

THE TRINITARIAN

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Vestry News

Janice Booker Elected Senior Warden

by Raymond Blanks

A born Episcopalian, Janice Booker is a person of deep faith and an experienced leader. Beyond a string of other accomplishments and contributions, she was recently elected to succeed Dr. Tracy Walton as Trinity's new Senior Warden.

Nearly 15 years ago, Ms. Booker transferred her membership to Trinity from her family's church, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Tryon, North Carolina, in the Blue Mountain region of the western part of the Tar Heel state. Her parents, Boyce and Jewel, were among

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Rector's Reflection

The Feast of Epiphany, 2003

Beloved:

Light has fascinated me as far back as I can remember. I think of the warm rays of sunlight beaming through clouds and trees, colorful stained glass and crystal-like prisms. I can feel the coolness of moonlight against the dark of night admit the penetrating light of stars. I can see in my mind's eyes the fire of a flickering candlelight and the frosted glow of a kerosene lamp's light. Light has become very much a part of my life and embodies warmth and purity, insight and vision. Light symbolizes life and vitality and strength. But wherever light is appreciated, darkness must be understood as an approaching or retreating reality or presence. In this sense, we are always moving towards the light or away from it, gaining it or losing it.

While I am not afraid of physical darkness, I am careful about the shadowy nature of it. Darkness can be a place of creation, gestation and birth. It can also be a place of fear, temptation and evil intent. The presence of light is not the absence of darkness. Discerning and being careful about the shadows of darkness makes us acutely aware of God's activity in the world and of God's presence in our hearts. In the case of the magi and of Joseph, the birth of Jesus Christ represented the activity of God in the world and their dreams represented their awareness of God's presence in their hearts. Joseph and the magi were not afraid of the darkness or Herod, but were sufficiently cautious to be aware of the presence of both.

To the purest heart, living in the holiness of God makes darkness as sacred as light. The joy of Epiphany is living into that holiness of light where God is always discovered as the disclosing Star of our lives. I have

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come to love the fire of light because of its character. It scatters the shadow of darkness and illumines the human spirit.

May the Holy Wisdom who speaks to us in every way illumine your heart.

Until next time, I am,

Faithfully in Christ,

John Harmon✠

Current Vestry Membership

The names of the current board members are as follows:

New Members

- Vincent Adams
- Darryl Harrison
- Barbara Jarvis
- Ulonda Shamwell
- Chiemeka Opaigbeogu

Old Members

- Cheryl Freeman
- Janice Booker (senior warden)
- James Brown
- Mildred Dickerson
- Isaac Marks
- Charles Woodbury
- Sydney Hall (junior warden)

Delegates

- Ray Hall
- Lillian Wilkerson
- Carver King
- Barbara Harvey (alternate)

Vestry Notes

Vestry Actions

- ❖ The new vestry members were sworn in and Janice Booker was elected as the Senior Warden for a two-year term.
- ❖ Father Harmon paid special recognition to the outgoing Vestry members: Tracy Walton, Joyce Ladner, Kay Pierson, Rosemarie Brooks and Doris Browne. Each member was presented with a gift.
- ❖ Cora Dixon and Elizabeth Cocke have been appointed to the board of the Trinity Development Corporation.
- ❖ One hundred fifty (150) cushioned chairs were purchased for the Parish hall.

The Trinitarian Calendar for 2003

Meeting Dates	Issue	Article Submission Deadline	Distribution Date (Estimate)
January 12	Jan/Feb	January 19	February 9
February 2	March	February 10	March 2
March 2	Easter	March 10	April 6
April 6	Spring	April 10	May 4
May 4	Summer	May 10	June 8
September 7	October	September 10	October 5
October 5	November	October 10	November 2
November 2	Christmas	November 10	December 7

Submit articles to: bdhoward@alum.syracuse.edu and m2moore@comcast.net

Children & Youth Ministry

The Unfriendly Beasts

Submitted by Rita Nampijja, Children & Youth Ministry Teacher

Our children and youth at Trinity are absolutely first-rate! They take great pride in what they do and in being part of a Christian fellowship that cares and shares with one another. It is this kind of wholesome interaction that helps them grow in the right direction by putting their faith into action.

After weeks of rehearsals, on Saturday, December 14, 2002, Trinity's children and youth entertained parents and guests with a charming, humorous musical play based on a story called *The Unfriendly Beasts*. The children and youth, adorned in animal attire, acted out the role of animals in the manger that must share their crowded stable with Mary, Joseph, and the baby Jesus. The animals hear the news about humans joining them and they are far from pleased at first. They protest the arrival of humans in their stable and Mayor Mouse leads them in preparing a "No Vacancy" sign. In their heated protest, the animals humor the audience with their varying interpretations of what the sign reads. Interpretations range from "No Vacations" to "No Vaccinations" to "No Vacuum Cleaners" before finally being confirmed by animal four that it is "NO VACANCY."

In the midst of all the protesting, the Light of Salvation shines its beautiful glow upon the stable darkness, and the darkness in their hearts turns from coldness to compassion. The cast in their various animal costumes shows us the kindness that lies within the human soul. Charity Chicken is the first to make room in her heart, followed by Carolee Cow, Sheary Sheep, Tiffany Lamb, and Grum-Paw Goat, and soon the entire stable joins in welcoming the Holy Family. The formerly "unfriendly" beasts become "friendly" beasts, and each in turn presents a gift to the Christ Child. What an uplifting act!

