

Trinity Tidings

August 2021

The Infinite Love of God



We continue hearing the words of Saint Paul's Letter to the Ephesians for the Epistle lesson during the next few Sundays. It is a wonderful message, which offers us a concise statement of our faith by celebrating the grace of God, bestowed upon us in Jesus, and made effective through the Holy Spirit.

Paul wrote of his world filled with its many divisions among people, torn apart by opposing forces of hatred and strife. It is not difficult for us to find such examples of this in our own time. As it is said: The more things change, the more they stay the same.

Yet, Paul knew that this is not how things are supposed to be. There occurred a defining moment in history, which changed life forever. It is that every person now has a way of direct access to God, which also connects us with a unity as found in Christ.

The barriers that once existed in relationship between God and humanity have been removed, and thus, provided a way for divisions among people to cease as well. Paul's letter reminds the Church of its role in bringing about such reconciliation.

In this letter we find a view of the Church that is familiar to us: *The Church is the Body of Christ*. Each one of us offers ourselves and our talent to

form this Body, but there is certainly more than this. The Church has been given the charge of doing God's work in the world. We have been given assistance and safety to conduct this task.

Paul suggests that our first step is to place God, forever, in our hearts and to make ourselves available to become strengthened by the Holy Spirit. By nurturing our individual relationship, we ultimately strengthen the Church, the Body, as well.

Of course, as is the abundant nature of God, everything is structured on a foundation of God's infinite love for us. Paul encourages every person to open ourselves up to discover, more and more, the *breadth and length and height and depth* of Christ's love (3:18). The mission of the Church is our response to this boundless gift.

The Way has been provided for us to continue on our journey amid this divine love; God is omnipresent. In such a world continually crying out for goodness and mercy, may we, as the Body of Christ, invite others to place God into their hearts. As it is said: A change of heart must accompany experience before lasting change occurs.

--- Blessings, Fr. Jim

The families of two special persons have invited the Parish Family to attend these *Celebration of Life* events, which will take place this month.

Sunday, August 1, 4-6 p.m. – A reception to celebrate the life of Linda Ingham, which will be held at Fred's Café, Fredonia.

Saturday, August 14, 1-3 p.m. – A luncheon to celebrate the life of David Bryant, which will be held at Russell Joy Park, Lower Pavilion.

Important dates in August:

Summer Worship Schedule:

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite Two.

Vestry Meeting: No meeting this month.

+ + +

Episcopal News Service

**Online prayer service marks one year
to 80th General Convention
in Baltimore, Maryland.**

www.episcopalnewsservice.org

Posted: July 19, 2021

By David Paulson, an editor and reporter for ENS.

The Episcopal Church's presiding officers welcomed other clergy and lay leaders and Episcopalians from across the church for an [online prayer service on July 17](#) in what was to have been the month of the 80th General Convention until the pandemic forced a one-year postponement.

The convocation of prayer opened with the Rev. Shaneequa Brokenleg, the church's staff officer for racial reconciliation, leading a Native American direction song. Throughout the service, participants acknowledged they and the wider church worship on land originally occupied by Indigenous peoples.

"I am grateful to The Episcopal Church for honoring and remembering all First Nations peoples of this land, known as Turtle Island," said the Rev. Cornelia Eaton, an Executive Council member from Navajo Nation. "We are sacred people of this sacred island."

Although the threat of COVID-19 continues to shape much of the church's work, the widespread availability of vaccines in the United States has coincided with a [sharp drop in daily cases since January](#), and the numbers generally have remained low except in regions with low vaccination rates.

This is creating opportunities for the church's governing bodies to resume in-person gatherings. After meeting online last month, Executive Council is scheduled to travel to Maryland in October, and the House of Bishops will meet in September in St. Louis, Missouri.

The presiding officers, with Executive Council's backing, had announced last year that the 80th General Convention [would be rescheduled from July 2021 to July 2022](#), to ensure the large churchwide legislative gathering can be held in person in Baltimore, Maryland, as originally planned.

The extra year also provides additional time to prepare for General Convention. With one year to go, July 17 was chosen for the prayer service because it is the [feast of William White](#), the [first House of Deputies president in 1785](#) and later the first presiding bishop.

"Thanks be to God for the legacy of William White," the Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, president of the House of Deputies, said in her opening remarks. "William White led the church in a time of turmoil and confusion. We, too, are preparing for General Convention in such a time, a time of pandemic, violence, inequality and environmental devastation."

