

THE MESSAGE

The Newsletter of **Trinity Episcopal Cathedral**
A House of Prayer for All People • September 2015



Search Committee Update

There are now two remaining candidates for Dean and Rector. Members of the committee have completed one parish visit and will conduct another visit this weekend. During the week of August 31, a candidate will visit Little Rock for a meeting with the Vestry, the committee, and Dr. Keller, and be guided on a tour of the Cathedral and the city. The committee will decide during that week if the second candidate will be invited to visit here. We will update the parish family on next steps at that time.

Thank you for the continuing prayers for our work as we near the end of the process and the final recommendation to the Vestry and the Bishop. We hope to make that recommendation by the end of September.

- Craig Douglass

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a Dean and Rector for this Cathedral Parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Message from Paul McLain



Dear Friends,

It is with a mixture of joy and sadness that I share with you that I have accepted a call to be Associate Priest of Spiritual Growth at Calvary Episcopal Church in Memphis, Tennessee, beginning September 1, 2015. While I am excited about this new opportunity in ministry, I will dearly miss you, the people of Trinity Cathedral. Over the last five years, you have showered Ruthie and me with your warmth, your hospitality, your encouragement, and your love. You have shared with me the most intimate moments in your lives – births, baptisms, weddings, funerals, sickness, and joys. I consider it one of the greatest honors and privileges of my life to be your priest. I am forever grateful!

Our last Sunday at the Cathedral will be August 30th. Ruthie and I pray that God pours out many blessings upon Trinity in the exciting days ahead as you grow deeper in devotion and service to our Lord Jesus Christ!

Love,

Paul+

A Message from the Dean

Dear Friends,

This is a bittersweet announcement. We are glad for Paul, and sad for us.

I know that you join me in heartfelt appreciation to Paul and Ruthie for their life with and ministry to the Cathedral for these past five years. I can tell you that my respect for and trust in Paul is total. From my arrival, he has been a valued colleague, counselor, and friend. Ruthie has been festive, zestful and delightful!

We will say goodbye and Godspeed to our dear friends on Sunday, August 30, including a reception in Morrison Hall between services.

As a parting gift, we welcome contributions to a “love offering” fund to assist Paul and Ruthie with the expenses that come with their move to Memphis. Those wishing to contribute may write checks to Trinity Cathedral, with: “For Paul and Ruthie” on the memo line.

In Christ,

Chris

Staff News



With news of Canon McLain’s departure, the Rev. Susan Payne has generously agreed to return to the Cathedral Staff on a part time basis as “Pastoral Associate.” In addition to participation in Sunday services, and continuing her ministry as a Catechist in the Good Shepherd program, Susan will make hospital calls and conduct weekly worship for the ECEP children.

This is an interim appointment, to keep things going smoothly through the fall until the anticipated arrival of the new Dean. The Rev. Susan Sims Smith will continue to volunteer as a Priest Associate through the interim period.

Rally Day and Ministry Fair September 13!



This year, Rally Day and the Ministry Fair are combining! Beginning immediately after the 9:00 service on September 13 in Morrison Hall, join us for a fun time as we gear up for a great fall! Learn about all of the many different opportunities you can plug into at Trinity to serve, learn and grow. Over 25 booths will be set up for you to learn and ask questions. The youth will be selling t-shirts and other Trinity swag for fundraisers for their summer mission trip to Guatemala. Tickets for the INSIGHTS series will be available to purchase. Information and sign up for all adult fall classes will be available. Delicious food will be prepared by Chalmer Wayland and his crew! This year, the Rally Day festivities will be in place of Adult Formation. Children will attend classes as usual. Don’t miss the fun!



This fall in the Sunday morning Dean’s Class Dr. Keller will offer a series called “The Mysteries of Christ.”

The mysteries of Christ are the heart of the life through which, as a theologian once put it, we are made to be strong in our weakness, to see in our blindness, and to hear in our deafness “by the One who, according to the Easter Story, goes through closed doors.”

Here is the Schedule.

