



Rector's Reflections

Dear Trinity Family,

It seems that we've hardly put away the crèche and wreaths, and already it is time for Lent. The joy and excitement of Christ's birth has turned into the sober walk to Calvary. Lenten purple has replaced Christmas tinsel. Fasting has taken the place of cookies and fruit cake.



I sometimes hear people complain that they dislike Lent, because of its emphasis on giving up life's pleasures and raking one's life over the coals of repentance. During the 40 days of Lent, the journey of faith feels more like a morose trudge than a joyful dance. Lent, they say, is a downer that makes people perceive the church as dour, joyless and judgmental.

But I have never found Lent to be a downer at all. Instead, in the liturgies of dust and ashes, I hear a fresh invitation to dance—to get in touch once again with what is most important, to simplify my life, and to remember who I am and whose I am.

Lent is an invitation to travel lighter, to experience again the joy of being a beloved child of God, and to remember that others, too, also bear God's image, share God's love and deserve a share of God's good creation.

The traditional Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting, alms giving and repentance are gifts given to us by God, through the church, to help us shed one set of attitudes, or one kind of consciousness (self-reliance and self-centeredness) for another (reliance on God and other-centeredness).

Lent is not about being serious and sober for a season so that we might win God's approval. Lent is about living joyfully out of the reality that God already loves us beyond measure. Indeed, God so loves the world that God gave us a Son. And God longs for us to live out of that same self-giving love.

In her book *Illuminated Life: Monastic Wisdom for Seekers of Light*, Joan Chittister writes:

We have to be in the office with the good of the whole world in mind. We have to be on the corporate board with the public at heart. We have to be in the home in a way that has more to do with development than with control.

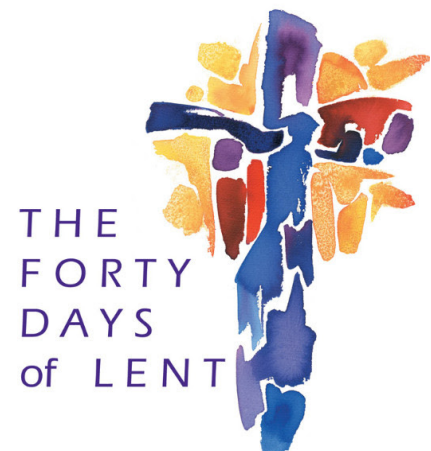
What needs to be changed in us? Anything that makes us the sole center of ourselves. Anything that deludes us into thinking that we are not simply a work in progress. All of those degrees, status, achievements, and power are no substitute for the wisdom that a world full of God everywhere, in everyone, has to teach us.

... a daily schedule of religious events and practices is not enough. We must begin to do life, to be with people, to accept circumstances, to bring good to evil in ways that speak of the presence of God in every moment.

So, in the name of the Church and our Lord, Jesus Christ, I am pleased to invite you to a holy and **joyful** Lent!

Blessings,

Nancy+



How to Keep a Joyful Lent

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 14

10 am — Distribution of Ashes and Holy Eucharist in Reed Chapel

7 pm — Distribution of Ashes and Holy Eucharist in Trinity Buckingham's Main Sanctuary — a joint service with Family of God Lutheran Church

Sundays in Lent

8 am Quiet service with Holy Eucharist

9:15 am Worship for Children of All Ages (with Holy Eucharist)

10:15 am Holy Eucharist with organ and choir

Lenten Quiet Day

Keeping Sabbath: How Doing 'Nothing' Transforms Our Lives and Mends The Planet

Saturday, Feb 17 – [please register by Feb 12](#)

10 am to 2 pm

includes a contemplative Eucharist and a simple soup lunch

Wednesday Nights in Lent

The Dawn of Humanity: A Faithful Look at Human Evolution and Genetics led by Dr. Steve Mann

Wednesdays — Feb 21 and 28, March 7 and 14

Coffee and dessert at **6:45 pm**

Program from **7 to 8:30pm**



Holy Week and Easter

Holy Monday — March 26

Stations of the Cross

7 pm — A contemplative experience of art, poetry and music

Holy Saturday — March 31

The Great Vigil of Easter

7 pm — The new fire is lit with a procession to Historic Trinity where we'll say the first Alleluia of Easter.

