



Ecclesia

June 2014

Rector's Reflections

By The Rev. Robert Schlismann

It seems that summer has sneaked up on us in a year without much of a spring season. Because of the long, cold (although largely snow-free) winter, spring was significantly delayed. And now all of a sudden school is over. People will be taking vacations/'road trips' as Carol and I did in May to visit our son, daughter-in-law and grandsons living at the Naval Air Station in the desert near El Centro, CA. (some 120+ miles east of San Diego and the winter home of the Blue Angels) I anticipate that many of our Trinity folks will be travelling at some time this summer. I encourage us all to consider that our church is open year 'round and hope to see you whenever you are in town.

Our annual church picnic will occur two months earlier this year on Sunday June 15, after the 10:30 morning service. It was moved up for several reasons: June is usually not as hot as August, more people may be available earlier in the summer months than later, and Trinity Sunday is on June 15, a week after Pentecost. Why should that matter? Churches that are named after persons (saints, angels or the Deity) often celebrate their 'birthday' on the feast day of the person for whom they have been named. Since our church is called 'Trinity' (after God) and this year Trinity Sunday falls on June 15, I thought it would be good to have our church picnic on our parish birthday. (our 'patronal' feast day, the Trinity being our Patron) It also happens to be Fathers' Day, so we can celebrate that, too.

Weather permitting our parish picnic will be held in the courtyard, with seating also available in the parish hall. Again, weather permitting, the Saturday service will in the courtyard on the previous evening, June 14, 5:30p.m., and we also will worship in the courtyard Sunday morning at 10:30, after which the picnic will begin. We will 'break in' the new courtyard altar, celebrating the weekend's Eucharists upon it. The picnic will be a potluck with the church providing hamburgers and hotdogs to grill. I will be a cook, "grillin' and chillin'" as last year. Other chefs are welcome to help. This is a great time to invite visitors!

The day after the picnic will begin Vacation Bible School, on Monday June 16, Tuesday June 17, and Wednesday June 18, from 5:30-8:30 each evening. The theme is 'Jungle Safari.' We do this along with First Presbyterian Church and First Congregational Church, with the three churches rotating the meeting location each year. This year it is our turn to host VBS. This is not only for our three churches but for neighborhood kids, as well. A supper will be provided each evening. Our own Natalie Garden is the leader of VBS.

Our last day of Sunday Church School (for the summer) was on the Memorial Day weekend and will resume on Sept. 7, 10:30a.m., the Sunday after Labor Day. We appreciate our Church School teachers: Paula, Amy, Whitney, Sue, Vietta and Carol. We can always use more help! Parents and grandparents, we also will need your assistance this September to encourage your children to attend regularly and arrive on time.

June Birthdays

- June 2
Jacory Beauvais
- June 5
Gloria Brown
- June 10
Kay Putters
- June 12
Mari Hahne
- June 15
Kayleb Beed
Doug Asmus
- June 17
Russell Kumm
Colby James
- June 19
Charles Parks
Robert Schlismann
- June 23
Mike Siemsgluz
- June 26
Ken Caskey
- June 29
Grant White

Anniversaries

- June 7
Bob & Carolyn Smith
- June 10
Bob & Marcia Crain
- June 19
Liz & Zach Sudbeck
- June 22
John & BethAnn Feller
- June 23
Kay & Jack Putters

During the last vestry meeting some time was spent discussing our Easter Sunday service and worship in general. Our Easter attendance was the highest in several years and included in that were many children, along with the three baptisms we had. I want to be clear that I love having children in church! If they make some noise it simply shows that we are what we should be – a living church with a future. Not all churches can say that.

But along with life and liveliness comes responsibility: that is, to show restraint and consideration for others, for *all* our worshippers. Children can be taught, for lack of a better word, church 'etiquette,' or how to behave in a place that is sacred. They learn that from parents, their families, but also indirectly from those around them.

I hesitate to encourage a lot of rules because we Episcopalians/Anglicans are not 'wired' that way. However, the following are guidelines for what to encourage and avoid in church:

- 1) Treat the Nave, the place we assemble to worship (the Sanctuary is the altar area), as sacred space and accord to it the reverence due as a temple of God's Presence. This includes prayerful silence before the service starts, or conversing very quietly.
- 2) Have cell phones muted and avoid other electronic distractions. (e.g., texting, video games)
- 3) It is customary when entering and leaving one's pew to bow or genuflect toward the altar out of respect and love for the Living Presence of God.
- 4) When the acclamation ('Blessed be God...') at the beginning of the service and the blessing (benediction) at the end are given, it is customary to cross oneself or to bow one's head.
- 5) In the Sunday morning service during the processional, gospel, and recessional hymns, it is customary to bow one's head when the cross passes by.
- 6) As the gospel book is read, turn toward the location from where it is read.
- 7) If one must step out during the service, do so during a hymn, or at the time of the Peace, announcements or Offertory, or as people come forward to receive Communion.

