

In this issue

- 2 Lyn's Letter cont.
- 3 Bishop Search & Visit
- 4 Trinity Happenings
- 5 March Calendar
- 6 March Schedule
- 7 Prayer Concerns
- 8 Bereavement Article
- 9 Diocesan Bicentennial
- 10 Birthdays & Anniversaries



Trinity Tribune

March 2017

Lyn's Letter

By Rev. Lyn Stabler-Tippett

I am very happy to have arrived at Trinity Mount Airy! I say "I" because at the time of writing this introduction, my husband Robert is still in Mississippi. Next week, I will return there to help him load a truck with our worldly possessions, 3 dogs and a cat. If we make it, and we will, Robert and I will settle into our home in the Windsor Park subdivision in Dobson. Our journey with God has brought us here, propelled by the Holy Spirit. Thanks be to God!

My journey to ordained ministry began more than a decade ago. Around 2004 I'd mentioned to my priest in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi that I thought I was feeling a call to ministry. I wasn't sure, maybe the diaconate or possibly the priesthood? I felt immense gratitude for the love I'd received in Christ and I wanted to give back to Christ's church in whatever way was helpful. A year later the Mississippi Coast was destroyed by hurricane Katrina. The experience of losing almost all my possessions and witnessing the loss of the

community, church, and way of life I'd taken for granted left me aware of how fragile our world can be. When electricity goes out and cell phones no longer work, and gas pumps can't pump gas and ATM machines don't give you cash, and banks can't process bill payments and the government agencies can only do so much and it takes a long time to get help...I saw churches coming to help people. I saw Christians from across the nation coming to provide food and building materials and literally rebuilding houses for people who had lost everything. And, they prayed for us.

My own home was flooded to the ceiling but I did not lose everything; for that I am grateful. Robert, however, had just moved to Mississippi from Atlanta Georgia three weeks before the storm and was renting rooms in a house that was destroyed completely. Basically, we only had clothes from the suitcases we'd packed for evacuating. Most important, no one in my family was injured and even my cat survived the flooded house. She was at the top of the stairs when we got to her. That was one happy kitty!

I say all of that to give you some insight into the frame of mind Robert and I still carry from the Katrina experience. We know God is good, and faith is the anchor in times of chaos and loss, and God redeems all things. We are Katrina pearls, for sure.

Continued on page 2



Katrina propelled me into the discernment process for seminary. I felt a sense of urgency to get on with serving God in the church. Four years later we moved to Sewanee Tennessee where I attended the University of the South School of Theology for three years. I was ordained deacon on June 1st 2013 and ordained priest on December 11th 2013. I served St. Stephen's in Columbia MS until moving here to join you at Trinity.

My spiritual journey has been one of discovering faith in God over my lifetime. I am an almost-cradle Episcopalian; we joined St. Mark's Episcopal in Troy AL when I was around 8 or 9 and I was confirmed there. Even though I have attended church all my life, it was not until my 40's that I made the decision to ask Jesus Christ to come live in my heart. I knew a lot about Jesus, but I wanted to know Him personally. From that time on, I have enjoyed a constantly deepening relationship with my Lord. It didn't happen immediately, like a bolt of lightning. It has been a gradual getting to know Him in prayer and worship. This is my Pearl of Great Price and I thank God every day for revealing himself to me in Christ Jesus.

I invite you to join me on this spiritual journey and the ministry Robert and I committed to after Katrina: to help others enjoy a deep and sustaining personal faith in God through Jesus Christ with hearts filled with the Holy Spirit. I hope we will be companions for a long time. I hope we will enjoy learning together, studying and discussing Scripture and theology, and worshiping together in church and in prayer. I expect we also will have lots of opportunities for working together to help others in our communities. I will be an active participant and volunteer at Staples, and perhaps help with a ministry for women struggling to begin again after domestic violence.

Please let me know your thoughts and ideas and any needs you have for pastoral care. I have begun an intentional process of meeting one-on-one with every member of the congregation. Call me before I call you! We can meet in the church office, or go for coffee, lunch or dinner. You don't have to invite us for dinner, but that is great too! I would like to get to know you personally and hear your story and your hopes for Trinity church.

