



Trinity Topics

November 2023

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**“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”—Romans 15:13**

We are proud here at Trinity Church to be the oldest Episcopal parish in Illinois. For 192 years this community has been a center for Christian worship and fellowship for the faithful of Jacksonville. That means we will have our 192nd stewardship campaign this month. We have inherited 192 years of sacrifices that our forefathers made in sure confidence that this church would always be here. You hardly invest in a beautiful building such as ours without being quite certain that it would be a permanent fixture of the community. You hardly forego extra comforts or necessities if you aren't sure that the life of the Church will sustain us into the future. I hope we can receive this same confidence in the future of Trinity Church that so motivated the piety of our forefathers. Jesus Himself has promised that the gates of hell will never prevail against his church so long as we have faith, and we do have faith at Trinity Church! With this faith in our hearts, let us be as ready to make sacrifices to God knowing that Trinity Church will still be here 192 years from now. Then, future generation will read our names in old parish records as they consider making their own sacrifices for this Christian fellowship.

Confidence in God's promises, that is hope, is a chief virtue for Christians. People today do not generally have much hope, but when the whole world is mired in despair about the present or gloom about the future, let Christians take up the high calling of believing that God is always with us and is working his purposes out. Pessimism and skepticism are words for people who put their trust in things besides God. A person who puts his hope in human wisdom or power has every reason to despair, but as Christians our eyes are on heaven from which come the promises of God.

It will not always be easy to keep our grip on Christian hope. The difficulties of the Church in our secular age must be admitted. There are fewer people in the pews because more and more people think other activities are more important. There are fewer hands to run the programs of the Church because people today are too busy to set aside yet another task in their week. We become more uncomfortable discussing our lives as Christians as fewer people have any understanding of the Christian story. Without hope and trust in God, these problems only compound themselves. Fight the temptation to despair, because God is always with us! Rather than letting circumstances leaving us in gloomy pessimism, let these circumstances remind us all the more that the only hope in this world is the name of Jesus.

Faith in Jesus and hope in the future of Trinity Church is Jesus' call to you. Hope is our mission as individuals and as a community. If we want that same hope in our hearts that was in the hearts of our parish forefathers, we must also be prepared to give of ourselves to God and our life together. I trust that we all understand, in stewardship season, that this means sacrificing part of our incomes to God. We all surely know the ancient standard is a tithe—ten percent of our income. I know we are all working to get to that point. Even more so is Christian hope a call to sacrificial service—in our presence at worship every Sunday, in volunteering our time and effort to the community in the many tasks and activities that comprise our life together, and especially in our continual prayers for each other and for Trinity Church. Today you can join in the hope that has been the life of Trinity Church these 192 years.

Fr. Zach Brooks +

A Course in Anglican History: Part LVI

The First Great Awakening, as it is known today, was a flowering of religious enthusiasm in both Britain and the Colonies beginning in the 1730's. These movements shared an emphasis on conversion, which was an experience of comfort and joy at the feeling of God's nearness. Revivalists offered fiery sermons and wrote congregational hymns intended to invoke this feeling of conversion in individuals. Their revivals were electrifying for people long accustomed to preachers who delivered dry readings of published homilies in lieu of sermons. As beloved as it is today, hymn singing was a novelty introduced by the First Great Awakening. Until the First Great Awakening the only singing in most churches was chanting the Psalms, usually led by a small string and wind orchestra. Anglicans, in particular, were wary of the introduction of hymns into Sunday services, especially at Holy Communion. Established Churches were generally suspicious of revivalism, which operated outside religious hierarchies and had little interest in Church dogmas. Opposition was not based only in a desire for control or order. Leaders worried that "feeling saved" was replacing actual piety and trust in Jesus. Despite these misgivings, the Methodist movement, covered last month, boomed in both Britain and the Colonies. In the Colonies, the Baptist and Quaker movements, which already had their own emphasis on individual belief, grew from obscure sects to major players in American Christianity. While these movements have shifted over time, often very far afield from their origins, this tension between the formal worship of established and hierarchical Churches and the zeal of Evangelical Churches is a defining feature of American Christianity to this day.

This column is a monthly series on the history of Anglicanism and the Episcopal Church.

All Saints' and All Souls' Day Services

These two feasts are two of the most important days of the Christian year outside of Easter and Christmas. We will celebrate **All Saints' Day** with a Eucharist on **Nov. 1 at 10 am**, including a special litany for all the great saints in our lives. The following day we will remember those who have died with our **All Souls' Day** Requiem on **Nov. 2 at 10am**. I hope we can come together as a community for these services to remember the reality of God's grace in all our lives.