Of course, if little ones are present in a worship service, it is a bit much to expect them to sit quietly and not move a muscle. (I remember when our kids were little and squirmed during church services. Our grandkids, of course, do the same.) The church has an obligation to its families to offer a safe, pleasant, supervised environment for babies and toddlers who have a tough time sitting through a service.

Our offering of childcare has been sporadic at best. Vestry member Jan Beauvais has generously offered to head up such care. Others are needed to assist her. A temporary space has been designated in the room at the bottom of the Sunday School stairway to serve as a nursery. Any additional monetary help to start this off will be appreciated for furniture, rugs, and toys. Graduations and parties were a big part of this past month. We recognize our graduates: Joshua Beed and Jeffrie Mesteth from Norfolk High School, Collin Bauer and April Yracheta from Northeast Community College, and Mark Feller from the University of Texas Law School, and will relocate to Houston. Congratulations to all! We rejoice with you in your achievements.

We anticipate celebrating two weddings this month at Trinity: Grace Nelson and Casey Jasnoch on June 21, and Josh Banks and Denise Childress on June 28. We welcome into the world Lenon Royal, son of Laura and Brandon Wolff, born May 2. Proud grandparents are Nancy and Joe Nockels.

Our sympathies extend to Janet and Doug Asmus in the passing of her brother John Fisher, and to the Swalley and James families in the passing of Lila James. And also the one year anniversary of the passing of my mother, Charlotte Cecilia. May their memories be eternal.

In the Ascended and Ever-Living Christ,

Father Bob+





Congratulations

to

Laura & Brandon Wolff

on the birth of their son, Lenon Royal,
born May 2.

Grandparents are Nancy & Joe Nockels
and Tom & Fran Wolff.

April Financial Report

	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Actual</i>
<i>Income</i>	13,212.00	9,826.32
<i>Expenses</i>	13,205.24	13,367.22

Christian Sayings....

Don't let your worries get the best of you; remember, Moses started out as a basket case.

++

Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited..until you try to sit in their pews.

++

When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.



We extend our Sympathy

to

The family of John Fisher, who
died this past week and is the sister of

Janet Asmus.

and to the James & Swalley families for
the loss of their loved one.

If you would like to order flowers on a certain weekend in memory of a loved one, call the church office and we'll put your wishes on the schedule. We have sev-

Prayer Corner

Those in our church family that need your prayers thank you in advance. Please remember, Marcia, Liz, Wanda, Bob & Georgia, Madison, Jody, Sharon, Melissa, & Kay with health concerns; those who live alone or in nursing homes especially, Wanda & Phyllis; those serving in the military, especially Adam, Miles, Jerome, Tyler and Jeremy and James and those who travel, need guidance and faith, difficult people, those who care for those we love and those who are bereaved.

Mark Your Calendar

Sun., June 1 — Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.
 Mon., June 2 — Prayer Group, 9:30 a.m.
 Wed., June 4 — Bible Study, 10:30 a.m.
 Thurs., June 5 — DOK, 7 p.m.
 Sat., June 7 — Eucharist, 5:30 p.m.
 Sun., June 8 — Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.
 Mon., June 9 — Prayer Group, 9:30 a.m.
 Wed., June 11 — Bible Study, 10:30 a.m.
 Sat., June 14 — Eucharist, 5:30 p.m.
 Sun., June 15 — Trinity Sunday, Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.; Church Picnic in courtyard.
 Mon., June 16 — Prayer Group, 9:30 a.m.
 Tues., June 17 — Vestry, 7 p.m.
 Wed., June 18 — Bible Study, 10:30 a.m.
 Sat., June 21 — Eucharist, 5:30 p.m.; Nelson-Jasnoch wedding.
 Sun., June 22 — Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.
 Mon., June 23 — Prayer Group, 9:30 a.m.
 Wed., June 25 — Bible Study, 10:30 a.m.
 Sat., June 28 — Eucharist, 5:30 p.m.; Banks-Childress wedding.
 Sun., June 29 — Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.
 Mon., June 30 — Prayer Group, 9:30 a.m.

Godly Play Sunday School,

10:30 a.m.

