

TRINITY NEWS

Trinity Reformed Church
North Plainfield, N.J. 07063

FEBRUARY 2008

Rev. David M. Taylor, Pastor
Ginger Smellie, Editor

It will seem a bit odd this year to go through all of the Lenten season, Holy Week and Easter and still have one more week in March. This crush of time and the on-going rebuilding of the congregation at my home church of United Reformed Church in Somerville, have caused the traditional "Lenten Luncheon, Concert and Wednesday Worship" services to be postponed to next year. I enjoyed helping out there for a number of years. Rev. Paul Walther, who is known to a number of us, is doing an excellent job there, and we already are looking to see this fine community activity return next year.

Trinity Church will be alive and well also. By February we should have a good idea of our future ministry plans and how we surely will carry on the work here. Please do remember the vital work of FISH and their varied programs. They no longer have the use of Fatima House as it has been or will soon be demolished. Talking with Susan Baybutt, whom we all know, I found out that they have temporary help from Rose of Sharon Church in Plainfield. Of course, they are looking for a permanent facility for their day-time needs. Please hold this vital ministry in your prayers.

Are we all satisfied that different seasons of the Church Calendar bring in different worship styles? We do the Advent Wreath during the Advent season. During Lent and to honor an old tradition, I change the Prayer of Confession to a time of silent reflection and confession. In this way we can focus on the Lord and his slow progress to Jerusalem, leading to Calvary, and at the same time see ourselves in that light. Other disciplines over the years have emphasized personal denial - individual sacrifice - personal deprivation in some cases. Quite rigorously pursuing a regimen of self-denial in order to acquire a more intense spiritual experience. There is something to this. From the Book of Romans we know there is a tension between the "flesh" and the spirit. Jesus warned his disciples that indeed "the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak". (Matt.26:41) How many of us have experienced this conflict? The conflict will take center stage often enough in spiritual matters - church matters many times. I make a distinction here between church and spirit. You may feel this tension when you are not engrossed in church matters, or far away from Sunday and 401 Greenbrook Road. What guides us at these times is a basic knowledge of Scripture and prayer. Another tried and true "step of faith" works like this: If I know what I should be doing, yet find lame reasons to hold off or not proceed, that is the immediate time to go do what I should be doing!! That is how I found the wonderful ministry of the Atlantic City Rescue Mission. We had planned to go to service at a local church at 7:00 p.m. and it was a gorgeous July Sunday morning on the beach at Ocean City. On the balmy seashore and warm glow of the sun, I remembered this old principle. I ran back and threw on a pair of slacks and shirt and went to church. There I was transfixed as I listened to the men explain how they help the addicted, broken, impoverished, and destitute. How simple faith in the life-

transforming message of Jesus Christ truly "rescues" individuals and families from a life of defeat and despair. I saw my whole life's "job" set before me as I filled out a card and joined the "Samaritan Club". That will be 28 years ago this July. The needs are now five-fold. The mission is going strong, and greatly appreciates our help, by the way, and oh yes ... the beach is still there. I'm sure there will be other balmy gorgeous days ... only God can make those kind of days. When they come watch that the pull of the flesh on the spirit does not derail you from what God would have you do.

See you in church,
Pastor Dave

FEBRUARY LECTIONARY READINGS

Sunday, Feb. 3 Exodus 24: 12-18; Psalm 2 or Psalm 99 , 2 Peter 1: 16-21
Matthew 17: 1-9

Ash Wednesday, Feb.6 Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58: 1-12 ; Psalm 51: 1-17
2 Corinthians 5: 20b - 6:10 ; Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

Sunday, Feb.10 - 1st Sunday in Lent - Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-7 Psalm 32; Romans 5: 12-19
Matthew 4: 1-11

Sunday, Feb.17 - 2nd Sunday in Lent - Genesis 12: 1-4a ; Psalm 121; Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17
John 3: 1-17 or Matthew 17: 1-9

Sunday, Feb.24 - 3rd Sunday in Lent - Exodus 17: 1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5: 1-11
John 4: 5 - 42

"Take the Robe Off Corner"

"Dad . . . there will always be prayer in school . . . as long as there are tests "

Pam Taylor, c.1980 (daughter of Pastor Dave)

"When you get into a tight place and everything turns against you, till it seems as though you could not hold on a minute longer, never give up then, for that is just the place and time that the tide will turn."

