

September 2018
Volume 7, Issue 5

Trinit-E News



Our Mission

*In and through Christ, to
restore people to unity
with God and each other
(2 Cor. 5:14-21)*

Good September Day,

Most of us by now have, in some shape or form, gotten back into the “swing of things.”

A new school season has started and for many, students, teachers, parents, and sometimes grandparents, we have hopped on board the hustle and bustle bus. Even for some of us who may have more quiet days we still can notice how a town can come to life at this point in the year.

If the school season does not bring enough new busyness for us, we also have the ever-important kickoff of a brand new football season (By the way - Go Miami Dolphins!) and the necessity to carve out enough time to watch a game on the weekend. This time of year I think we all can notice the pressure to cram as much as we can into our lives because we feel that we have no other choice.

Even our worship life is emphasized by the seasons – Advent, Christmas, and Easter, etc. Many times in church life, the pressure to get everything done before the “big service day” is very noticeable. As human beings, we live seasonal lives, and because of that, I believe we have conditioned ourselves to believe that “there is just not enough time,” to cram everything we need to do into our schedules. Yes, even in small-town America.

However, life is a season. It is only one act in our drama with God. You often see in Jesus’ ministry, particularly after something grand has happened – Jesus retreats and prays (Matthew 14:23; Mark 6:46). In doing so, I believe that Jesus as the incarnate Word of God is showing us how to live our lives. Reminding us that we cannot allow the day to day busyness of our lives, whether grand or sorrowful, remove the necessity we have as incarnate beings to reconnect with God. We need daily prayer, and daily silence with God, to in a sense, zoom out from busyness to reflect on all that we are and in the season that we are.

A favorite show that Jennifer and I have picked up recently is *Aerial America* on the Smithsonian Channel. The show is an aerial tour over the 50 United States. Providing a brief history detail on essential locations to each state. What I find so fascinating is once you zoom out past the treetops, and city skylines there is a beauty that in part you always knew was there, but somehow had forgotten. Whether it be the cold steel and flame of industry, golden plains, dense forest, or shiny urban architecture, there is a beauty in all of that life. That “zooming out” to see the beauty of our whole life is what I believe a deep relationship with God in Christ allows us.

So next time you find yourself at wits end behind a sugar cane truck with places to be, be patient, be silent, zoom out (not zone out!), pray, and enjoy your life.

Fr. Stephen Shortess

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

01 Ellen Rink
13 Brady Broussard
15 Howard Rogers, Jr.
15 Hayden Rink
16 Destiny Griffin
18 Georgia Landry
22 Riley Webster
23 Rhonda Dennis
26 Frances Bazet
28 Mary Hughes
29 Andrew Mauro
30 Mason White

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

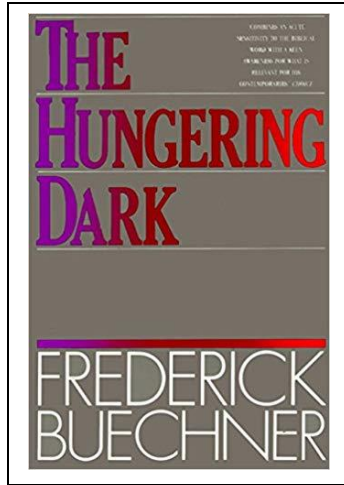
3—Ryan and Kelly White
17—Duane and Carrie Lodrigue
24—Gordon and Tamara Jones

PRAYERS

Please Pray For:

Ellen, Nancy, Astrid, Cathy and Barry, Jeanette, Kay and Mike, Jane and David, Cameron, Robi and Doug, Chips, Roy, Norma, Elizabeth and Irving, Lonnie, George, Trinity, Aaron, our partner in ministry St. John's, for all Christians who are persecuted around the world, for all First Responders in our area, those serving in the Armed Forces of the United States of America, our partners in mission at the Deaneries of Copan and Maya in Honduras and our sister parish Cristo Salvador; and our prayer partners in the Anglican Diocese of Tohoku, Japan; and the Anglican Diocese of Lango, Uganda.

From the Library:



It is my hope from time to time, as often as I can, to provide a book review of a book I have read or am reading. I will say that it may not always be a “religious” book. Sometimes it may be a novel, a history, or even a graphic novel (that is what we millennials call a comic book). Because after all, theology is not the study of God through one lens – but the study of God in everything.

Fredrick Buechner, an ordained Presbyterian minister, is the bestselling author of numerous books. His work, *The Hungering Dark*, offers powerful reflections on biblical texts from both the Old and New Testaments. Though Buechner’s book, initially published in 1968, with its language somewhat outdated, still proves I believe a penetrable force into modern doubt and discomfort in contemporary belief of God. Doubt most often is not a denial of God, but one’s hunger to for remembrance of God’s divine grace in their own life. Buechner’s writing allows his reader to dig a little deeper into their doubt, and into the scriptures, to find a God that is always there for us.

