



Rector's Reflections

This summer's 9:30 a.m. services provided both invitation and opportunity to engage with a number of different practices that might lead us deeper into the sacred mystery of our one, holy and triune God. Each practice was designed to bring us closer to God, to one another and to this good earth. I hoped that, in some way — in people gathered, practices shared, Word spoken, Bread broken and Wine poured out — we would experience the *real presence* of Christ.

- We spent a Sunday mostly in contemplative silence. (Silent contemplation is the foundation of our Tuesday and Thursday morning prayers in Historic Trinity, as well as the Monday night Peace Vigil).
- Two wonderful drummers (Bill Marconi and Val Hopkins) brought their djembes and led drum circles, and drew us into shared rhythm — the heartbeat of the Holy One, which enlivens all of creation.
- We reflected on the Lord's Prayer and made prayer beads, an aid to intentional, regular, undistracted prayer.
- We spent time with the Odehs — a Palestinian Christian family who are olive wood artisans from Bethlehem — and reflected on the experience of refugees and asylum seekers.
- On the bank of Lake Galena on a blessedly less-humid-than-usual Sunday morning, we enjoyed a breeze, the sounds of nature, the sunlight on the water, the company of Trinity members from across all three worshipping communities, and a great abundance of good food.
- Parishioner and yoga instructor Sherri Bittner taught about the importance of caring for our bodies as the temple of the Holy Spirit, and the ways that our bodies can praise God and serve others and carry light into the dark places of the world.
- The Handweavers of Bucks County helped us explore faith and the arts, and weaving as a metaphor for the beauty of creation, in all its diversity, contrasts, differences, textures and hues.
- With Music Minister Gina Gordon, we considered the role that music, hymns and communal singing play in forming community, expressing our deepest hopes, and shaping the way we live our lives.
- We took a walk through the woods to worship with our Lutheran sisters and brothers at Family of God, expanding our horizons and renewing a call to common mission.

If you attended worship at Trinity at 9:30 a.m. this summer, I'd love to know about your experience. Or, if you worshipped someplace else while on vacation, I hope you'll share who or what you experienced there.

What surprised you? What made you take notice? What brought you to your knees? What made you want to know

more? What made you say "Again, please!"? or "Maybe not!" How did you experience the Sacred Mystery more fully or differently? Where did you experience the real presence of Christ?

For me, this summer, I experienced Jesus' real presence in the act of **letting go**. Even though I had planned each liturgy carefully, every week something happened that I had not foreseen, or that did not go quite as I had imagined it would. I had simply to let go of my expectations, and surrender the morning to God, trusting that God would be present the way that God wanted to be present. And trusting that whenever we are together and share bread and wine (as we did at every one of these services) Jesus is present. And for me, Jesus was there, every time — in drum beats that reverberated in my chest, in the colorful prayer beads wrapped around the wrists of outstretched hands at Communion, in the story of a 17-year-old asylum seeker, in the jazz hands of joyful worshippers singing "This little light of mine."

Whenever I surrendered to the moment, to the people, to the opportunity and to the invitation in front of me (instead of to the liturgy that I had carefully curated and rehearsed in my head), Jesus was there.

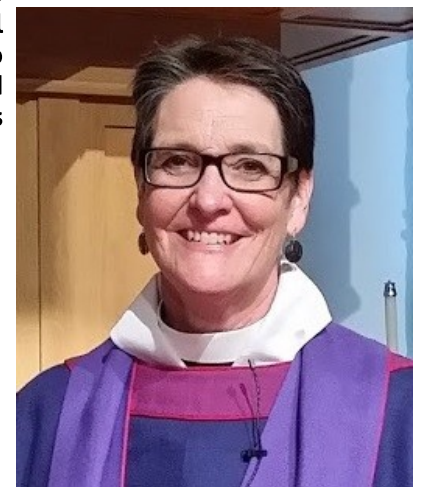
Brother Nicholas Bartoli, SSJE, writes: *With each breath we take, and in every moment, is an opportunity to surrender to the Holy One's will and say "I am here for you." Our participation in the Blessed Sacrament can be seen as practice, practice for giving God in each moment probably the only thing our Beloved truly desires — our real presence.*

And in the course of writing this little reflection, I realize that my hope for the summer — that we would experience the real presence of the Trinity anew — has been turned inside out and upside down.

Now, in retrospect, I am wondering, where, at Trinity Buckingham — and in the lives of those who call this church "home" — has God-the-Three-in-One experienced our real presence this summer? And how will we be really present to God in the days and weeks and months ahead?

