



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

September 2026



FROM THE PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

Greetings from the Kingdom of God (already in progress somewhere very, very close to you)!

Too many thoughts collide as I sit to write this month's installment for our parish newsletter. (I remember as a kid that September was the month when all of the new TV shows premiered and the old ones returned with new episodes. I miss you, Star Trek, the Original Series.)

Thoughts that look back.

We have had to say goodbye far too often to too many friends who have been a big part of our shared life – people who have made this family what it is, what is has been and what it will be. In August we gathered twice, to remember Gary Lessner and Chris Kinard. Chris as you know, was our Senior Warden for years, but she was much, much more than that. She was the fire and spirit and spit that kept the mission moving forward. And not just here, but in the wider diocesan community. She will be missed.

Thoughts that look forward.

We are about to enter into the first phase of our partnership with Guardian Angel in Remington. In the coming weeks our leadership will meet with our counterparts from GA to hammer out a schedule for the coming year that will include one-to-one relational meetings among the membership of both parishes, some pulpit swaps and even an online Advent study and meditation series. All of this to prepare us for creating a strategic plan for both campuses that will carry our missions forward.

Much to remember and much to look forward to and for all of it we give sincere and humble thanks.

Peace and much love,
Ken+





FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

I do hope and pray everyone has had a pleasant summer and is looking forward to Fall. I know that I am hoping that life will slow down a bit and that I can focus more on what God is calling me to be and do as Senior Warden.

As you have heard, we are in discernment about what God is calling us to be in our community, within our buildings, and what has been labeled our greatest asset--the property we have. There are many things we could do as well as many ideas and dreams of how, when, and what could be. All are yet to be determined through prayer and listening to God's call. The meadow has been started by our fellow laborers in the field, some of Eastern Tech High School students as well as Interfaith Partners of the Chesapeake.

In my quiet prayer time I have been asking God to reveal to me more of His plan. How can we carry out the work He has given us to do? The answer I keep getting is "Love your neighbor". That sounds easy at first. I back up with the thought of "All my neighbors?", even the ones I may not see eye to eye with? Those who think differently than I do? Well I could go on and on but I think you get where I'm going. So I hear LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR, and for right now that is what I believe I am called to do. To first Love my Lord and Savior, love my family-my biological and faith family, love those around me that I know, love those whom I meet on the street, and love those who I do not know yet. It is a BIG order, but I know that ALL

THINGS ARE POSSIBLE WITH GOD. I just need to listen and follow where He leads me.

So if you see me wandering, I hope to not be lost but to be looking for those God places before me to love.

With my love that I pray reflects the Love of God.

In His service for you,
Lynn French
Senior Warden

+++++

Church News



Vestry Meeting

The next Vestry Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 10, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. *Please note: Vestry minutes are posted on the wall in the Parish Hall.*



Outreach Committee Meeting

Our next Outreach Committee meeting will be held after the church service in the Parish Hall on September 13, 2026.



Church Business

In order to limit the amount of "church business" that is conducted on Sunday mornings, if you have a non-urgent question, comment, suggestion, or matter to discuss with Ken+, Linda+, or Lynn French, please call or email them during the week. (Contact information is listed below.)

If you have any questions or information for Leah or the church office in general, please write a note on the "Notes for Leah" notepad on her desk or send an email to: HTOfficeSecretary@gmail.com. Or you can call the church office at 410-687-5531. The office is only staffed on Thursdays 10am-12noon but the email is checked daily.

Thank you for your consideration.



Save the Date Items

-Save the Date Items! - Please mark your calendars, and watch for more information.

1. **Fall Flea Market** - Saturday, September 19, 2026, 8am-1pm. (see flyer at end of newsletter)
2. **Bonfire** – Saturday, October 17, 2026, 5pm.
3. **Craft Show** – Saturday, November 7, 2026, 9am-2pm.
4. **Easter Egg Sales** – Advertising, Sales, and Making Eggs, January-March, 2027.
5. **Craft Fair** – Saturday, March 13, 2027, 9am-2pm.
6. **Summer Flea Market** – Saturday, June 19, 2027, 8am-1pm.

(Watch for more details on all of these events as planning continues.)



Storage Space Needed

Since we expect to continue to have Flea Markets here at Holy Trinity on a regular basis, we are in need of some space where we can store church table items that are not sold so we can put them out again at the next flea market. Unfortunately, there is no room here at church for such storage. SO...if you happen to have some extra storage space at your house (basement, garage, empty room, etc.) where you could store our unsold items between flea markets, please contact Kathy Crump at 410-940-5100. Thank you!



Sunday School

Sunday School is held during the first part of the service on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. for children Pre-K through Grade 5! The children then join their families in church during The Peace portion of the service. If you have any questions, contact Leah. ***Please note: Sunday School will resume on September 13.***

Women's Group

We will be forming a new Women's Group here at Holy Trinity! The first meeting will be held on Thursday, September 24, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. This will be an information gathering meeting, so please bring your ideas for the group! After the initial meeting in September, the Women's Group will meet on the fourth Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. If you are interested in joining, please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the wall in the Parish Hall. Contact Linda+ with any questions.

