



Rector's Reflections

Dear Faith Family,

Every now and again I have an experience of being brought up short—stopped in my tracks by something that takes me out of myself and makes me say “Oh, wow!” Those moments are sheer gift. They give me a new lens through which to view my life.

Parishioner Maddie Wanzer provided me with one of those “Oh, wow!” moments just before Christmas. Maddie is fifteen years old, and preparing to be confirmed this Spring when Bishop Gutiérrez visits Trinity. She accepted my invitation (challenge?) to preach on the third Sunday of Advent. And I was blown away!

The confirmation class and I have had a lot of serious conversation about how to reconcile a scientific world-view with the world-view of the Church, which uses the language of creation story and worship.

In her sermon Maddie invited old people like me to see the world through the eyes of a teenager who believes, values and trusts what empirical science teaches about the world. She said, essentially, that for her, the thought system of science and the thought system of the Christian faith are not exclusive, but enhance and support one another.

“I can’t *not* believe!” Maddie said. “I understand what Isaiah means when he says ‘surely it is God who saves me,’ because how else would we be here? We should not exist! The chances of us all existing...are so small, they can’t be calculated ... it’s one in 400 trillion at the lowest!



“And the fact that every single one of us ended up in this very room is astonishing,” she said. “It is against all odds ... There is no one who can defy these odds. Surely it must be God ... God has chosen us to be here, as we are. All our faults and traits and personalities. God has chosen us to be in this place. God had a reason for us to be ... Surely it is God who saves me. I will trust in him and not be afraid.”

“Oh, wow!” I thought. The language of the Big Bang, and the language of worship “His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me” (cf. Matthew 10: 29-30) say the same thing!

Maddie’s good and heart-felt words have become the lens through which I am viewing my world right now. This life, with all its “quirks and traits and terrible faults” (Maddie again) is an emanation of God—somehow part of God’s one act of creation. How can I *not* believe? How can I *not* be humbled and grateful to be here?

Maybe it was because I had Maddie on the brain when I picked up Diana Butler Bass’s new book *Grateful: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks* that the author’s words nearly jumped off the page at me:

“Gratitude is the ability to embrace the gift of who we are. That we are. In the multi-billion year history of the universe, the gift is that each one of us has been born, can love, grows in awareness, and has a story. Life is the gift. And when that mystery fills our hearts, it overwhelms us, and a deep river of emotions flow forth. I am. We all are. What we feel when we contemplate this remarkable thing — that feeling is gratitude.”

As we travel once more into the introspection of Lent and then on to the new life of Eastertide, I invite you to do several things:

- Continue to pray for Maddie and her sixteen classmates as they wind up their Confirmation studies. And give thanks for the gifts, the questions and the faith that she and they bring to the Church.
- Come and stand with them on April 14, 2019 when Bishop Gutiérrez lays hands on them and commissions them to assume their place among the adults of the church.
- Join me for a Quiet Day on March 9 when we will take up the theme of Diana Butler Bass’ book *Grateful* and take steps to grow in awareness, practices and prayers of thanks.
- And last, but not least, open yourselves up to “Oh, wow!” experiences, in whatever form they take, and through whosoever they may come. And when they do, say “thank you.”

Thank you, Diana. Thank you, Maddie. Thank you, God.

Nancy+

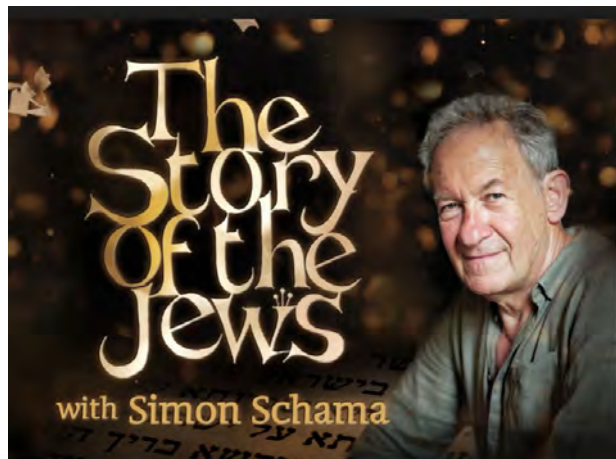
2019 Wednesday Evening Lenten Series — *The Story of the Jews*

Sir Simon Schama is an English historian specializing in art history, Dutch history, Jewish history and French history. He is Professor of History and Art History at Columbia University, New York.