The colorful array of animals amused the audience with their actions of initial adamant refusal to welcome the baby Jesus and His family and the turn-around with an energy filled frenzy to show their welcoming spirit. The energy on stage as they hurried and scurried around

to clean up every nook and cranny to welcome the Holy Family, not only warmed our hearts but filled us all with bursts of laughter! Forgotten lines as some of the kids got lost in the excitement of the moment on stage only added to the joy of the occasion. An incident of stage fright was treated with all the TLC that it deserved and served to make the child involved sit back and enjoy the play.

The play, with all its humor and frenzy, certainly left an indelible lesson in our hearts. Will you open your heart to Jesus? In the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season when folks get so caught up in the frenzy of shopping, travel, guests etc, it's important to remember the real reason for the season: JESUS CHRIST. We must open our hearts to Jesus, to welcome Him not only at Christmas time but all year long and all life long. Even when the excitement settles, we must always hold our Lord Jesus Christ in our hearts where He belongs.

The event was followed by the Festival of Lights where a select group of children and youth lit a candle and read various heart-warming passages from the Bible.

A delicious dinner and eggnog "with" and "without" added to the warmth of a wonderfully memorable event. We hope parents, friends and guests who missed the 2002 Christmas Dinner and Theater will be able to attend in 2003.

A special word of thanks to the cast of characters namely (but not limited to):

Narrators: Ashley Drummond, Chinemezi Ukaegbu,
and David Okonkwo

Mary: Cameron Bausermann

Joseph: Ucheche Ukaegbu

Mayor Mouse: Alex Pumphrey

Inn-Keeper: Nikki Hendericks

Grum-Paw Goat: Joshua Harmon

Animal 1: Obinna Ukaegbu

Animal 2: Chinyere Ukaegbu

Animal 3: Aaron Freeman

Animal 5: Tori Chandler

Chicken: Justin Trabue

Donkey: Akudo Ukaegbu

Donkey: Justin Harmon

Sheep: Jarena Harmon

Beasts...continued from page 3

May our Lord continue to empower these young actors as they use their talents to honor Him.

The event would not have been complete without the hard work of Musical Director, Barbara Maxwell; Stage Director, Toni Ward; Stage Prop, Adrienne Vyfhuis; and Costume Designer, Cheryl Freeman.

Thank you all so very much!

In addition, our deepest appreciation to the Trinity Volunteers who helped with the preparation and serving of the delicious foods and eggnog. Your support and presence are heartily welcomed.

The seemingly tireless efforts and work of Trinity's Children & Youth Ministry teachers cannot go unacknowledged. Thank you all for the work you did to make this event a success and for all you do to strengthen our children and youth's walk with Christ.

Last but not least, a word of thanks to the parents who took the initiative to bring their children to the weekend rehearsals. Your encouragement and involvement in your child/children's participation really encouraged them. Thank you!

A Happy, Healthy and Safe Year 2003 to you all!

Announcement

Black History in Epiphany

Celebrating Black History in Epiphany is a three-part series focused on the biblical representation of people of color in the Old and New Testaments. The series will begin on Sunday, February 9, at 9:15 a.m. at Trinity in Room 7 and will continue on the following two Sundays (February 16 and February 23) for 45 minutes. Topics to be explored include Hagar, the Egyptian slave girl and the only woman God spoke to in the Old Testament; Ishmael, Abraham's biracial first son, and the Ethiopian eunuch, who was the first convert baptized in the New Testament. Participants should bring a Bible to the class that will be taught by Raymond Blanks, a graduate of the Howard University School of Divinity. The goal of this class is to reveal God's inclusion and aiding presence with people of color as presented in the Bible.

Senior Warden...continued from page 1

the first African American members of that parish more than 50 years ago.

The president and CEO of New Economy Capital, L.L.C., Ms. Booker is a nationally recognized public policy expert in alternative equity and debt investments, banking, and community and economic development.

Trinity's new Senior Warden, who was the valedictorian of her high school class, earned a bachelor's degree from St. Augustine's College in the top of her class on a scholarship from the Episcopal Church. She secured a Master's in Business Administration with distinction focused on finance from The American University. Other post-graduate studies include The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard. She was also selected for the prestigious Cummings Fellowship to do advanced studies at the Stonier Graduate School of Banking. Her professional achievements result from the fact that she is a leader who engages others intentionally and quietly in order to achieve the common good.

Prior to creating her own financial advisory and securities firm, Ms. Booker served on the executive staff of and was as a senior policy adviser to the U. S. Comptroller of the Currency, in addition to having been a commercial banker, a director of finance for an international firm and a director of the American Banking Association.

Ms. Booker further recognizes that an individual's service in the secular and spiritual spheres builds a better community and brings people closer to God. She is a member of Trinity's Episcopal Church Women and chaired the Endowment Task Force that recommended the newly established Endowment and Investment Committee on which she continues to be an active member. She also co-chaired the Long Range Planning Task Force and served on the Board of Directors of the Trinity Development Corporation.

Her community engagements include being a member of the Board of the New Markets Equity Fund, the Friends of the National Zoo and the Congressional Black Caucus Annual Dinner Committee. She is a member of the National Association of Female Executives, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, the Urban Bankers and the DC

Chapter of MOLES among other organizations. Because of her good works based on high standards of excellence, she has received various honors including the State of Arkansas Governor's Award from then Governor William Clinton, and the Florida Black Business Leadership Award.