I look forward to hearing your answers to that question.

In faith,
Nancy



A Look Back at Summer Worship



Trinity worship and picnic at Peace Valley Park



Creativity & Spirituality



Drum Circles!



Sherri Bittner taught about the importance of caring for our bodies as the temple of the Holy Spirit.



August 25 - National Day of Healing

On August 25, 2019, Trinity participated with other churches and groups across the country to remember the landing of the first enslaved Africans in English-occupied North America 400 years ago at Point Comfort in Hampton, Virginia. At 3 pm, for four minutes, one minute for each century since the year 1619, members of our congregation joined other churches and groups across the nation to take turns ringing the bell of Historic Trinity. It was quite a special event.



Team Trinity Bell Ringers for the day — Marty, Liz, Peter, Nancy, Lauren, Ken



Rector's Warden Report



Summer is almost over and fall is on our doorstep! Schools are back in session and we've returned to 3 services on Sunday mornings. It will be nice to see us all in church now that more of us are back in town.

Vestry has been very busy these past few months. We had a retreat on June 2nd at St Philip's Church, New Hope where we analyzed what Trinity means to each of us and how efficiently we function as a vestry team. This led to discussing how we may improve at managing our church business.

The outcome was that we decided to divide our 12 members into 2 operational groups. One is a Financial Operations Group (Dom DeCaprio, Meg Dennis, Marty Gillen, Mary Jo May, Don O'Hara and Peter Oliver) which will deal with issues concerning Finances, Budget, Giving Campaign (Stewardship), Vision 2020, Personnel and Church Insurance.

The other is a Property Oversight Group (Elisabeth Goggin, Paul Harar, Dave Huddy, Bob Kinney, Bonnie McCabe and Joe McLean) which will deal with Buildings & Grounds, Maintenance & Repairs, Cemetery, Utilities, Rentals and Pierce Hall among other issues as well.

Vestry meetings will allow dedicated time for both groups to meet separately to work on its issues at hand. Hopefully this will allow us to become more effective at managing our church as a whole. We intend to provide periodic updates to parishioners.

One of the issues for vestry at present is the disposition of Pierce Hall. Pierce is full of stuff that has to be removed, sold or discarded before we can demolish the building. Our goal is to have all this completed by the end of the year.

Some good news at Trinity is that our Faith Hall rentals continue to increase. However, it's become apparent that Faith Hall now is due for some minor repairs and new paint. The bad news is that we continue to run a deficit budget, meaning that our church expenses exceed our plate & pledge income — Not Good! I urge all parishioners to take a closer look at what he/she contributes to Trinity.

We realize that everyone's personal situation is different, however, if you are able to increase your giving by any small amount or percentage, it would help us pay our bills and support all our wonderful ministries. Our campus is getting older which presents more maintenance and repair. Look for our Giving Campaign to begin soon. Additionally, we are looking at ways to implement a fundraising campaign to coincide with our budgeting needs.

Lastly, I must say that serving on this vestry has been both interesting and rewarding. I think that we truly have a dedicated team working for Trinity. Next January there will be 4 vacancies on vestry which we'll have to fill. Please consider donating your time and talents by joining this great team. If you would like more information about serving, please connect with either me or Nancy.

In peace,

Dom De Caprio

Nourishing the World and Nourishing One Another

Trinity's Annual Giving Campaign

Trinity's Giving (Pledge) Campaign for 2020 will kickoff in mid-October. As you know, or maybe this is news to you, Trinity does not receive any funds from the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania; we are totally self-funded by the generosity of parishioners in the form of pledging, non-pledge recurring gifts and one-time gifts. Our congregation is 174 families strong and of those 174 families, 94 actually pledge. We are challenged to increase the 94 families that do pledge to 125, an increase of 33%. By doing so, this will enable the Vestry to better prepare a budget for 2020 that includes our staff, property and program resources for nourishing one another and nourishing the world in Jesus's name.

Stay tuned!

Marty Gillen

"Send Us Now Into the World in Peace ..."

It is a prayer we pray almost every Sunday after we have received Eucharist. We have been fed with both Word and Sacrament; we have worshipped, prayed, been present ... and now it is time to go back to our daily life and work.