- September 20: His Birth
- September 27: His Teaching
- October 4: His Miracles
- October 11: Special Class (Guest Speaker: The Very Rev. Barkley Thompson)
- October 18: His Death and Resurrection
- October 25: His Priesthood
- November 1: His Kingdom

The classes will meet over brunch from 10:15 to 11:05 in Morrison Hall. Grab your breakfast and take a seat!

Living the Questions

LIVING THE QUESTIONS class will continue discussing and questioning the values of historical and modern Judaism/ Christianity/ Islam. Topics will include:

- Comparing the commandments in Exodus, Leviticus, Mark, and the Book of Common Prayer
- Christian Prayer with a Muslim Twist
- Why is peace so difficult in the ‘Holy Land’?
- How separate should Church and State be?

The missing chapters of THE STORY OF ABRAHAM, ISAAC AND ISMAIL
Led by Dr. Robert Johnston and Sissi Brandon the class is a quick-moving discussion in which each person is invited, but not required to participate. 10.15 – 11:00 a.m. in the Conference Room.. Bring your brunch.



Youth Formation Begins September 20!

On September 20, Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to Botsford House after the 9:00 service (around 10:10) for Coffee, Juice, and Donuts.

This is not your ordinary Sunday School! We will discuss topics important to the youth – and depending on how many youth are there, we will have breakout sessions with age groups. If you are an acolyte at the 11:15 a.m. service – we'll make sure you leave in time!

Acolyte Training Begins September 20!

The Cathedral's acolyte training program will begin on Sunday, September 20 after the 9:00 am service in the acolyte vesting room. Your child in grades 6 – 12 has the opportunity to join a group very committed to service to their church. The length of practice time will match the times for the church formation classes.

The training program will last over a five-week period. At the end of their training program they will be installed as an acolyte and member of the Acolyte Guild during the 9:00 a.m. service on October 25.

We hope you will encourage your child to participate in the acolyte program. Although he or she may not have been active in formation classes over the years this will be an excellent resource to begin anew in the life of service to their church. Please contact Annie Burton (annie@trinitylittlerock.org) with any questions.

EYC Helps with “Feed the Hungry”

In July, Trinity EYC met bright and early (6:30a.m.!) and traveled to the Salvation Army to help with the Feed the Hungry program. The kids were all on time, all pitched in, and all had fun with the experience. Robert Johnston was very pleased with their behavior and enthusiasm. We will help again during Thanksgiving break. Part of our mission is to perform service tasks and give back to our community. This is one of the many ways we are giving back this year.



What an exciting year! The Theological Enrichment Committee is pleased to announce our inaugural year of Insights: A Series of Lectures & Talks Highlighting Some of America's Leading Religious Writers and Theologians. This year's first speaker is Eric Metaxas!

November 7: Eric Metaxas. Eric Metaxas is the author of the New York Times #1 Bestseller, Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy. Named “Book of the Year” by the ECPA, Bonhoeffer also won the 2011 John C. Pollock Award for Biography awarded by Beeson Divinity School and a 2011 Christopher Award in the Non-fiction category. Called a “biography of uncommon power,” Bonhoeffer appeared on numerous 2010 “Best of the Year” lists and was featured in the Wall Street Journal, Publishers Weekly, The New Republic, Harper's, Kirkus (starred review), NPR, FoxNews, C-SPAN's Book TV, Christianity Today, The Weekly Standard, and First Things. Bonhoeffer has sold more than 700,000 copies and has been translated into 17 languages. It was recently ranked #21 on the Amazon.com listing of Most Highlighted Books of all time. ABC News has called Metaxas a “photogenic, witty ambassador for faith in public life,” and The Indianapolis Star described him as “a Protestant version of William F. Buckley.”

Metaxas was the keynote speaker at the 2012 National Prayer Breakfast in Washington DC, an event attended by the President and First Lady, the Vice President, members of Congress, and other U.S. and world leaders. Previous keynote speakers have included Mother Theresa, Bono, and Tony Blair. That speech and Eric's essay on the experience, were put into a book, No Pressure, Mr. President: The Power of True Belief in a Time of Crisis.

