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The Newsletter of
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral - Little Rock, Arkansas

A House of Prayer for All People

Pentecost 2022



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The Measurement of Time

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

I still remember the first time I learned about the dimension of time. Of course, I already knew how to tell time according to a watch. Then, I read *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeline L'Engle. With this story of a young girl navigating loss and love, I learned that time, like length, area, and volume, was also a dimension: a measurement. Of course, L'Engle is exploring time travel. For me, learning about time as a way to measure life or experience started an obsession.

How do we measure our years, days, or hours? I'm not the first to ask this question and certainly not the last. Indeed, I hope it is a question we all ask ourselves at least once in our lives. What matters most when it comes to measuring our time?

Time, in the life of a parish, church, or Cathedral, can be measured in all kinds of ways. There is the regularity of Sunday worship and Evensong. There are festivals and feasts. There are quiet days in the Garth when we hear a new bird; and a garden filled with laughter and tears as we remember those we love and see no longer. There are the seasons of the church year: Advent, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost. I can even measure time at the Cathedral with the leaves of the tree outside my office window, the age of our children, and the wrinkles on my face.

Since March of 2020, I have struggled with keeping track of time. I don't know how the pandemic changed the dimensions of time in my life; and, I know that it affected my experience and memory of time. I know that one ambiguous loss of the pandemic are the moments that mark time: graduations, special events and holidays, even seeing people regularly and noticing how they change in time. When I try to remember that almost two years have passed since we moved to Little Rock, I wonder where the time went.

This summer, for the first time since March 2020, the Cathedral is preparing for a full year of events. We look forward to the return of Bliss on October 20, 2022. We are planning for at least two Insights lectures and several mini-Insights events. We are planning for in-person opportunities for ministering within our community: taking communion to the homebound, volunteering, and digging into the garden. We are hoping for pilgrimages, youth group activities, and more opportunities to gather as a Parish community. I am so excited and grateful to know we will have so much time



to be together in the coming year: I can't wait!

Maybe time will slow down a little bit for us this summer. Or maybe summer will fly by. However you mark time these days, I pray that you will experience God in your midst. For surely, God is with us: at all times, in all places.

God's peace be with you, and I hope to see you soon,
Dean Meaux

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.
(Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8)

Afghan Placement and Assistance Ministry

by The Rev. Deb Cooper



Summer brings us to another transition point for the Afghan family that Trinity and Congregation B'nai Israel are sponsoring.

Recently, our Afghan children took an impromptu splash into the water at a local park—mingling with strangers who became partners in this new adventure, having fun while learning to adjust to their new home in America.

Milestones the family has already accomplished:

- Three members of the household have jobs, so they are beginning to manage their own budget, pay their own rent, and provide for their own needs.
- One member of the family now has his driver's license and with the vehicle donated by a member of St. Margaret's, the family is now able to do their own shopping without our Sponsor Team's help.
- Children have graduated to the next level for next year's school term.

And more milestones in the making for summer:

- Our teenager is enrolled in a 10-week Intensive English Language Program at UALR.



- Five of our school-aged children are enrolled in a 4-week program to receive additional support in English Language Development.
- Five children will be attending Summer Camp at Lake Nixon for two weeks.
- Our own Sponsor Team, along with our partners at St. Margaret's, St. Michaels, and Literacy Action, will continue, with even more intensity, to tutor the family in English.
- Other adult members in the household are studying for the Driver's Exam with the help of a tutor from the Madina Institute who speaks their own language.

Our Sponsor Team's mission from the beginning has been to help our Afghan family become self-sufficient as soon as possible. To that end, we have learned that every moment is a teachable moment—for them and for us. It has been a journey that has changed lives and as the journey continues, there will be more opportunities to help--more changed lives.



As we celebrate the family milestones, I offer you a Scripture reading that has been close to my heart throughout this journey. Perhaps you will want to pray it with me:

Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

--Philippians 4:4-7

A Call to Hospitality

by Melissa Whitfield

Last summer and fall several women of the parish were meeting to discern whether they wanted to renew a chapter of the Daughters of the King at Trinity Cathedral and what a first service project might be.

Deb Cooper, our deacon, was taking part in the classes and in August sent us all an email telling us that the parish might be sponsoring a family of refugees from Afghanistan. She asked us to consider being involved with the team of people who would be helping a family begin a new life in America.