What does this prayer mean for us as we go into work on Monday morning (or for me Sunday evening)? What do these words mean as we engage in our social activities on Sunday afternoon? We are invited to contemplate these questions, as they are a vital part of how we live out our Baptismal Covenant the other 167 hours of the week. I offer some personal thoughts and practices that I try to do to grow in faithfulness during the week.

First, it strikes me that we are being sent out in peace. As someone who can get very caught up in compassion, anger, sorrow, and a variety of other intense emotions regarding the news of this world, I am reminded I am being sent out in peace, not rage, and not on a quest to judge and save the world. Peace is profound in our world today as it implies we have an unmovable anchor, a "*groundedness*" that is beyond the news, passions and caprice of the day.

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you; peace which the world cannot I give, I give to you." These words are spoken by Jesus after he washes his disciples' feet in loving service, and before he is betrayed, tortured, humiliated, and executed. **Peace.**

We are invited into a peace that recognizes something good is at work beyond ourselves that we cannot see ... we are invited to a faith that God is working with us, despite us, and for us to save us all. And when we are in our daily life and work it is this worldview that is to shape the rest of our practices.

***"and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart."***

What does it mean to love and serve the Lord in our daily life and work? While each person will have their own color and spin on this calling, ultimately, I believe we are taught in Scripture that when we love and serve others, we are serving and loving the Lord Himself.

One practice that I do to aid me in this calling is to pray before every shift at work. I pray that I may have compassion and patience; that I may have a sharp mind, a warm heart, and caring hands; I pray that I may be blessed so that I can bless others; and that through my words and work people might get a glimpse of that Divine Love which rains upon us all.

I also keep an eye out for co-workers who get picked on, or made fun of, and I make a focused effort to spend time with them or advocate for them. I make a concentrated effort to make no person the butt of my jokes. And because sometimes trying to treat my patients like Jesus is too abstract for me; if all else fails, I will try to treat my patient how I would want my mom treated.

Lastly, I remember throughout it all that **nice and love are two different things**; and for the safety and health of the patient, I must be stern at times. I remember love doesn't always feel good: ask Jesus.

In my personal life, I try to focus on being aware of myself; for when I am aware of myself, I can focus my interaction towards my friends and family, and less on myself. When I am centered in that Divine Peace which the world cannot give, I am aware that love means seeking the betterment of others, which can guard me from being a constant complainer, and being self-absorbed and hurtful.

And since I fail at these things every week, I participate in another important part of our Baptismal Covenant: *"...whenever you fall into sin, [will you] repent and return to the Lord? I will with God's help."* Our Christian lives are largely spent outside of Church, and mostly spent in our daily lives and work; how does our Faith and Baptismal Covenant shape our lives? And how can we be Good News to a hurting world?

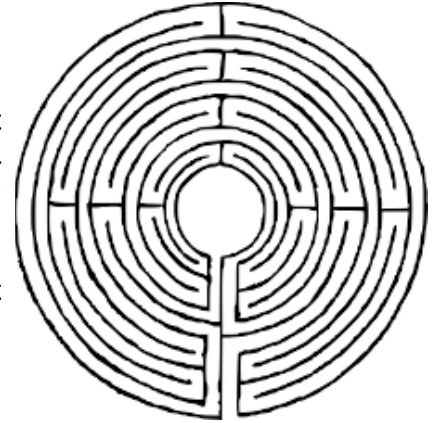
I invite you to pray these questions next time, as a community,- we pray to be sent "*out in the world in peace.*" May God be with us all in the joy, struggle and peace of the journey!

Deacon Matthew Simpson



Sunday Forums for 2019-2020

Join us this Fall and Winter for some lively discussions about living an adult faith. We'll meet on Sundays following the 10:15 am service in the Reed Chapel library. No experience necessary. You don't have to know everything about the Bible or the church. There are no wrong answers and plenty of right questions. You are the dwelling place of the Most High, and so your presence, and the unique way you wrestle with the important issues of faithful living in the 21st century are important!



