



THE TRINITARIAN

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Welcome Presiding Bishop Sean

Episcopalians from around the country – indeed from around the globe – gathered together Nov. 2 to witness the investiture of the Most Rev. Sean Rowe as the church’s 28th presiding bishop. The service was held at the Chapel of Christ the Lord in New York City and livestreamed to an audience of approximately 20,000 in churches and homes around the world.

Rowe, formerly bishop of the Episcopal Dioceses of Northwestern Pennsylvania and Western New York, was elected and confirmed as the new presiding bishop last June at the 81st General Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. At the age of 49, Rowe is the youngest person elected as leader of the Episcopal Church.

In his sermon at the investiture, Rowe emphasized how important it is for the church to support ministries at the congregational and diocesan levels.

“It’s in these places where faithful Episcopalians gather day after day, week after week, month after month, year after year, to worship God, to celebrate and mourn their sorrows and to care for God’s people.”

Rowe was born in Sharon, Pennsylvania, and has spent most of his life in the state’s northwest corner. He graduated in 1997 from Grove City College before attending Virginia Theological Seminary. After graduating from seminary, he returned to Pennsylvania to serve at St. John’s Episcopal Church in Franklin. In 2007, he was elected bishop of the



Northwestern Pennsylvania Diocese.

Rowe knows attendance for the Episcopal Church has dropped – as it has for other mainline Christian churches -- and he expects that trend to continue at least in the short term. Some of his major duties as presiding bishop will be to oversee a “structural realignment” of churchwide operations and develop a plan to pare down personnel expenses to deal with changing resources.

His parish work and past diocesan duties were in a region that has also struggled with social and economic change and, Rowe said in an essay for the online Erie Times News, people from the area learned to work together to solve problems and move forward.

“And if I am up to the task to which God has called me, it is because I am a son of this region. Here in northwestern Pennsylvania, our economy and our climate have taught us to be resilient and resourceful. Christians in more prosperous parts of the country may be facing the challenges of institutional decline for the first time, but here in Erie, we have already seen things we love go away. And we know that the one thing you don't do at a time like this is give up.”

Rowe will continue to live in Erie with his wife, Carly, and his 12-year-old daughter Lauren.

Please welcome Mary Ann Slater as a new regular contributor to The Trinitarian. She wrote this piece on the investiture of our new presiding bishop.



Check Your Online Giving

Recently, pledge statements went out. More than one parishioner discovered that they were a bit behind on their contributions due to the online giving service not processing payment.

The reason for the interruption in payment may be that the online service requires periodic verification of your authorization.

If you use the automatic withdrawal function online to pay your pledge, please check to make sure your information is current.



Let Us Pray For You.

Prayer is an integral part of our daily life. Your contemplations, concerns, thanksgivings, and celebrations can be daily prayers.

We know and trust that God hears all prayers: those that are spoken and those that are kept close to the heart.

Email your prayer request to:
trinitypray4me@yahoo.com

Please note that this is a new email address.

The Daughters of the King will lift up your requests in prayer for 30 days unless otherwise specified. All requests are confidential.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



209th Annual Diocesan Convention

On November 21-22, Phyllis Pickett and Todd Truffin served as Trinity's delegates at the 209th Annual Convention of the Diocese of North Carolina.

While this year's convention did not feature headline grabbing resolutions or proposals, important work was accomplished during the weekend. Important revisions were made to diocesan canons to streamline and modernize operational procedures and to synchronize our terminology with the national church. A meaningful resolution passed asking groups seeking to perform international missions work to coordinate efforts with the Office of Global Partnerships to avoid duplicating efforts and to link smaller efforts with larger, ongoing projects in an effort to maximize impact.

The reports from various offices in the diocese not only keep individual churches up to date on where our Fair Share contributions are going but also remind us that we are not alone. As Bishop Curry likes to put it, we are part of the Episcopalian branch of the Jesus Movement. Hearing about efforts and programs from across the diocese makes that connection more evident.

