



Trinity Topics

November 2017

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“What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?”

—*Psalm 116:12*

November is the season for gratitude. The harvest is in, the rush of the holidays is upon us, and we have just enough time to consider the blessings the Lord God has bestowed on us throughout the year. We must take this time because it isn't always easy in the busyness of life to remember to have gratitude, to “count our blessings,” as the hackneyed saying goes.

We Christians believe all good gifts ultimately come from God, and we reflect our conviction in that reality through our gifts to God and to His Church. Giving the first part of the harvest to God is the age-old recognition that our harvest (or paycheck!) is God's gift. Any farmer will tell you that however hard you might have worked for your living, it could easily have all come to nothing. Every year is, therefore, another gift of God's grace. We must show, to God and to our own hearts, that we know this is true.

Gratitude is more than simply feeling thankful—the Lord never once called for admirers. Gratitude is actually practicing what we believe by giving up our own substance to God. We can do this in many ways—from singing with joy in church to being generous to the poor. Making a pledge to Trinity Church is one of the more important ways. By making a pledge of our time, prayer, and income to Trinity Church, we give to the Body of Jesus a small part of what we have received by God's loving care. It is one part of the mission to Jacksonville the Lord has given to each of us.

The ancient standard for giving is 10% of our incomes, and I encourage all of us to strive for this goal. This is called “tithing.” I pray that all of us could be glad to be able to give so much, but I know that for many of us this is just not possible for the time being. For my own part, I have been able to tithe only a few of my 17 years as a Christian. Yet the Lord, who justified a widow who could only give a tuppence, knows who has given all they can.

I would also like to emphasize that our pledges are not contracts—every year has its own ups and downs, and it's to be expected that our pledges some years turn out to be optimistic. That is fine! It is also fine, by the way, if our pledges turn out to be pessimistic and we find we can give more to God's mission to Jacksonville. Making a pledge of our giving is, however, an invaluable tool for planning that mission for 2018.

So, as your priest, I enjoin all of us to consider how we will respond to God's many blessings in the past year and in the year to come. Please make a pledge to this worshipping community part of that response.

Fr. Zach Brooks +

News & Announcements

All Saints' Day

There will be two services on Wednesday, November 1. The regular 10 o'clock service will be in the Lady Chapel. The evening service will be at 6 o'clock. Archdeacon Shawn Denney and members of St. Luke's will join us. There will be a reception in the Parish Hall after the service.

All Souls' Day

The *Book of Common Prayer* refers to this day as the "Commemoration of All Faithful Departed." The service will be at 10 o'clock in the Lady Chapel on Thursday, November 2. At this service we will remember the Faithful Departed. There are forms on the table in the lobby if you wish to have your loved ones remembered by name.

Vestry Nominations

The Vestry of Trinity Church is seeking new members for 2018. Serving on vestry is God's call to take a leadership role in God's mission to the city of Jacksonville. A member of vestry must strive to lead the other members of Trinity Church by example through faithful prayer, attendance at worship, and study of the Holy Scriptures. Vestry terms are for three years, beginning after the January annual meeting. If you think you might feel God's call to leadership or would like to nominate someone else, please talk to Fr. Zach or a member of vestry.

Email brooksz@gmail.com for more information.

Operation Christmas Child

The ECW will be collecting shoeboxes with children's gifts at its November meeting. Each box also requires a \$9 fee to ship. There is a display in the Parish Hall with more information on what is needed.

Trinity Fellowship

Please note the date change. Due to the Clergy retreat, we will meet on the second Tuesday of the month, November 14.

Christmas Luncheon & Bazaar: December 1 & 2

It's time to start planning!

- Luncheon: 11 and 12:30 (Helpers are needed in the dining room and kitchen.)
- Holiday Shoppe: Bring in gift items
- Gourmet Table: Baked goods and pantry items are needed.
- Book Sale: Helpers are needed.

Please don't wait to purchase tickets (\$10 each) for the luncheon. Contact Adah Mitchell at 243-2636.

News & Announcements, *cont.*

Sunday, November 5 – Church School Choir

You will not want to miss this season's premier performance of our little children! They will sing "Praise Him, All Ye Little Children" at the 10 o'clock service.

A Special Thanks

It has been tradition for the Choir to present Mary Wilson with a gift of appreciation. This year Mary asked that she receive no gift, but rather that a gift be made to the Jacksonville Community Food Center. A check for \$70 was sent in her honor.

Doorbell Dinners

Coordinator Adah Mitchell would like to thank those who helped deliver the dinners the week of October 16 -20: Kip & K-Lou Ashmore, Chuck Crim, Charles Frank, Carole Hack, Paula Herget, Helen Keaton, Adah & Newton Mitchell, Hilda Radcliffe, Dana Ryan, Ginda Woodruff, and Ryan Worrall.

Pledge Mailing

The pledge letter with a card and envelope was mailed on October 18. Extra copies are available on the table in the foyer.

Jacksonville Community Food Center

Dana Ryan will be coordinating a program in conjunction with the Salvation Army to prepare Christmas Food Baskets. Items in the following list can be donated by December 8:

sweet potatoes	Instant potatoes	Gravy mix (package or can)	egg noodles
chicken broth	green beans	corn	mushroom soup
stuffing mix	mac n cheese	fruit salad (can)	pumpkin pie mix
evaporated milk	cereal	Jello	cool whip
oleo / butter	sugar	flour	rolls

We do not have the space to store the perishable items, but other items can be left in the boxes provided in the upper hallway.

Congratulations!

Korbin William Waltrip, grandson of David and Mary Mumford, was born on October 2, 2017. Welcome to world, Korbin!

Death

Bill Horton died on September 27, 2017. His funeral was here at Trinity Church on October 16. He and his wife Johanna met while singing in the Trinity Church Choir! He was a dedicated member of this Parish and will be greatly missed.

*May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace, and rise in glory.*

****If you have news you wish to share, please contact the Parish Office.***

**Pledge Sunday
is November 5.**

*Please make every effort
to return your pledge card by this date.*

**ECW
Build Your Own Salad Supper**

**Monday, November 13
5:30 pm**

Trinity Fellowship

This year we are studying *Moses*,
using the DVD and book by Adam Hamilton.

**Tuesday, November 14
7:00 pm**

Vestry Meeting

**Tuesday, November 21
7:00 pm**

Looking ahead:

**Friday and Saturday
December 1 & 2**

Christmas Bazaar & Luncheon

SERVICES IN NOVEMBER 2017

SUNDAYS:

November 5:

The 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

November 12:

The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

November 19:

The 24th Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

November 26:

**The Last Sunday after Pentecost
(Christ the King)**

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

WEEKDAYS AT 10:00 am

Wednesday, November 1:

ALL SAINTS' DAY

Thursday, November 2:

All Souls' Day

Wednesday, November 8

Wednesday, November 15

Wednesday, November 22

Thursday, November 23:

Thanksgiving Day

Wednesday, November 29

Thursday, November 30:

St. Andrew

ALL SAINTS' DAY, November 1:

Evening service at 6:00 pm