



Trinity Topics

August 2016

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Greetings, People of Trinity Church!

I can't tell you how privileged I feel to accept the Lord's call to be your pastor. I'd like to use my first letter to you to tell you a little about myself and my family. You should know a thing or two about the man that will be your priest! I grew up in Indiana, and though my family greatly valued kindness, honesty, and hard work, church was never part of our lives. The Holy Spirit called me when I was 17 years old—I woke up one Sunday and decided that I could go to church all I wanted to. I read about the wonderful promises of Jesus in the Bible, and I resolved to go to the one place I could find this grace for myself.

I studied English at Purdue University and worked as a bookseller and case manager before again considering the call of the Holy Spirit. I moved to Boston to study theology at Boston College, and there I discerned my call to ordained ministry. I was ordained a deacon last June and will be ordained a priest in December. Until then, my ministry to you will be defined by service, in the great Christian tradition of servant leadership. My time as a deacon will be a reminder to all of us that my ministry is part of something bigger—the ministry of Trinity Church to the world.

That's definitely a very spare outline of God's work in my life. But this is a short letter, and I'll have to flesh it out during my years of ministry. I will conclude by telling you a little about my family. My wife Leah and I met in Indiana, and we married in Boston three years ago. Leah is a social worker and has just accepted a position treating children with autism in Springfield. Our amazing son Abraham is 20 months old, and all three of us are thrilled to get to start our lives in Jacksonville.

Thank you all, and bless you!

The Rev. Deacon Zachary Brooks

Demolition Work at Trinity Church

Parish Warden David Mumford wants us to be aware that beginning on August 1, there will be contractors and trucks around the church. Be careful in the driveway. You might consider using the ramp on the west side of the church. If you need assistance entering the building, let us know.

Report from The Wardens

Once again we wish to express our sincere thanks to Deacon Langford and Elisabeth for their service to Trinity Church these past twenty years. We especially wish them well on their upcoming Asian trip.

And---we wish to welcome Deacon Zach, Leah, and Abraham Brooks to both our parish and to Jacksonville. We look forward to working with you and are confident you will bring a fresh perspective to Trinity while preserving our solid foundations. Archdeacon Denney, your mentor, and Fr. Boase, who will be our supply priest, are excellent priests to rely upon until your December ordination and installation as Rector.

The Vestry has been actively engaged during the summer hiatus especially with regard to maintaining the church and parish hall's physical plant. In late June the air conditioner on the east side of the church failed; Brennan Heating recommended that a new unit using the newer type of coolant be purchased rather than expend considerable money on patching up the old unit. (The AC unit had already been repaired during 2015.) Purchasing a new, 96% efficient furnace to pair with the AC was recommended also so that the altar area of the sanctuary would be adequately served year-round. (The furnace had already been repaired in 2015 and 2016.) The Vestry approved the new units which were replaced in the middle of July.

Of even greater scope, Johnson Engineering of Springfield concluded a comprehensive study of the parish hall's heating and cooling needs. The Vestry approved purchasing a new rooftop unit to both heat and cool the dining room and kitchen, a new air handling system for the entire building including replacing the original, failing air handler for the west side offices and lounge, and providing air conditioning to the basement area when desired. Five firms submitted bids for this project, and Brennan Heating and Air Conditioning was the low bidder. Part of the funding for this project will come from bequests to the parish. The work will begin later this summer and is to be finished on or before October 15, when heat is usually turned on in the parish hall. This project should serve the parish hall's needs for the next 20 years (which is about the life of such units.)

The Vestry is also developing a plan of action to improve the physical aspects of the church, parish hall, and grounds. We think you will notice these improvements as they occur. Our goal is to have the entire facility in excellent condition before the Christmas Luncheon and Bazaar and, of course, Deacon Zach's ordination and installation as 29th Rector of Trinity Church.

News & Announcements

Grace UMC Summer Food & Fun

The following members and friends of Trinity Church helped out on July 11, 12, 13, and 14: Kip & K-Lou Ashmore, Pat Bone, Janet Cisne, Bruce & Melissa Evans, Nancy Forsberg, John Hayter, Newton & Adah Mitchell, Jo Ann Nelson, Hilda Radcliffe, Alice Tracey, Mary Wilson with grandsons Ethan & Evan, and Ginda Woodruff.

It was a great experience for those who helped. First of all, it was a good opportunity to work with our "Methodist friends across the street." Secondly, it was an eye-opening experience to see all the children and adults who have great needs and appreciate the help we offer.

Basement Organization

We want to thank Owen Blackorby, Skip Nelson, and Davis Tighe for their hard work in the basement. They have been moving items around for the HVAC project so that the workers have a clear path. Skip has also been covering areas with plastic to protect them during the work. We also appreciate the work that Mary Wilson and Hilda Radcliffe have been faced with as they have had to relocate their "operating bases" in the basement.

New Computer

When the new computer was installed in the main office, everything from our email account has not been transferred. Could you PLEASE send an email to the Parish Office so that we can reconstruct our email lists? (If you email us, we can simply save it to our file.)

Parish Directory

It is also time to update our Parish Directory. In this mailing, you will find a short information sheet. Please fill it out. You may return it in one of three ways: leave it on the table in the foyer; mail it back to the church; or email it back to church.

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

Resolution of Appreciation

The following resolution was presented to Deacon Langford at the reception on July 31:

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Thomas W. Langford has served as Deacon of Trinity Church from June 1996 through July 2016, proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Langford has, during this tenure, faithfully ministered to the needs of the parishioners of Trinity Church, especially providing for the spiritual needs of the ill, the hospitalized, and the confined; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Langford has for many years been a stalwart and guiding force within the Episcopal Diocese of Springfield;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vestry of Trinity Episcopal Church, on behalf of the parish and all of its parishioners, wishes, on this thirty-first day of July in the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Sixteen, to express its deep and abiding appreciation to the Reverend Langford for his faithfulness, ministry, and guidance over the past twenty years, which has carried this parish through this, its one hundred and eighty-fourth year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Vestry of Trinity Episcopal Church and its parishioners extend their heartfelt best wishes to the Reverend Langford and his family for the future.

We welcome Deacon Zach to Trinity Church!

His first services will be:

- Morning Prayer on Wednesday, August 3
- Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion on Sunday, August 7

Please join us for a potluck

after the 10 o'clock service on Sunday, August 14, to celebrate

Founders' Day

This will also serve as an official welcome to Deacon Zach and his family.



Drinks and table service will be provided. Please bring a dish to share.

There will be a sign-up sheet on the table in the foyer, or you may contact the Parish Office for suggestions of what to bring.

SERVICES IN AUGUST 2016

August 7:

The 12th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am: Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion

August 14:

The 13th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am: Holy Eucharist

August 21:

The 14th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am: Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion

August 28:

The 15th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am: Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion



Wednesdays at 10:00 am:
Morning Prayer

August 3
August 10
August 17
August 24
August 31