



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 2024



FROM THE PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

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

Is it me, or are the days getting a little longer?

Even though it means that I am going to have to put my sweaters away until late October – and make no mistake, I love my sweaters and will miss them dearly – I am always excited about the arrival of spring.

I love all of the blossoms and the bright greens of new growth. I love that the greatest game ever invented returns to its place of honor at Camden Yards. And I will love some pleasantly warm weather, at least until the oppressive heat of summer arrives. (I do not love that or the other ominous signs that we are not taking the threat of global warming seriously). But that lament can wait because what I love most about the arrival of spring is the rebirth of hope as it is embodied in our celebration of Easter – which happens to fall on the last day of this month. And that day is aptly named.

Did you know that the feast of Easter was likely a pagan holiday – as were so many of the holy days that we celebrate? It was an early spring festival of renewal and rebirth that honored the pagan goddess of fertility and spring who was known as Ostara, or Eastre or Eostre, depending on where in the northern climes of pre-Christian Europe you made your home. And the appropriation of the feast and the name made perfect sense in that the celebration of rebirth truly was a rebirth of the whole earth – all things made new. And isn't that a wonderfully hopeful notion to embrace.

As an Easter blessing for our community, I might propose that as our new mantra – All things made new. God is not finished with us, and in the fading away of the people and places and things that we know and love, I hope that we can also see the first signs of our spring, where renewal and rebirth are not only possible, but promised, and ours to claim. Sarah laughed at such news. And we should count ourselves blessed if we risk doing the same.

Peace,
Ken+

Church News

Inclement Weather Policy

Since we are having some winter weather this year, please review our inclement weather policy: If schools are closed, so are we and any meetings or services are canceled. If schools close early, so do we and any meetings or services are canceled. This policy stands even if it stops snowing and the roads are clear.

Regarding Sunday services: a decision will be made by the clergy on Sunday morning; please check your email and/or our Facebook page before leaving for church.

Outreach Committee Meeting

The next Outreach meeting will be held on Sunday, March 3, between the two services at 9:15 a.m. All are welcome to attend!

Vestry Meeting

The next Vestry Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 12, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

HOLY WEEK



Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday-March 24, 8 am and 10 am
Maundy Thursday-March 28, 7 pm
Good Friday-March 29, 12noon and 7 pm
Easter Sunday-March 31, 8 am and 10 am

Helping Hands Ministry

Helping Hands Ministry is growing both in membership and in ways to reach out to each other. Your suggestions are welcome. Sheila has agreed to manage prayers for others. So if you can spare a few minutes to say a prayer and/or make a phone call to those on our prayer list and anyone else in need of prayers, contact Sheila at 410-382-2846 and add your name to her team. We welcome Arielle as our newest Prayer Warrior. Prayer Warriors do not necessarily make calls but do pray for our Prayer List members and others in need of prayer, much the same as what the Prayer Warriors for Cursillo do. As always, Leah is the contact to add or remove names on our prayer list and to add names for anyone asking for prayers. If you are interested or have questions, please see Kathy after the 10:00 am service.

Grief Support Group

Our Grief Support Group meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Contact Deacon Linda with any questions.

Healing Service

There is a Healing Service every Wednesday at 12:00 noon in the Sanctuary. Contact Ken+ with any questions.

Craft Group

Our Monthly Craft Group meets on the second and last Saturday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Bring a craft to work on, and enjoy some conversation! Contact Barbara with any questions.

Monthly Fellowship Lunch

Our Monthly Fellowship Lunch is held on the last Saturday of each month at 12:00 noon in the Parish Hall. Please bring your own lunch.

Bible Study

Bible Study is on temporary hold. Please watch for updates.

Outreach Ministries

from Lynn F., Chairperson



Operation Backpack:

The backpack ministry to Sandalwood Elementary School continues for this new school year. 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 Yoohoo. 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. In addition to food items, there is a need for new socks and new underwear for elementary age children. These items can also be placed in the same bin.

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 or Lynn F.

Eastern Interfaith Outreach (EIO):

EIO is open to serve those in need. They are operating on an appointment basis, so please call in advance. The 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, and chicken for EIO. If you are able to buy a few items on your next grocery shopping trip or if you have any extra items in your pantry at home, please bring them in. ***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

Physical Address:

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

By Appointment Only! Call first!

Donations: Bring in shelf-stable items and place them in the bin in the Parish Hall marked “EIO” or 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. 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

Baltimore County has a new Food Pantry

Locator service. Just click on either of the links below for more information:

<https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/county-news/2023/12/19/baltimore-county-releases-new-food-pantry-locator>

<https://bc-gis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/nearby/index.html?appid=2ec6ceb1732844bbb00a40ec1a0b733f>



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 F. – 3/17
 Jim – 3/20
 Alexis – 3/21



March Anniversaries

Joe and Laura – 3/6

ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS, SEE LEAH

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.

