



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 April 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!*)

Happy Easter.

At least, I think so.

In truth it is difficult to write about Easter when the lower right-hand corner of my laptop screen reminds me that the date is March 14 and we that still have ten days until Holy Week begins. It is also difficult because the entire world is in the grip of an existential crisis that dwarfs our own Lenten soul-searching and questioning. Assaults on decency and civility, the fear-mongering and violence, the wholesale disregard for human life, our inaction in the face of the global threat of climate change, and our neglect of the most basic human rights and needs, only seem to escalate and accelerate our headlong descent into chaos.

Woah... where did that come from?

In a recent sermon I mentioned that one of the characteristics of the God of the E source – one of the major sources for material in the Old Testament - was that God spoke through dreams. (See Val, there will be a quiz) I do not know if God has been speaking through the dreams that I have had lately, but I know that my own fear and anxiety is finding expression there. I am truly fearful of what lies ahead. And more fearful of our responses. And yes, sometimes it does keep me awake at night. Too often, lately.

There was an old song or slogan about Easter that proclaimed simply: Easter means there is nothing left to fear. That is a bold statement and one that does not seem to be grounded in reality. But it is a good place to begin. It reminds me of the mantra of both Jessica and Muad' Dib, characters from the novel and now movie series, *Dune*: "I must not fear. Fear is the mind-killer. Fear is the little-death that brings total obliteration. I will face my fear. I will permit it to pass over me and through me. And when it has gone... there will be nothing. Only I will remain."

And that is the truth of Easter. When fear is driven out, only we remain. The eradication of fear is the most critical component to a better future. It is the essence of the reign of God that Jesus announced, because it frees us to see each other as God sees us – not as a

threat to our safety, or our survival, or our blood – but as one more beautiful child, waiting to be loved and who has love to offer.

How do we begin to eradicate fear in our midst? In our communities? The answers may be just the thing that opens us to new life – as individuals and as this family of faith and trust.

Happy Easter.

Ken+

Church News

Vestry Meeting

The next Vestry Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 9, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Funeral Planning Forms and Emergency Contact Forms

We have both forms available in the church office. Please at least complete the Emergency Contact Form and turn it in to the church office. If you have not made your funeral plans known to the church yet, please complete that form as well, and turn it in to the church office. If you have any questions about the forms, call or email the office. If you would like to meet with Ken+ for help with planning your funeral, contact him directly.

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 or contact her directly.

Support Group

Our Support Group meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. What began as our grief support group has evolved into an opportunity for any and everyone to get together to share joys and concerns among the safety of friends. 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 Kinard or Lynn French.

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

Hunger for Change:

These food distributions are until the food supplies run out on that day. Please call for distribution dates and 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.



April Birthdays

Joe R. – 4/16
Loretta – 4/18



April Anniversaries

Gary and Mary – 4/4
Bill and Terri – 4/23
Jim and Chris – 4/26

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 A. (Grace's niece)
Millie
Elizabeth (Millie's sister)
Jean (Millie)
Linda (Millie)
Helen
Ryan (Helen's grandson)
Barbara T. (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 N.
Nancy (Jimmy's significant other)
Bobby (Jimmy's brother-in-law)
Kathy (Leah's cousin)
Eleanor (Leah's aunt)
Sue (Leah's aunt)
Bill C.
Lou (Rick's mother)
Benjamin (Ken+)
Larry C.(Ken+)
Colomba (Michelle S.'s sister)
Liz
Riley
Bridget (Kathy's daughter)
Lynn (Joan and Michelle)
Laura N.
Bill B.
Ron M.
Samantha (Ron M.)
Pat R. (Ellen's husband)
Deb (friend of Lynn F.)
LouAnne (Lynn F.'s sister-in-law)
Denise
Dan and Janice
Eric Z.

Jerome
Wyatt
Rigoberto
Eric W.
Glenda
Karen (Linda+)
Doreen (Kathy)
Melissa (Ron)

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 May Newsletter are due by April 15.

APRIL 2024 SERVICE SCHEDULE

April 7, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Ushers: Jackie and Bill
Lessons: Chris
Prayers: Jackie

April 7, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

Ushers: Sam
Lessons: Tim
Prayers: Gladys

April 14, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Ushers: Jackie and Bill
Lessons: Sheila
Prayers: Jackie

April 14, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

Ushers: Gloria and Loretta
Lessons: Nancy
Prayers: Jason

April 21, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Ushers: Jackie and Bill
Lessons: Val
Prayers: Jackie

April 21, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

Ushers: Sam
Lessons: Jason
Prayers: Gladys

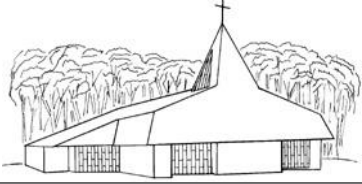
April 28, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Ushers: Jackie and Bill
Lessons: Sheila
Prayers: Jackie

April 28, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

Ushers: Gloria and Loretta
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!



April 2024

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