

St. Mary's Whitechapel Episcopal Church
Trinity Episcopal Church
5940 Whitechapel Road
Lancaster, VA 22503

May 1, 2017

The Good News

THOUGHTS FROM THE GARDEN

Beloved Communities of St. Mary's Whitechapel and Trinity Churches,

Though I had a brief item in the March Good News, I think of this full-length article as my first official newsletter offering as your Rector! Consequently, I gave much thought as to what to call this monthly offering, as the title will announce the column for months, and hopefully years, to come. My husband, Tim, and I discussed the possibilities and we came up with several ideas. Tim served years ago as an assistant pastor, to a pastor whose newsletter column was called, "From Parson to Person". Cute, but no one calls me Parson, so we rejected that! Many colleagues call their monthly column "From the Rector's Desk" but I rarely write at my desk....so it could be "From the Rector's Laptop", but that seemed lacking in warmth!

Finally, I realized that I wanted to name this column not after where I write it, but after where the ideas will likely come from...hence the name, "Thoughts from the Garden". I may write on my laptop, but the inspiration of much that I write, and preach, comes from my time in the garden. And of course, so many images from the Bible evoke planting and harvests, and Jesus spoke often of seeds and fields, so "Thoughts from the Garden" it is!

I did not grow up in a family of gardeners, but I have always loved plants and noticed gardens. As a college student, I had an apartment balcony filled with pots of flowers, and as soon as I bought my first house, I started digging in the dirt. Because I had no gardening mentor, I learned by trial and error, and grew what I liked, and even more important, what could survive in my gardens!

For me there is nothing quite so beautiful in the spring as the first tiny peaks of green coming from the cold soil of winter; the first tips of a Hosta peaking from the earth, the first tiny curve of a bean seed appearing in the vegetable bed. I love to watch for and check daily in the spring for these hopeful signs appearing in the garden. These first, tiny, encouraging sights always echo for me with the hope and joy of the resurrection, and always remind me of my favorite Easter hymn, "Now the Green Blade Riseth". Those first green sprouts remind me of the steadfast love of our Savior, and his presence, even in our wintery times. I'll end with the first and last verses of this hymn:



*"Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,
wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain; love
lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again like wheat that spring-eth green."*

*When our hearts are wintery, grieving, or in pain, thy
touch can call us back to life again, fields of our hearts
that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again like wheat that spring-eth green."*

May Easter and Garden blessings be with you all.

Alleluia! Megan



Homecoming Sunday, June 4th, 10am at Historic Christ Church!

Both our churches will join in worship with Grace Church for our Homecoming service on Sunday, June 4th, the Day of Pentecost, with one service at 10am at Historic Christ Church. Bishop Ted will be visiting and is a great preacher! Afterward we will gather on the lawn for a picnic lunch and time of fellowship. Grace will provide the fried chicken and we are asked to bring side dishes: salads or desserts. Hope you can be there for this Spirit-filled day! Wear red for Pentecost!



Inquirer's Class/ Episcopal 101 Class forming for St. Mary's and Trinity!

We will be forming an Inquirer's class in June, specifically for individuals who will be joining the church when Bishop Shannon visits us on Sunday, July 30th, but the class is also open to anyone interested in a refresher, an Episcopal 101 class.

The class will meet for 3 sessions on Thursdays in June and July, at 5pm. We will decide which church to meet in, once the class is formed.

Please let Megan know if you are interested in joining the class; all are welcome!

A "Family Sermon Sunday" means that we will have one sermon that day and it will be appropriate for everyone, from babies to seniors . . .

FAMILY SERMON SUNDAYS AT TRINITY! SUNDAY, MAY 7TH AT 9:30AM

On Easter Sunday, we had our first "Family Sermon Sunday" at Trinity, a joyous day celebrating the resurrection and reminding us of God's love for us all. Many thanks to the children and teens who helped share the butterfly stickers representing the resurrection!

A "Family Sermon Sunday" means that we will have one sermon that day and it will be appropriate for everyone, from babies to seniors, the whole family is included! Everyone will stay in church for the whole service.

Going forward "Family Sermon Sundays" will occur each month, usually on the first Sunday of the month (unless otherwise noted). Upcoming **Family Sermon Sundays are:**

June 11

July 2

August 6

Please invite family and friends, especially those with children and teens, to attend our Family Sermon Sundays!