Here's the line-up

Fall

Our **Fall** Sunday Forum will focus on the book *Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection and the Mission of the Church* by N.T. Wright. Wright writes from his pastoral experience as Bishop in the Church of England: "I have found these two themes of hope, again and again, joining themselves together. Hope is about what lies ahead and is promised by a God who loves to bring hope to each one of us. It is also about the kingdom of God breaking into our present-day realities and hope spilling out into the world." The 6-week study will use a DVD based on the book. (Sundays October 6, 13 & 20 and November 3, 10 & 17)

Advent

During **Advent** we will look at four hallmarks of Christian Spirituality: Repentance, Faith, Holiness and Love, examining how they are embodied by some of the characters of Advent and Christmas (John the Baptist, Mary, Joseph, the Angels, the Shepherds, the Magi). Short readings for participants will be distributed to be read in the week prior to each session. (Sundays December 1, 8, 15 & 22)

Late Winter and Lent

In **late winter and Lent** we will engage with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and the Episcopal Church's small group curriculum *The Way of Love*. Participants will reflect on the verbs of the Christian life: Turn. Learn. Pray. Worship. Bless. Go. Rest. Together we will create a "Rule of Life" — an intentional pattern of living — that includes regular time for each. (Sundays February 2, 9, 16 & 23 and March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29)

Diana Martinez and Nancy Dilliplane

Trinity Book Club



Come read with us! We are headed to 1950's East End of London, England and 21st Century Gander, Newfoundland.

We meet Sundays after the 10:15 am service. Whether you have read the books or not, you are welcome to join us for what always proves to be a lively discussion.

November 24, 2019

Call the Midwife by Jennifer Worth

January 12, 2020

The Day the World Came to Town by Jim Defede

Lauren Gillen

Sunday School News: Past, Present and Future

Past

Where does the time go? At the Pentecost All Parish gathering in June, Trinity honored long-time Sunday School coordinator Sallee Lord who stepped down from her 12+ years of guiding Children's Ministries at Trinity in order to spend more time with husband Bob, and at their wintertime home in Florida.

Sallee has been the face of God's love for a generation of children at Trinity, and continues to send birthday cards to her Sunday School kids into their college years and beyond. So many Bible stories, prayers, coloring pages and crafts bear Sallee's faithful stamp and creative touch.

Sallee assures her Trinity family that she does not intend to retire entirely from her Sunday School ministry. She will be offering a Special Blessings (Holy Communion Instruction) Class this fall, and substitute teaching, and continuing to do what she does best—loving children—for a long time to come.

Trinity also celebrated the long-time teaching ministries of Amy Bannon (Trinity's Vacation Bible School guru and wrangler) and Sunday School and VBS teachers Shane Dougherty, Stephen Downs, Dina Huddy, Leslie and Rich Jaedicke, Jeanette & Ken Malisewski, Paulette, Natalia and Natasha Massias, Ada Quinn, Sue Snyder and Natalie Welker-Marx.

Present



For the second year in a row, Trinity Buckingham and Family of God Lutheran Church joined forces for Vacation Bible School. This year's VBS was **To Mars ... And Beyond**, where children learned the bible verse Ephesians 3:20 and went *beyond* in faith, boldness, kindness, thankfulness and hope with God's power at work within them.

Sunday School News continued**Future**

With the advent of the Children of All Ages 9:15 service in 2016, Trinity Buckingham has a brand new cohort of families with young children. We are entering a new era of Family and Children's Ministries with new Family Ministries/Godly Play coordinator Liz Oliver helping Trinity to chart some new territory.

A 40-year veteran of Children and Family Ministries at several Episcopal parishes in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, Liz has recently completed training to become a certified Godly Play story teller. The Godly Play Sacred Stories, Parables, and Liturgical Action stories will comprise much of the one-room school house Sunday School program to begin this fall on Sundays from 10 am to 10:45.

We also look forward to holding Sunday Suppers and Pajama Vespers to introduce each new season of the church year, starting this Advent. More information will be available shortly!

**Sunday School Registration**

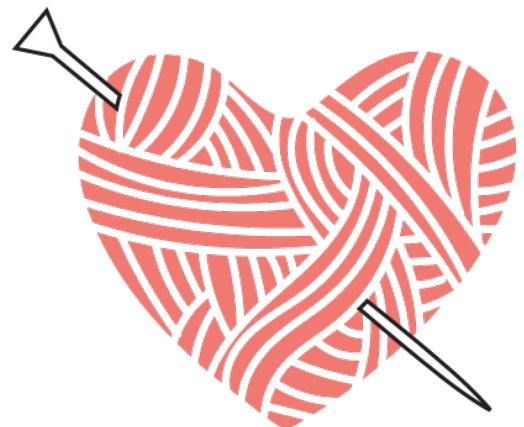
Everyone is invited to come and meet Liz, hear about our new Family Ministries/Godly Play plans, do a craft, and make ice cream sundaes on Sunday, September 15 at 10 am in Faith Hall. Registration forms for the Sunday Morning Wondering About God after-worship program will be available at that time.

