

# The Message

The Newsletter of

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral - Little Rock, Arkansas

A House of Prayer for All People

Lent 2022

## A Safe Place of Belonging

by The Very Rev. Amy Dafler Meaux, Dean and Rector

My family moved from Laurinburg, North Carolina to Mandeville, Louisiana at the beginning of my 9th grade year. It was a painful move for me. I had become entrenched in youth ministry in the Diocese of North Carolina; I loved our little Episcopal church; I had hoped to never leave there.

When we arrived in Mandeville, a local Episcopal priest called my parents. Put simply, across the web of the Episcopal church, adults were “being church” on my behalf, creating community at a time when I felt alone. Before I was connected at school, I was connected to a faith community. And, to be frank, that connection made all the difference in my life. Those adults gave me an immediate

place to belong. More than that, in the midst of a very hard move, I felt safe: adults, other than my parents, cared about me.

In 2018, the Cathedral established six core values for our community ([/www.trinitylittlerock.org/about](http://www.trinitylittlerock.org/about)). Two of them relate to youth ministry in our parish: a diverse, caring community, and lively, deep, faith formation for all ages. For this reason, I’ve spent the last few months putting some steps together to further these core values

and strengthen our ministry with children and young people.

Last fall, I began discerning with our Episcopal colleagues in Little Rock the possibility of shared youth ministry. Christ Church and St. Mark’s have



*Youth participates in brainstorming session during Master Plan Needs Phase*

*continued on page 2*

## Rebuilding from the Ashes

by Jack Dowling

In the months following the fire in the vesting room, we have experienced sadness, anger, fear, and frustration. But more importantly we have experienced hope and gratitude.

We are grateful to the Little Rock Fire Department for their quick response and follow-up, and to Church Insurance Company for springing into action and providing the resources to get the church cleaned quickly, making it safe for us to return to worship, and for their assurances of financial support.

In the week following the fire, the Cathedral staff was uplifted spiritually, emotionally, and bodily by our community. Outpourings of prayer and offerings of food

kept us going in those first stressful days.

At the beginning of the recovery effort, SERVPRO took hundreds of items to their facility for cleaning, including vestments, books, acolyte robes, and the kneelers from the church. We waited anxiously and with hope to find out what items made it through the fire in salvageable condition, and in the end were surprised by how much was saved.

It was evident right away that some of the vestments and robes were damaged beyond repair. Lisa Thorpe was at the Cathedral on the day the burned vestments were removed from the closet and witnessed the partially burned items. Lisa, a fabric artist, suggested that she

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## Trinity Cathedral Staff

Dean and Rector  
The Very Rev. Amy  
Dafler Meaux

## Clergy

The Rev. Deb Cooper  
The Rev. Canon  
Dr. Lisa Corry  
The Rev. Susan Payne

Reta Dean  
Jack Dowling  
Joe Harris  
Mary Penick Hodges  
Dawn Howe  
Dr. Colin MacKnight  
Ricky Parks  
Wyamon Stokes  
Jeanie Toombs

## ECEP

Christy Poindexter

## The Vestry

Senior Warden  
Melissa Whitfield  
Junior Warden  
Mary Margaret Wippo  
Treasurer  
Grant Wallace  
Clerk  
Melonese Clarke  
Member-at-Large  
Susan Borné

Susan Allen  
Steve Bethel  
Sarah Henry  
Harold Joyner  
Christoph Keller  
Susan Mehlburger  
John Milwee  
George Morledge  
Lara Schock  
Marcia Wayland

## Chancellor

Clarke Tucker

## Belonging

*continued from page 1*

full time youth ministers on their staff; however, the other six parishes in our area do not. In addition, while we all have young people in our parish, there is a wide variety of ages. The question is: what can we do for our youth if we bring our resources together (people, space, and money)?

To this end, St. Michaels, St. Margaret's, and the Cathedral entered into an experimental agreement. During the month of May, we will host "May-mester." Details about the schedule are in this newsletter. What I want you to know is: for a shared cost of \$1,500 (that's \$500 from each of our churches), we are able to hire a youth minister, and provide food, space, and supplies for a month's worth of quality youth ministry. This ministry is open to any 6th-12th grader looking for a

safe, fun spiritual community where they can explore their faith. My hope is that this experiment will lead to a long-term covenant between multiple churches to the benefit of our youth.