Ministry Schedule September 2018

| | Sept 2 8 am only | Sept 9 | Sept 16 | Sept 23 | Sept 30 | Oct 7 |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| CELEBRANT/ OFFICIANT | Fr. Stephen Shortess | Fr. Travers Koerner | Fr. Stephen Shortess | Fr. Travers Koerner | Fr. Stephen Shortess | Fr. Travers Koerner |
| PREACHER | “ | “ | “ | “ | “ | “ |
| SERVER(S) | | Joshua J | Austin B | Tim C | Sean D | Joshua J |
| CHALICE | | Mary H | Judy W | Tim C | Lisa P | Mary H |
| LECTOR | | Judy W | Mary H | Jane W | Charles P | Judy W |
| INTERCES- SOR | | Judy W | Dez K | Jane W | Lisa P | Judy W |
| GREETERS | | Clare C Peggy C | Drew M Ben M | Peggy C Clare C | Drew M Ben M | Clare C Peggy C |
| ALTAR GUILD | Mary H | Cathy B | Judy W Jenny R | Jane W | | Mary H |
| VESTRY ON DUTY | Mary H | Drew M | Judy W | David W | Doyle D | Sam J |

September 2018

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|--|--|------------------------------------|-----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 8:00 Eucharist Fr. Shortess | 3 Labor Day Church Office Closed | 4 Fr. Shortess in the office 9:30 Morning Prayer 6:30 Bible Study | 5 8 pm Alcoholics Anonymous | 6 | 7 6 pm Alcoholics Anonymous | 8 |
| 9 9:30 Eucharist Fr. Travers Pot Luck Lunch | 10 | 11 | 12 Fr. Shortess in the office 8 pm Alcoholics Anonymous | 13 Fr. Shortess in the office 9:30 Morning Prayer | 14 6 pm Alcoholics Anonymous | 15 |
| 16 9:30 Eucharist Fr. Shortess Vestry meeting | 17 Fr. Shortess in the office | 18 Fr. Shortess in the office 9:30 Morning Prayer 6:30 Bible Study | 19 8 pm Alcoholics Anonymous | 20 | 21 6 pm Alcoholics Anonymous | 22 |
| 23 9:30 Eucharist Fr. Travers | 24 | 25 | 26 Fr. Shortess in the office 8 pm Alcoholics Anonymous | 27 Fr. Shortess in the office 9:30 Morning Prayer | 28 6 pm Alcoholics Anonymous | 29 |
| 30 9:30 Eucharist Fr. Shortess | | | | | | |

A legacy of faith

National Grandparents Day became an official observance in 1978, thanks largely to the lobbying efforts of Marian McQuade, a West Virginian who had 15 children and 43 grandchildren during 60 years of marriage.

The purpose of National Grandparents Day, celebrated on the first Sunday after Labor Day, is threefold: to honor grandparents, to give grandparents an opportunity to show love for their children's children and to help children become aware of strength, information and guidance older people can offer.

Grandparents — and, in this mobile society, surrogate grandparents — also serve as examples of how to endure challenges with God's help. Elders describe how God remains present, faithful and steadfast throughout the years. As Psalm 145:4 (NIV) says, "One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts."

Wealth is worthless

It is said that for money you can have everything, but you cannot. You can buy food, but not appetite; medicine, but not health; knowledge but not wisdom; glitter, but not beauty; fun, but not joy; acquaintances, but not friends; servants, but not faithfulness; leisure, but not peace. You can have the husk of everything for money, but not the kernel.

—Arne Garborg

The challenge of Scripture

GQ magazine recently included the Bible on a list of 21 books not worth reading, calling the text "repetitive" and "foolish" (among other things). Pushback came from both secular and religious folks. Writing in *USA Today*, Tim Swarens argued that even if you don't believe in God, the Bible helps you understand Western culture, history, current events and your neighbors.

For Christians, the Bible — God's inspired Word — reveals God's love and will. It isn't always easy to read or process, but no other book contains such good news.

As Danielle Shroyer writes in *Original Blessing*, "Scripture is a sacred book meant to provoke us in ways that will move us toward God. And often, that is the very last thing we are looking for. We would rather have an answer, a simple plan, even a nicely tidy moral story. But Scripture gives us none of these things, because the holy is anything but domestic. We go looking to find a plan and instead are sent on a treasure hunt."

Trinity Episcopal Church

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Morgan City, LA 70381

PHONE:
(985) 384-7629

Sunday Services
9:30 AM

Rev. Stephen Shortess

Our Vision

Recognizing that we are all one in Christ, Trinity Episcopal Church is an embracing family, growing spiritually, and joyfully serving the community; a home that comforts the spirit; a place where people's gifts for ministry are identified, nourished, and shared; and place of learning where disciples are formed.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.trinitymcla.org

www.facebook.com/trinitymcla