Alice
 Elliott (Alice's great grandson)
 Ellen W.
 Grace
 Lisa (Grace's niece)
 Millie
 Elizabeth (Millie's sister)
 Helen
 Ryan (Helen's grandson)
 Barbara (friend of Cheryl)
 Joan
 Bill and Diane (Joan's son and daughter-in-law)
 Bunky and Pam (Joan's son and daughter-in-law)
 Chris and Patty (Joan's son and daughter-in-law)
 Margaret
 Gladys
 John
 Jeannie
 Powell family (John and Jeannie's family)
 Lorraine (John and Jeannie's friend)
 Heather (John and Jeannie)
 Bob
 David (Bob's son)
 Jesse (Tim's son)

Somo and family
Crosby family (Lynne C.)
Wally
Arlene
Mary
Sylvia
Anne
Mary Anne
Barbara W. (Mary Anne's sister)
Butch and Wanda (friends of Mary Anne)
Gloria
Nancy (Jimmy's significant other)
Bobby (Jimmy's brother-in-law)
Kathy (Leah's cousin)
Mike (Leah's cousin)
Eleanor (Leah's aunt)
Sue (Leah's aunt)
Bill
Lou (Rick's mother)
Benjamin (Ken+)
Larry (Ken+)
Colomba (Michelle S.'s sister)
Liz P
Bridget (Kathy's daughter)
Lynn J. (Joan and Michelle)
Laura
Bill B.
Ron
Samantha (Ron M.)
Pat (Ellen R.'s husband)
Deb (friend of Lynn F.)
LouAnne (Lynn F.'s sister-in-law)
Eric W. (Lorraine and Owen's son)
Denise
Dan and Janice
Eric Z.
Jerome
Wyatt
Rigoberto



PLEASE ADVISE LEAH OF ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

Who do I contact?

The office is generally staffed on Thursday morning 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, Priest-in-Charge

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



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 R.

Financial Secretary –

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):

Barbara	2024
Loretta	2024
Sylvia	2024
Sam	2025
Tyler	2025
Lynn F.	2025
Lynne C.	2026
Nancy	2026
Sheila	2026

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

REGULAR REMINDERS



Coffee Hour

Join us for socializing between or after services. Light refreshments are available. Please see the sign-up sheet on the wall in the Parish Hall if you would like to bring something to share.

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. The cost is \$350 per rental.



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 in person or mail them to the church address listed on the form.

The 2024 forms are available from Barbara or 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 keep areas clean and sanitized.

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.



E-mail 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.



Final Word from the Editor

Items for the April Newsletter are due by March 15.

MARCH 2024 SERVICE SCHEDULE

March 3, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Ushers: Jackie and Bill
Lessons: Val
Prayers: Jackie

March 3, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

Ushers: Sam
Lessons: Tim Fields
Prayers: Jason Kamrath

March 10, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Ushers: Jackie and Bill
Lessons: Sheila
Prayers: Jackie

March 10, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

Ushers: Gloria /Loretta
Lessons: Nancy
Prayers: Gladys

March 17, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Ushers: Jackie and Bill
Lessons: Val
Prayers: Jackie

March 17, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

Ushers: Loretta
Lessons: Jason
Prayers: Gladys

March 24, 2024, 8:00 a.m. (Palm Sunday)

Ushers: Jackie and Bill
Lessons: Sheila
Prayers: Jackie

March 24, 2024, 10:00 a.m. (Palm Sunday)

Ushers: Gloria
Lessons: Tim
Prayers: Nancy

**** 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 28, 2024, 7:00 p.m. (Maundy Thursday)

Ushers: Sam
Lessons: Jason
Prayers: N/A

March 29, 2024, 12:00 noon (Good Friday)

Ushers: Gloria
Lessons: Chris
Prayers: N/A

March 29, 2024, 7:00 p.m. (Good Friday)

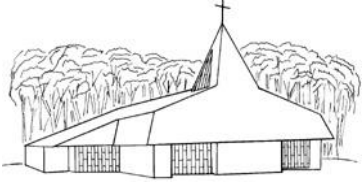
Ushers: Sam
Lessons: Jason
Prayers: N/A

March 31, 2024, 8:00 a.m. (Easter Sunday)

Ushers: Jackie and Bill
Lessons: Chris
Prayers: Jackie

March 31, 2024, 8:00 a.m. (Easter Sunday)

Ushers: Sam
Lessons: Tim
Prayers: Gladys



March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook) 7pm-AA Meeting	4 12:30pm-AI-Anon Meeting	5 7:30pm-AA Meeting	6 10:00am Grief Support Group 12:00 noon Healing Service	7 10am-12noon Office Staffed	8	9 1:00 pm – Craft Group (bring a craft to work on)
10 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook) 7pm-AA Meeting	11 12:30pm-AI-Anon Meeting	12 7pm-Vestry Meeting 7:30pm-AA Meeting	13 12:00 noon Healing Service	14 10am-12noon Office Staffed	15	16
17 St. Patrick's Day 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook) 7pm-AA Meeting	18 12:30pm-AI-Anon Meeting	19 7:30pm-AA Meeting	20 10:00am Grief Support Group 12:00 noon Healing Service	21 10am-12noon Office Closed	22	23
24 Palm Sunday 31 Easter Sunday 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (also Livestream on Facebook) 7pm-AA Meeting	25 12:30pm-AI-Anon Meeting	26 7:30pm-AA Meeting	27 12:00 noon Healing Service	28 Maundy Thursday 10am-12noon Office Staffed 7 pm- Holy Eucharist	29 Good Friday 12 noon- Holy Eucharist 7 pm- Holy Eucharist	30 12:00 pm – Fellowship Lunch (bring your own lunch) 1:00 pm – Craft Group (bring a craft to work on)