We hosted "Imagine Youth Ministry" on March 13th. Students gathered for fun, fellowship, and helped plan "May-mester." Parents and adults met at the same time to talk about their hopes for "May-mester." Together, we imagined youth ministry for our parish and Episcopal community.

I'm excited to give our youth what adults gave me: a safe place of belonging where I can draw close to God and my neighbor. I hope you'll join me.

Peace be with you,  
Dean Meaux

## Easter Vigil

by Rev. Canon Dr. Lisa Corry, SubDean

The Easter Vigil is a beautiful service, one of the liturgies of the paschal triduum – the great three days of Easter. To vigil is to watch and wait. This service is nocturnal and, when able, begins after sunset. The service is meant to begin in darkness.

A new fire is lit outside the church and from this fire the paschal candle is lit. All attending are given candles and all are lit ultimately from the paschal candle during the procession as we sing *The Light of Christ*. All remains dim as readings and prayers take us through redemptive history.

This service is intentionally long and unhurried. We wait, we watch, we get restless. We hear and sing beautiful music.

The movement of the service has a seamless quality to it.

Following the readings, we renew our baptismal vows, which marks a celebration of the resurrection and initiation into the church.

After the baptismal renewal, we have the first Eucharist of Easter. All the lights are turned on in the church and the Celebrant proclaims: "Alleluia! Christ is Risen!" And all respond: "The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!" All is light. All is new. Christ is Risen.

This service is a meaningful way to engage Easter and take in the movement from Lent to Holy Week to Celebration. This year the Easter Vigil is Saturday, April 16th at 7 p.m. I hope you can join us.

### Rebuilding

*continued from page 1*

take the pieces home to see if there was anything that could be done. After multiple washings, she trimmed and sorted the fabric and found inspiration for a “resurrection project.” Lisa has created four stoles and two banners to be used at Pentecost.

Reconstruction of Deans’ Hall has been a more frustrating process. This crucial space effects many aspects of the worship life of the Cathedral, including wheel chair accessibility. Even after the walls were stripped to the studs, the acrid smell of smoke permeated the space. Our contractor Matt Foster sealed and painted the interior surfaces so we could get the elevator back in operation by Christmas Eve.

The rest of the rebuilding project has faced the same issues as much of the country: supply chain problems and labor shortages. As we come to the end of March there is some hope that things are now falling into place to where we can soon use the hallway, even while the vesting and acolyte rooms are being finished.

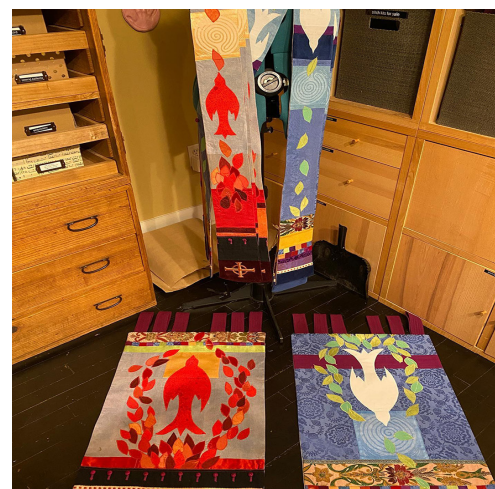
We pray we don’t have an experience like this again, but we have learned about the strength and resilience of our staff, congregation, and community. God provides lessons in all things.



*Bishop Benfield inspects the damage*



*Deans’ Hallway showing fire damage (left) and following cleaning and sealing for access to the elevator (right)*



*Salvaged fabric from the vesting room has been transformed into liturgical art pieces by Lisa Thorpe*

## Lisa Thorpe, Artist

by Susan Payne

Lisa Thorpe is an artist. She has discovered ways to guide those of us who think of ourselves as artless into creating beautiful pieces of art.

My personal history of artistic attempts was fraught with disappointment and failure. In college, a not quite disguised expression of disgust accompanied my professor's glance at my work one day in class - Ugh! Girl Scouts laughed at my stick figures. My last attempt at perspective was like my first - Ugh! Then I entrusted my disappointed soul to Lisa Thorpe.

