



THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Trinitarian

February 2019



One of the main events of the year as far as church business is concerned is our Annual Meeting, which is scheduled for February 3rd following the 9am service (*there will be only one Service on the 3rd at 9am*). This year we will worship in the church and then process up to the Parish Hall for our pot-luck brunch and Annual Meeting. The Annual Report was emailed out and printed copies will be available upon request. The Annual Report includes brief summaries of all our various ministries as well as the Vestry Approved Mission and

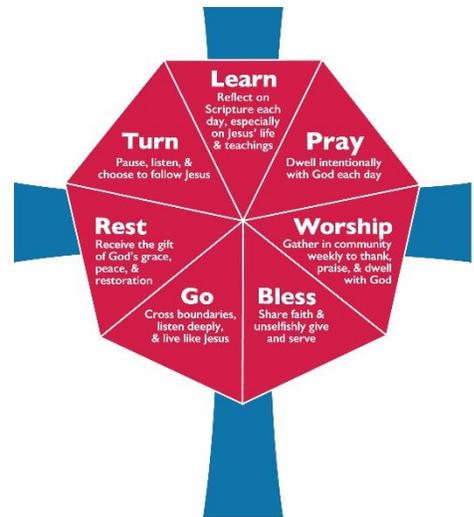
Ministry Plan (Budget) for 2019. The Annual Meeting is also the time when we bid farewell to those who have graciously served their term on the vestry and elect and welcome the new members.

SUNDAY NIGHT LENTEN PROGRAM

An Invitation from our Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry to Practice the Way of Love

I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. – *Ephesians 3:17-19*

In the first century Jesus of Nazareth inspired a movement. A community of people whose lives were centered on Jesus Christ and committed to living the way of God's unconditional, unselfish, sacrificial, and redemptive love. Before they were called "church" or "Christian," this Jesus Movement was simply called "the way."



THE WAY OF LOVE
Practices for Jesus-Centered Life

Today I believe our vocation is to live as the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement. But how can we together grow more deeply with Jesus Christ at the center of our lives, so we can bear witness to his way of love in and for the world?

The deep roots of our Christian tradition may offer just such a path. For centuries, monastic communities have shaped their lives around rhythms and disciplines for following Jesus

together. Such a pattern is known as a “Rule of Life.” *The Way of Love: Practices for Jesus-Centered Life* – outlines a Rule for the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement.

It is designed to be spare and spacious, so that individuals, ministry groups, congregations, and networks can flesh it out in unique ways and build a church-wide treasure trove of stories and resources. There is no specific order you need to follow. If you already keep a Rule or spiritual disciplines, you might reflect and discover how that path intersects with this one. By entering into reflection, discernment and commitment around the practices of **Turn - Learn - Pray - Worship - Bless - Go - Rest**, I pray we will grow as communities following the loving, liberating, life-giving way of Jesus. His way has the power to change each of our lives and to change this world.

Your brother in the Way of Jesus,

+Michael

*The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry
Primate and Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church*

Join us as we explore *The Way of Love: Practices for Jesus-Centered Life* this Epiphany and Lenten season. We will meet as a group for nine Sundays, starting on Sunday February 17th, through Palm Sunday, April 14th. We will meet each Sunday evening from 5:30pm till 7:30pm.

Our meetings will begin at 5:30pm with a simple supper followed by our program from 6 - 7:30pm.

Each week is designed to stand alone and all are encouraged to attend the full series, if possible.

An introductory video by Bishop Michael Curry is available at <https://tinyurl.com/Trinity-Lent>

Need more information, or have questions – see Fr. Mac

ALTAR GUILD

Thank you to everyone who helped get the church ready for Christmas, from polishing the brass and silver and cleaning the candle cups to those who helped green the church. Thank you especially to those who helped hang the garland on the support rods. An old photo of the church from many years ago showed garland hanging from the rods, so we decided to do the same this year and it looked beautiful! Thank you again to those that helped hang the garland. Also, a big thank you to those that helped take down and put away everything after the 10am service on January 6th!

MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT

Thank you to everyone who helped fulfill requests from the Jesse Tree this year, it is very much appreciated. The Mission Committee will be meeting to discuss this year's Lenten project, so stay tuned to next month's newsletter.

JANUARY VESTRY MEETING SUMMARY

<p>Parishioner Sharing</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •... The response to the reformatted Sunday bulletin and service order has been mixed. They were changed in response to the feedback from the Renewal Works survey that people would like to use the prayer book more often. They are also cheaper to produce. •... The lessons and carols service was quite long. Changes will be made to it in the future. <p><i>Budget and Finance</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •... A full operating budget for the year is \$206,000. To date, pledges are at \$181, 270. •... A number of people who have pledged in the past have not yet responded. •... The vestry will present a budget of \$190,000 with a deficit of \$8,000 to the annual meeting. •... We are looking for suggestions and ideas for raising money or cutting the budget. •... One saving could be to provide Christian education entirely with volunteers. <p><i>Christmas Fair</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •... The Christmas Fair brought in over \$14,000, but of that amount, \$6500 was absorbed as donations by table chairs. •... Parishioners haven't been donating items to support the fair. •... We will have a fair next year but will need to make changes.
<p>Warden's Report Ginny Starkis and Justin Varteresian</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •... There are still openings for parishioners to run for vestry and other offices. •... The vestry will provide set-up and clean-up for the annual meeting.
<p>Rector's Report Fr. Mac</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •... This year's Lenten program will be Michael Curry's <i>The Way of Love</i>.

