



The Vine...

Connecting the Body of Christ one to another

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Essex, 1131 Mace Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21221
(410) 687-5531 www.holytrinityessex.org March 2023



FROM THE RECTOR

Greetings from the kingdom of God, the reign of love and the culture of peace (*already in progress somewhere very, very close to you!*)

Spring is a time of renewal. The earth – as fragile as it seems now – still finds the resilience to shake off the cold and the lifeless and burst out in new life and energy.

That is a resurrection story, and I hope that in it we might glimpse our own. The issues of the past few years are in the rearview mirror as they say, and we have just begun our series of internal conversations to process how those years have changed us, to help us with the grief and other emotions we carry, and to breathe life back into our communal spirit.

In the weeks and months to come we will continue to be intentional in the deepening of our relationships here but also in slowly working our way into the surrounding community. The roundtable discussion we had in February with teachers, parents, and a student or two was one avenue of approach to assess some of the issues our neighbors are facing. Other meetings with the members of our larger community – the people of our parish whom we serve – are in the offering.

We will also begin to engage with the Diocese and other partners on the strategic level. Applying their resources we will do an assessment of both the needs of our community - we will find out who is living here and what's on their mind – and assess the potential of our property and physical plant as a center for activity aimed at serving those needs. And, by the way, we will still meet to break bread, drink wine, and pray.

A happy and productive Lent to all. But here is looking forward to the resurrection.

Peace,
Ken+

Church News



Easter Flower Orders

Easter Flower order forms and payment are due to the church no later than March 5.

Please print clearly on the form, and make payment by cash or check (checks payable to “Holy Trinity Episcopal Church” with “Easter Flowers” written on the memo line). If you have any questions, call the church office or email Leah at HTOfficeSecretary@gmail.com.

A Brief History of the Easter Lily

(Compliments of Essex Florist & Greenhouses)

In case you are a little curious, Easter Lilies are native to the Ryukyu Islands of Southern Japan. Introduced in England in 1819, commercial production began in Bermuda in 1853. The bulbs were brought to the United States in the late 1800s, and by 1945 there were approximately 1200 west coast growers producing bulbs for the commercial market.

Today, 95% of all Easter Lily bulbs in the world are produced in the U.S. marketplace, and potted Easter Lilies are the fourth

largest wholesale crop produced in the U.S. (Poinsettias, mums, and azaleas rank first, second and third respectively.) In the U.S., Easter Lilies are “forced” to bloom in the greenhouses like ours and are available for the Easter season only; but in Western Europe and Japan, they are sold as cut flowers over an extended season.

The significance of Easter Lilies as a symbol of our Christian faith can be traced all the way back to creation. According to legend, when Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden of Eden, Eve wept. Wherever her tears fell to the ground, white lilies sprang up as a sign of God’s promise of redemption for all mankind.



Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 12, 2023, at 2:00 a.m. So remember to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night!

Monthly Fellowship Lunch

Our Monthly Fellowship Lunch will be held this month on Saturday, March 18, at 12:00 noon. Please bring your own lunch.

Staying Connected, Staying Church

COVID restrictions continue. This is how we are continuing to love our neighbors and ourselves.

What can you do in the midst of this uncertainty?

1. Read the updates provided monthly in *The Vine* newsletter to keep you in touch with what's happening at Holy Trinity. If something comes up that cannot wait until the next newsletter, an email update will be sent out.
2. Worship regularly, whether in person or online.
3. Keep up your pledge. Our mailbox is locked, so your mail-in contributions are safe.
4. Stay in touch. Call or email each other. Call or email our Senior Warden, Chris. Keep each other in prayer.
5. Pray for Holy Trinity and for the Vestry.

If you have been sending in your pledge regularly, *thank you!*

When sending contributions, please be sure to distinguish between your pledge and any other donations, such as for Outreach. Use separate checks. If you send only one check, it will be recorded as pledge.

Again, thank you to all who continue to support Holy Trinity. Your pledges and other contributions are essential for ministry at Holy Trinity.

COVID Vaccine Information

The Maryland Department of Health has launched a phone line where seniors can call for COVID-19 vaccine appointments. It is designed for people without Internet access. The telephone number for this new COVID-19 Vaccination Support Center is 1-855-MDGOVAX (1-855-634-6829).