I read her email, thinking that is going to be extremely challenging work. I felt intimidated by the thought of all the difficulties that this could include. Things such as the language barrier and differences in cultural standards were just two of the things that came quickly to mind. Catholic Charities, the main contact for Deb, had told her to be prepared for anything.

As all this was going through my mind and I was wondering if I could even be up to such an endeavor, I opened the next email in my inbox. It was one I get every weekday called, "Brother, Give Us a Word." It comes from the Society of St. John the Evangelist and is a brief reflection on one word.

This was the word for that day:

Hospitality

Hospitality doesn't just include housing those who need a place to stay, or feeding those who need a meal – although those are important things. Hospitality grows in seeing others as a manifestation of Jesus in the world; seeing their intrinsic worth and dignity above and beyond all that has been their lot in life.

Well. I don't think I would have felt more struck if the clouds had opened and a dove had descended. I told Deb that I would be willing to help.

Our family arrived in October. A team made up of members from Trinity and from Congregation B'nai Israel have worked together since then to get this family on their feet. There have been all sorts of challenges and frustrations on both sides that could never have been prepared for.

Each time I feel inadequate about what we have undertaken or wonder if we can sustain this, I go back and re-read that email. And it always reassures me that we are doing the right thing.



Hospitality starts with preparation. Here Trinity folks work to prepare Harrison House to be a welcoming home for the Afghan family.

Deepen Your Ministry

by Marcia Wayland

Education for Ministry (EfM) is an intimidating name, but it is not for discernment of a priestly vocation. It is about ministry in a broader sense—learning to listen to God’s call to ministry in your daily life. EfM supports your development of a personal ministry and helps define how ministry takes shape for you in an everyday context, unique to your time, talents, and the issues that motivate you to action.

EfM is a four-year seminar-style program developed by Sewanee’s School of Theology more than 40 years ago. Members register one year at a time. It’s also possible to take a year, stop for a while, and then pick up the next year at a later time. Year 1 focuses on the Old Testament, year 2 the New Testament, year 3 the history of Christianity, and year 4 Christian theology, ethics, and interfaith perspectives. People from all years are together in the group. It may sound awkward with people having different readings each week, but new connections are made across the readings when listening to each other talk about their readings.

Though we read the Bible in EfM, it is not a Bible study. Each week members check in and share their highs and lows from the past week, discuss their readings, and participate in theological reflection (TR). TR is a creative, guided discussion that helps us see the sacred in ordinary things and events. From the TR, we create a Collect from our discussion. This helps us pray with our own words and remember our reflections.

Through the readings, discussions, and reflections EfM helps us develop our personal theology and discern what we are called to do to be Christ’s ministers in the world.

Our group at Trinity meets most Sunday afternoons from 1:30 – 3:30 from late August through May. There’s room for you in our group, and we would love to have you join us. If you have any questions or are interested, please contact efm@trinitylittlerock.org or Marcia Wayland at marcia.wayland@gmail.com



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 www.trinitylittlerock.org

From the Choir Loft

by Dr. Colin MacKnight

Some church choirs might take things easy after the demands of Holy Week and Easter, but not Trinity's! On May 22nd, the Trinity Choir performed Herbert Howells's St. Paul's Service – our most ambitious Magnificat and Nunc dimittis to date – at the final evensong of the season, and now the choir is just days away from performing a concert in honor of Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee. Likewise, the children's choir has been busy preparing to sing on Pentecost, when they will sing alongside the adults for the first time since before COVID. Singing with the adults means that the music is necessarily more challenging than most repertoire written for children, but they're up for the challenge.

And speaking of evensongs, our final four evensongs were all followed by delightful receptions in the Garth or

in Morrison Hall. I'm pleased that nearly everyone who attended these services stayed for the receptions, and that each reception lasted for over an hour! I am very grateful to Susan Mehlburger, Michael McNeely, Richard Steinkamp, and Carolyn Hartstein for organizing and donating the food and drink for these gatherings.

Now that things are wrapping up for the season, it is the perfect time to consider trying one of Trinity's music ensembles this summer or next season. All children are welcome to participate in the children's choir, and adults are also encouraged to consider the adult choir, bell choir, and/or tower bell ensemble. All these groups have a lot of fun while also working hard. If you or someone you know is interested, please reach out!