Professor Schama presents a five-part documentary exploring the Jewish experience from ancient times to the present day. Presenting historical scholarship and his own family history, he takes viewers on a journey through the Biblical past to today's challenges.

The Story of the Jews is a moving exploration of the distinctiveness and difference, separation and isolation, tolerance and prejudice that is the history of Jewish life. But, it is also the celebration of the highest human spiritual and intellectual aspirations reflected in Jewish thought, Jewish imagination, Jewish creativity, and Jewish achievement, which have transformed the world we live in. The Christian imagination should embrace the profound meaning that 2,000 years ago God chose to deliver Jesus to the world as a Jew.

Come join us to view and discuss this sobering yet uplifting documentary. Discussion will be moderated by Dr. Steven W. Mann.



Wednesdays
March 13, 20, 27
April 3, 10
7pm — 8:30pm
held in
Reed Chapel

Prayer Chain Ministry

Do you desire to become more involved at Trinity but don't have much time to commit to meetings, attend functions or plan anything? Then perhaps the Prayer Chain Ministry is right for you!

We are a group of men and women of varying ages who "intercede" for the benefit of others through prayer. Instead of only remembering others at the Sunday or Wednesday services, we pray on a regular basis in the comfort of our own homes, in our pajamas, cars or anywhere that suits us!

There is only one requirement with this ministry and that is absolute confidentiality. We do not discuss prayer requests or the needs of others with anyone. We respect the privacy of others and hold up their prayer needs to Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

A new group of Intercessors is now forming and we would love to have you join us.

Won't you please consider this often unnoticed yet very important ministry?

Please either speak with Nancy or Patty Bradbury (pabradbury@verizon.net). We'd be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Patty Bradbury

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven...

When we gather for worship in The Episcopal Church, all of our senses are fed. We lift our voices up together in common prayer and song. We see the face of God as we greet one another. We look inward at our own gifts, committing to let them shine, and our shortcomings, asking for help putting God back at our center.

Then we gather around the table of the altar, remembering everything the Holy Trinity of God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – has done for us and continues to do in our lives — creating us, redeeming us, infusing us with breath.

Hands outstretched, we present ourselves before God and humbly and gratefully receive the Body of Christ, in the bread and wine of communion. At this table, all are welcome. All are welcome at the altar, just as Jesus modeled radical welcome to all whom he encountered.

The How2charist: Digital Instructed Eucharist was created as a free resource to help everyone – from newcomers to lifelong Episcopalians – connect more deeply with the rich and beautiful liturgy of the Episcopal Church. Commissioned as an official resource of The Episcopal Church, [watch the film](#) and find [additional resources](#) at www.how2charist.com; and you may just recognize one of the clergy in the film.



Peace,
Matthew

Lenten Quiet Day

Grateful: Growing in Awareness, Practice, and Prayers of Thanks

Saturday, March 9th from 9 am to 1 pm



Begin your journey through Lent by setting aside a morning to pay attention to God's many gifts, celebrate abundance, make space for wonder. Set an intention to be grateful and put your thanks into action.

Please register for the Gratitude Quiet Day by March 1.

Cost: \$25 (includes lunch)

Bishop's Visitation and Confirmation

Palm Sunday — April 14, 2019

Bishop Daniel Gutiérrez will visit his parish at Trinity Buckingham on April 14, 2019—Palm Sunday—to preach, to celebrate the Eucharist, and to confirm and receive teens and adults into the Episcopal Church. Bishop Gutiérrez will also lead our Faith Forum that Sunday, and will meet with the Vestry.

