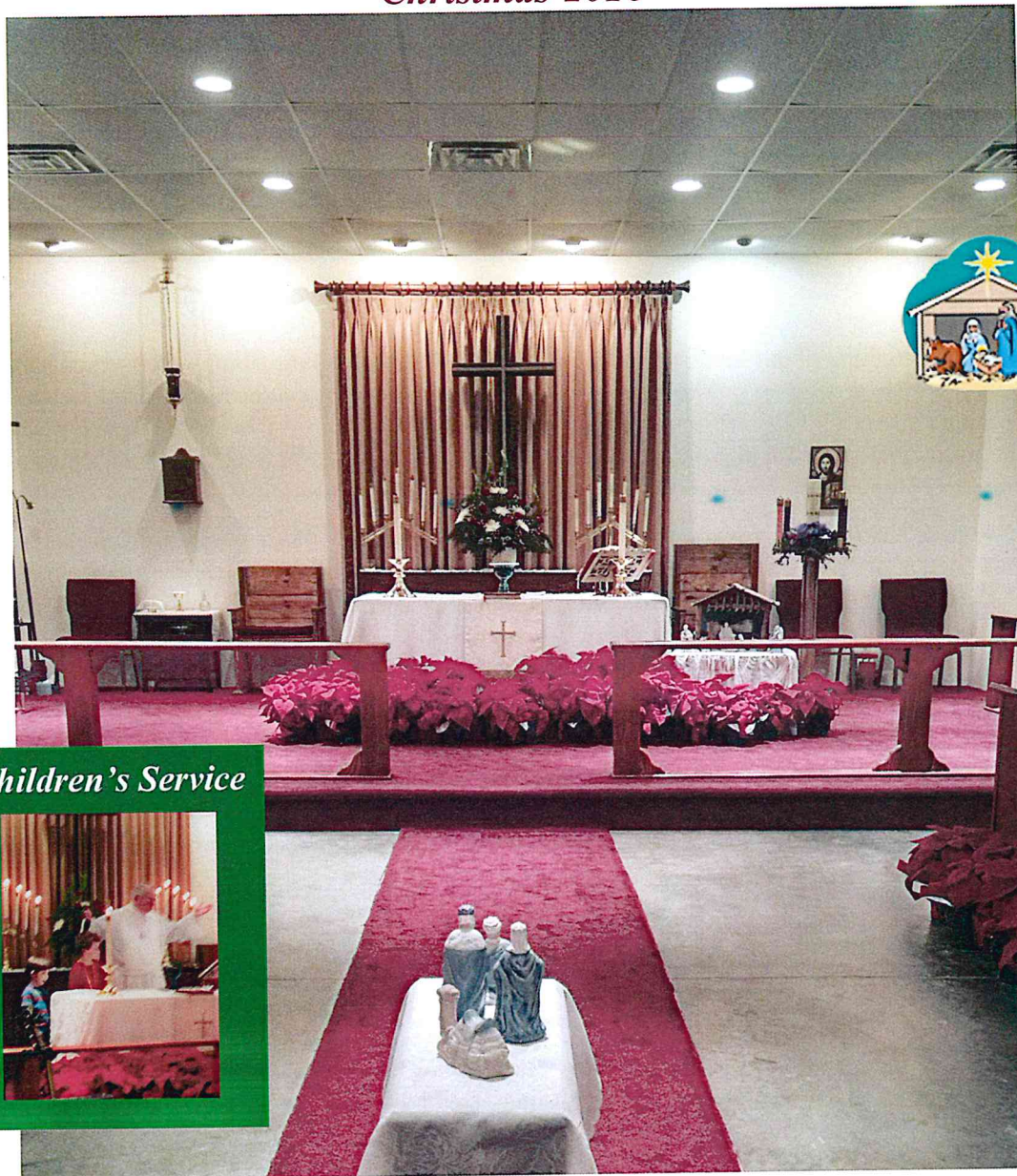


Epiphany January, 2017

Anglican Church of the Holy Trinity
Christ-centered, Biblically grounded, worshipping in the Anglican Tradition



Christmas-2016



Children's Service



Newsletter

*The Season
of Epiphany*



Holy Trinity
*An outpost of
the Kingdom
of God, where
people come
to know the
Lord, serve
the Lord, and
enjoy the
fellowship of
God's people.*

Christmas Caroling



About 15 of our parishioners and friends braved the heat and threat of rain on a recent Sunday afternoon to serenade several of our shut-in members. Accompanied by an accordion and several guitars, the group then stopped in at Hammond House. After parking in the church parking lot, the carolers made their way into our backyard neighborhood, Sweetwater Commons, to sing there as well. Before we enjoyed our coffee and sweets, we FaceTimed with Jack Wells in Children's Medical Center. And a great time was had by all! "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord!"