As we approach the seasons of Lent and Easter, I urge you to enter fully into the experience of the Passion of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Christ is our companion and we accompany Him with com-*passion* in suffering, death and resurrection. It reminds me of a particular hurricane...and many other stories people have shared with me over the years about suffering and death, rebirth and renewal. Thanks be to God, we always have the chance to begin again!

With joyful anticipation and gratitude, Lyn+

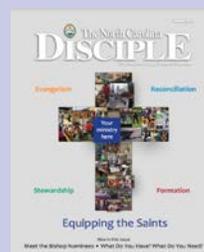
REGIONAL CANON'S VISIT

After the Rev. Earnest Graham's visit and well-attended talk about diocesan initiatives, many expressed a wish for more information. The following is a summary of the communications from our diocese. If you have a story idea, an editorial comment or a photo to share, please contact the communications department (communications@dionc.org).

PLEASE NOTE

Please Note is the weekly e-newsletter from the Bishop of North Carolina. It is published every Wednesday and includes a video message from the bishop, important news, special announcements for clergy, and event listings from around the diocese.

Past *Please Note* videos are available on the diocese's Vimeo channel. Subscribe today to receive future editions of *Please Note* in your inbox or submit an upcoming event.



THE NORTH CAROLINA DISCIPLE

The North Carolina Disciple is a quarterly magazine. The publication's mission is to tell the story of the Diocese of North Carolina and its constituent congregations by highlighting the good work of congregations, ministries and individuals across the Diocese; encouraging the sharing of meditations and reflections on topics related to our shared life in Christ; and providing resources for Christian education, worship and outreach.

Current and archival issues of the Disciple, along with submission guidelines, are available [online](#). To subscribe, email your mailing address to scott.welborn@episdionc.org.



GOSPEL-BASED DISCIPLESHIP

Gospel-Based Discipleship (GBD) includes Gospel readings from the Daily Office Lectionary, as well as prayers from the diocesan clergy prayer list and diocesan cycle of prayer, for each day of the liturgical year. The readings and cycles of prayer are also distributed daily through the diocese's [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) feeds.

Order your free 2015 copy of Gospel-Based Discipleship today by emailing communications@dionc.org!

BISHOP SEARCH DRAWS TO A CLOSE

Trinity has found a rector, and the diocese will very soon choose a new bishop - on March 4th, in fact.

Three lay representatives from Trinity (Jim Wuenscher, Brenda Goings and Liisa Wallace), as well as Rev. Lyn will attend a special convention to cast their vote. As your representatives we welcome and, in fact, plead for input from Trinity's members. There are four very capable candidates, and we take very seriously the responsibility to choose the one that will best serve our diocese. We would like to make our choice in the context of the feelings of the parish as whole, rather than just our own perceptions, so please take some time to review the candidates and feed back any thoughts that you may have.

You can read about the four candidates on the bishop search web site www.bishopsearch.dionc.org, as well as watch videos of the candidates explaining their faith and the contribution they feel they can make as bishop of North Carolina. Their personal statements are also displayed on the noticeboard in the parish hall.



BISHOP ANNE VISITS TRINITY ON MARCH 5TH

We are looking forward to welcoming the Bishop of our diocese on her visit to Trinity Church. There will be one service at 10:00, when Bishop Anne will preach and celebrate Eucharist. The offering will be designated for the Bishop's Discretionary Fund, used for religious and charitable purposes, pastoral emergencies and ministries arising during the course of the year.

The Bishop's visit is an opportunity for individuals to receive baptism or confirmation, to reaffirm their faith or to be received into the church.

The promises we have made in our Baptismal Covenant, and repeat in our Confirmation, are reminders that we are called to move deeper in our faith and to make a difference in our world as followers of Christ, always "with God's help." Bishop Anne will join us for Coffee Hour, and will spend time with us discussing how we as a congregation can live out our baptismal covenant in concrete ways.



A Prayer for the Bishop Search

Most gracious God, who gave your only Son to be our Good Shepherd: Look favorably upon your Church, and guide the hearts and minds of those who shall choose a bishop to be a pastor to this Diocese, that we may receive a faithful leader, who will go with us out in the world, making disciples who make a difference; and nurture in your servants who wrestle with this call a spirit of wisdom and confidence, joy and humility; through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



Trinity's annual audit starts in March - help wanted!

