

**Rooted in History, Grounded in Galveston,**

# The Parish Messenger



February 4, 2018  
Epiphany and Lent

## Trinity Episcopal Church

2216 Ball Street  
Galveston, TX 77550  
409-765-6317



### *From the Rector*

*Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. —Romans 12:15*

As the Apostle Paul sat down to write his very famous letter to the Christians in Rome, he gave them a lot of advice about how to live as one Body of Christ—how to be the Church that they and we were meant to be. He included this very powerful sentence of advice: rejoice with the rejoicers, weep with the weepers. We know exactly what he meant. Laugh with the laughers, cry with the criers, sing and dance at the reception, sit in silence with the one who cannot sing and dance, walk alongside our fellow believers, come what may.

As we enter a new year filled with joy and promise, we rejoice at the many ways in which we have been blessed and fortified—as individuals, as families, and as a parish family. We also enter that fabulous year of 2018 with hearts broken, especially at the recent and unbelievable losses of fourth grade teacher Michelle Funston and life-long parishioner and leader Mary Margaret Dean. I guess the apostle Paul knew that sometimes the same people are dancing, singing, rejoicing, wailing, and sitting in silence at the same time. May the spirit fill us in all of these emotional times.

We look ahead to Lent and Easter, to that yearly reminder that our God is a living God, that He died and rose from the dead, that we have nothing to fear in this world or in the world to come. Look further in the newsletter for information about education, service, and worship. It continues to be a privilege to walk alongside you as we work to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ in this particular place and time—a place and time of rejoicing, weeping, and serving.

Faithfully,

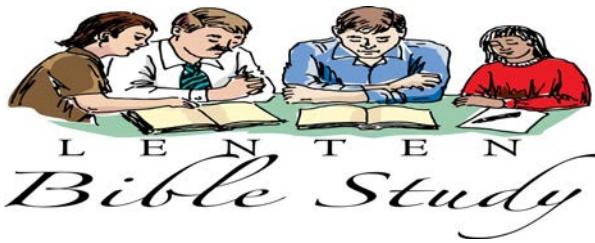
Susan Kennard+  
Proud 11<sup>th</sup> Rector of Trinity Church

The Reverend Susan Kennard, M.Div.

Rector

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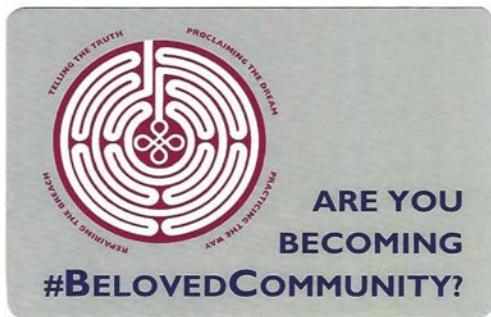
- Rector's Message
- New Year, New Vestry
- Outgoing Vestry
- Welcome our Newest Parishioner
- EYC Change of Guards
- Requiescat in Pacem*
- Lenten Reflection
- New Comers Spotlight
- Trinity School Spotlight
- Ashes to Go
- Education/Formations Events
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We'll meet in Trinity  
Classroom in Moody Hall.

**Adult Formation** on the  
**Sundays in Lent at 9:15**  
**o'clock** will be a facilitat-  
ed six-week journaling and  
reflection on "Meeting Je-  
sus in the Gospel of John."

School's Spanish



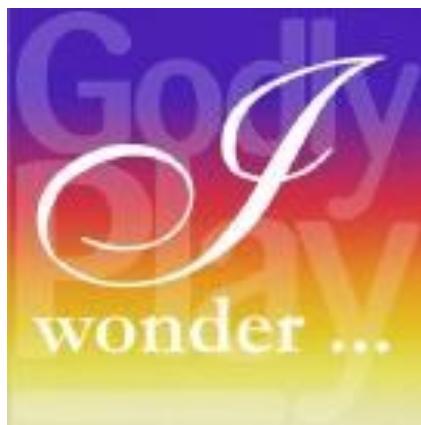
Join us for  
**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

Every Monday evening at 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 pm  
in the Kelso Library. We're using a new program:

**Matthew: A 12-  
Week Study**

Part of Knowing the Bible series

All women are welcome;  
childcare is provided.



