOSTER'S KIDS

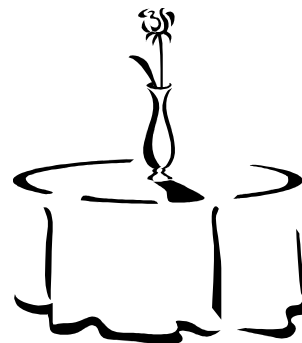
You will see a box in the Parish Hall labeled "FOR ROOSTER'S KIDS". The Outreach committee is collecting items for families with children affected by homelessness and extreme poverty. Please clean out your "souvenirs", as they can be really helpful to people in need, and may, as we learned, help keep children in school.

Suggestions:

- Sample size or hotel bottles of **Shampoo, Conditioner, Bath Gel, Lotion and Mouthwash.**
- Individual bars of **soap.**
- **Toothbrushes and toothpaste, floss and mouthwash.**
- **Feminine Hygiene products.**
- New **socks and underwear.**
- Small sizes boxes/bottles of **laundry detergent.**
- **School supplies**

MISSING TABLECLOTHS

Most of our new linen tablecloths have gone missing! If you took them home to launder or if you borrowed them, would you please bring them back? Those of us who are trying to create fellowship events will be ever so grateful.





CHIMES FROM THE MUSIC OFFICE

Dear Members and Friends of Trinity Church:

The choir and I are preparing for our annual Beinema Concert to be held on Sunday, November 5, at 7:00 p.m. This is our fifth annual concert, given in memory of Marvin Beinema, who was organist-choirmaster at Trinity from 1959 to 1996, and in honor of his widow, Polly. Our program will consist of music that Marvin either performed or was fond of. Jack Vickrey will sing Maurice Greene's "Thou Visiteth The Earth," which has been in the Trinity choir library for many years. Linda Laubach and the choir will perform Mendelssohn's, "Hear My Prayer," a larger work alternating between drama and lyricism, and a work that Marvin performed with Linda on a number of occasions. Our baritone soloist, Preston Knauer, will sing two solos by Leo Sowerby, one of the great American church musicians of the 20th Century, and a personal friend of Marvin's. In addition to other works by Mozart, Haydn and Brahms, we will also include two hymns for choir and audience that have special meaning: Russell Jackson's "Musicians Hymn," and Marvin's own prize-winning hymn written for the Centennial Celebration of the Diocese of Bethlehem in 1971. This will be a memorable occasion, celebrating the life and career of Marvin Beinema.

MARVIN BEINEMA

Marvin was devoted to Trinity Church, and worked tirelessly to see it received the best music possible, year after year, teaching generations of choir members and lovingly overseeing the maintenance of Trinity's Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ.

Marvin had a gentle spirit, but had great personal and musical depth. He was originally from Worcester, Massachusetts, where he grew up surrounded by music. His father was a tenor, and Marvin often accompanied him on the piano in his youth. Worcester was noted for its many fine pipe organs, and Marvin delighted in going to All Saints Church and The Worcester Art Museum for concerts, both having landmark Aeolian-Skinner organs. So, from a very early age, he was exposed to the best. In fact, Worcester has a direct connection in Marvin's ultimately being hired at Trinity Church: the organist at All Saints Church and The Worcester Art Museum, William Self, recommended Marvin to Dr. Moore, rector of Trinity Church, when he was looking for a new organist. In those days, churches did not form search committees or do long searches, so Dr. Moore hired Marvin right away to be his organist, based on Mr. Self's recommendation.

Between the time Marvin left Worcester and arrived at Trinity, he spent years honing his craft, studying at the New England Conservatory of Music, where his teachers included Carl McKinley and Everett Titcomb - two giants in American Church Music. Marvin was summer organist for Dr. McKinley at Old South Church in Boston, and was also George Faxon's replacement organist for one summer at Church of The Advent, also in Boston (one of the highlights of Marvin's career). After leaving Boston, Marvin pursued further education at Union Theological Seminary in New York City, where he studied with such great musicians as Dr. Carl Weinrich (organ, Norman Coke-Jephcott (boy choir training), and Ifor Jones (conducting), and obtained his graduate degree in Sacred Music.