The soft-spoken new Senior Warden enjoys jazz, traveling, tennis and swimming. One of her greatest annual pleasures, however, is returning to her hometown of Tryon, preparing herself a culinary birthday feast for her family and friends and then attending the Christmas Eve Mass at Good Shepherd.

A Remembrance in Black History

A Journey to Freedom

by Raymond S. Blanks

A smoldering summer heat captured the capital city of Connecticut on that hot day of August of 1962. Excitement mingled with fear, but our apprehensions were diminished by courage as mixed emotions tangled in our hearts and minds as nearly 30 sojourners boarded the rented bus. We were bound on a journey for freedom in response to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s call for northern supporters to join the struggle of The Albany Movement. My twin brother, Ronnie, and I were only 17 and the youngest among the first crop of freedom riders to arrive in that small town of Albany in southwestern Georgia, where the silent and oppressed suddenly sought justice for the sons and daughters of Africa. We all knew that we were facing the "many dangers, toils and snares" as the hymn "Amazing Grace" indicated.

A mass meeting at my family's church, known as Mt. Olive Baptist in the North End of Hartford, involved several hundred people, black and white, Protestants, Catholics and Jews. Our minister, Rev. Richard Battles (King's New England coordinator for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference), had organized our bus trip to the segregated South. A new chapter of history was unfolding as a cadre of white reporters from newspa-

pers, the radio and TV captured that moment; they surrounded us before we departed.

We didn't know the dangers or troubles we might encounter but we knew that the God of our faith would be with us as we sought to inaugurate a new era of justice for people who had been denied and marginalized from the American democratic experience. Our abundant anxieties succumbed to the power of our faith. We were only foolish people whose belief in the God of liberation freed us to ride into the unknown and dark night to a strange place. We sang songs and prayed, told jokes, read books or newspapers or had private conversations to sustain our spirits during the long ride from the home of the Yankees to the land of Dixie. Once our bus passed the color line in Washington, D.C., it was transformed into a chariot of freedom as we entered the region of slavery and segregation, but our excitement decreased while our fears mounted.

Finally, the bus entered the small town that produced peanuts and cotton, a signal place in the modern Civil Rights era where the sons and daughters of slaves were involved in demanding freedom. At Jefferson and Monroe Streets on the south side of Albany, we entered a mass meeting at Mt. Zion Baptist Church. It was a citadel for the cultured elite that was changed into the central sanctuary for "The Movement" and the whole community's determined struggle for freedom. The packed church sang with verve, "Up above my head, I hear freedom in the air." Doctors and domestics, teachers and tailors, cooks and carpenters, the favored and the forgotten gave us a resounding welcome as we were ushered to the front of the old brick church built in the previous century. The teeming crowd later rocked to the music of The Freedom Singers, a quartet of two young women and two men who knew how to stir the spirit with song. In common meter, the singers led the people in singing, "Ain't gonna' let nobody turn me around, turn me around...Keep on walkin', marchin' up to freedom land."

Dr. James Grant, a Morehouse man like King and the esteemed pastor of that premier congregation, introduced us as people from up North who came to join the battle and stand in solidarity in the struggle, but we were

commonly referred to by local, southern authorities as “outside agitators.”

Amidst the mounting excitement and enthusiasm, Dr. King took to the pulpit before the packed and attentive audience that spilled out into the streets. His remarks were something like, “We are here today because injustice is in Albany. Our forces have now swelled with the new soldiers for freedom from Connecticut. We are here because God demands that justice roll down even here like a mighty stream.” The people erupted in cheers and explosive applause as they stood in response to King’s words. Those who were formerly bent by centuries of indignity were standing straight in their pursuit for equal rights in that small agricultural city located on the banks of the Flint River.

Local residents embraced us, and some were assigned to host us in their homes since hotels did not then accommodate Black people. The long journey had reached its destination, and the next day we were trained in nonviolent techniques. We were soon ready to join the protest in the streets and at major public institutions to disrupt the status quo and advocate for the dawn of freedom for all. I was assigned to enter the main public library with William Kuntsler, the devoted Jewish civil rights lawyer. We were escorted out of the reference section by the infamous Al Lingo, the police chief, and told that it was illegal for Blacks to enter or use the resources of this public facility. But we pressed on, seeking later to enter the local white movie theater. On our last day, thousands of us marched down Broad Street expressing our desire and demands for freedom.

Some brief years later, as the first Black man hired as a reporter in Connecticut for The Hartford Times, I interviewed Dr. King in Hartford before he traveled to Norway to receive the Nobel Peace prize.

Segregation did not crumble in Albany that year of my memorable bus ride, but freedom for all in America didn’t escape that town’s eventual social transformation. Dr. King had inspired and led the people to the Promised Land that reflected the kingdom on earth.

The Dream Revisited

Dream vs. Reality: MLK Dream Update

Submitted by Marshall Ford

Martin Luther King Jr. would be pleased to see:

- ❖ the advancement of some blacks and other minorities in the workplace, but would like to see the opportunity be given to many more.
- ❖ the number of blacks and other minorities who serve in state, municipal, and Federal governments as senators, congressmen, mayors, and other elective bodies and offices. He would like to see greater numbers in general and more in leadership roles.
- ❖ the number of blacks and other minorities admitted to and graduated from prestigious universities. He would like to see many more admissions.
- ❖ the number of events and fundraisers held on his birthdate to raise monies for scholarships for needy students.
- ❖ the number of blacks who exercise their voting rights and in some instances are the voters who swing the election.