If you do have Internet access, you can go to the following website for more information as well:

<https://health.maryland.gov/newsroom/Pages/Maryland-Departments-of-Health-and-Aging-collaborate-on-vaccine-outreach-for-vulnerable-populations.aspx>

Outreach Ministries

from Lynn F., Chairperson



Operation Backpack:

The backpack ministry to Sandalwood Elementary School continues as it has been. You are always welcome to contribute by bringing needed food items such as: single serve oatmeal packets, applesauce cups, fruit cups, raisins, packs of peanuts, crackers, ramen noodles, instant chicken noodle soup, juice boxes, or white or chocolate milk or Yoo-hoo. We also accept small cans of tuna and boxes of macaroni and cheese. You can place any donated food items in the bin marked "Operation Backpack" in the Parish Hall. You can also make a monetary donation at any time.

The bags are packed between the 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. services. All are welcome to join in the effort. Also, each week there is a rotation of folks who deliver the bags to Sandalwood Elementary School. We can always use additional volunteers to deliver the backpacks! If you have any questions, please contact Chris Kinard or myself.

Eastern Interfaith Outreach (EIO):

EIO is situated in the new location and are once again open to serve those in need. They are operating on an appointment basis,

so please call in advance. The new address is listed later in this newsletter under “Food Pantry”.

We are still collecting shelf stable food items such as canned soup, pork and beans, tuna, chicken for EIO. If you are able to buy a few items on your next grocery shopping trip, please do so. Please make sure the expiration date is at least several months out. There is a bin in the Parish Hall labeled “EIO Donations” where you can place the donated canned food items to help those in need in our community. (More detailed information regarding EIO is also provided below under the Food Pantry section.)



Ronald McDonald House Baltimore:

Please continue to collect the pull tabs from any aluminum can products. I collect the tabs, and once or twice per year I take them to RMH. The tabs are then recycled with the profit used to fuel the shuttle bus to take family members of the children to the local hospitals. The collection box is located on the lower shelf of the main table in the Narthex.

If anyone has any questions or would like to be a part of the planning for any or all the Outreach ministries we do, please let me know. All are welcome.

I pray many blessing for our ministry at Holy Trinity and for each of us as we provide to those in need.

In His Holy name.
Lynn F.



Local Food Pantries

Eastern Interfaith Outreach (EIO)

Contact: 410-406-2288 OR 211

New Physical Address:

Maranatha Chapel
3 Bowleys Quarters Road
Middle River, MD 21220
410-406-2288

By Appointment Only! Call first!

Donations: Make your check payable to “Eastern Interfaith Outreach” and mail it to:
Eastern Interfaith Outreach
P.O. Box 18122
Middle River, MD 21220

Special Monthly Food Distribution:

These food distributions are until the food supplies run out on that day. For the month of February, please call for distribution site information: 443-838-2126.

St. Clare Catholic Church Food Pantry

Location: 714 Myrth Avenue in Essex

Hours: Tuesdays from 9 a.m. – 12 noon



Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland offers nutritious, fresh, prepared meals delivered to your home. Eat better with Meals on Wheels!

For those unable to cook or grocery shop for themselves – due to age, disability or illness - look to Meals on Wheels for dependable, friendly service.

To learn more, call 410-558-0923 or apply online at:

mealsonwheelsmd.org/client-application

Meals on Wheels also needs volunteers to help deliver these meals. If you have any time to donate to this worthy cause, please call the telephone number listed above.

March Birthdays

- Juliana – 3/3
- Maggie – 3/7
- Mary – 3/9
- Somo 3/11
- Joan – 3/15
- Lynn – 3/17
- Jim – 3/20
- Noah – 3/20
- Alexis – 3/21
- Tyrone – 3/31



March Anniversaries

- Joe and Laura – 3/6

ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS, SEE LEAH



PRAYER LIST

O God of heavenly powers, by the might of your command you drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity: Be present in your goodness with your servants, that their weaknesses may be banished and their strength restored; and that, their health being renewed, they may bless your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary
Alice
Athena
Peter
Ellen
Grace
Millie
Joan
Bill and Diane
Bunky and Pam
Chris and Patty
Margaret
Gladys
John
Jeannie
Powell family
Judy
Ratajczak family
Bob
Betty
David
Jesse
Somo
Crosby family
Robert Sr.
Robert Jr.