TRINITY EPISCOPAL HAMMACK-HAYDEN SCHOLARSHIP FUND - 2017

The Scholarship Committee members have met with The Reverend Megan Limburg, and the 2017 date for Scholarship Sunday will be August 13th. Scholarships will be presented on that day during the regularly scheduled church service.

- Potential scholarship recipients must submit an application.
- 2017 applications must be **postmarked** by **July 1, 2017**.

The application cover letter and form are available from Townsend Hall or from a Scholarship Committee member (Craig Giese, Sally Cornwell, Jane Dunaway). **As explained in the cover letter, applicants should have a personal or family relationship with Trinity Episcopal Church. They should be enrolled in an accredited institution, pursuing a degree or professional certification related to their career goal.** Prior scholarship recipients will be contacted regarding the application deadline and the award date.

The Hammack-Hayden Scholarship Fund provides support and recognition to the student members of our church family. The annual scholarships rely solely on endowment income and designated gifts. Church members and friends of the congregation are encouraged to contribute to the program. These contributions may be designated to increase the endowment or to support funding for current year scholarships. Contributions may be made at any time during the year, but are especially appreciated on Scholarship Sunday.



Do You Know?

In the Diocese of Virginia, what is the fewest number of vestry members a church can have?

Holy Knitting and Crocheting Group at Trinity!

We have started a Holy Knitting and Crocheting Group that will work to create prayer shawls, prayer blankets and other handcrafted items, all to offer a tangible sign of God's love and our prayers to folks in need. As items are created they will be blessed during Sunday services at the altar at Trinity and then offered to individuals in our church community, the wider community, and beyond, who are going through challenging times and are in need of prayer.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, May 18th at 6pm in Townsend Hall at Trinity.

All are welcome, including beginners; we will help you get started!



PRAYER LISTS

St. Mary's Whitechapel

Anne Rau, Bobbi Bates, Donna, Joan, Gina Adams, Gabrielle Quinn, Helen Kizer, Sherry Mann, Mary Snyder, Peggy Gill, Cameron Blandford, Dan Ficklin, Anne Power, Brad Quillen, Pat Ficklin, Trish Fillingham, Darius Boles, Pat Dennis, Kathy Catlin, Joanne Young, Ralph Horne, Delma Rose, Adrienne Green, Bryan Johnson, Brandi Boles.

Commonwealth Assisted Living - Mary Chilton Senell, Margaret F. Ransone.

Lancashire - Sue Courtney, H. T. Courtney

RWC - Sis Ransone

Those in the Armed Forces

Mark Medina, Justin Jones, Kathryn McCormack Akacem, Mehdi Akacem, M. Anderson Sale, Thomas Mackie, Pia Mackie, Tate Young and Spencer Fortin.

Trinity

Betsy, Thomas, Donna, Caleb Chowning, Katie Valinotti, Joey Coker, Michael Dunaway, Cameron Blandford, Dodie Jones, Cookie Minno, Whit Walden, Ellen Taddeo, J.W. Boone, Brad Quillen, Ian Larmore, Brandon Dunaway, Madeline Withers.

Those in the Armed Forces

Paul Price, Jimmy Hodsdon, Kevin Hargrove, Warren Ruit, Justin Jones, Daniel Fox and Emya Seldon.

The answer is 3!

(Diocese of Virginia Canon 11, section 2)



Trinity Youth

Chesapeake Academy recently announced the head-of-school honors list for the third marking period of the 2016-2017 academic session. We are proud and happy to announce that Ap Pollard and Spencer Cammarata from Trinity were named to this honors list.

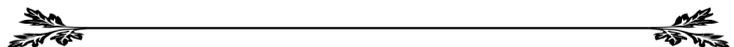
Also recently, Lancaster sent 15 students to participate in honors band at Matthews High School. Trinity's Madison Giese, flute and Sarah Wells Pollard, French horn auditioned and were selected to participate in this wonderful gathering of musicians!