When Marvin arrived at Trinity Church, the choir was made up of men and boys, which had been the tradition in this country for many years. At that time the present choir room did not exist, but was just an open space exposed to the elements. The choir rehearsed downstairs in the fellowship hall, which the boys also used to hold boxing matches. Marvin and Polly were so dedicated to the choir that they personally drove the boys to and from rehearsals, and even paid them a dime each per week out of their own pockets to encourage them to participate. The choir of men and boys sang for all services in the early years, but also participated in other area and diocesan events. Over the years there were many memorable performances, and also many humorous events, all of which Marvin loved to reminisce about.

For instance, Marvin loved to tell this story: each year, he and Polly took the choir to a summer choir camp in The Poconos, where there were many athletic events, but also intense rehearsing and singing at Trinity Church, Mt. Pocono. At that time, that church still had its original pipe organ, dating from the 19th Century. During one rehearsal there, a boy with eyeglasses was standing next to Marvin at the organ. I'm sure this was not funny at the time, but was funny when Marvin related it,

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Consecration Weekend

Our Consecration Weekend Celebrations on October 21 and October 22 were wonderful opportunities for all members of Trinity to affirm their faith and return the gifts given by God.

Witnesses of faith and stewardship are not just for the adults. And, for those of us who are adults, our witnesses and stewardship are models for others and especially for our children.

The recent 135th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem passed the following resolution – affirming the same resolution passed by General Convention in June 2006 –

*'In recognition of the church's tradition of calling us to work, pray, and give for the spread of God's kingdom, all members of the Episcopal Church are encouraged to develop a personal spiritual discipline that includes, at a minimum, the **holy habits** of daily personal prayer and study, tithing, Sabbath time, and weekly corporate worship.'*

Many youth are involved in music, sports, and community service opportunities during their high school years. Our youth and young adults are also invited to participate more fully in the life of Trinity and to begin to develop their personal spiritual disciplines including stewardship.

All confirmed members of Trinity – including our youth and young adults – who were not able to be present or were not able to turn in their Estimate of Giving cards during one of the services on October 21 or October 22 will receive a follow-up letter with an Estimate of Giving Card. Please return the Estimate of Giving Card in the self-addressed stamped envelope included in the follow-up letter.

The Stewardship Committee and Vestry extends a sincere thank you to all members who returned their Estimate of Giving cards.



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and it really tickled him to tell it: Marvin played one note on the organs rather large "Open Diapason" stop, and the instant he played it, that poor boy's glasses shattered! Marvin said, "What happened?," and the boy replied, "Somebody's just shot me with a B-B gun!" They finally determined that the boy had not been shot, but had been standing in an area where the frequencies from that organ pipe had been so intense that they had shattered his glasses.

There are a countless number of stories and events from Marvin's career at Trinity that could be told. One other that continues to be brought up with some frequency is the performance by the Trinity girls' choir of Pergolesi's "Stabat Mater." Marvin was certainly proud of his girls' choir and their achievement, and every girl who sang that work remembers it as a turning point in her life.

Marvin was also a good friend. When I arrived at Trinity, he and Polly invited me over to their home for a martini. They immediately made me feel welcome and at ease, and we spent many Tuesday evenings together at their house, reminiscing about their careers. Marvin was a a good mentor, too, and he gave good, friendly, helpful advice, without ever trying to force his ideas or tastes, but making helpful suggestions along with being very supportive. His taste in music was eclectic, but sophisticated. He knew the best, and insisted on it for his church. His legacy will be forever remembered and carried on by those of us whose lives he touched with his dedication, knowledge, musicianship, humor, and gentle friendship.

