

# Trinity Tidings

May 2025

## I am Resurrection and I am Life



**Happy Easter!** A joyous and celebratory service took place on Easter Day. While we should always be mindful of the meaning this Eastertide offers for us, these fifty days of the season places us in a state of full remembrance and thanksgiving for what God has done: (1) God acts in the world; (2) All barriers that once existed in our relationship with God have now been removed! May everyone have a wonderful Eastertide. *Alleluia! Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!*

### Vacation Time and Summer Schedule:

I will be away for two Sundays during the coming month: May 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. A service of Morning Prayer will be offered on these dates at 10:30 a.m. There is no 8:00 a.m. service. Also, please note that we begin the summer worship schedule on Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup> with one service of Holy Eucharist, Rt. II, at 9:30 a.m.

I commend to everyone three special events planned at Trinity during the month of May. Save the dates!

1. **Monday, May 5; Cinco de Mayo:** Our College Kitchen project will join with *Friends for Honduran Children* for a fundraising event. More information can be found in The College Kitchen article on page four of this newsletter.
2. **Sunday, May 11; Coffee Hour:** We will offer a special coffee hour for the student choristers and all the SUNY students who have been a part of our faith community. With Peace, we wish them well on their summer break!
3. **Saturday, May 10; Quartet Concert:** Our own Jonah Albert, cellist, and his colleagues will hold a concert at Trinity to raise money for their summer travels. More details to come.

--- Peace, James+

### **Important dates in May:**

**Sundays, May 4 and 11:** 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

**Sundays, May 18 and 25:** 10:30 a.m. only.

**Cinco de Mayo Fundraiser:** Monday, May 5.

**TECW Meeting:** Saturday, May 3.

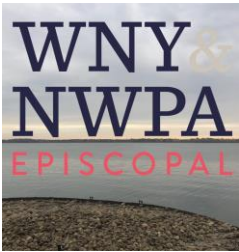
**Quartet Concert:** Saturday, May 10.

**Special Coffee Hour:** Sunday, May 11.

**Vestry Meeting:** Tuesday, May 15.

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## The Partnership News



### **Letter from the Standing Committees**

Posted: March 2025

Dear People of the Episcopal Partnership of  
WNY & NWPA,

We want to provide an update on where we are as we move forward to our Special Convention scheduled for Saturday, May 3, 2025, at St. Luke's Church in Jamestown, NY.

Our partnership is currently at a crucial time. We are at the end of the designated period to undertake this experiment for the sake of the gospel. We have commissioned an evaluation of our work together, which we have now received and distributed to the partnership.

Additionally, Bishop Sean Rowe, who has served as bishop for both of our dioceses, was elevated in November to the office of the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church. Since then, our Standing Committees have served as the Diocesan Ecclesiastical Authorities, in addition to their normal work as a Standing Committee and their review of the partnership.

Both of our dioceses now face the question of how we move forward with electing our next bishop. The first step in answering this question is whether we wish to move forward together to elect the same bishop in partnership with both dioceses. This decision has significant implications for our partnership, but we cannot make other significant decisions until this question is resolved.

On Saturday, May 3rd at 10:00a.m., our partnership will hold a joint Special Convention at St. Luke's Church in Jamestown, NY. Each Diocesan Convention will be organized using a Special Order of Business and Rules for Debate where each will consider a single resolution that has been drafted by a joint planning group. We anticipate concluding our work by 1:30 p.m. The resolutions read:

#### **Resolution WNY**

*Resolved by this Special Convention of the Diocese of Western New York, that the Diocese of Western New York begins the process of electing a bishop diocesan in partnership with the Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania and instructs our Standing Committee to begin such a process in accordance with our Constitution and Canons.*

#### **Resolution NWPA**

*Resolved by this Special Convention of the Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania, that the Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania begins the process of electing a bishop diocesan in partnership with the Diocese of Western New York and instructs our Standing Committee to begin such a process in accordance with our Constitution and Canons.*

Voting on each resolution will be by orders by written ballot. To move forward with electing a bishop in partnership, both resolutions would need to pass by a simple majority in both orders of their respective convention. We will be voting by orders because we need to ensure the support of everyone to make a continuation of the partnership at this level successful. Additionally, clergy and laity bring different gifts and perspectives and we want explicitly to include both perspectives in this vote.