There will be ONE service on Palm Sunday in order that we all might spend time with our bishop.

The youth confirmation class has been meeting with Pastor Nancy since May 2018 to prepare for Confirmation.

Adults who wish to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church should contact the office by March 1.



*Confirmation
2019*

Pastor Nancy

ECW — Episcopal Church Women

What a great ending we had to our ECW year!

We took a trip to the Bucks County Visitor's Center in Bensalem and enjoyed their display of Christmas trees. The trees were designed by a woman who had designed several for the White House. The Visitor Center also had good displays of places to visit in the county and a nice gift shop. Then we enjoyed a nice lunch at Applebee's.

Our next meeting will be a brown bag lunch on Wednesday, **March 13**, at Noon. We will be distributing our Fall Sale profits. The ECW recently bought the new coffee pot in the kitchen and new covers for our china storage carts.

We also will be planning our Spring Rummage Sale which will be held on Saturday, **April 27**.

Please start putting aside your Spring and Summer clothes you no longer want (or no longer fit in!) and household items, books, unwanted gifts, furniture.

We need your help to make this sale a success!



Greetings from Bensalem!

Mary Beth Perisho

Layette Sunday

Trinity's traditional Layette Sunday will be held on Mothering Sunday, March 31st, this year. Everyone is encouraged to participate in this heart-warming ECW-sponsored Lenten project. There will be an ingathering of infant garments and blankets at all three services that morning. Donations will be assembled into layettes for young new mothers who have completed the parenting course through Child Home & Community in Doylestown.

Using the concept of "one to wash and one to wear," a layette consists of two receiving blankets (knitted, crocheted or flannel), two "onesies," two sleepers, two baby washcloths, two pairs of socks or booties, a hat and a sweater or jacket. Garments should be size medium (six months) and unisex. (Please avoid pink and "girlie" and explicit masculine and feminine themes. Good colors would be yellow, tan, green, lavender, white, red, and aqua).

Please give what you can and do not gift wrap. Cash donations are also welcome. Make checks payable to Trinity Church and designate for "Layette Sunday." Thank you for caring!

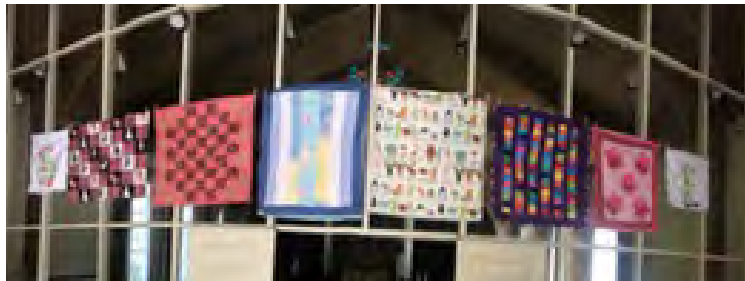
Elizabeth Crooke

ABC Quilts

For many years Trinity members and friends have been participating in the ABC Quilt project for at-risk babies in the Philadelphia area. Our little "love and comfort" quilts are due the week of May 5th, so they can be put up for display on Mother's Day, May 12th. For quilt guidelines or questions, please contact Elizabeth Crooke at 717-572-1741 or ward.crooke@gmail.com. Happy quilting!

Trinity's ABC Quilts 2018

The labels on each of these quilts read "love and comfort to you"



Elizabeth Crooke



Remember!

The best way to publicize all things Trinity is by word-of-mouth, of course — BUT, the next best way is to click the SHARE button located underneath each of Trinity's Facebook posts that come across your Facebook feed, so that all of your Facebook friends will be able to see the post in their own Facebook feed. Thank you!

Trinity's Super-Important eNews Email — Are You Receiving Yours?

Want to know how to be up on everything that happens at Trinity?

