

THE CHIMES

Trinity Episcopal Church
815 N. Grant St.
Bay City, Michigan 48708

March 2021

Volume 24 Issue 3



Dear Trinity Community,

As we continue our journey through Lent, I think about what that experience may have been like for Jesus in the wilderness.

The wilderness of Israel is desert, dry and arid. There wasn't anything Jesus had to "do" except be aware of what was going on around him. As a result of his fasting, we know he was tempted. But what might it have been like to simply spend 40 days alone with God?

No people. No responsibilities. No tasks to fulfill. Just God, the Spirit, creation and Jesus.

I imagine him being still, watching and listening to everything around him. What did he see, what did he taste, what did he smell, what did he feel, what did he learn?

Were bugs and snakes his companions? Did he become one with nature? I wonder what he learned about God by paying attention to God's creation all around him. I wonder how his prayer life was affected. Did he become more aware of the laws of nature, thereby becoming more aware of the universal laws of God?

Did he stay in one place for a long time or did he move around the desert, exploring new areas? Did he become acquainted with a particular creature of God and communicate with it?

I wonder if he zoned in on the ants seeking to carry their load as they worked together. Did that inform him of how working together for a common purpose for the whole lightens the load and is exceedingly effective?

I also imagine Jesus living in the moment, paying attention to exactly what was in front of him. Whatever was going on with the weather or animal life, in my mind's eye, I can see Jesus focusing on one thing at a time and giving it his full attention.

Certainly, he prayed with words, in song and through the unspoken thoughts of his heart. Certainly, he recited Scripture. I wonder in what ways God was readying Jesus for his return to society and the ministry of which he would soon embark. Whether it was through cognitive or intuitive connection, Jesus was being prepared for what was to come.

During this season of Lent as we stay in place because of the pandemic, how are you spending your time? Like Jesus, we have a wonderful opportunity to spend some time being still and pondering the things of creation and the ways of God. We can focus on what is right in front of us. We can pray in words, music and the reading of Scripture. We can be reminded of how much we are loved by God as we create a piece of artwork, bake, write a poem, tend to a loved one, play an instrument, shovel snow or any infinitesimal number of things.

It's not too late to be intentional this Lent. Take a moment and ponder the ways God may be speaking to you. Then listen and notice all that is around you and know that God is in it all loving you beyond measure.

In Christ's love,

Rev. Sue

THANK YOU

Mickie Leibrand who assembled the Ash Wednesday envelopes.

Terry Oliver who works hard to keep our walkways clear of snow.

Don Middleton who faithfully plows our parking lot.

All of you for your continued support of Trinity.

OUR SYMPATHIES

To the family of Marnie Syring who died February 1, 2021.

To the family of Charles Frantz who died February 14, 2021.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES – currently scheduled to be online only

Palm Sunday, March 28 at 10am
Maundy Thursday, April 1 at 7pm
Good Friday, April 2 at noon
Easter Vigil (pre-recorded), April 3 at 5pm

WORSHIP ONLINE

Facebook and YouTube live stream:
Trinity Episcopal Church Bay City
Sunday 10:00am Holy Eucharist
Wednesday 11:30am Morning Prayer
Daily 9:00pm Compline

PRAYER LIST UPDATES

If you have someone you would like to add to one of our prayer lists, please email trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com or call 989-892-5813 (office) or 989-326-0469 (cell).

WELCOME BISHOP SKIP ADAMS

As of February 1, 2021, the joint Standing Committees of Eastern and Western Michigan have called the Rt. Rev. Gladstone “Skip” Adams, III to serve as consultant and Assisting Bishop with our dioceses as we continue through this current phase of life together.

Bishop Adams was the tenth bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Central New York, where he served from 2001-2016. Most recently, he served as Bishop Provisional with the Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina from September 2016 - December 2019. Among other things, he led the diocese through an extended and painful court process concerning diocesan property, names, and trademarks after the former diocesan bishop orchestrated a wide-reaching schism from The Episcopal Church in 2012.

Bishop Adams enjoys fly-fishing, reading, music, camping, and canoeing. He and his wife, Bonnie, a registered nurse, live in Upstate New York. They have three adult children - Peter, Stephen, and Emily - and two grandchildren, Greyson and Hazel.

“Assisting Bishops” are already consecrated bishops (meaning, they’ve served in another diocese before) and are called to serve in a specific role as determined by the Ecclesiastical Authority - for us, this continues to be held by the Standing Committees.

We do not know yet when his time with us will conclude. This is partially dependent on the decisionmaking that will take place later this year related to Bishop Hougland’s suspension.