January Ministry Chart

2017	January 1 New Year's Day The Holy Name	January 8 1 st Sunday after the Epiphany	January 15 2 nd Sunday after the Epiphany	January 22 3 rd Sunday after the Epiphany	January 29 4 th Sunday after the Epiphany	February 5 5 th Sunday after the Epiphany
Euch. Min.	Sandra Sanders	Jerry Nault	Rosemarie Martin	Mike Sanders	Paula Wahl	Sandra Sanders
Ushers / Greeters	Bobbie Roddy Monte Steedley Sue James	Margaret Williams Joseph Anson Bill Bargeloh	Judy Chemin Deborah Kurilla Donna Lariscey	Wayne Lowe Richard Mayson Jason Nault	Sue James Bobbie Roddy Monte Steedley	Margaret Williams Joseph Anson Susan Penberthy
Presenting Bread/Wine	Wayne & Lora Lamberth	Donna Lariscey Wayne Lowe	Richard Mayson Caleb Mortimer	Jason & Kimber Nault	Darren & Bonnie Newman	Gordon & Doris O'Neill
Prayer Team	Rosemarie Martin Margaret Williams	Ginger Hackett Monique Taylor	Nancy Hartley Wayne Lowe	Rosemarie Martin Margaret Williams	Ginger Hackett Monique Taylor	Nancy Hartley Wayne Lowe
Lector-OT	Betty Croy	Avery Shapiro	Jennifer Dorn	Tom Dorn	Ginger Hackett	Billy Hane
Lector-NT	Sue James	Wayne Lowe	Richard Mayson	Annette Morris	Jason Nault	Mike Sanders
Altar Guild [week of]	Virginia Folk Marguerite Prescott	Ginger Hackett Monique Taylor Terry Nault	Betty Croy Donna Lariscey	Annette Morris Myrle Wilson	Rosemarie Martin JoEllen Barbare	Virginia Folk Marguerite Prescott
Acolyte Guild	Kate Wells	Oke Iwuji	Avery Shapiro	Sandra Sanders	Kate Wells	Jackie Fekula

Homophobic?

The Rev. Rob Hartley

Here we go again! ...talking about homosexuality when we should be talking about heterosexual promiscuity, marital infidelity and the erosion of marital longevity- the far larger and more destructive breaches of the God's boundaries around human sexuality. Discussions on human sexuality, however, are often driven by agendas not our own. The following is my distillation of a commentary on a statement on human sexuality provided by our Anglican Primates (Archbishops of Anglican Provinces). It is well-worth sharing.



We have plenty of examples in this world of unkind attitudes, snobbery, bullying and discrimination. Among these unchristian and unkind attitudes is that of "homophobia." Homophobia is defined as an irrational fear resulting in the shunning and ill-treatment of homosexuals. Unfortunately, the term is also coming to be used by theologically liberal folk to describe the reasoned and biblical convictions about the problems associated with homosexual practice, regardless of how compassionate and open one may be toward gay people. The premise is that, if we do not fully embrace the goodness of the gay identity and lifestyle, we are homophobes. No matter the extent with which we love, minister and invite into our fellowship those in homosexual lifestyles, we are still labeled homophobes. The Bible is therefore seen as homophobic.

It is incumbent upon us all not to lose heart when besieged with this unkind word, but to continue to speak with care, wisdom and compassion into this modern trend into what is considered acceptable human sexual behavior. The recent statement by our Primates commented on by Peter Jensen is a model of Christian speech because it was courageous, theological and pastoral.

Homophobic? Let us not merit such an accusation in terms of lack of love, compassion and invitation to active homosexuals to move into a deeper knowledge, love and obedience to our Lord.