  
**Quiet Day**  
The DOK at Trinity  
Episcopal Church,  
Galveston invites

YOU to a "QUIET DAY" - **Sat., Feb., 24 at 9am-12noon**

It's an opportunity to explore silent aware-  
ness, to gain insight and to pray for spiritu-  
al growth, including a Labyrinth walk, all



Join Episcopalians around the world on a great journey.  
Read the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts

# THE GOOD BOOK CLUB

## LENT-EASTER 2018

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Psalm 119:105

### LUKE AND ACTS - READING LIST

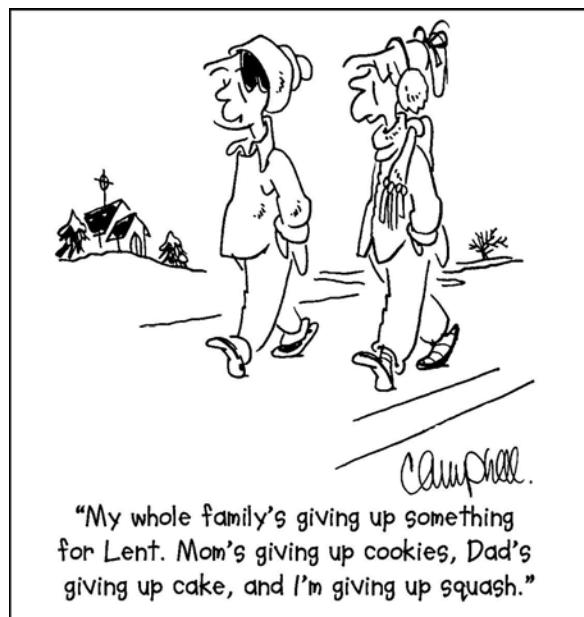
SUNDAY, February 11 Luke 1:1-56	TUESDAY, February 27 Luke 9:1-27	THURSDAY, March 15 Luke 17:1-10	SUNDAY, April 1 Acts 1:1-11	TUESDAY, April 17 Acts 8:9-25	FRIDAY, May 4 Acts 15:36-41
MONDAY, February 12 Luke 1:57-80	WEDNESDAY, February 28 Luke 9:28-62	FRIDAY, March 16 Luke 17:11-37	MONDAY, April 2 Acts 1:12-26	THURSDAY, April 19 Acts 9:1-31	SATURDAY, May 5 Acts 16: 1-15
TUESDAY, February 13 Luke 2:1-21	THURSDAY, March 1 Luke 10:1-20	SATURDAY, March 17 Luke 18:1-17	TUESDAY, April 3 Acts 2:1-13	FRIDAY, April 20 Acts 9:32-43	SUNDAY, May 6 Acts 16:16-40
WEDNESDAY, February 14 Luke 2:22-52	FRIDAY, March 2 Luke 10:21-42	SUNDAY, March 18 Luke 18:18-43	WEDNESDAY, April 4 Acts 2:14-36	SATURDAY, April 21 Acts 10:1-16	MONDAY, May 7 Acts 17:1-9
THURSDAY, February 15 Luke 3:1-20	SATURDAY, March 3 Luke 11:1-13	MONDAY, March 19 Luke 19:1-27	THURSDAY, April 5 Acts 2:37-47	SUNDAY, April 22 Acts 10:17-33	TUESDAY, May 8 Acts 17:10-34
FRIDAY, February 16 Luke 3:21-38	SUNDAY, March 4 Luke 11:14-54	TUESDAY, March 20 Luke 19:28-48	FRIDAY, April 6 Acts 3:1-26	MONDAY, April 23 Acts 10:34-48	WEDNESDAY, May 9 Acts 18:1-28
SATURDAY, February 17 Luke 4:1-13	MONDAY, March 5 Luke 12:1-21	WEDNESDAY, March 21 Luke 20:1-47	SATURDAY, April 7 Acts 4:1-22	TUESDAY, April 24 Acts 11:1-18	THURSDAY, May 10 Acts 19—20:16
SUNDAY, February 18 Luke 4:14-44	TUESDAY, March 6 Luke 12:22-59	THURSDAY, March 22 Luke 21:1-38	SUNDAY, April 8 Acts 4:23-31	WEDNESDAY, April 25 Acts 11:19-30	FRIDAY, May 11 Acts 20:17-38
MONDAY, February 19 Luke 5:1-16	WEDNESDAY, March 7 Luke 13:1-21	FRIDAY, March 23 Luke 22:1-23	MONDAY, April 9 Acts 4:32-37	MONDAY, April 26 Acts 12:1-19	SATURDAY, May 12 Acts 21:1-26
TUESDAY, February 20 Luke 5:17-39	THURSDAY, March 8 Luke 13:22-35	SATURDAY, March 24 Luke 22:24-46	TUESDAY, April 10 Acts 5:1-11	FRIDAY, April 27 Acts 12:20-25	SUNDAY, May 13 Acts 21:27—22:29
WEDNESDAY, February 21 Luke 6:1-26	FRIDAY, March 9 Luke 14:1-24	SUNDAY, March 25 Luke 22:47-71	WEDNESDAY, April 11 Acts 5:12-26	SATURDAY, April 28 Acts 13:1-12	MONDAY, May 14 Acts 22:30—23:11
THURSDAY, February 22 Luke 6:27-49	SATURDAY, March 10 Luke 14:25-35	MONDAY, March 26 Luke 23:1-25	THURSDAY, April 12 Acts 5:27-42	SUNDAY, April 29 Acts 13:13-52	TUESDAY, May 15 Acts 23:12-35
FRIDAY, February 23 Luke 7:1-35	SUNDAY, March 11 Luke 15:1-10	TUESDAY, March 27 Luke 23:26-43	FRIDAY, April 13 Acts 6:1-7	MONDAY, April 30 Acts 14:1-20	WEDNESDAY, May 16 Acts 24:1-27
SATURDAY, February 24 Luke 7:36-50	MONDAY, March 12 Luke 15:11-32	WEDNESDAY, March 28 Luke 23:44-56	SATURDAY, April 14 Acts 6:8-15	TUESDAY, May 1 Acts 14:21-28	THURSDAY, May 17 Acts 25:1-22
SUNDAY, February 25 Luke 8:1-25	TUESDAY, March 13 Luke 16:1-18	THURSDAY, March 29 Luke 24:1-12	SUNDAY, April 15 Acts 7:1-60	WEDNESDAY, May 2 Acts 15:1-21	FRIDAY, May 18 Acts 25:23—26:32
MONDAY, February 26 Luke 8:26-56	WEDNESDAY, March 14 Luke 16:19-31	FRIDAY, March 30 Luke 24:13-35	MONDAY, April 16 Acts 8:1-8	THURSDAY, May 3 Acts 15:22-35	SATURDAY, May 19 Acts 27:1-12
					SUNDAY, May 20 Acts 27:13—28:44

