

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

September 2020



FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends,

Have you ever noticed how many of the Bible's stories about Jesus take place in borderlands, or wastelands, or out-of-the-way places? Our Lord seems so often to gravitate to these edgy places. Partly, of course, it's because Israel was a small country surrounded by neighbors who were not particularly friendly, so borderlands could be treacherous. But there's more to it than that.

Borderlands and deserts are also potent reminders of Israel's history, and specifically of the journey of the people of God from slavery in Egypt to freedom and hoped-for autonomy in their own land. The story of how Moses led the people to the Promised Land is the defining story of who they are, what it means to be an Israelite. In

our lectionary, those stories of the Exodus will be the first lesson all this month and most of next month.

It strikes me that we are living, metaphorically, in a borderland situation, an edgy wilderness where we can't see where we're going but we know we can't just stay where we are. Like the Hebrews in the desert, we are sometimes desperate and sometimes angry and sometimes just longing for things to go back to being the way they used to be.

Life on the borderlands and in the wastelands is never easy, but God is with us, even in our unease. These are indeed strange and frightening times, but I am confident that we will come through this time of uncertainty strengthened in our faith and in our care for one another.

Remember how often both angels and Jesus tell people, "Do not be afraid."

God bless you all!

Faithfully,

Mother Annette



Church News

FROM THE DEACON'S BENCH

Dear Friends,

First and most important, I miss you all! I hold you in prayer and hope that all of you are healthy and safe. Annette+ and I are trying to make calls to check in on our parishioners, but that can be a daunting task. I pray that you all continue to care for each other; you are such wonderful examples of friends and fellowship. Check in on someone you haven't heard from in a while; send a card to someone who is alone. You are the epitome of caregivers and as this pandemic continues, please continue to reach out to others. Also, please know that even if Annette+ and I don't call you, you can always reach out to us with any needs you might have. This pandemic has caused great fear and anxiety; talking to others can help to allay some of this anxiety.

Please also remember that God is with us. Hold strong to your faith. Look for God in all places and all people. Let your light shine forth into the world, to be Christ's hands and feet on this Earth. St Vincent Pallotti reminds us: "Seek God and you will find him. Seek God in all things, and you will find him everywhere. Seek God at all times and you will always find him. We must inhale and exhale God. Then we will radiate God's presence."

Yours In Christ,
Cindy+

STAYING CHURCH

(from Mother Annette)

We were able to "have church," although with restrictions, throughout July, but then when the COVID numbers got worse, in-person worship was again suspended and we've been able to worship only online in August so far. We remain hopeful for regathering soon, but I have a feeling a similar up-and-down pattern of worship 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 our busiest season, so members of the Outreach Committee met on August 4. The COVID pandemic has made it difficult for all of us to function like we did in the past. However, it has not dampened our resolve to reach out to our neighbors in need, including:

Backpack Ministry:

Baltimore County Public Schools will be in virtual learning mode through the end of January 2021. We are hoping to drop 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. We also hope to provide basic school supplies.

If you would like to help, please do not bring food or school supplies to Holy Trinity! We can accept donations (cash or check) to purchase items. Due to COVID restrictions, and not knowing when we will be able to have regular services again, we are not using the Parish Hall.

International Seafarers Mission:

Again, due to COVID issues, we will not be using shoe boxes for the Christmas presents. The ISM has asked us to use one-gallon plastic Ziploc bags to hold the travel-size toiletry items, a warm hat or pair of socks, and a small modern edition Bible.

Again, we will accept monetary donations to purchase needed items for the Christmas presents. Please do not bring items to Holy Trinity to donate!

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.

Eastern Interfaith Outreach:

Asa Seay has been tending the Holy Trinity vegetable garden again this year. The bounty has been shared with EIO for them to distribute to those in need.

Summer Programs:

Unfortunately, we were not able to provide **Vacation Bible School** or **Christmas in July for the Maryland SPCA**. As you know, most public events had to be canceled due to the COVID shutdown.

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.

COVID-19 created so many barriers in our everyday lives. We do not know when we will be able to return to in-person worship. Use of the Parish Hall has been curtailed. Nothing feels “normal.” Please know that we continue to pray for members of the congregation and our neighbors in need. If you would like to help, please send your cash or check donations, along with a

description of where you want those funds used, to Holy Trinity.

We will do the shopping for you.

Be safe and be well,
Denise Thatcher
Outreach Committee Chairperson

LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

Eastern Interfaith Outreach (EIO) Update

EIO has continued to feed those in need during this COVID-19 situation! The EIO office is closed to inside business; however, the volunteers are still receiving monetary donations as well as food supplies from the Maryland Food Bank, which they then distribute to those in need outside of the building. They have fed over 400 families during this pandemic time! Even though Holy Trinity is open again for church services, we are not able to collect food donations. However, EIO is still in need of monetary donations. As able, please plan to donate to EIO monetarily. **Make your check payable to “Eastern Interfaith Outreach” and mail it to:**

**Eastern Interfaith Outreach
P.O. Box 7878
Essex, MD 21221**

If you or someone you know is in need of food, EIO can be reached by either leaving a message on their answering machine (410-391-6181) OR by calling “211” and following the prompts for Baltimore County food pantries and choosing the option for EIO.