Sunday Morning Wondering About God will begin the following Sunday, September 22.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the last Friday of the month. We are a group of people who knit, crochet or sew, and enjoy making things for others. We give a baby blanket to all babies christened at Trinity and prayer shawls or lap robes to people who are ill or going through a rough time. We also donate afghans to the diocese, where they are used in the diocesan veterans program. If you would like to join us, or have any questions, please call Karen Parker at 267-629-9125.

Karen Parker



Education for Ministry (EfM)



The Education for Ministry (EfM) Group celebrates completion of Year 1 mentored by Nancy Dilliplane and Liz Oliver. Participants from left to right: Kim Laughlin, Natalie Welker-Marx, Beverly Rhinesmith-Pape, Cynthia Goode, Kasey Portinier, Nancy Dilliplane, Liz Oliver, Diana Martinez and Flo-Ellen Zakick

Wish you knew more about the Bible? Wondering how faith can make more of a difference in your day-to-day life? EfM might be just what you're looking for. EfM will start up again in the fall on Monday afternoons from 2 – 4:30 pm in Reed Chapel. If you would like more information, please contact Nancy Dilliplane or Liz Oliver lizfieldingo@yahoo.com 215-493-1773.

Prayer Chain Ministry

One of the definitions of "prayer" in Webster's Dictionary is "the act or practice of praying to God, an earnest request in thought or word."

To that end, the Prayer Chain Ministry is alive and well at Trinity!

We are a group of 14 men and women, of varying ages, that pray on a regular basis for those experiencing a difficult time, illness, surgery, deaths, or any significant life changes. We "lift up" those in need and their concerns through prayer.

Everyone is welcome to join our group. If you are interested please contact Patty Bradbury (pabradbury@verizon.net) or speak with Nancy. Conversely, should you have a prayer request please let us know. You need not provide any last names with requests although the more specific the request the better. Confidentiality is maintained with all of the Intercessors.

Patty Bradbury

Conversations on Science and Technology

Science and Religion in Dialogue



I recently came upon two articles debating what science can learn from religion (DeSento/Sherme), and a third article critiquing both articles (Snedeker). Links to the three are at the bottom of my article.

One article says science is being hindered by not incorporating religious understandings. The other says religion has nothing to offer objective science. And, the third argues the question is a false question. Is there a correct way for religion and science to be in a meaningful dialogue?

I believe we should remember what science or religion is doing. Science seeks to understand how the world works and requires that questions be testable, measurable, and falsifiable.

In my view, religion is about sacred and spiritual meaning and is not testable or falsifiable. In my view, it is misguided to attempt to verify sacred texts with science. Likewise, it is misguided to dismiss scientific knowledge (i.e. evolution or geology), because it appears inconsistent with literal interpretations of sacred texts.

I often fall back to Einstein's quote, "Science without religion is lame; religion without science is blind."

I have never found anywhere where Einstein elaborated or explained what he meant, but I interpret it as follows: Science is a methodology that allows us to ask "testable, measurable, and falsifiable" questions about the Creation (world/universe) and learn how the Creation actually works, rather than how we might like it to work or want it to work.

People often would rather believe than know. Believing dissolves the tension between conflicting ideas. The belief may be completely wrong, but it feels better than the cognitive or emotional conflict. Believing is comforting, while knowing can be very disconcerting, even disorienting. **Quantum mechanics is so counter-intuitive that Einstein believed it could not be right. Yet, science has shown time and again that although the quantum world is bizarre and strange, it predicts reality accurately.** Your smartphone contains billions of transistors and other semiconductor elements. These can work as building blocks of digital electronic logic because quantum mechanics makes it possible to design the silicon-based materials in these modern integrated circuits.

Science cannot see across the boundary of the moment of Creation, but Creation does appear to have a "Beginning." Philosophers and theologians have often referred to Creation as "*ex nihilo*" (out of nothing.) However, what exactly is nothing?

What science has taught us is the universe, though beautiful to us, is a cold, harsh, and unforgiving place that does not care about sentient beings and what we think or feel. Science cannot find or ascribe any fundamental "meaning" to the universe, other than it just exists and we exist. Religion seeks to find meaning in life and to understand not only how to live in a world otherwise lacking in meaning, but to understand why we exist at all. That human quest has found God.

