

# Trinit-E News



## Our Mission

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

On any given Saturday morning, my family usually has a dance party. We often dance to the same song repeatedly. Recent dance hits have been *Country Road* – Jack Johnson, *Wild World* – Cat Stevens, *Down South in New Orleans* – The Band, and *Hakunah Matata* – Disney’s the Lion King. However recently we have been stuck on Billy Joel’s hit *The River of Dreams*.

If you’ve never listened to the song before, the song has a rather upbeat rhythm. Great for spontaneous childlike movement. However, if you listen to the lyrics, the story of the song is rather sad. It is one person’s unending search for hope in life. Every night they come down to the river of dreams, knowing that something exists on the other side. Unfortunately, they have not been able to cross to the other side to discover what that hope is.

As we dance to the song I realize that my kids have not yet had their hearts broken, they have not yet had to ask the question. “Why?” I can only hope and pray as their parent, when that time comes for them, as they do for all of us, that Jennifer and I can slow the music down and dance slowly with them. Wading in the water with them as we get to that hope on the other side of the river where dreams still do exist.

One question I think the church faces is, “Why go to church?” Surely, as the Psalmist rightly suggests, God is everywhere, and we cannot escape God (Psalm 139). God is not a being, randomly met at church houses on a Sunday morning. God is the creator, and thus God is in all creation.

To make matters worse, that question is often asked because the church has been hurtful. The church has left many standing on the opposite side of the river looking for hope somewhere else.

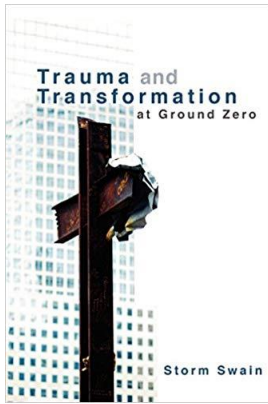
The Apostle Paul said our Christian life is like running a race (1 Cor. 9). Of course, in many ways this is true. However, when asked, “Why go to church?”

Perhaps the answer is, as Richard Rohr suggests because God wants to dance with us. Because we are a part of God’s creation, God wants to lead us into his harmonized love. God wants a perfect communion with us. Ultimately, to dance with God is to be present before the Presence. To rest in an unlimited source of love. We learn the choreography of this dance from Jesus Christ. Further, we learn how to dance with one another when we allow ourselves to come and hear of Christ’s life. So hopefully when we come to church, it forms us into discipleship that yearns to “go into the world” searching for our neighbor’s hand. Completing the dance circle. Finding communion.

That way we can remind anyone we meet, whether they are standing on the other side of the river or not, that we are all children of God and God wants to dance with all of us. And whether we know it or not, in Christ, we are already dancing on God’s promised side of the river.

So come and let’s dance with one another in God’s eternal love.

In Christ,  
Fr. Stephen Shortess



*Trauma and Transformation at Ground Zero* **by Storm Swain:** Episcopal priest Storm Swain offers a new vision of practical pastoral care in her book *Trauma and Transformation*. Indeed 9-11 was not just a day that shook our country and the world. But also our religious psyche. How could God allow something like this? How can we love and find hope in the midst of great evil?

After compiling several interviews with ground zero chaplains, and workers, their grief, trials, and reconciliation. Swain carefully offers a Trinitarian based pastoral theology that seeks Christ as the Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, and Life-giver. As our world increasingly encounters traumatic disasters, whether natural or human-made. Swain strives to lay the groundwork for those who want to help others go from Trauma to Transformation. From Death to Resurrection.

### **Trinity Episcopal Church Women**

The date approaches for the Fall Ingathering of ECW's United Thank Offering. Envelopes and "Little Blue Boxes" are available in the Parish Hall and the narthex of the church. Thank offerings will be collected each Sunday throughout October, then we will recognize the Diocesan campaign on November 18<sup>th</sup>.

UTO serves to nurture the habit of giving daily thanks to God for blessings great and small. With the funds collected, *Young Adult and Seminarian Grants* are awarded each year. In addition, UTO supports mission and ministry throughout The Episcopal Church.

### **Holy Eucharist in Berwick**

On **October 14**, the Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at **10:30 am** in the backyard of Judy Weber, 588 Fairview Drive in Berwick. It will be followed by a picnic/Pot Luck luncheon. Please bring hot or cold items in an ice chest as there will be no oven or refrigerator access. Please bring lawn chairs. Judy's neighbor, Mark Ordogne, has offered his driveway for overflow parking, and has a large circular drive. Members of St. John's are invited. In case of bad weather, the Eucharist and Pot Luck will be at Trinity. No **Pot Luck luncheon** on October 7.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

This month's Vestry meeting will be held on October 15<sup>th</sup>, at the church, at 6 PM. The ECW Deanery meeting will be at St. John's in Thibodaux on October 20<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 AM. Anyone wishing to attend should let Jane Webster know.