Maundy Thursday — March 29

7 pm — Washing of Feet and Stripping of the Altar

8 pm — Vigil in the Garden until noon the following day in Reed Chapel

Easter Day — April 1

8 am — Quiet service with Holy Eucharist

9:15 am — Worship for Children of All Ages (with Holy Eucharist)

10:15 am — Holy Eucharist with organ and choir

Good Friday — March 30

12 noon — Contemplative service with communion from the reserved sacrament

7 pm — Choral service with communion from the reserved sacrament

Sundays during Eastertide

8 am — Quiet service with Holy Eucharist

9:15 am — Worship for Children of All Ages (with Holy Eucharist)

10:15 am — Holy Eucharist with organ and choir

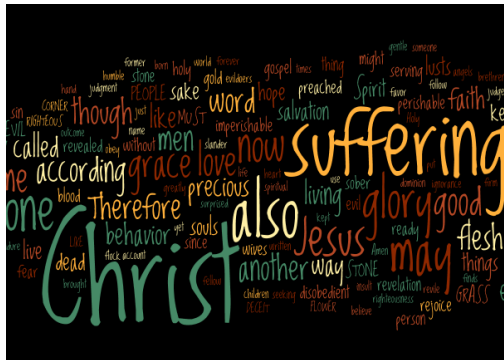
Suffering and Evil: A Christian View

A Lenten Forum Series

This Lent you are invited to join Matthew in an exploration of the ancient problem of suffering and evil in a Christian context. This journey will include a look at The Book of Job, The Psalms and Lamentations, as well as historical events such as natural disasters and man-made events. The series will highlight a Scriptural warrant for honest anger and faithful sorrow in our religious tradition.

We will look at how believing in a God who was made incarnate in Jesus of Nazareth re-frames this ancient and modern problem of suffering in our world. The series does not seek to answer the problem of suffering and evil, but seeks to bring insight that can change the questions we have.

Because of the nature of the series it is encouraged that persons who attend make a commitment to attend the series to the end. The severity of the topic has the potential to be dark in the middle before the light at the end. The series will be held in Lent after the 10:15 am service, from 11:45am-12:45pm in the Reed Chapel. If you have any questions, please contact Matthew at matthew@trinitybuckingham.org.



Matthew Simpson

Feb 8 – Identifying the Problem and The Book of Job

Feb 25 – The Book of Job and Scriptural Warrant for Anger Towards God

March 4 – Natural Disasters, Holocaust, and Facing the Abusing God?

March 11 – Incarnation: What Does Jesus Have to Say About Suffering?

March 18 – Crux Est Mundi Medicina and the Suffering God

March 25 – Incarnational Theodicy, Re-framing the Questions

Keeping Sabbath: How Doing 'Nothing' Transforms Our Lives and Mends the Planet

A Lenten Quiet Day

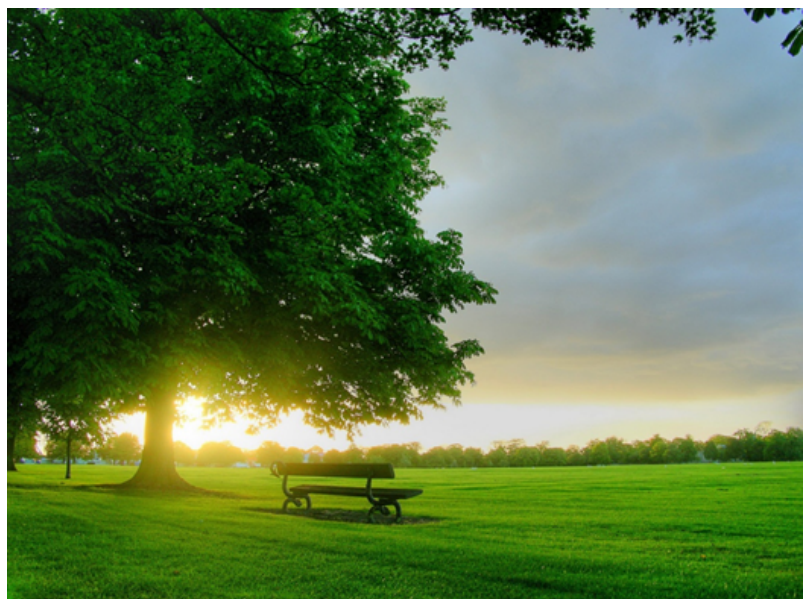
Saturday, February 17

10 am to 2 pm

Suggested Donation \$20

(Includes lunch and a contemplative Eucharist)

Please call the church office at 215.794.7921 to register by **February 12**



Free the Girls

Trinity Buckingham will once again be participating in Free the Girls this February. Free the Girls is an organization whose mission is to help girls who have been freed from sex trafficking to live lives of true freedom.

This year we will join our Episcopal Partnership in Community for a whole month of activities to raise awareness around sex trafficking and what Christians can do to help.

Bra drive begins February 1 and continues through the end of the month. We will collect new and gently used bras for women in cottage industries in Africa and the Caribbean to sell.

Feb 15 – Showing of the film "I Am Jane Doe" with Jessica Chastain @ 7 pm in Faith Hall at Trinity Buckingham. There will be a discussion after the 90-minute film with refreshments. We will also have information available on legislation under consideration in DC and Harrisburg as well as other ways to help.

Feb 19- Lipstick Mondays Benefit Drag Show – at the Raven in New Hope @ 9pm.

Feb 22 – Book Discussion "Renting Lacy" @ 7 p.m. at St. Philip's, New Hope.