Children ages 3 and over

Come worship God while learning

Biblical Stories

Teachers are Amy Casey & Carol Schlismann



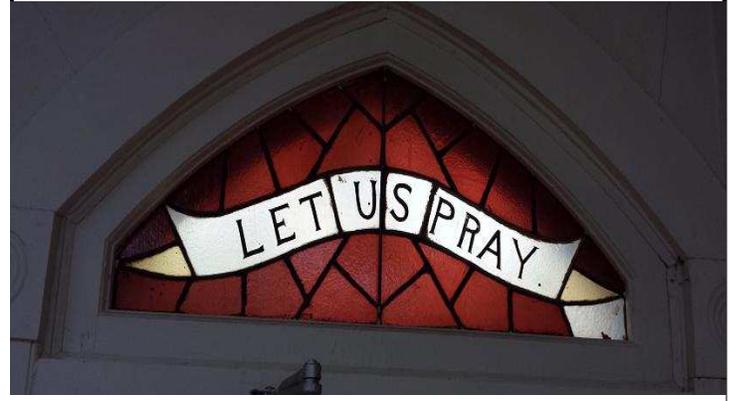
We need teachers!

If you would like to help, please call.

Amy, 379-6727 or Carol, 402-440-2822

Do you recognize this picture?

It is the window
in the sacristy.



Would you like to provide some
flowers

for the courtyard?

Contact Lonni if you

would like to help plant them also.

June Tellers (Vestry Counters)

June 1 — Lonni / Jean Atwood

June 8 — Laurel Caskey / Beth Ann Feller

June 15 — Mark Wagner / Jeff White

June 22 — Brad Brooks / Jan Beauvais

June 29 — Russell Kumm / Kathy Siemsglusz

Daughters of the King

2014 Daughters Day

All women of the Diocese are invited to attend the 2014 Daughters Day to be held on June 21 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Lincoln.

Carol Olson, Certified Spiritual Director, will be the leader in "Contemplative Practices for a Busy Life".

Registration cost is \$20.00. You may submit your registration to Church of the Holy Trinity, 6001 A Street, Lincoln, NE 68510.

If interested you may pick up a registration form in the church office. The deadline for registration is June 16.

Vacation Bible School

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

June 16, 17, 18

5:30—8:30 p.m.

at

Trinity Church

other churches participating are

First Presbyterian and First Cong'l UCC

Please call Natalie Garden, 992-3293 if you would like to help.



Annual Picnic

June 15

Come join us for the Sunday, June 15th Worship Service
and
the Annual Family Picnic
in the
Courtyard.

Please bring a dish to pass. Hot dogs and hamburgers
on the grill will be provided.

Volunteers are welcome!



Know Your Vestry.....

By Jean Atwood



Beth Ann Feller was born May 17. She didn't supply the year but she is one year older than she was when I first asked her to supply the questionnaire. Her husband John is also a very active member of Trinity. They have three children, Matthew, Mark and Elizabeth. Matthew is married to Laura and lives in Omaha. They have a son, Charlie. Mark lives in Texas with his girl friend, Jenn. Elizabeth lives in Beemer and has two daughters, London and Noel. Beth Ann and John attend church frequently on Saturday evening and many times have one of the Grandchildren with them. As a Saturday evening participant I can attest all three are darling, extremely well behaved and I love seeing them in church.

Beth Ann grew up on a farm 10 miles south of Wisner. Since she now lives in Beemer has been in the same area all her life. Her occupation is teaching and her hobbies are gardening and quilting. Her maternal grandmother had the most influence in her life. She said, "She was kind to all, patient, and forgiving. She taught me how to cook, sew, and garden."

She has been a member of Trinity for about 30 years. She agreed to become a member of the Vestry because she thinks everyone should take their turn. She feels Trinity's assets are Father Bob for his leadership, Inez for her ability to organize, and Lonnn for his vision. The challenges for Trinity are the lack of youth. She hopes during her term on the Vestry to understand the parish and help where she can.

Beth Ann's favorite color depends on the day and the mood, either reds, blues, or yellows. Her favorite holiday is Easter and she likes the TV program, Cold Case.

She gave her favorite Bible Verse as, "Be still and know that I am God." Thanks to the invention of Google I was able to learn that verse is found in Psalm 46:10. The remainder of that verse is, "I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

Happy Father's Day!



VISIONING: UPDATE by Rhoda Bjelland

The surveys are in - and we have a "valid sample" - enough seriously thought-through, well-written responses to our questions. Now we are evaluating them, carefully weighing all suggestions, looking at how you rated each area. (We use a mid-score, to see how many people felt a certain way, rather than doing a numerical total that can be thrown off by high or low scoring.) This is a LISTENING process.

In case you missed it - I try to add an insert to each weekly bulletin - our people LOVE their church. They love everything about it, the liturgy, the music, and yes, Fr. Bob, even the sermons! I was amazed at how many people pick up and read the daily devotional. If you haven't, please get started. Its such a great way to focus and start your day. Also mentioned that I gave the Vestry a sneak preview of the Building section. You have asked for an update to the social hall and most of all, a handicapped bathroom. The Vestry moved to update bids - and will make a decision about the bathroom at the June meeting.

Goal: a full report by July 1, with a copy of the tallied surveys available at Inez's counter. Then we start plodding through, one project at a time - FOREVER FORWARD for our church and the Glory of God!