Diocesan convention is not just about hearing reports and voting on parliamentary procedure. The entire endeavor is infused with prayer and worship. Starting with Eucharist on Friday, there are prayer services for each morning, noonday, and evening. We experience a wide variety of service styles from traditional hymn singing to energetic gospel songs to Spanish-language guitar songs to youth-led prayer services. It is a vibrant time spent in God's presence with all of our brothers and sisters.



This year in particular, in the shadow of a vitriolic and divisive election season, the messages from the Bishops and from keynote speaker Bishop Michael Curry served to bring hope and unity to the diocese. I encourage you to view their addresses. The Diocesan webpage provides easy links and time stamps to directly access these encouraging words. <https://www.episdionc.org/annual-convention/>

Waiting for the Light



As we begin the new church year and enter into the season of Advent, it's easy to get caught up in the commodification of Advent and Christmas.

The Episcopal Church offers a variety of resources to help us focus on Jesus and His Way of Love.

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/journeying-way-love/>

Love Your Western NC Neighbors

In the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Helene, we saw an amazing outpouring of support for our neighbors in Western NC. I spoke with folks running Valle Crucis outside of Banner Elk, and while life is just now starting to get back to normal, there is still much work to do. Some communities are still without water, and many lost their winter wardrobes in the flooding.

You can help out by making donations to the Diocese of Western NC or by giving to Episcopal Relief and Development. When you give to these organizations, you can be confident the money is going to those in need.

Diocese of Western NC:

<https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=148858&f=4>

Episcopal Relief and Development:

<https://support.episcopalrelief.org/hurricane-relief>



Welcome Home, Bishop Curry!



On November 1, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry handed the reins of the Episcopal Church to Bishop Sean Rowe and retired. He and Sharon return to their home in NC, and the diocese welcomed back the former bishop with love and enthusiasm. Bishop Curry gave a rousing keynote address, and, at a special ceremony, Bishop Sam awarded Sharon the Bishop's medal for her ongoing service to St. Stephens (Oxford) as organist.

A Case For Love

On the Thursday night before Convention, the diocese hosted a special screening of the new film *A Case For Love*, directed by Brian Ide and featuring Bishop Michael Curry among others.

The film "examines the question of whether or not love, specifically—unselfish—love, is the solution to the extreme societal and political divide facing the world." Given that the film focuses on Bishop Curry's teachings about love, it's not a surprise that the film makes the argument that hard, unselfish love is the only thing that has any hope of bringing us together.

After the screening, Bishop Curry and director Brian Ide sat down for a conversation about the making of the film and answered questions from the audience.

You can view the conversation at <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/17pZfp23gM/>



December Birthdays



Dec 5	Kate Reichert
Dec 8	Marianna Heim
Dec 17	Sharon Garrison
Dec 19	Alexander Lamont
Dec 21	Michael Lamont

**If we missed your birthday or have the wrong date, please email
srwarden@trinityfuquay.org**

You Need the Altar Guild. The AG needs YOU!

Everyone enjoys the beauty of Trinity's services. Everything is ready and in its place as the organ begins to play. None of this happens magically.

The Altar Guild keeps the sanctuary in a state of readiness for worship.

The activities are not hard or time consuming. The reward is immeasurable, and the camaraderie can't be beat. There are many different ways to participate, and some can be done in the comfort of your home.

Experienced Altar Guild members are ready to mentor one and all.

Please consider joining this vital ministry for our church. Contact **Grace Kern** (teachichs1@gmail.com or **973-632-4716**) for more information or to volunteer. Can we count on YOU?

The Trinitarian needs YOU.

The newsletter is only as interesting as YOU make it.

Anyone can contribute content to *The Trinitarian*. Celebrate life events with your church family: anniversaries of important events in your life, new jobs, remembrances of God's work in your life, new opportunities, blessings, etc.

Don't worry if you think your writing skills aren't ready for primetime, the editor will be happy to massage the knots out of any tense prose.

Please email all news and articles to **Todd Truffin at tctruffin@gmail.com** (Pictures make the newsletter more interesting!) **The deadline for inclusion is the 20th of each month.**

Sunday Worship

Meeting in person at 8:00am and 10:30am every Sunday.

The 10:30am Service is LIVEstreamed on our **YouTube** channel **TECFV**.

You can also view past services there whenever you would like.