After the Scripture readings, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry preached on Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, who were plagued by internal quarrels. "The church was dividing itself and being rent asunder," Curry said. Paul's guidance then still applies today: "When Jesus and his way of love are not our way, not at the center of our lives, we lose our way," Curry said. "As his way of love becomes our way of life, we can find our way. We'll find our soul."

Curry also referenced [a letter he issued last week with Jennings](#) lamenting The Episcopal Church's past participation in a system of boarding schools that, starting in the late 1800s, sought to assimilate Indigenous children into white American society by taking them from their homes for education.

Christianity often has been used to justify such racist systems and policies, Curry said, but this is based on "distortions and perversions of the faith." "We've seen such distortions of Christianity even in our time," he said, citing the prevalence of Christian imagery displayed by the mob that stormed the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6. "Symbols of Christianity were merged with those of white supremacy, antisemitism, hatred, violence and bigotry against all sorts and conditions of our humanity."

Those symbols don't represent the true faith, Curry assured. He closed with a story he has told often, about meeting a man who confessed that he and his family once were members of the Ku Klux Klan.

They believed a version of Christianity based in hatred, but the man described how he later was welcomed into an Episcopal church, where members helped him realize a faith based in love.

"My friends, put Christ at the center. Put Christ in Christian," Curry said.

The service also featured music from the [Theodicy Jazz Collective](#); the Diocese of the Dominican Republic's Ministerio Adonai; a string quartet from Christ Church Cathedral in Hartford, Connecticut; and a choir from St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in New York, as well as video of a lively vocal performance by Sandra Montes, Union Theological Seminary's dean of chapel, from the 79th General Convention in July 2018 in Austin, Texas.

The 80th General Convention is scheduled for July 7-14, 2022. It is The Episcopal Church's largest triennial gathering, a hub for legislative activity, networking and fellowship. As the church's primary, bicameral governing body, General Convention splits its authority between the House of Bishops and House of Deputies. Among its responsibilities is approval of a three-year churchwide budget plan, as well as hundreds of additional resolutions covering everything from liturgical revisions to the church's positions on a long list of public policy issues, such as food insecurity and comprehensive immigration reform.

+ + +

[Diocesan News](#)

**Youth Summer Camp Days
On August 15 and 28:
Registration now open.**



Wendy Schumacher, missionary for children and youth, has worked with camp staff to offer two opportunities for families to experience a little slice of camp this summer:

Sunday, August 15 at Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center (LCLC) in Bemus Point, NY

The day will start at 2 p.m. and end with a campfire around 8 p.m. Additional activities will include a nature hike, arts and crafts, camp theme time with Bible art, lawn games and gaga ball, camp songs, and dinner provided by LCLC.

Saturday August 28 at Camp Nazareth in Mercer, PA

The day will be start at 10 a.m. and end with a church service around 4 p.m. The activities planned for this day include swimming (in a chlorinated pool), camp theme with Bible art, arts and crafts, a nature hike, camp songs, and lunch provided by Camp Nazareth.

As long as weather permits, all activities will take place outside on both days. In the event activities must take place inside due to weather, masks will be required for all participants. This year's camp theme will be "Healer: reacting as Jesus taught us!" Campers who have received Bibles in prior years should bring them along.

Please email [Wendy Schumacher](#) with questions.

[Register for one or both camp days online.](#)

+ + +

Trinity Episcopal Church Vestry Minutes June 22, 2021 **As approved at the July Meeting**

Present: William Roberts, Senior Warden; Sue Torrance, Junior Warden; Jack Torrance; Karin Wheelock; Janeil Rey; Doreen Gould; Lucille Bryant; Virginia Becker, Treasurer; and, The Reverend James Clement, Rector.

Excused:

Call to Order: Fr. Clement called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., followed with a reading from The Book of Psalms.

The Meeting Agenda was approved as given, as moved by Lucille Bryant, seconded by William Roberts.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Lucille Bryant, seconded by Sue Torrance, to approve the May 18, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Finance: Virginia Becker reported.

A motion was made by Janiel Rey, seconded by Lucille Bryant, to receive the treasurer's report. The treasurer's written report was received as submitted and reported. See attached.

- Stewardship revenues continue close to expected.
- A transfer of \$10,000 was made from the Snowden Lane cash account to the General Fund on May 18.
- As authorized by vestry, a donation of \$100 was sent to the Fredonia Volunteer Fire Department.
- Second quarter reports will be mailed in early July.

Memorial Fund Report: Virginia Becker reported.

- Current balance: \$2,867.28. No change since last meeting.

Buildings and Grounds: Fr. Clement reported.