Martin Luther King Jr. would not be pleased to see

- ❖ affirmative action plans being challenged in the courts and dismantled on false premises.
- ❖ the forgetfulness of blacks and other minorities who are successful but who do not reach back and help their fellow men. “We cannot be free until all men are free.”
- ❖ the wars, upheavals, genocides and murder of millions of people in Africa and throughout the world while our country and other nations just stand by doing nothing. It would certainly bring tears to his eyes.
- ❖ the death of many historically Black colleges, as well as Black faculty members in the remaining Black schools being replaced by whites. Martin would remind us that the Black colleges were the source of many of our leaders of today.

- ❖ that on Sunday mornings most of the churches in this country are still segregated by race, even though efforts are still being expended by the major religions to become inclusive.
- ❖ the large number of young Black men incarcerated in prisons and who are executed at a disproportionate rate to other convicted criminals.
- ❖ and hear the venom, hatred and malice being proposed and perpetrated by hate groups under new guises throughout the world.
- ❖ the growing disparity between the “haves” and “have nots” to whom much is given and from whom little is realized.

It's too bad we didn't clone Martin because we still have a great need for people of his stature.

Book Signing

New Book by Juan Williams Published

On February 28 at 6:30 p.m. in the parish hall, Trinity will host An Evening With Juan Williams, a book signing event to celebrate his latest literary contribution, **This Far by Faith: Stories from the African American Religious Experience**. The new book is co-authored by Quinton Dixie, a professor of African American studies and religion at Indiana University, and published by Harper Collins.

This Far by Faith explores the profound role that religion has played in shaping historically African American culture and how it significantly influenced America's greatest social change, the Civil Right movement. The authors make clear in this historical study that through religious faith, African Americans made sense out of absurd social circumstances of having been slaves

and second-class citizens and how faith fueled and informed the persistent fight for justice and equality. Among the various stories of faith told in **This Far by Faith** includes Richard Allen, Sojourner Truth, Howard Thurman, Martin Luther King, Jr.

Marian Wright Edelman, president of the Children's Defense Fund, described the new work as, "A rich historical overview of the key role religion has always played in Black life and the different ways in which African Americans over the centuries have called upon faith to see them through," the difficulties and challenges of being a marginalized minority in America. In June, PBS will televise a six-part companion series based on the book.

Williams is a senior correspondent for National Public Radio's *Morning Edition* and a contributing political commentator on *Fox's News Sunday*. From 2000-2001, the talented former Washington Post journalist, hosted NPR's call-in show *Talk of the Nation*. The monthly radio "town hall" meetings focused on how Americans dealt with rapid social and cultural changes as the nation entered the 21st century and was heard on *Morning Edition* and *All Things Considered*. During his two decades at The Washington Post, Williams served as an editorial writer, an op-ed columnist, and a White House reporter. He also wrote the most definitive profile of the late Episcopal Bishop of Washington, John Thomas Walker, in a Post magazine article two decades ago.

Williams won an Emmy award for the TV documentary writing for a series of documentaries, *Politics-The New Black Power*. He is the author of the best-selling book, *Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Right Years, 1954-1965* and the critically acclaimed biography, *Thurgood Marshall: American Revolutionary*.

Juan chairs Trinity's Discourse Committee, which sponsors distinguished public leaders as homilists. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Trinity Volunteer Corps.

The book signing is free and open to the public.

FEBRUARY 2003

SUN		MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
							1 10 am Children 's Choir Rehearsal
2 8 am Holy Eucharist 9 am Confirmation Class 9 am Outreach Mtg 9 am Discourse Mtg 9:15 am Church School Youth Church 10:30 am Holy Eucharist	3	4 10:30 am Tower Mass 6:30 pm Property Mtg 8:30 pm AA/Al Anon	5 12:15 pm Mass 1 pm Bible Study 7 pm Bible Study 7:15 pm Al Anon	6	7 8:30 pm AA Mtg		8 9:30 am Parish Life Mtg 10 am Children 's Choir Rehearsal
9 8 am Holy Eucharist 9 am Confirmation Class 9:15 am Church School Youth Church 10:30 am Holy Eucharist International Day	10	11 10:30 am Tower Mass 7 pm Finance Com Mtg 8:30 pm AA/Al Anon	12 12:15 pm Mass 1 pm Bible Study 7 pm Bible Study 7:15 pm Al Anon	13	14 VALENTINE'S DAY 8:30 pm AA Mtg		15 10 am Children 's Choir Rehearsal 10 am TECW Mtg
16 8 am Holy Eucharist 9 am Confirmation Class 9:15 am MOT Mtg 9:15 am Church School Youth Church 10:30 am Holy Eucharist	17 PRESIDENT'S DAY HOLIDAY	18 10:30 am Tower Mass 6:30 pm Vestry Mtg 8:30 pm AA/Al Anon	19 12:15 pm Mass 1 pm Bible Study 7 pm Bible Study 7:15 pm Al Anon	20	21 8:30 pm AA Mtg		22 Vestry Retreat 10 am Children 's Choir Rehearsal 10 am DOK Mtg
23 8 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Church School Youth Church 10:30 am Holy Eucharist	24	25 10:30 am Tower Mass 7 pm TDC Mtg 8:30 pm AA/Al Anon	26 10 am Sr. Ministries Workshop 12:15 pm Mass 1 pm Bible Study 7 pm Bible Study 7:15 pm Al Anon	27	28 6:30 pm Juan Williams Book signing 8:30 pm AA Mtg		

