



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

November 2020



FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends,

Albert Camus once wrote, “In the midst of hate, I found there was, within me, an invincible love. In the midst of tears, I found there was, within me, an invincible smile. In the midst of chaos, I found there was, within me, an invincible calm.”

Camus was not a religious man, but I think that what he found within himself, and described so beautifully, was the Holy Spirit at work in his life. He had been a member of the Resistance in France during World War II, so he had certainly seen hatred and chaos and destruction. That life experience is what makes his declaration of love and calm and invincibility so powerful.

We are living in times that sometimes seem to push us to the limits. We can see fear and chaos and hatred around us. But desperation and despair are not the answer to the problems of the world. We belong to a God who repeatedly proclaims, “Behold, I am making all things new!”

We belong to a God who enlists us to help bring in his kingdom. We belong to a God who asks us to pray and to be of service and to live in community. We worship a Savior who taught us to remain committed to one another and to him. We are sustained by the reconciling love of Christ.

So in this season of pandemic and political bluster and civic chaos, be steadfast in prayer, and look to the Holy Spirit for comfort and guidance – smile your most invincible smile, settle into your most invincible calm, and most of all, love others, and yourself, with the invincible love that comes from God.

God bless you all!

Faithfully,

Mother Annette



FROM THE DEACON'S BENCH

Dear Friends,

I have never seen our country this divisive, especially politically. As the election approaches, I find myself apprehensive no matter which candidate wins. So, I thought we might find some solace from the Bible.

Matthew 12:29-31 - "The most important one," answers Jesus, "is this: 'Hear O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these", He says.

John 4:21 - "And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother."

Leviticus 19:18 - "Forget about the wrong thing people do to you. Don't try to get even. Love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord."

Matthew 7:12 - "So whatever you wish others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the law and the Prophets."

Romans 13:8-10 - "Owe no one anything, except to love each other. For the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. Love

does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law."

I have a friend of 30+ years; we are of different political affiliations, and when we would get together, she would try to engage me in some political debate, but I refused to take the bait. She continued, and finally I wrote her a letter, and told her that before we were Republicans or Democrats, we were friends. And that what I perceived as attacks, were hurtful and saddened me. And though I continued to love her and cherish our friendship, I would not engage in any political discussions with her. She thought it over, and called me to apologize for her actions, and for hurting me, and told me how foolish she had been to risk a treasured friendship.

So how do we move forward?... First, I think we need to turn to prayer. Please pray every day for our church, our nation and our world. Second, please do not retaliate either physically (which I don't think anyone in this parish would do), or verbally; but all that you do, do out of LOVE.

Finally, review your Baptismal covenant, that we continually renew; and our response to each question, is "I will with God's help". I especially find the last two questions very pertinent in my life and ministry:
Will you seek and serve Christ in **all** persons, loving your **neighbor** as **yourself**?
Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of **EVERY human being**?

Let us go forth in the name of Christ, loving our neighbors as ourselves...

Yours In Christ,
Cindy+

COVID CAUTION FOR THE HOLIDAYS

I know we all want at least to pretend that the holidays this year can be somewhat normal, but we really need to be on our guard. Relaxing precautions at Thanksgiving could produce a “superspreader event” that would totally spoil Christmas. The CDC has issued guidelines to help avoid spreading Covid at holiday celebrations.

If you are attending or hosting a holiday gathering, the CDC says,

- ~ outdoor activities are safer than indoor. Indoor events are more dangerous if the space is crowded or poorly ventilated.
- ~ have plenty of safety supplies, especially masks, hand sanitizer, and tissues.
- ~ everyone should maintain social distance.
- ~ wear a mask except when actually eating.
- ~ wash hands.
- ~ limit contact with shared items, including food utensils
- ~ if possible, have guests bring the food and drink items for themselves and their own household.

Be safe so that you can enjoy the holidays.

Mother Annette



CHRISTMAS WILL BE DIFFERENT

Undoubtedly, Christmas will be different this year. We expect that we will still be in the midst of COVID restrictions at Christmas, so many things just can't go on "as usual."

You already know some of the changes:

- ~ No Christmas card exchange. You can send one another Christmas greetings by email, Facebook, text, or old-fashioned postal mail, but we won't be collecting and distributing cards at the church.
- ~ Christmas and Thanksgiving outreach will be by gift cards, not by collecting and distributing foods or household goods.
- ~ Seafarers' "boxes" will be ziplock baggies.

Here's another: We will purchase only a limited number of poinsettias for the church this year. Most of the money from your Christmas memorials will go to Outreach rather than to purchasing poinsettias.

We are still thinking our way through some of the other changes we'll need to make. One change that seems necessary is that because of the restricted capacity of the church, we will need to have *multiple* Christmas Eve services – maybe three services – so that everyone who wants to worship in person for Christmas can do so.