Metaxas will be speaking at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral on his latest book, Miracles: What they are, Why they happen, and How they can change your life. Metaxas is made possible by generous donations from Ben & Walter Hussman, Julie & Chris Keller, and Bill Dillard III.

The lecture will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Cathedral, with a reception following in Morrison Hall. Books will be available to purchase and have signed. There will be a Sponsors & Patrons reception prior to the lecture. For more information on sponsorships, please contact Annie Burton at annie@trinitylittlerock.org.

Tickets to are \$25 for general seating or \$100 for patron tickets (which include an invitation to the Sponsors & Patrons reception and reserved seating). General admission to Elaine Pagels is free, but tickets are still required. Patron Tickets are also available for Pagels for \$100. Tickets are available to purchase online as follows:

Eric Metaxas: <http://insightsmetaxas.eventbrite.com>

Dr. Keller offers October Metaxas Book Study on Miracles



In the cause of “theological enrichment” Dr. Keller will lead a study of Eric Metaxas's book Miracles on Mondays in October. We will dive into the text, absorb the experiences the book reports and take on the meaty questions they raise, considering Metaxas's thoughts about them and our own. To accommodate more people's schedules, Dr. Keller is offering two sections of the class:

The morning section will meet Mondays from 11:00 a.m. to noon
The evening section will meet Mondays from 5:20 to 6:20 p.m.

Both sections will meet: Monday, Oct 5, Monday, Oct 12, Monday, Oct 19, and Monday, Oct 26

The classes will meet in the Cathedral House Conference Room

Dinners for Eight



Food & fun getting to know fellow Trinity members!

Things I learned at a Trinity Dinner for Eight:

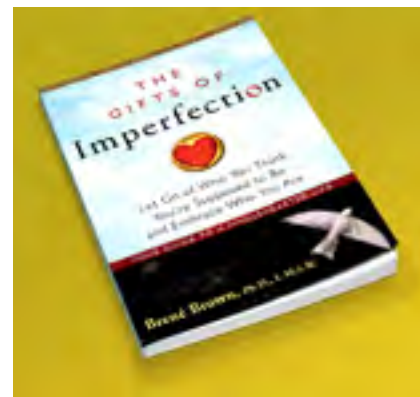
1. One of our clergy members was a DJ and thespian in former life.
2. A fellow parishioner and I grew up in the same Eastern Arkansas town.
3. Jim Hathaway is not related to Frank Broyles. (Doesn't he look like Frank?)

What a fun parish event this is, and if you have not participated in the "Dinners for Eight" the last few years, you don't want to miss this opportunity: Thursday, September 24. If you're a regular Dinners for Eighter, you know how fun the evening can be, so be sure and sign up again!

Here's how it works: Prepare to laugh, eat and enjoy the company of eight or so fellow parishioners over a casual, potluck dinner. Couples or singles, welcome. Here's your excuse to make that gloriously rich dessert you've wanted to try but didn't want to have leftovers.

Just sign up to attend (electronically or not-so-electronically, via old fashioned clip board, at the 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. services beginning September 13). Look for the Dinners for Eight Solicitors at the services.....they will find you! You can even sign up to have dinner at a home close to your own. You will be assigned a host/hostess for your dinner, and you just bring a favorite potluck dish. Prepare to have a casual, fun evening getting to know your fellow Trinity dinner companions. You'll be amazed just how much you didn't know about that couple that sits two pews in front of you every Sunday!

Gifts of Imperfection Workshop September 25-27 at Camp Mitchell



Each day we face a barrage of images and messages from society and the media telling us who, what, and how we should be. We are led to believe that if we could only look perfect and lead perfect lives, we'd no longer feel inadequate. So most of us perform, please, and perfect, all the while thinking, What if I can't keep all of these balls in the air? Why isn't everyone else working harder and living up to my expectations? What will people think if I fail or give up? When can I stop proving myself?

In *The Gifts of Imperfection*, Brené Brown, PhD, a leading expert on shame, authenticity and belonging, shares what she's learned from a decade of research on the power of Wholehearted Living--a way of engaging with the world from a place of worthiness.