# October 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Fr. Shortess in the office	2 Fr. Shortess in the office 9:30 Morning Prayer 6:30 Bible Study	3 8 pm Alcoholics Anonymous	4	5 6 pm Alcoholics Anonymous	6
7 9:30 Eucharist Fr. Travers No Pot Luck	8	9	10 Fr. Shortess in the office 8 pm Alcoholics Anonymous	11 Fr. Shortess in the office 9:30 Morning Prayer	12 6 pm Alcoholics Anonymous	13
14 9:30 Eucharist @ Judy W's home, 588 Fairview Dr. Berwick. Pot luck	15 Fr. Shortess in the office Vestry meets 6 pm	16 Fr. Shortess in the office 9:30 Morning Prayer 6:30 Bible Study	17 8 pm Alcoholics Anonymous	18	19 6 pm Alcoholics Anonymous	20
21 9:30 Eucharist Fr. Travers	22	23	24 Fr. Shortess in the office 8 pm Alcoholics Anonymous	25 Fr. Shortess in the office 9:30 Morning Prayer	26 6 pm Alcoholics Anonymous	27
28 9:30 Eucharist Fr. Shortess	29 Fr. Shortess in the office	30 Fr. Shortess in the office 9:30 Morning Prayer 6:30 Bible Study	31 8 pm Alcoholics Anonymous			

## 16th-century guidance for today

How can we know whether we're following God's will? Sometimes we act, only to see in hindsight that we caused harm. Or self-righteousness blinds us to the good guidance of others.

St. Ignatius of Loyola pondered the difficulty of aligning our actions to God's ways. He taught the need for "discernment of spirits" — examining internal thoughts and emotions to see if they originate with and lead to God. Ignatius called it "consolation" when he felt loved by God and eager to care for people in need, and "desolation" when something left him full of darkness and fear that moved him away from God and neighbor.

Think of a time you made a decision and then felt peaceful, full of light, convinced it was "right." And when have you done something despite feeling tangled in knots about it, and perhaps later felt worse? Life isn't always so clear-cut, but the more we practice discernment, the better we will recognize and follow God's will.

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## Make it count!

This is our time on the history line of God. This is it. What will we do with the one deep exhale of God on this earth? For we are but a vapor and we have to make it count. We're on. Direct us, Lord, and get us on our feet.

—Beth Moore

## Servant leadership

From Christ's perspective, a true leader is a servant, committed to the success of each individual in the group. Jesus did not criticize his disciples' desire to lead; he just showed them how to do it by washing their feet. ... The essence of spiritual leadership, therefore, is following Jesus and serving people. People rebel against controlling leaders, but it is impossible to rebel against a servant.

—Geoff Gorsuch, *Brothers! Calling Men Into Vital Relationships*

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## Infinite treasure

The present moment is always full of infinite treasure. It contains far more than you can possibly grasp. Faith is the measure of its riches: what you find in the present moment is according to the measure of your faith. Love also is the measure: the more the heart loves, the more it rejoices in what God provides.

The will of God presents itself at each moment like an immense ocean that the desire of your heart cannot empty; yet you will drink from that ocean according to your faith and love.

—Jean-Pierre de Caussade

## Quenched

I hunger and I thirst;  
Jesus my manna be.  
Ye living waters burst  
Out of the rock for me.

Thou bruised and broken bread,  
My lifelong wants supply.  
As living souls are fed,  
Oh, feed me, or I die.

—John S.B. Monsell

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

02 Robert Hughes  
05 Hollyn Chellette  
09 Paula Swiber  
10 Mary Margaret McSpadden  
13 Signe Parsiola  
14 John Stork  
14 Hayden P. Moore  
18 Tina Emmett  
23 Austin Blair  
27 Sam Jones

# OCTOBER



## OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

16<sup>th</sup> Bo and Heather Blair

### Ministry Schedule October 2018

	Oct 7	Oct 14	Oct 21	Oct 28	Nov 4
CELEBRANT/ Officiant	Fr. Travers	Fr. Shortess	Fr. Travers	Fr. Shortess	Fr. Travers
PREACHER	"	At Judy W's home		"	"
SERVER(S)	Joshua J	Tim C	Austin B	Sean D	Joshua J
CHALICE	Mary H	Tim C	Lisa P	Judy W	Mary H
LECTOR	Judy W	Mary H	Charles P	Jane W	Judy W
INTERCESSOR	Judy W	Mary H	Dez K	Jane W	Judy W
GREETERS	Clare C Peggy C	Drew M Ben M	Clare C Peggy C	Drew M Peggy C	Clare C Peggy C
ALTAR GUILD	Mary H	Cathy B	Judy W Jennie R	Jane W	Mary H
VOD	Sam J	Mary H	Drew M	David W	Doyle D

**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, Farren, Edward, Melvin, 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.

## Finding our range

While visiting a church, Robert Neff learned a lesson about the body of Christ. As he listened to a tenor's faltering voice, he noticed worshipers pulling out hymnals to locate the soloist's song.

"By the second verse, the congregation had joined the soloist in the hymn," Neff says. "By the third verse, the tenor was beginning to find the range. By the fourth verse, it was beautiful. And on the fifth verse, the congregation was absolutely silent, and the tenor sang the most beautiful solo of his life."