PLANS FOR RE-ENTRY

Those making the decision regarding re-entry to our Episcopal Churches in Michigan continue to monitor the rate of COVID-19 in our state daily. This group is in daily communication, and are hopeful that we will be able to move back into Phase 2, with the option to have in-person worship in the near future.

They track the data using the [Harvard Global Health Risk Levels map](#) and are specifically looking for at least 60% of Michigan's counties to rate as yellow or green for a continuous span of seven days. We will keep you posted.

EXPANDING THE COLUMBARIUM

We will be expanding our columbarium as all the niches in our current columbarium are in use or reserved. The expansion will be in the Memorial Chapel between the columbarium and the front door. All memorial plaques will be lovingly and respectfully honored.

To date, we have received advance payment for one of the 55 new niches. If you would like to reserve a niche to assist in covering the cost to build this addition, please contact Rev. Sue Rich at revsuerich@gmail.com or call the office 989-892-5813 or our cell phone 989-326-0469. The fee is \$800. Payment plans are available.

UPSCALE RUMMAGE SALE

Mary K Freel and Shelley Whitehead are co-chairing an Upscale Rummage Sale when we are able. As you are home and looking at all your items, please be thinking about and saving any nice items that would help Trinity raise some money to support our ministries.

VESTRY MINUTES POSTED ONLINE

In an effort to provide you with transparency and updated information, Trinity's Vestry minutes are now being posted on our website!

www.trinityepiscopalbaycity.org

Our meetings are on the third Monday evening of the month.

VIDEO MEETING RESOURCE AVAILABLE

Can't gather together with your family? You may use Trinity's Zoom account to do so, just let Rev. Sue know! revsuerich@gmail.com or trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com or 989-892-5813 (office) 989-326-0469 (cell)

CONTRIBUTIONS

Your continued financial support of Trinity is greatly appreciated. Your Finance Committee and Vestry continue to work diligently to utilize all resources available to us during this unprecedented time. Ways to provide us with your contributions:

- Write and mail a check to Trinity
- IRA contribution
- Go to www.trinityepiscopalbaycity.org, click on the online giving link which will take you to the diocesan webpage.

RESOURCES FROM THE STATE OF MICHIGAN

- Mental Health Hotline 10am-2pm daily. 888-733-7753
- Disaster Distress Hotline. 800-985-5990
- Free mindfulness meditation website. www.headspace.com/mi
- Free digital lessons focused on developing social, emotional and well-being skills, especially in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis. www.michiganvirtual.org/michigancares
- Michigan Sexual Assault Hotline (talk/text/chat). 855-VOICES4
- Domestic Violence Hotline. 800-799-SAFE

MARCH



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Pat Maxim
Emily Gray
Sean Brady
Sue Clements
Adam Culler
Denise Morin
Rodney Culler
Ken Fowler
Jane Moulthrop
Steven Beckert
Matthew Smith
Moria Brady
Carla Maxim
Morgan Salazar
Tracey Krzysik

ORGAN COMMITTEE UPDATE

Trinity's Organ Committee has had an initial virtual meeting - as well as many email exchanges as we move forward on this exciting project. We are in the phase of identifying our current needs, having organ builders inspect the instrument, and then receiving proposals from the various organ builders.

There are three organ builders that we are talking to and requesting proposals from. Please check out their websites and look at their work - all three have built some impressive instruments and have completed major refurbishments.

Scott Smith Pipe Organs

<http://www.scottsmithpipeorgans.com/>

Based in Lansing, MI - Scott currently is the technician who works with and maintains Trinity's pipe organ.

Berghaus Pipe Organ Builders

<http://berghausorgan.com/>

Based in Bellwood, IL (Chicago area), Berghaus is a well-established and highly reputable company that Paul Serresseque has a connection with.

Muller Pipe Organ Company

<https://www.mullerpipeorgan.com/>

Based in Croton, OH (northeast of Columbus), Muller has inspected and offered proposals for work on Trinity's organ in the past.

If you have any questions or comments for the organ committee, please direct them to Patrick Winningham (pwinningham@gmail.com).

Trinity Church Her People, Her Building Then and Now

Guardian Angels

Guardian angels are spiritual beings created by God to serve Him and by consequence to help us. While there are nine orders of angels (Seraphim, Cherubim, Thrones, Dominations, Principalities, Powers, Virtues, Archangels, Angels) with angels being the lowest order, guardian angels are not a separate order but come from this latter order of angels.