Every year Trinity's accounts are audited in accordance with diocesan guidelines. Because of our size we can do this internally, thus saving thousands of dollars in audit fees. This saving depends entirely on the effort of volunteers who give their time and skills to help Trinity. The job does not take up an excessive amount of time if shared among several people. To continue doing this ourselves, we need to find one or two individuals who are prepared to give a few days of their time for this important task. It is not necessary to have accounting qualifications; the task involves reviewing a sample of the year's accounts transactions, and following the paper trail through to its conclusion.

Contact Liisa Wallace or Ned Michaels if you think it is something you might be able to help us with, and want to learn more.



Join us for Bible Study at 4:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. We will begin a study of Matthew. The books for this study are Matthew for Everyone by N.T. Wright and the correlating study guide. Participants have chosen to order their own books. Please contact the church office if you need assistance ordering a copy.



Each Wednesday during Lent, join us for a soup supper and discussion on the Stations of the Cross following the 5:30 service of Holy Communion.

Staples

A BIG thank you to all the great volunteers who helped sort and pack the food we received from the *Scouting For Food* program on February 11th. This year we received almost 2,200 pounds of food and cash gifts donated to our Staples Food Program. Our pantry is starting off the year with the shelves full. Thanks again to all of you who helped out.

~Ellie



Book Group

Trinity's Book Group meets on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. We are currently reading *Christ of the Celts*, by John Phillip Newell. As always, everyone is welcome. Contact Brenda Goings with any questions at brendanichol@earthlink.net.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the first Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Parlor.



United Thank Offering

United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of the Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through United Thank Offering, men, women, and children nurture the habit of giving daily thanks to God. These prayers of thanksgiving start when we recognize and name our many daily blessings. Those who participate in UTO discover that thankfulness leads to generosity. United Thank Offering is entrusted to promote thank offerings, to receive the offerings, and to distribute the UTO monies to support mission and ministry throughout the Episcopal Church and in invited Provinces of the Anglican Communion in the developing world. UTO boxes are on the way!



Adult Sunday School

Beginning on March 12th, we will have an Adult Sunday School class each Sunday from 9:20 a.m. -10:20 a.m. in the parlor. We will be reading and studying the book *The Day the Revolution Began (Reconsidering the meaning of Jesus's crucifixion)* by N.T. Wright. You do not need to purchase a copy of the book.

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- Choose Trinity Episcopal Church as your organization.



Liisa Wallace, Contacts

Mar 2017 (Eastern Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	1	2	3	4
			Ash Wednesday 10am - Prayer Shawl 12pm - Holy Communion & 4pm - Bible Study 7pm - Holy Communion and	8:30am - Staples Program		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:30am - Holy Communion 9:20am - Godly Play 10:30am - Holy Communion	10:30am - Book Group		4pm - Bible Study 5:30pm - Holy Communion 6:30pm - Choir Practice 7pm - Pub Theology @	8:30am - Staples Program		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Daylight Saving Time 8:30am - Holy Communion 9:20am - Adult Sunday 9:20am - Godly Play 10:30am - Holy Communion	10:30am - Book Group	7pm - Vestry Meeting	4pm - Bible Study 5:30pm - Holy Communion 6:30pm - Choir Practice	8:30am - Staples Program	St. Patrick's Day	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:30am - Holy Communion 9:20am - Adult Sunday 9:20am - Godly Play 10:30am - Holy Communion	Spring begins 10:30am - Book Group		4pm - Bible Study 5:30pm - Holy Communion 6:30pm - Choir Practice 7pm - Pub Theology @	8:30am - Staples Program		
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
8:30am - Holy Communion 9:20am - Adult Sunday 9:20am - Godly Play 10:30am - Holy Communion	10:30am - Book Group		4pm - Bible Study 5:30pm - Holy Communion 6:30pm - Choir Practice	8:30am - Staples Program		