In her retreats, Lisa begins our time together with poetry or prayer, opening our spirits. Then she guides us in physically relaxing with simple breathing and movement to chase away the chatter in our heads. When we have let go of our worries and lists, she turns to the focal point of the day.

Perhaps you remember seeing the beautiful bowls in Morrison Hall in Advent season. Mary, the mother of Jesus, was our inspiration. Recently we made prayer cards with words describing easy, challenging, or difficult aspects of relationships. We called out an astonishing number of words to describe nuances of relationship. Our words went on one side of a card and our art on the other.

I'll be watching announcements in our weekly update for more opportunities to participate in Lisa's retreats. You can follow her at [www.lisathorpe.com](http://www.lisathorpe.com).



photo by Sharon Landon



photo by Susan Payne

## The Message

A newsletter about life at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. Send correspondence & address corrections to:

The Message, 310 W17th Street, Little Rock, AR 72206

Tel. 501-372-0294 Fax: 501-372-0416 email [info@trinitylittlerock.org](mailto:info@trinitylittlerock.org) [www.trinitylittlerock.org](http://www.trinitylittlerock.org)

## From the Choir Loft

by Dr. Colin MacKnight

February and March both featured special musical events. On February 11th, the Trinity Choir (accompanied by an orchestra of 14 fantastic instrumentalists) gave a wonderful performance of Haydn's Lord Nelson Mass to an audience of nearly 250 people, plus many more online viewers. This project took up most of the choir's rehearsal time through January and the beginning of February, but they still managed to maintain their substantial regimen of liturgical music at a very high level. Even God rested on the seventh day, so the choir took Sunday, February 13th off and our Children's Choir stepped in to sing two delightful anthems from the Baroque era by Pachelbel and Handel.

From March 10th to 13th, award-winning baritone singer and voice teacher Connor Lidell spent four days in residency at Trinity, during which he rehearsed with the Trinity Choir, offered a recital with pianist Dr. Stephen Dubberly, taught private voice lessons, and conducted our choral music on Sunday, March 13th. In addition to his phenomenal vocal abilities, Connor is a skilled pedagogue, so it was exciting for the Trinity Choir to benefit from his expertise and sing some hefty repertoire under his guidance, including Haydn's *Insanae et vanae* at eucharist and Noble's Magnificat and *Nunc dimittis* in B minor at evensong. Our singers work extremely hard to channel their

talents into providing beautiful music at our two weekly choral services, so it is important that we invest in them with educational opportunities such as these.

I'm also looking forward to all the beautiful liturgical music in Holy Week: we will have cello on Good Friday, a brass quintet on Easter morning, and we are adding an Easter Vigil service (with choir) to our Holy Week schedule.



*February 11 Concert for Choir and Orchestra*

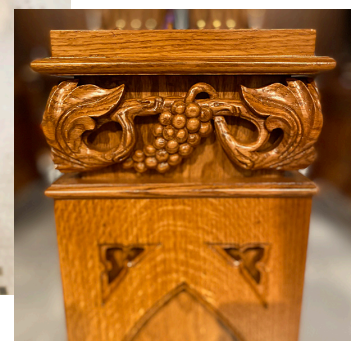
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## Music Stand Donation

At the February 11 choir concert, Trinity dedicated a new handcrafted wooden music stand, donated by Laura, Sarah and Anna Squire. Its inscribed plaque reads, "To the Glory of God and in Thanksgiving for our parents, Nan and Art Squire, and our friend Charlie Rigsby. Given with love by the Squire Sisters: Laura, Sarah, and Anna." The plaque also includes verses 1 and 2 from Psalm 95, "O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!"

The stands carvings incorporate various design elements of the chancel and choir stalls.

This thoughtful gift is a wonderful addition to the beauty of the Cathedral.



## A Master Plan for Trinity by Jack Dowling

It has been a little more than a year since the Vestry engaged Polk, Stanley, Wilcox to conduct a Feasibility Assessment of the Trinity facilities with the goal of creating a new Master Plan. At the same time, the Mission Strategy Committee was meeting to discern a path for Trinity's ministries in our community, using the Parable of the Good Samaritan as a guide.

While the Mission Strategy Committee was looking outward, the team from Polk, Stanley, Wilcox, lead by Sarah Bennings, helped us look inwards, assessing the current state of our facilities and discovering the needs of our various ministries.