## LENT - The Opportunity of a Second Chance

I confess, I do not always look forward to Lent. I prepare for it with hesitation, and often with some degree of ambivalence. Let's just say it is not my favorite Season on the Church's calendar. Childhood memories of giving up candy or sitting through weekly *Stations of the Cross* suddenly are not so "childish" anymore. Words like "sacrifice," "discipline," and "self-denial" are often used in ways that suggest that Lent is something to be endured rather than a time of grace and spiritual growth. Just wanted to get that out of the way. Confession is good for the soul, even if not for the reputation.

Have you ever thought of Lent as a yearly second chance? Each year the Church gives us six weeks to take a long, loving look at our lives to see if our values and priorities are in line with God's desires for us. Since most of us find that we've wandered from God's path, Lent becomes that second chance, or do-over, to "return to God with our whole heart."

You will find several opportunities for that second chance throughout this newsletter. Better still, invite a



family member, a friend, or a coworker to journey with you so that you encourage one another.

## “WELCOME — We’re So Glad You’re Here!”

This is my favorite phrase, the one I hear almost every time I interact with a Trinity parishioner and sometimes with someone in the community when I introduce myself as a new transplant to Galveston.

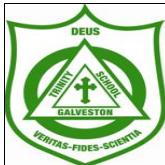
At Trinity, we celebrate baptisms and confirmations as much as we do folks who choose us as their spiritual home. Using the nationally-known **Mary Parmer's *Invite, Welcome, Connect***, we are intentional about incorporating newcomers into the congregation, thanks to a diocesan grant that has supported parishioner Carolyn Speich who heads up this ministry.

Carolyn, assisted by her husband John and parishioner Ed Muncey,

works hard to track visitors and guests, and makes sure that no one who is curious about Trinity is ignored. She organizes a newcomers' dinner quarterly for the clergy and other parish leadership to formally welcome our new members. The



<sup>4</sup> pictures show our newest members at the Newcomers dinner on Sunday night, January 28.



## Trinity Episcopal School Galveston, Texas

### School Choice Week at TES

During commemoration of last year's National School Choice Week, our PTO gave out scarves to all Trinity families that attended the ornament party in December. It was our way of thanking parents for choosing Trinity Episcopal School. School choice is not taken lightly. We recognize and are thankful for our parents who choose Trinity. You have all given your children the greatest gift of all, the gift of an independent school education. Below are some interesting facts about independent schools.