March 2017 Schedule

<i>Date</i>	<i>Coffee Hour</i>	<i>Usher</i>	<i>Lector</i>	<i>Chalice Bearer</i>	<i>Flowers</i>	<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Candles</i>
March 5 10:00 am	Bishop's Reception	Wendy Tatman	Martha Marcum	Mike Wilson	Lent-No Flowers	Candace Sammons	Linda Light
March 12 8:30 am 10:30 am	Bill & Janet Noble	Liisa Wallace	Vicky Town Sue Hidley	Mike Wilson Wendy Tatman	Lent-No Flowers	Kate Appler	Linda Light
March 19 8:30 am 10:30 am	Volunteer Needed	Mark Appler Ross Borders	Ann Cochrane Linda Light	Mike Wilson Janet Herman	Lent-No Flowers	Pam Dickenson	Linda Light
March 26 8:30 am 10:30 am	Gloria Lawrence	Jill Borders	Vicky Town James Derrick	Mike Wilson Wendy Tatman	Lent-No Flowers	Polly Gross	Linda Light

Dates to Remember & Holy Week Services

Wednesday, March 1st **Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes** 12 noon & 7:00 p.m.

Each Wednesday during Lent there will be a soup supper and group discussion about the Stations of the Cross following the 5:30 service of Holy Communion

Sunday, March 12th **Adult Sunday School** begins at 9:20 a.m.

Thursday, April 6th **Palm Cross Workshop** 3:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Sunday, April 9th **Palm Sunday** 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. services

Wednesday, April 12th **Holy Communion** 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 14th **Maundy Thursday** service 7:00 p.m.

Friday, April 14th **Good Friday** service 12 noon

Sunday, April 16th **Easter Sunday** 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. services

Trinity Prayer Concerns

Immediate Needs:

Peggy Beck
Macon Sammons
Tom Vaughn

Long Term Needs:

Ginny Atkinson
Michael Atkinson
Melissa Belcher
Dwight Blizzard
Kristi Calton
Joe Caravello
Bob Dalessio
David Dalessio
John Foltz
Chandra Harmon
Michael Hensley

Adam Hewko
Kelly Jarvis
Lorien Jennings-
Gilliland
Allen Johnson
Kale King
Angelia Lawrence
Rocky Lyons
Bill Nichol
Wade Nichols
Mike Palumbo
Rachel Puckett
Ed Ritter
Theresa Rizzo
Haley Selby
Ruth Smith
Stan Smith
Sid Spencer, Jr.
Barbara Summerlin
Marie Taylor
Malik Torrence
Betty Town
Vicky Town
Riley Voss
Patty Wise & Family
Jack Woltz

Healing Rites Offered

On the first Sunday of each month, anointing and laying on of hands is offered before the Prayer of Thanksgiving. To participate in this powerful time of prayer, simply remain at the Altar rail after receiving Holy Communion.

Pastoral care at Trinity

At this time of change we should all continue to be aware of pastoral needs of each other, and communicate these to Sam via Tobi at the church office or to any vestry member so that they can be addressed.

If you are unable to attend due to an illness or infirmity and would like to receive communion, please contact the church office.

Please pray for our Trinity family in the Armed Services of our country:

Kyle Crump, Kevin Hill, Corbin Humphrey, Matt Kroupa, Glenn Lynch, Gordon Lynch, John Nichols, Nathaniel Phillips, Terry Stone



How to let us know of your prayer concerns:

Call the church office at 336-786-6067 or email us at info@trinitymtairy.com





Spring Brings New Beginnings

Sabrina McKeithan, RN Case Manager
(Pilot Mountain, NC)

As we head to the close of winter, it suddenly hit me that our emotions are very much the same as winter – especially after the loss of a loved one.

We feel like a gray, overcast day; we feel barren. Our tears fall as the rain does outside. The cold overwhelms us much like our emotions do, with our loss leaving only feelings of emptiness.

We look out the window and see nothing but bare trees and dry, brown grass. No birds are singing. We feel only the cold winds that go right through to our sad bones. We ache, both physically and emotionally, often unable to see our way through those feelings and downcast emotions.

Then one day, we look at the window and see buds forming on the trees. Birds land on bare branches with small twigs and grass in their beaks, looking to make a safe nest. Suddenly, a small sense of hope bubbles to the surface.

From those buds, comes new life – leaves and beautiful flowers – and new meaning. The sense of hope and new beginnings starts to take over our thoughts. Our raw emotions slowly start to heal and make way for less painful memories.

