



Trinity Topics

July 2024

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“I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord!””—*Psalm 122:1*

I remember the first time I went to church very well, because I was nearly an adult when it happened. I had been curious about religion for a while, but I didn't end up prevailing upon my parents to take me to church until I was seventeen years old. My parents were baffled when, a few weeks later, I announced my intention to go to church by myself. I knew I wanted what the people at church had—all these years later I still find my soul nourished by what I know I can only find in Trinity Church. I probably could not have described this yearning I felt in my heart back then, but through years of instruction in the Christian faith and reflection on the Gospel, I have come to know that it is God's grace that my soul hungers and thirsts for. My calling as a priest began with the realization that not everyone who goes to church regularly quite realizes what they get out of their connection to a church community. The Church and its gifts are for many of us just the norm, and perhaps this sense of normality makes us lose sight of how unique Trinity Church is. Many people go out of family tradition; many go to find friends; some go for a feeling of belonging and spiritual uplift; others find a church because it offers opportunities to serve the community. Let us not doubt that behind all these desires is a longing to know God.

It is important for us at Trinity Church to remember what we offer Jacksonville and the world—the opportunity to encounter Jesus Christ who has given us life and sustains us with his Holy Spirit. We must remember this because it should guide how we engage our community and plan for the future. Our preaching reminds us of God's many works for the world. In the sacraments Jesus himself comes to offer us new life and new hope. In our fellowship together we encounter the Holy Spirit, who assures us that we are loved and gives us people to love. People want what we have, though they do not necessarily know it. It is all our responsibility to offer Jacksonville this grace it needs in all we speak or do.

We do need to reappraise Trinity Church's place in Jacksonville from time to time. Every generation of a church must do its own work thinking of its place in its community, I think. The Church was once an important part of the community—now this is sadly not the case. The Church, in the eyes of the world, is its own community of like-minded individuals rather than a gathering place for all to find common identity and meaning. This season of Ordinary Time, which focuses on the growth of God's grace and the Church's mission to the world, is the time to consider what excites you about Trinity Church. Our identity as Trinity Church will begin with the grace that you find here week after week. We must have the conviction that this grace we find here is something the rest of the world needs. I believe the world needs what we have because I was once on the outside looking in myself.

Fr. Zach Brooks

A Course in Anglican History: Part LXIV

The 1750's in the American Colonies were dominated by the chaos of the French and Indian War, itself a small part of the world-wide conflict between major powers known as the Seven Years War. Religion played little part in this conflict, except for the baseline anti-Catholic bigotry that would be part of American religious life until practically the modern day. The chaos of the war necessitated greater control of the colonies by the United Kingdom. This growth in British influence was mostly not seen as a religious matter, but it did have some effects in the religious sphere. Growing British influence was accompanied by growth of the Church of England. Many new Church of England parishes were opened in the colonies, especially in New England where Puritanism had reigned supreme. Royally appointed governors in New England rolled back many of the anti-Anglican measures previously enforced by Puritan leaders (such as the ban on Christmas or laws intended to make it difficult for non-Puritans to attend services outside a Puritan church). The power of vestries in the Southern parishes was pushed back. These concerns were, however, very tangential to the resentment the colonists had for the expansion of British control over the rest of colonial life. So far as the United Kingdom was concerned, the American Colonies had demanded the French and Indian War, and it was, therefore, only fair that the Colonies should have to pay for it. This meant taxes—taxes imposed without representation. As resentment against the British King exploded across the colonies, the Church of England in the Colonies quietly continued its prayer from the *Book of Common Prayer*: “We beseech thee also to save and defend thy servant George our King, that under him we may be Godly and quietly governed.”

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

Trinity Church's Window: The Coming of the Church to Jamestown, Virginia (This is earlier than the events retold above, but an interesting window.)



News & Announcements

Outreach

The Outreach Committee is so pleased at the parish's response to the plight of the Jacksonville Area Food Center. A check for \$500 was hand delivered by treasurer Cathy Nelson shortly after the May Vestry meeting. Encouraging pleas from Fr. Zach have increased our monetary giving by more than \$1000, so the June total after three weeks is well over \$2,000. (You might remember the Church gives six organizations \$100 per month). But that isn't all: many parishioners continue to donate food items and especially egg cartons. Trinity's footprint is large and growing in our local community.

We also awarded 4 camping scholarships to students living in the Lincoln and Washington Schools geographic areas. The middle school student who attended Camp Invention, the STEM program at Jacksonville High School in early June, told the camp director she was so happy to have been able to attend. "I like helping others," she said. One camper attended the first week at the Western Illinois Youth Camp (WIYC) and also told the camp director how happy she was. The other two students have chosen weeks later in the summer, and we expect to hear good things about them as well. One camper is working toward a junior counselor status and could not have attended with our support. Thanks go to Forrest Keaton and Richard Freeman for being the conduits to these young people.

Let's continue to show our community that we might be somewhat small, but that we are MIGHTY. Thanks Be To God!

Summer Nursery

Volunteers are still needed for the Sundays in July and August. School-age children are encouraged to attend the service upstairs, so just the younger ones are downstairs. We have puzzles, books, and toys to occupy them. Please sign up if you are able.



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

Pledge Statements

through June 30 are included
in this mailing.

Contact the Parish Office
if you have any questions.

Contributions

If you did not make a pledge, but need a record
of any contributions you have made,
contact the Parish Office.

Lectors

July 7	Cathy Nelson
July 14	Forrest Keaton
July 21	Paula Woods
July 28	Alice Tracey

Acolytes

July 7	Clayton Robb
July 14	Clayton Robb
July 21	Bruce Evans & Clayton Robb
July 28	Bruce Evans & Clayton Robb

Ushers

July 7	Chuck Crim & Volunteer
July 14	John Clancy & Volunteer
July 21	Chuck Crim & Jim Herget
July 28	John Clancy & Jim Herget

Looking ahead:

**Founders' Day potluck will be on
Sunday, August 11.**

SERVICES IN JULY 2024

Wednesday, July 3:

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

**Sunday, July 7: THE 7th SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, July 10:

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

**Sunday, July 14: THE 8th SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, July 17:

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

**Sunday, July 21: THE 9th SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST**

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

Monday, July 22: St. Mary Magdalene

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, July 24:

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

Thursday, July 25: St. James

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

Friday, July 26: The Parents of the BVM

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

**Sunday, July 28: THE 10th SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST**

8:00 am = Holy Eucharist

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, July 31:

10:00 am = Holy Eucharist