



TRINITY TIMES

A monthly newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church
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AUGUST 2008



FROM THE RECTOR

Fr. Christopher Rodriguez

As I write this, we are in the midst of a cold spell here in the “dog days” of August. The weather outside feels more like late September than early August, which is just as well since I would skip August altogether if it were up to me!

But the chill in the air has reminded me that the fall is coming upon us very quickly. Things are busy at Trinity Church in preparation for the fall programs and *that* is a good thing. Many people have stepped up in recent months with new and fresh ideas for events and activities in the fall. Some of these, like the “Trinity Fair,” are *big* events which have the potential to impact our parish and our community. So I am encouraged by the enthusiasm and spirit that the Lord has given to this parish.

As a priest there are two things which bring great joy to my heart: The first is when a person changes their life and comes to follow Christ. The second is when a person learns what it means to be a member of the Body of Christ and *serve*. As believers we don’t come to church as spectators; we come as *participants*. We don’t come to be served, but to *serve* with Jesus as our prime example (Matt 20:28).

When people come to me for spiritual direction and they tell me that their spiritual life is dry or even boring, the first thing I ask them is, “what you are doing for the Body of Christ?” Christianity is not about individual spirituality; we are all members of one another (Ephesians 4:25). It is through serving others that not only is our faith strengthened and

toughened, but we become more joyful and just plain old better people.

Each of us is created to serve God. When we do what He designed us for, we are truly at our happiest and we perform at the top of our game. The key is to find out, “what does God want me to do?” Or put another way, “what on earth am I here for?”

Life will never make sense until you know why you are here in the first place. So this fall, starting October 5th, we are going to begin an intensive campaign called the **Forty Days of Purpose Red Bank**, in concert with three other local churches. It is based on Rick Warren’s best selling book, The Purpose Driven Life and it is my hope and prayer that this series brings all of us closer to God’s plan for our lives.

In the weeks ahead you will be hearing more about the Forty Days of Purpose and how it will work out “on the ground.” My expectation is that each and every member of this parish will be involved in the campaign so that each and every member of this congregation will come to realize the eternal importance and significance that each our lives plays in the Kingdom of God. Please pray for the 40 Days of Purpose and continue to pray for our parish.

With every blessing I am,

Yours in Christ,

YOUTH DIRECTOR UPDATE

By Fr. Rodriguez

I mentioned in the June Trinity Times that a \$25,000 bequest from the estate of Wilda Van Wagenan was earmarked to hire a youth director for our parish. I would like to have support for two years before filling the position with the goal of a \$50,000 donated or pledged to that fund. Since June, \$4k has been pledged from various donors – this is a great encouragement. Still we are in need of \$21,000 to reach our goal and I am asking for your help. The Lord has truly blessed us with many new and younger families and now He has challenged us to respond! Please consider supporting this important investment in the life and future of our parish. No gift is insignificant – and all is appreciated. Please see me for more information.

SAVE THE DATE!

By: Shirley Johnson



Join us on August 17th at 7:30pm at *Days* in Ocean Grove for ice cream and then go as a group to hear Tony Campolo at the Great Auditorium. Tony Campolo is a professor emeritus at Eastern University and a dynamic speaker. Watch for more details as this date approaches.

TRINITY FAIR/FLEA MARKET

By: Joan Gardner and Candy Pellechio

Trinity will be holding a Fair/Flea Market in the Church Hall on Saturday, September 6th from 9:00am to 3:30pm. It takes an entire community of fellowship and service to effectively join together to make an event like the Trinity Fair come together.

While many have been working behind the scenes for months, we need more than 50 volunteers across several shifts to run a smooth affair! Please consider signing up to volunteer on either Friday, September 5th or Saturday, September 6th or both. There is a time slot and something for everyone to do.

Secondly, help fill our tables; we need household items such as cookware, glassware, sets of dishes,

bowls, vases, kitchen utensils, lamps, frames, pictures, books, small electrical appliances, toys, garden tools, small pieces of furniture (such as end tables, cabinets,) holiday items, stationary, fashion jewelry or any items in good condition you have no use for in your home. Lastly, we need bakers! If you like to bake, please consider contributing bread, cupcakes, cookies or jams to sell.

The sign-up sheet for the Fair will be in the Church Hall beginning Sunday, August 10th. Please sign up and make this endeavor an event to remember! If you have any questions, please contact Joan Gardner at 732- 530-8451 or jgardener@trinityredbank.org or Candy Pellechio at cpellechio@trinityredbank.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL LAUNCH

By: Candy Pellechio

Join the team of Sunday School Staff, children and parents for the launch of a new year of learning! As committed Christians it is important for our children to learn about the foundation of their faith and to have time to question, explore and commit to their own individual walk with Christ.



This year will bring required learning for each grade that will develop our children to be better prepared to enter into Confirmation and have a stronger grasp on their own personal faith. Our commitment as parents, grandparents, godparents, friends, and Christian witnesses is to encourage and strive for regular attendance to ensure our children the opportunity to learn and grow into the fullness their faith. We look forward to seeing you all on Sunday, September 7 at 9:10am!

SUNDAY SCHOOL MANDATORY TEACHER'S MEETING

Calling all Sunday School teachers! Please make your calendars for the mandatory Sunday School Meeting on Sunday August 24th at 11:00am in the White Street Sunday School Room. If you have any

questions, please contact Father Rodriguez at the Church Office at 732-741-4581.

PRIME TIMERS DINNER

By: Shirley Johnson

The Prime Timers 50+ Club will meet for dinner at the Monmouth Beach Club (Ocean Ave and Valentine St.) on Wednesday, August 27th at 6pm. Bring a covered dish to share. The rain date is August 28th. See sign up sheet at Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall. If you have any questions, please contact Shirley Johnson.

