



# Trinity Episcopal Church

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Serving Aurora's Faithful since 1849

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## From the JuniorWarden

Every year at this time the world is full of new beginnings. And with spring in full bloom, this year is no exception, new flowers, days getting longer, birds singing and people coming out of hibernation. And last month, towards the end of Lent Trinity was approached with the opportunity to help New Hope Lutheran church with their new beginning. This opportunity called upon all of us to jump into action and look at our options for helping New Hope. This process not only reminded us but also taught us a lot about ourselves, some things eye-opening and some things reassuring.

It would be wonderful if we could all jump

into any endeavor with blind faith, but that isn't the way of the secular world. We all perform our due diligence to whatever degree we feel suits our needs for the task at hand. Some with more due diligence, some a little more relaxed, and neither is wrong. What we have in common, is that we all do so with the same outcome in mind – to make the best, most educated decision possible. We do this with many things in our lives from reading food labels, choosing schools, researching big purchases, and deciding cell phone plans, to choosing a career or new job, and deciding what relationships to pursue or which ones to back away from. The opportunity with

New Hope wasn't any different. We were all eager when this opportunity knocked. We listened to what all of us, including those from New Hope, had to say. And some even went a step further to do a bit of legwork to learn all they could about New Hope; where they've been, how they've grown, et cetera. This underscores the level of commitment we have to Trinity. I firmly believe that knowledge is power and we gathered all of the knowledge we could from every avenue: personal interactions with the New Hope congregation, information from the Diocese, listening to our fellow parishioners and the information (Cont Pg 5)

## From the Senior Warden

Over the course of the last two months, your Vestry has held two retreats, facilitated by our own Deacon Dolan and his lovely wife, Karen . While we began with a goal of creating a strategic plan, I think we ended up realizing that we haven't completed the shift from having a full time Priest who is the Church leader and manages

the Church staff, both paid and unpaid, to a new model where the day to day management of the Church is the responsibility of the Laity.

We identified that while few are interested in managing the day to day operations of the Church and its staff, it is imperative for the long term survival of the Church that we

develop a long term solution to this requirement. The Vestry appointed a small, ad-hoc committee to explore the options and make recommendations back to the Vestry at our next meeting. I have also been meeting with Staff to get their input and make sure they are in the loop.

More to come!

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*May 26th is Trinity Sunday, Pence Pigs due!*

### Special points of interest:

- Trinity's Vestry has met twice - trying to discern where God wants His Church to go.
- Negotiations with New Hope Lutheran Church were ended by them as they chose to merge with 4th Street Methodist Church in Aurora
- We had roof problems which were temporarily fixed, but we are awaiting bids on a more permanent Repair.



## Our Spiritual Journey

Father Rosa left a publication on my desk that talked about the spiritual journey that another Church was taking by contemplating the following questions.

- Do we have any persistent weeds or bad habits that we struggle with in our Church?
- How do we deal with them?
- What keeps our congregation watered and fed?
- How can we keep that a priority.
- What might we have to cut out in our congregational life?



- How have we grown from our abundance?
- How have we grown from other people sharing theirs?
- How do we behave differently when we move from scarcity mentality to abundance mentality?
- How are we moving from our own Privileged Patch to the Global Garden?
- Is God calling our Church to something new?
- What does our garden look like?
- What does it need?
- What was/is the clay in Trinity Episcopal Church's life, the rock hard barriers

to growth, that we need to break through to build good soil?

- What natural gifts, resources and assets has God given us that our congregation might build its garden around?

I loved the concept of a Church being a garden; a garden that needs attention—tilling weeding, watering, reaping, feeding and God's gifts of light and water to blossom.

Take some time to ponder on the questions, discuss them with your friends and members of our congregation. Your Vestry is working on ways to grow Trinity and add to our family - thoughtfully and intentionally. Help us!