Lorenz Maycher
Organist-Choirmaster



Animal Food Bank Happenings

A Spay/Neuter Program is scheduled to take place on Friday, November 10th. The program is a joint project of both the Trinity Animal Food Bank and the Northampton County S.P.C.A.. Approximately a dozen pet owners have signed up for their animals to receive services of spay/neutering and/or vaccinations. The recipient's owners are guests of the Trinity Soup Kitchen.



The Celebration and Blessing of the Animals on St. Francis Day brought about 10 animals and their owners for an inspirational service, along with activities for children, and delicious treats for both pet owners and pets alike. Along with receiving their blessings, the animals also received certificates and St. Francis medals. Not only was the weather beautiful for this outdoor service, but the behavior of the animals was exceptional as well.

The Animal Food Bank booth at the Hellertown Farmer's Market raised a total of \$37.00. Informational pamphlets were distributed and children's activities were provided.

We have ordered 60 Animals Christmas Stockings in preparation for the distribution at the Soup Kitchen's Christmas Party.

Thank you to all who have supported the Animal Food Bank through monetary donations, as well as, donations of food, toys, and the purchasing of the personalized pet magnets.

A number of people have asked that we announce what the specific needs of the Animal Food Bank are from time to time. This is our first WISH LIST.

- Toys and Treats for Cats and Dogs
- Flea Collars and Bath
- ZipLock Bags in 1 quart, 1 gallon and 2 gallon sizes
- All types of pet foods are needed on an ongoing basis

Thank you again,
Vanessa Segaline

UPDATE FROM THE D.R.E.

The leaves are dropping, the school year is underway and we're all settling into our routines. In the Sunday school, children and teachers alike are also settling into a comfortable rhythm with our new programs. Currently, we have 14 children in the Godly Play classroom ranging in age from 3 to 10. The littlest ones sit between their elders and add such wisdom to our wondering. The teachers are challenged to find artistic responses that are appropriate to such a broad range of learning styles and ages and are doing a wonderful job meeting those needs. The program for middle school folks is an eclectic one ranging from painting the saints to lively discussions over bagels and cream cheese. What started out as a small group of 5 regulars just a few weeks ago grew to 9 this past Sunday. They are a great bunch and I thank everyone who has volunteered their time and talents to teach them.

On November 10-12, the Diocese of Bethlehem is hosting a retreat for teens called "Happening #16" at the Kirby Retreat House. From the lifeistasty.org website that posts events for youth in the Diocese:

WHAT IS HAPPENING?

A spiritual retreat presented by teenagers for teenagers, with the help of thoughtful adults. The weekend provides a sacred, safe space where youth may deepen their relationship with Jesus, or to meet him for the first time. A wonderful prelude or follow-up to confirmation, Happening is the chance for youth to build a foundation for their own unique lives of faith. All of this happens through lively worship, daily prayer, shared insights, music and the arts, indoor and outdoor games, a low-ropes challenge activity and a few great surprises. Happening encourages youth to go out into the world to live and proclaim what they have learned and to participate fully in the life of their home parishes.

We are excited to be sending two of our teens to join in the fun!

Just a reminder to those of you who have babies and toddlers: Join us in the nursery from 9:15 until 11:15 every Sunday morning for play and stories hosted by our own Caitlin Fodor and an adult volunteer.

Blessings on your family,
Ellyn Siftar
Director of Religious Education



All Saints' Reflection: On family

This year I turned 60 years old!!! This week I finally found out what my grandparents' names, dates of birth and dates of death were.

After 60 years, I finally have a foothold in my family roots.

As a small child, I always felt there was something "different" about me ... and my school mates reinforced that feeling. Growing up in the mid-west in the 50's, we were the only family who spoke a language at home that wasn't English. While my school mates had stylish bob haircuts of the day, my hair was never cut ... I could sit on the braids that hung down on either side of the part in the middle of my head, and the boys had a great time dipping the ends of those braids in their ink wells. While most families had big family gatherings on the holidays, those days were no different for my family than any other day, except that I didn't have to go to the school.