Layette Sunday

Layette Sunday, on March 11th this year, is a popular and heartwarming Lenten project that was started by Trinity Episcopal Church Women (ECW) more than twenty years ago. There will be an in-gathering of infant garments and blankets at each service. Donations of hand-made or purchased items are needed. Using the concept of "one to wash and one to wear," a basic layette consists of two receiving blankets (knitted, crocheted or flannel), two sleepers, two onesies, two baby washcloths and one outerwear

set (sweater or jacket, hat, booties). Garments should be UNISEX and size MEDIUM, not newborn. Give what you can, but please donate only listed items and do not gift wrap. Assembled layettes will be distributed to needy new mothers in the community. Please contact Elizabeth Crooke for more information. Thanks for caring.

Elizabeth Crooke

ECW (Episcopal Church Women) ABC Quilts

At our last meeting, we distributed funds we had earned from our Fall Sale. We paid for the new refrigerator in our kitchen and voted to support Code Blue with needed supplies, the Bucks County Housing Group, Welcoming the Stranger (helps immigrants with language and job training), Bucks County Opportunity Council, the Jazz Sanctuary, Meals on Wheels, Discovery Service Project, FISH, the New Britain Larder, Episcopal Relief and Development (to help hurricane victims), Rector's Discretionary Fund, and the Silverman Free Clinic here in Doylestown. Thank you to all who contributed to our Fall Sale, either through donations, sales or working at it. We are very proud to be able to help so many organizations and could not do it without all your help.

A head's up: The Spring Rummage Sale will be held on April 28 – so when you bring out those Spring clothes, save the unwanted ones for our sale. And this sale includes "rummage" such as kitchenware, books, toys, furniture, unwanted gifts, jewelry, tools. Please save them for our sale – if you are moving, we will pick up anything you no longer want. Just contact the office.

Mary Beth Perisho

ABC Quilts will be on display in the Narthex on Sunday, May 13th — Mother's Day.

For many years Trinity parishioners and friends have been assembling little "love and comfort" quilts for at-risk babies — those born with AIDS or to a drug-addicted mother — in the greater Philadelphia area. The majority of these babies are left to live their short lives in hospitals or foster homes. For ABC quilt guidelines, please contact Elizabeth Crooke at 215-598-3575 or crookeda@verizon.net. Thank you.

T

The Day of Pentecost

May 20, 2018

Wear **Red** Today!

ONE SERVICE AT 10 AM

BRUNCH AT 11:30 AM

EARLY PENTECOST (JUNE-OCTOBER)
Trimester All Parish Meeting

Growing Number of 'Newcomers' Walking Through Trinity's Online Red Front Door

Many consider a church's website to be the new "front door" of the church. As such, we can say that more than 1,500 people "walked into" Trinity's online "red door" just last month to see how we are church and how we do church! We can consider the large majority of those 1,500 website viewers to be, in a very real way, NEWCOMERS to Trinity.

People arrive at Trinity's site for many reasons — some are searching for Trinity after reading a newspaper article, hearing a friend talk about their church, or maybe doing a general search for churches in the area. But the majority of online "newcomers" to Trinity's website door arrive via Facebook. (When they click onto a

Trinity Facebook event post, the post directly connects them into Trinity's website where they can browse and learn who we are and everything we do here at Trinity).

With the help of parishioners who have been sharing Trinity Facebook posts (thank you!), **several of Trinity's Facebook posts (including the post explaining Code Blue needs and the post describing Trinity's Christmas Eve Fill-the-Creche service) each reached more than 950 people through Facebook last month.** Only one-tenth of those 950 people are members of Trinity! So not only is Facebook an excellent way to learn about upcoming events at Trinity, it is a great way to share Trinity with friends and even with strangers. Facebook can be a great way to "be church" to our online church community.

If you have not yet "liked" Trinity's Facebook page, please do so by clicking the "LIKE" button just under the church photo. And if you are already a part of Trinity's Facebook spiritual community, please continue to support getting the word out about Trinity by **SHARING** posts that you would like people to know about. Thank you!

Caroline Oakes



On Stewardship

We ended our 2018 stewardship campaign with 98 pledges representing \$239,361 or 99.6% of total dollars pledged in 2017. We continue to improve the giving process at Trinity Buckingham by:

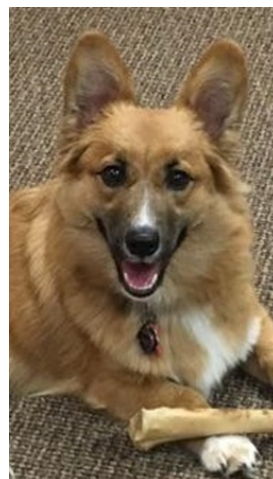
Providing all active Trinity parishioners with a box of giving envelopes to enable the giver to keep track of their giving.

Givers are now able to give online or have their giving set up electronically by automatic withdrawals from bank accounts.

Stay tuned for more info on online giving at Trinity Buckingham.

