



Rector's Reflections

Dear Family in Christ,

The Apostle Paul said that God created all who inhabit the earth, and remains near to this beloved creation, so that each one of us, in searching and groping for God, can be sure to find God. *In God we live, and move and have our being.* (Acts 17: 26-27).

Exploring this intimate and infinitely close relationship with God was the basis of my 10-day residency program with the Shalem Institute in July. The residency is part of a two-year certificate program in Spiritual Direction or Spiritual Guidance I began in March. It is intended to equip me to be a better companion in faith to individuals, small groups and congregations.

The working assumption is that God longs to be front and center in our lives, both as individuals and as a church. God longs for us to know that S/He is the ground under our feet and the breath that gives us life. God's deepest desire is to love us into being the people we are created to be, and we are better able to apprehend God's loving presence in our lives when we seek God together.

As the Sufi poet Hafiz writes, "God said, 'I am made whole by your life. Each soul, each soul completes me.'" And as Jesus said, "Whenever two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Matthew 18:20) Our groping after God finds God more easily and more fully when we do our seeking in the company of faithful companions.

So my study with Shalem is intended to assist me in being a faithful companion to you as individuals — I am happy to explore with you what individual spiritual guidance could mean for you, whether with me or with another trained director — and as the rector of Trinity Church.

I am recommitting myself to contemplative practice — frequent times of centering prayer and quiet, abiding in the One who knit me together, knows and



Tally ponders an upcoming Sunday sermon for Pastor Nancy.

loves me through and through. I am persuaded that time spent wrapped in that Loving Presence will help me see and perceive that Presence at all times.

And I am persuaded that your intentional turning to the Holy One can make the Divine manifest in your daily life as well. You may do that differently than I do, but that's kind of the point. When we grope together after God, using four (or more) ears, four (or more) eyes and two (or more) hearts, how much better we will come to hear, see and love the One in whom we live and move and have our being.

As we move into the new program year, don't be surprised if I begin to ask more directly, "Who is God for you?" "Where do you perceive God in this?" "How does this program or ministry participate in the life of God?" "How is God present in your life?" "How are you present in God's life?"

The pages that follow are full of opportunities for us to be together in the One in whom we live and move and have our being. How can we be better companions to one another on our journey into the heart of God?

Blessings,

Nancy+

Please Meet Matthew Simpson

I am originally from the Diocese of Virginia where I was baptized and confirmed an Episcopalian. Five years ago I moved to the area, and my home parish until now has been St. Philip's in New Hope. I am a Deacon-in-Formation in the Diocese of Pennsylvania, and I am looking forward to spending my last year of formation here at Trinity Buckingham.

The formation process to be an ordained Deacon in the Episcopal Church is three years. The first year of formation I worked at the Community Kitchen at Centenary Methodist Church in Lambertville, NJ. My second year I did Clinical Pastoral Education at St. Mary's Medical Center in Langhorne, and this final year I will be here at Trinity Buckingham. I am also doing part-time seminary through General Theological Seminary in NYC, and I go to the Cathedral once a month for Deacon Formation Days.

I am currently a Nursing Student at Holy Family University, and am due to graduate with a B.S.N. next year. I am a volunteer at St. Mary's Medical Center as a Respite Companion to the Lonely, and I am a member of the No One Dies Alone Program. I have also been a youth mentor for the past three years. Before endeavoring in the calling to be a Deacon and a nurse, I was an international flight attendant for ten years, I was a missionary in Thailand and Laos for eight months, and I graduated with a B.A. in Religious Studies from the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, VA.

I am looking forward to learning from you all, and working alongside you in your various ministries. I am also hoping to introduce new ministries and programs that can assist with spiritual formation, education and pastoral care.



Favorite Quote: *'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'* – Jesus of Nazareth

Pastoral Care and Lay Chaplain Training Through Community of Hope International

Spiritual Formation, the Building of Community, and Charity are core values to our Episcopal Faith Tradition. This year, Trinity Buckingham is becoming a new regional training center for Community of Hope International, an Episcopal and Benedictine-based organization that facilitates the training of lay chaplains and pastoral care givers.

The program will focus on spiritual formation in the Benedictine-tradition, which focuses on union with God and taking a balanced and moderate approach in all areas of our lives. It will help form and train individuals to be a healing presence to those who are sick, in grief, or in need of companionship and a friendly visit. The program will also facilitate the building up of a community of lay chaplains and caregivers to support and build each other up throughout each other's ministry.