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 Janet Franklin Christine Ojibera	13 Chidinma Ezinne	23 Carver King Alice Anderson
2 Burt Jackson, Jr.	14 Jennifer Williams Adrienne Dale Lisa White	24 Sandra Nelms Kyra Redman
3 David Okonkwo	Ozioma Onwuvuchi Chinyere Anyanwu	25 Jason Grant
4 Shelley Aikens	17 Desmond Parker Eric Cox Mary Johnson	26 Rachel Greene Nnenna Ahaghotu
7 Chike Gardner	19 Jason Entzminger Jeffrey Ojiribe	27 Robert Bumbarly Mildred Dickerson Claudius Thomas Myra Sampler Robert S. Moore
8 Tiara Davis	20 Lucy Uneze Lisa Aikens	28 Adele McQueen Stanton Newport Akayla Gardner
9 Jesse Chase William Woods Herbert Edeh	Jonathan Broadnax	
10 Chinyere Anyanwu Lawrence Anyanwu William Rice III	21 Charlette Murphy	
11 Onyinyechi Nyoke Deborah Clark	22 Carl Burnett	

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

2 Georgette and McKinley Johnson	12 Paul and Heather Hewling
6 Alice and Orlando Anderson	14 Thomas and Lucille Roberson
9 Reginald and Rose Ahaghotu	

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, February 9	Youth Church International Day Activity	10:30 am
Friday, February 21-22	Vestry Retreat	
Wednesday, February 26	Senior Ministries Caregiving Workshop	10:00 am
Friday, February 28	Book Discussion and Signing-Juan Williams	6:30 pm

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 Justina Ahaghotu Carolyn Walker	Myrtle Thompson Martha Motley	20 Marcia Pryce Charles Woodbury
2 Stephen Franklin Todd Darden	11 Phyllis Bolden	21 Chibuike Nwoke Chioma Nwadigo Jacquelyn Osuji
3 Dominique Marshall	12 Chima Uneze Richard Jarvis, Jr. Shirley Khatin	22 Azunna Anyanwu Ademoia Olaiya
4 Michael Mullings, Sr. Tochi Alvine Nnadi Helen Bonner	13 Amina Coates Martin Okonkwo	25 Della Burke Mae Walton
5 Adanma Nwoke Ijeoma Arungwa	14 Matthew Moore	26 Uchenna Ahaghotu
6 Elani Cooper	15 Henry Forde Patrice Francis	27 Kathy DeBoe Barbara Harvey
7 Adunni Montgomery Kingsley Ojibeka	16 Nnamdi Nwoke Travis Jones Marion Ashford	28 Nancy Taylor Melvin Williams Michael Mullings, Jr. Brittany Amadi Mabra Barge
8 Matthew Green Kathleen Young Franklyn Malone Taylor Grant Nikolas Davis	17 Lydia Egwim Jarena Harmon	29 Nneoma Ekeh Raymond Reher Jahi Waters
9 Nancita Lomax Peggy Holly Kathleen Mitchell Nikkia Matthews Christopher King	18 Townsend Robinson Harolyn Jackson	30 Cephas Burton, Jr.
	19 Jennifer Davis Joan Tillman Carol Jones Arthur Barge	31 Adam Reid

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

1 Josiah and Ulumma Ukaegbu
10 Robert and Lois Robinson

23 Wayne and Betty Evans
26 Gregory and Beverly Saunders

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Tuesday, January 1
Sunday, January 26

Holy Name Service
Dr. Horace Boyer-Speaker

9:00 am
10:30 am

Discourse Committee

Horace Boyer Addresses Trinity

Submitted by Barbara Howard

Trinity's Discourse Committee presented, Sunday, January 26th, at the 10:30 service, its first speaker of the new year, Dr. Horace Clarence Boyer, a Professor Emeritus of Music Theory and African American Music at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. During his address at Trinity, Dr. Boyer, at times the inspiring teacher and later the informed musicologist detailed the roots and influences of sacred music in the African American church. Trinity was treated to an atypical Sunday service of rousing good spiritual and gospel music. Heads bobbed, hands clapped and toes tapped as parishioners sang joyfully tutored by Boyer. He used the *LEVAS* hymnal to demonstrate the differences in the various types of music it contains. Accompanying himself on the electric keyboard, he asked parishioners to sing along with him four songs from the *LEVAS* hymnal including: *Sweet, Sweet Spirit, I Want to Be Ready, Spirit of the Living God and Lift Every Voice and Sing*.

Boyer movingly detailed the origin of the Negro National anthem, *Lift Every Voice and Sing*. He said it was neither a spiritual nor a gospel song but a 19th century song style with lyrics written by James Weldon Johnson in 1900. James' younger composer/musician brother, J. Rosamond Johnson, wrote the music. James was so inspired by his brother's music that he decided to write two additional stanzas. The historic song, according to Boyer, was first performed by 500 black male singers for the Republican Party in the early 1920's although as Boyer wryly quipped, "not the same Republican Party as today." The song eventually became in the 1950's a famed anthem. The choir performed Boyer's stirring composition, "It's My Desire." Dr. Boyer's address concluded with a sustained standing ovation. Several teens were overheard discussing Boyer and the service and commented, "Today was just like church back in the day." Indeed, as the old folks used to say, "We had church and then some!" Boyer's presentation was a wonderful opportunity to hear and see an esteemed

musician and scholar on the cultural roots of African American music.