Finally, when I entered the 9th grade, I was exposed to a larger community. We had no high school in our neighborhood (those were the days when high school started at grade 9), and I had the adventure of taking a city bus to a school on the other side of the city. A few days into the year, I came home and asked my parents "What is a Jew?" My father wanted to know why I asked. Someone had pointed at me when I got off the bus and said something about "There is the Jew" ... and I didn't understand. I had been attending a Methodist church for the past 9 years, so I knew they weren't talking about religion. My father told me that the person who had pointed me out was mistaken and I should simply ignore it.

But, I could tell he was upset ... and I learned not to ask those types of questions at home. It was part of a taboo subject, that I never really understood - no German made products were allowed in our house; VW beetles were NOT cute; and, under no circumstances was I to be argumentative with teachers or other authority figures. I was expected to do well in school, learn how to play the piano and not cause any trouble or make myself stand out in any way. I finished high school, following those rules and not raising the taboo subjects at home.

While in college, I met and married a boy who didn't know the taboos. He asked the questions which I never could. I learned that my father was an Austrian Jew who had escaped from the SS while his parents were being carted off. That was the last time he saw or heard any news of them. He had a very difficult time surviving, being imprisoned in Switzerland and then making his way through Nazi-occupied France to Portugal, where he boarded a boat that finally found refuge in the Dominican Republic. After the war, he was reunited with my mother, I was born, and in 1951 we immigrated to the US. And my father and mother tried to leave the past behind ... never talking about it or even acknowledging that it had existed.

Since finding out about my family history, I have been trying to find out exactly what happened to my grand parents. I didn't even know their first names! I only knew that they were Jews who lived somewhere in Vienna. For forty years, I have scoured every known source I could think of. I have written countless emails, I have spent countless hours on the Internet. I have traveled to Israel in the hopes of finding a Karpfen (my maiden name) there. I have prayed about the situation and had come to terms with the fact that I would probably never know. I also came to terms with the fact that I would never have a biological family close to me. (My father's sister had also escaped and married an Englishman. They had 2 children, but we only met once in our lives, and they had a large family on their father's side, and weren't really interested in their cousin in America. My mother's family had disowned her when she married a Jew, since they were Catholics, and active in the Nazi party. So I don't know about them either.)

My father developed Alzheimer's and any little glimmer of hope I had that he would someday tell me something faded and ended when he died. Then, early this year my Aunt died. My long-lost cousin finally got in touch with me to tell me that when her mother died, she began to look into our family history as well. She knew a lot more than I did, because her mother was more open with stories about the family. She actually located a surviving branch of the family now in Australia. So... I do have some kin somewhere! Then, early this week, I got another email from her. She had actually found documented information about our

(Continued on page 11)



Adult Forum 2006

NOVEMBER 5, 12, 19, DECEMBER 3

“CARNIVAL TIME— LAW AND ORGIES”

WITH HOWARD FEGAN

NOVEMBER 26

NO FORUM

THANKSGIVING WEEKEND

(Continued from page 10)

grand parents. Their names were Ernestine and Friedrich Karpfen. They were born on January 10, 1882 and January 25, 1881, respectively. They were deported to the Maly Trostinec Concentration Camp near Minsk in Russia on May 20, 1942 and died there on May 26, 1942. I have one photograph of each of them, which my Aunt had given me when I was a teen-ager.

Finally, closure for me!!! I have the end of the story. Unfortunately, it is not so for my cousin. While I came to acceptance of what happened and have dealt with it, she has not. She is just beginning to deal with what actually happened.

I have been reflecting on why this news is so much different for me than for her, and I believe it is my faith and my Christian community which makes it so. She claims to be Jewish, but as far as I know, does not have a community surrounding her in love.