Helping Hands Ministry

We continue to support members of our faith community who no longer attend services due to advancing age, declining health, and other issues. We offer the following:

- 1- Holy Trinity Roadrunners whose purpose is driving parishioners who no longer can drive to visit loved ones confined to institutions.
- 2- Sheila continues 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 and add your name to her team.

3- The Order of St. Luke (OSL) Healing Ministers offer healing prayer at the rail during Holy Communion. *Each one of us has been called to live as Jesus did...loving, praying, and healing in His name.* If you are interested in joining OSL, we meet on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Contact Kathy Crump for more information or to register at: crumpkathy6@gmail.com.

As always, Leah is the contact to add or remove names on our Parish Prayer List and to add names for anyone asking for prayers. *We pray for perseverance, delivery from pain, and community with our loved ones.* If you are interested or have questions, please contact Kathy Crump at 410-940-5100 or crumpkathy6@gmail.com.

Bible Study

There is a Bible Study held via Google Meets every Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. Email Sophia for more information. ***Please note: Bible Study will resume on Tuesday, September 8, 2026.***

Craft Group

Our Monthly Craft Group meets on the second 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. *Please note: In case of a Hall Rental, the date is sometimes cancelled or changed. If you are new to the group, please check with Barb.*



Monthly Extended Coffee Hour

We will resume our monthly Extended Coffee Hour on Sunday, September 27, 2026. Please bring a dish to share...homemade or store-bought, sweet or savory. If you have any questions, contact Millie.



Outreach Ministries from and to Holy Trinity

from Lynn F., Chairperson



Operation Backpack:

Our new chairperson for this ministry is Sophia Lyons. Our backpack ministry will again include Sandalwood Elementary School and Essex Elementary School. We will be providing food items to students in need at both schools during the 2026-2027 school year. You are always welcome to contribute by bringing in 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.

We pack the bags after the service. All are welcome to join in the effort. Also, each week there is a rotation of folks who deliver the bags to Essex and Sandalwood Elementary Schools. We can always use additional volunteers to deliver the backpacks! If you have any questions or are able to make deliveries, please contact Sophia or Lynn F.

Eastern Interfaith Outreach (EIO):

EIO is open to serve those in need. They operate 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 shelf-stable food items to help those in need in our community. (More detailed information regarding EIO is also provided below under the Food Pantry section.)



Blessing Bags:

Blessing Bags are an Outreach ministry for the homeless in our area. Blessing bags can be packed with small items such as granola bars, lotion, baby wipes, and gloves. These bags can be kept in your vehicle and handed out to homeless men and women at traffic lights, etc. Contact Linda+ with any questions.



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.

Our next Outreach Committee meeting will be held after the church service in the Parish Hall on September 13, 2026.

If you have any questions, please contact 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.

Baltimore County has a 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.

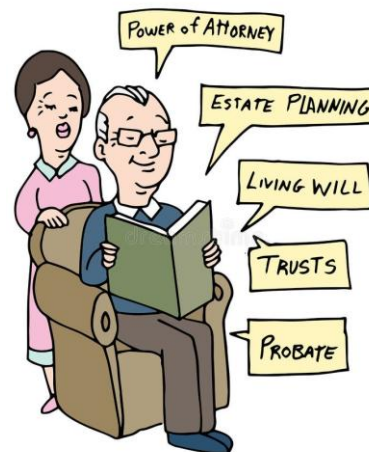


Funeral Planning Forms and Emergency Contact Forms

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.

"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat."

Matthew 25:35





September Anniversaries

Wayne and Barbara – 9/20



September Birthdays

Anne – 9/3

Sylvia – 9/14

Jeannie M. – 9/19

Sherry – 9/26

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 great grandson)

Jason R. (Alice)

Millie

Elizabeth P. (Millie's sister)

Kelly (Millie's niece)

Jean C. (Millie)

Beau (Millie)

Barbara (Millie)

Helen

Ryan (Helen's grandson)

Henry (Cheryl)

Joan

Bill and Diane (Joan's son and daughter-in-law)

Pam A. (Joan's son and daughter-in-law)

Chris and Patt (Joan's son and daughter-in-law)

Kenna (Joan)

Joe and Laura

Elizabeth H.