Marty Gillen

Tally Marks



Be quick to forgive. If you risk a wag and lick you'll probably get more belly rubs than if you give people the cold shoulder, or snap and growl all the time. And belly rubs are pretty great for everyone.

Sunday School and Children's Ministries



Very soon we will begin our solemn preparation for Lent followed by our celebration of our Risen Lord. We all look forward (especially due to the frigid weather in December and January) to a renewed Spring. Budding trees, flowers, butterflies and the sound of returning birds are all symbols of a new life given to us through God.

Our 10:15 am Sunday School will focus on the following topics this year: Jesus is the light of the world, God can make us clean inside, Jesus is our Good Shepherd, God is always ready to forgive us, Jesus cares about our families, Jesus wants us to tell others about him, Jesus deserves our praise, Jesus is alive, God's resurrection power is with us today, Jesus wants us to be like him, God hears and answers our prayers, God's love is for everyone and God gives us joy in good times and bad.

Super Sunday is held the first Sunday of each month from 6:00 pm – 7:45 pm except April 1, which is Easter. We will be discussing the following topics:

Feb. 4th – God Is Always With You

Mar. 4th – Lent/Holy week and Easter Program

May 6th – God Will Always Love You

June 3rd – God Made You For A Reason

Our Super Sundays follow a VBS format in which the educational lesson of the day impacts all the activities — Music, Crafts, Games, and Snack. The following Sunday, June 10th, will be our Parish Picnic and Sunday School Recognition Day.

As in the past, as part of our Sunday School Outreach Program, the children will be making Valentines for our Church shut-ins and members of our Church family in our Armed Forces, along with cards for the Veterans in the Delaware Valley Veterans Home. If you have a loved one, or know of a Veteran, please let me know their address or let our Church Office know so they too could receive a card.

For our Lenten project this year, we will once again be collecting coins. This year, the monies will go to purchase Food Store Gift Cards for people who come to our Church office in need of food.

Many thanks again for all of your support to our Sunday School. A special thank you to the following people who have been involved in our Sunday School Programs: Amy, Maddie and Christopher Bannon, Shayne Dougherty, Leslie and Rich Jaedicke, Jeanette and Ken Maliszewski, Paulette and Natasha Massias, Natalie Marx-Welker, Sue Snyder, Ada Quinn, and Pastor Nancy.

God's Blessings to you and your families.
Sallee Lord



Trinity's kids big and small create a living Nativity Scene at the December Super Sunday VBS night.

Trinity Day School Academy News

Our winter programs are certainly off to a busy start. Our Christmas Pageant started our winter break with a two hour delay due to weather (a first in my time as director). Regardless of Mother Nature, it was a well-attended program and our children did an amazing job with the songs. So far January is proving to be a test of our weather policy with a nice sprinkling of snow closings, early dismissal and two hour delays!

January is a good "hibernating" month for us at the Academy... usually not too many playground/outdoor days happen. We are kept very busy with projects and developing new skills and focus to get us ready for Spring and moving on up in the program. There are always projects happening, some small and other quite ambitious! We are aiming to the ambitious side for this Spring with parent fund raisers and support going towards our next big improvement on the playground — the replacement of all three swing sets with a balance/obstacle course.

We are currently looking for volunteers with knowledge and resources to remove the swing sets. If we can accomplish this major feat, our next step will be installation of low level balance beams, hopping stones, and possibly outdoor musical instruments. Keep a careful watch as the weather warms and, hopefully, big changes will be happening!

As we dream of warm Spring days, we will be busy with registration for Camp Wigglemytoes and the 2018-2019 school year, in-house entertainment from Silver Lake Nature Center and Bill Wood (our favorite storyteller), our Donuts for Dads celebration, and Leprechaun Trap Day to name a few!

Steph Elliot



Chapel with Academy and Pastor Nancy



Trinity Buckingham Academy Preschoolers Treated To a Morning Visit From the Silver Lake Nature Center's "Hibernation Hut"

Winter is here. What happens to animals that live near? Do they sleep, migrate, or freeze? Let's crawl into the Hibernation Hut to learn about their winter strategies.

TBA preschoolers crawled through a tunnel into the Hibernation Hut, where our (puppet) animal friends spoke about their winter lives.

Youth Group News

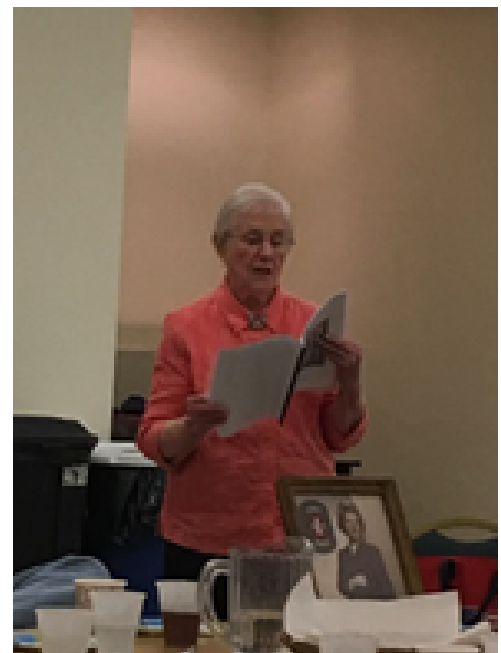
As we closed out the year with the Christmas season, I am reflecting on the last week of Advent where the focus is on LOVE. —

"Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." — Matthew 22:36-40

God, we have learned to love from being loved by you. And so today, let us enact that love. Let us live that love. We know that what the world needs now is more love. We need to remember how much you love each one of us and we must share that love with others ... Amen."