The program has 14 modules that will be taught on Sunday afternoons at Trinity Buckingham by various spiritual caregivers in and around our community. This program is a great opportunity to deepen our spiritual lives, to form ourselves into a community of caregivers, and to be a healing presence in our world today. Classes begin on October 15th, and registration will begin in September. If you have any questions please contact the Program Facilitator, Matthew Simpson, at matthew@trinitybuckingham.org or call at 540-429-9172.

Matthew Simpson

www.trinitybuckingham.org

Vision and Talent: What do we have to offer our Community?

Asset-Based Community Development Brainstorming Session

Episcopal Relief and Development, an international charity and community-building program, is encouraging our local parishes and communities to re-think how we look at ourselves and how we do mission. By using Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD), we seek to identify the talents and skills we have as individuals, the assets we have as a faith community, and the passions and visions we have to transform our local communities. ABCD encourages us to look at and to celebrate what we have and who we are, instead of looking at ministry through what we need or what we lack. This Brainstorming Session will be a great opportunity to identify and to find out what talents we have, what passions we share, and to think about how we want to form our future ministry around our strengths and passions. **The Session will be held on September 17th after the 10:15 am service. It will be led by Matthew Simpson, our Deacon-in-Formation, and it will run from 11:45 am to 1:00 pm.**

Matthew Simpson

ECW (Episcopal Church Women)

The ECW end-of-the-year picnic was held at the home of Mary Beth Perisho. We had a great pot luck and a successful business meeting. We distributed our Spring Rummage Sale profits to New Britain Food Larder, Doylestown FISH, the Rector's Discretionary Fund, Episcopal Church Services, Jazz & Joe, BARC Developmental Services, Meals on Wheels, Welcoming Strangers, GAP (Grandparents as Parents) and set some money aside in our freezer fund. Thanks to all who contributed to this week of hard work to make it the success it was.

Our Fall Sale will be held on Oct. 21st. Please set aside clothing for the Fall and Winter that you no longer want. We need it!!!! **We will have a planning meeting on Sept. 20th, a Wednesday, in Faith Hall at 12 noon.** Please bring a lunch. We welcome all women in the church.

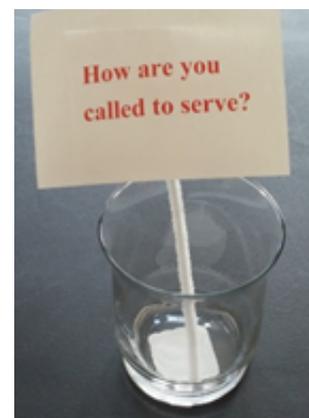
Mary Beth Perisho

Trinity Trimester Meeting Notes

Our first Trinity Trimester meeting on June 4th was a great success. We gathered as the Body of Christ for a single service and lunchtime fellowship and we talked about the many ways there are to get involved with what God is doing in the world through God's people at Trinity Church. Members signed up to participate in ministries of Inreach, Outreach and Administration (property and finance) during the Season of Pentecost. You can read about some of what we did, as well as programs and events that are planned for the rest of Pentecost elsewhere in this newsletter.

And **mark your calendars for the NEXT Trinity Trimester meeting: October 29th.** We'll have another **Single Service at 9 AM and at the brunch that follows**, there will be new sign ups for all of our Inreach, Outreach and Administrative ministries during the season of Advent/Christmas/Epiphany.

Pastor Nancy



Sunday School and Children's Ministries

New Sunday School Format Coming This Fall!



First Sunday Evenings
of the Month

6:00 pm to 7:45 pm
in Faith Hall

With fun Vacation Bible School style
lessons, songs and snacks,
we will be learning all about how –

God will always love you!
God made you!
God is for you!
God is always with you!

It will come as no surprise to even the casual observer that church life today is much different than it was even ten years ago. This is especially true when it comes to Sunday School.

The model of a Sunday morning teaching ministry that took place alongside or in addition to weekly worship just isn't sustainable any longer. There are many reasons — Sunday sports, two career families whose only shared family time is Sunday mornings, Sunday work hours, Sunday School lessons that don't seem relevant to real life.

Trinity, Buckingham is in good company when we lament that our

Sunday morning Sunday School which used to boast 30 or 40 children in attendance is now lucky to have 6.

As our dedicated Sunday School teachers and the Inreach Ministry Team have met to talk and pray about what to do next, it is clear that there is no simple, or one-size-fits all solution. So for the coming program year, we are going to take an a la carte approach to the spiritual formation and guidance of children and youth.

