

# Trinity Newsletter November 2012

Dear People of Trinity Church,

It has been a very busy month or two here at Trinity. Our Godly Play, Godly Journey, and Journey to Adulthood programs have been in full swing now for several weeks. The vestry has finished up a great deal of important maintenance work around the church, the parish hall, and the rectory. Our animal friends have been blessed, and there have been several meetings of the Outreach Committee. Whether it's a concert from the Cantilena Chamber Choir, a visit from our friends at the Orthodox Church of Trinity, or the annual hymn sing for the Lenox School Alumni, we are keeping busy. All in all, I think there's been some sort of outside event almost every week. Once again I am reminded of how many people are involved in giving a parish like ours such vitality. Thank you to everyone who contributes so much to our corporate life.

If we look beyond the activities and the meetings, it is important for us to remember that all of this work begins with our life of prayer. It is in prayer that we meet God, and it is here that we find the inspiration to do what we do in the Church. There are many different types of prayer, and people find that some kinds work for them and others don't. So it is important for us, as a community, to have a variety of opportunities to deepen and expand our prayer life. Some of those opportunities might be corporate, and some might be private and personal.

One program we will be restarting is a weekly Bible Study. This group will probably meet on Wednesday afternoons. I say probably, because I would like to try to find a time when as many people as possible will be able to participate. We will also be looking for ways to get people together outside of formal worship. This may not appear to be part of our prayer life, but the deeper our relationships are, the deeper we will be able to pray together. In addition to these, I'm sure that there are other ways that we can come together to the greater glory of God.

As I mentioned a few weeks ago, I would also invite you all to consider if there are ways in which you would like to become more involved. There are many opportunities to make your prayer a bit more visible and concrete. I would love to get more people involved in leading worship, the altar guild, and the Sunday School in particular. There is a powerful kind of prayer in helping others to pray. So over the next few weeks, I would ask you all to think and to pray about new ways in which we could deepen our life in Christ and expand the ways in which we pray. In the upcoming months, I hope to begin to put some of our ideas in practice, and hopefully allow the light of Christ to shine more brightly in our community.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a white rectangular background. The signature reads "Michael Studer" in a cursive, flowing script.

# SPOTLIGHT ON.....



## ANNIE HAFTL TUCK

As we all get to know our new Rector, Michael Tuck, it seemed to be a good idea to meet his wonderful wife, Annemarie Haftl Tuck, known as "Annie. The Tucks were born and raised outside Philadelphia and were high school sweethearts. After high school Michael went on to Brown and Annie pursued her love of art at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia.

Annie and Michael were married a few years after college and moved to England where Michael attended seminary at the College of the Resurrection. The seminary had been founded by a monastic community, the Community of the Resurrection. When I asked Annie about her time there, she told me that it had been a good experience for her. Not only had the families bonded, she made many lasting friends, and learned what it would be like to be a Rector's wife.

Last Sunday, when the children came into the church to celebrate communion, I watched young Porter, who was still a little unsure of what to do being shepherded by his older sister Holly. It was a very touching to watch the children as well as their lovely gentle mother.

As I was sitting down in the dining room to begin our chat, I noticed an incredible life-like and life-sized, sculpture of a baby. It was a piece Annie had done of her baby niece. It is very beautiful and showcases a very talented young woman. Although she felt she had to put her sculpting on hold, lacking both time and space, Annie is hoping she can start again. She has been looking at a corner of the Rectory basement for a studio and trying to figure out a safe place for her kiln.

I couldn't believe we had talked for an hour. Annie is kind and gentle with her family, as well as knowing herself, and being grounded all with a wonderful mischievous sense of humor. I came away feeling that we had been blessed to have not one, but a whole family of special people join the Trinity family.

Submitted by Marnie Miller

## November/ December Birthdays

### November:

- 3 Elizabeth Goodman
- 4 John Gamberoni
- 18 John DuBois
- 22 Stephen Peters
- 23 Paul Van Sickle
- 23 Stuart Bartle

### December:

- 8 Anne Goodchild
- 10 John Veague
- 14 Ruth Arisman
- 14 Lucy Cooper
- 19 Gwen Gilbert
- 24 Sharon DuBois



# TRINITY CALENDAR

## NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2012

### November 21

6:30 P.M. Ecumenical Service  
Church on the Hill

### December 1

11:00 A.M. Consecration of Bishop Douglas  
Fisher  
Springfield

### December 2

Stewardship Sunday  
3:00 Cantilena Chamber Choir

### December 8

10:00 to 3:00 Trinity Silver Tea  
Parish House

### December 15

9:00 to 1:00 Advent Quiet Day  
7:00 Berkshire Children's Choir

### December 16

5:00 Installation of Rev. Michael Tuck as Rector

### December 23

5:00 Service of Lessons and Carols

### December 24

5:00 Christmas Eve family service

### December 25

8:00 AM Christmas morning service

### Advent Quiet Day

December 15

9am to 1pm

It gets a little busy in the weeks leading up to Christmas. On Saturday, December 15th we will have a Quiet Day to help us slow down and appreciate the season.