Thank you.

St. Clare Catholic Church

The food pantry at St. Clare Catholic Church is still available at 714 Myrth Avenue in Essex. They are open on Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon for people to drop off donations or to pick up food items if in need. Those receiving aid must bring ID showing that they are residents of either the 21220 or 21221 ZIP code. When arriving at St. Clare’s, enter the parking lot on the fire station side, go past the steps, to the back of the school. The doors are right around the corner on that end of the building. Drop off and pick up of food items will be done outside of those doors.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Anne Knott – 9/3
Wes Thatcher – 9/7
Randi Dawson – 9/9
Steven Krenzer – 9/10
Beverly McCormick – 9/11
Sylvia Gray – 9/14
Lisa Krenzer – 9/18
Jeannie Morris – 9/19
Richard Glendenning – 9/20
Kaitlyn Ross – 9/24
Sherry Pomraning – 9/26
Lillian Grace Pirog-Deety – 9/29
Ron Ross – 9/30
Flo Florentine – 9/30



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Chris and Mary Acly – 9/4
Donald and Teresa Regester – 9/17
Wayne and Barbara Benson – 9/20

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
Alice Martin
Ellen Wallace

Joan Anderson
Ruth Anthony
Joanne Piper
Margaret Oduor
Gladys Agandi
Valerie Mehl
John Morris
Jeannie Morris
Judy Harle
Bob Metz
Leonard Ratajczak (Darlene's husband)
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
Patty and Rich Rubin (Mary Anne's family)
Julie Crosby (Lynne Clementoni's daughter)
Tim Morris (John's brother)

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.



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

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 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.

Note: For those who have already paid for flowers on a given Sunday, we will reassign those memorials to an open date when we have in-person church services again.

HOUSEKEEPING NOTES

Since we do not have a paid cleaning service for the church, all parishioners are responsible for cleaning. In the church itself, please follow the instructions for sanitizing the pew at the end of the service you attend. In the restrooms, please follow the posted instructions for sanitizing the toilet, sink, light switches, and door handles. If you need to use a mop for a spill, or if the restroom runs out of toilet paper or paper towels, please report the matter to an usher. Note that the parish hall is off limits on Sundays. If you're not sure about any of these instructions, just ask.

COVID CORNER

Temporarily, we have replaced the "Church Humor" section with "COVID Corner". This has been a stressful time for many of us. Please see related items below.

Eastern Interfaith Outreach (EIO) Food Pantry will be having a special drive-thru food distribution for those in need next Wednesday, September 2, 2020. Please see the details below:

Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020

Time: 10:00 a.m - 1:00 p.m. (or until the food supplies run out!)

Location: 99 Stemmers Run Road (parking lot)

Details: *This location is near The Fields at Renaissance Park across from Al's Seafood (where there are usually police cars parked).

*Meat as well as dry goods will be available.

If you know of anyone who is in need of assistance, please share this information with them.

Thank you.



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.

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.

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 October Newsletter are due by September 15.

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: At least for the month of September, we will 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.

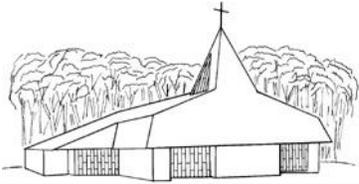
MINISTRY SCHEDULE

September 2020

6 13 20 27

8:00 A.M.	6	13	20	27
Usher	J. Huber	Chrissy	Chrissy	M. Acly
Usher	B. Barton	B. Barton	B. Metz	C. Acly
Usher	X	X	X	X
Lay Reader	R. Ross	Anne M.	R. Ross	Anne M.
Intercessor	Deacon	J. Huber	J. Huber	J. Huber
10:00 A.M.	<i>10:00 service also Livestream on Facebook</i>			
Usher	Sam S.	Sam S.	John M.	Gloria G.
Usher	Leah S.	Leah S.	Gloria G.	Chris K.
Usher	Asa S.	Asa S.	Arielle J.	John M.
Usher	X	X	X	X
Intercessor	John M.	Denise T.	Denise T.	Denise T.
Reader	Chris K.	Chris K.	Teresa S.	Teresa S.

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



September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 10am-12pm <i>Office Staffed</i>	2	3 10am-12pm <i>Office Staffed</i>	4	5
6 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook)	7 <i>Labor Day</i>	8 10am-12pm <i>Office Staffed</i>	9 7 pm – Chat&Compline (Zoom meeting)	10 10am-12pm <i>Office Staffed</i> 7 pm – Vestry Meeting (Zoom meeting)	11	12
13 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook)	14	15 10am-12pm <i>Office Staffed</i>	16 7 pm – Chat&Compline (Zoom meeting)	17 10am-12pm <i>Office Staffed</i>	18	19
20 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook)	21	22 10am-12pm <i>Office Staffed</i>	23 7 pm – Chat&Compline (Zoom meeting)	24 10am-12pm <i>Office Staffed</i>	25	26
27 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook)	28	29 10am-12pm <i>Office Staffed</i>	30 7 pm – Chat&Compline (Zoom meeting)			