Boyer is a distinguished musician and scholar and taught at the University of Massachusetts for 26 years. During the 1985-86 academic year, he served as Guest Curator of Musical History at the Smithsonian Institution and during the 1986-87 year he was the Distinguished Scholar-at Large at Fisk University where he conducted the famed Fisk Jubilee Singers in 35 concerts. Boyer also served as an advisor on gospel music to the New Grove Dictionary of American Music and wrote 45 biographical entries. He was a moving force and edited *Lift Every Voice and Sing II – An African American Hymnal* (for the Episcopal Church), and authorized the popular *How Sweet the Sound – The Golden Age of Gospel*. He and his brother, James, a retired Professor of Education at Kansas State University, have performed throughout their lives as the Boyer Brothers. They have appeared in concerts, festivals and on television in over 500 appearances in solo performances, and with such gospel singers as Mahalia Jackson, Clara Ward, Alex Bradford, James Cleveland, and Dorothy Love Coates. As a scholar, Boyer has appeared in such documentaries as the BBC's *The Story of Gospel, Mahalia Jackson: The Power and the Glory* and *Dark Midnight When I Rise: The Story of the Fisk Jubilee Singers*, both featured on PBS. The University of Massachusetts in 1999 established through its Department of Music and Dance the Horace Clarence Boyer Gospel Music Fund in honor and recognition of his outstanding service to the University.

Pictorial Directory

Parish Directory: Final Notice

For those persons who did not get their picture taken, we want to make sure that their address, phone number and e-mail information is correct. If updated information has not been provided to the church in the last two years, please fill out a correction form on or before February 15. Correction Forms are available in the Parish Hall.

Black History

The History of Watch Night

If you live or grew up in a Black community in the United States, you have probably heard of “Watch Night Services,” the gathering of the faithful in church on New Year’s Eve. The service usually begins anywhere from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. and ends at midnight with the entrance of the New Year. Some folks come to church first, before going to out to celebrate. For others, church is the only New Year’s Eve event.

Many of us assumed that Watch Night was a fairly standard Christian religious service—made a bit more Afrocentric because that’s what happens when elements of Christianity become linked with the Black church. Still, it seemed that predominately White Christian churches did not include Watch Night services on their calendars, but focused instead on Christmas Eve programs. In fact, there were instances where clergy in mainline denominations wondered aloud about the propriety of linking religious services with a secular holiday like New Year’s Eve.

However, there is a reason for the importance of New Year’s Eve services in African American churches. The Watch Night Services in Black communities that we celebrate today can be traced back to gatherings on December 31, 1862, also known as “Freedom’s Eve.” On that night, Americans of African descent came together in churches, gathering places, and private homes throughout the nation, anxiously awaiting news that the Emancipation Proclamation had become law. Then, at the stroke of midnight, it was January 1, 1863, and according to Lincoln’s promise, all slaves in the Confederate States were legally free. When the actual news of freedom was received later that day, there were prayers, shouts, and songs of joy as people fell to their knees and thanked God.

Black folks have gathered in churches annually on New Year’s Eve ever since, praising God for bringing us safely through another year. Generations have passed since that first Freedom’s Eve, and many of us were never taught the African American history of Watch

Night, but our traditions still bring us together at this time every year to celebrate once again “how we got over.”

Essay on Watch Night by Charyn D. Sutton
The Onyx Group
December 2000

Additional information on the history of Watch Night can be found in *The Emancipation Proclamation* by noted African American historian John Hope Franklin and *Forever Free* by Dorothy Sterling (out of print).

Senior Ministry

Senior Ministry News

Submitted by Mabra Barge

“The Caring Spirit: A Caregiving Program” has been rescheduled for Wednesday, February 26, 2003, from 10:00-11:00 A.M., in the parish hall. The program will feature Trinitarian, Carol Crecy, Director, Center for Communications and Consumer Services, Administration on Aging, US Department of Health and Human Services. Carol will address several key issues:

- ❖ What is caregiving?
- ❖ How does one prepare to be a recipient of care?
- ❖ How does caregiving affect self, spouse, family members, relatives, friends, or neighbors?

The second half of the morning’s activities will include Dr. Albert Carey, who will give a Tai Chi demonstration. Dr. Carey will offer a Tai Chi class at Trinity on Wednesdays beginning in March.

The Senior Ministry looks forward to seeing you for a morning of information, discussion, and fellowship. R.S.V.P. by Sunday, February 23, 2003, so that we have an accurate count for handouts and refreshments. Call Mabra Barge, 301-622-0294, or email mbarge@umd5.umd.edu

Keeping the Faith

King Honored in People's Protest

Submitted by Raymond Blanks

The National Cathedral was filled to capacity on the 17th national holiday honoring the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The overflowing crowd of more than 2000 people, young and old, Christians, Jews and Muslims, Blacks, whites, Asians and Hispanics transformed this historic Washington landmark into a house of prayer into a spirited worship service focused on justice and peace.

Bishop John Bryson Chane characterized the service of prayer and discernment as a "journey of prayer and action." Yet the service felt more like the faithful gathered for a peace rally in remembering the prophetic Baptist preacher and 1965 Nobel Peace prize winner. This Gothic shrine of faith reverberated as the worshippers sang robustly, "Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to thy control...Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal."