Trinity's Parish Administrator Cynthia Goode creates and sends out a WEEKLY Trinity eNews email (via a clean, crisp, and colorful Constant Contact design) that highlights the latest on all current events happening at Trinity, along with links to Trinity's homepage for local and diocesan events, sermons, and special worship times. This happens every week!

But here's the thing —

This valuable and essential eNews email is sent only to those people who have called or emailed the Church Office to sign up to receive it in their email Inbox.

So please contact the office at 215-794-7921 or office@trinitybuckingham.org and let the office know you'd like to receive this important weekly email, as **this is THE primary and most effective way to stay updated on current Trinity news!**

And please tell your Trinity friends!

Caroline Oakes



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Tally Marks



If you want to be really involved in the world, rather than just watching from a window, you need to be prepared to get your paws muddy sometimes.

And sometimes you are going to track mud in with you when you return.

You may make people uncomfortable, and may make a mess of their tidy, well-ordered, self-contained lives. But really engaging in the world's messes is going to get your paws muddy.

Tally.

Sunday School and Children's Ministries

Although our weather has been a little chilly (an understatement for sure!), our Sunday School attendance has been consistent. This year, we have welcomed new families and visitors as well. Our Sunday School is held from 10:00 am to 10:40 am. This provides children the opportunity to attend either the 9:15 or the 10:15 service with their families and receive Christian Education in Sunday School.

Our Sunday School program continues with the first Sunday of the month being dedicated to a Community Service Project. On that Sunday, a particular event involving the children's participation is held from 10:00-10:40. February we made Valentines for our Parish Shut-ins. In March, we will begin our Lenten Project which will be collecting coins to purchase food store certificates for those people in need who stop by our church office looking for help.

A discussion with the children regarding the project will be part of the lesson as well as reinforcing how God wants us to help others. The children will be making their containers to collect their coins. Look for extra containers which will be available in the Narthex if anyone else would like to participate in our Sunday School Lenten Project. The Community Projects for April, May, and June will be announced at a later date.

The rest of the Sundays during the months up until May 26 will be regular lessons from our "all-in-one Sunday School" curriculum. The lessons include discussion, crafts, games or a story regarding what was taught in the lesson for that day. It is a Bible-based curriculum.

Please note that there are several Sundays when Sunday School will not be in session. These dates include April 14, when the Bishop's Visitation and Confirmation will take place, Easter Sunday, April 21, and May 26 which falls on the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend. **Pentecost Sunday, June 9, will be our last day of Sunday School. On this Sunday, we will have ONE service followed by our Parish Picnic/Sunday School Recognition.** Our Sunday School will resume September 8th.

Many thanks from our Sunday School teachers and from me for your continued support of our education program.

Sallee Lord



Rector's Warden Report



It's still wintertime and the cold weather doesn't seem to want to leave. January had many frigid nights when the Code Blue team was busy hosting our guests in Faith Hall. Thank you to many of our parishioners for bringing and donating food for this cause. There were certainly some great meals prepared and no one went away hungry!

The Lenten season is upon us as we prepare for that wonderful event of the risen Christ! Spring arrives in just a few weeks! Soon we'll see new leaves on the trees, plants sprouting, flowers budding and the sense of freshness in the air. So what's new around here at Trinity, you ask? At Trinity we have some new vestry members, some new ideas to discuss, and some good old ones as well. We have a new director for Trinity Buckingham Academy. We extend a warm welcome to Alison Rose and wish her good luck in her position.

Here are some issues the vestry has recently faced: It was a challenge to balance our budget this year, given the added expenses for maintenance and unforeseen repairs that keep cropping up. Like many churches, the biggest expense is for personnel and buildings & grounds. So we've asked ourselves, what areas can we trim? Well, let's see. We need a rector and a staff to operate. We need to pay our heating bills and we need to move snow and perform repairs as they arise. We also like to be comfortable

in a cool church when attending services during the summer months. Our financial status was explained at the annual meeting emphasizing how your pledges and contributions mean so much to Trinity and are necessary to keep the church open and running. Rentals in Faith Hall, Pierce Hall and in other areas of this campus have helped us gain some revenue during the year, but that actually hasn't been enough. The key to balancing any budget is to reduce expenses and/or raise revenue.