There are 33,619 private schools in the United States, serving 5.4 million PK-12 students. Private schools account for 25 percent of the nation's schools and enroll 10 percent of all PK-12 students. Most private school students (79 percent) attend religiously-affiliated schools and most private schools are small: 87 percent have fewer than 300 students. According to findings from a meta-analysis of 90 studies on the effects of schools\*, students in religious schools enjoy a significant academic advantage over their counterparts in both public schools and charter schools. The study also found that faith-based schools have narrower achievement gaps and better student behavioral outcomes. Jeynes calls religious schools "the best hope for American education" and says the nation should "rethink its strategy of espousing charter schools and overlooking the benefits of faith-based education." **Thank you for choosing Trinity!**

### New Director for Beginning School

Please welcome **Mrs. Vashti J. Thompson** into our community as the Director of the Beginning School. Vashti Thompson is the spouse of the Reverend Edward Thompson, Trinity Church's Associate Rector. Vashti has been in education for over 20 years, serving the last five at Trinity Episcopal School in New Orleans, Louisiana and several years before that with Lutheran Social Services' Early Head Start program in St. Croix, the US Virgin Islands. She has experience in school-based programming and operational standards and policies for preschools. As Vashti makes her transition to Trinity, she is aware of the enthusiastic expectation that accompanies new leadership in any preschool setting. Mrs. Thompson eagerly anticipates getting to know the Trinity families and community and is prepared to both learn and help fashion the vision and dreams for our Beginning School. Vashti believes that genuine collaboration fosters ownership of a rich learning culture. Supporting our children to do well at school, and in their lives, is at the center of her work.

Mrs. Thompson received her Associate of Arts in Inclusive Early Childhood Education from the University of the Virgin Islands, St. Croix, and Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of New Orleans, Louisiana. She is poised to start work towards her masters in K-12 education. It is her hope and dream that with God's help she will be a positive addition to the Trinity community.

### ASHES TO GO



This year on **Ash Wednesday**, again, the clergy of Trinity Church will be at **21st Street and Seawall Blvd** praying with and imposing the ashes on passersby, from 11:00am to 1:00pm. From there they'll walk the streets from the church to St. Vincent's Episcopal House at 2917 Post Office Street to conduct a service and impose ashes as well.

**Ash Wednesday** gets its name from the practice of blessing **ashes** made from palm branches blessed on the previous year's Palm Sunday, and placing them on the heads of participants to the accompaniment of the words "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Ashes symbolize mortality, repentance, sorrow or mourning, and has a long history in Christian and Jewish worship — as in "sack cloth and ashes." (Esther 4:1)



Vashti J. Thompson

TES Beginning School Director

## NEW YEAR, NEW VESTRY—AT LEAST SOME

### OUTGOING VESTRY MEMBERS

**Nancy Polk**, as Senior Warden, was the rector's "right-hand person," advising on everything from administration to staff issues to hiring, to programs. She chaired meetings of the vestry and sometimes represented the rector to outside functions when asked.

Another made sure that reconstruction work on historic Eaton Hall went according to code and to our desire. As chair of lighting and buildings up-keep, **John Ferguson** made sure that all the buildings and surroundings are adequately lighted.



Still another, quiet and unassuming but just as dedicated, is **Jim Byrom**. Jim is the type of person you'd want to meet at the front desk of any business or non-profit. True to his spirit and smile, he is an usher. Jim, along with his fellow ushers, is one reason why we continue to have returnees.

**Robert Ebert** is the Junior Warden, the one in charge of everything brick, mortar, metal, glass and wood, and even more. With such a huge physical plant as ours, you can imagine that Robert's job can be overwhelming. But you wouldn't tell by just seeing the ease with which he identifies what needs repair, calls contractors to demand several quotes, advises the vestry on costs, and submits maintenance plans. Per our By-Laws, Robert has been asked to stay on as Junior Warden.

"Well done, good and faithful servants."

I once heard a Reverend Professor say, "In the new life when I rise, I'm asking God, and hoping that I not wake up in a vestry or annual meeting." Well, I guess that explains why he left parish ministry for academia. It is the experience of many ministers of the Gospel. That says a lot about the bane — not the blessing — of parish ministry, notwithstanding the many joys and the wonderful privilege that comes with this sacred service.

**But it's also NOT** the experience of many ministers I know. Many congregations are blessed with the rare combination of professionalism and deep spirituality, of being sticklers for processes and procedures as well as an appreciation of the human condition — that each of us is a flawed and wounded person in need of the help of the one whom theologian Henri Nouwen calls the "wounded healer," Jesus, the Christ.