In the Assessment Phase they asked, What do we have? What are our challenges? In order to inform the master plan, a comprehensive analysis of the Trinity campus and each individual building was undertaken to serve as the basis of decision making throughout the campus master plan. The assessment considered each building's condition in relation to its existing function,

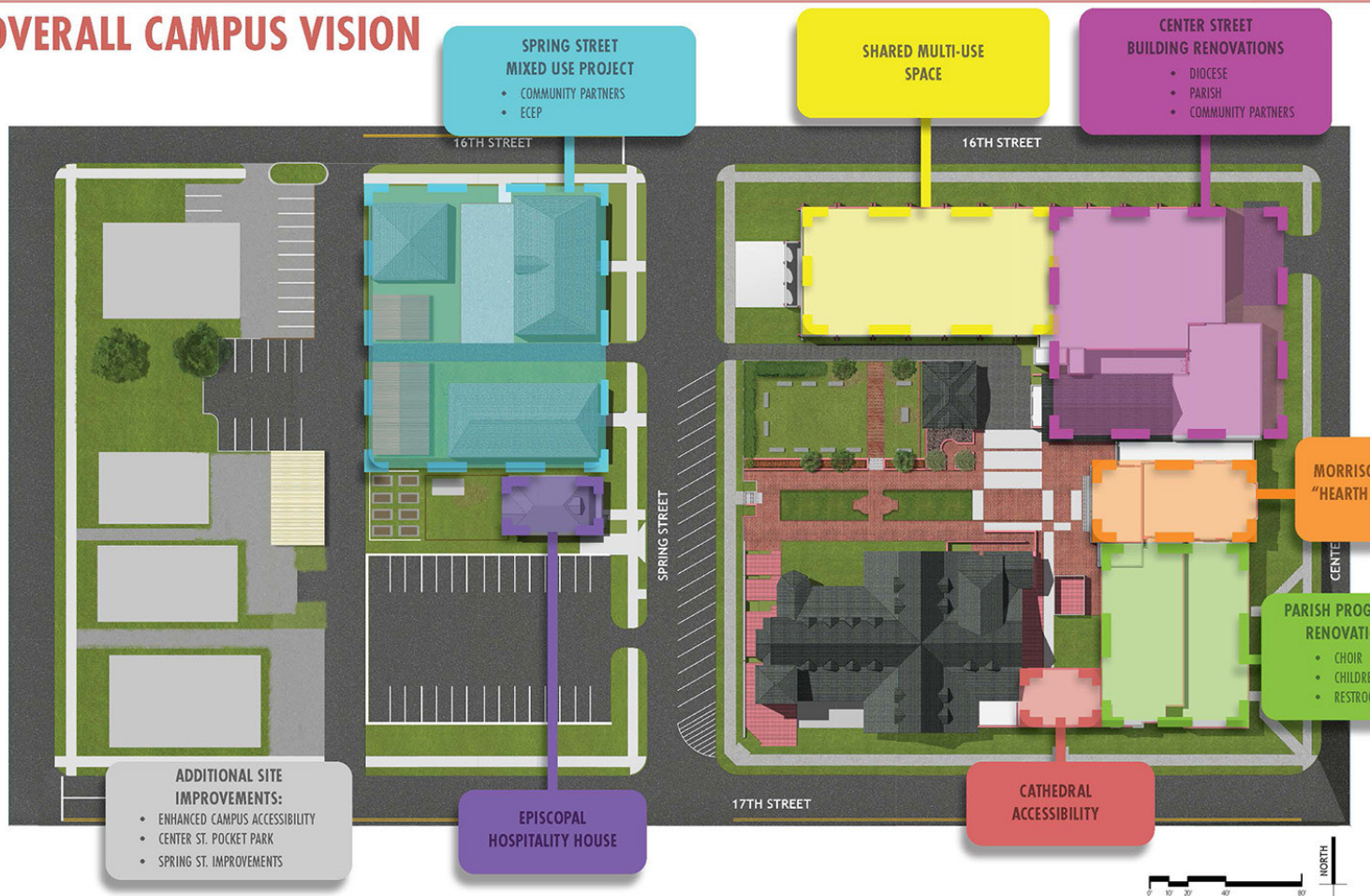
its suitability, its architectural value, and the state of the mechanical/electrical systems.