I feel this best represents our late-year Youth Group activities. All based in love, we are entering 2018 carrying that love into the new year. We continue to be thankful that we have a forum and place to enrich our Trinity Buckingham Youth and are very grateful for the opportunity to expand our fellowship to the Trinity Solebury youth too. With the frigid temperatures outside, good thing there is so much love and joy in our hearts to keep us warm and busy with God's work!

Here is a quick look back to the fall and holiday season —



There was a lot of love at our second annual Veterans Dinner!

The Veterans (men & woman) showed up hungry and ready to share with us about their military service. Mrs. Crooke talked about what it was like to be in the Nurse Corps early on and all they had to do to support their patients, including going to homes, moving cadavers and putting drugs into needles. Her message was powerful, delivered with love and a great bit of humor. Thank you, Elizabeth.



December love continued with Youth Group Christmas party where the highlight was a white elephant gift exchange where the kids got to unwrap or "steal" a gift. There were a lot of fun gifts, something for everyone (from facials to "potty" basketball)! There was also a love for Pizza and Soda as well, along with yummy homemade treats! We were grateful for Pastor Nancy's presence and had a fun night together.

Next, the youth group demonstrated love for the church by decorating the Parish tree. It took a while to get it to stand upright on its own, it needed a little TLC. Thank you, Huddy family, for sacrificing your tree stand. We also provided a craft table at the community meal, where people could make ornaments for the tree or to take home. Thank you Mrs. Stalker, your "craftiness" went a long way. This was a nice event and some of the YG members appreciated participating and attending this event. It gave them perspective that they don't receive every day for the extension and outreach the church performs.



After all this activity, the YG was very proud to perform our second youth-led service. This is becoming one of the favored traditions for the kids and the church. They take their jobs very seriously and enjoy the honor of delivering worship for the church. They are getting somewhat more comfortable and perhaps will take on another service throughout the year??? We are also looking for youth sermon volunteers; maybe the Lord will bring us some confidence to take on this treasured opportunity.

Looking ahead, our February meeting will consist of an honored guest speaker who will teach the youth about the church finances, what it takes to raise money, budget, and keep the church going long term. We will also support the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner as our fundraiser. We look forward to the Lenten season celebrating with the church. We are also looking forward to confirmation classes starting up soon. We will embrace the new format and appreciate all Pastor Nancy does to support our church youth.

Please do not hesitate to contact us at trinitybuckinghamyouthgroup@gmail.com.

Kelley Harar

2018 Meeting Dates

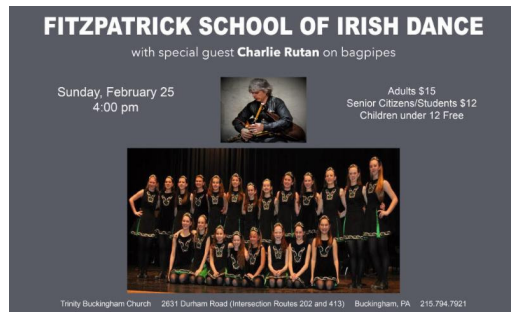
2nd Sundays of the Month from
7 pm to 8:30 pm

February 11, March 11, April 8
and May 13

Music Notes

Winter/Spring 2018

Please mark your calendar for these special events



Fitzpatrick School of Irish Dance
with special guest **Charlie Rutan** on bagpipes
Sunday, February 25, 2018 @ 4 PM
Adults \$15 ~ Senior Citizens/Students \$12
Children under 12 Free

An Evening of Monologues, Melodies and Scenes with the Trinity Players

Saturday, April 21, 2018 @ 7 PM
Free will offering

PLUS

**Janice Fiore, Composite
Photographic Artist**

Special Photo Exhibit & Show

**Wine & Cheese Reception Opening
Wednesday, April 18th @7-9 pm
in Faith Hall**



Jazz & Joe Upcoming Performances

March 8, April 12, May 10
June 24th (BBQ & Picnic)
7:30 pm
in Faith Hall

More Music Ministry in Motion!



*The Trinity Hand Bell Ensemble
"Come to the Table" - Michael Helman*

Rector's Warden Report



Spring has finally arrived following the cold winter months we've had this year. As you know, Trinity has been hosting Code Blue for the month of January these past several years. This year our Code Blue folks were very busy because of the sub-freezing temperatures January ushered in. It seemed like they would never leave! So the budding trees and plants of springtime during this beautiful Easter season are a welcomed sight.