A Christmas Sermon

The Rev. Rob Hartley

The Incarnation, Atoning Death and Glorious Resurrection of our Lord (the Christ Event) together constitute the greatest and most significant occurrence to take place in human history since Creation itself. Some would think that is an extraordinary claim indeed. What about, they might ask, the civilizations that have charted the course of human history? What about the myriad of extraordinarily great men that have come before us? What about the philosophical systems and scientific discoveries that have shaped the human intellect and driven human progress? Surely the Incarnation is a great event, but... the greatest and most significant event in all of human history?

Why can we as Christians make such a claim? First, let us look at what we know about ourselves? Human history reveals us to be broken, hurting, sinful, self-centered creatures. Whether we are talking about individual people or talking about tribes and nations, left to our own designs, we tend to make a mess of things and hurt others in the process. We have a long history of injustice, oppression, wars, genocide, man's inhumanity to man. Scripture tells us that we, even the best among us, when compared to the holiness and righteousness of God are as filthy rags. We all sin and fall short of the glory of God. We don't, however, need to rely on Scripture to tell us this; we know it by just looking around.

Secondly, we know that we are powerless to fix our flawed and fallen human condition. Old Testament Scripture is a running testimony to this fact. But, again, we don't have to go to Scripture to know this. Just look at our recent human history. With the Age of Enlightenment and with the dawn of the Modern Era, we developed an optimism that our intellect and our advancement as a human race would fix, at least eventually, what is wrong with humanity. The Progressive Movement that was so prevalent in the Modern Era of this past...

century envisioned that we could bootstrap ourselves into being better. Utopian movements sprung up with the hope for an enlightened and genteel world. They have been short-lived. What significantly acted to burst the Progressive bubble over the last hundred years is that the 20th Century produced some of the bloodiest wars and cruelest genocides mankind has ever seen. Things seemed to have gotten worse, not better. We are not able to overcome our fallen human nature and self-centered impulses.

It is all too obvious that we need a savior. We need a God who will do for us what we cannot do for ourselves. Nothing will change the course of human history until something or someone changes the human heart. Only God can do that. "I will remove your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh," God promises.

We need a savior to rescue us from ourselves, and here at Christmas, that is exactly what we get. As if to confound our human wisdom, God does this by coming to us as a helpless babe lying in a cattle feeding trough. Jesus grows to be a man who is powerless by the world's standards, but infinitely powerful by God's standards, powerful enough to bring about the single greatest and most significant event in human history since Creation itself, the redemption and healing of all who will turn to Him. This "Great Rescue" is exactly what we need, but we as Americans have moved in the other direction. As we become more and more a secular culture, we are rejecting our only real hope. It is not that we are going to produce a perfect world in this life, but Christ opens the door to a new and perfected life in Him. Christianity worldwide continues to flourish, but paradoxically in America we are headed in the other direction.

What are we to do with all this... what are we to do with the Christmas Message we shared today? We will do what the church has always done, be a beacon of hope, a light, the Light of Christ, shining into a dark world. Holy Trinity, along with all the other churches in our community, need to unflinchingly proclaim the great Truth embedded in this Christmas Story that we celebrate in this season. We need to tell the story, live the story, and witness of power for holy living that has come to us in Christ. Holy Trinity needs to invite people into this safe place and be healed of the ravages of this fallen world.

"To Christ be all honor, praise, and glory for ever and ever." Amen and Amen.

The First 1000 Years of Christianity

Thursdays, 6 pm-Jan. 12 to Feb. 2

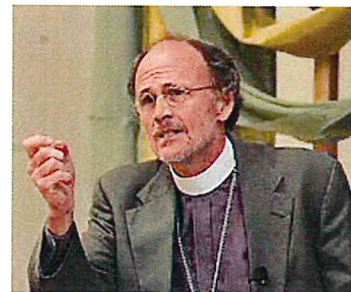


This will be an historical survey of Christianity led by Father Dan. If you are interested in attending, please sign up on the bulletin board.

Wednesday Evenings beginning Jan 11 The Screwtape Letters

In our secularized and materialistic society, even Christians have little awareness of the spiritual side of reality. By means of an imaginary correspondence between a senior tempter, Screwtape, and a junior devil, Wormwood, C.S. Lewis gives us penetrating insights into the subtle work of the devil in our everyday lives and how the unseen powers of evil work to ensnare and destroy those who otherwise seek to follow Christ.

Teaching Retreat Friday Evening and Saturday, January 27-28 The Rt. Rev. Thad Barnum



Saint Swithin

Bishop of Winchester; died 2 July, 862.