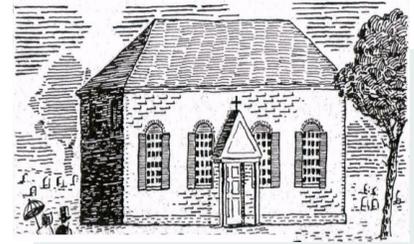
From your Church Office

I would like to start mailing our Sunday bulletins to anyone who is unable to make it to church due to illness, age or lack of transportation. If you know of anyone who would like to receive the bulletin and a copy of the sermon either by mail or email, please contact the office.

If anyone would like to submit an article for the next Good News Publication in June, please email me with your article before May 25th.



ST. MARY'S WHITECHAPEL VESTRY MEETING MINUTES—APRIL 2017



At the regular meeting of the Vestry, the following items were discussed

Financial reports were made for the Cemetery fund, the Endowment, and the receipts and disbursements. If you have questions please talk with one of our treasurers.

Discussed the need for a committee to spearhead the restoration and placement of the bell from the old Emanuel Episcopal Church in Bertrand. The bell will be installed on the SMWC campus.

Homecoming at Grace Episcopal Church will be held on June 4, at 10 a.m. Information will be coming soon as to what SMWC is requested to do as far as ushers, readers, and food.

Megan will be holding an Inquirer's class to learn more about the Episcopal Church. It will consist of three meetings in the evening. The dates will be announced soon.

Reported that the Cemetery and the Ball Tombs committee will be combined. There are still some loose ends concerning the replacement of the two tombs.

The committee planning for the 350 Anniversary celebrations in 2019 met and has begun working on the events for that year. Bishop Curry has been invited to attend and we are currently waiting on a date.

Reported that Megan and Ed met with Raymond to discuss additional duties needed. Raymond is to decide if he wants to take on the duties or if he wants to enlist help. Either way, it will require additional funds for the extra hours.

2016 audit will be performed by an outside auditing firm. The Pictorial directory should be out soon. Work has begun planning the 2017 Stewardship campaign for the fall. Reported on the progress of the 2017 Scholarships

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH VESTRY MEETING MINUTES—APRIL 2017



Trinity Vestry met Tuesday, April 11, 2017 at 6:30 pm.

Items discussed:

- Donna Curran, the Interim Parish Administrator, was introduced and she is excited about working with Trinity and SMWC.
- The Holy Week services and Easter Egg Hunt were discussed.
- Jenny Dunaway will be our new "Webmaster". Thank you Jenny!!
- Rev. Limburg discussed a new Episcopal 101 Class that she will be starting for newcomers and anyone who wants to "refresh" their knowledge of the Church.
- Also starting will be a Confirmation Class. Dates to be announced.
- The "Holy Knitting and Crocheting Group" will be meeting this week. Anyone interested-please let Megan know!
- Additional Eucharistic Ministers and Acolytes are needed! Please consider and let Rev. Limburg know if you are interested. Thank you!
- The Woman's Retreat in Shrine Mont is the weekend of June 3rd. If you are interested, please make your reservations as space is limited.

St. Mary's Whitechapel

Office Hours: T,W, TH 9 AM. to 2 PM

Closed Monday and Friday

Please visit our website:

www.stmaryswhitechapel.org

Rector: The Rev. Megan Limburg

(804) 462-5908 Office

(804) 477-5515 Cell

Email: rectorstmtrin@gmail.com

Vestry 2017

Senior Warden Ed Ramsey

Junior Warden Bob Woods

Members Jack Blaine
Cheryl Budzinski

Anne Stanley

Betty Thornton

Register

Alison Towles



Trinity Episcopal Church

Office Hours: T,W, TH 9 AM. to 2 PM

Closed Monday and Friday

Please visit our website:

www.trinitylancasterva.org

Rector: The Rev. Megan Limburg

(804) 462-5908 Office

(804) 477-5515 Cell

Email: rectorstmtrin@gmail.com

Vestry 2017

Senior Warden Stan James

Junior Warden J.R. Roscher

Members Frances Callaghan

Janet Christopher

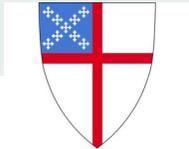
Jay Davenport

Craig Giese

Register

Carol Roscher

St. Mary's Whitechapel
Trinity Episcopal Church
5940 Whitechapel Road
Lancaster, VA 22503



PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Mailing Label