Wally
Lorraine
Ryan
Elizabeth
Donna
Kelly
Mary
Sylvia
Anne
Jerome
Mary Anne
Nancy
Kathy
Mike
Butch and Wanda
Dan and Janice
Eric
Wyatt
Andrew
Blake
Vy

PLEASE ADVISE LEAH OF ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS



Pray for our Healthcare Workers

Please pray for members of our congregation who work in health care settings:

Laura, Pam, Josh+, Don, Jody, Joey.

Vestry Officers and Members

Officers (elected by the vestry for one-year terms; can be re-elected; do not have to be an elected vestry member to be elected as an officer):

Senior Warden – Chris
Junior Warden – John
Treasurer – Ellen
Financial Secretary – Jean
Registrar – Valerie

Elected vestry members and date their terms end (initially elected by the congregation; if a position becomes vacant, the vestry elects a replacement to fill the rest of the term):

John	2023
Laura	2023
Vacancy	2023
Scott	2023
Barbara	2023
Loretta	2023
Sam	2024
Tyler	2024
Vacancy	2024

The parish clergy are also ex officio members of the vestry and the rector is the presiding officer.

Who do I contact?

The office is generally staffed on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.

If you have a non-urgent question, call the church telephone number (410-687-5531) and leave a message on the answering machine OR send Leah an email at HTOfficeSecretary@gmail.com.

For urgent pastoral needs call:

The Rev. Ken Phelps, Rector
410-790-1631

If Ken is not available, call:

The Rev. Linda K. Boyd, Deacon
410-967-7404
OR
Christine Kinard, Sr. Warden
410-382-6928



REGULAR REMINDERS



Coffee Hour

Join us for socializing between or after services. Store-bought food and beverages are allowed. Please see the sign-up sheet on the wall in the Parish Hall.

Parish Hall Rental

If you would like information about renting the Parish Hall for an event, please send an email to HTOfficeSecretary@gmail.com or leave a message at the church office 410-687-5531.



Flower Memorials/ Thanksgivings

If you are interested, please complete a form with your instructions, along with a check for \$30.00, and return them to Barbara Benson in person or mail them to the church address listed on the form.

The 2023 forms are available from Leah in the church office. Memorials are on a per Sunday basis, not per name. More than one person may donate on any given Sunday.

Housekeeping Notes

Please continue to follow the COVID instructions for sanitizing required areas.

Mailing List Updates

For changes to your home address or phone number, call the parish office at 410-687-5531 and leave a message OR send an email to HTOfficeSecretary@gmail.com.



Messages

Anne maintains the primary list of e-mail information. However, if you change your email address and you don't give the change to Anne, it is not possible for her to notify you of situations impacting the parish. Anne can be reached at annesews@verizon.net.



Final Word from the Editor

Items for the April Newsletter are due by March 15.

MARCH 2023 SERVICE SCHEDULE

March 5, 2023, 8:00 a.m.

Ushers: Jackie and Bill
Lessons: Chris
Prayers: Jackie

March 5, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Ushers: Gloria and Loretta
Lessons: Jason
Prayers: Gladys

March 12, 2023, 8:00 a.m.

Ushers: Jackie and Bill
Lessons: Val
Prayers: Jackie

March 12, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Ushers: Sam
Lessons: Tim
Prayers: Nancy

March 19, 2023, 8:00 a.m.

Ushers: Jackie and Bill
Lessons: Chris
Prayers: Jackie

March 19, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Ushers: Sam
Lessons: Tim
Prayers: Gladys

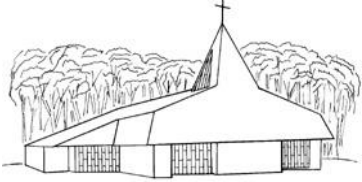
March 26, 2023, 8:00 a.m.

Ushers: Jackie and Bill
Lessons: Val
Prayers: Jackie

March 26, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Ushers: Gloria and Loretta
Lessons: Tim
Prayers: Laura

**** Please note:** Until further notice, those scheduled to read the Lessons will read the First Lesson, lead the Psalm, and then read the Second Lesson. Thank you!



March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook)	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 <i>Daylight Saving Times Begins</i> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook)	13	14 7pm-Vestry Meeting	15	16	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	18
19 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook)	20 <i>First Day of Spring</i>	21	22 7pm – Interfaith Service	23	24	25 12:00 noon – Monthly Fellowship Lunch (“brown bag”)
26 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook)	27	28	29	30	31	