John and Jeannie

Powell family (John and Jeannie's family)

Heather (John and Jeannie)

Mike (John and Jeannie)

Landon (John and Jeannie)

Christoper (John and Jeannie)

Ava (Pam)
 Somo
 Hutchins family (Somo)
 Eddie (Somo)
 Florence (Somo)
 Lynne C.
 Crosby family (Lynne C.)
 Mary L.
 Donald and Sylvia
 John and Anne
 Mary Anne and family
 Linda Q. (Mary Anne's sister-in-law)
 Butch and Wanda (friends of Mary Anne)
 Tyler T. (Mary Anne)
 Christine (Mary Anne)
 Chris S. (Mary Anne)
 Gloria N.
 Nancy T. (Jimmy's significant other)
 Kathy S. (Leah's cousin)
 Eleanor (Leah's aunt)
 Jim C. (Leah's uncle)
 Shirlyn (Sam's niece)
 Colomba (Michelle S's sister)
 Frank S. (Michelle S's brother)
 Frank H.
 Bridget (Kathy's daughter)
 Lynn J. (Joan and Michelle)
 Laura
 Jake (Kay)
 Joan S. (Kay)
 Ron
 Alan (Ron)
 Debbie H. (Ron)
 Mary C. (Ron)
 Joan D. (Sherry)
 Ken D. (Sherry)
 Pat (Ellen's husband)
 Wayne
 Geoff
 Brett
 LouAnne (Lynn F.'s sister-in-law)
 Doug (Carolyn)
 Dianne (Ken+)
 Darlene (Sheila)
 Eric Z.
 Wa'Seem

Bella
 Jerome
 Wyatt
 Rigoberto
 Williams
 Romanio
 James
 Jack
 Demi
 Liam
 Sage
 Fernando
 Chris
 Eric W.
 Allison (Leah)
 Colson (Leah)
 Dottie
 Karen L.
 Dorothy
 Carrie G. (Ken)

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

If Ken is not available, call:

The Rev. Linda K. Boyd, Deacon
OR

Lynn French, Senior Warden

OR

Kathy Crump



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 – Lynn French

Junior Warden – *open position*

Treasurer – Ellen Reilly

Registrar – Lilian Awuor

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):

Lynne C.	2026
Nancy	2026
Sheila	2026
Gladys	2027
Michele A.	2027
Lynn F.	2028
Carolynn	2028
John M.	2028
Kathy	2029
Lilian	2029
Sophia	2029

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 before or after the church service. 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 \$400 per rental.



Flower Memorials/ Thanksgivings

If you are interested, please complete a form with your instructions, along with a check for \$40.00, and return them to Barbara in person or mail them to the church address listed on the form.

The 2026 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

Please keep the church updated on any changes to your email address so we can notify you of situations impacting the parish. Please email any changes to: HTOfficeSecretary@gmail.com.



Final Word from the Editor

Items for the October Newsletter are due by September 15.

SEPTEMBER 2026 SERVICE SCHEDULE

September 6, 2026, 9:00 a.m. (Labor Day weekend)

Ushers: Sam
Lessons: Gladys
Prayers: Lilian

**** 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!

September 13, 2026, 9:00 a.m.

Ushers: Gloria G.
Lessons: Sheila
Prayers: Pam

September 20, 2026, 9:00 a.m.

Ushers: Bill
Lessons: Nancy
Prayers: Steve

September 27, 2026, 9:00 a.m.

Ushers: Bill
Lessons: Elizabeth
Prayers: Ann B.



September 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:00am Holy Eucharist 7:00pm AA	31 12:30pm Al-anon	1 7:30pm AA	2	3 <i>10am-12noon Office Staffed</i>	4	5
6 9:00am Holy Eucharist 7:00pm AA	7 Labor Day 12:30pm Al-anon	8 <i>7:00pm Bible Study (Google Meets)</i> 7:30pm AA	9	10 <i>10am-12noon Office Staffed</i> <i>7:00pm Vestry Meeting</i>	11 Patriot Day	12 1:00pm Craft Group
13 9:00am Holy Eucharist 9:00am Sunday School 7:00pm AA	14 12:30pm Al-anon	15 <i>7:00pm Bible Study (Google Meets)</i> 7:30pm AA	16	17 <i>10am-12noon Office Staffed</i>	18 7:00am Flea Market Hall Setup	19 8:00am Flea Market
20 9:00am Holy Eucharist 9:00am Sunday School 7:00pm AA	21 12:30pm Al-anon	22 First Day of Autumn <i>7:00pm Bible Study (Google Meets)</i> 7:30pm AA	23	24 <i>10am-12noon Office Staffed</i> 7:00pm Women's Group Meeting NEW!!	25 Dr. Meade using the offices	26 Dr. Meade using the offices
27 9:00am Holy Eucharist 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Extended Coffee Hour/Potluck 7:00pm AA	28 12:30pm Al-anon	29 <i>7:00pm Bible Study (Google Meets)</i> 7:30pm AA	30	1 <i>10am-12noon Office Staffed</i>	2	3



HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH FLEA MARKET



Saturday,
Sept. 19



8AM-1PM



1131 MACE AV
ESSEX, MD

Tables: Inside ours \$25 - Outside yours \$20

Baked
Goods

50 - 50

Great
Bargains

Hot Dogs,
Drinks



Call 410-940-5100