Next came the Needs Phase where they asked, What do we want? Sarah conducted a series of meetings with key groups within the parish whose ministry is directly affected by the current condition of campus facilities. She met with Cathedral staff, the bishop, Matthew 25 Committee, the youth group, the choir, and the many other constituencies that fulfill Trinity's mission.

In these meetings, groups were asked to dream BIG about the future of their ministry. In each session, groups were asked to first identify goals and ideas, then define elements to achieve the goal, and lastly develop details of each element.

Common themes included accessibility, collaborative, flexible, engaging, and welcoming. These commonalities began to support the idea of abundant hospitality for all people at Trinity and extending to our community and diocese.

## OVERALL CAMPUS VISION



Taking all the gathered information, Polk, Stanley, Wilcox was ready to begin the Design Phase. They looked at how we could achieve our goals in the space we have available and came up with a plan that creatively meets the needs of Trinity’s mission goals. The plan is presented in seven phases organized around space use. The order in which the phases are completed is flexible and smaller pieces within each phase can be done as funds become available.

Phase 1 re-imagines Higgins Hall, Hodges Hall, and the small apartment building as a mixed use space. The Early Childhood Education Program would move into a unified classroom space on the ground floor and office space with a separate entrance would be created on the top floor for a new community partnership program.

Phase 2 focuses on Parish House and the programs that it houses, including space to accommodate a larger choir, catechesis rooms, and upgraded bathrooms.

Phases 3 and 4 involve work on Keller House,

Chancellors Hall, and Lyman Annex to create better office space for cathedral and diocesan staff, improved meeting and seminar spaces, a dedicated EYC meeting space, and a flexible multi-use space with commercial kitchen. The diocese would get a new, highly visible entrance on Center Street.

Someone recently said, “We’ve known the Cathedral has been inaccessible for years, we just didn’t think we’d get old enough to need it.” Phase 5 addresses this important issue. In the plan, all the buildings as well as the Garth and Treadway Garden would become handicap accessible.

The final phases bring aesthetic and functional upgrades to Morrison Hall, Spring Street, and the parking lot.

A special page has been set up on the Trinity website ([www.trinitylittlerock.org/masterplan](http://www.trinitylittlerock.org/masterplan)) with resources to help parishioners learn more about the plan. Copies of the material prepared by Polk, Stanley, Wilcox can be found outside Morrison Hall and at the back of the church.



Groups meeting during the Needs Phase



A word cloud of the common themes from the Needs Phase

STER PLAN

N HALL ROOM"

RAMS ON MS

# Tower Bells

by S. Porter Brownlee

In an effort to provide information on one of the obscure and mysterious components of Trinity’s music program, I’ve written this series of articles on the Tower Bells of Trinity Cathedral. (I’m also writing in what will become obvious as a transparent attempt to generate interest in and among parishioners to learn to ring!)

