

Advent 2019

Trinity Times

Monthly newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church, Washington, VA

The Rambling Rector

By Miller Hunter

Advent is a season of waiting. It is a time of preparation. It is a season of wonder.

In Advent we wait for Christmas. We wait and anticipate the coming celebration of the birth of the Christ Child. We celebrate the moment when God became man –the Incarnation. In that celebration we affirm that all of creation is good – from the Christ Child to the smallest child and humblest creature.

In Advent we prepare perhaps with an Advent wreath, or special music. We prepare our hearts with prayers of thanksgiving, regret and anticipation. For four Sundays we are intentional in our preparation.

And in this season of wonder we remember our family and friends in special ways. We pause to celebrate with those who are meaningful in our lives. We remember the child like wonder of the tree, the parade, the anticipation of Christmas. And in this holy season we remember those in need by responding generously.

I look forward to the celebration we will share together. Carol, the entire vestry, staff, and people of Trinity join me in wishing you and those you love a blessed Advent and Christmas.

Best,

Miller



Concert Series at Trinity:

Sunday, December 15, 2019 @4pm

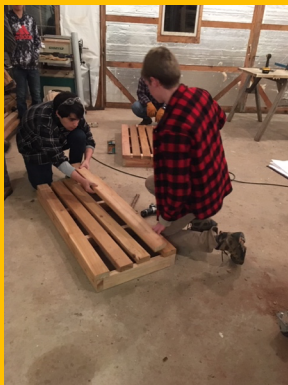
Rick Lord

Classical Guitarist and Episcopal Priest

Upcoming Concerts:

March 29, 2020

The Madison Chamber Players



Eagle Scout Project

Trinity's Boy Scout Troop 36 Eagle Scout candidate, Julian Cordero, spent many hours this past few weeks organizing and leading a project of building two cedar benches for our cemetery in Woodville. This project is the culmination of work including earning 6 ranks, and a minimum 21 merit badges in scouting. Congratulations, Julian!



Inclement Weather Policy:

As we head into winter, if in doubt, about services or other church activities, please check our website and church phone message for cancellations. If possible we will continue with all scheduled activities, but if conditions are icy and dangerous we will cancel or reschedule.

...and a SPOOKY time was had by all!!

Halloween was again spectacular this year. Amo and Greg Merritt and helpers hosted the annual festivities in the parish hall on Halloween night. Amidst a few requests to reschedule because of the weather, the night proved to be a success as trick-or-treaters came in waves following each deluge of rain. Over 300 hotdogs were served and many a happy goblin left with candy aplenty!



Hannah Gall's Trip to Togo

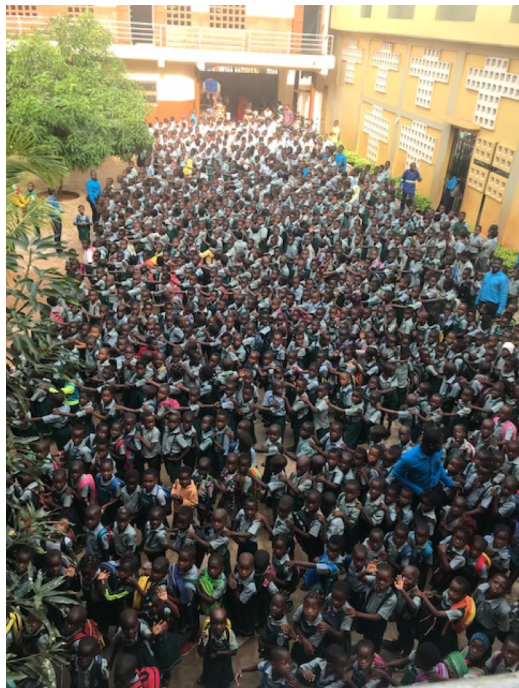
By Beth Gall

Hannah Gall, youngest daughter of Trinity Episcopal members, Paul and Beth Gall, recently embarked on a week-long medical mission to Togo, Africa. Hannah is currently working as a nurse-manager in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at UVA hospital and is a member of The Point Church, both of which are located in Charlottesville, Virginia. The Point Church and its' members support missions all over the world working with "Advancing Native Missions", a non-profit centered in Afton, Virginia. A ten-person team, made up of one doctor, 8 nurses, and one translator, met and began building relationships as a team as well as



fundraising all that would be needed in order to take suitcases filled with lifesaving medicine and resources for the people of Togo.

After landing in Lome, Togo, the team was met by their guide, leader and Togo native, Kodjo. He spends the majority of a year in the United States and works 60+ hour weeks as an LPN in order to support the ministry, AKEM, African Kids Evangelism Mission, that he has built and staffed. The school employs approximately 24 teachers who are responsible for educating around 1,200 students, preschool age through age 16. The school acts as both a place of learning as well as a church and the students are taught from a Christian-based curriculum during the week and also during Sunday school. The children line up hours before school begins each morning and are so incredibly excited to learn every day!



The team spent their days camped out in the school compound to see patients from surrounding villages and were able to see and treat, incredibly, 950 people. Hannah recalls the difficulty of having to turn people away at the end of each day, but that they would return anxiously the next day in hopes of being seen by one of the incredible members of the team. In addition to treating immediate medical needs, the team also spent time teaching the school staff and Togolese nurses various health-related practices. These ranged from hygiene practices like brushing teeth and knowing how to properly clean food to lifesaving techniques such teaching Togolese midwives how to help infants breathe when they are first born. Upon returning from their trip, Kodjo relayed a message to the team that one of the midwives who received the training told him she saved a baby with the techniques the team showed her. On their last full day, the team participated in Bible School for all 1200 students and gave a gift to each child, a prized pair of underwear! Students pushed and shoved to receive their package.

Hannah has said many times in the weeks since she has been back that this trip truly had a profound impact on her. She has shared how the Togolese people were so kind and welcoming to every member on the team and their generosity was overwhelming. It is inevitable that trips like this change and broaden perspective and give us all a tremendous appreciation for all of our many blessings, but we must also remember that to whom much is given, much is expected and that any chance we have in our day to day interactions it is imperative we take care of one another which is consistent with God’s second greatest commandment. Hannah is already looking forward to her next trip to spend time with the beautiful people of Togo!



Advent and Christmas Season Services

Sun, Dec. 15	3 ADVENT 8:30am HE I 10:30am Lessons & Carols, Pageant Tableau
Sun, Dec. 22	4 ADVENT 8:30am HE I 10:30am HE II
Tue, Dec. 24	5pm HE II with Choir and Organ
Wed, Dec. 25	10am Christmas Day HE II

ECW Harvest Festival Dinner

By Kim Nelson and Helen Williams

Supporters, guests and friends and volunteers of our 4-H program joined together on Saturday November 9th for a fundraiser prime rib dinner.

This was held at Trinity Episcopal Church in Little Washington Va.

Jenny Kapsa, our recent 4-H extension agent of 15 years lead everyone at the event in the Pledge of Allegiance and the 4H pledge.

Jenny and many guests had fun sharing their fond memories during their time in 4-H. It was a wonderful memory lane to travel.

We would like to thank all of the Trinity Church volunteers for organizing the event and for all those who provided and cooked an amazing meal.



Trinity Episcopal Church
379 Gay Street
PO Box 299
Washington, VA 22747

Sunday Schedule:
8:30am Quiet Service HE Rite I
9:15am Breakfast
9:45 am Christian Education
10:30am Traditional Service HE Rite II

