

## Trinity Tidings

September 2023

### Christian Formation

We will begin our Fall Program – the return of two Sunday worship services and Christian Education – on Sunday, September 17.

Join me for a six-week video and conversation series on Adam Hamilton's book and DVD study, *Moses: In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet*. This adult education series will start on Sunday, Sept. 17, at 9:00 a.m. in Garland Hall.

Pastor Hamilton tells us that the story of Moses' life is the defining story of the Jewish people. Further, for Christians, Moses' life serves as the backdrop for much that is found in the Gospels. Throughout history, this story has continued to speak to each successive generation.

This study is not intended to be a biography of Moses, a verse-by-verse exposition of his story, or a scholarly commentary on Moses. Instead, this study series will help us to not only come to know Moses, but also see how his life and story speak to our lives about God, about ourselves, and about God's will for our lives.

I invite everyone to join together for this series at 9:00 a.m. for six Sundays, beginning on Sept. 17.

Sept. 17: *The Birth of Moses*.

Sept. 24: *Two Moments That Defined the Man*.

Oct. 1: *The Exodus*.

Oct. 8: *The Ten Commandments*.

Oct. 15: *Lesson from the Wilderness*.

Oct. 22: *Don't forget.... Pass it On*.

--- Peace, James+



### **PARISH PICNIC and Bicentennial Celebration**

Sunday, Sept. 10,  
10:30 a.m.  
at the Berner  
Residence.

*No worship services  
will be held at the  
church on this date.*

### ***Important dates in September:***

**Sunday, Sept. 3:** A *said* service of Holy Eucharist, at 9:30 a.m. – no music.

**Parish Picnic:** Sunday, Sept. 10, at 10:30 a.m.  
*No worship services at the church.*

**Sunday Fall Worship Schedule:**  
*Beginning Sunday, Sept. 17*  
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rt. I;  
10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist, Rt. II.

**Adult Education:** Sept. 17–Oct. 22, 9:00 a.m.

**Godly Play:** Beginning Sunday, Sept. 17, 10:30 a.m.

**TECW Meeting:** Sat., Sept. 9, 9:30 a.m.

**Holy Baptism:** Sat., Sept. 16, 11:00 a.m.

**Vestry Meeting:** Wed., Sept. 20, 5:00 p.m.

**Rummage Sale:** Sat., Sept. 30, 9:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m.

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## Episcopal News Service

### **Episcopal mobile ministry distributes necessities to people displaced by Maui wildfires**

[www.episcopalnewsservice.org](http://www.episcopalnewsservice.org)

Posted: August 15, 2023

By Shireen Korkzan

The Diocese of Hawai'i's mobile homeless assistance ministry is providing direct assistance on the island of Maui to residents who've lost their homes in the wildfires that have [killed at least 106 people](#) and destroyed more than 2,200 buildings, most of which were residential.

Volunteers from [A Cup of Cold Water](#), the diocese's Maui-based community outreach program, have been driving a van around the island to distribute toiletries, food and pet food, bottled water, clothing and other necessities to displaced people since a day after the wildfires started on Aug. 8.

Last week's wildfires [prompted the evacuation](#) of more than 32,000 residents and tourists. More than 1,000 people [remain missing](#).

The worst of the damage was experienced by Maui's western community of Lahaina, population 12,700, where the now confirmed destroyed [Holy Innocents Episcopal Church](#) building had stood in historic Lahaina town since 1927.

Diocesan leaders are still trying to contact members of Holy Innocents to make sure everyone is safe and has access to shelter and other immediate needs. Once everyone is accounted for, the diocese will assess the best ways to approach the cleanup process.

"Those I've been in contact with are mostly displaced as their homes were demolished by the fire," the Rev. Bruce DeGooyer, vicar of Holy Innocents, told Episcopal News Service by email. "It is overwhelming here."

Deb Lynch, president of A Cup of Cold Water, told ENS that the nonprofit typically has 30 volunteers, but approximately 99 people have asked to volunteer since the wildfires started. The volunteers have been needing special permission from authorities

blocking the roads to enter Lahaina to distribute goods to people still there, but they haven't always been able to enter.

"There's a great outpouring of love and compassion here," she said. "We're all really good at trying to help each other through this disaster. There is so much devastation, but so much love and compassion at the same time."