Trinity Episcopal Church in Galveston, TX is blessed with just such people.

Here are people who not only rarely hesitate to serve when asked, but many

**Kudos to all who serve: office staff, volunteers, vestry and clergy for a**

times even volunteer. And I mean volunteer to serve on the Vestry or as delegates to Diocesan Council (Convention).

*(Replace Jim Byrom with Calvin Buckley in this photo.)*



Here is our amazing new Vestry, four of whom were elected at the Annual Meeting on January 28. Please congratulate them when you see them. You are also free to complain to them. I guarantee you, they won't mind.

## WELCOME TO THE WORLD, LITTLE ONE



of Sarah and Austin Bilbree. Sarah and Austin are regulars at the 5:30pm Sunday service.

"It seemed he would never come," says his mother.

Well, he may have decided he needed to grow a bit more, because when he did show up, he weighed **nine** pounds!

Please welcome the newest Trinity parishioner, Baby Ryder, son

## EYC CHANGE OF GUARDS

**Peyton Heinze** returns to Galveston and to Trinity Church to help coordinate youth programs part-time, after a semester studying in Copenhagen, Denmark. Hear him describe his experience and his work.



"I grew up in the Episcopal Church. I have attended St. Michael's Episcopal church since 6th grade. Before that our family attended Resurrection Episcopal Church and St. Luke's Episcopal Church, both in Austin. While in middle school and high school I was very involved with Camp Allen, mission trips, youth group, *acolyting*, Happening Retreats and other diocesan youth events. I am serving on Camp Allen senior staff for 2017 & 2018. My parents, Kenton and Kellye Heinze met on senior staff when they were in college.

I am also an Eagle Scout. I am a proud student of Texas A&M at Galveston with a Major in Maritime Ad-

ministration. I have been privileged to serve as a volunteer with the youth group all last year. I had the opportunity to study abroad with my major at Copenhagen School of Business in the Fall of 2017. It was an amazing experience. I am happy to return to Texas, TAMUG and Galveston.

I am excited about being a part of the Trinity Youth Group Leadership Team. I want to help the youth grow in their faith, and build a community where we can serve our church, our diocese and our community. I feel it is important to have fun and learn more about our place with the church and how God is constantly working in our lives."

We welcome Peyton and are thrilled to have him, as we thank **Megan Pennington** and pray for bigger and better things for her as she ventures out to New York.



Within the last two months we bid farewell to two beloved, faithful souls — wives and mothers — one a teacher admired by her students and colleagues, and the other a speech communications major and real estate appraiser adored by her church and her family.

### **Michelle Jewel-Funston**

was a teacher for 21 years, eight of them at Trinity Episcopal School who, at 44



left us too soon. A bright, sunny human being, Michelle insisted on teaching even though she did not have to work. A Memorial Service was held for her at Trinity Church, packing over 600 grieving sympathizers on December 31. Our condolences to husband, Sean and son, Tyler.

The tributes to **Mary-Margaret Dean** by her husband, Chuck and their daughter, Maggie could not have been more beautiful, full of humor and depth as they recounted **their wife and mother's impact on their both lives**, respectively. Nearly every member of Trinity Church, certainly our current Rector will tell you that Mary Margaret was one you could count on for whatever you needed



done. We will miss her. More than 200 people were at Mary-Margaret's Memorial Service held at Trinity on January 19.

**Farewell**  
***Requiescat in Pacem***

TRINITY EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH  
of Galveston, TX

175 Years and Still

2018 LENTEN SERVICES, LECTURES AND DINNERS—GALVESTON, TX



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE MADE  
IN THE IMAGE OF GOD?

**THE MESSENGER**

The Rev'd Susan Kennard, Publisher

The Rev'd Edward Thompson, Editor

The Rev'd Douglas Tucker, Assisting Priest

The Rev'd John Donovan, Rector Emeritus

Mr. Mark Ravelli, Head of Trinity School

**Vestry Members**

John Speich, Senior Warden

Dan Freeman, Treasurer

Ann Anderson, Clerk

Carolyn Clyburn

Susan Dufi

Jerry Jackson

Walter Meyer

Maurine Nichols

Eugenia Campbell

Laura McDermott

Eileen Hall

**Parish Staff**

Ronald Wyatt, Organist & Music Director

Trish Clason, Parish Administrator

Camille Haglund, Finance Administrator

Danielle Alvarado, Director of Christian Ed

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PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

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