Our 2018 annual meeting was held back in January when we elected a few new vestry members. The vestry attended our usual retreat right here at Trinity in February where we had a number of good discussions on issues facing the church. Some of the issues currently confronting the vestry are: Campus security and safety especially during our Sunday services, and maintenance issues that arise regularly, like replacing the deteriorated baseboard trim in Faith Hall. In one respect we have been fortunate that Faith Hall rentals have increased over recent months.

This has prompted us to consider performing some upgrades to Faith Hall to enhance its attractiveness to potential renters. A permanently installed audio/visual system would be a practical addition. Trinity could also use the system for our own meetings and gatherings held throughout the year.

Another ongoing topic that the vestry will review is how to best utilize the remainder of the Vision 2020 funds in order to improve or update our physical campus. As an example, we could use several more directional signs for our buildings and grounds. They would certainly make our campus more welcoming to newcomers and visitors. I expect to address the sign issue this year.

Trinity has picked up a few new families and pledges this year! Trinity Buckingham Academy will most likely get a new director this year. Stephanie, the current TBA director, plans to retire in June. We're looking forward to working more closely with TBA in 2018. So things are looking very positive for us. I am very confident that 2018 will be an interesting year for the vestry and prove to be an exciting year for Trinity.

I wish you all a very Happy Easter season.

In peace,

Dom De Caprio

Community of Hope International Ending for a New Beginning



Community of Hope International, our multi-parish pastoral caregiver group, is wrapping up its 14-week didactic program on pastoral caregiving. We have been meeting weekly on Sundays in the library, and we will soon be undergoing the transition from a weekly class to a community of caregivers that meet monthly.

The main focus of our group is, within the context of Benedictine Spirituality, to form a community of lay chaplains and pastoral caregivers that worship together, learn from one another, and support each other in our various ministries in our parishes and wider community.

We have members from St. Philip's, Trinity Solebury, Good Shepherd, and of course Trinity Buckingham, which acts as a host site and sponsoring parish for the Community.

Please pray for us during our transition to a full-fledged community. To both celebrate our ministry and commission the new community, Bishop Daniel G. P. Gutiérrez will be visiting Trinity Buckingham on Wednesday, March 21st at 6 pm. More details will be coming regarding this special visit by our Bishop, and all are welcome to celebrate this new Community of Hope in our Diocesan Life.

Matthew Simpson

Our Church Family

Deaths

Elizabeth Carlisle Naughton
former Trinity Vestry member

December 29, 2017
in Wilmington, NC.

Conversations on Science and Technology

The Righteous Mind

The rule of polite dinner conversation is to never talk about politics or religion. I am going to break that rule on both accounts because they are two of the most interesting topics. The source of many of the ideas I share here is a book called *The Righteous Mind – Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion*, by Professor and Moral Psychologist Jonathan Haidt. It looks at the reasons human beings are so deeply divided about politics and religion from a balanced and scientific point of view.



Haidt describes humankind's moral matrix in terms of six values: 1) Care/Harm 2) Liberty/Oppression 3) Fairness/Cheating 4) Loyalty/Betrayal 5) Authority/Subversion 6) Sanctity/Degradation. He believes that "liberals" and "conservatives" have different priorities among these values. The most sacred value for liberal-minded people is care of victims of oppression, and the most important value of conservatives is preservation of the institutions and traditions that sustain a moral community.

For example, it seems to me that liberals are morally offended by policies that are perceived as unjust, harmful, or that cheat the poor and those in need. Liberals are much less offended by diverse religious views or lack of deference to authority either religious or political. Conservatives place greater moral value on political loyalty, religious and institutional authority, and the sacrosanctity of traditions. For example, conservatives are often willing to yield some liberty when they are offended by speech or sexual behavior that conflicts with the sanctity of their traditional religious values.

Haidt also talks about where morals come from. There are two obvious answers: nature or nurture. If you believe nature, then you are a *nativist*. You believe that moral knowledge is native in our minds. It comes hard-wired, maybe in our God-inscribed hearts (religious view), or in our evolved moral emotions (Darwin's view). If you believe moral knowledge comes from nurture and learning, then you are an *empiricist*. There is also a third answer called *rationalism*, which says that children figure out morality for themselves through their give and take experiences of sharing, conflict, and harm. They learn they don't like being harmed; therefore, harming others is wrong and they learn fairness and justice.

Haidt rejects rationalism as the only source of morality. Rather, he believes morality is a combination of a set of evolved intuitions (hard-wired) and social learning, but that our "moral reasoning" is largely developed after the fact as a way of explaining our instantaneous (and often subconscious) emotional reactions. I am reminded of Paul's lament in Romans 7:15-25, asking himself why he knows what he wants to do, but does exactly the opposite of what he wants to do. We are born with a righteous mind, but we have to learn what, exactly, people like us should be righteous about.