First Sundays 6pm to 7:45pm

We will have an evening gathering based on the popular Vacation Bible School format for children from PreK to 8th grade.

October 1: God Made You

November 5: God Is For You

December 3: Advent, Christmas and Epiphany program

January (off for Code Blue)

February 4: God Is Always With You

March 4: Lent/Holy Week and Easter program

April 1: (Easter Day, no program)

May 6: God Will Always Love You

June 3: God Made You For A Reason

Second, Third & Fourth Sundays 10am to 10:45am

Sunday School teachers will team up to offer a multi-age **Exploring God's Love** lesson (PreK through grade 3 and 4th through 6th grade) that explores God's love for us, God's gifts to us and God's call to us. The time frame allows all children to participate — those who have been to worship at 9:15, as well as those whose parents worship at 10:15 (children join their parents in worship in time for Communion). At present, there is no Sunday morning class for middle and high school age children, but there is something offered every weekend for this age group through our collaborative ministry with Trinity Solebury. (Please see the Youth Group news that follows).

Confirmation Class

We are discerning the format for preparing young people to be confirmed in the Episcopal Church. Most likely, this will be a 2-year process, meeting every other week with teachers, mentors and the rector. We anticipate beginning this program after the New Year. As indicated in the separate article about Confirmation, if you or your child wishes to explore Confirmation or Reception, please contact Nancy+.

If you would like it to be a part of our new program, please contact Pastor Nancy or Sallee Lord, Sunday School Director.

See you on September 10th for our first Sunday School kickoff at 10 am!

Youth Ministry Consortium Takes Wing This Fall

The rectors and youth ministry leaders of several Central Bucks Episcopal churches met up for some rich conversation over the summer about how we could share resources, create community and grow in faith with our young people in junior and senior high school. As we roll into the 2017/2018 program year, the plan is to make our individual parish programs and ministries available to members of the other parishes. Trinity Buckingham, Trinity Solebury, St. Paul's in Doylestown, St. Philip's in New Hope, Family of God, Lutheran, and Holy Nativity in Wrightstown will take part as they wish and as they are able in the following monthly opportunities:

First Sundays of the Month

Super Sunday Vacation Bible School at Buckingham from 6:00 pm to 7:45 pm

(Middle School youth can take part in classes and High School youth can volunteer as classroom helpers — see the article in this newsletter for more information).

Second Sundays of the Month

Youth Group Gathering at Buckingham from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Fun and Fellowship

More information will be coming your way shortly.

Third Saturdays of the Month

Youth Outings

(contact John Daukas jsdaukas@comcast.net)

September 9—Delaware Water Gap Canoe Trip

October 14—Hay Ride

November 19—Trip to Northlandz

December 16—Christmas Party (at Solebury)

January 20, 2018—Trip to Michener Museum

February 16-18—Elementary Retreat (Cross Roads, NJ)

March 9-11—Middle School Retreat (Cross Roads, NJ)

Fourth Sundays of the Month

Fuel at 5:55 Service at Trinity Solebury

Worship, Meal and Discussion
all beginning at 5:55 pm

On Stewardship

The Trinity Buckingham 2018 Stewardship campaign will kick off during the month of October leading to commitment Sunday in late November. Specific dates have yet to be determined. We are very excited to let you know of the following enhancements to Giving at Trinity Buckingham.

- We will provide all active Trinity parishioners with a box of giving envelopes to enable the giver to keep track of their giving. So whether you make an annual pledge, or give to Trinity as you can as the plate is passed around each week during Sunday services, you will now receive a quarterly statement reflecting your giving to the church by using the envelopes provided by the church.
- We will also provide giving envelopes to the children of Trinity Buckingham as requested by their parents.
- Online giving implemented in 2017 is alive and well at Trinity. Visit the church website to learn more about giving online.

We will continue to work on making it easier for you to give and keep track of what you give to Trinity, and we are open for suggestions to improve the process.

Peace +

Marty Gillen

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens. – Ecclesiastes 3:1

Where did the summer go? Passages we typically face in spring/summer seasons — ending of school, new schools, reaching college, high school, middle school, first jobs, going away for the first time without parents, learning to drive, friends moving away, making new friends, winning sports championships, losing sport championships, last day of school, first day of school — are among the countless passages for our youth group aged kids.

As anticipation builds for the new school year ahead, we are excited about the energy around a new season of Youth Group, just our second to be exact.

We are looking at exciting changes in our youth group, such as joining forces with Trinity Solebury to encourage youth collaboration across our church communities, trying to build faith that flows into adulthood.