Ringling for Ukraine

by Sandy Miller Hays

On behalf of the Cathedral, the Trinity Ringing Society recently sent a \$50,358.00 check to Episcopal Relief & Development for its Ukraine Crisis Response fund.

Thanks to the parishioners and friends of the Cathedral who donated to this fund to provide humanitarian aid for Ukrainian refugees.

The Ringing Society held a special tower bell ringing performance following the 10:30 a.m. service on Palm Sunday, April 10th, during which donations for Ukraine were accepted.



Tower Bells

by S. Porter Brownlee

Part II of a short series about Trinity's bells.

Our ring consists of 8 bells in the key of A, ranging in weigh from 338 to 1,009 pounds. They are each fittingly dedicated to an individual important to the life of Trinity Cathedral over the years. They are:

Bell #	Note	Diameter	Weight in Pounds	Dedication
Treble or #1	A	1' 11"	338	Named after the Rt. Rev. Leonidas Polk, first Bishop of Arkansas.
#2	G#	1' 11 5/8"	359	Named after Goldie Mashburn, longtime parishioner and secretary to many Deans.
#3	F#	2' 3/4"	383	Named after Richard Delafield Floyd, a parishioner from the 1940s who served in England during WWII and became enamored of the English style of change ringing. When he died in the early 50s, he left a portion of his estate to Trinity, reserved expressly for the installation of bells and some 30 years later, they were utilized for that purpose.
#4	E	2' 2"	412	Named after the Rt. Rev. Herbert Alcorn Donovan, Jr., 11th Bishop of Arkansas.
#5	D	2' 4"	500	Named after the Very Rev. Joel Wilson Pugh, 17th Dean of Trinity Cathedral.
#6	C#	2' 5 1/2"	577	Named after the Very Rev. Charles Ashley Higgins, 16th Dean of Trinity Cathedral.
#7	B	2' 8 1/2"	755	Named after Mary Belle Nissly, longtime parishioner who served in England during WWII, fell in love with bells and bell ringing and was instrumental in the acquisition of our bells, even contributing an additional sum so that we might have a lower, i.e., heavier, octave than originally planned.
Tenor or #8	A	3'	1,009	Named after Major General H. Lynn Wassell, longtime parishioner who died in 1984, friends of whom made the funding of the bell tower such a high priority. Traditionally in Anglican churches, the naming of the tenor is an extremely high honor.

Outreach

Shoe Drive,

Sunday, June 19 Trinity folks donated 43 pairs of shoes to share with The Stewpot ministry.

Jerry Shurgar delivered them the following day to The Stewpot and the clothing room manager was almost overcome with happiness. They were almost out of mens shoes and to have this many new shoes at the time of their need was a real blessing. She commented on how Trinity always comes through in their time of need.

The shoes were blessed with this prayer:

Almighty and most merciful God, we remember before you all poor and neglected people who it would be easy for us to forget: the homeless and the destitute, the old and the sick, and all who have no one to care for them. We offer these shoes to you in service of your love and compassion. Bless them to be stewards of strength and bearers of your grace for those who will wear them. May your grace offer healing to all who are broken in body or spirit, and turn our sorrow into joy. Grant this, O Lord, for the love of your Son, who for our sake became poor, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Alisson Tuite and Cameron Albert haul out a load of donated shoes.

The primary mission of The Stewpot is to Feed the Hungry - "Feed whoever walks through our doors", providing hot meals to the homeless, jobless, elderly, physically or mentally disabled and displaced families

The secondary mission is to Help Clothe the Needy. The purpose of the Clothes Closet is to distribute clothing and hygiene products to folks in need.

Fun Night Out for Women and Children

On Thursday, June 23, the Matthew 25 Committee hosted the women and children of Dorcas House for "Ladies Night Out" under the leadership of Mary Margaret Wippo. We ate a meal together prepared by Chalmer Wayland and Eric Wippo, then the women enjoyed spa facials and chair massages by the team from Floating Lotus and Renate Nance. Meanwhile, the children and Cathedral youth played games in the gym, listened to story time from Abby Kerby, and shared popsicles on the porch. Over a few hours, the love of Christ was felt and shared among all ages.

A quote from one of the women from Dorcas House summed it up, "we are always taking care of others, its so nice to have someone take care of us."