Conversations continued

The second half of Einstein's quote, "Religion without science is blind," I interpret to mean religion cannot tell us how the Creation works. Science is used to understanding how the Creation works. Quantum physics and our understanding of our biological brain have shown that we evolved to survive in the very specific and changeable environmental conditions on this planet, but our mind does not perceive the true nature of time, space, and reality.

For example, it is mind-boggling, but Einstein's Theory of Relativity mathematically showed that time runs slower wherever gravity is strongest, and this is because gravity curves space-time. The explanation comes down to what scientists call Gravitational Time Dilation. This gravitational effect exists on the earth between a mountaintop, where time runs faster and gravity is weaker, and sea-level, where time runs slower, but is not normally detectable by us and can only be measured with extremely accurate atomic clocks. Likewise, because of Jupiter's large gravitational field, a clock (time) on Jupiter runs slower than a clock on Earth.

Our religious ancestors had no way to scientifically understand the world and the heavens around them and attributed their reality to gods and eventually in monotheistic traditions to one God. The sacred texts lay out the rules of life and the moral and ethical framework within which to live a holy and meaningful life.

I believe the only way those sacred ancient texts remain meaningful is if they are eternally re-interpreted and re-imagined in light of new understandings in a changing world. Even our understanding of the nature of God has evolved over time from natural objects like the sun, to man-made idols of stone and wood, to one God whose name was too holy to speak, and for Christians to a triune God.

Science helps us see new meanings in the sacred texts, but only if they are allowed to breathe. In my view, the flaw of literalism is by attempting to have one certain eternal understanding (truth), literalism makes sacred literature one dimensional and unchangeable, and collapses the timeless multi-layer richness of holy texts into flat lifeless time-bound documents.

I believe all sacred texts have a holy purpose, but the purpose is not to tell history. They are written in a genre that sounds like historical events, and some of them surely weave events into them, but that is not why they are being told or written down. They are being told in the form of history, because the people intended to hear them will better understand their sacred meaning. The message is not the history, it is the religious, moral, and ethical messages intended to bind a people into one sacred community. **The message is most transcendent when it is most timeless.**

— *What Science Can Learn from Religion: Hostility towards spiritual traditions may be hampering empirical inquiry*, by David DeSanto <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/02/01/opinion/sunday/science-religion.html>

— *What Can Science Learn from Religion? Steven Pinker on Religious Beliefs & Rituals*, Edited by Michael Shermer. https://www.skeptic.com/reading_room/steven-pinker-on-religious-belief-rituals-what-can-science-learn-from-religion/

— *Can Religious Belief Inform Science? No, it's a fake question*. by Rick Snedeker <https://www.patheos.com/blogs/godzooks/2019/07/science-religion-faith-facts/>

Faithfully, Steven W. Mann, Ph.D.



Ten Easy Ways to Know What's Happening at Trinity Buckingham

So many good things are going on at Trinity in ministry and mission and fellowship, and news of what's happening can be easily found in many ways. See if you have a favorite!

1. **Trinity's Weekly eBlast** is the absolute **BEST** way to stay current with Trinity news.

Please make sure the Church Office has **your email address** so you can be sure you are receiving our newly formatted and colorful email, filled with beautiful images and short descriptions. It is sent from the office EVERY week on Wednesday or Thursday. (Check your spam if you are not receiving it)!

2. **Trinity's Updated Website** is newly-formatted (and easy-to-read on phones) so you can scroll through to see all upcoming **events**, and click to learn more about what Vestry and Trinity's **ministries** are doing.
3. Check the **Trinity Bulletin Board** for new flyers on your way down the hall to Worship.
4. Check the **Trinity Wall Monitor** for new event slides on your way to Faith Hall.
5. Pick up seasonal and ministry **Trinity Brochures** in the brochure rack — Music, Spiritual Life, Outreach, Advent/Christmas, Lent/Easter.
6. The Announcements page in **Trinity's Sunday Bulletin** always features upcoming ministry, ministry and fellowship events along with who we can pray for on our Prayer List.
7. **Trinity Newsletters** (published two times a year) are filled with memories and photos of events past, as well as details of upcoming events. A **Vestry Corner** section is always included, so you can easily keep up with the business and ministry of Trinity.
8. If you are on **Facebook**, go to Trinity's page **www.facebook/trinitybuckingham** and be sure to click the large "LIKE" button located just under our header so you receive each of Trinity's posts in your newsfeed.