- Harriet Beecher Stowe

"The Bible tells us to love our neighbors, and also to love our enemies; probably because they are generally the same people."

- G. K. Chesterton

"It ain't those parts of the Bible that I don't understand that bother me, it's the parts that I do understand."

- Mark Twain



BROEK Circle - will meet on Monday, February 11th at 1:00 p.m. in the Library Lounge.

JACOBA Circle will be hosting "The Ugly Tie Luncheon" on Sunday, March 2, 2008.

For this luncheon, everyone, (men, women and children) must wear a tie, and our circle will choose the "winner"! Look for our sign-up list on the hall bulletin board.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, March 10th. Barbara Conly, hostess.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR HYMNS?

Dentist's Hymn - Crown Him with Many Crowns

Contractor's Hymn - The Church's One Foundation

The Golfer's Hymn - There's a Green Hill Far Away

The Politician's Hymn - Standing on the Promises

The great hymn writer, Fanny Crosby was given a melody written by a business man named William Doane. As she listened to the music, she promptly wrote these words:

"Jesus keep me near the cross
help me walk from day to day,
with its shadow over me."

As we enter this Lenten season, come worship on Sundays and we can all sing this special hymn!

Sunday, February 24, 2008 our church will be hosting the "FISH Benefit Concert" at 2:00 p.m. Please plan on attending and support this worthy cause. Our Trinity Choir will be participating in this program. Yeah Choir! Praise God!

(Tickets purchased in advance are \$12.00
Tickets purchased at the door are \$15.00)





FEBRUARY, 2008

- 11. Frank Taylor
- 14. Steven Zarnowski
- 19. Jim Beil

SNOWFLAKES

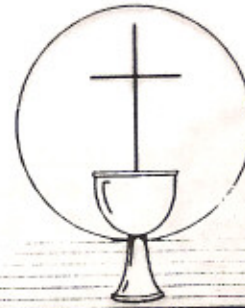
Snowflakes are falling
From Heaven's bouquet,
Like petals from roses
A lifetime away.

They curtsy and bow
And dance in midair,
Then form a white blanket
That's wonderfully fair.

They cover the landscape
Until everything's white
Like an acre of diamonds,
translucent and bright.

Like petals from roses
A lifetime away,
Snowflakes are falling
From Heaven's bouquet.

Clay Harrison



COMMUNION

ASH WEDNESDAY - Broek Chapel - 8:00 p.m.

Prayer List

Please remember in your prayers, our members and friends who cannot be with us on Sunday.

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Joanna Agnone | Pastor Rosie and |
| Ruth Carreno | Dennis McLelland |
| Marianne Clark | Sally McGahey |
| Corey Coleman | Luke Nikorak |
| Joan Cornish | Denis O'Hara |
| Jim Dever | Margaret Rubas |
| Christopher Flood | Resi Sheppard |
| Jill Gaddis | Leona Wagner |
| Emil Habeeb | Henrietta Werman |
| Belle Hales | Marie Werman |

All Servicemen and women
Sgt. Shaun D. Cuthbert, Medic USArmy
Major Christopher Coglianese

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR MARCH

Wednesday, February 13th





FEBRUARY

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI





SAT

Every Sunday

Church School 9:15 a.m.

WORSHIP 10:30 a.m.

1.	2.
----	----

3. 	4. Consistory 7:30 pm	5. Every	6. Ash Wednesday  8:00 pm	7.	8.	9.
10.	11. Broek 1 pm	12. Tuesday	13. * NEWS DEADLINE Every	14. 	15.	16.
17.	18.	19. Choir	20. Wednesday	21.	22.	23.
24. FISH  Concert 2:00 p.m.	25.	26. 7:30 p.m.	27. Bible Study 7:30 pm	28.	29.	