In her ten guideposts, Brown engages our minds, hearts, and spirits as she explores how we can cultivate the courage, compassion, and connection to wake up in the morning and think, "No matter what gets done and how much is left undone, I am enough, and to go to bed at night thinking, Yes, I am sometimes afraid, but I am also brave. And, yes, I am imperfect and vulnerable, but that doesn't change the truth that I am worthy of love and belonging."

During our weekend together, we will discuss these ten guideposts and create a journal that explores and celebrates our blessed imperfections. Please read the book before the weekend! All supplies will be provided - except for pictures and we will tell you what sort of pictures to bring with you.

Cost is \$175 and includes lodging, linens, meals, and art supplies. Reserve your spot at the URL below:

<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/gifts-of-imperfection-workshop-tickets-18152067322>

Please remember Trinity Cathedral in your will.

Catachesis of the Good Shepherd



Children's formation...Sunday School... whatever you want to call it – we are starting a new year on Sunday, September 13 at 10:10 a.m. Our program is based on the relationship our children already have with God. Our goal as Catechists (teachers) is to guide and strengthen them in this relationship. All children age 3 and above are invited to join our Sunday morning program. We will be ready and waiting for you in the atrium (classroom). We will also have formation for our toddlers & 2 year olds in the nursery.

Good Shepherd Atrium (children age 3-1st grade) – downstairs Parish House

True Vine Atrium (children 2nd & 3rd grade) – upstairs Parish House

The Covenant Atrium (children 4th & 5th grade) – upstairs Mitchell House

Parents are invited to drop your children off at their atrium and attend the Ministry Fair in Morrison Hall. You may pick your children up at 11:00 a.m.



The Trinity Cathedral Music Program Fall 2015

THE CATHEDRAL CHOIR

Rehearsals: Wednesdays
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Starting August 19

TOWER BELLS

Rehearsals: Wednesdays
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Ongoing

THE CATHEDRAL HANDBELL CHOIR

Rehearsals: Wednesdays
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Starting September 9

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG SINGERS

Young singers from 3rd through 8th grade are invited to sing for various seasonal services throughout the year.

Rehearsals for these services are scheduled as needed and at mutually convenient times.

The Cathedral's Annual Christmas Pageant is scheduled for **Sunday, December 13 at 5:00 pm.**

Participation is open to young people of all ages.

ROBERT WILSON CHORAL SCHOLARS

Another component of our music program is the Robert Wilson Choral Scholars Fund, which provides a stipend for four select high school or college students to sing in the Cathedral Choir from September through May. Among the purposes of this program are to encourage young musicians, assist in the development of their choral skills, and honor the use of their talents in service to the Church. The Choral Scholars Fund was established by parishioner, Jane Wilson, in honor of her late husband, Bob, who was an accomplished singer and lover of music. For further information or to schedule an audition, contact Dr. Thomas Lee, Director of Music. tlee@trinitylittlerock.org 210.863.2846

Our singers and ringers are convivial groups who diligently and joyfully rehearse to provide the finest music for worship at the Cathedral.

New members are always welcome.

Contact Dr. Thomas Lee, Director of Music, for information about joining any of the Cathedral's music ensembles.

Email Addresses Needed: Can't wait for The Message to arrive? Want to know what is happening at Trinity? Make sure we have your email address so you receive the weekly Trinity Update. It contains a brief look at the many events on the block. Send your email address to dhowe@trinitylittlerock.org and we'll make sure you are added to the update list.



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www.trinitylittlerock.org

Weekly Worship Schedule:
Sunday - 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m.,
11:15 a.m., & 5:00 p.m.
Monday - Friday
Morning Prayer at 8:30 a.m.
Wednesday
Healing Eucharist at 5:15 p.m.

*The Cathedral is open for visitation, prayer, and
meditation weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*

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Address Service Requested

Trinity Cathedral invites you and your family to a very special Church Service

*Sunday, August 30th at 9 a.m.
in the Cathedral*



Honoring the teachers, staff and families of ECEP.

Please plan on attending this very special service of blessing for the new school year and afterwards for brunch in Morrison Hall. All family members and friends are welcome. Our nursery will be providing childcare as needed.