

THOUGHTS FROM MY LAPTOP

Today is our annual Vestry Meeting, time for us to gather and review the past and plan for the future. It comes as we are awaiting the arrival of Trinity's new incumbent, Canon Donald Butler, and so in a very real sense the decisions made today are preparing for that new beginning. This vestry will celebrate that fact, and lay the foundation upon which Canon Donald can begin to build. For this reason your attendance at Vestry during this time of transition is truly appreciated.

Transitions always seem to contain a mixture of excitement and anxiety, (and dare I say even a little fear) and that is certainly true of Trinity. The past year has contained some challenges,. By the Grace of God, we have met them, embraced hope, and in doing so, we are beginning to think creatively about the future. The most recent challenge was the flood in the Undercroft on January 2nd. There was chaos at first for the wardens and staff, and particularly for Mary Caldwell, our office administrator. But order gradually began to appear out of the chaos, as new paint was applied, new carpet was laid, and tile, and new office equipment was on hand and ready to install: The "silver lining in the cloud"!

Trinity will continue to be in a phase of transition for a while: the Interim will end, Canon Donald will arrive, the congregation will embrace him, and together you will begin to shape Trinity's future under the stimulus of God's creative Spirit. We don't know what this future will be, but we do know one important fact: God is with us every step of the way. I leave you with a little poem that sums up for me our experience this past year.

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Trinity Church,
Our little ship
with Christ at the helm,
dangers come and go
stormy weather
rough water
rocky shoals,
fear rises
and fear subsides
as our Captain's steady hand
and ready command
carries us through.

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A seasoned Sailor is our Lord:
he charts the course,
reads the seas,
studies the shoreline,
and knows the vessel
through and through.

Rev. Elizabeth +