Along with our usual 2nd Sunday meeting night at Trinity Buckingham from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm for kids in grades 7-12, we are adding the Fuel at 5:55 service at Trinity Solebury on the 4th Sunday of the month.

Fuel at 5:55 is worship, followed by a meal, and a short program divided into age appropriate groups. We are also adding additional opportunities for families to go along on outdoor and other adventures by tapping into existing Solebury programs. (See page 5 – Youth Outings) We are excited for the season to begin, and our schedule will be published shortly.

“Christianity is a way of seeing all of life and reality through God’s eyes. That is what Christianity is: A world view, a system, and a way of life.” – Chuck Colson

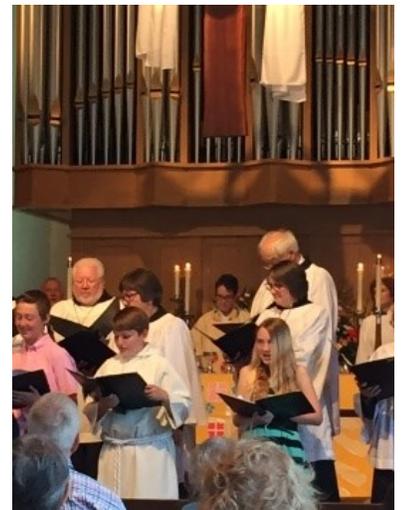
As the momentum for youth group gained throughout the spring, we had fun participating in church event, such as running the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, and we received generous support from our community. Thank you Krusteaz, Acme, Richboro Market, and McCaffrey’s. All proceeds went to the Youth Group fund. Look at our kids in action:





Here is our happy congregation having pancakes together! There was great fellowship on this night between our Youth Group and elders.

Then the Youth Group could be seen throughout the Easter Holiday singing, preparing for the annual Easter Egg Hunt, and participating in many of the special services.



.We are

We finished off the youth group year with a make-your-own pizza and free swim night at the Harrar's. Here are some photos from our last program in May. It was a special night!

We are looking forward to seeing everyone this year!

Kelly Harrar

Caroline Oakes Transitions from Lay Associate to Communications Assistant at Trinity

Hello from Annapolis!

As many of you are aware, my husband Reid and I have relocated to Annapolis, MD. This move has required me to let go of some of my Lay Associate responsibilities at Trinity — those in spiritual formation programming, Sunday support, caregiving admin, and preaching occasional sermons. But through the vision of Pastor Nancy and Trinity’s Vestry, I am able to continue serving Trinity “remotely,” by assisting with some of the Trinity’s communications.

I will be continuing to:

Administer the Trinity website — updating back pages and creating homepage event posts with good Search Engine Optimization (SEO) so as many people online will see us as possible;

Develop Trinity’s online spiritual community inside and outside Trinity — submitting Facebook posts (with links to our website) along with important/helpful general interest posts curated from the web;

Create seasonal Trinity publicity material — including brochures featuring Trinity’s Spiritual Life, Music & Arts and liturgical season offerings;

Design upcoming event slides and flyers — for Trinity’s monitor in the Day School Entry Hall and for Trinity’s bulletin board in the Choir Hall on the way to the Sanctuary;

Assist with Trinity newsletter production.

All FUN stuff!



As for our move to Annapolis, Reid and I (and 15-year-old Janie-dog) are enjoying living right in the historic district of Annapolis, a block and a half from the City Dock and the Statehouse, and just down the hill from a local Episcopal church. (See photo)!

But as much as I am loving life here in Annapolis, this transition has a bittersweet quality to it because I miss SEEING everyone at Trinity on Sunday mornings and in the office during the week. The office next to Nancy’s was a perfect place for good, quiet work AND for seeing and talking with everyone as they came by to check mail or visit the office. I miss those office days!

So I look forward to seeing you on the Sundays I will be visiting and at the Wednesday Eucharist services I will be able to attend occasionally before staff meetings. I wish all God’s blessings on Trinity’s Fall season!

Caroline Oakes



St. Anne’s under the stars

Announcing An All New Community PeaceMeal

Over the summer, members of Trinity Buckingham, Trinity Solebury and St. Philip's met to talk about how we could join forces to make a difference in the Central Bucks community, especially to those who are hungry (for a good meal and for companionship).

The end result is that we will be combining Trinity Buckingham's Community Meal ministry with Trinity Solebury/St. Philip's PeaceMeal ministry.