We have also not been very successful these past few years organizing fundraising events. This year vestry will discuss some new ideas for fundraising. This is very much needed because the campus continues to age and things that we never had to be concerned with are popping up in need of repair or replacement—like the leaking roof on the rectory and like the several air conditioning units above Faith Hall, most of them original. Those are just a few.

In closing however, I'm confident that with your prayers and with the Grace of God things will work out fine for us and we will be able to continue to enjoy everything that Trinity has to offer. Your vestry is more prepared than ever to address the challenges that lie ahead and I trust we will have a wonderful year. God Bless all of you!

Dom De Caprio

Our Church Family

Births

Blake Smith - June 15, 2018
Richard Bradbury III - October 2, 2018

Baptisms

Blake Smith - December 23, 2018

Deaths

David King - October 30, 2018
Kenneth McConeghy - December 11, 2018
Ann Silcox - February 16, 2019
Sally Swanson - February 19, 2019

2019 Giving — or what we affectionately used to call Stewardship or Pledging...

The 2019 Trinity Giving Campaign was very successful. Total dollars pledged as of January 31 was \$241,583, the second highest amount in the past five years! The average pledge of \$2,695 is the highest it has been in the past eight years! A heartfelt *THANK YOU to all who pledged* and a gentle reminder you can still pledge anytime.

Contributing to the success of the 2019 Giving Campaign was the creation of the first annual Trinity Giving Booklet; Nourishing One Another and Nourishing The World. This booklet was created through the collaborative efforts of Caroline Oakes, Trinity Media Communications Assistant, Pastor Nancy, and the researching of best practices by other Episcopal Church Giving Campaigns.

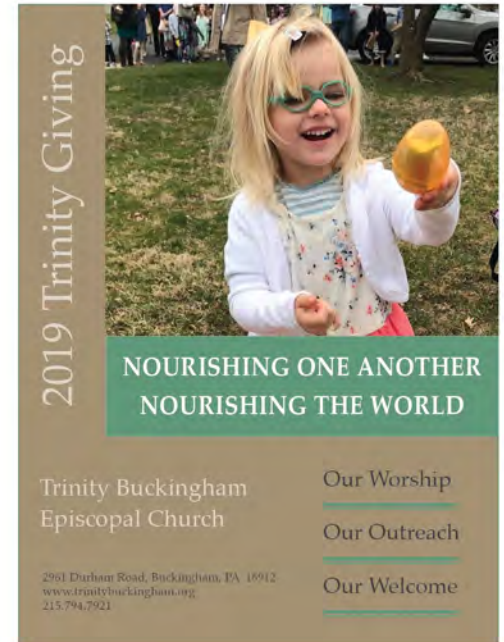
So why are we moving from Stewardship/Pledging to Giving? Simply put, we are all stewards of this church. We give our time, talent and treasure as we worship, attend fellowship events, volunteer for Outreach Ministry events such as Code Blue and Community Peacemeal dinners, and provide a location for groups such as the Bucks County Weavers to hold their annual showing.

Giving is the actual practice of pledging to provide financial support to the Church enabling the Church to create an operating budget in support of God's work at Trinity Buckingham. Almost 80% of Trinity's annual revenue comes from Giving/pledge payments, non-pledge recurring gifts and one-time financial gifts.

How you decide on how much to give towards Trinity's operating budget is very personal to you and your life circumstances, and ideally will come to you through prayer with God. The Trinity Giving Booklet is an attempt at greater transparency of Church operating costs and how they are funded.

Thank you once again for your support to sustain and grow God's ministries of nourishment at Trinity.