Neff concludes: "This is life in the body of Christ, enabling one another to sing the tune Christ has given us."

—from *Witnesses of a Third Way*

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## Wisdom from John Calvin

- "Whatever a person may be like, we must still love them because we love God."
- "Humility is the beginning of true intelligence."
- "Wherever we see the Word of God purely preached and heard, there a church of God exists, even if it swarms with many faults."
- "It is therefore faith alone which justifies, and yet the faith which justifies is not alone."
- "Scripture is like a pair of spectacles which dispels the darkness and gives us a clear view of God."



## Trinity Episcopal Church

302 Greenwood Street  
P.O. Box 1776  
Morgan City, LA 70381

PHONE:  
(985) 384-7629

Fr. Doug Lasiter

Sunday Services  
9:30 AM

### Our Vision

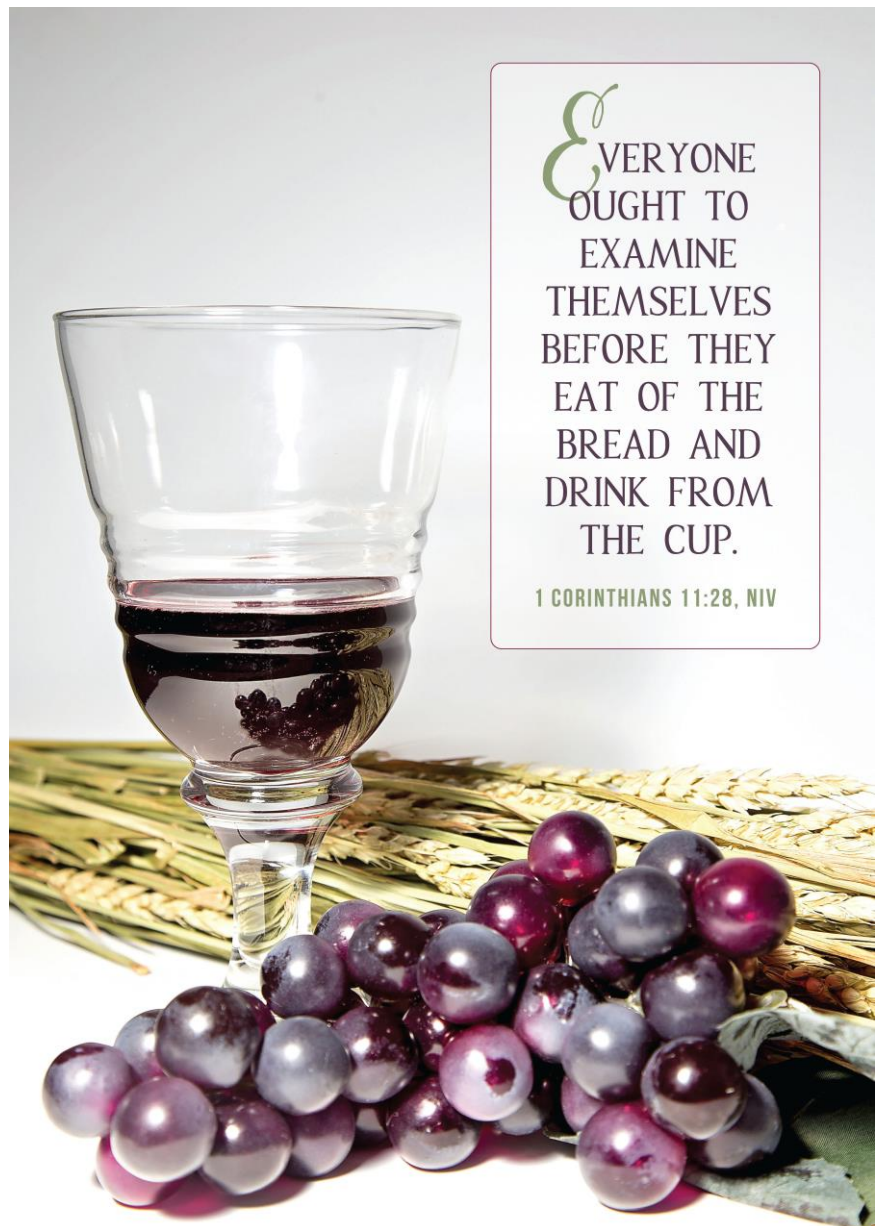
*Recognizing that we are all one in Christ, Trinity Episcopal Church is an embracing family, growing spiritually, and joyfully serving the community; a home that comforts the spirit; a place where people's gifts for ministry are identified, nourished, and shared; and place of learning where disciples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

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.trinitymcla.org](http://www.trinitymcla.org)

[www.facebook.com/trinitymcla](http://www.facebook.com/trinitymcla)



EVERYONE  
OUGHT TO  
EXAMINE  
THEMSELVES  
BEFORE THEY  
EAT OF THE  
BREAD AND  
DRINK FROM  
THE CUP.

1 CORINTHIANS 11:28, NIV