RED BANK STREET FAIR

By: Father Rodriguez

Trinity Church will be participating in the Annual Red Bank Street Fair on **Sunday, September 7th**. If you are willing to work at the booth to hand out materials and greet people on behalf of the parish, please see Emely Telford .

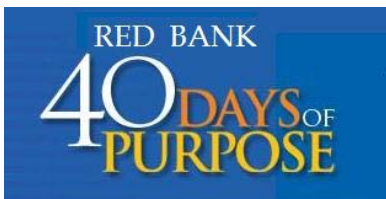
MEN'S BREAKFAST

By: Father. Rodriguez



Our men's breakfast is scheduled for **Saturday, September 13th** at 9:00 am in the Church Hall. All men 16 and older are welcome to attend. Our speaker will be Dr. Gary Cuozzo, former NFL Quarterback for the Minnesota Vikings. Dr Cuozzo

is a well known Christian speaker who is active in the Fellowship of Christian athletes (FCA). He will share his testimony with us and encourage us to live lives as Christian *MEN*. This is an important event in the life of our parish, and I want to encourage all men in the parish to attend and invite a friend(s). This is a first in a series of events for the men of this parish so please join us and get on board! There is no fee. Please sign up at coffee hour or see me for more details.



By Fr. Rodriguez

By now you've probably heard about **Red Bank 40 Days**. This is an

intensive campaign by the congregations of four churches in Red Bank to answer the question "what on earth am I here for?"

Kickoff is the evening of October 5th with dinner and a video by Rick Warren in the parish hall. Starting Sunday October 6th, we will spend forty days as a parish working through the book The Purpose Driven Life. This will be an all encompassing effort and will include daily reading, Sunday Sermons, weekly videos and small group exercises for every member of the congregation. Let me strongly encourage everyone to make a commitment to the **40 Days**. Books will be provided, as well as all the materials needed. All you need to do is commit to daily reading of the book and participation in a small group exercise during the week. It is a commitment, but a short commitment; and I promise you that it will be time well spent. Please see me or Rachel McKibben, the Campaign Director, with any questions. This is a new thing at Trinity. Let's all commit to forty days together and seek the Lord's will for us as individuals and as a parish.



PARISH LIFE

By: Tony Fusco

Please mark your calendar for the following events:

August 13th: Sandy Hook Beach Concert

August 17th: Tony Campolo Lecture at *Days* in Ocean Grove

August 24th: Sunday School Staff Meeting

August 27th: Prime Timers 50+ Club Dinner

September 6th: Trinity Flea Market and Fair

September 7th: Red Bank Street Fair

September 13th: Men's Breakfast

October 5th: Forty Days of Purpose Kickoff

BLUE CLAWS

By: Barbara Gigante

Due to an insufficient number of sign-ups, the Blue Claws outing has been cancelled. Please look at the Parish Life section of this month's Trinity Times for other upcoming social events.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



Birthdays

- 1st Trevor McKibben
 Ted Beal, Jr.
 7th Ruthellen Patterson
 8th Anthony Lucisano
 11th Anthony Fusco
 13th Vivien Ott (100 yrs)
 17th Tyler Birn
 19th Valerie Wagner
 20th John Gigante
 23rd Amanda Lucisano
 24th Kathryn Medrow
 25th Regine Matlack
 28th Kristine May
 John Sloyn-Smith (97 yrs)

Anniversaries

- 8th Toma and Brenda Milouchev
 14th Ted and Karen Beal, Sr.
 19th Chris and Rachel McKibben
 26th The Rev. Charles and Kathy Sakin



Fall Music at Trinity

By Allan Robinson

Trinity's music program resumes on September 7th with new faces and sounds and exciting prospects for

the 2008-2009 season. The Trinity Choir will continue as a 'Trinity' of Organist-Choirmaster, Allan Robinson; Volunteer Adults and Teens from the congregation; and Professional Singers.

This season we both welcome back former Trinity choristers and new choir members. Those singers who enjoyed singing with the choir this summer are encouraged to join us in the fall. If you have considered singing in the past, know that there is a place for you in the Trinity choir. We extend an

invitation to all singers to join us each Sunday beginning on **September 7th at 9 AM** in the choir room. The only requirement is the ability to carry a tune and a love of singing!

There are many exciting changes this fall at Trinity. One change is that each Sunday the choir will sing the Psalm of the day to Anglican Chant. A repertoire of music both ancient and modern will include favorites as well as music not heard before including beautiful new music for the liturgy! The professional component of the Trinity Choir is being reconfigured and already welcomes **Jennifer Check**, soprano (familiar to many at Trinity) and **Patrick Marques**, tenor (who sang Handel's 'Total Eclipse' on August 3rd). As the full professional quartet takes shape, it will function as a part of the '**one voice**' of Trinity's choir in which each singer is valued and important!

YOU are heartily invited to join us at 9 a.m. in the choir room on September 7th. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Allan Robinson at the church. **Come and help us make a joyful noise to the Lord!**

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

Average Sunday attendance is up **20%** over the same period in 2007 and **46%** over 2006. While these numbers are encouraging, please remember that as a matter of priorities, the **first thing we do** on the first day of the week (which is Sunday, *not* Monday) is take time to worship our risen Lord and "remember the Sabbath and keep it holy." (Ex 20:8-11)

	2006	2007	2008
9 Pentecost	75	106	103
10 Pentecost	89	55	96
11 Pentecost	59	97	111
12 Pentecost	71	90	90
13 Pentecost	58	76	108
	70	85	102