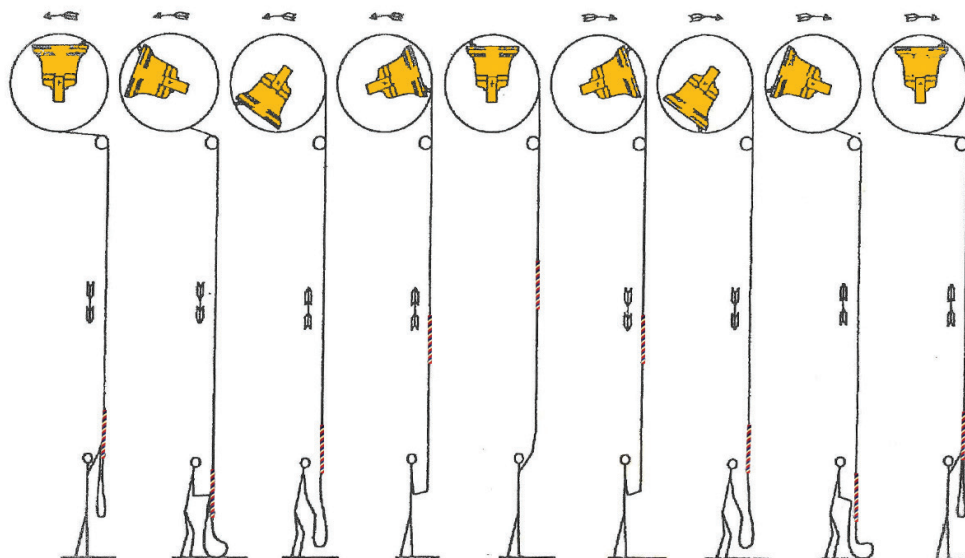
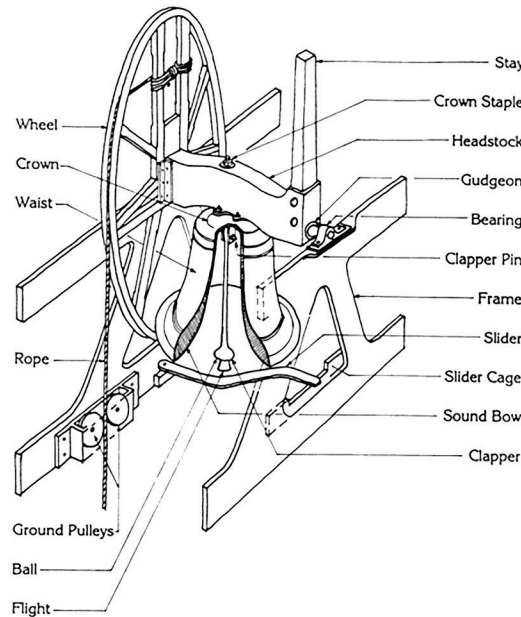
I’ll start with what I hope you’ll find immediately interesting and that is our own ring of eight bells. The funds raised to purchase and install our peal were an element of the Centennial Fund Drive of 1984, celebrating (obviously) the 100th anniversary of our founding. Of these funds, approximately \$60,000 were utilized to reinforce the bell tower itself, a structure consisting of wood framing and brick veneer, obviously not suited to support the dead weight of almost 4,500 pounds of bell metal. An approximately six-foot-deep foundation was cast below the tower floor, two-foot-diameter reinforced concrete columns were cast in each of the four corners, and 12x18-inch reinforced concrete beams span the tops of the columns. This structure, flexes slightly under the loads imposed by the swinging bells and is, therefore, separated by an inch or so from the bell tower structure itself, a separate

fabricated steel framework within the tower.

Matching funds of approximately \$60,000 purchased the bells, the bell frame that rests on the concrete beams, the corresponding headstocks, wheels, sliders, stays, pulleys, and ropes that are necessary for ringing. Were we to purchase a like set of bells today, the cost would exceed \$500,000.

Our bells were cast by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry (regrettably closed during 2017) in London, England in November, 1987, and installation was completed in the spring of 1988 for dedication on Pentecost that same year. Whitechapel was one of the oldest ongoing companies in the world, founded in the early part of the 15th century and occupying its last location since 1570 in downtown London. Besides the tower bells, we also own sets of Whitechapel handbells. Other bells of note cast by Whitechapel include Big Ben, the Liberty Bell, and even

the namesake of the rock group AC/DC’s album “Hells Bells.” (Taylor Foundry in Loughborough, England is now the only surviving foundry for change ringing bells.)





## Ringling for Ukraine

by Sandy Miller Hays

The bells of our cathedral will speak for and to the Trinity community on Palm Sunday, April 10, during a 20-minute performance by the Trinity Ringing Society in support of the people of Ukraine. The program will begin immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service. All are invited to watch this special performance, and donations for humanitarian aid will be accepted, to be forwarded to Episcopal Relief & Development's Ukraine Crisis Response Fund. Donations will help meet critical needs for people fleeing the violence, including food, cash, blankets, and hygiene supplies.

Since 400 A.D., when the Italian bishop Paulinus of Nola authorized their use in Catholic church services, bells have played a special role in the Christian community. Through the centuries, church bells not only have called the faithful to worship, but also have communicated important information to the local community, ranging from the death of a beloved villager to a key victory in battle.

Ukraine is home to some of the world's most ancient and beautiful cathedrals, such as the Uspenski Cathedral,

built in 1073 on the banks of the Dnieper River in Kyiv; St. Sophia's Cathedral, also in Kyiv; and St. George's Cathedral in Lviv, where its chapel contains the oldest bell in Ukraine, dating to 1341.