The Cathedral's Dean, the Very Rev. Nathan Baxter quoted from a sermon King delivered in its pulpit in 1968, about, "Our hope for peace and justice is anchored in God and revealed in Jesus Christ." He emphasized that King had the audacity to shift from self-centered concerns to another centered ministry in leading the struggle for civil rights and peace.

An ecumenical cadre of religious leaders also read passages from that famous sermon King delivered before he was slain a week later in Memphis. The Rev. Robert Edgar, General Secretary of the National Council of Churches, remembered King's words from that March 31st sermon and declared, "It is no longer a choice, my friends, between violence and nonviolence. It is either nonviolence or nonexistence."

Bishop Chane petitioned in a mediation of prayer that God would "bless Americans and grant guidance in seeking alternatives for settling disputes" and "help this great nation to live its greatness through its works of goodness" rather than inflict harm and increase chaos through the practice of war.

"We need," declared Marion Wright Edelman, president of The Children's Defense Fund, "to follow Dr. King and not only celebrate him." She added, "People of faith must become new voices for new choices" rather than support the President's plans for war and tax cuts

that benefits the wealthy and harm especially children who are poor, without adequate health care or effective schools. She emphasized that the depth of poverty, 40 million Americans without health care, and rising unemployment also impacts adversely on children because the nation's priorities were focused on the war with Iraq. Jim Wallace, the editor of *Sojourners Magazine*, urged President Bush to apply "a faith based initiative" to resolve the conflict with Iraq. The congregation exploded in sustained applause.

Quoting also from King's sermon, Bishop Felton May of the United Methodist Church remarked, "We are challenged to develop a world perspective...We must learn to live together as brothers or we will all perish as fools."

The hour and a half service concluded with a prayer of petition to, "Free us from bondage to violence and enable us to see your world of Peace." As the worship leaders, denominational representatives and priests of the diocese recessed the Cathedral singing "Lift Every Voice and Sing"; the congregation followed their lead to the streets to protest against the war with Iraq. The crowd marched down Massachusetts Avenue led by police escort and prayed at the home of Vice President Cheney, the British Embassy and the Islamic Center. Quietly and with hand made signs or printed banners asserting, "War Is Not The Answer," the faithful arrived at the conclusion of their journey at the White House to urge peace as an alternative to war.

Stork Announcements

New Birth Announcements

Belated congratulations to proud parents Nelson and Gladys Ukaegbu on the birth of their son, Michael, on November 7, 2002. Michael weighed in at 7 lbs. 11 oz.

Belated congratulations also to Eric and Tina Easter on the birth of their son, Eric Hamilton, on November 25, 2002. Eric weighed 8 lbs. 12 oz.

Congratulations to Ron and Jennell Burke on the birth of their daughter, Cheyenne Soleil. Cheyenne was born on December 16, 2002 and weighed in at 6 lbs. 12 oz. Cheyenne is the granddaughter of Della Burke.