Conservatives and Liberals alike are good and moral people. We are divided by politics and religion not because some are good and some are evil. Instead, our minds evolved for tribal/group righteousness, which in the modern world can extend to a political party or denominational identity. We are deeply intuitive and our gut feelings (emotions) drive our strategic moral reasoning.

Our emotions are evolutionarily and neurologically ancient. We "feel" our emotional responses spontaneously and then try to defend them *post hoc* with our modern rational mind. Our biological tribal hardwiring leads us to be constantly frustrated by how foolish, biased, and illogical "others" seem to be. Moreover, our group loyalty can blind us to the deeply held moral concerns of those different from us. We must challenge ourselves when our altruism and affirmations are reserved for our own group and people who think like we do (confirmation bias), and our negative judgments are directed against others who think differently.

Our tribal hardwiring means there is often a disconnect among some Christians between the gospel mandate to care for those in need and our own unexamined fear that helping others will mean not enough for "me and mine" – my tribe. Some Christians self-righteously judge those in need and attribute to them a range of moral failings, such as laziness, foolishness, or lack of self-sufficiency. Jesus teaches us to expand our idea of who is in the tribe: We should not judge whether those in need are "worthy," because none of us is truly worthy, yet we all receive "God's Grace." We are all members of God's tribe.

This expanded inclusive way of thinking made Jesus a very controversial political figure. He confronted hypocrisy, greed, cruelty, institutional corruption, and abuse of power by both the Empire and the Temple. From a non-theological view-point, Jesus was killed for political sedition and challenging both the Jewish religious authorities and the political authority of the Roman Empire.

see *Conversations* on next page

Conversations cont

I would argue that Christians should not link being in need with the morality of the person who is in need. Christians should err on the side of helping those in need and not restrict help to only those deemed worthy of help by the tribe. I am reminded of two gospel messages — "... From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked." (Luke 12:48 NIV) and "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?" (Matthew 7:3 NIV).

Faithfully, Steven W. Mann, Ph.D.

(Acknowledgment: Special thanks to Rev. Nancy Dilliplane for her very helpful comments and guidance.)

Facilities Coordinator Corner

Happy 2018 everyone! It was quite a busy last quarter here at Trinity in Faith Hall, Fay Kitchen and The Reed Chapel!

From September to December 23rd, we hosted ten (10) major special events through private rentals. We have also hosted countless numbers of non-profit sponsored monthly meetings — ECW Fall Rummage Sale, Jazz & Joe concerts, Coffee Hour after every service, Hand Weavers Guild of Bucks County's Annual Show & Sale, monthly Community PeaceMeal, Vacation Bible School Sunday for our Sunday School, Trinity Buckingham Academy events, Gilbert & Sullivan practice, our own Trinity Quarterly Brunch and Christmas party, and we are now hosting Code Blue – to name a few!

If it seems like an overwhelming list of happenings to you, I am here to tell you confidently that it really is, not just for me, but for everyone!

With that said, in order to help aid everyone in the effort of keeping our facilities clean and tidy, I have updated our Fay Kitchen Use & Rental Log. This binder is located just inside the main door of our kitchen — below the coffee cans. Inside you will find very important NEW protocols that I ask everyone to review and follow in using both Faith Hall and Fay Kitchen.

1) **Everyone** must sign-in and out in this binder while hosting **any event** in Faith Hall/Fay Kitchen, including groups such as Coffee Hour folks, Youth Group and Community PeaceMeal. It is crucial with a state-inspected kitchen that we have a log of who has been in the kitchen – even for coffee hour.

2) **A New Cleaning Check List** has been created to aid every group in "How To" properly clean up the kitchen at the closing of any event/meeting/gathering. Please make a **NEW** habit of using this Check List to help assist you in returning the kitchen to the way it should appear at the close of your event/meeting. I have also created a Special Check-List and placed it above the coffee makers specifically for our Coffee Hour sponsored families/individuals, so you only have to look up at the end of Sunday services and know exactly what to do by following this specific list.

3) **A NEW Labeling System for ALL leftover food and drink storage** can be located in the back sleeves of the binder. It is a very simple system to help in the communication

between the staff and ALL ministries to know what/when food and drink were placed in our new refrigerator/freezers and for dry goods left behind from any of our countless events. **It is a 2-step labeling process that I need all of you to use when leaving/donating food in Fay Kitchen.**

Step 1: Place a colored dot label on ALL food/drink and write down the date left in the kitchen.

Step 2: Place a preprinted "Reserved For" white label stating which ministry the food/drink is being reserved specifically for or place a preprinted label on the food/drink marked with "Available for All Ministries To Use."

If anyone has any questions on the above information, inquiries on our rentals, or would like to be a Rental Team Member here at Trinity, please feel free to contact me at faithhall@trinitybuckingham.org or call me direct on my cell: 856-313-6000.