(To help Trinity get the word out about all that is happening, you can periodically click "like" and "share" buttons below the posts you receive from Trinity). ☺

9. **Trinity's Publicity Table** — is located on your right just before you enter the Sanctuary. There you will find weekly sermons, seasonal brochures, and newsletters.
10. And ... **talk to your Vestry!** Each vestry member has felt a call to serve Trinity in a leadership capacity, and each are in the know about Trinity's current events and future plans. Monthly Vestry minutes are posted on the Bulletin Board panel on the left wall of the Hall to the Sanctuary.

Please let your friends know what you think are the best ways to stay current with all things Trinity!

Trinity Buckingham Academy (TBA)

Trinity Buckingham Academy ended the school year with a school wide picnic for current and new families. The weather was perfect for bike riding, playing and popsicles!

We welcome our new families to TBA for the 2019-2020 school year. We are sad to say good bye to Paulette Minacci, who was with us the past two years, and is taking some time off to pursue her education. We welcome Christine Lugossy to the TBA family! Christine will be working with the pre-kindergarten class.

TBA has been busy this summer getting ready for our new school year! The classrooms were painted in June and look brand new! We have also been busy working on our new website. Please take a look at trinitybuckinghamacademy.org. The website is interactive, easy to use and has a calendar of events to keep everyone informed.

We are also excited to offer kindergarten afternoon enrichment this year! This program will also be available to those students who participate in public school morning programs. Enrichment is the perfect addition to the public kindergarten program, offering time for the kids to socialize, explore, play and learn.

We can't wait for September to start and hear the hallways buzzing with chatter and laughter after a long summer break!

Alison Rose



Our new climber added to the playground in March 2019!

Code Blue Ministry



Trinity Buckingham is a Bucks County's host Code Blue site, offering overnight shelter and food to those in need of assistance when the outside temperature is less than 26 degrees during the month of January.

Trinity's Code Blue Host Month Is January

Specific Dates:

Saturday, December 28, 2019 through
Saturday, February 1, 2020

Save the Date!

Code Blue Volunteer Training

Sunday, November 17
12 noon to 3 pm in Faith Hall

More Trinity parish volunteers are needed!

A look back on a decade of Sunday School at Trinity

As you read this, summer is almost over. Summer, a time of relaxation, vacation, and rejuvenation. It is a time to sit back and acknowledge what has passed and to think about the future — whether it is regarding your job, home life, or Church, meetings or various committees — and then discuss what will be planned for the coming year. Our youth education is no different.

As we look back over the years at Sunday School, we have many fond memories of a traditional Sunday School which incorporated Senior High classes down to our Pre-School classes. Classes met in Pierce Hall and Faith Hall. Senior High and Middle School discussed societal issues and how to deal with them as Christians.

All other grades studied Bible Stories. They also learned the Lord's Prayer, the various books of the Bible, the difference between the Old Testament and the New Testament, and the Beatitudes. Older students were dismissed right before the sermon to attend Church. Younger children from 6th grade down remained in Sunday School unless they went to Church for Communion and returned to class or stayed in Church with their parents.

Those children who stayed in class participated in their own Church Service which was held in the primary classroom and later moved to the library, which is now Reed Chapel.

The children listened and answered questions regarding the lesson of the day, said their own Prayers of the People, said the Lord's Prayer and took turns being the crucifer and the acolyte. They learned about the Gospel and Epistle side of the Church and lit and put out the candles accordingly. They also learned various songs and hymns and sang them at the 10:15 service once a month.

In addition, we also had Bible School which met in July. It was held in the evening due to our teachers who worked during the day or had activities with their own children. Plus, working parents liked it because of transporting their children.

Each day of Bible School began with an opening service in Church. The children moved to their class and participated in the lesson which was then incorporated into their music class, crafts, snack, and games. At the end of the night, students met in Church again for a quick review of the day and to sing the theme songs they learned in music. Our attendance over the past years averaged 30 students per year and included children from Trinity and from the community.

We did incorporate the Bible School theme approach to Sunday School three years ago. We called it Super Sunday and we met the first Sunday of each month in the evening hoping to reach out to those children who could not attend our regular Sunday School at 10:15 due to various commitments.

However, just as society and obligations change, so has Sunday School. It too is under the influence of sports, dance, music, and parental obligations on Sunday mornings. Between the above mentioned activities plus families moving away, our Sunday School, as all other Sunday Schools, has been impacted.

Our Sunday School teachers are not exempt from these societal issues either. Their lives have been impacted with change as well. Almost all of our teachers have taught more than a decade. Their children have grown which leads to different family obligations for them. Whether sports, occupations, college, or medical circumstances, our teachers have to retire from their volunteer work as teachers.

