

Trinity Tidings

July, 2015

✧ Monthly Newsletter for Trinity “Old Swedes” Episcopal Church ✧

From the Pastor:

The Gift of Music

In the Prado, there is an altarpiece which, in its three panels, depicts Heaven, Purgatory, and Hell. In Heaven, we see angels playing trumpets, organs and harps while the Blessed raise voices in songs of praise. Interestingly, there is no music depicted in Purgatory. Rather, the figures there are in poses of prayer and penitence, focused on preparing to make the move to Heaven. But, music, of a sort, is found in Hell. There, the demons play drums, bagpipes (!) and assorted strings while the Damned try vainly to stop their ears to shut out the dissonance. The artist's lesson is that music uplifts; noise destroys.

Music has always been part of Christian worship. The New Testament attests to this, even quoting what we would call “lyrics” (e.g. Eph. 5.14, Rev. 7.12) from Christian hymns of the period. Indeed, the witness of Scripture shows us that there is no preaching in Heaven. There is no Bible study in Heaven. There is no pastoral care in Heaven. There are no vestry meetings in Heaven (!). But, there is singing in Heaven.

This may be one reason that churches like organs. It has been humorously suggested that the organ is the only instrument capable of keeping a congregation mostly on key and in tune for any length of time. But, a more reasonable explanation may be because the organ is very like a human in that it makes music by breathing. Humans do not make music when we are struck, scraped, or plucked (we make noise, but that's another matter.) We make music by the action of our lungs and vocal chords. Perhaps, this is why humans respond with affection to pipe organs even in the electronic age.

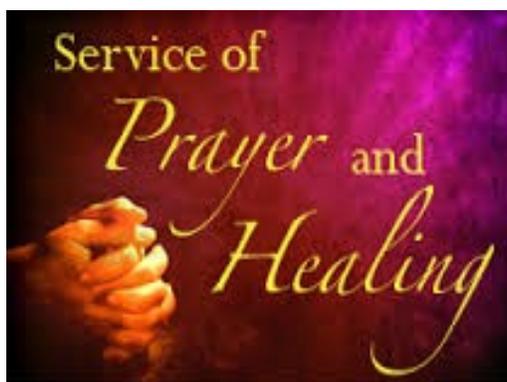


What constitutes beautiful and ugly music, though, depends very much on culture, place, and time. An 18th Century Methodist would shudder at the lack of theological depth in the 20th Century's "Shine, Jesus, Shine" as much as he would stand bewildered at how the stately (boring?) cadences of Russian Orthodox chant could stir so many souls.

But, for those who decry modern music, let us not forget that all church music was once considered "modern" and the fact is that most has not stood the test of time. Sometimes this is because it is just plain bad, but, also because fashions change. For example, the Anglican priest Sabine Baring-Gould wrote dozens of hymns commonly sung by our great-great-grandparents. Who has heard of him today? His "Onward, Christian Soldiers", however, will march for centuries to come. Similarly, "Amazing Grace" was not the only song of praise John Newton penned, but it became the most beloved of his 348 compositions.

Let us thank God, then, for the gift of music, which, like all His gifts, is meant to deepen our relationship with Him and may we enjoy and make it to the best of our abilities.

Fr. Frank



Healing Service – Fr. Frank offers a service of Healing and Eucharist at Trinity on July 8, 22, August 12, 26 at 10:00 am. The healing service is usually the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month.

FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH – DINNER MINISTRY TO ST. PAUL'S, CAMDEN:

DATES FOR 2015:

July 5

September 6

November 1

August 2

October 4

December 6

JULY 5 – Monetary donations or Shoprite gift cards are very welcome. Please contact Joanna Becker-Lippincott (cell: 609-420-2705) with questions or to make donations.



FEED THE HUNGRY

Remember that we take hotel toiletries, towels, sheets and other bedding, clothing, shoes, backpacks/suitcases, and take-out containers.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The Sunday School held an end of year Luau party for the congregation Sunday, June 28th thanks to the efforts of Ann Blackman and Doris St. Amour.

Looking Ahead: Already beginning to plan Sunday School for the fall. There are registration forms on the display case (by the front door) so that we can get to know your child better and share information with you to help you understand the program we are developing. Looking forward to an exciting year full of changes and growth!!

Dinner group !! Suspended for the Summer.

We will start up again in September. We will go to Vesuvio's since we were unable to go in June because of the storm and no electricity. Watch for future date.



Do you like to sing? Are you looking for a more personal and rewarding involvement in the worship service?

Come join our choir! ***Be a Leader - lead us in singing.*** Call our music director, Ted Kiefer, for more information. 856-371-1188

LITURGICAL MINISTERS – We need YOU! Would like to volunteer as a Lay Eucharistic Minister, Reader, Greeter, Acolyte or Altar Guild member? Please speak to Fr. Frank about these opportunities to serve!



WE NEED NEW CHURCH MEMBERS! TALK TO YOUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES AND NEIGHBORS. Our church is small and needs new folks. This Sunday attendance was not great. To survive, we need you to help us grow.