Beginning in September, we will launch a collaborative **Community PeaceMeal, the First Sunday of every month, from 3 pm to 5 pm in Faith Hall at Trinity Buckingham.**

New Hope's "Chef Paul" (Paul Licitra) will prepare the menu and main dish each month (with volunteer help), and volunteers from all three parishes will make sides and desserts, provide paper goods, set up and clean up help, as well as join our guests for a wonderful time of feast and fellowship.

If you want to participate, please let Debbie Grant deb_grant@live.com know, and she will add your name to the Sign Up Genius email list. If you don't use email or internet sign up vehicles, you can just let Deb know how you can help each month.

Confirmation Conversation and Inquirers Classes



Trinity's Inreach Ministry Team is exploring a new confirmation curriculum for teens and a series of Inquirer's Classes for people of all ages.

If you or your teen (6th grade and up) are interested in exploring what it means to be a Confirmed or Received member of the Episcopal Church, or would just like to know more about the Church, the Bible, the Baptismal Covenant, prayer and living a life of faith, please let Nancy+ know at rector@trinitybuckingham.org or 215-794-7921.

Once we have a sense of who would like to take part in these conversations, we'll ask your input on the format that works best for you.



Tally Marks: A Dog's View of Life in the "Kin"dom of God

Try not to jump all over people. You have no idea what's going on in their lives. Some of them are carrying heavy burdens. Some of them are fragile and are easily knocked down. Far better to offer everyone you meet a smile and a friendly wag.

Tally

Trinity Day School Academy News

Spring is always a busy time at the Academy ... our students have grown so much not only in their skills, but have also gained a few inches by spring!

Our days were very busy as we celebrated first our dads in March with an early morning Donuts for Dads celebration, followed by songs and stories for Muffins for Moms in May. It is without a doubt a heartwarming experience to see our students getting so excited to give their parents the gifts that they have created and to sing a special song for them!

Spring would not be complete without the excitement in March of our annual "Trap a Leprechaun" event. Traps are cleverly built to try and capture these tricky wee folk, but alas, each year is an "almost" year of catching one! So plans are made for the next year as we clean up the mess that the wee folk have left and enjoy the treats that we find in our traps.

This was a very special and bittersweet spring for us as well at the Academy, as we celebrated and honored Mrs. Debbie Muller in her upcoming retirement after successfully, and cheerfully, filling just about every role here at the Academy for the past 15 years.

A beautiful artwork piece was created by the children using their fingerprints, staff worked on creating a retirement book where each of the children "wrote" a story with ideas on how Mrs. Muller could enjoy her retirement, and a new picnic bench for the playground was dedicated in her honor from the parent's group.

Our biggest accomplishment of all ... we surprised Mrs. Muller with a pizza and ice cream lunch with all of the children, staff, parents and Peter and Liz Oliver. It was **quite** a feat to keep it a secret, but it was a huge success!

The best comment of the day was one of the children asked, "Are you done being tired now so we can go to the playground?" We will miss Debbie tremendously and wish her lots of fun and happiness on her next adventures!

Happiness from the Academy!

Steph Elliott and the staff



Vacation Bible School

VBS Operation Arctic was a successful event held from July 9 – July 13th. We had 27 children come nightly and learn about the Bible and why it is the most amazing and unique book on earth!

This year we opened our doors to the parishes of St. Paul's and Trinity Solebury. The energy could be felt and seen nightly, from our wonderful volunteers to our children!

Through nightly donations we collected \$220.00 and we gave \$170 to the Bucks County Housing Group to use for various needs of their families and \$50 to Code Blue.

Amy Bannon

Many thanks to all of the volunteers —
 Christopher, Connor, and Maddie Bannon
 Karly Bishop
 Nancy Dilliplane
 Cynthia Goode
 Dina Huddy
 Keith, Tim, and Sarah Goggin
 Kim Graeff
 Leslie and Rich Jaedicke
 Ken and Jeanette Maliszewski
 Jim and Ainsley Massey
 Natalia and Paulette Massias
 Ada, Courtney, and Connor Quinn
 Melissa Smith
 Sue Snyder

Trinity's Facebook Page: Growing Our Truly Global Online Spiritual Community

"Using social media or the internet for ministry offers us the means by which to participate in the virtual Body of Christ, extending the care and compassion of the Gospel to, quite literally, the ends of the earth via digital means."