Marty Gillen



Thank you, Woody!

Dear Woody Kiel,

We would like you to know how much we appreciate your unwavering Saturday reminders of our liturgical responsibilities each Sunday. We can always count on you!

Gratefully yours,

Trinity Liturgical Assistants

Music Notes — Jazz & Joe



Jazz & Joe Factoid —

Jazz & Joe has reached its 500th event!

They will be celebrating this milestone with us
in Faith Hall on April 11.

March 14 – Jazz & Joe

Faith Hall 7:30 pm

April 11 – Jazz & Joe

Faith Hall 7:30 pm

May 9 – Jazz & Joe

Blues/Gospel Night

Faith Hall 7:30 pm

June 23rd – Jazz & Joe BarBQ & You

Faith Hall – 4:00 to 7:00 pm

Trinity Volunteers



A few of Trinity's MANY volunteers gather for lunch — *(from left to right):* Al Fuchs, Paul Harar, Cynthia Goode, Dani Badiali, Meg Perry, Jim Sanders, Kim Boyle, Pam Fuchs, Amy Conoscenti, Natalie Welker, Dave Romero, Nicholas Conoscenti, Barbara Struble, Marty Gillen, Jill Unger, Peter Oliver, Dom De Caprio, Cathy Sadowski, Nancy Dilliplane, Joanne Welker Marx, Steve Dilliplane, Karen Parker, Dale Cagenello, Bradley Cagenello and Gina Gordon.

Facilities Coordinator Corner

The word on Trinity's attractive rental spaces is definitely out and going strong in Bucks County and beyond! In other words, we have had a very busy 2018 here at Trinity Buckingham and we are booking well into 2019 and 2020 already!

This past year, we hosted a total of **26** private rentals in Faith Hall alone. This does not include the numerous monthly and ongoing rentals in Reed Library or some of the beautiful weddings that took place in both Historic Trinity and the Main Sanctuary. We also successfully rented Pierce Hall to Temple University for their Independent Reading Program for K through 8 children and hosted Girl Empowerment courses and Harry Potter Workshops with Whimsy Kids.



A huge Thank You goes out to all the parish members, both new and current families, that took some time to help clean and organize Fay Kitchen after Code Blue moved out. It is so important that we continually perform this type of clean up in Fay to help ensure we pass our yearly inspection...plus it actually was a fun time catching up and laughing with parish member friends. Here are a few photos of our diligent crew!



Please also check out and pass along our new tri-fold brochure featuring new and updated event photos that showcase our gorgeous rental spaces and Sanctuaries here at Trinity for potential clients.

Remember to always think of Trinity to help you celebrate your next BIG life event! Our calendar is filling up fast!

Warmly,

Dani Badiali

Trinity Buckingham Academy

It has been another whirlwind school year filled with fall holidays and celebrations... welcoming all of our new Trinity Academy families to classrooms and Parent Committee coffee chats, our ever-popular Halloween Boo Parade and Craft Stations, and sharing an All School snack to celebrate Thanksgiving (and learning *lots* of turkey songs!)

And for the highlight of the first half of the year — our Christmas Pageant performance and celebration — we welcomed parents, siblings and lots of excited grandparents. It is a heart-warming way to celebrate the Christmas spirit.

We enjoyed a great visit from Silver Lake Nature Center and their Hibernation Hut in January.

We are now into our “magic time” of school — with no holidays to distract us, we spend all of these snowy and “icicle cold” days developing so many skills to help us jump to the next level of learning! It is always amazing to see all of the little pieces of the learning puzzle come together in abilities and talents that make each of our students the unique and special gifts from God that they are.

It is also time to think ahead to summer and our Camp WiggleMyToes program that runs for three weeks from Memorial Day until mid-June. Outdoor activities, sprinklers, water shark and popsicles... a great way to welcome summer!

We are also gearing up for registration for the Fall 2019–2020 school year, and are looking for 3's and 4's. If you see any possible recruits, send them our way for a tour and more information.