The Trinity Ringing Society hopes that you will join us on Palm Sunday for this expression of love, unity, and support for the Ukrainian people. If you would like to donate, please make your check payable to Trinity Episcopal Cathedral and include "Ukraine" in the memo line. Checks should be mailed to Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 310 West 17th Street, Little Rock, AR 72206, Attn: Jeanie Toombs. You can also donate using a credit card on the church's Realm website ([onrealm.org/trinitylittlerock/give/now](http://onrealm.org/trinitylittlerock/give/now)).

For more information about this special musical service, please contact Julie Keller at 501-454-8369 or [juliekeller2@me.com](mailto:juliekeller2@me.com).

The performance will be streamed live to our YouTube channel, Trinity Little Rock.



*Trinity's change bell ringers practicing for the Palm Sunday event*

## Mardi Gras

The turn out for this year's Mardi Gras event was proof that people are ready to get back together for fun fellowship. Of all the delicious gumbos to choose from, the Daughters of the King team rose to the top to win the Golden Ladle. Thanks to all who put the effort into making this happen.



## Invest in Trinity with a Smart Securities Donation

The 1884 Legacy Society wants you to know that eligible IRA owners who are required to take a minimum distribution from their IRA can make a qualified charitable distribution without having to pay taxes on the distribution! These distributions must be made payable directly to the qualified charity.

Additionally, giving appreciated equities is a great way to make a gift to Trinity Cathedral during your lifetime. By transferring stock directly to Trinity, you can receive a charitable tax deduction for the appreciated value in the current year without having to realize and pay tax on the gain or the cost incurred in converting to cash. For those facing a potential estate tax issue, it can remove the asset and the future growth of that asset from a taxable estate.

This is a great strategy to fulfill an annual or legacy gift to Trinity Cathedral and save on taxes. For more information, contact your financial advisor or Jeanie Toombs, Financial Administrator of Trinity Cathedral.

Thank you for your consideration!

## Trinity's Mission

The mission of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral is to proclaim the Word of God by sharing our gifts, ourselves, and our properties through ministry to each other, our neighbors, and our community as we serve God and represent the Episcopal Diocese of Arkansas.

Summer Fun

CHRIST CHURCH & TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL PRESENT:

# Vacation Bible School 2022: Faith Off the Map!

**JUNE 6-10 | TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL  
310 W 17TH ST. LITTLE ROCK, AR 72206  
9-11 AM | 3 YRS - COMPLETED 5TH GRADE  
COST: FREE**

When have you been called to go off the beaten path? sometimes, that's when adventure in the Holy Spirit begins!

Join us as we learn about people following God's call into parts unknown and leading by faith not by sight!

To register please scan the QR code with your smart phone!



Questions? Contact Marvin McLennon at [mmclennon@Christchurchlr.org](mailto:mmclennon@Christchurchlr.org) or Lisa Corry at [lisa@trinitylittlerock.org](mailto:lisa@trinitylittlerock.org)

# FRIENDSHIP CAMP 2022

A Program of the Interfaith Center

**June 27 - July 1  
9:00-3:30pm**

CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES!

FRIENDSHIP CAMP IS A WEEKLONG DAY CAMP SET TO BUILD FRIENDSHIPS AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN CHILDREN OF DIVERSE FAITHS.

THIS YEAR'S CAMP THEME WILL FOCUS ON AN EXPLORATION OF DIFFERENT FAITHS' SUPERHEROES!