Don't forget, though it is quite frigid out, Spring is only around the corner and our Spring calendar is quickly filling up with special events like 1st Communion celebrations and graduations! Don't wait till the last minute...or you will be left out in the cold! I just had to say it!

Warmly,

Dani Badiali



February

2	Bernadette Gross
4	Aileen Wanzer
6	Pam Fuchs
11	Emily McCreary
12	Steven Guidry
14	Daphne Roller
15	Mark Eichhorn
16	Joe McLean
18	Christian Servan
19	Connor Wisnom
20	Jessica Overington
21	Catherine Kirchner
23	Jamie Shisler
23	Corrinne Shisler
26	Barry McCabe
26	Brynn Marmor
26	Mary Ellen Brehm

March

1	Sarah Goggin
5	Shayne Dougherty
5	Patricia Bradbury
6	Jan McConeghy
6	Patricia Goldbach
7	Camille Serban
7	Catherine Oliver
7	Elisabeth Goggin
9	Francis McLean
11	Gianna Jaedicke
12	Grace Prasto
12	Felicia Barnard
13	David King
13	Aida King
13	Stephen Badiali
16	James Sanders
19	Melissa Smith
21	Jacquelyn Moore
21	Helena Badiali
22	Margaret Kern
24	Luke Keller
25	Nicholas Conoscenti
30	Heather Carbo
31	Gary Hattal

April

3	Connor Quinn
4	Deborah Grant
4	Raymond Barkalow
7	Jennifer McCreary
10	Charles Seckinger
11	Stephanie Oiler
11	Erin Gilbert
12	Joanne Fulcoly
13	Lue Hansen
14	Logan Roller
17	Collin Marshall
19	Nathaniel Wanzer
20	Lisa McBride
21	Kyle McConeghy
21	Karen Brown
25	Jane Eastwood
27	Gail Smith
27	Debbie Pendergast
29	Betty Kitson
30	Leslie Jaedicke



May

2	Lauren Gillen	20	Shirley Freeburn
3	Kenneth Moore	22	Suzanne Snyder
4	The Rev. Kyle St. Claire Jr.	22	Simone Serban
5	Doris Metzner	22	Barbara Koberger
6	Olivia Paxson	22	Elizabeth Krauss
7	Stephen Downs	23	Pam Vollrath
7	Patricia Cook	23	David Reed
9	Matthew O'Donnell	23	Audrey Evans
11	Judith Krauss	23	Audrey Briston Evans
14	Peter Oliver	25	Elaine Good
15	John McCreary	28	Donna Wisnom
16	Lindsey McBride	28	Paige Keller
16	Carter May	30	Steve Siliani
18	Emily Roller		
19	Sarah Kinney		

Come read with us...

Pachinko by Min Jin Lee

Join us!
immediately after
the 10:15 am service
in Faith Hall
March 25

Trinity Book Club



Our Most Wonderful "Paper Bag" Epiphany Pageant



On January 7, we all participated in
a wonderful, no rehearsal
Epiphany Pageant.
Indeed,
God has a role for everyone.

Vestry

Dom DeCaprio, Senior Warden
Mark Barnard & Amy Conoscenti, Accounting Wardens
Elisabeth Goggin, Vestry Secretary

The Rev. Dr. Nancy Dilliplane
Matthew Simpson, Deacon-in-Formation
Dom DeCaprio, Senior Warden
Mark Barnard
Amy Conoscenti
Meghan Dennis
Elisabeth Goggin
Paul Harar
Dave Huddy
Bob Kinney
Jon Marino
Bonnie McCabe
Joe McLean
Don O'Hara
Olivia Huddy, Youth Rep

rector@trinitybuckingham.org
matthew@trinitybuckingham.org
decapriod@yahoo.com
on temporary leave of absence
amconoscenti@gmail.com
meghanjdennis@gmail.com
elisabeth_goggin@yahoo.com
paul.harar@gmail.com
davehuddy@comcast.net
rkinney@comcast.
jonmarino@me.com
bmccabe247@aol.com
gnatjjm@gmail.com
dohara@alphaonecapital.com

Deputies to Diocesan Convention

Dom DeCaprio, Janet DeCaprio, Jill Unger

Joanne Welker (Alternate)

Deanery Delegates

Marty Gillen, Kathi Sadowski, Judy Krauss

Contact Us

Church	215.794.7921
Church Fax	215.794.5223
Academy	215.794.5530

Cynthia Goode, Parish Administrator
office@trinitybuckingham.org

Dani Badiali, Facilities Coordinator
faithhall@trinitybuckingham.org

Caroline Oakes, Communications Asst.
oakes.caroline@gmail.com

Dr. Regina Gordon, Minister of Music
Martha Dudich, Organist
Bernadette Gross, Prayer Chain Coordinator
Dave Romero, Treasurer
Sallee Lord, Sunday School Director
Lauren Gillen, Newsletter Editor

Worship

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

Office Hours

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

Trinity's Mission

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