Other highlights coming up for Trinity Academy are: Donuts for Dads celebration in March; Trap a Leprechaun Day (haven't caught one yet, but we are so excited to keep trying every year!); Great Egg Hunt; and Muffins for Moms celebration in May.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alison Rose



Trinity Buckingham Academy Christmas Pageant 2018

Conversations on Science and Technology

The Mystic Mind



The older I become and the more I continue to explore the many intersections of science and religion, the more I believe I am thinking like both ancient and modern Christian mystics such as Hildegard of Bingen, Francis of Assisi, Thomas Aquinas, Teresa of Avila, Thomas Merton, or Barbara Brown Taylor.

"We shall awaken from our dullness and rise vigorously towards justice. If we fall in love with creation deeper and deeper, we will respond to its endangerment with passion." Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)

I am now less concerned about the formal Christian doctrines that arose during the first five centuries of Christian theological debate as sincerely spiritual people struggled to pin down the nature of Jesus and God and the core beliefs that would be taught in churches the world over for many centuries.

"We have what we seek, it is there all the time, and if we give it time, it will make itself known to us." Thomas Merton (1915-1968)

Dr. Diana Butler Bass is a scholar of church history, a member of the Episcopal Church, and has written about early Christianity and today's evolving church, and I will share some of her insights. The earliest Christians were simply known as **"the people of the Way."** They were modeling their personal and communal lives towards Jesus's teachings. Their daily existence was made better as Christianity became a practical spiritual road, a Way of Life. They actively reordered their lives away from the acquisition of personal wealth towards communal wealth. They communed with those of other tribes and prayed with those with whom they usually were in conflict. [1,2]

"Start by doing what is necessary, then what is possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible. True progress quietly and persistently moves along without notice." Francis of Assisi (1181-1226)

The early church father Justin Martyr (100-165 CE) noted that the old ways had passed; a new way in Jesus was opened. Christianity at its beginning was not divisive but inclusive, bringing diverse people together and transforming lives giving women, the poor, and even slaves a way to orient their lives. Loving God and neighbor was the way of the Kingdom of God on earth and the way to the salvation of human lives. Today Christian communities are again awakening to these ancient understandings that Christianity is a spiritual pathway constructed on transformative practices of love and compassion rather than doctrinal belief that once offered assured passage into heaven while we suffer through this life. [1,2]

"The feeling remains that God is on the journey, too." Teresa of Avila (1515-1582)

The Apostle's Creed, and the later Nicene Creed, are important documents of theology and history, but have you ever noticed they do not mention love, service, hope, or forgiveness, nor anything actionable? The creeds guided the church for centuries. [3] However, these early statements of belief are a vision and theology statement with no praxis or mission statement addressing love and compassion. [3]

(Conversations continued)

"Beware the person of one book." Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274)

There is much evidence for religious decline in Western culture and much attention to the growth of fundamentalism, especially in the global South and developing world. To me, debates over denominational decline or growth are not really what matters. Humanity's understanding of the nature of God has changed slowly over the centuries. I believe the conceptualization of God is again changing as millions of contemporary people are experiencing God as far more personal and present in all of Creation.

Informed by my scientific understandings of Creation, the cosmos, and the human mind, my personal understanding of God is both infinitely large and intimately close. Whatever the mystery of God is, God is the Creator of the Cosmos, and God's presence is an enveloping Consciousness that is "IN" everything. God created the universe, maybe universes, and instilled into the universe all the capacities and freedom needed for God's will to be expressed, including evolving life. That is a God so large that I can only stand in incomprehensible awe. But that is also a God intimately close — a divine consciousness I sense is everywhere in everything, and my consciousness can at some level connect to the divine consciousness.

