



The Vine...

Connecting the Body of Christ one to another

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Essex, 1131 Mace Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21221
(410) 687-5531 www.holytrinityessex.org April 2020



FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends,

These are indeed strange and frightening times, but we will come through them strengthened in our faith and in our care for one another.

While we are unable to meet together at church, we can be church in other ways. We can call each other and chat. We can pray for each other. We can send in our pledges, so that the church can continue to pay the bills. We can read and meditate on scripture.

As much as possible, I will be communicating with you by sending an email update every few days. Please do read them. We are also looking into ways of updating our Facebook videos. And we have

the capability to hold small meetings on computer or phone by using an app called Zoom.

Please do call me or Deacon Cindy if you have a pastoral need. We will be available by phone even when we can't be available in person. God bless you all!

Faithfully,

Mother Annette



FROM THE DEACON'S BENCH

Dear Friends in Christ,

As Holy Week and Easter fast approach, I find this Lenten Season has been one of unprecedented times. I personally, don't ever remember church services being cancelled, and yet here we are. In times of uncertainty, we have always been able to turn to our houses of faith for strength and

comfort. This Corona virus is not to be taken lightly. I imagine there will not be one of us who at the end of it all has not been affected or know someone who has. As the news has told us, the majority of cases will be mild, but those with pre-existing illnesses, the elderly and the immune compromised are at a higher risk for complications related to this virus. And we can see from the grocery stores, that fear has already become our emotional pandemic.

And I think about 2000 years ago, when Jesus and His disciples were on their way to Jerusalem, they too were unsure, they too were filled with fear, Jesus knew his fate, yet, he too, felt some trepidation, as He went into the Garden of Gethsemane to pray; asking God to take this cup from Him, but only if it is God's will. And of course, we know that Jesus fulfilled God's will saving all of us and promising us life eternal with Him.

Fear can be paralyzing. Remember that it is said some 50 or 60 times in the Bible- Do Not Be Afraid, Fear Not and yet there are still times that bring us fear. You would think that it would only take Jesus one time to say, Do Not be afraid, and voila!- all would be well. But we know that is not the case. Even with all the miracles Peter witnessed, and all his professed faith in his Messiah, we still know Peter denied Christ three times, three times, out of fear. So, God knows we still have fear, what is it we should do with it?

Perhaps fear is a time to pause, re-evaluate our situation, take time to try and understand what is eliciting our fear, and then turn that fear over to God. Just as Jesus turned to God to support Him before His Crucifixion, we too need to find our own Garden of

Gethsemane to withdraw to, and spend our time with God, allowing our fears to be given over to Him and hopefully find a calming peace in God's love.

We will come to the other side of this viral pandemic; we will see Easter. Until then, in times of anxiousness search out the words Fear Not or Do Not Be Afraid in the Bible, or on your phone- and spend time in contemplative prayer with God.

Fear not, for I am with you, be not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41: I am praying for all of you; your families, our community and our World,

Yours in Christ,
Cindy+

Church News

HISTORY OF FUNDRAISERS AT HOLY TRINITY

From the beginning of Holy Trinity Church in Essex in 1948, fundraisers were a very important part of a growing church.

One of the early fundraisers that I remember was the Sour Beef and Dumpling Dinner. If you have ever made dumplings for your own family, you know how long it takes for those dumplings to boil! The hungry parishioners who came to eat at Holy Trinity were grumbling about getting their dumplings in a timely manner, and the women in the

kitchen were frantic because they just couldn't keep up with the demand.

The other fundraiser was an Oyster and Ham Supper. Like the dumplings, they couldn't get the oysters fried fast enough!

The Fall Festival was a very special occasion! The Sunday School area became a Japanese Tea Room with our young girls dressed in kimonos to serve the tea that was in authentic Japanese tea cups. There was a country store, bake table, luncheon, games and babysitting service.

Holy Trinity also participated in the Carnival at Middlesex. It ran for several days. Our church people worked the stand and received part of the receipts. It was a lot of work. All of these fundraisers took place at the old church on Eastern Avenue.

After we moved to Mace Avenue, we continued to have fundraisers. They were a part of our church life as we were always short of income.

We had Strawberry and Peach Festivals with a pit beef stand out on our parking lot. For several summers, we had a snowball stand that was very successful. The youth of the church took responsibility for running the stand. They learned how to handle money, mix flavors, clean up and show up on time for their shift. The stand was at the front of the driveway where the flower garden is now located.

The church women, under the guidance of Mary Webb, made cookies every fall along with hard candy. In 1992, the profit from the cookies and candy was \$3,000. It took 933 hours to make 900 pounds of cookies and 250 pounds of hard candy!

Of course, I have written about the Dinner Theater fundraisers previously.

Today, the men and women at Holy Trinity make Easter eggs that bring in substantial funds.

In the past, we have always depended on fundraisers. They can be fun and build fellowship. However, they are labor intensive and time consuming. However, the end results are rewarding!

Do we still need fundraisers?