All Souls/All the Faithful Departed

On November 2, we remember the Faithful Departed. We set out forms for the congregation to submit names to be read at the service. If you are not able to attend services in person, and you have names to submit, please contact the Parish Office.

Collect for All Souls' Day

O God, the Maker and Redeemer of all believers: Grant to the faithful departed the unsearchable benefits of the passion of thy son; that on the day of his appearing they may be manifested as thy children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

News & Announcements

Outreach

Doorbell Dinners: Trinity Church delivered meals the week of October 3-7. K-Lou Ashmore would like to thank those who helped: Keith & Maryjane Bradbury, Fr. Zach Brooks, Lisa Haley, Forrest & Helen Keaton, Skip & Jo Ann Nelson, Michele Quinones, Hilda & Abby Radcliffe, Dana Ryan, Joyce Surbeck, and Ryan Worrall.

- **United Thank Offering:** We are pleased to report that we sent in \$899.17 to the Diocesan UTO chairman.
- **Ringing the Salvation Army Bells:** There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board with time slots to ring the bells at HyVee. (Sundays from 1 to 3 pm: November 19 & 26 and December 3 & 10.)
- **Holiday Food Drive:** The Food Pantry has noted that they are most in need of sweet potatoes, egg noodles, stuffing mix and Jello. Their supplies are currently very low for those items. The complete **list of recommended items is on the back of this newsletter**. Please bring items to church by November 30!
- **Operation Christmas Child:** We have received the boxes and information pamphlets for this project again. If you are interested in packing a shoebox for a child, please contact the Parish Office. Jo Ann can deliver you a box to pack. Boxes will need to be filled by November 13. Each box requires a \$10 shipping fee, so if you would like to help with that, please make a check out to **Samaritan's Purse** and send it to the office.

Jacksonville Area Council of Churches

The JACC invites all to attend the Thanksgiving / Veterans' Day Community Service on Sunday, November 19, at 2:00 pm, **here at Trinity Episcopal Church**. There will be a free will offering for New Directions.

ECW

Members will meet again for a build your own salad supper meeting on **November 20, at 5:30 pm**.

The Christmas luncheon will be on Saturday, December 2, with limited seating. There will be two sessions: 11:00 am and 12:30 pm. There will also be a carryout option. **All tickets are \$15**. Contact the Parish Office for tickets.

The ladies will also be taking orders for quarts and pints of chicken salad and spiced peaches. This will enable them to plan accordingly and to make sure that all parishioners receive what they wish. **Orders must be placed by November 17**.

Pledge Campaign for 2024

Letters were mailed on October 20. If you did not receive one, but would like one, please let us know.

Death

Carole Hack died on October 4, 2023. The Burial Office for her will be on Saturday, November 11, at 11:00 am.

*May her soul and the souls
of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.*

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

Sunday, November 5



Trinity Fellowship continues the Max Lucado study *In the Footsteps of Jesus* on Tuesday, November 7.

ECW Salad Supper is on Monday, November 20.

Vestry Meeting

Tuesday, November 21

7:00 pm

Items for Holiday Food Baskets

- Sweet potatoes / Instant potatoes (Regular and large size)
- Pumpkin pie mix
- Gravy mix (package or can)
- Cool whip / Jell-O
- Corn / Green beans
- Butter / Margarine
- Fruit salad (canned fruit)
- Evaporated milk
- Chicken broth
- Mushroom soup
- Macaroni and cheese
- Egg noodles
- Flour / Sugar
- Stuffing mix
- Cereal
- Rolls

SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER 2023

*Sunday at 8 o'clock & 10 o'clock
10 o'clock is live streamed on Facebook.*

November 5:

The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

November 12:

The 24th Sunday after Pentecost

November 19:

The 25th Sunday after Pentecost

November 26:

**The Last Sunday after Pentecost -
Christ the King**

THANKSGIVING DAY, November 23:

Morning Prayer at 10 o'clock

Wednesdays & HOLY DAYS

*will be celebrated with a 10 o'clock Eucharist
in the Lady Chapel.*

November 1: **All Saints' Day**

November 2: **All Souls /
All the Faithful Departed**

November 3

November 10

November 17

November 24

November 30: **St. Andrew**

2024 Pledge Campaign

Pledge Sunday is
November 5

Have you mailed in
your pledge card?