The Quiet Day (actually just a morning) will be from 9 am to 1 pm, and our meditations will be led by the Very Rev'd Harry Krauss, the retired Dean of the Cathedral of St. John in Providence. Dean Krauss will be leading us through the collects for the Sundays of Advent as a way of reflecting more closely on our preparations for Christmas.

### Christmas Fair and Silver Tea

Saturday December 8

10 am to 3 pm

Featured items will be baked goods, knitted hats and scarves, glamorous clothes for 18" dolls, bulbs, Christmas decorations and cards, nativities, African crafts and children's table.

For lunch we will offer hearty soup, savory sandwiches and gourmet quiche in addition to the delicious delicacies at the tea table.

More willing workers are always needed and appreciated. If you can help before or on December 8, please contact Emily Kitross or Virginia Giddens.

Emily Kittross ([iekittross@gmail.com](mailto:iekittross@gmail.com)) (637-2307)  
Virginia Giddens ([giddensv@yahoo.com](mailto:giddensv@yahoo.com)) (298-3418)

# TRINITY YOUTH

## GODLY PLAY

Ages 3 - 9

Our Godly Play stories this fall have been filled with action, intrigue and suspense since we gathered in the classroom after our summer break. Our lessons began with The Great Family and we were reminded that each and every one of us are among this blessed group. Since then, our stories have been selected to enrich the core narrative of God's people by focusing on central Biblical characters. We studied Jacob and Esau and learned about these twin brothers and their deceit, jealousy and struggle for power. We then learned about Joseph and began to discover the events that led up to the migration of God's People to Egypt. The children learned about Joseph's leadership and how he was able to help minimize the disaster of the famine by planning for leaner times.

Finally, we heard about the Exodus of God's People and focused especially on Moses. The kids reflected upon Moses' leadership, his self-doubt, his failures and his deep and meaningful connection with God. Next, we will present the Ten Best Ways and learn about the Ark and the Tent in the desert and Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem.

We have some interesting twists planned for our celebration of Advent. One of the reasons our Godly Play program has been so successful is that we constantly expand on the core stories in new and creative ways. Many of our children are already familiar with the Godly Play story, "The Mystery of Christmas," that is based on Madeline L'Engle's book, "The Glorious Impossible" and uses Giotto's 14<sup>th</sup> century frescoes. This year we will be telling "The Mystery of Christmas" using Rembrandt's 17<sup>th</sup> century Christmas art, as well as that of the contemporary Chinese artist, He Qi (pronounced huh-chee). We are also going to introduce an Advent Meditation to our Godly Players. Some of our Trinity parishioners experienced this meditation last year with the Godly Journey and Journey to Adulthood students. The meditations follow the Wise Men as they set out on their journey after seeing the wild star. This lesson is designed to help us think about the Wise Men's amazing trip to Bethlehem so many years ago and also to help us remember our own Advent Journey to Bethlehem to worship the Christ Child.

I am always amazed at the depth of spirituality that our children display and am continually delighted at their ability to grasp the profound while celebrating the mundane. They look at the stories in different ways and bring their own experiences to each situation. Each member of our Trinity Godly Play circle is a teacher and a student. We all learn from one another as we reflect and wonder about God's stories and try to make sense of what happens to God's People and relate their experiences to our own lives.

Submitted by Heather Wells Heim

## GODLY JOURNEY

Ages 9 - 12

Our Godly Journey children are making strides to get to know themselves, their relationships to others and to God in a more mature way. They began this fall by making self-portraits and including carefully chosen words and phrases on the pictures to describe themselves and their aspirations. At the same time, they have been talking about sainthood and what it means to be a good person, a person who strives to always be good, but realizes that God will always love and forgive them when they make mistakes as long as they are truly sorry and move forward to be good again. They are proud of their hard work, and they are very excited about showing their self-portraits in the Parish House at the Silver Tea.

Submitted by Ann St. Clair

## JOURNEY 2 ADULTHOOD

Ages 12+

While Summer was long and sunny, it was such a beautiful thing to come back together with our Trinity family and back to our classrooms. The J2A group has been studying the Saint stories. We learned that a saint is a person just like you and me that God gave special graces to in order for them to do special things. All the saints were holy men and women. Some of the saints could work miracles, some could heal, some had the ability to be in two places at once. God knew these people, as He knows us, and gave them these abilities because God knew these people would do His Will.

We also looked at the Saint stories from a language arts perspective and broke each story into the appropriate pieces. We did this by comparing Saint stories side by side to see their similarities and differences. This led us to the lesson of imagining interviewing a Saint so that their story could be told? What questions would you ask? How would you decide what was important?

We had the privilege of interviewing our very own, Launce Blenkin, and will be presenting his story to the congregation during the 10:15am service on Sunday December 9<sup>th</sup>. This will be a day you will not to miss!

Once again, I find myself learning more from this special group of young adults than I can teach. This lesson has been eye opening and heartwarming in God's presence.

Submitted by Linda Cooper