Submitted by Teresa Schutte-Regester



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Pam Nines – 4/2
Jessica Weber – 4/4
John Nines – 4/5
Margaret Vollerdt – 4/6
Rob Gatchell – 4/8
Joe Reichert, Jr. – 4/16
Regina Howard – 4/17
Loretta Gischel – 4/18
Fred Emkey, Jr. – 4/20
Kane Buckler – 4/20
Carol Dean – 4/24
Lillian Buckler – 4/24



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Gary and Mary Lessner – 4/4
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Barton – 4/23
Jim and Chris Kinard – 4/26

ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS, SEE LEAH



O God of heavenly powers, by the might of your command you drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity: Be present in your goodness with your servants, that their weaknesses may be banished and their strength restored; and that, their health being renewed, they may bless your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary Bogert
Melody Magin (Mary Bogert's Daughter)
Charlotte Nicholson (Janice's Sister)
Alice Martin
James Florentine (Dave's brother)
Elizabeth Shifflett (Ron's aunt)

Jack Acly
Ellen Wallace
Danny Mitchell
Marie-Elena Riggio (Frank's cousin)
Connie Bitetto (Frank's cousin)
Winnie Briscoe (Frank's cousin)
Wayne Preston (Gary's brother)
Bill & Di Anderson (Joan's son and daughter-in-law)
Chris Anderson, Sr. (Joan's son)
Joan Anderson
Ryan Perry (Helen's grandson)
Debbie McCall (Helen's daughter)
Ruth Anthony
Joanne Piper
Tina Barberia (Teresa's family friend)
James Baker (Millie's brother)
Margaret Oduor
Gladys Agandi
Heather Hildebrand (friend of John and Jeannie)
Tina Goins (niece of John and Jeannie)
Kathleen Monroe (friend of John and Jeannie)
Valerie Mehl
Rachel Nealis
Madi Novak (Anne's great niece)
John Morris
Jeannie Morris
Judy Harle
Kenneth Harle
Bob Metz
Todd Metz (Bob's son)
Bill Hightower (Cindy's brother)
Linda Quinn (Mary Anne's sister-in-law)
Jane V. Quinn (Mary Anne's mother)
Chris Ratajczak (Darlene's son)
Leonard Ratajczak (Darlene's husband) **
Edward McClanskey (Darlene's friend)
Dewald Family (Ratajczak family & friends)
Phyllis Thomas (Denise's aunt)
Frank Riggio-Preston
Gary Preston
Ruth Riggio (Frank's cousin)
Nancy Taylor
Pat McGee

Richard Chin (friend of Lynn French)
Michelle Chin (niece of Richard Chin)
Wilbur Zink (family of Janice)
Jesse Fields (Tim's son)
Julie Crosby
Bella Wilhide (Lynne Clementoni)

** As you know, transplantation of an organ can not only save a life but can greatly improve the quality of life. Leonard Ratajczak, Darlene's husband, needs a kidney transplant. If you or someone you know might consider donating a kidney, please be in touch through Deacon Cindy. And please pray for Len and for all those awaiting organ transplants.

PLEASE ADVISE LEAH OF ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

PRAY FOR OUR HEALTH CARE WORKERS

Please pray for members of our congregation who work in health care settings:

Laura Nielsen, Cindy Christopher+, Pam Gatchell, Denise Thatcher, Josh Rodriguez-Hobbs+, Don Alves, Mary Acly, Tamara Dishon, Jody Leonard, Joey Reichert, Lisa Balderson.



COFFEE HOUR

Please sign up on the chart on the wall in the hall to host a Sunday coffee hour. If you want to know what this entails, please see Millie Reichert.

PARISH HALL RENTAL

The parish hall is rented on a strictly first come, first serve basis. If you would like to rent the hall, you must speak with Leah Seay, Parish Secretary. All events are to end at or before 11:00 pm, and the hall is to be cleaned and ready for use the next morning. **NO HALL RENTALS UNTIL SERVICES RESUME.**



FLOWER MEMORIALS/ THANKSGIVINGS

If you would like to offer flower memorials or thanksgivings, please complete a form with your instructions, along with a check for \$30.00, and return them to Teresa Schutte-Regester.

The 2020 forms are on the table in the narthex. Memorials are on a per Sunday basis, not per name. More than one person may donate on any given Sunday.



A LITTLE CHURCH HUMOR!

I bet any Sunday could be made as popular at church as Easter if you made them into fashion shows, too.

--Will Rogers

“Well, if you don’t believe in the organized church, you’ll love ours—we’re as disorganized as they come!”

--Dennis Daniel

A pastor adjusted his height and knelt in front of a group of church preschoolers at a special service. He talked to the children about being good and going to heaven. At the end of his talk, the pastor asked, “Where do you want to go?”

The little voices shouted out, “Heaven!”

“And what must you be to get to heaven?” the pastor asked.

“Dead!” a loud chorus yelled.

--Msgr. Arthur Tonne

HOUSEKEEPING NOTES

Since we do not have a paid cleaning service for the church, please remember to clean up any trash or spills during or after Coffee Hour. The mop handles are labeled for use specifically in Kitchen, Hall or Bathroom to avoid cross contamination. If you need to use a mop for a bigger spill, please use the correct one.

If you have questions, please ask John Morris, Wes Thatcher, or Asa Seay. Thank you.

Also, if you happen to use the last of a roll of paper towels or toilet paper, please replace it. The extra supplies are kept in the storage room toward the back of the Parish Hall, near the Operation Backpack Outreach cabinet. If you’re not sure, just ask!



MESSAGES

Anne Knott maintains the primary list of e-mail information. However, if you change your email address and you don’t give the change to Anne, it is not possible for her to notify you of situations impacting the parish. Anne can be reached at anneews@verizon.net or see her on Sunday’s after the 10:00 service.

MAILING LIST UPDATES

For changes to your home address or phone number, call the parish office at 410-687-5531 or see Leah Seay or Jeannie Morris after the 10:00 service on Sunday.

VESTRY OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

Senior Warden - Christine Kinard
Junior Warden - John Morris
Assistant Junior Warden - Wes Thatcher
Treasurer - Mary Acly
Registrar - Theresa Ridgeway
Financial Secretary - Jean Bowen

Vestry Members:

Gary Riggio-Preston	Arielle Juberg
John Morris	Christopher Acly
Laura Nielsen	Loretta Gischel
Scott Rodriguez-Hobbs	Ron Mardaga



FINAL WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Items for the May Newsletter are due by
April 15.

There is no Ministry Schedule or Calendar for April.