The memory of our loved ones is still present, but we slowly change the way we cope with our loss. Much like the buds, we start to swell, stand up taller, and slowly bloom in a way we haven't since our loss. We smile as we see those flowers, smell their scents, and pick and

arrange them in vases while listening to the birds twittering outside the window as they busily prepare nests for anticipated young.

We look forward to a new life and new beginnings. We embrace and acknowledge the love we gave our loved ones. We are thankful for the opportunity to remember those we cared for, walked alongside of, and loved like no other as they progressed through their disease.

Finally, we are reminded that in death comes new life, new beginnings, and sudden joys. When a new baby enters the family, we start contacting old friends, head back to those groups we enjoyed, such as church, Bible study, and book clubs. We ourselves become new again, different in a way that is hard to explain.

We will always miss and love those we lose, but life is precious. Pick those flowers, and smile as the sun brings warmth and white fluffy clouds. Spread your arms and welcome those new challenges that will come your way, much the same as the leaf buds shoot out those glorious bright green leaves. We take comfort as we head out of our own personal winter and into our own personal spring with new beginnings, new chances, and an easing of pain and hurt you never thought you could rise above.

Take time this spring to marvel at the new life that is occurring around you. Wrap yourself up in the glory that God has provided you. The warmth is His loving arms surrounding you; the flowers are the peace He gives your heart, and the sun is His love promising you He will never leave you alone.

This article was taken from an archived edition of *The Next Step*. For more articles or to sign up for this newsletter visit: <http://www.mtnvalleyhospice.org>.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.” Matthew 5:4

Bereavement is a journey. Bereavement is not a cure. It is a bridge on life's road. To be Bereaved is to be deprived, robbed and to be left in a sad or lonely state. Bereavement can help. It can assist in healing the heart. Did we say that it is a life bridge? Trinity would like to assist the Bereaved. Let us assist.

Contact a Vestry member today.

The Bicentennial: 200 Years of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN NORTH CAROLINA is celebrating its [Bicentennial](#) April 21-23, 2017, at Christ Church, New Bern. A full weekend of events free and open to the public is scheduled to mark the milestone.

The main bicentennial celebration will take place in New Bern April 21-23. Festivities are planned throughout the weekend, including a history program, guided walking tour, special tour of Tryon Palace, luncheon, reception and Festival Eucharist at Christ Church, at which the Most Rev. Michael Curry will return to North Carolina to preach.

New Bern is our gathering place because we all owe our origins to a group of three clergymen and six laymen, representing four churches, who met at Christ Church on April 24, 1817, to organize a new diocese comprising the entire state. This small group held a service, adopted a constitution, elected delegates to General Convention, and invited the Bishop of Virginia to provide temporary Episcopal oversight.

As time went on, more and more churches opened across the state and more Episcopal oversight was needed. The challenges of travel and time led in 1883 to the creation of the new Diocese of East Carolina with its own bishop. Continued church growth brought another division in 1895, first as the Missionary District of Asheville, then as the Diocese of Western North Carolina in 1922.

To honor this small but significant beginning in a special way, we welcome the Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church and 11th Bishop of the Diocese of North Carolina, as our preacher for the Bicentennial Festival Eucharist on Saturday, April 22.

While the Festival Eucharist and reception are ticketed events, the rest of the weekend is open to the general public. Ticket information will be available soon.

IF YOU'RE NOT ABLE TO MAKE THE BICENTENNIAL WEEKEND, check out the [special traveling exhibit](#) as it makes its way across the state throughout 2017.

200 STORIES: You can be a part of the celebration! The vision of "200 Stories" is to collect 200 vignettes, in writing and video, to spotlight the people, places and events that illustrate the range of North Carolina's Episcopal history. Contact communications@episdionc.org to submit your story.

March Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

14th Eric Jennings
16th David Wallace
17th Bill Woltz
22nd Liisa Wallace
26th Holden Appller
27th Jay Springthorpe
30th Tom Vaughn, Jr.

Anniversaries

10th David & Liisa Wallace
25th Scott & Jennifer Green

Birthday Blessings

You may come forward for a birthday blessing during any of our services. It is our custom to put one penny (-or dollar!) in the birthday bank for each year of your life.

The funds go to support our Staples Food Ministry.



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Trinity
Tribune
March
2017

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