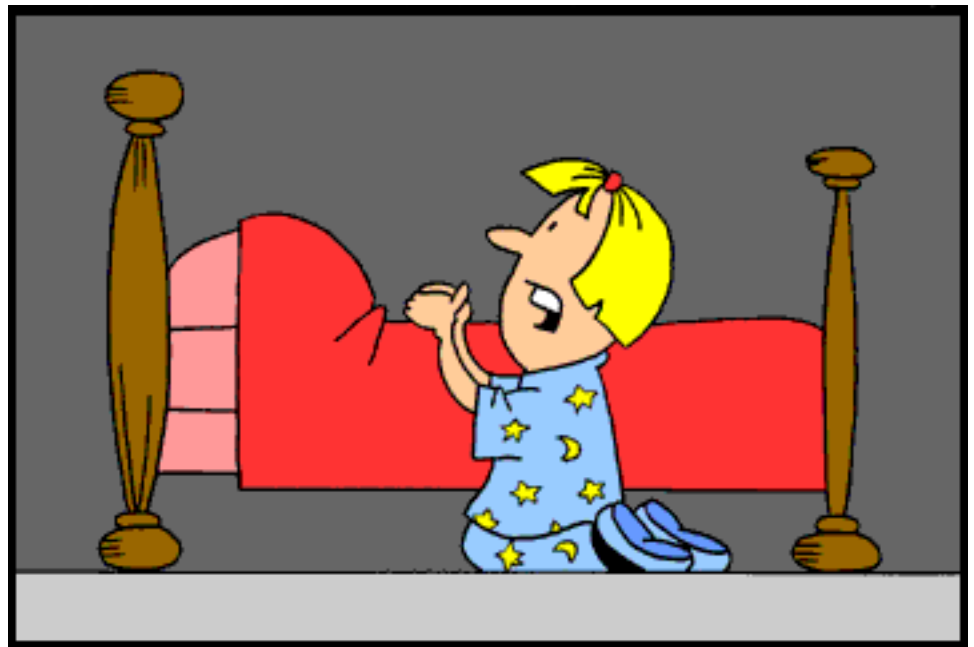
Children & Youth Ministry

Valentine's Day Messages from Our Kids

Submitted by Rita Nampijja

- ❖ **Joshua Harmon, 8 years old.**
Favorite Valentines: Mum and Dad.
Valentine's Day message: Thank you for bringing me into the world.
- ❖ **Alex Pumphery, 9 years old.**
Favorite Valentine: his friend, Joshua Harmon.
Valentine's Day message: I am your friend and if you need help, I am here for you. Just say "Alex" and I will be there to help you.
- ❖ **Nikki Hendericks, 8 years old.**
Favorite Valentine: The Lord
Valentine's Day message: Thank you for the love you brought into the world.
- ❖ **Jarena Harmon, 6 years old.**
Favorite Valentine: Mum
Valentine's Day message: I love you, mummy.
- ❖ **James Pumphery, 4 years old.**
Favorite Valentine: his brother, Alex
Valentine's Day message: I love you.
- ❖ **Justin Harmon, 4 years old.**
Favorite Valentine: Barney the Bear
Valentine's Day Message: I love you and want to hug you.
- ❖ **Amii Young, 7 years old.**
Favorite Valentine: Mum
Valentine's Day message: I love you mommy.
- ❖ **Jackie Mills, 7 years old.**
Favorite Valentine: her sister, Alicia.
Valentine's Day message: Happy Valentine's Day, Alicia.
- ❖ **Alicia Mills, 8 years old.**
Favorite Valentine: Step-mum, Desta
Valentine's Day message: I love you.

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WILL YOU BE MY VALENTINE?

- ❖ **Justin Trabue, 7 years old**
 Favorite Valentine: Grandma, Toni Ward
 Valentine's Day message: I love you grandma.
- ❖ **Chinyere Ukaegbu, 9 year old**
 Favorite Valentine: Mum and Dad
 Valentine's Day message: Roses are red,
 violets are blue, candy is sweet and I love
 you.
- ❖ **Akudo Ukaegbu, 11 years old.**
 Favorite Valentine(s): Dad and her cousins.
 Valentine's Day message: To Dad: I love you
 so much.
- ❖ **Angel Ellison, 6 years old.**
 Favorite Valentine: Her whole family.
 Valentine's Day message: I love you all!
- ❖ **Cameron Bauserman, 4 years old.**
 Favorite Valentine: her cousin Zoie.
 Valentine's Day message: I love you my
 Valentine.
- ❖ **Adrian Nelson, 6 years old.**
 Favorite Valentine: Mum
 Valentine's Day message: Happy Valentine's
 Day Mummy.

Diocesan Convention Special Report

108th Diocesan Convention

January 24 - 25, 2003

Submitted by Cora O. Dixon

The theme of the 108th Convention of the Diocese of Washington was "That We All May Be One." This concept of "one" did not mean that all would be the same, but that we would be joined as parts of a whole. That statement speaks well for our own The Rev. John T. W. Harmon. Fr. Harmon ran for one of the four Alternate Deputy positions to the 2003 General Convention and won by the largest number of votes. Delegates came together as "one" in voting. The General Convention will be held this year in Minneapolis. The Convention is held every three years to conduct business with represen-

tatives from all dioceses. In addition to Father Harmon, The Rev. Paul Abernathy and The Rev. Janice Robinson, both previously associated with Trinity, were elected to serve on the Standing Committee.

Saturday, January 25, Father Harmon, James E. Brown and Cora O. Dixon served as facilitators at the "Table Discussions" (dialogue) during the morning session. A short training session for all 50 facilitators was held on Friday at St. Alban's Parish. The "Table Discussions" session was designed to implement Bishop Chane's tone of respect and cordiality among Convention attendees. According to Bishop Chane, listening to each other is vital to the health of this diocese. Shortly after Bishop Chane's arrival last summer, he stated that people in this diocese did not listen to one another. The "Table Discussions" provided an opportunity for individuals to come together in small groups and practice dialogue. The goal of the session was "to understand and experience dialogue as an essential process for discernment." According to several participants, the time was well spent as another opportunity to be in God's presence, and to grow closer to Him, to one another and to all that He created. Among the dialogue questions asked were: "What do you see as most needed to help develop and sustain healthy congregations in this diocese?" "What's at the heart of this matter for you and your parish?" Responses varied but included: some churches are in too much competition with each other; too many of the clergy are over extended into activities beyond the parish life and mission of the church in which they were called; and a clergy in my group commented that too many of our churches are leaving Christ out of meetings and discussions. Both clergy and lay persons felt that the dialogue session was very fruitful, informative and beneficial. Some commented that sessions of this type should be conducted at individual parishes.

Trinity was represented at the Convention by delegates: P. Ray Hall, Carver King, Lillian Taylor Wilkerson and alternate delegate, Barbara Harvey; Father Harmon, James Brown, an ex-officio member of Convention, and Convention Facilitators Cora O. Dixon and Inez Thomas, UTO Representative Orlando Anderson, and Rosemarie Brooks.

**In February we celebrate
Valentine's Day and Black History.
Take time to show you care.**

The Reverend John T.W. Harmon, *Rector*
The Reverend Canon Earl Neil, *Assistant*
Thomas Pumphrey, *Seminarian*
The Rev. Christopher Mwawa, *Priest-Seminarian*
Priscilla Gay, *Parish Secretary*
Robert Belt, *Sexton*
William Browne, *Choir Director*
Mildred Dickerson, *Treasurer*
Cora Dixon, *Assistant Treasurer*
Marshall Ford, *Assistant Treasurer*

Vestry

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Sydney Hall, *Junior Warden*
Vincent Adams Isaac Marks
James Brown Chiemeka
Mildred Dickerson Opaigbeogu
Cheryl Freeman Kay Pierson
Darryl Harrison Ulonda Shamwell
Barbara Jarvis Charles Woodbury

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