A Cup of Cold Water is a volunteer collaboration between Maui's four Episcopal churches: [Church of the Good Shepherd in Wailuku](#), [St. John's Episcopal Church in Kula](#), [Trinity Episcopal Church By-the-Sea in Kihei](#) and Holy Innocents Episcopal. Towels, water, food and blankets have been the most requested items since the wildfires started, Lynch said.

The Rev. Heather Mueller, who was ordained at Holy Innocents in 1981, told ENS that A Cup of Cold Water receives many donations from hotels throughout Maui, such as towels, soap and small bottles of shampoo and conditioner. Volunteers will also buy items at the Costco in Kahului. Some volunteers are staying in her home as they continue helping displaced residents.

"[Lahaina residents] have lost everything — their homes, their jobs, their livelihood," Mueller said. "But so many people here are doing great things to help."

Hawai'i Bishop Robert Fitzpatrick was scheduled to fly to Maui on Aug. 15 and participate in an ecumenical prayer service before leaving Honolulu, where the diocese is headquartered on the island of Oahu, Fitzpatrick told ENS that there is still no access to Lahaina, where only [25% of the burn areas](#) have been searched so far. Lahaina was the capital of the Kingdom of Hawai'i.

Last week's fires were impelled by strong winds brushing through dry vegetation as [Hurricane Dora](#), a Category 4 cyclone, passed near Hawai'i without making landfall. The islands of Hawai'i and Oahu also experienced wildfires, albeit to much lesser extents than Maui. Hurricane Dora became a typhoon on Aug. 12. Researchers say human-induced climate change, desertification and non-native grass species [contributed to the severity](#) of the Maui wildfires.

The Lahaina wildfire is the deadliest in U.S. history since the [1918 Cloquet fire](#) that killed 453 people in northern Minnesota and the deadliest natural disaster in Hawai'i since the [1946 tsunami](#) that killed more than 150 people.

The Hawai'i diocese is coordinating immediate relief efforts through [A Cup of Cold Water](#) and the [bishop's pastoral fund](#). Donations made to the US Disaster Fund will fund Episcopal Relief & Development and its partners' assistance efforts. Episcopal Relief & Development has also established a designated [Hawai'i Emergency Respond Fund](#) to directly provide support in collaboration with local partners.

Lynch said that financially supporting organizations like A Cup of Cold Water is one of the easiest ways for Episcopalians to help Maui residents who've been impacted by the wildfires.

"A Cup of Cold Water here in Maui is a good example of Episcopalians being able to do outreach in a community and be able to share compassion and love and involve their congregations in being able to help other humans," Lynch said.

*-Shireen Korkzan is a reporter and assistant editor for Episcopal News Service.*

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## Trinity Episcopal Church

### Vestry Minutes

July 18, 2023

#### As approved at the August Meeting

**Present:** Janeil Rey, Warden (by Zoom video-conferencing); Sally Ludlum; Jennifer Wilkins; Mary Lou Vercant; Ann Sullivan; Cathy Berner; Karin Wheelock; Virginia Becker, Treasurer and The Reverend James Clement, Rector.

**Call to Order:** Fr. Clement called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m., with an opening prayer.

**Meeting Agenda:** Approved as presented with a motion by Cathy Berner, seconded by Sally Ludlum.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Karin Wheelock, seconded by Mary Lou Vercant, to approve the June 20, 2023 meeting minutes. Approved.

### **Committee Reports: Finance / Building and Grounds:**

**Finance:** Report presented by Ginny Becker. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report by Jenn Wilkins, seconded by Sally Ludlum. Motion carried. See attached.

- **General Fund:** Another transfer of \$5,000 was completed at the end of June in anticipation of cash flow needs in July.
- A motion was made by Mary Lou Vercant, seconded by Ann Sullivan, for vestry to direct the Parish Treasurer to submit a Letter of Authorization to Lake Shore Savings Bank for a release of funds from the Sub Cash Account when deemed necessary. Motion carried.
- Lose offering is currently over the budgeted amount (mainly because we got a big donation that went in to the lose offering). Most pledges are coming in as predicted. Trinity's average financial responsibility is about \$12,500 whereas our pledge income is only \$5,000, hence the reason we need to keep taking from investment. It should also be noted that Fr. Clement and Ginny have made efforts to keep utility costs to a minimum this summer (minimal lights, A/C, and a barely noticeable gas amounts).
- **Building Fund:** Current balance: \$611.10.
- **Music Fund:** Current balance: \$269.37. If we want to continue to host a student choir for the upcoming fall and spring terms, we will need to raise approximately \$3,000.
- **Memorial Fund:** Current balance: \$3,072.28. Ann Sullivan inquired about moving this to an interest-bearing account. Ginny Becker confirmed that we just moved all accounts to the same institution, and there would only be a few cents difference anyways.