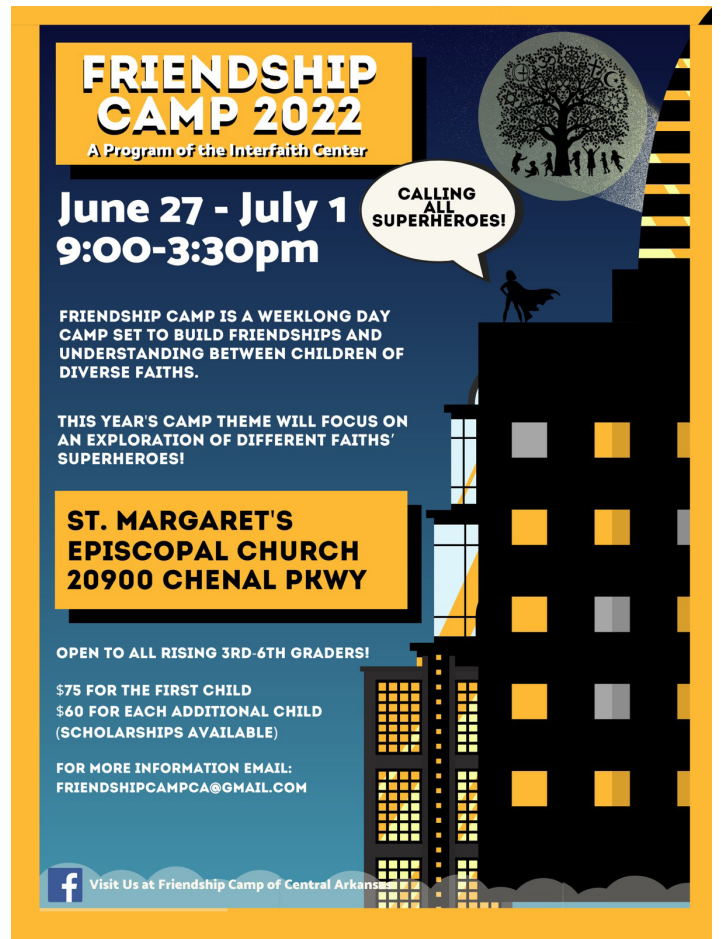
**ST. MARGARET'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
20900 CHENAL PKWY**

OPEN TO ALL RISING 3RD-6TH GRADERS!

\$75 FOR THE FIRST CHILD  
\$60 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL CHILD (SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE)

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL: [FRIENDSHIPCAMPCA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FRIENDSHIPCAMPCA@GMAIL.COM)

Visit Us at Friendship Camp of Central Arkansas



# CAMP MITCHELL 2022 SUMMER SCHEDULE

SENIOR HIGH (COMPLETED 9TH-12TH)	JUNE 5 - JUNE 10
MIDDLER (COMPLETED 4TH-5TH)	JUNE 12 - JUNE 17
PRIMARY (COMPLETED 1ST-3RD)	JUNE 19 - JUNE 24
ROBERT R BROWN I	JUNE 26 - JUNE 30
DICK JOHNSTON CHILDREN'S CAMP	JULY 10 - JULY 15
JUNIOR HIGH (COMPLETED 6TH-8TH)	JULY 17 - JULY 22
ROBERT R BROWN II	JULY 24 - JULY 28

CAMP MITCHELL



## Holy Week and Easter at Trinity

### **Palm Sunday, April 10**

Holy Eucharist I: 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. ✠🎵🎶  
Formation 9:15 a.m. 🎵  
Bellringing for Ukraine, 11:30 a.m.  
Choral Evensong, 4 p.m. ✠🎵

### **Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in Holy Week**

Holy Eucharist I, 12:15 p.m.

### **Maundy Thursday, April 14**

Family Service with Footwashing and Eucharist,  
Treadway Garden, 5 p.m. 🎵  
Holy Eucharist I, 7 p.m. ✠🎵

### **Good Friday, April 15**

Good Friday Liturgy, 12 p.m. ✠🎵  
Cathedral Offices close at noon

### **Easter Eve, April 16**

Holy Saturday Service, Treadway Garden, 9 a.m.  
Great Vigil with Lighting of the Fire, 7 p.m. ✠🎵

### **Easter Day, April 17**

Holy Eucharist I, 7:30 a.m.  
Holy Eucharist II, 9:30 a.m. ✠🎵🎶

### **Easter Day continued**

Eggstravaganza, 10:45 a.m., Playground  
Holy Eucharist II, 11:30 a.m. 🎵🎶  
No Evensong

### **Easter Monday, April 18**

Cathedral Offices closed

### **First Sunday after Easter, April 24**

Holy Eucharist I, 8 a.m.  
Formation 9:15 a.m. 🎵  
Holy Eucharist II, 10:30 a.m. ✠🎵🎶  
No Evensong

🎵 includes music ✠ streamed 🎵 child care