—The Rev. Dr. David J. Lose, President, The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia

Fascinating Trinity Fact:

In the past three months, more than fifteen hundred people entered Trinity's website EACH MONTH to either take a look around or to learn more about a Trinity event. **

A few people came in through their own online church searches. But many of those fifteen hundred people entered Trinity's website **through links they saw and clicked on in Trinity Facebook posts**. And a great number of those people were not even members of Trinity!

What does this tell us?

Remember: Trinity's website is our 21st century "front door" to the outside community. With such a large number of people entering our website by clicking on Trinity Facebook posts for more information, this tells us how important and extensive Trinity's social media presence is.



But how do Facebook users who aren't Trinity members get to see Trinity's Facebook posts?

When Trinity members "LIKE" or "SHARE" a Trinity Facebook post, their Facebook friends who may live as far away as San Francisco or London or Beijing are able to see that post. If those Facebook users then click on the post, looking for more information, they are directed to a post on Trinity's website.

Why is this important?

With the global reach of today's social media, Trinity has an opportunity to connect with others world-wide in ways that help us all experience of the love of the Gospels. We can "be church" to a global online spiritual community, offering a getting-to-know-you glimpse of Trinity through our events and photos, our prayers for world struggles, new ways to pray and meditate, online spiritual formation programs, mission opportunities, even #funfriday funny Episcopal memes and Corgi videos!

(Here's how you can help!) —

First: If you haven't already, please "LIKE" Trinity's Facebook page (by clicking the button just under the big top photo). When you press that button, you then never have to go to our page again to look for our latest posts. Trinity's posts will come RIGHT to you, right onto your own Facebook "timeline" or "feed" of new posts.

(Attention: Several Trinity members have "liked" individual Trinity posts but not the page itself. You have to click the big LIKE button under the main photo in order to get posts to then come to you).

Second: When you see a Trinity Facebook post that you think others would enjoy or would be interested in knowing about, click "like" or "share" (preferably SHARE!) right under that post. The "reach" of the post increases exponentially when you do this, which will help Trinity "nourish the world with God's love" in far-reaching ways.

THANK YOU for helping Trinity grow its truly global online spiritual community!

** Fascinating Fact is courtesy of Google Analytics, March – May 2017.

June

- 1 Gregg Bittner
- 2 Austin Stalker
- 8 Jade Heaven
- 11 Benjamin Evans
- 15 Beth Mann
- 15 Robert Lord
- 16 Ben Jankowski
- 16 Marty Gillen
- 17 Anne V. Keller
- 23 Rose Hart
- 24 Lyla DeMaura
- 25 Corey McConeghy
- 27 Regina Gordon

July

- 2 Timothy Goggin
- 4 Eric Wanzer
- 4 Elizabeth Crooke
- 8 Alison Evans
- 15 Robert Kinney
- 21 Jerry Lasala
- 22 Ronald Callaghan
- 25 Ann Silcox
- 26 Linda Fielder
- 26 Deborah Bernhardt
- 27 Judy King
- 29 Alan Powell
- 30 Kirsten Siliani
- 31 Bonny McCabe
- 31 Alyson Marmor

August

- 2 Mary Beth Perisho
- 2 Nastia Becker
- 4 John Wayne Sadowski
- 5 Cornelia Humphries
- 6 Robert Smith
- 10 Ruth Brooks
- 10 John Brooks
- 11 Tom Gilbert
- 12 Connor Bannon
- 14 Nancy Wildermuth
- 15 Alesya Becker
- 16 Katherine Haeusel
- 19 Steven Mann
- 20 Janet DeCaprio
- 21 Heather O'Donnell
- 23 Deanna Romero
- 23 Margaret Perry
- 25 Ada Quinn
- 26 Rae Russell
- 30 Ryan Zak
- 30 Ellie DeMaura



Happy Birthday!

October

- 1 Brooke Dougherty
- 2 Dave Romero
- 2 Marjorie Guidry
- 3 Joey Marmor
- 3 Danielle Badiali
- 4 Meredith Quinn
- 4 Courtney Quinn
- 6 Paige Dougherty
- 7 Ryan Smith
- 10 Thomas Reed
- 14 Ken Kitson Jr.
- 15 Karen Zak
- 17 Lynda Vesely
- 17 Paige Badiali
- 19 Al Fuchs
- 20 Sarah Wisnom
- 20 Carly Wisnom
- 10 Ian Kirchner
- 24 James Alexander Bernard
- 25 Natalia Massias
- 26 Dave Huddy
- 28 Amy Conoscenti