### **Buildings and Grounds:**

- No report this time.

## **Additional Reports: Congregational Ministries:**

**Parish Outreach:** Karin Wheelock reported.

- Planned continuation of food donations for Rural Ministries emergency food bags. We already submitted prior supplies from June and July.

**Flower Guild:** Written report submitted by Melisa Eichmann.

- The current balance of this guild's account is \$415.48.

**Rector's Report:** Fr. Clement reported.

- Fr. Clement is discerning how to best handle the Sunday services during the month of August. The church building can become quite warm, even during the morning hours. Moving the location of services to Garland Hall last year did not make much difference in attendance due to persons being out of town, etc. If the church become too warm, he may shorten the liturgy, perhaps to Morning Prayer with the Reserve Sacrament. Either way, the service will remain at 9:30 a.m.
- Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, will begin the Fall Program as we return to two worship services and Christian Education classes. Janeil Rey noted to vestry that she will only be available to teach Godly Play classes from September through January. Substitutes will be needed during her absence after this time.
- Several young persons in the congregation should be considered for Confirmation classes. Fr. Clement will inquire about a possible date with the Bishop for a confirmation service. Lesson plans will be coordinated around this date.
- Fr. Clement continues with his pastoral, liturgical, and office responsibilities.

## **Old Business:**

- **Parish Bylaws:** Fr. Clement provided a basic draft to be reviewed by the Chancellor of the Diocese, Cheryl Fisher. Documents of Incorporation were also sent to her. He hopes to provide vestry an update at its next meeting.

- **Parish Picnic:** The parish BBQ picnic, and Bicentennial celebration, will take place on September 10, 2023, at the residence of John and Cathy Berner. This event will begin at 10:30 a.m. with a service of Holy Communion. It was recommended that persons bring their own lawn chairs. There is minimal parking, so carpooling is recommended as well. Cathy Berner has plates, silverware, cups and napkins. Jenn Wilkins will provide outdoor tents. A recommendation was made to include RSVP information in the newsletter and sign-up sheet for side dishes and desserts on the church bulletin board. The deadline to sign up is set for Sunday, August 27.
- Mary Lou Vercant brought up the idea to have a plaque attached to the church sign outside the front entrance to mark the bicentennial. Vestry noted that this would not be clearly visible and that the corner stone next to the front door shows the dates of the parish. Cathy Berner suggested a vertical fabric banner to place outside at times during the year. She volunteered to make a sewn banner, if a design is provided. She and Fr. Clement will meet this week to discuss this matter further.

## **New Business:**

- **Parish Audit Committee:** The audit committee will meet on Saturday, July 22, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Cathy Berner made a motion, seconded by Karin Wheelock, for Mary Lou Vercant, Sally Ludlum, and Joanne Green (as a non-member representative) to be members of the audit committee and meet at such time to conduct the parish audit review. Motion carried.
- Ann Sullivan inquired about a formal fundraising committee. Fr. Clement said that one currently does not exist. Due to the size of this congregation, he suggested that the forming of as hoc committees for such fundraising events is best. Several ideas were discussed for fundraising events, such as cookie/baked goods sales. Fr. Clement and vestry welcome any ideas.
- Ann Sullivan inquired about a return of the Lenten series study with soup dinners. Janeil Rey is hoping we can return to an education or book study program. Fr. Clement agreed that both ideas would be great.

- Ann Sullivan inquired about the idea of renting the hall out as a fundraiser. Fr. Clement reminded us that vestry updated the rental agreement with new pricing a few terms ago. Right now, this is only advertised through word of mouth, and members of the church are not charged to use the space.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03p.m. with a motion made by Jenn Wilkins, seconded by Cathy Berner. Carried. Vestry concluded its time together with prayer. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at 6:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Jennifer Wilkins, Clerk

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## Parish Notes



The Chancel Choir will return on Sunday, Sept. 24, at the 10:30 a.m. service.