## Parish Notes

**We pray for our parish friends in need:** Naomi, Malcolm, Sarah, John, Bob, Mitch, Pam, Marti, Jackie, Kathy, Melinda, Charlie, Ann, Fritz, Margy, Henry, Jeanette, Barb & Ray(for health), Naomi Fauth (for her birthday), Hannah, (for the guidance of the Holy Spirit), the Geleske-Box family (for comfort).  
*(to add someone to our*

*prayers, please call the office or a member of the prayer chain. Prayers in the bulletin will be offered for a month unless asked for longer.)*

**Radius Camp:** This wonderful group will be with us again in June. This is a group of high school age young people that go out into the community and do such things as painting, planting and cleaning for

seniors and disabled persons. Let's welcome them, AGAIN, as they continue in this outreach ministry.

**Immigration:** I have been reading an article in *Faith Works*, a newsletter of Interfaith Worker Justice. "The debate around immigration reform can be divisive, controversial and emotional." (Cont page 4)

## The Recycle Bin

I want to thank everyone who participated in the Up-Cycle Challenge. I had a lot of fun judging, and I hope you had fun crafting your ideas. Gale won first place with her wine bottle wind chimes. What a great idea, and a great way to up-cycle those used wine bottles! Linda won second place with her garden art, candle



holder and jar for chrisem oil. Chireen took third place with her bird feeder made out of a 2 liter bottle. I also want to thank Mary Lou and Delores for helping me judge, and also thank James and his buddy Nate for making the signs to promote the challenge day. I have recently purchased the movie *Promised Land*, so

we will be having a movie night soon. Keep an eye out for the next movie night. Hope to see you there!  
Kimberly Rubis



## Financial Snapshot

Year to Date as of 9/8/12

**Income:**

Pledge and Plate \$ 3,870  
 Total Income \$11,428

**Expense**

Building and Grounds \$ 4,173  
 Rector Expense \$ 1,072  
 Office & Admin \$ 5  
 Loan Repayment \$ 840  
 Total Expense \$ 6,582  
 Net Income \$ 4,846

Checkbook Balance at the end of the month = \$14,238

Amount owed on our loan against the Endowment \$37,243

**Notes:**

- Easter, \$1,417
- Income from the endowment fund this month = \$5,256. This year = \$12,230 compared to a Budgeted income year to Date of \$6,062.
- The \$11,118.03 the IRS garnished from Trinity to pay for taxes we do not owe is being refunded to us in May.

- Our EnergyStar rating continues to fall . Once at 74, with only one more point to go to get recognized nationally, we are now at 68 and the gas bill for April has not arrived yet.
- May 26th is Trinity Sunday! It is **Pence Pig Day too!** We've paid off more than half of our \$75,000 loan that we used to renovate the Church and paint the Parish Hall back in 2008 - all Pence Pig money helps pay off the loan!.



## A Recipe from our Cookbook

**Baked Cream Potatoes**

- 4 green onions with tops
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 lb. pork
- 1/3 cup flour
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 4 cups milk
- 1/2 lb. sharp cheese, grated
- 5 lb. new potatoes, peeled, cubed, cooked
- 1 small jar pimento,

chopped

Sauté onions in butter for 5 minutes. Blend in the flour and seasonings; add milk and 3/4s of the cheese. Cook, stirring constantly until thick and smooth. Add potatoes and pimento and turn mixture into a greased casserole. Top with the remaining cheese. Bake at

350 degrees for 30 minutes.