The purpose of all angels is to serve God, praise God, worship God and to pray to God. In the process of serving God guardian angels also protect us, pray for us, inspire us, encourage us, and guide us during our earthly pilgrimage to heaven. They are all around us even though we may not see them. They remind us how much God loves us and that God is intimately involved with our lives.

The Guardian Angel Prayer

Angel of God, my guardian dear,
To whom God's love commits me here,
Ever this day be at my side
To light and to guard
To rule and to guide. Amen.

In Trinity Church, there are many angels depicted in "The Children's Window" above the High Altar: seraphim angels in the act of worship, the archangel Gabriel greeting Mary, and a guardian angel. The window depicts worship of God in heaven in the three panels/lights that make up the bulk of the window. The very top portion of the window has two angels holding the "Shield of the Holy Trinity" which since the 12th century has explained the doctrine of the Holy Trinity.

At the bottom of the window we have three round medallions depicting the Archangel Gabriel's Annunciation to Mary; the Holy Family; and to our far right, an angel holding a child with a woman figure in the foreground. It is in this latter depiction that we have reference to a guardian angel. The words "Is it well with the child ... It is well" come from the story of the Shunamite woman whose child was raised from the dead by the prophet Elisha. Though there is no mention of an angel or guardian angel in this story from 2 Kings 4, we can ascertain that by having an angel safely holding a child this shows that this woman's son has a guardian angel. The window also has a band of yellow with Jesus' words from Matthew 18:10: "Their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven" specifically making reference to the guardian angels of all children.



"Is it well with the child ... It is well." Detail from "The Children's Window." Cox Sons Buckley Co.; London, England. In creating this depiction with an angel holding a child,

the scene seems to say that "it is well" with all the children who had died, especially the classmates in whose memory the Sunday School children had this window commissioned. Created and installed in 1886 for the sum of \$1,000.

Faithfully submitted by the Historical Guild

EASTER FLOWERS



Donations to Trinity’s Easter Flower fund provides the flower arrangements we enjoy during the Easter Season.

Please give a minimum gift of \$15.00.

DUE PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2021

Your name(s):

Contact #:

I would like to contribute \$ _____ to the Trinity Episcopal Christmas Poinsettia Fund.

_____ In grateful thanksgiving for:

And/or _____ In loving memory of:

Please make checks to Trinity Episcopal Church. Mark on the check “Easter Flowers.” Please seal your check and a copy of this form in an envelope and place it in Trinity’s mailbox outside the office door or mail it to 815 N. Grant St., Bay City, 48708.

PLEASE USE OTHER SIDE OF FORM FOR FRIENDS OF MUSIC DONATION.

Office Use:

Date donation was received:

Cash \$ _____

Check \$ _____ # _____

Total Donation\$ _____

FRIENDS OF MUSIC

Donations to Trinity’s Friends of Music fund help to support the fine music we enjoy at Easter and throughout the year. Please give generously.



DUE PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2021

Your name(s):

Contact #:

I would like to contribute \$ _____ to Trinity Episcopal Church Friends of Music.

_____ In grateful thanksgiving for:

And/or _____ In loving memory of:

Please make checks to Trinity Episcopal Church. Mark on the check “Friends of Music.” Please seal your check and a copy of this form in an envelope and place it in Trinity’s mailbox outside the office door or mail it to 815 N. Grant St., Bay City, 48708.

PLEASE USE OTHER SIDE OF FORM FOR EASTER FLOWER DONATION.

Office Use:

Date donation was received:

Cash \$ _____

Check \$ _____ # _____

Total Donation\$ _____

Loving embraces

Express your love and friendship with handcrafted bracelets.



What you need:

- Adult help
- Bowl of boiling water
- Wide wooden craft sticks
- Glass cup
- Markers, paint or decorative tape

What you do:

1. Pour about 3 cups of boiling water into a bowl. Soak sticks in the water about 30 minutes.
2. Remove sticks and slowly, gently bend them into a curve.
3. To maintain the shape, place curved sticks inside a glass cup overnight to dry completely.
4. Remove and decorate the bracelets, which make fun Valentine's Day gifts.

PUZZLE

A famous friendship

In the Bible, Ruth and Naomi are known for their loving friendship.

Directions: Using the key, fill in the blanks to see what Ruth says to Naomi.

“

J Q U W B U B C O E E E

J E A A E E ' U N O J Q U W B U

B C O N L U A E J E A A

N L U A B C O A N U E N A U

J E A A U U F A

N U E N A U U N O

B C O A E E O

F A E E O

”

RUTH 1:16, NIV

W	A	E	T
B	U	H	D
G	R	L	Y
N	S	P	M

Answer: "Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God." Ruth 1:16, NIV



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