We welcome back our student choristers: Bella, Makayla, Nathaniel, and Trevor!

## **Parish Register**

### Burial

Barbara J. Burmaster  
August 25, 2023

## Parish Outreach

Once again, Trinity's parishioners pulled through in a big way! Earlier in the summer we heard of the financial strain the Chautauqua County Rural Ministry is facing. They put a call out for items so that Emergency Food Pantry Bags could be put together.

Outreach decided this would be a great summer project. So far, two car loads of canned goods, boxed items and some personal care items have been delivered to CCRM for their Emergency Food Pantry Bags.

**THANK YOU** for your support.

This was a very successful project and much needed in the surrounding communities.

Stay tuned for upcoming fall outreach projects.

--- Outreach Team

## TECW

### TECW meeting

Saturday, Sept. 9. at 9:30 a.m.  
in Garland Hall.

### Early Fall Rummage Sale

Saturday, Sept. 30, 9-2.

You've been clearing out all summer right !! Sooooo. Now bring down your goodies beginning Sunday September 24<sup>th</sup>. We will accept fall and winter clothes that are clean, have working zippers and closures etc. Please be sure all items donated are in good shape and work.

Check with your neighbors and friends to see if they have items to donate. Every few bits adds up. We will need extra hands for table set up on Wednesday, Sept 27<sup>th</sup> and for unpacking and item placement on Thursday and Friday.

If you have a spare hour, it would be much appreciated. Sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board in Garland Hall on September 3.

Thank you,  
Your TECW

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## Lectionary Readings for September: [www.lectionarypage.net](http://www.lectionarypage.net)

### Sunday, September 3

*Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 17*

Jeremiah 15:15-21

Psalms 26:1-8

Romans 12:9-21

Matthew 16:21-28

### Sunday, September 10

*Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 18*

Ezekiel 33:7-11

Psalms 119:33-40

Romans 13:8-14

Matthew 18:15-20

### Sunday, September 17

*Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 19*

Genesis 50:15-21

Psalms 103:8-13

Romans 14:1-12

Matthew 18:21-35

### Sunday, September 24

*Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 20*

Jonah 3:10-4:11

Psalms 145:1-8

Philippians 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16

## September:

### **Birthdays**

- 3 Veronica Wheelock
- 4 Heather (Gould) Martin
- 7 Doug Erick
- 7 Hannah Rexford
- 14 Lucille Bryant

- 17 Meredith Wheelock
- 17 Ethan Cooper
- 27 Matthew Rivera
- 28 Bridget Russell

## **Wedding Anniversaries**

- 3 Kerri Vercant and Bill Underhill
- 18 Byron and Abby Rexford
- 30 Jack and Sue Torrance

## **In Memoriam**

- 11 Alfred Vercant
- 12 Arlene Maytum
- 13 Dana W. Wheelock
- 20 Joshua Mosier
- 26 Dana M. Wheelock

### Trinity Tidings

#### **Trinity Episcopal Church**

11 Day Street; P.O. Box 467

Fredonia, NY 14063

Office: 716-679-7901

Website: [www.trinitychurchwny.org](http://www.trinitychurchwny.org)

#### **Parish Clergy and Staff**

The Revd. James Clement, Rector

Email: [rector@trinitychurchwny.org](mailto:rector@trinitychurchwny.org)

Donald Fellows, Supply Organist

Sara Jagoda, Sexton

#### **The Vestry of the Parish**

Janeil Rey, Warden

Karin Wheelock

Jenn Wilkins

Sally Ludlum

Mary Lou Vercant

Ann Sullivan

Cathy Berner

Virginia Becker, Treasurer



## Holy Cross Day September 14

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world to himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

*Book of Common Prayer, pg. 244*

**FELLOWSHIP & MORE!**  
**Trinity Episcopal Church**  
 Barker Commons, Fredonia

**Enjoy a free hot dog lunch**  
 @ 11 Day Street, Fredonia—Sunday, August 27 from 11am - 2pm

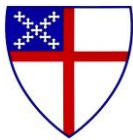
Stop by to learn more...

**THE COLLEGE KITCHEN AT TRINITY,**  
a monthly community meal for college students.

Follow us for updates  
[www.trinitychurchwny.org](http://www.trinitychurchwny.org)

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

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# *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*