## Take Time

1. Take time for Work - *it is the price of success.*
2. Take time to Think - *it is the source of power.*
3. Take time to play - *it is the secret of youth.*
4. Take time to Read - *it is the foundation of knowledge.*
5. Take time to Worship - *It is the highway of reverence and washes the dust of earth from our eyes.*
6. Take time to Help and Enjoy Friends - *it is the source of happiness.*
7. Take time to Love - *it is the one sacrament of life.*
8. Take time to Dream - *it hitches the soul to the stars.*
9. Take time to Laugh - *it helps with life's loads.*
10. Take time to Plan - *It is the secret of being able to have time to take time for the first nine things.*





## Kids Corner

Kimberly writes; James has completed his track season, the events and races that he did this year were the 100m dash and the high jump. I had a lot of fun working with him outside of his normal practice times. Many of you may not know that I also ran track when I was in jr. high and high school. So I had one of those "Mom" moments while teaching him how to high jump. NEVER did I

ever imagine that I would be sharing this experience with one of my kids. The icing on the cake was him wearing my spikes. Yes there were tears. Garret's baseball season is in full swing. They have a very promising team this year. It is amazing how fast these kids grow. Hannah is looking forward to summer vacation, with no alarm clocks, or schedules to follow. Charlotte is starting to walk better, it's only

a matter of time before she's running! Her personality is coming out more. She seems to be out going... wonder who she gets that from....Dad? I take her to story and music time at the library and she likes to crawl around and meet all the other kids. This should be a great summer for every one.



Father Rosa unveiling our new statue of the Virgin Mary with the Christ Child on Mother's Day, 2013

## Parish Notes (Cont)

" Thanks to all of you I have been extremely fortunate to help a few thousand people with immigration issues. My personal feelings are that the visa numbers should be opened up. What this means is people who are here and have petitioned family members are waiting many years. Many have waited 15-20 years to be re-united with brothers

and sisters. While an amnesty program is wonderful and I have seen the results of the last Amnesty back in 1987, why can't we help those who are trying to regain family unity a little more faster. Would you want to petition a family member and wait that long for them to be with you? It will be a very busy summer if the government

passes some of the real and humane immigration reform. Please join with me in praying for a comprehensive immigration reform act. Take a moment to look at the Diocese of Arizona's website and you will gain an understanding of:

**God has no Borders  
Jesus was an Immigrant**  
*Linda*



## Crop Walk - September 22, 2013

Trinity again has an opportunity to participate in this year's crop walk to raise money to combat hunger both in Aurora and throughout the world. Trinity has benefitted from Past Crop Walks by receiving some share of the profits from the walk. We need someone or a couple of people to participate in the planning and operational team. There will be an operational

meeting on May 21 at 4pm at the Aurora Interfaith Food Pantry. The meeting will be about the Recruiter Rally Date, the host site, publicity and recruitment efforts, etc. We would also need to fill out an application to receive funds from this year's Crop Walk. The last time we participated we had over 25 walkers and received over \$600 for our efforts.

Please Call Rob if you would like to take on this project!







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*Serving God and God's People  
Since 1849*



*Trinity is a community that strives to be a thriving, vibrant, diverse community of hope that, with God's help, heartily welcomes the stranger, joyously worships the Lord in the beauty of holiness, and lovingly serves 'the least of these,' a church that changes people's lives for the better."*

### From the Jr. Warden (Cont)

disseminated from the larger church community. With everything under consideration, we were prepared to present New Hope an offer to pair with us. In the end they chose a different avenue and we wish them well.

This opportunity reminds me that while we are different in some ways, and may approach the same topic from different angles, we at Trinity do so with great fervor because we feel so passionately and deeply for our church and our church family. Even if we have tense moments, like any family will, I feel it is

only because we are inherently working towards a common goal, though our disparate approaches may not seem like it at times. We have learned a lot about ourselves individually and collectively; we recognize our speed bumps and our strengths and have learned and will grow from them. It's reassuring to know that when the opportunity presents itself again, or new ones down the road, we will again jump to with a fierce commitment, building on what we've already learned and leaving no stone unturned. This kind of commitment can

only stem from a greater sense of love which we have all demonstrated and continue to with the best for our family in mind.

It's only fitting that New Hope knocked on our door at the start of spring, a time for new beginnings and awakenings. While our relationship with New Hope didn't come to fruition, we nevertheless intend to grow. The seeds have been planted and we need to take time and care to nurture our garden if we want to see it bloom and thrive. Alex Adams,  
Jr Warden