If the resolution passes, it will effectively make the Partnership between our two dioceses permanent with us sharing a bishop and staff for the foreseeable future.

If the resolution fails, it will effectively end our current level of Partnership and each Standing Committee will determine next steps in securing Episcopal oversight for their respective diocese. We would also begin to separate shared administrative structures and staff. This vote, however, will not make a decision about our collaborative ministries such as the Joint Commission on Ministry and the Commission to Dismantle Racism and Discrimination. Regardless of the vote, clergy from both dioceses could continue to serve churches in both dioceses.

If you have any questions, please feel free to direct them to either of us and we will happily answer them as we are able. We look forward to our discernment together, as always confident of the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

--- The Rev. Luke Fodor, WNY Standing Com.

--- The Rev. Cn. Stacey Fussell, NWPA Standing Com.

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## Trinity Episcopal Church Vestry Minutes

March 11, 2025

### **As approved at the April Meeting**

**Present:** Sally Ludlum (by phone), Warden; Jake Wilkins; Jenn Wilkins; Ann Sullivan; Cathy Berner (by zoom), Melisa Eichmann; Virginia Becker, Treasurer; The Reverend James Clement, Rector.

Excused:

**Call to Order:** Fr. Clement called the meeting to order at 5:29 p.m., with an opening prayer.

**Meeting Agenda:** Agenda approved with a motion made by Melisa Eichmann, seconded by Jake Wilkins.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Ann Sullivan, seconded by Jake Wilkins to approve the February 18, 2025 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

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

**Finance:** Report prepared by Ginny Becker and presented. Cathy Berner made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, which was seconded by Melisa Eichmann. Motion carried.

- **General Fund:** All monthly obligations were met.
- **Building Fund:** Balance at the end of February is \$5,612.02.
- **Memorial Fund:** A donation was received in memory of Judy Reynolds. The new balance is \$3,172.28.
- **Snowden Lane Partners:** No transfers were made from the master cash account to the general fund in February. A transfer is anticipated toward the end of March or early April.

**Buildings & Ground:** reported by Fr. Clement.

- Chip Riewaldt completed needed repairs in Garland Hall. Fr. Clement appreciated his professionalism with his work and help on this matter.
- As the winter snow has now melted, discussion was had regarding the downspout near the kitchen window. Melisa Eichmann shared contact information for Mike's

Seamless Gutters. Fr. Clement will make contact with this contractor as soon as possible.

- An update to the boiler/furnace issue will be made during Old Business of this meeting.

### **Congregational Ministries:**

**Flower Guild:** Current balance is \$340.07. A sign-up sheet for Easter flowers has been posted in Garland Hall. The deadline to reserve flowers is Sunday, April 6. The flowering of the church will take place after the service on Good Friday. Fr. Clement ordered the various palm strips and branches for Palm Sunday.

**TECW:** The Epiphany Tea has been rescheduled for Sunday, March 16, at 2 o'clock. Presenters Jake Wilkins and Ted Lee will be available to talk about their trip to Honduras.

**College Kitchen:** The Community Clean-up will be hosted by the PBA on Saturday, April 6. As it has done in the past, The College Kitchen funds will provide a hot dog lunch for college students groups and community members. This will take place at the Municipal Parking lot on Water Street. Jake Wilkins will inquire about hosting a Cinco de Mayo fundraiser with college's Honduras student group.

### **Rector's Report**

- A Lenten Program and Supper will begin on Wednesday, March 12 at 5:30 p.m. in Garland Hall. This will be a four-week video and conversation program based on the book, *The Call: The Life and Message of the Apostle Paul*. A Lenten supper will be provided. More information will be placed in the upcoming parish newsletter.

### **Old Business**

- **Building Furnace:** Gugino Plumbing and Heating has been great in helping to keep the furnace working during this past winter. The current unit was installed nearly twenty years ago. A work proposal was received for the needed repairs and rebuilding of the furnace at an estimated cost of approximately \$15K for vestry to begin necessary conversation. This total is based on a supply order from a few months ago, so Vestry will prepare to receive an updated proposal soon. Work includes the removal and disposal of existing boiler sections, set new sections and assemble, reassemble

jacket and reconnect to gas and electric, run new flue vent to chimney, move gas line for installation of new flue. Vestry agrees this work needs to be done.