I, on the other hand, know in my heart that my grand parents are waiting for me in heaven. I cannot believe that our loving God has abandoned them in their deaths. I have had glimpses of my loved ones in heaven ... and they are smiling, laughing and having a great time with all the other Saints in heaven. I am absolutely certain that Ernestine and Friedrich Karpfen are there with them.

And, even though I do not have a close “blood” family with me here on earth, I do have a wonderful Christian family, which is very important to me. All of you here at Trinity are my “immediate” family ... those I see on a regular basis ... and those I can count on when I need you. Then, there are those who are in the larger Diocesan Community ... my more distant family, who I see on occasion and rejoice with at special times in our lives. And, then there are all those distant cousins ... those in ECUSA and the Anglican Communion. Those we both agree with and disagree with. It is my prayer that we all stay together as one family ... that most important word ... “family”. And finally, there are all those Christians both alive and in heaven, which form the fabric of our family. I have a family photo gallery in my office at Trinity of some of the Saints who have gone before us ... and plan to keep adding to it. Please come and see it ... look at some of those who have shaped our family into what it is today.

Gaby Whittier
September 27, 2006

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH



...Feeding all in Body, Mind and Soul

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CLERGY

The Rev. Laura Howell, Associate Rector
The Rev. Elizabeth Miller, Deacon and
Soup Kitchen Coordinator
The Rev. Canon Clifford B. Carr, Assisting Priest
The Rev. Dr. Richard C. Ditterline, Assisting Priest
The Rev. Canon A. Malcolm MacMillan,
Assisting Priest
The Rev. Canon Gwendolyn-Jane Romeril,
Assisting Priest

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Peg McLaughlin, Associate for Finance
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Communications
Dennis Perkins, Sexton
Ministers: All baptized members.

VESTRY

Sara Klingner (*Vestry Warden*)
George Hurchalla (*Rector's Warden*)
Suzanne Boundy
Wendy Lega
Robert Lukens
Ken Magee
Richard Matthews
Violet McCandless
Jody Miller
David Myers
Ed Schatkowski
Mary Ann Swiatek
Shelly Smith (*Clerk - Ex-Officio*)

How to become a member

You are very welcome to attend worship services, member or not. If you would like to become part of the parish, it is easy. Just give your name, address, phone number (and email address, if you have one) to a priest or usher, or leave it in the parish office. Part of being an Episcopalian is giving of your time, talent and treasure. We hope you will attend our special pro-

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Important Dates to Remember in November

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	
Wed-1		All Saints' Day
	9:30 am	Holy Eucharist—Chapel
	6:30 pm	Daughters of the King—Library
	7:30 pm	Holy Eucharist—Church
Thur-2		All Souls' Day
	7:30 pm	Holy Eucharist—Chapel
Sun-5	5:00 pm	Taize—Chapel
	7:00 pm	Beinema Concert—Church, followed by reception in the Parish Hall
Mon-6	6:00 pm	"Going Deeper": A Contemplative Community—Chapel
	7:30 pm	Finance Committee—Rector's Office
	7:30 pm	Worship Committee—Library
Tue-7	5:30 pm	Daughters of the King—Library
	7:00 pm	Outreach Committee—Library
Fri-10	6:00 pm	TGIF Thanksgiving Feast—Parish Hall
Mon-13	7:30 pm	Stewardship Committee—Library
Sun-19	12:00 pm	Parish Luncheon
	5:00 pm	Taize—Chapel
Mon-20	6:00 pm	"Going Deeper": A Contemplative Community—Chapel
	7:30 pm	Vestry Meeting—Library
Tue-21	1:30 pm	Pastoral Care Committee—Library
	5:30 pm	Daughters of the King—Library
Wed-22	5:30 pm	Prayer Beaders Gathering—Whittier home
Thur-23		Thanksgiving Day
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist—Church
Tue-28	5:30 pm	Soup Kitchen Board Meeting—Library

December Newsletter Deadline

Monday, November 20, 2006