KINGS THINGS

Think about donating your unwanted items to Kings Things including furniture, small appliances, slightly used clothes and shoes. **FOOD** – Your donations can be brought to church on Sunday and left in the bin by the front door. Pantry need: jelly, peanut butter, spaghetti, sauce, pancake mix, pancake, syrup, tuna, can fruit, cereal, and & cheese, mash potatoes. The Thrift Store is now able to take in clean furniture donations: including pictures, tables and chairs, and couches (NO televisions please). Please phone the store to make larger donations . Monetary donations will help provide milk and fresh vegetables and can be sent to the Kings Things Food Pantry located at 1402 Kings Highway in Swedesboro. Phone: 856-467-1796. Store Hours are: Monday, Tuesday Wednesday, Friday 10 AM to 7 PM, Thursday 10 AM to 8 PM, Saturday 10 am to 4 pm, Sunday closed. Pantry hours are: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Needy families are welcome to phone the Pantry directly to make arrangements for a food donation. Confidentiality is assured. Donations of new small size personal hygiene items such as shampoo, conditioner, soap, tooth brushes, tooth paste, lotion, etc. will be sent to the USO.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to donate time at Kings Things and at the Furniture Store.

No heavy lifting needed – If you are willing to donate your time, please call Mrs. Botto (609) 330-5650.



About funerals: When a loved one is near death or dies you are encouraged to phone our priest right away, day or night. He will meet with you and your family privately for vigil prayers. And e will go with you to the funeral home to make arrangements if you wish. He will also meet with you to make arrangement for a funeral service. You can reach him through the church office at 856-467-1227.

About Illness and Hospital visits: Our priest will arrange to make hospital or home visits to say specific prayers for healing and to bring Holy Communion. In urgent situations he

usually can meet you in a hospital emergency room. You can reach him through the church office at 856-467-1227.

BREAD, WINE & CANDLE AND ALTAR FLOWERS: There are available dates for the Bread, Wine And Candle Offerings and Altar Flowers. Reservation slips are on the bulletin board or you may call the church office at 467-1227.

PRAYER REQUEST FORMS are on the display case by the doors of the church. Please drop completed forms in the offering plate.

About weddings and baptisms: The very best way to arrange for a wedding or a baptism is to speak to our priest. Arrangements for baptisms are made in person with the priest by a parent or the person to be baptized if he or she is over the age of 16. In some cases a legal guardian can make the arrangements. The Baptism may take place after a formal preparation meeting with the priest, which usually takes place the week before the Baptism with the parents, God-parents and person to be baptized. Weddings can be scheduled with the priest. Officiating at a wedding or a baptism is one of the most blessed experiences of being a member of the clergy.



The Episcopal Church welcomes you!

Sunday Worship Service Schedule

9:00 A.M.– HOLY EUCHARIST with Music 9:00 A.M.–Sunday School

Please phone the church office to arrange to have Communion brought to the homebound or for hospital visits, 467-1227

Fr. Frank St. Amour III, Priest in Charge
Mrs. Edie Rohrman, Music Director, Parish Historian
Ms. Sandy Strudwick, Church Secretary, (856-467-1227)

E-mail notifications:

If you are not receiving the Newsletter or other (infrequent!) church notifications by e-mail and would like to, please send your e-mail address to the church office to be included on the mailing list at:
trinityoldswedes@comcast.net.



The **TRINITY TIDINGS** are published monthly. Articles are appreciated. I would appreciate receiving material by the 20th of each month. **Please, NO PDF'S, plain text – no formatting!** You can drop articles off at the Church office or e-mail at (justfolkshere-edioloigman@yahoo.com). If you have suggestions for items to be included please let me know.

Thank you – the editors

Edith and Barry Loigman



Please note – there will not be an August Trinity Tidings. See you in September!

Trinity Episcopal Church

(founded 1703)

P.O. Box 31

Swedesboro, NJ 08085-1631

(856) 467-1227

Our Vestry:

OFFICERS OF VESTRY:

Craig Lewis (769-5190)
craig.lewis@mercerc.com
Bob Fredd, Jr. Warden (241-0617)
pineapple@rcn.com
Carol Sibley, Treasurer (478-0458)
Carol.Sibley@amwater.com
Elaine Matteo, Asst. Treasurer (467-1946)
ladyonhelms@comcast.net

Vicar: The Rev. Frank St. Amour III
rectoroldswedes@comcast.net
Office: 467-1227 Home 856-223-5404

VESTRY MEMBERS:

Ann Blackman
mapleleaf_woman@yahoo.com
Kathy Cutts (217-8778)
buffy1025@yahoo.com
Joe Frank (769-5216)
jfrank63@comcast.net
Virginia Johnston (542-5038) (alt)
mailto:ginny.johnston@sulzer.com
Tom Matteo (241-0219)
tom@matteokitchens.com
Jim Randall (alt)
jfrscouts@comcast.net
Edie Rohrman (423-1377)
acrohrman@comcast.net
Diane Walter (832-4280)