- **Motion:** Jenn Wilkins made a motion for Vestry to review the updated proposal as soon as it is received from Gugino and to allow the voting on this proposal to take place by email communication. This will also ensure that necessary parts can be ordered and the work order is placed on the calendar as soon as possible. Jake Wilkins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### New Business

- N/A

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m. with a motion made by Sally Ludlum, seconded by Jenn Wilkins. Carried. Vestry concluded its time together with prayer. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 15, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by: Jennifer Wilkins.

**Addendum:** Building Furnace: The updated work proposal was received from Gugino Heating and Plumbing with an estimated cost of \$16,862. On Thursday, April 10, an email was sent to Vestry members for their vote on this proposal. Vestry unanimously approved the acceptance of this proposal.

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## Parish Notes

### The College Kitchen



**The College Kitchen to host Fredonia for Friends of Honduran Children**

The College Kitchen will join with the student group, *Friends of Honduran Children* to host a taco dinner in Garland Hall on **Monday May 5<sup>th</sup>** to raise funds. This event is open to students, parishioners, and the public from **5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.** Musical

performances and basket raffles are planned. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$10.

Monies raised at this event will go toward supporting the club's mission, which is to improve the lives of Honduran children by supporting basic needs and empowering them to break the cycle of poverty. Fredonia students stay in the local orphanage while visiting, and the club sponsors children, gives scholarships, leads mission trips, and brigades.

**Parishioners:** Please contact Jake Wilkins by email or in-person to R.S.V.P. for event planning. Thank You!

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### **A Reminder!**

Our summer worship schedule begins on **Sunday, June 1!**

With one service:  
Holy Eucharist, Rt. II at 9:30 a.m.

## TECW

### **Meeting:**

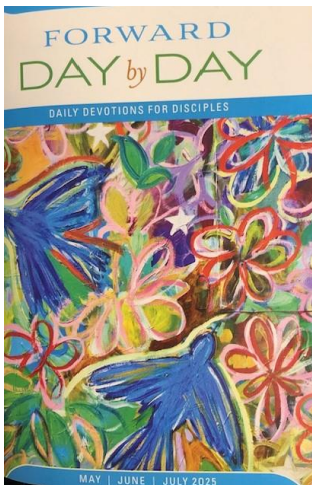
May 3, at 9:30 a.m.  
in Garland Hall

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped in any way with the recent Spring Rummage Sale. With everyone's bits and whatever spare time of help we were able to take in over \$850. This allows us to continue our help with the friendly kitchen meals, which in the current economic climate are so needed by so many.

It also lets us help others in need in our communities. Start saving your bits for the fall!

--- Doreen Gould





## **Day by Day**

Forward Movement Publication booklets, Day by Day, for the months of May through June are available at each entrance into the church building.

Pick up your copy today!



## **Coffee Hour**

Thank you to everyone who makes our fellowship time after the 10:30 service so wonderful!

We would appreciate contributions of baked goods for this event. They can be homemade or store bought. Also, there is a sign-up form on the bulletin board if you wish to host a coffee hour. Thank you, again!

--- *The Kitchen Krew*

## **Lectionary Readings for May:**

[www.lectionarypage.net](http://www.lectionarypage.net)

### Sunday, May 4

*Third Sunday of Easter*

Acts 9:1-6

Psalm 30

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19

### Sunday, May 11

*Fourth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 9:36-43

Psalm 23

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

### Sunday, May 18

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 11:1-18

Psalm 148

Revelation 21:1-6

John 13:31-35

### Sunday, May 25

*Sixth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 16:9-15

Psalm 67

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

John 5:1-9

## **Birthdays in May**

- 9 Jake Wilkins
- 11 Nathan Sercu
- 13 Mary Lou Sherman
- 17 Ray Chin
- 21 Elizabeth Roberts
- 21 Catherine Graves
- 22 Tom Kennedy
- 22 Jon Weekly
- 30 Lee Blackburn

## **Wedding Anniversaries**

- 15 Lisa and Walt Sedlmayer

## **In Memoriam**

- 12 Jim Johnson

### 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

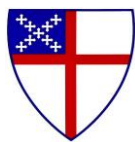
Email: [rector@trinitychurchwny.org](mailto:rector@trinitychurchwny.org)

Donald Fellows, Organist

Sara Jagoda, Custodian

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*