As our plans become firm, we will be letting everyone know by email updates and in the December newsletter. Please do read the emails that come to you from the church. They contain essential information!

Mother Annette

Church News

STAYING CHURCH

(from Mother Annette)

I have a feeling the COVID restrictions will continue for several months. This is not comfortable for any of us, but it is a reality we have to live with.

What can you do in the midst of this uncertainty?

1. Read the email updates that keep you in touch with what's happening at Holy Trinity.
2. Worship regularly, whether in person or online.
3. Keep up your pledge. If you come to in-person worship, drop your pledge envelopes or other offerings in the basket as you come into the church. If you worship online, send your offerings by mail. Our mailbox is locked, so your contributions are safe.
4. Stay in touch. Call or email each other. Call or email Mtr. Annette or Dcn. Cindy. Keep each other in prayer.

If you have been sending in your pledge regularly, *thank you!*

If you're sending contributions, please be sure to distinguish between your pledge and any other donations such as for Outreach – use separate checks. If you send only one check, it will be recorded as pledge.

Again, thank you to all who continue to support Holy Trinity. Your pledges and other contributions are essential.

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Fall is usually a very busy season for Outreach. The following information was included in previous newsletters. However, we are including it again this month since the ministries are either ongoing or coming up. Due to Coronavirus concerns, we are only able to accept monetary donations (cash or check). If you have any questions, please contact Denise Thatcher. Thank you.

Backpack Ministry:

Baltimore County Public Schools will be in virtual learning mode through the end of January 2021. We will be dropping off our food bags at the Deep Creek Middle School distribution site. This is what we did from April through June when classes went virtual.

If you would like to help, please do not bring food to Holy Trinity! We can accept donations (cash or check) to purchase items. Due to COVID restrictions, we are not using the Parish Hall.

International Seafarers Mission:

The Christmas gifts for Seafarers have all been packed and are ready for transport. Due to COVID issues, we were asked not to use shoe boxes for the Christmas presents, but instead to use one-gallon plastic Ziploc bags to hold the travel-size toiletry items, a warm hat, and a small modern edition Bible.

Thanksgiving Baskets:

Once again, we are concerned about the problems associated with shopping and storing large numbers of items in the Parish Hall. We decided that this year we will

purchase food gift cards to give to families so they can purchase the food, paper products and cleaning supplies that they need. If you would like to help, we would appreciate cash donations to assist with buying these gift cards.

Ongoing Programs:

We hope that you have been collecting aluminum pull tabs at home for the **Ronald McDonald House**. Please keep them at home until we are able to collect them again.

Eastern Interfaith Outreach (EIO) is still operating. Please see details below under the “Local Food Pantries” section.

LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

Eastern Interfaith Outreach (EIO)

Contact: 410-391-6181 OR 211

Donations: Make your check payable to “Eastern Interfaith Outreach” and mail it to:
Eastern Interfaith Outreach
P.O. Box 7878
Essex, MD 21221

Special Monthly Food Distribution:

Date: Wednesday, November 4, 2020
Time: 10:00 a.m - 1:00 p.m. (or until the food supplies run out!)
Location: 99 Stemmers Run Road (parking lot)

St. Clare Catholic Church Food Pantry

Location: 714 Myrth Avenue in Essex

Hours: Tuesdays from 9 a.m. – 12 noon



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Matthew Florentine – 11/10
Jackie Ross – 11/14
Wally Hossbach – 11/16
Chris Ngahyoma – 11/21
Taylor Gerber – 11/22
Edgar Gutierrez – 11/23
Michael Florentine – 11/25
Connor Gatchell – 11/25
Joe Znovena – 11/26



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Dave and Flo Florentine – 11/2
Sam and Leah Seay – 11/19

ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS, SEE LEAH



PRAYER LIST

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
Alice Martin
Ellen Wallace
Joan Anderson
Ruth Anthony
Joanne Piper
Margaret Oduor
Gladys Agandi
Valerie Mehl
John Morris
Jeannie Morris
Judy Harle
Bob Metz
Ratajczak family
Richard Chin (friend of Lynn French)
Jesse Fields (Tim's son)
Bella Wilhide (Lynne Clementoni)
Deb Pirog
Julianne Salamone (Teresa's granddaughter)
Somo Bishop
Jackie Spence
Maranda Powell
Patty and Rich Rubin (Mary Anne's family)
Crosby family (Lynne Clementoni)
Melissa Tubman (Lynne Clementoni's niece)
Tim Morris (John's brother)

Patti Ballwanz
Wally Hossbach
Dina Munford

PLEASE ADVISE LEAH OF ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

PRAY FOR OUR HEALTHCARE 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.



REGULAR REMINDERS



COFFEE HOUR

There will be no coffee hour so long as we are in Phase Orange. When we are ready to enter Phase Yellow, there will be specific instructions about coffee hour.