"We can't have full knowledge all at once. We start by believing, then afterwards we may be led on to master the evidence for ourselves." Thomas Aquinas

Diana Butler Bass states, "In a wide variety of cultures, God has become unmediated and local. A cultural language of divine nearness has come to surround us." Many contemporary people experience God's presence in everything and intimately, as far more personal and not as a distant overseeing majesty. Not surprisingly, that has always been the path of mystics in all religions; it is not new. Further, she says, "The language of mysticism and spiritual experience cuts a wide swath through the world's religious traditions, and it presents an alternative theology of connection and intimacy." [2]

"I would say that human beings never behave more badly towards one another than when they believe they are protecting God." Barbara Brown Taylor (1951-)

Panentheism is a term coined by Karl Christian Friedrich Krause (1781-1832), a German philosopher, which means "God in all things." Someone who believes the presence or essence or spirit of God is "IN" all things is a "Panentheist." A tree is not God, but God's presence is in all things, including a tree and me. One of my favorite authors, Barbara Brown Taylor, an Episcopal priest and Professor of Religious Studies, said she has been described as a panentheist, which is a term for herself she would not reject. I also am comfortable with that label.

Faithfully,

Steven W. Mann, Ph.D.

[1] Diana Butler Bass, *A People's History of Christianity: The Other Side of the Story*, Harper Collins, 2009.

[2] Diana Butler Bass, *Grounded*, Harper One, 2015.

[3] R. Rohr, *The Creeds*, Center for Action and Contemplation, 1/23/19.

Congratulations, Elizabeth Crooke!

On November 12, 2018, the Trinity Buckingham and Trinity Solebury Youth Groups honored Veterans of our community with a Veterans Dinner held in Faith Hall.

The festivities included recognition of our own Elizabeth Crooke, who was a member of the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps during WWII. Jim McComb, Commander, Doylestown American Legion #210, and Tom Spottore, Commander, Lulu Shrine Legion of Honor, presented Elizabeth with The Chapel of Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Award.

We here at Trinity know Elizabeth as a reader at church, tireless organizer of Blanket Sunday, Layette Sunday, and the ABC Quilts programs. She is a volunteer at our Rummage Sales, and we see her every Sunday singing in our choir and ringing handbells. We even look to her as a historian of our Trinity community.



The Chapel of the Four Chaplains is an organization inspired by the courageous and faithful acts of four chaplains who, in February 1943, were on board the U.S.A.T. Dorchester with 902 men when it was torpedoed by an enemy submarine off the coast of Greenland.

Survivors report that the Chaplains calmed and comforted the frightened men, even giving away their own lifejackets. These chaplains perished in this attack.

The goal of the resulting Chapel of the Four Chaplains, which was dedicated by President Harry S. Truman in 1951, is to continue to recognize ordinary people for doing extraordinary things with principles of selfless service and volunteerism within the community and our nation without regard to race, religion or creed, exemplified so dramatically through the sacrifice of the four chaplains.

To learn more about this organization and the inspiring stories of the chaplains, visit www.fourchaplains.org.

Elizabeth, thank you for your service.



Elizabeth Crooke



Jim McComb, Danny Crooke, Annette Crooke, Elizabeth, Jeff Crooke, and Tom Spottore

Vestry

Dom DeCaprio, Senior Warden
Don O'Hara, Accounting Warden
Elisabeth Goggin, Vestry Secretary

The Rev. Dr. Nancy Dilliplane, Rector
The Rev. Matthew Simpson, Deacon
Dom DeCaprio, Senior Warden
Meghan Dennis
Marty Gillen
Elisabeth Goggin
Paul Harar
Dave Huddy
Bob Kinney
Jon Marino
Mary-jo May
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gnatjjm@gmail.com
dohara@alphaonecapital.com
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Deputies to Diocesan Convention

Dom DeCaprio, Janet DeCaprio, Joanne Welker

Jill Unger (Alternate)

Deanery Delegates

Jill Unger, Judy Krauss, Kathi Sadowski

Contact Us

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Cynthia Goode, Parish Administrator
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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.*