- The renewal lease agreement with Axiom Office Imaging, Jamestown, was made for the office copier. An updated RICOH model was installed in the office, which will also save on overall rental expense during the course of this three-year agreement.
- We wish to thank Fred and Bonnie Liener and Doreen Gould for their work of weeding and mulching of the flower beds located on church grounds.
- The damp-rid products purchased several weeks ago and placed in the undercroft are currently dry. We take this as a sign that the newly installed dehumidifier for the overall space is working well.

Caregivers: Sue Torrance reported.

- All is well with this outreach.

Outreach: Karin Wheelock reported.

- Thank you to everyone who contributed to the collection of canned-goods for Rural Ministries.

Episcopal Church Women: No report.

Flower Guild: No report.

Rector's Report: Fr. Clement reported.

- Summer worship schedule has begun.
- Holy Baptism: May, 21, 2021.
- Burial Office, graveside: June 18, 2021.
- Met with Maureen Blackburn to discuss the Sunshine Group ministry.
- We offer our gratitude to Donna Danielson, artist, of Fredonia. She presented Trinity with her watercolor painting of the church building, as well as prints and note cards of this particular image. She also gave Trinity rights to the use of this image.

Old Business:

- Trinity Masterworks Choir: On behalf of the Trinity Masterworks Committee, Sue Torrance made a motion to approve the appointment of Philip McMullen as director of the Masterworks Choir. Motion carried.

New Business:

- Facilities and Equipment Use Agreement: Rental fees for the public use of Garland Hall and facilities have not been updated during the past ten years. Vestry had conversation about constructing new fees based on a daily, length of time occupancy rate. Doreen Gould made a motion, seconded by Janiel Rey, to update fees for a complete parish hall rental to a daily rate of: (A) one to four hours: \$60 (\$40 rent; \$20 custodial fee); and, (B) five or more hours: \$95 (\$75 rent; \$20 custodial fee). Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m. by a motion made by Janiel Rey. Vestry ended the meeting with prayer.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, July 20, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by: Sue Torrance, Acting Clerk.

Lectionary Readings in August:

www.lectionarypage.net

Sunday, August 1

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 13

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

Psalms 78:23-29

Ephesians 4:1-16

John 6:24-35

Sunday, August 8

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 14

1 Kings 19:4-8

Psalms 34:1-8

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

John 6:35, 41-51

Sunday, August 15

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 15

Proverbs 9:1-6

Psalms 34:9-14

Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58

Sunday, August 22

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 16

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Psalms 34:15-22

Ephesians 6:10-20

John 6:56-69

Sunday, August 29

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 17

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Psalms 15

James 1:17-27

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Birthdays in August

- 7 Alberto Rey
- 7 Roy Smith
- 8 Stephanie Marsh
- 10 Fran Gambino
- 11 Christa Nuber
- 11 Noah Smith
- 15 Mary Beth Liener Chin
- 16 Jeanette Adamczak
- 21 James Clement

- 21 Doreen Gould
- 21 Gretchen Wheelock-Garvey
- 22 Janell Mosier
- 25 Russell Kyte
- 26 James Wheelock
- 29 Ron Sercu
- 30 Sharon Wallace

Wedding Anniversaries in August

- 3 Cathy and John Berner
- 5 Amy and Ray Smith
- 13 Chuck and Kari Pierce
- 16 Robert and Shirley Coon
- 17 Lisa and Dominic Schultz
- 22 Ron and Diane Sercu

In Memoriam

- 3 Alice Sam
- 8 Anita Day
- 14 Fran Ritenburg
- 17 Victor Jonus
- 18 Rosalie Williams
- 26 Mina Lee Sahle
- 30 Raymond Wallace

Trinity Tidings

Trinity Episcopal Church

11 Day Street; P.O. Box 467

Fredonia, NY 14063

www.trinitychurchwny.org

Parish Clergy and Staff

The Revd. James Clement, *Rector*

rector@trinitychurchwny.org

Dr. Ji Hyun Woo, *Organist and Director of Music*

Sara Jagoda, *Sexton*

The Vestry of the Parish

William Roberts, Sr. Warden

Sue Torrance, Jr. Warden

Janeil Rey

Karin Wheelock

Lucille Bryant

Doreen Gould

Jack Torrance

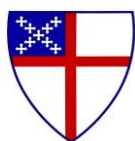
Virginia Becker, Treasurer

No Worship Server schedule for the month of August.

Service participants for Sunday services have been provided a schedule.

Trinity Episcopal Church
11 Day Street; P.O. Box 467
Fredonia, New York 14063

Volume 4, Issue 8 — August 2021



Trinity Tidings



The newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church

*“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ”
Ephesians 1:2*