The Dorcas House supports women and children in Central Arkansas who are in the greatest need. They provide housing, classes, counseling, daily chapel time, and other services that help them begin to change their lives. Women trapped in domestic violence or struggling with chemical dependency or other addictions find the hope and support they have so desperately needed to break the shackles of their past and rebuild a new life.

Community

Queen's Jubilee Concert



The Cathedral was in a festive state on Sunday, June 5, when we followed Pentecost Sunday with a special concert celebrating Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee. The Trinity Cathedral Ringing Society called us together with their bells, then the choirs of Trinity and Christ Church under the direction of music directors, Colin MacKnight, Steven Bullock, and Jane Gamble, provided a delightful program.

Some 300 people attended the event, many in festive hats and fine toggery. Following the concert the festivities moved to Morrison Hall, which was decorated as an English tearoom, for a lovely reception.

Thanks go out to Michael McNeely for coordinating the reception and bringing together people to prepare and serve food, pour champagne, arrange flowers, provide special jubilee fans, decorate, and finally clean up and wash dishes. The event was a jolly good success.

Vacation Bible School

Last week the Cathedral partnered with Christ Church and St. Michael's to present a creative look at biblical stories where people's faith led them to new places. Campers learned about Abraham and Sarah, Moses, Ruth, Jonah and of course Jesus. Mixed in with the stories were fun games, arts and crafts, and scavenger hunts for God. Over 45 children and 15 volunteers participated.





Making Plans for the Future

We all make plans in life from deciding how to fill our weekend to big decisions like buying a car or where to go on vacation. But how many of us take the time for estate planning; deciding where our assets will go after we're gone. While not as fun to do as scheduling a trip, estate planning is so important, without it you can't choose who will receive everything you worked so hard for.

Estate planning isn't only for the well off. Without a plan in place, settling your financial and physical belongings after you go could have a long-lasting impact on your loved ones.

Another benefit of an estate plan is that you can continue the generosity to organizations that you support in a way that creates a lasting legacy.

Jack Harvey recently shared with us his idea of a great way to support Trinity Cathedral. He wrote, "I believe the secret (supporting Trinity) is to build an estate plan. This requires thought and typically help from professionals, both legal and tax. Many of us delay this process as it is not fun to think about, yet all investment advisors, accountants, and estate planning lawyers tell us every day to write a will and establish an estate plan. It is prudent to do so!"

In our effort to support the congregation, the Legacy Society Advisory Board believes we need to provide education about the importance of an estate plan and to make it as easy as possible to include Trinity in that plan. Jack likes to say, "make it as easy as dropping a contribution in the collection plate." The advisory board is made up of investment advisors, an estate planning attorney, a CPA, and other well-qualified members who have been through this process. We will be calling on them to create helpful videos, seminars, and "how-to" information. Again, we want to make it easy for you to provide for your family as well as your church.

This fall we will begin sharing some educational opportunities around estate planning. Until then, you can find some helpful information on our website, www.trinitylittlerock.org/legacy, or you can contact one of the members of our Advisory Board.

Advisory Board

Jack Harvey,
President

Lisa McNeir,
Vice President

Beth Barnes
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Lisa Corry

Amy Dafler Meaux

Jack Dowling

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Brooks Wolfe

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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.

FOLLOW YOUR

Bliss

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20TH

*Join Us For An Evening
Welcoming The Very Rev. Amy Dafler Meaux
and
Celebrating Trinity Episcopal Cathedral Outreach*

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
Chancellors Hall
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.



Music by The Rocktown Sparks
Buffet Dinner * Wine & Beer * Live & Silent Auctions



Tickets: \$50.00 per person
available at <https://bit.ly/trinitybliss>
or call 501-372-0294

SHARE YOUR

Bliss

This event is a fundraiser to support the outreach efforts of the Cathedral.

HERE IS HOW YOU CAN HELP!

- Become a BLISS Sponsor and help underwrite the event so that ticket sales and Silent and Live Auction proceeds can go directly to the church! Contact Susan Penick at susanbpenick@sbcglobal.net
- Help with the Auction by donating an auction item that brings you bliss! Donation Form at <https://bit.ly/blissdonate>.
- Help with Ticket Sales by spreading the word about BLISS

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Dafler Meaux

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Save Paper, Go Electronic

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