November

- 1 Victoria Oliver
- 1 Mary Lou Erk
- 2 Linda Eichorn
- 3 Thomas Conoscenti
- 4 Fred Haeusel
- 7 Dan Wisnom
- 7 Nancy Robinson
- 7 Morley Ewing
- 8 Susannah Coleman
- 10 Olivia Kirchner
- 10 Jo Kiel
- 10 Tori Ann Goldbach
- 13 Julianne Prasto
- 14 Patrick Keller
- 24 Robert Duffy
- 25 Woody Kiel
- 27 Madelyn Bannon
- 30 Nathan Niedrist

September

- 7 Keith Goggin
- 10 Tyler Zak
- 12 Jorden Krauss
- 16 Paul Wildermuth
- 18 Stacy Stalker
- 19 Paulette Massias
- 26 Olivia Huddy
- 29 Shannon Shisler

Jazz & Joe

Our 2017-2018 season is set!

September 14, 2017

October 12, 2017

November 9, 2017

January 11, 2018

February 8, 2018

Regina Gordon



March 8, 2018

April 12, 2018

May 10, 2018

June 24 Jazz & Joe and BBQ

Welcome Francis Stephen McLean

Francis Stephen McLean was born March 9, 2017 to joyful parents Joseph and Deborah McLean and proud grandparents, Ray and Mary Beth Perisho and Lucille McLean. We thank God we have been blessed with a child to love! Thanks also to our Trinity family for such a warm welcome and reception. Francis was baptized August 20, 2017 by Pastor Nancy, with godparents, Deanna Hill, Matthew McLean, and Michael Perisho in attendance.

God grant Francis may continue to grow in faith and love and that the church may continue to shepherd him.

Deborah L. Perisho



Our Church Family



Baptism Day for Elin Carr with proud parents Kiki, Thomas and big sister Palmer.

Baptisms

Elin Jayne Carr
daughter of Kiki and Thomas
February 19, 2017

Francis Stephen McLean
son of Joseph and Deborah
August 20, 2017



Deaths

Rev. Allan W. Reed
January 19, 1929 – April 24, 2017

Marguerite Conners
June 28, 2017

Leonard Esmond Crooke
December 13, 1927 – June 20, 2017

Conversations on Science and Technology

Questions Matter



Physicist Margaret Wertheim noted that the problem with understanding science is that people give answers, and focus on answers, but they don't explain the questions and why the questions matter. It seems the same with religion.

Most Sundays we recite the Nicene Creed, which is the doctrinal answer to some big religious questions that were not spelled out in the Gospels, but we seldom talk about what the questions were, why they mattered, why they were answered as they were, and what alternative answers were debated and even fought over.

Chronology is important to understanding how the questions arose and how the answers became a fundamental Christian doctrine of belief we call the Nicene Creed.

By the time the Gospels were written, there was already increasing inter-religious conflict between those who believed Jesus was the Jewish Messiah and the Son of God, and those Jews who did not believe the crucified Jesus was the Jewish Messiah.

In 313 CE the Roman Emperor Constantine ended state persecution of Christians, which was a turning point for Early Christianity. After nearly 300 years, the Christian Church had grown from being a sect of Judaism into a religious system that worshiped Jesus as divine.

There were great debates during the centuries following the death of Jesus Christ concerning the nature of Christ, the meaning of his teachings, and the relation of this Jewish Jesus "the" Christ to God the Father. In the decades following Paul's first

missionary churches, people began worshiping Jesus the Jewish Messiah as divine and a God. How this could be while simultaneously professing monotheism was a topic of prolonged discussion —

What is the relation between Jesus and God the Father? Are those worshiping Jesus Christ monotheistic, like the Jews, or polytheistic like the dominant pagan culture around them? Was Jesus equal to or less than God the Father? Was Jesus of the same substance as the Father (Greek = *homoousios*) or of different substance?

The first four Ecumenical Councils beginning with the First Council of Nicaea in 325 CE and ending with the Council of Chalcedon in 451 CE addressed amid great controversy the critical issues concerning the relation between Jesus Christ and God. The First Council of Constantinople in 381 CE articulated what would become known as the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed and affirmed the Trinitarian nature of God as generally understood today.

The result of the Council of Chalcedon was the delineation of both human and divine natures in the one person of Christ. Words of faith passed down to us in the Nicene Creed like "eternally begotten of the Father, begotten not made, of one Being with the Father," are not articulated in the Gospels; instead, they represent humanity's best "theological reasoning."

Reflecting on the fact that these theological debates were passionately argued for centuries between faithful and deeply knowledgeable church leaders tells me this is not a God problem, this is a human problem.