On June 9th, Pastor Nancy had a beautiful service to recognize the past decade of Sunday School and youth Christian Education. Students were recognized for their year of education and teachers were recognized for all the love, planning, and teaching they have given over the past years to Trinity. Whether it was teaching Sunday School and Bible School or just Bible School, everyone was recognized.

Trinity will have Sunday School this year but it will be different than the past traditional education. The Children of All Ages service on Sunday mornings at 9:15 am has brought many new families with young children to Trinity, and their lives, and needs and desires are different from the way things were 10 years ago. This year we look forward to piloting a program of storytelling for the children based on Godly Play, while parents spend time together talking about faith and parenting.

Many thanks for all of your support to our Christian Education Program and to me as Director of Sunday School.

God Bless You!

Sallee Lord



Note from the Editor:

We thank you, Sallee, for your years of dedicated service to our the Trinity Sunday School Program.

Trinity Travels ...



A trip to Historic
Ephrata Cloisters



Fellowship at Yankee
Stadium

An Excerpt From *Cloud Walking: A Spiritual Diary* by Bishop Steven Charleston

Evangelism is what we like to talk about but not do. Stewardship is what we do but don't like to talk about. Sermons are what we say we believe. Outreach is what we believe we say. Hymns are what we pray when we sing. Budgets are what we pray when we plan. Liturgy is how we act when we are being the church. Coffee hour is how we act when we are the church. Sunday school is where our kids go to play and sometimes quarrel. Conventions are where our adults go to do the same thing. Clergy are laity doing a saintly job. Laity are people doing all the other jobs because they are saints already.

shared by *Judy Krauss*

Tally Marks

I am learning to not just grab whatever I want. I grabbed a bumble bee and it stung me. I grabbed the pastrami off Mom's Reuben sandwich and she was mad at me. I grabbed the cats' food and they howled at me because they were hungry. So I'm learning that some things are better left alone. Some things belong to others and aren't mine to take, no matter how much I want them, and sometimes, when I grab things for myself, others are deprived of what they really need. I'm learning to ask, take only my fair share, and say "thank you" for everything.



Pastor Nancy & Steve's dog Tally visits with Trinity Buckingham Academy Summer Campers where she had a great time sunbathing and getting belly rubs.

Music Notes



2019-2020 Season

Sept 12	Feb 13
Oct 17	March 12
Nov 14	April 16
Dec tbd	May 14
Jan 09	June 21
	BarBQ/Picnic

LYRA Voice Ensemble Comes to Trinity



Wednesday,
September 25, 2019
7:00 pm

Adults \$15
Students \$10

LYRA is a small vocal group from St. Petersburg, Russia. All the singers are professional musicians and sing in the various churches of St. Petersburg. Some also perform as soloists in the theaters of the city. The goal of their touring is to share and introduce audiences to the unique and beautiful musical heritage of the Russian Orthodox Church, as well as, to the traditions of Russian Folk music.

Our program will be about 60-70 minutes long and features both sacred and folk music. It promises to be a truly unique evening beginning with sacred music and ending with a folk variety of comic, lyric, dancing, and love songs. The program will be narrated with information by the singers. A reception will follow the performance.

CD's will be available for purchase.

Hot Air Balloon Sighting!



After Sunday worship on May 19th, Pastor Nancy was lollygagging at the Rectory when she heard such a clatter. Out on the front porch she spied a hot air balloon overhead. The patriotic colored balloon went on to land in the field behind Trinity. Rumor has it that its purpose was to take the Rector and Parish Administrator away on a worldwide adventure

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
Bonnie McCabe
Joe McLean
Don O'Hara
Peter Oliver

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jonmarino@me.com
mjnmay@aol.com
bmccabe247@aol.com
gnatjjm@gmail.com
dohara@alphaonecapital.com
pwowashcross@yahoo.com

Deputies to Diocesan Convention

Dom DeCaprio, Janet DeCaprio, Joanne Welker
Jill Unger (Alternate)

Deanery Delegates

Jill Unger, Judy Krauss, Kathi Sadowski

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Dr. Regina Gordon, Minister of Music
Martha Dudich, Organist
Patty Bradbury, Prayer Chain Coordinator
Dave Romero, Treasurer
Liz Oliver, Family Ministries Coordinator
Lauren Gillen, Newsletter Editor



Worship

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

Office Hours

10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.
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.