PARISH HALL RENTAL

NO HALL RENTALS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.



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 available from Leah in the church office. Memorials are on a per Sunday basis, not per name. More than one person may donate on any given Sunday.

HOUSEKEEPING NOTES

Please continue to follow the COVID instructions for sanitizing the pews and the restrooms.

MAILING LIST UPDATES

For changes to your home address or phone number, call the parish office at 410-687-5531 on Tuesday or Thursday between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon.



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.

VESTRY OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

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

Vestry Members:

Arielle Juberg	John Morris
Christopher Acly	Laura Nielsen
Scott Rodriguez-Hobbs	Loretta Gischel



FINAL WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Items for the December Newsletter are due by November 15.

Thanksgiving Community Outreach Ministry

As you may have read, the Thanksgiving Basket project will happen differently this year. We cannot bring food items to the church or gather to sort and deliver the baskets. I'm disappointed that we can't be together as we were last year when these pictures were taken – it is always a wonderful experience!

Nevertheless, the need for food and household items is greater than ever this year. If you are able to assist, please send a monetary contribution (clearly marked with "Outreach"). The funds will go towards providing gift cards to local grocery stores. This year, it is the safest option, and it allows folks to pick the items they need the most.



Thank you for supporting the Thanksgiving Basket project all these years! I hope we will be able to gather again next year and add more photos to this collection.

-Arielle

Sign Up Genius Instructions

We are using a new computer program to assist us with keeping track of who signs up for each church service. This is necessary because we can only have limited occupancy in the church at any one time.

Please note: We will continue to have weekly sign-up instead of monthly. **Please remember to sign up for each Sunday's service the week prior, preferably before Thursday.** If you do not have Internet access, call the church office on Tuesday or Thursday between 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.

To sign up by computer:

1. Type the following address into your Internet browser:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/findasignup>
2. Under "Search for a sign up" type the following email address:
HTOfficeSecretary@gmail.com
3. Click the "Search" button
4. Click on the "HT Church Services _____ 2020" item (choose the appropriate date)
5. Choose either the 8:00 or 10:00 service by clicking on the appropriate blue "Sign Up" button.
6. Click the blue "Submit and Sign Up" button at the bottom of the page.
7. Type your name(s) in the "Comment" line and the number of people in your immediate family who will be coming, including yourself.
8. Follow all of the remaining prompts until you are notified that you have successfully signed up for the service time that you want.

Please note: The software will not let you sign up if all of the spaces have been taken at that time. If this happens, call the church office on Tuesday or Thursday between 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon to notify Leah. We want to know if there are any parishioners who have not been able to sign up so we know if we need to consider adding a third service.

If you cannot sign up via the Internet:

Call Leah during church office hours only! The church office hours are Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. The church telephone number is 410-687-5531. You must speak to Leah directly. Messages left on the answering machine will not get you signed up for the service. Please do not call Leah at home; she cannot sign you up from her house.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

November 2020

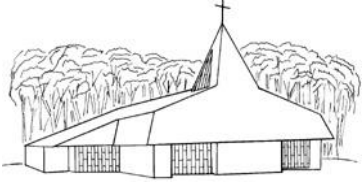
1 8 15 22 29

8:00 A.M.					
Usher	J. Huber	M. Acly	J. Huber	M. Acly	J. Huber
Usher	B. Barton	C. Acly	B. Metz	C. Acly	B. Barton
Usher	X	X	X	X	X
Lay Reader	R. Ross	Anne M.	R. Ross	Anne M.	R. Ross
Intercessor	J. Huber	J. Huber	Deacon	J. Huber	Deacon

10:00 service also Livestream on Facebook

10:00 A.M.					
Usher	Sam S.	John M.	Denise T.	John M.	Sam S.
Usher	Leah S.	Denise T.	John M.	Gloria G.	Leah S
Usher	Asa S.	Arielle J.	Tyler S.	Tyler S.	Asa. S.
Usher	X	X	X	X	X
Intercessor	John M.	Chris K.	Lynn F.	Denise T.	John M.
Reader	Chris K.	Teresa S.	Teresa S.	Teresa S.	Teresa S.

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO SERVE ON ANY OF THESE DATES, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO FIND AN AUTHORIZED REPLACEMENT.



November 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints' Day 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook)	2	3 10am-12pm Office Staffed	4	5 10am-12pm Office Staffed	6	7
8 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook)	9	10 10am-12pm Office Staffed 7 pm – Vestry Meeting (Zoom meeting)	11	12 10am-12pm Office Staffed	13	14
15 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook)	16	17 10am-12pm Office Staffed	18	19 10am-12pm Office Staffed	20	21
22 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook)	23	24 10am-12pm Office Staffed	25 7:00 PM Thanksgiving Service	26 Thanksgiving Day OFFICE CLOSED	27	28
29 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook)	30					