The nature of God has always been and always will be whatever God is, but we humans have an ongoing need to define God, and when we do it is always too small. The bishop of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, the Rt. Rev. Clifton Daniel, gave a sermon at Trinity Buckingham in the spring 2016 and said, "Christians argue about everything. The only thing not argued is on Good Friday all the disciples ran away and hid!"

see **Conversations** on next page

www.trinitybuckingham.org

Conversations cont

In the words of the Nicene Creed, the “one holy catholic (i.e., universal) and apostolic Church” came to an agreement on the Trinitarian nature of God, and it is our best reasoned human understanding.

The true nature of God will always be a profound mystery. Therefore, we should approach these issues of creed and doctrine with faith, but we should hold our beliefs with humility, because questions matter.

Knowing what the questions are is just as important as knowing the answers, because I believe the questions have equally valid answers in different religious contexts. It is hubris to think that we can fully know the nature of God.

John Polkinghorne, an Anglican priest and theoretical physicist, describes how science often finds very counter-intuitive outcomes in the reality of the natural world. The reality of the world science discovers often proves our best reasoning lacking. We should not dismiss science from our Christian theological thinking, because it tells us something about the nature of God by understanding the reality God created.

Polkinghorne describes human knowing as having faith in beliefs we have good reason to accept as true but knowing they may change with time, and I believe openness to change is necessary for both scientific progress and spiritual growth.

Faithfully,

Steven W. Mann, Ph.D.

Trinity Book Club

Come read with us...

September 6

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith

Join us!

7:30 pm in the Library

Lauren Gillen



From the Archives...

In 1964, as Trinity had outgrown what is now known as Historic Trinity, Pastor Pierce (of Pierce Hall fame) sent the following letter to Trinity’s parishioners to generate support for building our current facility.

Mark Barnard

The Rectory

Trinity Church, Buckingham Pa.

Lent, 1964

Dear Friends,

On a pleasant Sunday morning in the year 1837 a small group gathered to worship God, under the oak trees in the spot where our church now stands.

Such a scene marks the beginning of the Episcopal Church in its Buckingham location.

When the weather was good the services on Sundays took place right outdoors under the trees. When the weather began to be cold and rainy they had the use of a hall in the village.

In the year 1840, our predecessors in the Episcopal Church here erected their building — at a cost of \$1300. This building has been in use ever since, and is the one we now enjoy.

We “entered into their labors.”

The time has come for us, in our turn, to build. We, like them, must build for ourselves and also for others, as those who were here before us built, with generous and forward looking spirit.

The present lovely, small building has been in use for 124 years!

As the population of the area increases we see an increase in membership and attendance here at Trinity Buckingham. The erecting of a structure to take care of present needs and future certain growth is not only an obligation which we now find coming to us, but is indeed an extraordinary privilege – a sort which comes seldom to a given group and a joyful privilege. Let us cherish the realization that it is just that.

Faithfully yours,

Roderic Pierce

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Church Website
www.trinitybuckingham.org

Trinity Academy Website
www.trinitybns.org

Church Services

8 am Holy Communion, Rite II
9:15 am Children of all Ages Service
10:15 am Holy Communion, Rite II
with Organist and Choir

Church Office Hours

10:00 am to 2 pm Monday – Thursday
Closed Friday

Dr. Regina Gordon	Minister of Music
Martha Dudich	Organist
Bernadette Gross	Prayer Chain Coordinator
Mark Barnard/Dave Huddy	Buildings and Grounds
Dave Romero	Treasurer
Sallee Lord	Sunday School Director
Lauren Gillen	Newsletter Editor

2017 Vestry

Dom DeCaprio, Senior Warden	215.630.3662
Amy Conoscenti, Accounting Warden	215.534.9020
Elisabeth Goggin, Vestry Secretary	908.732.3645

The Rev. Dr. Nancy Dilliplane
Matthew Simpson, Deacon-in-Formation
Dom DeCaprio, Senior Warden
Mark Barnard
Amy Conoscenti, Accounting Warden
Meghan Dennis
Marty Gillen
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Deputies to Diocesan Convention

Dom DeCaprio
Janet DeCaprio
Jill Unger
Bob Kinney (Alternate)
Kay Kinney (Alternate)

Deanery Delegates

Marty Gillen
Woody Kiel
Judy Krauss



Worship in the Park
Peace Valley, August 6

Trinity's Mission —

*Christ in our hearts, sharing God's love,
God's work through our hands, serving
God's people.*