Very little is known of this saint's life, for his biographers constructed their "Lives" long after his death and there is hardly any mention of him in contemporary documents. Swithin was one of the two trusted counsellors of Egbert, King of the West Saxons (d.839), helping him in ecclesiastical matters, while Ealstan of Sherborne was his chief advisor. He probably entrusted Swithin with the education of his son Ethelwulf and caused the saint to be elected to the Bishopric of Winchester in succession to Helmstan. His consecration by Ceolnoth, Archbishop of Canterbury, seems to have taken place on 30 October, 852. On his deathbed Swithin begged that he should be buried outside the north wall of his cathedral where passers-by should pass over his grave and raindrops from the eaves drop upon it.

More than a century later (931) his body was translated with great pomp to a shrine within the new church erected by Bishop Ethelwulf (d. 984). A number of miraculous cures took place and Swithin was canonized by popular acclamation. In 1093 his remains were again translated to the new church built by Bishop Walkelin. The shrine was destroyed and relics scattered in 1538.

It has often been said that the saint was a Benedictine monk and even Prior of Winchester but there is no evidence for this statement. From the first translation of his relics in 984 till the destruction of the shrine St. Swithin was the patron of Winchester Cathedral. He is best known from the popular superstition attached to his name and expressed in the following rhyme:

St. Swithin's day if thou dost rain

For forty days it will remain

St. Swithin's day if thou be fair

For forty days 'twill rain nae mair.

There have been many attempts to explain the origin of this belief, but none have proved generally satisfactory. A similar belief attaches in France to 8 June, the feast of Sts. Gervasius and Protasius, and to other feasts in different countries (see *Notes and Queries*, 1885, XII, 137, 253). St. Swithin's feast is kept on 15 July, the date of his first translation, and is retained in the Anglican Calendar.

Father Dan

January, 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>Happy New Year!</i> Feast of the Holy Name 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist No Christian Ed Nursery available		10:00-11:30am Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Choir	6:00 pm Fellowship Supper & Bible Study Nursery available		<i>Feast of the Epiphany</i> 7:00 pm Friday Night at the movies	9:00 to 10:20am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1st Sunday after the Epiphany Baptism of Our Lord 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist 11:20 am Coffee 11:30 am Christian Ed Nursery available Deadline for submitting items to the Annual Parish Report!		10:00-11:30am Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Choir	6:00 pm Fellowship Supper & Bible Study Nursery available	6:00 pm 1 st 1000 years of Christianity	7:00 pm Friday Night at the movies	9:00 to 10:20am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 6:00 pm Service of Prayer & Praise
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
2nd Sunday after the Epiphany 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist 11:20 am Coffee 11:30 am Christian Ed Nursery available <i>Vestry Luncheon</i>		10:00-11:30 am Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Choir	6:00 pm Fellowship Supper & Bible Study Nursery available	6:00 pm 1 st 1000 years of Christianity	7:00 pm Friday Night at the movies	9:00 to 10:20am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
3rd Sunday after the Epiphany 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist No Christian Ed <div style="background-color: #800000; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Annual Celebration Luncheon & Parish Meeting </div>		10:00-11:30 am Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Choir	6:00 pm Fellowship Supper & Bible Study Nursery available	6:00 pm First 1000 years of Christianity	<div style="background-color: #800000; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> Parish Retreat Weekend Bishop Thad Barnum </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="background-color: #800000; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> 6:00 pm supper </div> <div style="background-color: #800000; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> 9:00 am to noon </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> No Friday Night Movie </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> No Men's Bible Study </div> </div>	
29	30	31				
4th Sunday after the Epiphany 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist 11:20 am Coffee 11:30 am Christian Ed Nursery available		10:00-11:30 am Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Choir				

Holy Trinity is a congregation of the Anglican Church in North America
Christ-centered, biblically grounded, worshiping in the Anglican Tradition
 Sweetwater Center, 160 Merovan Drive, North Augusta, S C 29860
www.AnglicanChurchoftheHolyTrinity.com (803) 341-0075 robhartley@comcast.net Blog: North Augusta Anglican
 Bishop: The Rt. Rev. Steve Wood, Rector: The Rev. Rob Hartley,
 Assisting Clergy: The Rev.'s Dan Brown and Theophilus Iwuji
 Vestry: Mike Sanders (Junior Warden); Jennifer Dorn, Terri Fulmer, Jerry Nault, and Larry Pettinato