EMERGENCY SUPPORT

If you lose power this winter, we have many parishioners with power and with a willingness to share their homes! If a winter storm should leave you without power, call the church (508-473-8464) and we will find you a warm home in which to weather the storm. Likewise, if you have power and space available to share, call Fr. Mac at the church or on his cell (508-498-6998). Also – if you have a spare portable generator to lend for a short time, call the church!





WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY

In the rare event that the weather prevents Fr. Mac from getting to church and it is necessary to cancel worship services or close the church office, there will be a message on the church answering machine – 508-473-8464. Always exercise caution when driving on the snow!

STUCK ON REPEAT?

In *Groundhog Day*, Bill Murray is doomed to repeat the same day over and over. For Christians, the “sin cycle” is similar: mess up, repent, resolve to do better — and fail yet again, often in the exact same ways.

That movie is really about grace, contends Mark Lockard. “We fail in small ways ... and in tragic ways,” he writes on MinistryMatters.com. “Sometimes I think it would be nice to be able to hit repeat and try again the next day, to aim for perfection, to be the saintly Phil Connors we see at movie’s end. But that takes away the spontaneity of the new day, the challenge of being more Christ-like despite a brand new set of circumstances.”

On earth, the “chill” of sin keeps biting, but we can “face the stark winter day wrapped warmly in the knowing that it’s okay to get it wrong,” Lockard writes. “That’s part of figuring out who we are as a beloved child of God. That’s what grace is all about.”

SMITTEN WITH KNITTIN’



Welcome back! Our next meeting date for 2019 is Sunday, February 17th (date subject to change) from 1:30 to 3:30 pm at the home of June Jones. Come join us for fellowship and fun! Questions, feel free to contact me at june.jones2@comcast.net or 508-381-1669. Thanks.



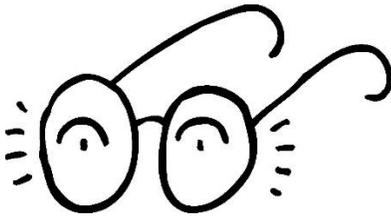
Merciful God, you called us forth from the dust of the earth; you claimed us for Christ in the waters of baptism. Look upon us as we enter these Forty Days bearing the mark of ashes, and bless our journey through the desert of Lent to the font of rebirth. May our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; our prayer, the chant of humble and grateful hearts.

—*Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers*



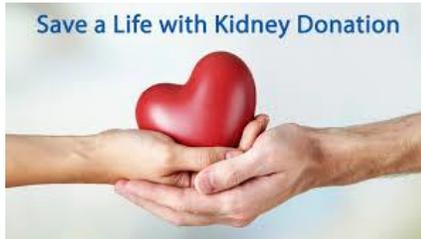
ROMEO's LUNCHEON

The Romeo's group will meet for lunch at Willowbrook Restaurant, Route 16, Mendon, at 12:30 PM on Friday, February 1st. Our speaker will be a representative from Tri-Valley senior services, who will speak to us on services we might need in future years. If you wish to attend, please contact Dave Clinkman at clinkman@comcast.net or [508-634-8996](tel:508-634-8996) by Wednesday, January 30th so we can make reservations. Romeo's is a social group for retired men and other men who wish to join us during their lunch hour.



EYEGLOSS RECYCLING

Trinity's participation in the Milford Lions Club eyeglass recycling program continues. The total number of glasses collected by Trinity parishioners for people in need is 366. Anyone with eyeglasses, glasses cases, or gently used sunglasses that they no longer need, can put them in the collection box near the piano in the parish hall. Thanks to all who have contributed so far!



From time to time I receive special requests from parishioners. Some I can satisfy from the Trinity Discretionary Fund, and for others I need to reach out to the broader community. This is one of the special requests that takes a village and beyond to meet. One of our parishioners called me with such a request.

In his words: "It's tough for me to request something like this. I guess I'm not wired that way. I have been evaluated by the transplant team at Tufts Medical Center and am in need of a kidney. Bottom line, because of my age (78), it was determined that I will only be eligible for a kidney transplant from a living donor. The donor criteria are: younger than 70 and must be blood type O.

If anyone is interested in kidney donation, they can contact Amanda Joyce, RN, Transplant Coordinator at Tufts Medical Center 800 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02111. Telephone 617-636-1149, email: ajoyce@tuftsmedicalcenter.org. They will be more than happy to supply more information and be glad to test potential donors to see if they are a compatible match."

As I said, this is an extraordinary request. It is certainly more than donating blood, or platelets, or having the heart on your driver's license, indicating your willingness to be an organ donor.

Give me a call or send me an email if you would like to talk more about giving the gift of life (blood, platelet or organ donation).

Blessings,
Fr. Mac



COMMUNITY DINNER

Trinity Church serves free dinners in a clean, pleasant, and friendly environment. Anyone who is hungry or lonely is welcome. There are no eligibility requirements. All are welcome to come enjoy fellowship with a satisfying meal. February meals take place on the: 22nd, 27th, 28th.

If you are interested in helping prepare and serve the dinner, please contact community.meal@trinitychurchmilford.org for how to serve in this meaningful mission.

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

Just a reminder that the deadline for submissions for the March edition of *The Trinitarian* is February 15th. All articles should be sent to: news@trinitychurchmilford.org.



TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Web www.trinitychurchmilford.org
Worship Schedule Wednesday, 9am
Saturday, 5pm
Sunday, 8am and 10am

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Peace and blessings in this new year. January has been a quiet month, providing lots of time for reflection. I am home on medical leave and gain strength steadily each day. This time away from work and the hubbub of daily life has been a blessing and I hope to take away some solid intentions for how I want my life to go as I march on in a series of tiny steps. May February not bury us in too much of the white stuff.

Elizabeth Kłisiewicz, Editor
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